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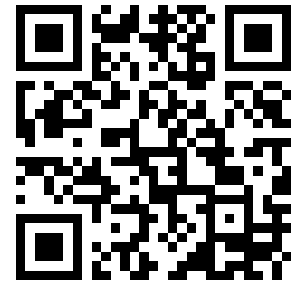

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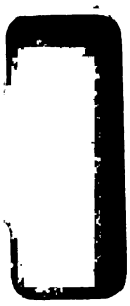

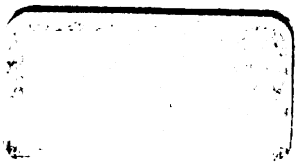

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The London and China Telegraph.
新聞紙

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 124.] LONDON, SATURDAY, JAN. 9, 1864. [Sub. 30s. per ann., and 12s. to Supplement. Single copy of either 9d.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1864.

The present number commences Volume VI. for 1864, which will consist of two numbers per month, published on arrival of the P. and O. mails, and one per French mail. Subscriptions, payable in advance, £2. 2s. per annum, including Import and Export Supplement, and postage; without Supplement, 30s. Post-office orders to be made payable to the Publisher, JOHN ELLISON, at the Lombard-street Office.

Office, 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, E.C.

THE OVER-DUE MAILS.

We gave in our last the intelligence of the detention of the mails due here on the 27th December. We have now the pleasure to announce that the P. and O. Co.'s steamer *Rangoon*, which grounded in the Red Sea, arrived safely at Aden, and has proceeded to Calcutta to be docked.

The French mail steamer, with dates from Shanghai to the 20th Nov., Hong Kong 26th Nov., has also arrived. The following mails from China, due here on the 13th inst., with dates from Hong Kong to the 1st Dec., and Shanghai 24th Nov., has also been brought on by the French Mail steamer and delivered this day, 38 days from Hong Kong.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Kanagawa			Nov. 16
	Nagasaki			„ 16
	Hakodadi			
CHINA—				
	Peking			„ 10
	Tien-tsin			„ 12
	Hankow			„ 18
	Shanghai	Sept. 26	Nov. 24	„ 25
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 25
	Amoy			„ 26
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	Oct. 10	Nov 26	Dec. 1
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	Sept. 26	Nov. 22	Nov. 23
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Touron			
	Saigon			„ 30
SIAM—				
	Bankok			„ 15
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			
	Sarawak			23
JAVA—				
	Batavia			„ 30
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	Oct. 26	Nov. 26	Dec. 8
	Penang	„	„ 24	„ 10

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By next mail, to Marseilles, per Valetta, arrived Jan. 7.—From Hong Kong: Mr. H. Lowcock.—From Kanagawa: Mr. Broadbent.—From Penang: Mrs. Stevenson, three children, and two servants. To Southampton, per Ripon, expected to arrive Jan. 13.—From Hong Kong: Mr. G. B. Swain, Mrs. Mitchell, Donald McAlister.—From Singapore: Mr. H. Waterworth. To Gibraltar.—From Hong Kong: Mr. Victor Bustillo.—From Singapore: D. C. Cabreira. To Suez, per Sultan, arrived Dec. 27.—From Singapore: Messrs. Kock and Floper.

Per Candia, arrived at Suez Dec. 30. For Marseilles, per Euxine, expected on 11th.—From Shanghai: Mr. Brockubank and native female servant, Commander Forbes.—From Hong Kong: Messrs. McDonall, Wheely, and Simpson. For Southampton, per Poonah.—From Shanghai: Mr. Carlile, Mrs. Gingell, Commander Forbes, European man servant, T. Yaxley.—From Hong Kong: Messrs. Mayer, Kratle, and Macdougall.

Per last Bombay mail. To Alexandria.—From Bombay and Singapore: Mr. E.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

By this mail, per Pera, Jan. 4, from Southampton.—To Shanghai: Mr. A. O. Vidal, Mr. Slie, Mr. J. R. Green, Mr. W. A. Hague.—To Hong Kong: Mr. D. L. Hunter, Mr. J. Roberts, Mr. J. Rogers, Messrs. T. Haywood, H. A. Palmer, M. Harris, E. L. Williams, Ringer and Glasspole, Mr. J. W. E. Bacon, R.N. Mr. W. H. Dalrymple, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Wright, Mr. C. H. Hamann, Arthur Judd.—To Calcutta: L. H. Clark, Mr. J. H. Salt, Mr and Mrs. H. G. Poynter and servant, Mr. E. Vivian, Mrs. Kenny, two daughters, and servant, Capts. F. C. Trent and Lovett, Capt. and Mrs. Stainforth, infant, child, and servant, Mr. R. N. Farquharson, Mr. C. Simson and servant, Misses Dempster and Macintyre, Mr. F. Robertson, Lieut. and Mrs. Ommaney, Mr. Jno. Tate, armoury sergeants Rhodes and Rowe and wives, Messrs. H. G. Jervis and G. Hobson, Miss Divers, Mrs. Beatson, Miss H. B. Gillan, Rev. A. Norris, Mrs. Renny, two children, and ayah, Messrs. Cunningham and Peyton, Mrs. Scott, Messrs. J. Tripe, A. Forbes, W. H. L. Frith, and C. Lea, Dr. Summers, Messrs. Sadlier, F. H. M. Brown, A. I. M'Queen and W. H. Hinde, Mr. and Mrs. West and infant, Mrs. Vinton.—To Madras: Lieut. and Mrs. Laire, Major Briggs, armoury-sergeant Paramour, wife, and three children, Mrs. Smith, Major Smith, armoury-sergeant T. Collins, Mr. W. Hugo, Capt. and Mrs. Harrington, Mr. T. M. R. Jones, Mrs. Collins.—To Ceylon: Mr. C. E. and Miss Temple, Capt. J. H. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Carson and two infants, W. Scott, Mr. W. H. Hawkes, Capt. and Mrs. Woolsey, child, and servant, Messrs. H. T. Baird and J. E. Saul.—To Alexandria: Mr. J. A. and Mrs. Campbell, Miss Betts and two servants, Mr. T. Evans, Miss Ranken, Mr. G. Follett, Mr. D. Follett and servant, W. Warren, Ali Hassan.

From Marseilles, per Valetta, to leave Jan. 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. E. Jenner Hogg, Mr. J. Anderson, Mr. H. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Boyd, Mr. W. Marsh-Cooper, Mr. C. W. Orme, Mr. Blain.—To Shanghai: Sir Harry Parkes, Mr. J. E. D. Jameson, Mr. Leith.—To Singapore: Mr. Masfen.—To Calcutta: Major and Mrs. J. S. Davies, Miss Field, Mr. H. B. Lawford, Mr. and Mrs. A. Walker and servant, Mrs. Shakespeare, Miss Ward, Mr. M. Henderson, Capt. and Mrs. Davies, Mr. R. J. Richardson, Capt. and Mrs. Maister, Mr. Carpmael, C. Trevor and E. T. Fitzgerald, Mrs. Dickens, Mrs. and Miss Tickell. Mr. E. Tye, Mrs. Whittall and two infants, Mrs. T. & Green, C. Fleming and R. Gladstone. Lieut. F. H. Woodgate, Mr. and Mrs. Oakeley, Mr. P. F. Waite.—To Madras: Dr. Smith, Mr. W. D. Henderson, Capt. Ready.—From Malta, to Calcutta: Lieut.-Col. Johnson.—To Shanghai: Mr. P. Protchino.—From Suez, to Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Nissen, Mr. L. Mendel.—To Calcutta: Capt. Slade.—To Ceylon: Dr. Anthonizs.

Per P. and O. steamer, Jan. 20, from Marseilles.—To Alexandria, en route to Shanghai, per mail 20th Jan., from Southampton: Mr. H. Blandford. To Singapore via Bombay: Messrs. N. P. and H. Y. P. Van den Berg.

Per P. and O. str. Ceylon, Jan. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr Harton-Mr. H. Kilby, Mr. J. H. Wilson.—To Shanghai: Mr. Dixon, Mr. Gilmour. To Singapore: Mr. Wyon, Mr. Robert Campbell. From Marseilles, Jan. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Houston, Mr. and Mrs. Odell.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. Palmer, jun., Mr. Arthur C. Oliphant, Mr. and Mrs. Rowley Miller, Mr. Barber. From Marseilles.—To Singapore: Capt. P. P. Stafford, Capt. W. Mansfield, Mr. J. S. Dick. From Gibraltar.—To Hong Kong: Don Domingo, A. Y. Urquido. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Jas. Whittall.

Per P. and O. str., 12th Feb., from Marseilles.—To Penang: Mr. and Mrs. Friedrichs.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Borradaile.—To Shanghai: Mr. W. D. Gerard.

Per P. and O. steamer, Feb. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. G. E. Stokes, Mr. B. A. Clarke. From Marseilles, Feb. 28.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. E Howe, A. Howe, and Fearon.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

KANAGAWA.

Our advices confirm entirely the intelligence, already transmitted in brief by telegraph, that Satsuma has admitted his offences, and that the claims made on him by the British Government for reparation to the representatives of Mr. Richardson, and all other matters in dispute, will be satisfactorily arranged. Our letters do not give the details of the arrangement, but if, as we hope, the conference between Colonel Neale and Satsuma's envoys led to a definite conclusion, we may expect that Earl Russell will allow no delay in communicating the official despatches to the public at large.

The *Japan Herald* gives the following as the substance of so much as had transpired at Yokohama:—

"An interview having been sought by envoys from Satsuma with the British Chargé D'Affaires, and the request having been sent through the Governors, his Excellency consented, and appointed Monday, the 9th of November, for the conference. The appointment was duly kept by several of the Prince's high officers (accompanied by some of the Government officers), and an interview took place which lasted from about half-past one till nearly five o'clock.

"The envoys commenced by representing to Colonel Neale that Satsuma felt much that he had been harshly dealt with in

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the seizure and destruction of his steamers at Kagosima without due notice of the intention of the Admiral to destroy them. This opened the matter, and Colonel Neale replied by passing in review the whole of the Kagosima affair; pointing out that the British squadron had proceeded there for the purpose of negotiating upon the matter of satisfaction required for the murder of Mr. Richardson and the attack upon his companions; that during the long delay that had elapsed before sending any reply, the squadron had had occasion to shift its anchorage; that the reply, when it did arrive, was of a character which rendered some pledge or hostage necessary to compel, and during further negotiations; that with this view and for this purpose the steamers had been taken possession of, and not with any intention of destroying them or of taking them away, but that the Prince's people had themselves commenced the hostilities by firing on the British ships, and that, therefore, the destruction of the steamers was a consequence of their own act at the time.

"It seems that the Prince's envoys quite appreciated, after the explanation given, the patience and moderation exercised by the British Minister and Admiral on the occasion. It was then seen that this could only be a preliminary interview, and the ground being thus partially cleared the envoys left, asking an appointment for another occasion, which was given for the following Saturday, the 14th. On that day Colonel Neale again gave audience to the envoys, but after several hours' patient sitting no definite conclusion was arrived at, and Col. Neale consenting to one more adjournment, it was resumed on the following day, when the conference lasted from shortly after mid-day to nearly six o'clock P.M.

"Our readers will be gratified to learn that terms of arrangement have been definitely agreed upon, of a nature which the British Chargé d'Affaires considers are all he could have anticipated, and which are of an entirely satisfactory character. These were made and distinctly understood in the presence of the Japanese high Government officials who accompanied the envoys. A vast amount of propositions had, however, to be first encountered, combated, and declined; propositions, some for delay, some for an acknowledgment of wrong-doing in the seizure of the steamers, and others of an equally inadmissible character; but they were, as we have said, ultimately reduced into an entirely satisfactory compass, and are to be finally carried out and completed in a few days. His Excellency has every belief that they will be so concluded.

"So far has this, our former antagonist, shown himself inclined to bear future friendly relations with us, that proposals were even made for arrangement for sending to England some of the young men of the nobility of his territory, for travel and education."

Our contemporary publishes the above statement, with Col. Neale's permission, from information communicated by himself. No possible doubt, therefore, can attach to its accuracy.

It will be recollected that at the time when the British Chargé d'Affaires was pressing for reparation for the outrage committed on British subjects upon the Tokardo, on the 24th of September of last year, just at the moment when difficulties appeared to be clearing away, and the Japanese Government had actually paid the money-indemnity demanded, by the publication of a document, known from the name of the official whose signature it bore as Ongassawara's "letter of expulsion." This announcement was simply to the effect that the Ministers at Yedo had been instructed by the Tycoon, then at Miako, with the carrying out of the instructions of the Emperor, that "Japan should be closed to foreign trade, and foreigners put away from the country, and that full powers had been given him to treat upon and negociate the terms." The exact words in which this document was replied to by the European representatives have never transpired, but it was at least treated as its very extraordinary character deserved, and the idea of not holding any conference or entering upon any negotiation on the subject has been consistently adhered to. During the course of the interview with Satsuma's officers, just related, Col. Neale took an opportunity to explain to the Government functionaries who accompanied them, that his Government had given the most unequivocal approval of the indignant manner in which this communication had been received. "This seems," observes the *Japan Herald*, "to have come in very opportunely immediately after a remarkably cool attempt made by the Government to commence the erection of forts and batteries under our very doors had been repulsed in a particularly firm and determined manner by the British and French Admirals, and was followed by a formal communication to the Ministers of those nations of the intelligence, conveyed in a very by-the-bye sort of fashion to the American and Dutch Ministers a fortnight ago. This very fact, that it did not seem to the Gorogio necessary to communicate the withdrawal of this letter in a formal manner to all the Foreign Ministers immediately after its recantation had been determined on, shows how little the Japanese Government had ever supposed that the slightest attention would be paid to it; and, as it seems to us, indicates at least a hope of change in their policy of attempting to pass off as serious any more such really extravagant notions upon so important a matter."

At the conference referred to with the American and Dutch Ministers the business, we learn, was not commenced by the Gorogio stating that Ongassawara's letter of expulsion would be withdrawn, but it was on the Japanese officials introducing, or attempting to introduce, the novel idea of the closing of Yokohama, and the transfer of all foreign commerce to Nagasaki and Hokodadi, and General Pruyn and Mr. Polsbrock assuring them that no communication even upon such a subject could be received until Ongassawara's letter was withdrawn, that they then said it should be withdrawn.

There are other little facts which show clearly that the Japanese Government feels that the people at large are anxious for foreign commerce, and entertain a feeling totally opposite to repugnance at their presence. At Yedo the report has spread amongst the populace that matters in respect to the foreigners have been settled with the Government, and that further attempts are not to be made at present for their expulsion, and there is great rejoicing thereat. Notices, too, have been posted in all quarters of Yedo, signed by the street governors "by order," to the effect that hitherto the Government had seen it necessary to inspect and keep control over the amount of supplies sent into the foreign market, but that, in future, this would be left to regulate itself by the feeling of the people, each one in his own mind.

A notice has been issued from the French Legation provisionally sequestrating lots 60 and 61 of the French concession. It appears that Frenchmen are forbid to sell or let lots conceded to them to persons not Frenchmen.

We learn from the Hong Kong *Daily Press* that Messrs. Russell and Co.'s steamer *Scotland* has been seized by the Chinese Custom-house authorities on the charge of taking in cargo at a port not opened by treaty. H.M.'s *Scout* effected the capture on the 30th ult., and on boarding four junks which were lying alongside the *Scotland*, found some seventy or eighty pieces of cannon, from 19 to 68-pounders. It is asserted that these munitions were intended for the Tycoon's Government, but the suspicion which rests over the *Scotland's* last trip renders it likely that Kagosima and not Yokohama was her destination. It is said that the house of Russell and Co. is not in the least implicated in the affair, and that, if at all compromised by it, they will owe a debt to the junior members of their hong.

It will be remembered that there was much jubilation in the American press some time back over the conception that, if matters came to an open rupture between Great Britain and Japan, it would be a delightful and profitable adventure to take out letters of marque from Japan, and gratify the desire for vengeance, and the lust of speedy enrichment, by plundering British commerce under that license. Can it be possible that this shipment of heavy ordnance was intended to be employed in carrying out the notion? Perhaps some hint or fear of the *Alabama* proceeding to the Far East had already been current. In that case, we can well understand this movement of munitions of war. The Americans will scarcely think of meddling in foreign quarrels till the disgrace that bold rover has brought on their naval efficiency has been wiped out by her capture.

The fortification of Yedo is proceeding very rapidly, and all around its sea-front bristles with heavily armed forts. The moats have now on them many boats, somewhat after the fashion of our ships' launches, all heavily armed.

NAGASAKI.

Affairs at this port are beginning to assume a more tranquil aspect. The Loonins or Ronins who caused so much anxiety have almost disappeared, native merchants are beginning to breathe more freely, and the Governor is said to share the general satisfaction. Our correspondent says:—"When these Loonins first arrived his Excellency the Governor communicated their programme to the consuls, which embraced amongst

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other items the capture and destruction of foreign vessels and massacre of foreigners. That *Louins* did arrive and for no good purpose, is true enough; but there were never more than forty or fifty altogether in the town. H.E. increased their numbers almost as rapidly as Falstaff did his "men in Kendal green." There is no particular news about Satsuma. He appears to bear his losses philosophically, but is by no means anxiout for another visit from the fleet. He has made a first step towards replacing the steamers destroyed by the English, by purchasing the *Sarah* from Messrs. Glover and Co. for $75,000. She leaves at once for Kagosima. The men-of-war in harbour are H.M.S. *Leopard, Rattler,* and *Racehorse.*

HAKODADI.

Our correspondent informs us that affairs are perfectly tranquil at this port, and trade goes on as usual. The disturbed state of affairs at Nagasaki and Yokohama has not in the least affected the intercourse with the Japanese at Hakodadi. The *Cormorant,* however, has been sent up by the Admiral, it is believed, at the urgent request of the British Consul, who considered the position of foreigners at this port very precarious in the event of any serious misunderstanding with the Imperial Government. It is reported that she will remain for some time.

CHINA.

PEKING.

Advices from Peking are to the 10th Nov. All was quiet in and around the capital. The coal districts in the Hsi-shan have just been explored by M. Pompelly, who reports an abundant quantity of the best description of coals in seams from 20 to 25 feet thick. It is stated positively that Prince Kung has refused to accede to Captain Osborn's demands, and that in consequence nothing is left for the Anglo-Chinese fleet but to be paid off and sent home as quickly as possible.

A stop has been suddenly put to the issue of the debased cash with which for some time Peking has been flooded. A number of small bankers have thus come to ruin. The weather is intensely cold, and game of all kinds is rapidly becoming plentiful.

TIEN-TSIN.

Regulations for this port have been issued by Mr. Gibson, Acting-Consul, and published in the *North China Herald* of Nov. 21st.

CHEFOO.

Affairs at Chefoo are in a bad state. There are perpetual fights amongst the Junkmen, which the authorities seem afraid to interfere with. In fact the Taoutai solicited and obtained a guard of two marines from H.M. gunboat *Insolent* for the purpose of protecting his Yamun.

SHANGHAI.

The dates are to the 25th November. The English mail of 26th September arrived out on the 24th November, being seven days over time, owing to the accident to the steamer *Poonah* on this side, and *Columbian* on Galle side.

The results exhibited in the recently published Customs' Return of the import and export trade of Shanghai for 1862, show a most gratifying increase in the commerce of the port, and fully justify the remark made by Sir Frederick Bruce, in a recent despatch to Earl Russell, that Shanghai bids fair to become the most important city in the East. The total export of silk from Shanghai during the year 1862, was 84,983 bales, against 70,459 during the preceding year; but of this increase 8,330 bales were Japanese silk re-exported, so that the increase on Chinese produce was only 6,194. A portion of this, too, may fairly be assumed to have been diverted from Ningpoo, where the falling off during the last six months of 1862, was 6,620 bales, so that unless an increase be assumed at the latter port during the six months of Taiping occupation, the export of silk from the two ports has actually decreased. The same argument, however, is not applicable to tea, the export of which has swollen from 32,500,000 lbs. in 1861, to 59,700,000lbs. in 1862—an increase of 27,000,000lbs, or more than 80 per cent., of which more than 10,000,000lbs. were green. The export of black tea from Ningpo is insignificant; but in green, of which, when the country is tranquil, this port is the principal outlet, there was a decrease during the last six months of 1862 of nearly 6,000,000lbs. over the corresponding half of 1862. So that, allowing for the divergence of the whole of this to Shanghai, a very improbable supposition, there is still a surplus in the legitimate export from the latter port of 4,000,000lbs., in addition to some 13,000,000lbs. of black. Cotton rose from 127,580 to 328,607 piculs—an increase o about 160 per cent.; and as this was the only notable article of produce which showed an increase in Ningpo, the whole is fairly referable to larger production in districts of which Shanghai is the legitimate outlet.

Although there is a general increase of about 45 per cent. on the total value of imports, one of the principle articles of merchandize.—Grey Shirting—shows a decrease of 1,829,050 pieces, namely 1,495,527 in 1862 against 3,394,577 in 1861. T.-Cloths are nearly stationary, showing an increase of only 8,855 pieces on the 468,345 imported in 1861. This is, however, of course to a great extent explicable by the reduced production and enhanced value of piece goods at home, owing to the short supply of cotton. The import of opium has grown from 20,864 chests in 1861 to 32,790; an increase which is likely to be maintained, as it is, no doubt, in great part referable to a larger demand for the drug at the Northern and and Riverine ports. Rice shows an increase of more than half a million piculs; and foreign coal of 127,110 tons, or 160,756 tons in 1862 against 33,646 in 1861. To sum up, the return shows an increase of £6,860,891 ont he imports and £4,708,449 on exports, as compared with that of the present year.

IMPORTS.

1862	£22,863,953
1861	16,003,062
	£6,860,896

EXPORTS.

1862	£14,667,406
1861	9,958,957
	£4,708,449

The increase in the quantity of shipping that entered and left the port during 1862 was more than proportionate to the increase in imports and imports. The inward tonnage amounted in round numbers to 724,000, of which 353,000 was British and 206,000 American—against 419,000 in 1861, of which 208,000 was British and 87,000 American. The total tonnage of outward bound vessels was 723,300, of which, again, about 353,000 were British and 205,000 American—against 408,000 in the previous year, of which 208,000 were British and 87,000 American.

The *Moniteur de l'Armée* publishes a letter from its own correspondent at Shanghai. It states that Ly-Tchong-Wang, the commander-in-chief of the rebel troops, after a brilliant campaign of three years, undertaken to relieve Kiang-si, the Hou-nan, and the Hou-pe, had returned precipitately to Nankin, which is attacked by the Imperialists and their allies. He has increased the garrison of the town to 30,000 men, and has supplied it with provisions and ammunition for three years. He has added to the guns on the twenty-eight advanced works which form the exterior defences of the place, and he has established an intrenched camp at Mo-ling, of which he has given the command to Heon-Tien-Hia, his adopted son. Tchong-Wang has learnt that the greater number of the towns which he captured during the campaign have been retaken by the allies; that, moreover, the Franco-Chinese contingent is at present laying siege to Hang-chow, and that the Anglo-Chinese forces are attacking Soo-chow. Should these two places fall, the strategic line which the rebel general had formed round Nankin will be destroyed, and in that case the Imperialists and the allies will unite their forces round the capital, which must be defended to the last extremity. Such are the last orders given by the rebel commander-in chief.

The funeral of the late Mons. Mauboussin took place on the morning of the 7th Nov. There were assembled in front of the French Consulate, a company of Chasseurs d' Afrique, a detachment of the 67th Regiment, about forty Infantry S.V.C., and a small number of Mounted Rangers, to render the last honours to the deceased. Minute guns were fired from the men-of-war in port, and salutes on shore by the military. The chief mourners, M. P. Chevrey Rameau, at present Acting-Consul for France, and the members of the French Consulate, together with all the other Consuls representing foreign Powers here, H.E. the Taotai, the several officers of the French and British military and naval forces, as well as officials of other nations, and many private residents, proceeded to the church of the Jesuits, where the coffin was placed on a catafalque. In accordance with the rites of the Catholic Church, a solemn mass was performed for the repose of the soul of the deceased. The Rev. Père Gondet, Superior of the Jesuits, officiated at the head of a numerous staff of priests and other assistants. A French military band was also in attendance.

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THE SHERARD OSBORN FLEET.

The following account of the repudiation of this fleet is from the *North China Herald*:—We are informed that the Lay-Osborn flotilla is under peremptory orders to sail from China during the present week. The *China*, *Pekin*, *Tien-tsin*, and *Ballarat* go home direct *via* the Cape, while the *Amoy*, *Thule*, *Kuang-tung* and *Kiangsu* proceed to Bombay, where, we understand, they are to be incorporated with Royal Navy, while the non-naval officers are sent home overland. An end is thus put to the sanguine hopes at one time entertained relative to the extermination or emigration of the Taiping rebels. We must now confess that the expedition, from beginning to end, has been a failure, and that the theories broached must have had at best but a shadowy and unsubstantial foundation. The scheme of an Anglo-Chinese fleet founded on the principles laid down by Mr. Lay and Capt. Osborn, carried within itself the elements of decay and dissolution.

The following is the telegram published in *The Times* on the 4th inst.:—

"Prince Kung having refused to ratify the agreement made by Mr. Lay with Captain Osborn, Captain Osborn proceeded to disband his force. The European Ministers protested against Prince Kung having the ships on his own terms, and Prince Kung then requested Mr. Bruce to sell the ships for him. Mr. Bruce having requested Captain Osborn to undertake their disposal, a part of the squadron were to sail for England, and Captain Osborn, with the *Keang-soo*, *Quantung*, and *Amoy*, had sailed for Bombay. Captain Osborn may be shortly expected in England."

BURGEVINE.

The Futai has indulged in a most unwarrantable stretch of authority. Burgevine, it appears, intended to go up to Pa-ta-chiao to meet Gordon, and accordingly secured a passage on board the *Firefly*. On the previous day he went up the river to go on board, not having heard that she had been seized during the previous night. Not being able to find, and seeing the *Feiloong* getting up steam for the trip to Soochow, he went on board the latter vessel and asked for a passage. He stayed on board until the middle of the night, when a large body of mandarin soldiers were sent by the Futai, and Burgevine was hustled on board the hulk *Bopeep*. Here he was subjected to every indignity—his hands and feet tied, his hair pulled, and one miscreant, taking advantage of his helpless state, kicked him repeatedly on his old wound. A relation of the Futai, who holds some high office, was present during the whole time, but made no attempt to restrain the soldiers. In the afternoon of Monday, feeling afraid probably to keep up the performance any longer, the officers decided on giving him up to the American Consul, and put him into a boat, sending with him three large men-of-war junks. On his arrival at the U.S. Consulate jetty, his friends, who were in readiness to receive him, immediately took charge of him, and no attempt was made by the mandarins to interfere with his peaceable departure. This in itself shows that they must themselves be convinced of the illegality of their pro eedings. We trust that the American Consul will assert his exclusive right to jurisdiction over American citizens, and w l not allow the Futai to boast of having made the exterritoriality clause in the treaties a mere delusion and snare. A great international question is involved, and it will be patent to all, that whereas now it can be settled without difficulty, a few more acts of this kind will establish a precedent difficult, if not impossible, to overthrow.

Burgevine was arrested afterwards by a warrant from the U.S.A. Consul. As to what the specific charge is upon which the warrant was granted we are in ignorance, but we presume the Chinese authorities have insisted on Burgevine's deportation as one of the conditions upon which he was allowed to leave Soochow peaceably. We are, however, informed that at the time of his secession from the rebels he was unaware of this clause in the pardon granted to him. He has therefore made several attempts to communicate with Major Gordon on the subject, hitherto, we believe, without success. It would seem to be impossible to send him from Shanghai in his present state of health. This arrest is, therefore, considered merely casting "a sop to Cerberus."

CASE OF CRIM. CON.

A crim. con. case at the British Consulate has absorbed much of the interest of the foreign community. This case (Andrews *v.* Bellwood and Andrews) arose out of some circumstances which took place on board the *Marquis of Argyle* on her passage from London to Shanghai. Captain Bellwood, the master of the ship, allowed himself, it would appear, to become more intimately acquainted with Mrs. Andrews than is consistent with our ordinary ideas of propriety. The evidence adduced by the pursuer was of the grossest description, and rendered the captain's guilt indubitable. Indeed, at an early stage of the proceedings, he pleaded guilty, and his solicitor addressed himself solely to palliating the offence committed. The Court has reserved its judgment, a question, we believe, having arisen as to the amount of damages claimed. Mr. Andrews lays his claim at £3,000. We refrain from commenting in any way on the evidence. It will eventually be submitted to the Court of Divorce, and our readers will then be able to judge for themselves as to the nature of the circumstances which led to the trial.

SEIZURE OF THE "FIREFLY."

The steamer *Firefly*, which had been chartered by the Chinese Government for service on the Tai-hu, was seized by rowdies in rebel pay, in the middle of Saturday night, the 14th instant. The circumstances of the case are briefly these. On Friday night Macartney arrived in Shanghai in the *Firefly*, and directed that it should be in readiness to convey him back to the Great Lake at midnight of Saturday. On Saturday afternoon he received a letter from Captain Ludlam, stating that Major-General Brown had ordered the steamer to wait until the following day, when he (the General) intended to proceed in her to meet Major Gordon. As Macartney was anxious to call at Sung-kiang he started at midnight in a chop, intending as he passed the *Firefly* to direct her to wait outside the creek for him. On Sunday, when the General was about to go on board, the quartermaster of the steamer came to the Artillery Barracks, and reported that at 11 p.m. on the previous night she had been boarded by about 25 foreigners, who immediately took possession of her. He, it would seem, escaped by jumping overboard and swimming ashore. Capt. Murray, R.A., instantly despatched Lieutenant Wood with two mounted troopers to warn the Quinsan garrison, and a mounted lascar to Sungkiang to warn Macartney lest he should go down to meet the steamer, and so fall into a trap. A private letter was also sent to Macartney by a courier, giving an outline of the circumstances It was feared that on her way up the *Firefly* might have passed Macartney's boat, and have been hailed by him, in which case. his seizure would have been inevitable. The *Firefly* had on board, besides her own armament, a full inventory of guns, small arms, ammunition and stores for the *Tsetlee*. The fears entertained for Macartney were, however, groundless. He fortunately escaped, and arrived safely at Gordon's head quarters, where he was awaiting the steamer when the news of her seizure arrived.

A murder of a most revolting character, was committed on the Hongque side. Two Americans named White and Webster had formerly been in partnership in Shanghai. On the dissolution of this partnership, White asserted that Webster owed him a sum of money, to claim which he went on the evening of the 17th of November, to Webster's quarters. Both men seem to have been intoxicated. Webster, who was in bed, replied in an insulting way to White, and the latter immediately fired three shots at him. Webster died almost instantly, and White was arrested by the bystanders His trial came off, and he now lies under sentence of death, subject to the sanction of the American Minister.

A very successful rifle meeting was got up by the volunteers on the 18th Nov. The weather, although exceedingly fine, was rather unfavourable for shooting. The wind was high and gusty, and the bright sun shining directly in the eyes of the competitors must have completely dazzled them. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, however, the shooting was very fair, especially that for the Garrison Cup, in which at the shorter distance only two or three of the competitors made a single miss. The shooting was still very good at the 500 yards, though the increased distance evidently told. Private Cann, the winner, made two centres at this range. "The Farewell Cup," given by Captain Panmure Gordon, to be shot for by the Rangers, was won by the donor; but has been given by him to Private Lloyd, the second on the list.

MAJOR GORDON'S FORCES.

Gordon has seized two stockades north-east of Soo-chow, and about four miles from the city. These were situated opposite Li-ku, which he had made his head-quarters temporarily. The rebels were strongly entrenched, and a stout resistance was experienced. The storming party consisted of the first, third,

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and fifth regiments (in all about thirteen hundred men), under the command respectively of Majors Tumblety, Williams, and Brennan. The rebel loss was very heavy, and Gordon's men were also severely handled. We regret to learn the death of Captain Gibb of the 5th Regiment, who was shot through the heart while leading on the second company. Lieutenant Parker of the same regiment was also slightly wounded in the hand. The health of the troops remains good, and the utmost confidence prevails amongst them. Ching with about five thousand men garrisons Wu-lung-chiao. Macartney's position, up to the time of the seizure of the *Firefly*, was on the west side of the Great Lake. There he had the *Firefly* and a force of about two thousand men, while, still further to the westward, Major Rhode held a post with a large force of Mandarin soldiers. Gordon is now on the west of Soochow, having succeeded in capturing the stockades on that side. The communication with Nanking is cut off, and preparations are being rapidly made for the immediate bombardment of the city.

The ball given by the Shanghai Volunteers was a decided success. One of Messrs. Fletcher and Co.'s new godowns was transformed as if by magic into a ball room. The ceiling and walls were most tastefully decorated with flags, and nothing was visible to remind us of such prosaic articles as chests of tea or bales of cotton. At one extremity of the room was erected a throne, evidently intended for the reception of the "fairest fair."

An increase of rowdyism is complained of on the Yang-tse. A large fire occurred on the 24th ult., on the premises of Messrs. Davies, Townend, and Co., when a number of loafers availed themselves of the opportunity to plunder large quantities of merchandise. The Yang-tse rowdies are fast becoming a perfect pest. Several very suspicious looking craft with white men on board have lately been noticed on the river. One in particular had no less than sixteen foreigners on board, and showed twenty guns.

The English troops who have lately been stationed at Taitsan and Quinsan, have returned to Shanghai. It is said that General Brown has not received sufficient encouragement from Sir F. Bruce to warrant him in keeping a force at Quinsan. If this be the case, the recall of the troops will not be a mere temporary measure.

Li-hung-chang, the Futai, has negotiated a loan of twenty thousand taels from a foreign house in the settlement. The money is to be repaid in two monthly instalments of ten thousand taels each. This same mandarin, about a year ago, denounced the late Taotai for acting in a similar manner; but has found that the necessities of the Government do not allow him to act up to his theories.

The weather remains cold in and around Shanghai, the thermometer running down to 35 at night. The health of the community is much improved.

We are very glad to record a meeting of the consuls and merchants to consider what means could be adopted for exterminating the foreign pirates located at Shanghai, and on the Yang-tse. These people are now more formidable than the Chinese pirates, against whom our peaceful merchants have quite enough to contend with. The following resolutions were passed after an amicable discussion:—

That a committee be named by the Consuls to draw up such regulations as may be thought necessary for the peace and order of the Settlement; and that those Consuls who are not invested by their Governments with the power to deal summarily with dangerous characters, shall apply for such authority as is needed; pending the receipt of which they shall take upon themselves the responsibility of action. That the Consuls of the Treaty Powers form the committee referred to in the foregoing resolution. Mr. Dent next suggested that the opportunity of this assembly might be taken for the purpose of discussing the dangerous condition of the American Settlement. Mr. Moore stated that he was aware that between two and three hundred Manilamen infest the purlieus of Honque, and that he has reason to hope a Spanish vessel of war will eventually be sent here for the purpose of removing these men.

Proposed by Mr. Markham, and seconded by Mr. Keswick:—That a joint communication to the Chinese authorities be adopted, urging upon them the necessity of apprehending any foreigners found in the interior unprovided with passports, and handing them over to their respective consuls.

Proposed by Mr. Seward, and seconded by Mr. Markham:—That a meeting of the consuls be held monthly, for the purpose of discussion and action upon such important subjects as may from time to time arise; and that such meeting shall be held on the second day after the departure of the first English mail in the month.

The decision of arbitrators in the case of the *Cadiz* and *Hylaspe*, which came into collision some time ago, was reported. The arbitrators found that both vessels were to blame, and the loss has been summed up and equally divided.

At the Consular Court, Shanghai, Captain Bellwood, of the barque *Marquis of Argyle*, was fined $260 for assaulting and using threatening language to Miss Jane Davies, a cabin passenger from London. The owners of the vessel were also decreed against for $150 in consideration of their not having furnished Miss Davies with proper provisions during the voyage.

NINGPO.

The correspondent of the *Friend of China* writes:—"The French are doing nothing before Hangchow; and the battalion called Finley's, in which all the officers were English, has been broken up. D'Aguibelle's reason, or alleged reason, for this is, that his white subordinates were always drunk, and of no use whatever—perfect rowdies.

"The gunboat has returned *without any prizes.*

"A subscription is getting up to send the widow of Fish, who kept an hotel here, home to her family in the *Merrie England*, and already some $300 are collected. This poor lady, you know, but a little over twenty years of age, is the daughter of Wahab, erstwhile Superintendent of the Singapore Police Force (son of Gen. Wahab of the old E I.C.'s army), and must have made a great mistake when she became one of the Fish family. Her father has a nice little property at home and all we want is to raise enough to send her there. The sale of his effects will not more than pay his debts. Schofield is treasurer."

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Sir Hercules Robinson had arrived, for the purpose, as was announced some months back in *The London and China Telegraph*, of holding a commission, reporting upon the condition of the Settlement, for the information of the Colonial Office. The commission would consist of Sir H. Robinson, Colonel Cavanagh and the Governor, the Resident Councillor, the Brigadier, and the Chief Engineer, should he return from Calcutta in time. Regret is expressed that the commission did not include some members of the mercantile community; for, should the report made have the effect of postponing the transfer of the Settlement into the hands of the Crown, considerable dissatisfaction would be felt. Colonel Cavanagh has already expressed the opinion that the revenues at present more than equal to the expenditure. An action for damages, tried in the Supreme Court, brought by the master of the French barque *Salazes* against the owners of the steamers *John Bright*, had resulted in a verdict against the steamer for damages to the amount of $8,333, being the extent of the interest of the pursuer in the ship, which was valued at $25,000. The case occupied the Court four days.

The Dutch mail had brought the intelligence of the destruction of another Federal vessel, the *Contest*, by the *Alabama*, in the Java Sea, off the "Northwatcher," not far from Batavia. It is also rumoured, but it was believed without foundation, that a fourth ship, the *Belvidere*, from Manilla, has likewise been destroyed. The *Contest* was bound from Japan to New York, but her cargo was of little value, chiefly consisting of cotton rags. The United States steamer *Wyoming*, which is in pursuit of the *Alabama*, came in on the 1st December, having on the way from Batavia seen nothing of her chase. She stayed in the harbour only 29 hours, but remained in the Straits five miles to eastward, and in sight of town for several days, until the Dutch mail brought the news of the *Alabama's* whereabouts when she started off. The *Wyoming* is a fine steamer, heavily armed; and though she has been represented as having very dilapidated boilers unable to carry steam to drive her six knots an hour, she made a late display of speed which indicates a very different condition. The *Indore*, a new steamer belonging to a Bombay Company, and bearing, it is said, some slight resemblance to the *Alabama*, after entering the Straits was steering for the anchorage, when the *Wyoming* came rapidly down on her, overhauling her though she was steaming at over ten knots, and sent a boat on board. The crew of the *Contest* were at Batavia.

Mr. Gisborne having failed to carry out the arrangement with the Dutch authorities in Batavia, Mr. Siethof has undertaken the matter, and will run a line from Anjer to Palembang and Siak, from thence to Malacca and Singapore.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

ASHTON—On the 6th Nov., at Foo-chow, the wife of Thomas K. Ashton, of a son.
BARTON—On the 23rd Nov., at Hong Kong, the wife of Captain L. Barton, of a daughter.
BRAND—On the 31st Dec., at Bedford-hill House, Balham, Surrey, the wife of James Brand, Esq., of a daughter.
CHAPMAN—On the 15th Nov., 1863, at Amoy, China, the wife of T. H. Chapman, Esq., of a son.
GABRIEL—On the 21st Nov., at Singapore, the wife of Johannes Cabriel, of a son.
CAREY—On the 9th November, at Foo-chow-Foo, the wife of Henry W. Carey, Esq., of a daughter.
IRWIN—On the 9th Nov., at Hong Kong, the wife of the Rev. I. J. Irwin, of a daughter, who survived only a short time.
JOHNSON—On the 14th Nov., at Shanghai, the wife of Francis Bulkeley Johnson, of a son.
MACHADO—On the 5th Nov., at Hong Kong, the wife of F. Machado, of a son.
MATHESON—On the 25th Dec., at Hampstead, the wife of Hugh M. Matheson, Esq., of a daughter.
PADDAY—On the 1st Dec., at Singapore, the wife of Reginald Padday, of a son.
RICHARDSON—On the 14th Nov., at Swatow, the wife of T. W. Richardson, of a son.
SANDILANDS.—On the 16th Nov., at Penang, Mrs. George M. Sandilands, of a son.
VAUGHAN—On the 14th Nov., at Singapore, the wife of J. D. Vaughan, Police Magistrate, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BARNICOT—SMITH.—On the 30th Nov., at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. I. J. Irwin, Colonial Chaplain, William Barnicot, clerk to Mr. Smale, to Anne Smith.
FRASE.—BISHOP.—On the 6th Nov., at Trinity Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. Robert Hamilton, John Rhodes Fraser, to Jane Katherine, youngest daughter of the Rev. John Bishop, late of Exminster, England.
GYE—BONNETT—On the 14th Nov., by the Rev. I. J. Irwin, James Gye, of Shanghai, to Elizabeth Bonnett, of Suffolk.
HOGG—DARVALL—On the 1st Jan., at Barrow-on-Soar, Leicestershire, by the Rev. W. L. Newham vicar, Alfred Graham Hogg, Esq., of Canton, to Eleanor Ann, second surviving daughter of the late Joseph Darvall, Esq., solicitor, of Reading. No cards.
SCOTT—DARE.—On the 27th Nov., at St. Andrew's Church, Singapore, by the Rev. Chas. J. Waterhouse, A.M., Chaplain, William Ramsay Scott, to Blanche Emily, eldest daughter of the late George Julius Dare.

DEATHS.

BENHAM—On the 10th Nov., at Hong Kong, Caroline, wife of Staff-Armourer Sergeant Wm. Benham, aged 23 years.
CONNOLLY—On the 21st Nov., at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, William Connolly fireman ex steamer Yong-tsze.
FRASER—On the 3rd Nov., at Malacca, J. T. Fraser, Esq., M.D., of the Madras Medical Service.
GREEN—On the 22nd Nov., at Hong Kong, John Green, turnkey, Victoria Gaol.
HARRAS—On the 4th Nov., at Hong Kong, Maximilian Harras, a native of Hamburgh, aged 21 years.
HUNTER—On the 25th Nov., at Singapore, Capt. Hunter, of the British barque Bonaventure, of Liverpool.
MATHESON—On the 6th Nov., at Hong Kong, Colin S. Matheson, of the firm of Jardine, Matheson, and Co., aged 42 years.
MURRAY—On the 24th Nov., at Hong Kong, A. Dundas Murray, late master of Messrs. D. Sassoon, Son, and Co.'s receiving ship John Adams.
MAIR—On the 25th Oct., at Shanghai, Capt. Mair, ship Lodianah, aged 35, of Falkirk, Scotland.
PERRY—On the 1st Nov., at Lee-kow, before Soo-chow, killed in action, Captain Perry, 4th Regt. Disciplined Chinese forces.
STOREY—On the 9th Nov., at Hong Kong, Elizabeth Storey, wife of C. H. Storey, Surveyor-General's Department, aged 63 years.
VALENTIA—On the 30th Dec., at Bletchington-park, Oxfordshire, the Right Hon. Arthur Annesley, Viscount Valentia, aged 78.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—CANTON: The business of the fortnight has been very limited. Congous are still so firmly held that settlements have been restricted to one full chop, and a parcel equal to about one quarter of a chop, at rates which exhibit no margin on the latest London quotations. As might have been anticipated from the nature of the last home advices, Scented Teas have been cautiously dealt in; prices as yet, however, show no alteration. In Canton Teas little has been done. Of Country Greens, about three to four thousand half chests are looked for within the coming fortnight.

FOO-CHOW-FOO.—The settlements are thus reported:—Congous: 14,700 chests 23,200 half chests and 2,000 boxes at 6¼ taels to 14½ taels for siftings to good common, 15½ to 20 taels for coarse flavoury kinds, and 21 to 23¼ taels for flavoury. Souchongs: 300 chests and 100 half chests at 19 to 36 taels. Flowery Pekoe: 600 chests at 21½ to 40 taels. Oolong: 8,500 half chests at 16 to 36 taels. Scented Teas: 2,200 boxes at 9 to 28 taels.

SHANGHAI.—Black: There has again been a very dull market during the past fortnight, and only 13 chops have been settled at prices showing a decline of fully one tael on last quotations. The recent arrivals from Hangkow have been almost entirely composed of very common descriptions, and it is now evident that the season's supply has nearly come to an end. The remaining stock in this market, which consists of 32 chops, is generally firmly held. Settlements on the market, 13 chops or 5,978 chests Oopacks, Oonahms, Ningchows and Hohows. Re-shipped on owners' account, 8 chops, or 4,447 chests Oopacks, Oonahms, Ningchows, and Hohows—together 21 chops or 10,424 chests, making total Settlements to date 336,509 chests. Stock, waiting shipment, 12 chops and for re-sale 20 chops, together 32 chops. The quotations are for second and third crop Oopacks and Ningchows, Tls. 27½ to Tls. 31; for second and third crop Oonahms, Tls. 22 to 27; for second and third crop Hohows, Tls. 18 to 22. Green.—Considerable shipments have come forward from Kewkiang during the fortnight, but the excessive prices asked by the holders to cover costs have checked business, and very few settlements are reported: amongst these is a parcel of Fychow at Tls. 33½ and a parcel of common Moyune at Tls. 37. In Pingsueys and Shanghai packed a small business has been done at previous rates.

HANKOW.—Supplies from the interior come in sparingly, which circumstance has enabled the teamen to maintain the same degree of firmness as was previous advised. The advices from London, however, are of such an unfavourable complexion, that foreigners have in a measure retired from the market, which has yielded 5 mace.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—The settlements have not exceeded 1,000 bales, purchased at similar prices to those last quoted. Dealers are very firm, and are by no means anxious to make sales. The receipts from up country have been very moderate, so that the stock is again reduced. The parcels now offered are very inferior, in every respect, and it is most difficult to select any desirable run. The settlements of the fortnight are reported at 1,000 bales, against 3,800 bales at corresponding fortnight of last season and 5,000 ditto the season before. The total comparative settlements to date stand thus:—Present season 26,000 bales; last season, 45,300 bales; the previous season, 37,600 bales. The comparative stocks at date stand thus:—Present season, 9,000 bales; last season, 20,000 bales; season before 9,000 bales. The following are the latest quotations:—Tsatlees, No. 2 chops, 450 to 460 taels per picul; No. 3, 430 to 440.

YOKOHAMA.—Supplies have been moderate since our last, but all arrivals settled immediately at previous quotations, or nearly so. The last day or two arrivals have been larger, and there are 300 bales in the market to-day.

NAGASAKI.—Settlements of 60 piculs Hitchoxen at $430. Stocks 50 piculs Hitchozen $480 asked; none else on offer.

DRUGS, &c.—CANTON.—Cassia Lignea, settlements of the fortnight 100 piculs only at $17.50. Stock 500 piculs. Cassia Oil, the market still continues bare. Cassia Buds: a lot of 20 at 30 pls. has arrived down which is held at $57. Star Aniseed and Aniseed Oil, no supplies have come forward. Rhubarb, a small lot arrived and was picked up at $60, there is no stock. Gamboge, still without supplies. China Root, no settlements reported, stock 400 piculs. Vermillion, little doing at $42.50 per box. China Galls, stock 100 piculs, held at $12.75.

RAW COTTON.—SHANGHAI.—The first contracts were made at about 14 taels for early delivery. But the market hardened daily, until the fact became manifest that the yield was very deficient. The result was that the natives had to enter the market to complete their contracts with foreigners, against rash shippers and wild speculators whom the peculiar turn of events had called forth and the rate has consequently advanced to 22 taels, about equal to 16½d. laid down in Liverpool! About half of the native contractors have failed and have closed their establishments. Even at this unheard of quotation, little can be had for immediate delivery, and a system of adulteration is being largely practised which tends to shake confidence in transactions in the article. There seems to be little doubt that although the culture has been extended, yet that the yield is very defective—probably not more than one half per acre of what it was last season. Although all hopes of extensive shipments from China to Great Britain must for the present be abandoned, still the excessive rate now ruling will undoubtedly so stimulate culture, as to cause a very large yield next season, should the crops not fail again. During the fortnight seven ships have been despatched to Great Britain, carrying over 23,000 pls. A vast number of ships are on the berth, but under present circumstances they may have difficulty in loading. It should be observed that the Southern ports, which usually draw their supplies from India, must now derive them from the North.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN is nominally quoted higher, both in this market and in Canton, but the article does not at present meet with any inquiry, and the sales reported are limited in Hong Kong to 35 bales, while from Canton there are not any transactions to notice.

GREY SHIRTINGS.—Although there is no demand amongst the native dealers, who affirm that the prices demanded are much higher than they can afford to pay, have met with very active inquiry at the hands of foreigners for the purpose of re-shipment to the Straits and India, and the business of the fortnight has been almost unprecedentedly large, amounting to fully 40,000 pieces at an established advance upon the quotations given in last circular of at least 15 cents per piece.

WHITE SHIRTINGS are also quoted higher, although the business done in them has been restricted to 2,500 pieces purchased by the Chinese, and 500 pieces taken by a foreign firm.

T-CLOTHS, which have also advanced materially in value, have been entirely neglected by the native dealers, but have been largely dealt in on foreign account, and the settlements of the past fortnight are estimated at 32,000 pieces.

AMERICAN DRILLS.—The market is quite bare of these goods, and the quotations must be regarded as quite nominal; they would, however, be readily paid were the goods procurable.

WHITE SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, DYED DO., BROCADES, WHITE AND COLOURED.—There are not any transactions to report during the past fortnight in the above goods, although the quotations are slightly in advance of previous rates. The Canton market has been entirely without animation in regard to all imports of cotton manufacture, and there is not a single sale reported from thence since the date of last circular.

CHINTZES AND HANDKERCHIEFS.—3,000 dozens of the latter have been purchased by one dealer, and this transaction constitutes all the business of the fortnight.

DAMASKS have not met with any sales.

RAW COTTON.—The market for this staple has been in a very excited state in this colony during the fortnight, and the intelligence from Shanghai and Ningpo of advancing prices at these ports, combined with the great eagerness to purchase manifested here has led to a considerable advance in the values of every description. The amount of business done has been upon a large scale, estimated at fully 21,000 bales, of which some 5,000 have been purchased by the Chinese, and the remainder by foreign merchants, for reshipment. In Canton, where the value of the staple has also advanced, although it is still far below the prices obtainable in this colony, the settlements are put at 400 bales.

WOOLLENS.—SPANISH STRIPES, MEDIUM CLOTHS, LADIES' AND HABIT CLOTHS.—The above goods have not met with any great amount of inquiry during the past fortnight, and the sales of Spanish Stripes to which alone transactions have been confined are estimated at 700 pieces. Sales from Foo-chow of 870 pieces of Spanish Stripes are also reported.

LONG ELLS show a slight advance in value as regards assorted colours, when compared with the rates current on the departure of the last mail

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steamer, but the business reported has not been very large, amounting as it does to only 250 pieces. In Canton 400 pieces have changed hands, but without alteration in value. The settlements of these goods in Foochow have been confined to scarlet, of which 1,440 pieces have changed hands during the fortnight.

CAMLETS have met with slightly more inquiry in this colony during the fortnight, sales of 500 pieces having been reported. Quotations remain unaltered.

LASTINGS—240 pieces sold here, and 120 pieces disposed of in Canton constitute the transactions of the past fortnight.

BLANKETS have recently met with good inquiry at the recent quotations, and exclusive of 450 pairs (damaged and sold by public auction), the private sales of the past fortnight amount to 1,584 pairs.

METALS.—Iron Flat, &c.: Nail Rod (to which description and Bar the business of the fortnight has been limited) shows a slight advance in value, and the sales reported amount to 1,680 piculs of the former, and 800 of the latter description. In Canton where the price of Nail Rod has also advanced about 5 cents, sales of 1,700 piculs have been effected.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.		6s. 2¼d. to 6s. 3d.	6s. 3d. to 6s. 4d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 9¼d. to 4s. 10d.	4s. 10d. to 4s. 11d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 9¼d. to 4s. 9¾d.	4s 10¼d. to 4s. 11d.
At Manila	6	ditto	4s. 5d.	4s. 5d. to 4s. 6d.
At Batavia (guilders.)	6	ditto	..	..

The Exchange on India at Shanghai was 303 to 304 rupees per 100 taels, and at Hong Kong 231 to 232 per 100. Bar silver at Shanghai 111.25 per 100 tls., and Hong Kong 3½ per cent. prem. The current quotations at Shanghai for Mexican dollars was 78 tls. per $100, and the rate of exchange on Hong Kong was 28 to 23½ per cent. discount.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN.—None.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Oct. 30, Marquis of Argyle; 31, Cissy, Panama; Nov. 16, Kate Kearney; 17, Lung Mow; 22, Ralston. From Liverpool: 12, Ann Wood. From Newcastle: Oct. 27, Thomas Royden; Nov. 19, Montmorency. From Sunderland: Oct. 29, Island Queen; Nov. 23, Fair Leader. From Cardiff: Nov. 16, Collingwood; 21, Eudora. From Hamburg: Oct. 31, Aldebaren. From New York: Oct. 25, Endeavour; Nov. 16, Antelope.

At FOO-CHOW.—None.

At AMOY.—Oct. 27, Eudora, from Cardiff; Nov. 13, from London, Vibilia.

At SWATOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From London: Nov. 12, Troas. From Glasgow: Madras. From Sunderland: Nov. 4, Herald; 10, Sea Bird; 26, John L. Dimmock; From Cardiff: Nov. 19, Paul. From New York: Nov. 9, Marmion; 26, Surprise.

At MANILA.—No report.

At SINGAPORE.—From Liverpool: Nov. 12, Benaventure. From Plymouth: 6, Mona (-teamer). From Sunderland: 10, Walvisch; Dec. 3, Ottone. From Newcastle: 17, Prospero. From Glasgow: 7, Spanker. From Bordeaux; Nov. 10, Ville de Granada (French). From Hamburg: Dec. 1, Ida Maria.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—For New York, Oct. 27, Maggie Atkinson.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Oct. 24, King Arthur, Palmerston; 27, James Vinnicombe, Mirage; 30, Ospray; Nov. 2, Spirit of the Deep; 6, J. H. Ransom; 14, Hawthorne; 16, Spirit of Trade; 18, Sophie; 19, Philip I.; 31, Daisy. For Liverpool. Oct. 26, Niphon; 28, James Gibson; 29, Spirit of the Sea: Nov. 7, Our Queen, Sarah and Emma; 11, Ranee; 14, Victoria; 18, Star of the North, Macduff. For New York: Nov. 12, Wilhelmine; 13, Sarah.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: Oct. 24, Mimosa, Bosworth; Nov. 10, Maiden Queen; 11, Portland.

From AMOY and SWATOW.—None.

From HONG KONG.—For London: Nov. 6, Reindeer. For Liverpool: 2, Nile; 4, Nielbreck.

From MACAO.—For London: Oct. 25, Bellissimas; Nov. 33, Magnus. For Hamburg: Nov. 3, Selina Jane; 4, Ophelia.

From WHAMPOA.—For London: Nov. 19, Laurel. For New York: Nov. 9, Graf Eulenburg; 15, Creole.

From MANILA.—For Falmouth: Maggie Lauder. For New York: Helvetia.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Nov. 16, Avalanche. For Liverpool: 21, Oasis. For New York: 11, Caroline.

From BATAVIA.—No report.

From PENANG—For London: Dec. 8, Nipisiquit.

LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Dolphyn, Scawfeel, Confiance, Governor V. Swiston, L'Europe.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Anglo-Saxon, Heroes of Alma, Lammermuir, Nelly, Star Queen, Bulmacarra, Island Queen, Princess of Wales, Egmont, Sir H. Parkes. For Liverpool: Fow Tsum, General Putnam, Princess Royal, Sappho, Rhine, Young England, Royal George, Childe Harold, Glenhuntly, Loodianah, Solway, Zingara, Thos. Royden. For New York: Apollo and Elizabeth.

At FOO-CHOW.—For London: Renown, Standard, Isabella Ridley, Chalmers, Albrecht Oswald, Bankside, Glaramara, Stuart Wortley, Peep o'Day, H. Nicholson, Florence Nightingale.

At AMOY.—For New York: Confucius.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Laurel, Tamerlane Mary Ann Wilson, Agra. For Liverpool: Light of the Age, Gemini Lord Lyndhurst, Itsamboul, Jounpore.

At MANILA.—None.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: The Brodre, Pilgrim. For Liverpool: Crusader. For Bordeaux: Orixa (Fr.). For Hamburg: Helene. For Boston: Pearl.

At BANGKOK.—None.

At BATAVIA.—For Channel for orders: Lamina Elizabeth. For Rotterdam: Jacob Helena, Oscar I., Tollens, M. L. Antoinette, Haamstede, Rudolf, China, Zeemanschoop, Jan van Galen, Bilderdijk. For Amsterdam: Nyverheid, Norden, Henri Maria, Herman de Ruyter, Prins Carl, Prinses Amalia.

At PENANG.—For London: Rockcliff.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—Oct. 21, Thons, from London to Hong Kong; Ida Willemena, Rotterdam to Batavia, Adriana Petronella; 26, Johann Lange, for orders; 31, Sparrow, from London to Shanghai; Mercator, Sunderland to Shanghai; Queen's Own, England to Hong Kong; Nov. 18, Elizer, Hamburg to Singapore, 22, Ferris, Cardiff to Singapore.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—Oct. 22, from Boston to Shanghai.

FROM CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—October 13, Esther from Macao to Hamburg; Ida Elizabeth, from Batavia to Holland; President Plate, from Batavia to Rotterdam; Johannes Christian, from Batavia to Amsterdam; 15, John Nicholson, from Hong Kong to Liverpool; Maria, from Batavia to Middelburg; 17, Tuisco, from Batavia to Channel; Janetje, from Batavia to Rotterdam; Queen of the Ocean, from Whampon to London; Anna, from Batavia to Amsterdam; 18, Mexicana, from Amoy to London; Sunbeam, from Shanghai to London; 19, Solent, from Shanghai to London; John Lidgett, from Hong Kong to London; 20, Hanover, from Shanghai to London; 21, Grenadier, from Shanghai to London; 22, Humphrey Nelson, from Shanghai to London; 25, Beautiful Star, from Hong Kong to Liverpool; Sovereign of India, from Shanghai to London; 26, Jubilee, from Shanghai to London; Halton Castle, from Singapore to Liverpool; 25, Tamana, Canton to London; 27, Tinzil, Shanghai to London; Gauntlet, Shanghai to London; Zambeze, to Cork; Canadian, Hong Kong to London; 29, Jane Leech, Shanghai to Liverpool; 26, Juno, Foo chow to Middelburg; Maha Ranee, Foo-chow to London; Moneta, Shanghai to London; Edith, Shanghai to London; Allendale, Shanghai to Liverpool; 28, Genanoque, Foo-chow to London; Emelie, Batavia to Rotterdam; 29, Janet Mitchell, Foo-chow to London; Runnymede, Shanghai to London; Queen of the Age, Shanghai to London; Bucton, Castle, Foo-chow to London; Beemah, Foo-chow to London; Nov. 5, Rubicon, from Amoy to London; 6, Julia, Shanghai to London; 7 Lorton, Shanghai to Liverpool; 13, Iron Crown, Hong Kong to Liverpool; 14, Broadwater, Japan to London; 15, Palmyra, Shanghai to Liverpool; 16, Ravensbourne, Japan to London; 16, India, Shanghai to London, Cordova, Shanghai for Liverpool; 17, Siam, Shanghai to London, Carn Tual, Japan for London; 18, J. J. Grandville, Batavia to Nantes, Mimosa, Foo-chow to London; 19, Langdale, Foo-chow to London; 20, Mirage, Shanghai to London, Bosworth, Foo-chow for London; 21, Der Preusse, Manila to London, Jas. Vinnicombe, Shanghai to London, Melrose, Amoy to London; 22, Spirit of the Sea, Shanghai to Liverpool, Forfarshire, Hong Kong for Liverpool, Selina Jane, from Macao, for Hamburg.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

JAPAN to ENGLAND.—Cotton £4; Tea, £5; Silk, £6. 10s.

SHANGHAI.—Rates continue firm for home, but little offering for the coast. The following are the rates to London and Liverpool:—Teas, £5; Cotton, £3. 15s. To New York: £3. 15s. for Tea; Silk, £4. 10s. per ton of 40 cubic feet.

FOO-CHOW.—To London: £4 per ton of 40 cubic feet. To America: £4. 5s.

HONG KONG.—A good demand for tonnage exists principally for cotton to Liverpool, and for small vessels to the Northern ports. The following are some of the settlements:—Amazone [(Hamb. 166), to Liverpool with cotton, £3. 7s. 6d. per ton; Esmeralda (Hamb. 380), to Liverpool, £3. 7s. 6d.; Santon (510), to New York, via Foo-chow, £4. 7s. 6d.; Virginia (839), to Liverpool, £3. 10s.; Citadelle, to London, via Cape, £850 in full.

SINGAPORE.—The rates to England are as follows:—Tin, £3; sago, in boxes, £3. 10s.; sago flour, £2. 15s.; gambier, in bales, £2. 15s.; sugar, £3; black pepper, £3. 10s. per 16 cwt.; coffee, £3. 10s. per 18 cwt.; hides and horns, £3. 10s. per 16 cwt.; gutta percha, £3. 10s. per 20 cwt.; measurement goods, £3. 10s.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Jan. 7: Off the Lizard, from Shanghai, Southern Belle.

DEPARTURES.—Jan. 9, from London for Shanghai, Tun Sing (str.); 5, from Lawlash, for Singapore, Lochleven Castle; from New York, for Shanghai, Nov. 23, Gondola.

SPOKEN.—Emperor, of and from Sunderland, for Hong Kong, Dec. 26, 37 N., 13 W.

LAID-ON.—At London, for Shanghai, Yaratilda.

Advices from Mauritius to Nov. 6th received at Boston, state that the ship Thomas W. Sears, of Boston, Wilson Master, from Padang for New York, which put into Mauritius Sept. 28, leaky, &c., had been condemned at that port.

The P. and O. Company have accepted tenders for the supply of 6,000 tons coal at Hong Kong, the shipments to extend over three months.

The statistics of Tea up to the 31st Dec. last show an increase in our imports of no less than 29,855,500 lbs., being 136,123,500 lbs. in 1863, against 106,268,000 lbs. in 1862. The deliveries have been 112,299,000 in 1863, against 106,535,000 in 1862, being an increase of 5,764,000 of the past year.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A REGISTER is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the FAR EAST, and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, *and other parts of the* FAR EAST, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JAN. 9, 1864.

DECISION FOR PEACE IN JAPAN.

THE change in the policy of the Japanese Government, from threats of expulsion, and preparation for hostilities, to a cordial arrangement of all differences, and liberal settlement of all claims, appears not to have been finally resolved on till just before the departure of the present mail. There have evidently been so many influences at work, the exact value of each of which Europeans find it for the present impossible to estimate, that this sudden revulsion of feeling is bewildering, even to those most deeply interested in comprehending its source and possible duration. And yet a connected narrative of the course of events may enable us to reckon up the pieces on the board, even if we are still unable to follow the complication of the moves. At the GOROGIO'S conference, on the 24th October with MYNHEER VON POLESBROEK, the Minister of the Netherlands, and General PRUYN, the United States Minister, after announcing that "the order of expulsion issued by and through ONGASSAWARA was retracted," the GOROGIO went on to say that "if trade continued on in Yokohama, a rebellion would ensue "in the country, and that therefore the trade must be transferred to Nagasaki and Hakodadi." To put the climax to the whole, and to evince the determination, once for all, to have done with the detested foreigners by destroying the main attraction to their commerce, the rumour became current in Yokohama—a piece of intelligence, it was said, indeed, the accuracy of which it was impossible to doubt —that "*the authorities had peremptory orders for the destruction "of three-fourths of all the silk-cocoons in the country!*" That there was no foundation for such a report, we will not undertake to say. Suffice it that though our dates are three or four weeks later than this rumour, nothing more is heard of it.

Now, the entire spirit of the scene undergoes a change. The next thing we learn is that the TYCOON has made his peace with the MIKADO, and would shortly return to Miako. SATSUMA, with the concurrence and through the intervention of the TYCOON'S officials, entreats a conference with Colonel NEALE. This conference is continued from the 9th November through various adjournments, and ends in the complete and satisfactory arrangement of all difficulties with that potent, and, we expect it will turn out, noble-hearted Prince. To show his real feelings towards foreigners, and Englishmen in particular, he announces his determination to send some of his young men to England for education. The people of Yedo are in raptures at the certainty that there is to be no further talk of expelling the foreigners; and their Governors notify to them that in future no restrictions are to be placed in the way of them trafficking with foreigners, and that they are to be left to take what supplies they please into the market, every man being at liberty to follow his own judgment, and to be checked solely by his own portal Distrust, defiance, and menace have disappeared with the rapidity of the transformation scene in a pantomime, and their place is supplied by confidence, shaking of hands, and cordiality. Such is the new year's offering brought us from Japan.

NEW POWERS GRANTED TO SIR R. ALCOCK.

The *London Gazette* contains the following notice:—

Her Majesty has granted authority to the Consul-General in Japan that whenever it shall appear to him, or persons authorised to act for him, that the unrestricted entrance of British ships or vessels into, or through, waters within the dominions of the Tycoon may lead to acts of disturbance, it shall be lawful for him to enforce, by fine or imprisonment, any regulation he may consider expedient on the subject; the penalty to be attached to any breach of such regulations to be made by virtue of this order not in any case to exceed $500, or three months' imprisonment.

SHERARD OSBORN AND PRINCE KUNG.

CAPTAIN SHERARD OSBORN is singularly favoured of gods and men, and luckily he is equal to his good fortune. A meaner spirit might have clung to the letter of his agreement—the penalty of the bond—and have lost caste and reputation by insisting on his pound of flesh, even when fate itself had appealed to him. There have not been wanting those who regarded him as a gentlemanly, well-informed buccaneer, content to accept suit and service with even a barbarian Power, which would purchase his sword. Our latest advices absolve him from this reproach. Like the chivalrous, if somewhat impulsive gentleman that he is, so soon as he found that (as we anticipated but four short weeks ago) the desertion of the rebels by their European leaders would bring into relief all that Tartar cunning from which we have already suffered so much, he at once withdrew from his self-imposed task. The news now is that he is on his way back to England, where, it is no secret, this last phase of his eccentric career will bring him far more credit than the most successful efforts to maintain the Mandarin *prestige*. We must now consider what is likely to be the upshot of this *fiasco*. We never doubted that the very first gleam of success would develop that innate treachery which is the bane of Chinese diplomacy. Prince KUNG, for all his appreciation of English enterprise, cannot be unfaithful to the traditions in which he has been brought up.

Well! and what of the crews? Are they to take suit and service with the Chinese? If so, we distinctly see another Chinese war at no very great distance off. What a post-captain in H.M.'s navy may do by no means governs what lesser offenders may do, and as soon as the war commences there will be instances of maltreatment of British subjects, which Mr. TOWNSEND was right in asserting will inevitably lead to a severe lesson in humanity being taught to the Chinese. The Tartar Court can see the ends of their noses as well as the average of Englishmen; the difficulty is that, though statesmen, they cannot see further, and the tortures that laid low BOWLBY and his fellow sufferers, and had nearly sacrificed the valuable life of such a man as Sir HARRY PARKES, are surely destined for the less prominent victims of the Chinese Court, which, judging by its own experiences, deems that a great country cares nothing for the blood or suffering of its humblest children. Captain OSBORN has come home; so did General ASHBURNHAM at the time of the Indian mutiny; so did NAPOLEON from Moscow. We have yet to learn what arrangements have been made for the British subjects who will be seduced into entering that service from which their leader has retired, thus swelling the ranks of the rowdies now in the employ of the Mandarins and rebels. We look with great solicitude on this point, although we fear that nothing will put a stop to the foreign blackguardism now mixed up with the unhappy rebellion. We have, however, a right to look to Mr. LAY and Captain OSBORN to see that the officers and men of the defunct fleet are removed from the scene, and we believe that their best efforts will be used to effect this, otherwise the pains bestowed on the expedition will indeed be one of the greatest curses of the rebellion.

The result of this most ill-advised expedition is precisely what we should have expected, though we had not expected the mask to be thrown off with such precipitation. It must henceforth be definitely understood that whatever arrangements are to be made with the Council at Peking must be supposed to be made in some moment of dire peril, and that the at best rather casuistical doctrine of compulsory oaths in engagements being valueless, is to be held in their case to be binding on third parties. It is not an encouraging prospect. Half the wars waged by Great Britain have been entered on to avenge the faithlessness of parties to some treaty. Until the great moral, as well as legal doctrine, *qui facit per alios facit per se*—the basis of all agency—is thoroughly understood in China, we must expect such consequences as have now overtaken the Anglo-Chinese flotilla. As we have now had most convincing proof that the ruling Powers at Peking will not be advised or at least bound by Western ideas in quelling the rebellion, let us own our defeat and return to the *statu quoante*. We trust that Earl RUSSELL will not lose a moment in rescinding the QUEEN'S order in Council which enabled SHERARD OSBORN, his officers and men to enter the Chinese service, and that his lordship has armed Sir HARRY PARKES (whom we are glad to see returns by the mail of the 11th inst.) to forbid all British subjects serving either Imperials or rebels. Let us not any longer be reproached with taking part in the atrocities

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which daily occur in this warfare. Let us, we again repeat, confine ourselves to what we first started with, viz., "Protection "with our own naval and military forces the to Treaty ports" against the incursions of pirates, whether Imperialists or rebels, for of the two there is simply a distinction without a difference. There are very few Mandarins who will b sitate to profit by smuggling and piracy, and that is the real occupation of the so-called rebels; and it is quite certain that this party have gained the influence at Peking.

COLONEL SYKES ON JAPAN.

So few members of the House of Commons evince a disposition to pay that attention to the affairs of the Far East which their commercial importance and political interest demand, that we are glad to see the gallant representative for Aberdeen extending to Japan that spirit of supervision and protest which we have so often had to signalise as being ever on the *qui vive*, on his part, in reference to China. We are pleased, therefore, to have a letter from his pen devoted to Japan, and are sure, from the Colonel's inflexible habit of following up a subject he has once assailed, that we shall have the gratification of inserting others from him on a topic of which Englishmen are so much in need of information. We wish we could admit that the writer has done anything to dispel the general ignorance by the outpouring before us. Perhaps he has himself but just commenced his researches into the history of Japan, which may account for the mistiness of the story the letter purposes to trace out, and, as the half-informed are generally the most positive, for the very decided tone of the conclusions arrived at in the close of the epistle. Never mind; further investigation will, we hope, enable the Colonel to be more certain as to his facts, and, we sincerely trust, alter his judgment. His letter clearly shows, what he perhaps did not intend, that nothing whatever is accurately known of Japanese history. The main fact on which the Colonel builds his theory is stated by one authority to have occurred in the *twelfth* century, and by another in the *fifteenth*. What is meant, may we ask, too, by the *immutability* of the Japanese laws? An *immutability*, that dates from the year 1598, at the earliest! So applied, the word has no meaning. Every mail we receive from Japan brings home to us more strikingly the singular similarity that exists between the feudal constitutions of that distant country and those that prevailed in Europe in the thirteenth and two following centuries. "There is nothing new under the sun." A very cursory search into the records of those times will show that an outrage committed by a great feudatory did not pass unpunished by a foreign prince, because it was committed by a *feudatory*. It is true, it often produced, and was held to justify, war with the superior who could not or would not restrain his vassal. Possibly, the Tycoon may have exceeded his power in making the treaty. We will not pretend to say whether he did so or not; we confess our utter incompetency to answer the doubt; but our incompetency is shared by Colonel Sykes, the Professor of Chinese at King's College, and every other European. Our right is to enforce the treaty: the right of the Mikado may be to punish the Tycoon for making it. That is his business. At present, as far as is known in England, the Mikado has disowned neither the treaty nor the Tycoon. Whenever he does that, we shall have means of learning, no doubt, what custom, or law, or immutable institution gives him such paramount sway.

SIR,—I read with great interest the letter in the *Aberdeen Herald*, dated Saturday the 28th Nov., and headed "Kagosima." It is written in a candid spirit, and puts the antagonistic views of the English and Japanese fairly before the public; and I beg to express my concurrence in the opinion you record, that we owe our present difficulties with Japan, and the late lamented bloodshed, very much to our "*Anglicus sum*" arrogance. By international law we are entitled to insist upon the fulfilment of the terms of a treaty made with the potential ruler of any State or country; and had we ratified a treaty with the acknowledged Emperor of Japan, we should be justified in exacting full reparation for injuries from all the subjects of that Emperor. But as far as my reading extends, it does not seem to me that we have a treaty at all with the Emperor of Japan, whose proper title is the "Mikado," and who resides at the capital city of Miako, and not at Yedo. We have indeed a treaty dated Yedo, July 11, 1859, with a potentate, the first article of which runs as follows:—"There shall be perpetual peace and friendship between Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, her heirs and successors, and His Majesty the Tycoon of Japan, and between their respective dominions and subjects;" and elsewhere in the treaty he is always spoken of as "His Majesty the Tycoon." But more than this, Her Majesty was advised in her reply dated Balmoral, 31st May, 1862, to a letter from the Tycoon, announcing the despatch of his envoys to England, to address him "Your Imperial Majesty." We necessarily ask, in what relation this "Imperial Majesty" stands to the admitted Emperor of Japan at Miako? Has he co-ordinate authority, or has he independent secular authority, while the authority of the Emperor at Miako is limited to spiritual matters? If we turn over the scanty leaves of the few European authors who have endeavoured to teach us something about Japan, its government, and people, we shall gather conflicting information.

From fabulous times, 660 B.C., Japan has had an Emperor at its head. That Empire now comprises an archipelago of 3,850 islands, great and small, inhabited and uninhabited. Like the neighbouring Emperor of China, the Emperor united in his own person secular and spiritual powers, which is not only customary with Buddhist rulers, as exemplified in the case of the Llama of Thibet, but has characterised other rulers, ancient and modern; for a Roman Emperor was Pontifex Maximus, and a modern ruler is Emperor and Pope in Russia, and the Pope is secular and spiritual Sovereign in Rome. Japan, the etymology of which is said to be Jih-pun, Chinese words meaning "land of the rising sun," has had its civil wars and changes of dynasties; and about the middle of the fifteenth century the sceptre fell to a boy and the regency to his grandfather, who confined his grandson and usurped his throne. This produced a civil war. Yoritimo, one of the most distinguished characters in Japanese history, espoused the cause of the imprisoned Emperor, and finally succeeded in restoring him, and was created Sio-i-dai Siogoun, or "generalissimo fighting against the barbarians."* The executive power remained in Yoritimo's hands for twenty years, and on his death his titles and office descended to his son, and became hereditary; but the investiture of successors was always given by the Emperor at Miako, and there was no open claim to equal rights of sovereignty. Such is the origin of the "officia" whom we have designated "Imperial Majesty," and whose title of Siogoun foreigners would seem to have converted into "Tycoon"—the latter word not occurring in Kempfer, nor in "Commodore Perry's Expedition to Japan." But the office of Siogoun became an object of rival ambition; and about the middle of the sixteenth century two brothers, descended from Yoritimo, aspired to the office. The princes of the Empire took part with one or the other, and it ended in the death of both brothers. The Prince of Owari seized the office, and his success was assured by the ability of a man of humble origin of the name of Hide-yosi, or Fide-yosi; and the reigning Mikado confirmed Prince Owari. Shortly afterwards he was murdered, and the office usurped; and the usurper, meeting with a like fate, in the midst of the confusion, Fide-yosi seized the office himself, and the frightened Emperor confirmed him, and he took the name of Tayko-sama, or the Lord Tayko. He exercised great power, and was about to invade China, when he died in the year 1598, aged sixty-three. But Tayko-sama left an only son, six years old, and he had married him to the granddaughter of the Prince of Micava, who, however usurped the office himself, and to this day his descendants exercise the functions of Siogoun. The fate of the son of Tayko is involved in mystery. Since that period, the office and power of the Siogoun has continued in the same family, notwithstanding contests, assassinations, and suicides; and it now remains to be considered whether the present Siogoun has the power to bind the Emperor, and the princes and population of the empire, by treaty and stipulations made in his own name.

It is stated there are 604 Jurisdictions; that is to say, 604 nobles, with "Courts Baron" like our own, I suppose, in feudal times; and those nobles exercised more or less of independent authority, according to the number of troops each could bring into the field; but all parties, Emperor, Siogoun, and Princes, are all equally subject to the immutable laws of Japan, one of which Lord Russell admits, in his despatch dated 6th June, 1862, to be the *Outlawry of all foreigners*. With this admission of an immutable law, a treaty, whether granted by Emperor or Siogoun, would seem to be waste paper. But, putting aside this view, we find from "the logic of facts," that the Siogoun is still amenable to the will of the Emperor at Miako; for the Gorogio or Council of the Siogoun at Yedo, told Colonel Neale on the 18th of August, 1862, that the Siogoun had gone to Miako to see the Emperor; and the local English newspapers said he was kept a prisoner at Miako for some time Moreover, Colonel Neale reports to Lord Russell on the 30th September, 1862, that on inquiring how far the Prince of Satsuma, whose followers had murdered Mr. Richardson on the Tocaido, was amenable to the authority of the Tycoon and Government of Japan, the Minister for Foreign Affairs "explicitly avowed that they could not exercise any act directed against the person of the Prince or any of his adherents, when within his own domains, even should it become necessary that any arrests should be effected by the agents of the Supreme Government in connection with the recent outrage;" and with respect to some customs duties matters, the Ministers tell Colonel Neale—"It requires time to make analagous arrangements with *other Governments*. We cannot explicitly reply now." Here is at once an omission on the part of "his Imperial Majesty the Tycoon" that he cannot order even petty custom-house regulations beyond his own domains. It would seem many of the Japan princes are as powerful and as independent as the Tycoon, and exercise similar rule in their own domains, and this, with occasional exceptional periods, would seem to have been the case from early times. Kempfer, although he calls the Siogoun "Imperial Majesty," says—"The Princes of the Empire assumed an absolute power in the government of their dominions and principalities—entered into alliances for their own defence, and carried on war one against another."

At the present moment, we gather from the letter of the Minister of the Prince Satsuma to Colonel Neale, published in the *North China Herald* of the 19th September, 1863, while admitting that the Provincial Governments of Japan are subordinate to the Yedo Government, that the journey to Yedo of Prince Satsuma's uncle (whose retainers killed Mr. Richardson) was for the purpose of conciliating the two *Courts* of Yedo and Keoto. That Satsuma had sufficient claim to the dignity and power of a "Court," the reception our fleet met with at Kagosima testifies. But, independently of the quasi-royal state of the Daimios, we find that even the subjects of the Yedo Government (his Imperial Majesty the Tycoon) consider that the Mikado or Emperor at Miako still possesses executive powers; for in a Nagasaki paper, dated 5th September, 1863, it is stated that the Prince of Honmora was appointed by the Tycoon of Yedo Governor of Nagasaki, in supersession of Oo-Koo-Boo Bung-no Kami, the existing governor, who was popular with both Japanese and foreigners; and, in consequence, "the native people sent a sort of petition to the

* Kempfer, in his "Japan," edition of 1723, refers this event to the 12th century, and says Yoritimo was made Sergoun or Crown-General, and died in 1199, A.D.

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Mikado Emperor, at Miako, requesting the Government to allow the superseded governor to remain as governor of this place; and lately each of the streets appointed one man, and about forty men went to Miako to beg of the Mikado to allow the old governor to come back, but he has not returned up to the present time."

Of course, the people of Nagasaki would not have petitioned the Emperor unless in the belief that he had secular power to set aside the Tycoon's (Siogoun) appointment. On the whole, there is sufficient grounds for believing, although the provincial Governments may be nominally subordinate to the "Crown-General," as Kempfer calls him, at Yedo, he is himself subordinate to the Mikado or Emperor at Miako; consequently he had no power to bind the Emperor by the stipulations of a treaty which he personally entered into with foreign Governments; and he had no power to bind the other Princes of the Empire; in short, we have no claim to speak of treaty rights with the Emperor of Japan; we have, indeed, a treaty with the chief feudal Prince, but that treaty has not been ratified by his Suzerain!

Finally, in testimony that I am not alone in the conclusion at which I have arrived, I annex the opinion of the Professor of Chinese at King's College, London, the Rev. J. Summers, who says, in reference to our not having secured for Englishmen freedom of travel in Japan, page 245, "Chinese and Japanese Repository":—"Because the agent of the Japanese Government had not power to grant it. The truth was, the Tycoon's dominion and authority could not extend beyond a certain point. The great Daimios, the rulers of the provinces, could forbid it. The Mikado or Emperor would not sanction such a diversion from Japanese rule, and here we are actually at war with Japan because our agents out there did not *know with whom they had to deal.* The great officer at Yedo, the Tycoon, was dealt with as with an Emperor when he ought to have been known that he is, as his name implies, 'Generalissimo,' whose office is hereditary, and whose power extends no further than that of a Governor-General abroad, whose acts may or may not be sanctioned and confirmed by the central Government."—Your obedient servant, W. H. SYKES.

47, Albion-street, Hyde-park, 12th Dec., 1863.

STEAMERS &c., FOR THE CHINA TRADE.

One of the vessels building on the Clyde under the superintendence of Captain Blow and Messrs. Robinows and Majoribanks, the agents for Messrs. Trautman and Co., Shanghai, has been launched from the yard of Messrs. Blackwood and Gordon, Port Glasgow, and named the *Yuen Tze Fee* (signifying good and quick profits). This vessel is a screw of 627 tons and 100 H.P., her dimensions being—length, 190 ft., beam 26, depth 12 ft. 6 in. Capt. Stocks, late of the *Island Queen*, is engaged to take command, and proceed to Shanghai in about a month. The second vessel, now building, will be also ready to launch shortly.

Another clipper has been launched by Messrs. Robert Steele and Co., on Clyde, called the *Taiping*, for Alexander Rodger, Esq. The *Taiping* is 720 tons register, length 185 ft., beam 31, and depth 20. She has been built on the new composite principle of iron frame and wooden planking, the latter being of greenheart and teak, and secured to the frames by metal screw bolts made of Elliot's phosphorated metal. She will be classed 14 years A 1 at Lloyd's, and will be commanded by Captain M'Kinnon, late of the *Ellen Rodger*.

Capt. Bowers, late of the *White Adder*, has, we hear, been appointed to the command of the steamer *Busheer*, noticed in a late issue for the Rangoon, Calcutta, and Singapore line.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

Mr. Spiro Mavrojani, of the firm of Ralli and Mavrojani, of London and Calcutta, and Mr. E. Rodocanachi, of the firm of Rodocanachi, Sons, and Co., have joined the board of the Bank of Hindustan. The capital of this bank is about to be increased from £1,000,000 to £2,000,000 by an issue of 10,000 new shares at £2 prem. The minutes of the Board announcing this will be found in our advertising columns.

THE HONG KONG BLUE-BOOK.

The annual Blue-Book, containing the reports of the Governors of the British colonies, called for "With a View to exhibit generally the Past and Present State of Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions," has just been issued. The present volume contains the reports for 1861. Sir Hercules Robinson accompanies his various returns with the following excellent summary of their contents, which bears date the 5th of June, 1862. The result is shown to be satisfactory under each head embraced in the returns. Hong Kong is entitled to take a brilliant rank among our colonies, as one that has no public debt whatever, and, better still, had at the close of the year under consideration, assets of revenue exceeding the liabilities by nearly £83,000.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.—The financial condition of the colony is most satisfactory. The revenue of 1861 exceeds that of 1860 by £39,058. 7s., and is nearly double that of 1859, being respectively—1859, £65,225. 6s. 2d.; 1860, £94,182. 16s. 3d.; 1861, £127,241. 3s. 3d. The expenditure for the same period has also increased, being for—1859, £66,109. 3s. 9d.; 1860, £72,390. 12s. 10d.; 1861, £109,632. 0s. 9d. The increase in the revenue will be seen to be mainly under the heads of "Rents" and "Licences." The premiums on the leases sold during last year, in consequence of the increase in the population and the consequent enormous rise in the value of land, realised £36,374, against £18,182 in 1860, being an increase under this head alone of £18,192. The permanent increase in the rent roll of the colony during the same period was £2,747. The monopoly for preparing and selling opium realised last year £12,412, against £10,393 in the previous year. In short, the returns show an increase under almost every head of revenue, and they are all to be explained by the increase of the population, which was found at the close of each of the last three years to be—1859, 86,941; 1860, 94,917; 1861, 119,321. The increase in the expenditure is attributable partly to the augmentation of the establishments, rendered necessary by the growth of the colony, but chiefly to the large outlay upon public works. The expenditure of last year may be classed as follows:—Ordinary expenditure, £64,143. 15s. 11d.; public works, £45,488. 4s. 10d.; total, £109,632. 0s. 9d.; being less than the revenue of the year by £17,609. 2s. 6d., thus—Revenue of 1861, £127,241. 3s. 3d.; expenditure, £109,632. 0s. 9d.; excess of revenue over expenditure, £17,609. 2s. 6d. A statement of the actual financial condition of the colony at the close of the last year shows that at that date the assets exceeded the liabilities by £82,781. 17s. 4d. Of this balance £61,550 was deposited in the chartered banks, bearing interest at from 5 to 6 per cent. per annum.

The prospect for the current year is equally satisfactory, I subjoin a financial estimate for 1862, from which it will be seen that, notwithstanding a proposed expenditure during the present year on public works of £50,000, it is calculated that at the close of the year there will still be a balance to the credit of the colony of £82,000.

FINANCIAL ESTIMATE FOR 1862, CORRECTED UP TO 1ST JUNE, 1862.

RECEIPTS.—Excess of assets on liabilities on 1st January, 1862, £82,000; estimated revenue for 1862, £120,000; total, £202,000.

EXPENDITURE.—Estimated ordinary expenditure, £70,000; estimated expenditure on public works, £50,000; total, £120,000; probable balance on 31st December, 1862, £82,000; grand total, £202,000.

PUBLIC WORKS.—The expenditure under this head during the year 1861 has been as follows:—1. Works and buildings, £28,746. 15s. 4d.; 2. Roads, streets, and bridges, £12,470. 12s. 10d.; 3. Land and house purchased, £4,270. 16s. 8d.; total outlay on public works in 1861, £45,488. 4s. 10d.

WORKS AND BUILDINGS.—The services upon which the greater part of this expenditure was incurred was the new gaol, the Victoria Waterworks, the Lock Hospital, and a new school-house and police-station at Showkewan, the rest being the various usual and miscellaneous works not requiring any special report. The greater portion of the gaol as now contemplated on the present site is finished, and but one section now remains to complete what may be designated the Bridewell; this will be finished at the end of the present year. The waterworks are progressing; the reservoirs and tanks are approaching completion; and as the whole of the pipes and other materials have arrived, and the main already laid, there is no doubt that this service also will be satisfactorily finished by the end of the year. The Lock Hospital appears to answer its purpose, and the school-house and police-station referred to were for the village of Showkewan, which is increasing, and likely to be a place of some importance for the Chinese employed in the export of salt fish.

ROADS, STREETS, AND BRIDGES.—The principal work under this head was the Praya opposite the public streets, abutting upon it, and for portions of Government land adjacent also. The work has been carried on in conjunction with the Crown tenants under special arrangements as regards the land reclaimed. A very considerable portion is finished, and both sections, east and west of the parade ground and Military Hospital, will be completed by the end of the year, forming a continuous sea-road of one and a-quarter miles east, and one and a-half miles west. The inland roads and streets were principally at the west extension of the city, and intended for the opening up of that area to render it accessible and available for building purposes. A large and expensive undertaking in connection with the streets was the drainage, not only for the general wants of the houses, but for the discharge of the enormous quantity and rapid flow of rain during floods—a difficult and expensive undertaking on so steep a site, with a rocky, loose, and treacherous soil to deal with. Landing piers for cargo boats and public steps were also provided under this head in suitable localities as the Praya work was in execution.

LAND AND HOUSE PURCHASED.—The system of education approved of for Chinese requiring the establishment of a central school, a house with a sufficiency of land attached for additional erections, was purchased in the most convenient locality. The school has been opened since the commencement of the present year, and is giving satisfaction. The proposals for supplying gas to this city, referred to in my report of last year, and since then approved by your Grace, I fear, will not be carried into effect, as there appears to be an entire misunderstanding between the proposer of the scheme and the company forming in London, who were to furnish the requisite funds. Should the proposer fail to satisfy the Surveyor-General, in accordance with his agreement, of his intention to proceed with the works on the terms agreed to, the concessions made by me will be cancelled, when I shall be at liberty to make other arrangements with other persons who have stated their willingness to undertake such a service.

LEGISLATION.—Five ordinances were passed during the last year, but none of them of sufficient importance to call for any special remark here.

POPULATION.—The Registrar-General's returns continue to show improvement under almost every head. On the night of the 31st December last the population was found to consist of—Males, 87,945; females, 31,376; total, 119,321, being an increase of 20,404 on the census of the previous year, a portion of which is attributable to the acquisition of Kowloon Peninsula, the population of which is estimated for the first time in the accompanying returns. Of the population of 119,321, 30,909 were found to be living on the water in 4,284 boats, and 88,412 on shore in 6,183 houses, making a total of 10,467 tenements. The population consists of Chinese and foreigners in the following proportion:—Chinese, 116,380; other than Chinese, 2,941; total, 119,321. The other than

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Chinese are composed of—European and American, males, 1,146; females, 411; total, 1,557. Goa Manila Indians, and others of mixed blood—males, 1,206; females, 78; total, 1,284. Aliens, chiefly seamen and temporary residents—males, 100. Total.—Males, 2,452; females, 489; total, 2,941. In these returns the military stationed in the colony, and the crews of the men-of-war and the merchant ships in the harbour, are not included. The houses show an increase over the previous year of 1.322, and are classified as—Chinese, 4,939; European, 1,244; total, 6,183. The European houses consist of 177 public buildings, and 1,067 private dwellings, shops, and offices. The 4,284 boats in which over 30,000 Chinese were found to be living in the harbours and bays of the colony when the census was taken, are variously described according to the kind of traffic in which they are employed. I annex to this despatch a summary of the Registrar-General's statistical return for the last eleven years, which will show at a glance the steady progress which the colony has made during that period in each of the particulars to which I have just referred.

SHIPPING.—The Harbour-Master's returns show that, exclusive of men-of-war, river steamers from Canton and Macao, and Chinese craft of all descriptions, 1,259 vessels, aggregating 658,196 tons, and belonging to 24 different nations, entered the harbour of Hong Kong during the past year. Of these 1,014 vessels of 520,500 tons entered with cargoes, and 245 vessels of 137,696 tons in ballast. The return of tonnage of vessels arriving last year shows a decrease of 217,003 as compared with the previous year, but an increase of 31,660 tons on the year 1859, which last offers the fairest comparison. as the large number of transports taken up for the expedition to the north in 1860 made that year altogether an exceptional case. American tonnage has, it will be observed, decreased, while British shipping has increased proportionately. This may be in some measure due to the disturbed state of America, but doubtless the late treaty is showing itself in the extended commerce of Great Britain in these seas.

EMIGRATION.—During the past year 37 vessels, aggregating 38,852 tons, and carrying 12,840 emigrants, of whom 993 were females, left this port for the following places:—23 for San Francisco, with males, 7,101; females, 633; total, 7,734. 8 for Sydney, with males, 2,809; 6 for Demerara, with males, 1,937; females, 360; total, 2,297. Total emigration:—Males, 11,847; females, 993; being a decrease of 11 ships and 2,343 emigrants on the numbers of 1860. But this is explained by 2,038 emigrants having gone in 1860 to the newly-discovered gold fields of British Columbia, while there are none to that colony for the last year; and there is also a decrease of emigrants to the Australian colonies. The California returns show an increase of 494; and to the British West Indies there has been an increase of 984 emigrants during the year 1861. During the same period 2,167 Chinese have returned to the colony *en route* for their homes in China from the following places:—From San Francisco, males, 1,158; females, 23. From Sydney and Melbourne, males, 958; from Singapore, males, 28; total, 2,167. As an instance of the wealth which these enterprising and industrious people acquire at the gold fields, I may instance the ship *Minerva*, which arrived here from Melbourne in September last with 350 Chinese passengers in possession of gold to the value of about £43,000.

SANITARY.—The Colonial Surgeon's report, with the tables attached to it, show that the past year has been marked by the absence of violent extremes of temperature, and that the inhabitants of the colony have experienced even a greater share of health than in the two immediately preceding years, which were themselves so remarkable for their healthfulness. —I have &c., (Signed) HERCULES G. R. ROBINSON.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G., &c.

POPULATION.—The summary of the Registrar-General's statistics shows that in the year 1861 the number of European houses was 1,244, and of Chinese, 4,939; to which must be added 4,284 boats, making the total number of tenements 10,467. The population consisted of 87,945 males and 31,376 females, making a total of 119,321, of whom 116,380 were Chinese. The population has gone on increasing from the year 1851, when it was but 32,983. The greatest spring was in 1855, when the number takes a jump from 55,715 in the preceding year to 71,790. The increase from 1860 to 1861 was also large, the population for the former year being 94,917, and for the latter, 119,321.

LABUAN.

The Colonial-office Blue-Book gives us no information, we regret to say, respecting our interesting possession of Labuan. Governor Callaghan states, in his letter to the Duke of Newcastle, that there "was no time before the departure of the mail to prepare a report. The consequence is that as the various papers making up the particular "Blue-Book" of each colony are not published in the general volume issued by the Colonial-office, the public are deprived of learning anything whatever about the condition of Labuan during 1861.

THE TELEGRAPH ROUTE THROUGH SIBERIA TO PEKING.

THE telegraph wires in Siberia have been extended from Omsk to Irkutsk. As we have before informed our readers, it is expected that the lines will be completed to Kiachta in all this year. The remaining part of the distance from Kiachta to Peking, across Mongolia, will then engage consideration. It is announced that the Russian Government has agreed with the Chinese on its adoption.

RETURN TROOPS FROM COCHIN-CHINA.

The steam transport *Garonne* arrived at Cherbourg the 25th Dec. from Cochin-China. She left Saigon with passengers on the 20th of August, St. Denis in the island of the Reunion on the 27th of October, where she took passengers. She subsequently touched at the Cape of Good Hope, where she likewise took in passengers.

The steam frigate *Cacique* arrived at Toulon from Alexandria on the 24th ult., having on board 400 military passengers from China and Cochin-China, who arrived at Suez by the steam transport *Japon*. The greater number are invalids, and for that reason the commander of the *Cacique* found it necessary to proceed with great caution, to touch at Messina, and to remain at anchor for twenty-four hours behind Cape Corse to avoid the heavy sea then running, which began to incommode the sick. The *Japon* lost forty-three of her passengers between Saigon and Suez, but owing to the precautions on board the *Cacique* four deaths only occurred between Alexandria and Toulon. As none of the sick were afflicted with contagious diseases, the *Cacique* obtained pratique immediately on entering the port. They were then removed to the military and naval hospitals. Some officers in excellent health arrived in the *Cacique;* they had many years' service in the unhealthy climate of Cochin-China, and are now retired.

THE MURDERS ON BOARD THE "FLOWERY LAND" FROM LONDON TO SINGAPORE.—The five men who were brought home from Monte Video in the Brazil mail steamer *Parana*, and landed at Southampton, charged with the murder of the captain and some of the crew of the ship *Flowery Land*, and scuttling the vessel, were taken before the Southampton magistrates for examination. There are in all ten of the crew implicated in the crimes, five of whom, with two witnesses, were sent away from Monte Video in the steamer *Uruguay* for Liverpool, and the other five, also accompanied by two witnesses, came home in the *Parana*. The British Consul was afraid to send them all in one batch, they being such a desperate set of characters, and offered to send a file of soldiers to keep guard over them, but the above arrangement was ultimately adopted. The men brought by the *Parana* were heavily manacled. Their names are Marco Varto, a native of the Ionian Islands; Marciliano De Laeroix, a Greek; Miguel Lopez, a Malay; George Carlos, and John Williams, three of them being men of colour. The magistrates on the bench were Messrs. J. R. Stebbing, F. Perkins, J. H. Cooksey, and R. Coles. The facts of the case will be found detailed in the evidence of James Early, whose examination was taken. This witness stated that he was a sailor on board the *Flowery Land*, which sailed from the West India Docks on the 28th of July last, and the five prisoners, four of whom could speak a little English, also formed part of the crew. The captain's name was George or John Smith, and the vessel was bound to Singapore. All went on well for five or six weeks, but on the 10th of September one of the crew, a Brazilian, not among those who arrived in the *Parana*, struck the mate. Witness was on the look-out house, and spoke to the mate, when they struck him again, and told Early to go into the deck-house. He did so, and called the carpenter, who was asleep in his berth, and he went out. The mate was then lying on the deck. Some of the men struck the carpenter, who went back to the deckhouse and stayed with witness all night. During the night he heard a noise on deck, but was afraid to leave the deckhouse. Between 5 and 6 o'clock in the morning witness went on deck, and thence into the captain's cabin, where he found the second mate and some of the men. They were around the dead body of the captain, which was covered with canvas, and the prisoner Lopez put a rope round it and pulled it up, and then they threw it overboard. There was a good deal of blood about the decks, and the men washed it away. Witness also missed from the vessel the chief mate and the captain's brother. The sailors then got the money and the clothes that were in the cabin. One of them took command of the ship, and the second mate navigated it. They sailed the ship for twenty-two days, until they arrived at the entrance to the River Plate, where they determined on scuttling her. Witness got into a boat with the steward, cook, and second mate. The sailors ordered them to return, and they all did so, excepting the steward, at whom they threw bottles of wine, which struck him several times. He remained in the boat till he was very much cut about, and then he got out into the water and was drowned. The sailors threatened what they would have done with the steward if they had had him on deck, and said it was too easy a death for him to die. After the steward was dead the men ordered Early to go down and clear the bottles out of the boat. The ship sank in about two and a-half hours from that time, and witness thought that the cook and the lamp-trimmer went down in her, for he never saw them again. Some of the men stopped on board till within a quarter of an hour of her sinking. They placed in the boats some clothes, bread, ham, and bottles of wine, and proceeded to the shore, landing on the open beach, and went into the country. The second mate managed to escape from them and made his way to Monte Video, from which place a man-of-war was immediately despatched in search of them, and after a few days they were all taken prisoners. At the termination of the witness Early's evidence, the magistrates remanded the five prisoners for a week, to afford time for communication with the Board of Trade.

DEATH OF VISCOUNT VALENTIA, THE FATHER OF LADY ROBINSON, OF HONG KONG.—We have to announce the death of the Right Hon. Arthur Annesley, ninth Viscount Valentia, of Valentia, in the county of Kerry, Baron Mountnorris, of Mountnorris Castle, in the county of Armagh, Baron Altham, of Altham, in the county of Cork, in the peerage of Ireland, and premier baronet of Ireland; which event took place on the 30th Dec., at Bletchington-park, Oxfordshire. His lordship was born on Nov. 30, 1785, and was the eldest son of Mr. Arthur Annesley, of Bletchington-park, Oxfordshire, by Catherine, daughter and heir of Admiral Sir Charles Hardy. He married, Aug. 12, 1808, Eleanor, youngest daughter of Mr. Henry Stafford O'Brien, of Blatherwycke-park, Northampton, and by her (who died June 10, 1843) has had issue four sons and seven daughters; the eldest son Arthur, born Sept. 14, 1809, married, in 1836, Flora Mary, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel James Macdonald, of Clarronald, and died Oct. 27, 1844, leaving issue a son and two daughters, One of the late viscount's daughters, the Hon. Nea-Arthur-Ada-Rose

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d'Amour Annesley, married, in 1846, Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor of Hong Kong. The deceased lord is succeeded in his title as tenth viscount by his grandson Arthur, born at Inveresk, Edinburgh, Aug. 23, 1843. Lord Valentia succeeded his distant kinsman, George, second Earl of Mountnorris, F.R.S., F.S.A., in the viscounty only on July 23, 1844. The founder of the titles of Mountnorris and Valentia was Sir Francis Annesley, Knight, who filled for forty years high offices in Ireland, and who, having received the honour of a baronetcy, in 1620, was created Lord Mountnorris in 1628, with a reversion to the viscounty of Valentia. It is a singular fact that, for family reasons, all the children, male and female, of the late lord were christened Arthur.

SIR HARRY PARKES AT THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.—At a meeting of this society, Viscount Strangford, President, in the chair, a description was given by Sir H. Parkes of an inscribed and ornamented slab of granite, which he had presented to the society, and which was taken from one of six portals erected in Canton a few years before our late capture of that city, and bearing an Imperial edict in approval of the measures adopted by the local authorities for excluding the barbarians from the city. These six portals were demolished after the capture of Canton. The stone presented formed the centre of a kind of pediment to the portal, and contains the two words "Imperial will;" under it was inscribed the edict, a translation of which may be found at page 280, vol. xviii., of the "Chinese Repository" for 1849. A paper, by E. Rawdon Power, Esq., was read—"On the Agricultural, Commercial, Financial, and Military Statistics of Ceylon," showing the important increase which has taken place during the last thirty years, in the production of coffee and cocoa-nut oil, the progress made in roads and railways, and the generally prosperous condition of the colony's finances.

M'GREGOR V. SMITH.—The plaintiff was the master of a ship, bound from Shanghai to Liverpool, on board which the defendant was a steerage passenger, and the action was brought to recover £20, the difference between the steerage and cabin fare. It appeared that plaintiff, after he went on board, being dissatisfied with the accommodation provided, offered to pay the difference and sail as a cabin passenger. For the defence it was contended that the steerage berth was so filthy and infested with vermin that defendant was allowed to occupy the chief mate's berth, upon paying £5 for the privilege of joining the captain's mess; and £5 had been paid into Court in support of the plea of payment. The jury found for the plaintiff for the amount claimed.

BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS.

The official Returns of the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month and for the eleven months ending the 30th of November have made their appearance. The exports to the Far East exhibit the following results:—

TO CHINA.—Cotton Yarn: The quantity exported to China and Hong Kong is entered at 379,474 lbs. for the month, against "none" for 1862, and 144,450 lbs. in November, 1861. For the eleven months we have 2,004,184 lbs., against 3,214,059 lbs. in 1862, and 6,107,714 lbs. in 1861. The declared value of the export is £45,009 for November of 1863, against "nil" in 1862, and £6,303 in 1861; for the eleven months £215,084 in 1863, against £183,963 in 1862, and £275,945 in 1861. Cotton Goods: The returns are 3,158,419 yards to China and Hong Kong in November, 1863, against 1,598,183 yards in the same month of 1862, and 6,688,266 yards in 1861. For the eleven months we have 43,007,461 yards in 1863, against 78,285,627 yards in 1862, and 232,961,077 yards in 1861; the value being £94,141 for November, 1863, against £37,015 in 1862, and £87,776 in 1861; and for the eleven months of the years 1863, 1862, and 1861 respectively, £1,063,212, £1,219,777, and £3,022,501. Woollen and Worsted Manufactures: To China and Hong Kong in November, 1863, 89,867 yards, against 249,448 yards in the same month of 1862, and 67,864 yards in November, 1861; for the eleven months of 1863, 1,518,192 yards, against 1,918,496 yards in 1862, and 2,775,040 yards in 1861; the value being for the month, £11,289 in 1863, £31,181 in 1862, and £8,483 in 1861; and for the eleven months of the years 1863, 1862, and 1861 respectively, £279,639, £239,812, and £346,880. Worsted Stuffs: The export has been 874,883 yards in the month of November, 1863, against 943,239 in 1862, and 356,804 in 1861; for the eleven months in 1863, 8,276,044 yards, against 7,559,083 yards in 1862, and 4,436,912 in 1861, the value being £57,404 for November, 1863, against £46,695 in the same month of 1862, and £25,786 for November, 1861; for the eleven months of the years 1863, 1862, and 1861 respectively, £581,017, £374,212, and £330,275. Lead: To China and Hong Kong, in November, 1863, 1,450 tons, against 808 and 210 tons in the same month of the years 1862 and 1861; for the eleven months ending November 30, 1863, 13,457 tons, against 8,249 tons in 1862, and 5,032 tons in 1861. The value of this article of export for the month of November has been, in 1863, £30,179, against £17,186 in 1862, and £4,300 in 1861; for the eleven months of the years 1863, 1862, and 1861 respectively, £287,112, £176,351, and £109,461. The declared value of British produce exported to China (exclusive of Hong Kong) for the month ended the 31st October, 1863 and 1862 respectively, is £265,053 and £93,392; and for the ten months of the same years, £2,036,926 and £1,687,691. To Hong Kong the declared value of the exports of British produce for the month of October, 1863, was £124,843, against £53,841 in October, 1862; and for the ten months of the two years respectively, £1,165,889 and £979,109.

TO SINGAPORE.—Cotton Yarn: 194,390 lbs. in November, 1863, against 20,000 in the same month of 1862, and 90,170 in 1861. For the eleven months of the three years 1863, 1862, and 1861, the export has been respectively 1,934,636 lbs., 1,574,171 lbs., and 1,560,387 lbs. In value we have £19,771 for November, 1863, and for the eleven months of the years 1863, 1862, and 1861 respectively, £203,045, £96,949, and £96,798. Cotton Manufactures: For the month of November, 1863, the return gives 3,596,694 yards, against 176,500 yards in November, 1862, and 4,549,651 yards in 1861. For the eleven months the export has been 24,967,935 yards in 1863, 31,615,973 yards in 1862, and 44,154,361 yards in 1861. The declared value for November, 1863, is £[illegible],314, and for the eleven months of the years 1863, 1862, and 1861 respectively, £595,829, £541,941, and £611,007. The declared value of British produce exported to Singapore and the Eastern Straits for Oct., 1863, was £100,313, against £62,436 for the same month of 1862, and for the ten months of the years 1863 and 1862 respectively, £1,134,692 and £970,342.

TO THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—Cotton Manufactures: The export in November, 1863, was 180,019 yards, against "nil" in the same month of the two preceding years. For the eleven months of 1863 the export has been 13,250,473 yards, against 12,625,882 yards in 1862, and 34,421,490 yards in 1861. The declared value is £7,187 for the month of November, 1863, and for the eleven months of the years 1863, 1862, and 1861 respectively, £324,391, £252,329, and £596,219. The declared value of British produce exported to these islands was £64,253 for October, 1863, against £947 for the same month in the year preceding. For the ten months ended October 31, 1863, the value was £500,835, against £379,209 in 1862.

TO JAVA.—Cotton Manufactures: The export for November, 1863, was 1,742,706 yards, against 1,345,660 in the same month of 1862, and 2,062,753 in 1861. For the eleven months the export was 13,989,714 yards in 1863, against 26,074,820 yards in 1862, and 44,726,270 yards in 1861. The value for November, 1863, was £47,544, and for the eleven months of the years 1863, 1862, and 1861 respectively, £347,334, £489,925, and £697,252. To the Dutch Possessions in India, the declared value of British produce exported in October, 1863, was £77,154, against £40,770 in the same month of October, 1862. For the ten months ending October, 1863, the value was £489,695, against £687,147 in 1862.

SIAM.—The value of the British produce exported for the first ten months of 1863 is, £11,958, against £17,068 in 1862.

COCHIN CHINA, CAMBOJA, AND TONQUIN.—The value of British produce exported is, £36,597 for the first ten months of 1863, against £247 in 1862. The export for November, 1863, is declared at £1,597.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Dec. 28	London	Shanghai	Strathmore	Gates.
— 28	Do.	Singapore	Panic	Bell.
— 26	Do.	Nagasaki	Jacob and Hannah	Bouger.
— 26	Do.	Singapore	Prince Alfred	Splatt.
— 25	Liverpool	Canton	Patna	Pole.
— 26	Do.	Rangoon	R. M. Mills	Perry.
— 28	Deal	Foo-chow-Foo	Mary Mildred	Homewood.
— 25	Queenstown	Akyab	Limerick Lass	Green.
— 24	Liverpool	Sarawak	Rochester	Bruce.
— 27	Do.	Hong Kong	Jura	Chambers.
— 27	Off Falmouth	Penang	John Land	Hotchkiss.
— 25	Queenstown	Akyab	Wild Huntress	McDonald.
— 24	Texel	Batavia	Nieuw Holland	Witting.
— 25	Brouwershaven	Do.	Abel Tasman	Ryken.
— 29	London	Shanghai	Garnwalt	Shepherd.
— 29	Deal	Kanagawa	Kent	McEwen.
— 29	Do.	Shanghai	Gabalva	Fraser.
— 29	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Maha Ranee	Ritson.
— 29	Do.	Singapore	Sawely Chludow	Bosse.
— 29	Falmouth	Manila	Amtmand Thesen	Lind.
— 30	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Yaratilda	Donough
— 31	Do.	Hong Kong	Northfleet	Lymington.
— 30	Deal	Shanghai	Kennington	Edwards.
— 29	Liverpool	Do.	Ouvugondy	Brown.
— 30	Do.	Do.	Merrington	
— 30	Deal	Foo-chow-Foo	Harkaway	Thirkell.
— 30	Do.	Rangoon	Kinnaird	Sinclair.
— 30	Do.	Do. and Mauritius	Western Chief	Wording.
— 28	Off the Wight	Batavia	Jason	v. Bueren.
— 29	Brouwershaven	Do.	Helena	Dill.
Nov. 17	Callao	Hong Kong	George Henry	Peters.
— 13	Valparaiso	Canton	Jean Bart	Lancelot.
Jan. 1	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Carisbrook	Cooper.
— 1	Dartmouth	Batavia	Hebe	Kiehl.
Dec. 29	Bordeaux	Akyab	Decide	Lemoine.
— 31	Yarmouth, I.W.	Shanghai	Procymatia	Noel.
Jan. 3	Plymouth	Batavia	Kon. Ned. Yacht Club	Zack.
— 2	Scilly	Akyab	Black Swan	King.
— 4	Harwich	Batavia	Patriarch Samhiri	Lion.
— 2	Texel	Do.	Stad Leyden	v.d. Poll.
— 2	Do.	Samarang	Wilhelmina Maria	Postma.
Dec. 19	New York	Manila	Wanderer	Forbes.
Jan. 7	Marseilles	Alexandria	Moeris, str.	

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Dec. 22	Clyde	Singapore & H. Kong	Figaro	Reckless.
— 26	London	Shanghai	Pegasus	Penrice.
— 26	Do.	Hong Kong & Canton	City of Aberdeen	Taylor.
— 26	Do.	Hong Kong via Cardiff	The Cedars	Stonehouse.
— 24	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Kelso	Coulson.
— 28	Deal	Batavia	Petronella	Strootman.
— 26	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Northland	Emery.
— 27	Hartlepool	Do.	Caranusus	Milburn.
— 31	London	Do.	Kestrel	Fischer.
— 31	Do.	Do.	Whinfell	Whereat.
— 29	Shields	China	Romelino	
— 30	Liverpool	Batavia	Pieter	Hoogerwerf.
— 31	Do.	Singapore	G. H. Wappaeus	Kamman.
— 28	Off the Lizard	Do.	Bernard and Agnes	
Jan. 2	London	H. Kong & Canton	Glenaros	Buckham.
— 4	Do.	Kanagawa	Kwang Foong	Taylor.
— 3	Plymouth	Singapore	Hoop	Van Duyn.
Dec. 31	Newport	Do.	Constance	Simken.
Jan. 5	London	Shanghai	Fy Chow	Mathars.
— 3	Off Dover	Batavia	St. Salvador	Keus.
— 1	Off the Wight	Do.	St. Jan	Lommerse.
— 4	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Star of the Ocean	Griffin.
— 4	Holyhead	Shanghai	J. E. Williams	Young.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

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LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Nagasaki: Alice. For Nagasaki and Kanagawa: Mountain Ash. For Shanghai: White Adder, City of Quebec, Assyrian. Tun-Sing (str.), Vigil. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Far East (str.) For Hong Kong and Canton: Star of China, Corea, Banian. For Hong Kong, Canton, and Foo-chow-Foo: Philomela. For Manila: San Luis. For Singapore: Benvenue, Dewa Gungadhur, James Paton, Alice Mary. For Penang: Sunium. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Copernicus. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Salatiga.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Narari, Caractacus, Alice, Madagascar. For Hong Kong and Canton: Everest, Veronica. For Hong Kong: England. For Singapore: Euphrates, Invincible. For Manila: Jose y Maria, Olano. For Batavia and Singapore: Tigris.

At GLASGOW.—For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Three Bells. For Singapore and Penang: Dunnikier. For Batavia and Singapore: Falcon, Glenisla. For Shanghai: Wild Deer.

At GREENOCK.—For Shanghai: Taeping.

SPOKEN.

COURIER DE LA SONDE, Bordeaux to China, Nov. 19, on the line, 33 W.
KOH-I-NOOR, in the Straits of Malacca, Nov. 9.
AN IRON SHIP, Clyde to Singapore, 32 days out, Oct. 25, 22 S., 29 W.
FRENCH BARQUE, Bordeaux to Sing., 30 days out, Nov. 18, 2 N., 29 W.
POLLUX (Dut. barq.), Amstm. to Batavia, Nov. 12, 7 N., 21 W.
DUT. BARQ., 3rd d.p., No. 2,916, Bat. to Midbrg., Dec. 15, 46 N., 15 W.
MERSE, London to Shanghai, Nov. 18, 8 S., 31 W.
ISABELLA, Penang to London, Oct. 29, 31 S., 34 E.
MANDARIN (Norw. barq.), Newcastle to Shang., Nov. 13, 6 S., 31 W.
BURMAN, Clyde to Shanghai, Nov. 10, 4 N., 24 W.
DEVONVALE (barque), London to Penang, Nov. 16.
HENRY METCALFE (?), London to Shanghai, Nov. 27, 8 N., 25 W.
MARIA MAGDALENA, Rotterdam to Padang, Nov. 24, 2 S., 34 W.
ANTONICA, of Hamburg, Cardiff to Hong Kong, Nov. 11, 13 N., 25 W.
ANNETTE (steamer), London to Shanghai, Dec. 15, 43 N., 17 W.
VICTORIA (ship), of Liverp., Manila to N. York, Oct. 11, 27 S., 2 E.
LILY (brig), London to Japan, Oct. 31, 20 S., 29 W.
MIDDELBURG (ship), Batavia to Flushing, 68 days out, 35 N., 43 W.
ZAANSTROOM (Dutch ship), Amsterd. to Batavia, Oct. 24, 22 S., 28 W.
ELECTRA (ditto), Amsterdam to Batavia, Oct. 24, 22 S., 28 W.
SUEZ (French ship), Cardiff to Singapore, Nov. 13, 11 N., 25 W.
AUDACIA, Penang to London, Nov. 13, 31 S., 11 E.
SULTAN (American), Manila to New York, Nov. 3, 34 S., 27 E.
OTTO, Shields to Sourabaya, Dec. 19, 49 N., 9 W.
JANE AND ISABELLA, Cardiff to Shanghai, Nov. 23, 4 S., 32 W.
HENRIETTE (Dutch barq.), Batavia to Amsterdam, Oct. 28, 31 S., 37 E.
WILLIAM SIMPSON, Batavia to London, Nov. 30, 8 N., 24 W.
LOUISA COLLET, Dunkirk to Singapore, Nov. 7, 11 N., 27 W.
ZEENYMPH, Amsterdam to Batavia, Nov. 10, 9 N., 25 W.
WILLEM HEINRICH (Dutch barq.). Newc. to Bat., Dec. 12, 41 N., 14 W.
AVON, Boston to Hong Kong, Nov. 28, 7 N., lon. 30.
SCHOONDERLOO, Batavia to Rotterdam, Nov. 9, 35 S., 20 E.
COULNAKYLE, London to Shanghai, Dec. 29, 49 N., 8 W.
OTTO, Newcastle to Hong Kong, Nov. 16. 6 N., 23 W.
CHARLES (?), Liverpool to China, Nov. 24, 5 S., 31 W.
SUMATRA (Amer. ship), Japan to New York, Nov. 11, 33 S., 13 E.
PRINCESS OF WALES, Clyde to Batavia, Nov. 23, 3 N., 23 W.
FO-KE-LIN, stmr., Shields to Shanghai, Nov. 27, 6.20 N., 24.50 W.
JOHANNA ELISABETH, Batavia to Amsterdam, Dec. 6, 16 N., 33 W.
ORIENTAL (Fr. barq.). Havre to Shanghai, Nov. 5, 16 N., 26 W.
JULIE (Brem. barq.), Newcastle to Singapore, Nov. 9, 8 N., 26 W.
ZES GEZUSTERS, Batavia to Amsterdam, Oct. 29. 31 S., 36 E.
OUDERKERK A. D. AMSTEL, Rottm. to Batavia, Nov. 13, 8 N., 15 W.
FIERY CROSS, London to Shanghai, Nov. 28, 1 S., 30 W.
AMALIA AUGUSTA (Dutch barq), Batavia to Amsterdam, Dec. 13.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Outward freights remain unaltered. All the berths are well supplied with tonnage, and no improvement in rates can be reported.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 55s. weight, 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: 65s. To Hankow: 65s. weight, 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 42s. 6d. meast. To Shanghai: 50s. weight, 27s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 30s. to 35s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £38 to £40 and £2. For Shanghai: £48 to £50 and 45s. to 47s. 6d. For Manila: £1. 10s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £25 and £1. 6s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

CASUALTIES.

The Gabalva, Frazer, which arrived at London Dec. 30 from Shanghai, reports that in a typhoon, on the 14th August, when east of Formosa, she sprung her fore and mizen masts, lost jibboom, &c., and sustained other damage, but afterwards succeeded in fishing the masts.

The Carausius, Baird, from Hartlepool for Hong Kong, put into Plymouth January 2, with part of crew sick.

The Fanny, Hinsbock, from Hamburg for Singapore, put into Rio Janeiro Dec. 6 for water.

The Parana, steamer, arrived at Southampton from the West Indies, &c., brought home five prisoners, part of the crew of the Flowery Land, from Liverpool to Singapore, lost off the Brazil coast; they are accused of murder and piracy. She has also brought home two others as witnesses. The remaining seven prisoners and witnesses are said to have left Monte Video in the Uruguay, steamer, which sailed thence Nov. 26 for Liverpool.

The King Arthur, ship, of Greenock, Bramwell, from Shanghai for London, was wrecked in Gaspar Straits previous to the 30th November. Master was landed at Anjer.

The Contest (American ship), from Kanagawa for New York, with a cargo of tea and rags, had been burnt by the Alabama (Confederate steamer) in the Straits of Sunda, previous to the 30th Nov.

Off ASCENSION.—Nov. 26, from Shanghai, Carpentaria.

At MADEIRA.—H. M. S. Conqueror arrived from Plymouth and proceeded for Japan.

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Extract from resolutions of a Board of Directors, held on Monday, the 28th day of December, 1863.

Resolved—That the existing capital of the company be increased from one million sterling to the amount of two millions sterling, by the creation of ten thousand new shares of £100 each upon the terms following:—

1. The new shares shall be issued at £2 per share premium.

2. Of the ten thousand shares eight thousand shall be offered in the proportion of four new shares for every five present shares to the shareholders appearing upon the register on the 16th day of January next, and the remaining two thousand shares shall be reserved for special allotment by the Directors at the same premium to any persons they think fit.

3. A deposit of £3 per share, together with the premium of £2 per share, making a total of £5 per share, shall be paid upon application, and no application from shareholders resident in the United Kingdom shall be received subsequent to the 28th day of January next, nor from shareholders resident in India subsequent to the 30th day of March next, after which day the shareholders not applying shall be considered to have renounced their right to an allotment.

4. Any shares not so applied for shall be dealt with in the discretion of the Directors.

5. No preference or priority as regards dividends or otherwise over the shares in the now existing capital shall exist in favour of the new shares, and in the declaration of dividends the same shall be computed and paid rateably upon the capital from time to time paid up.

6. That an Extraordinary Meeting of the Shareholders be called to ratify and confirm the preceding resolutions, and that notice thereof be given to the shareholders by advertisement, and by circular letters.

And notice is also given, that the Transfer Books of the Company will be closed preparatory to the Meeting from the 15th to the 18th of January next, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board,
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

16, Cornhill, London, E.C., Dec. 31, 1863.

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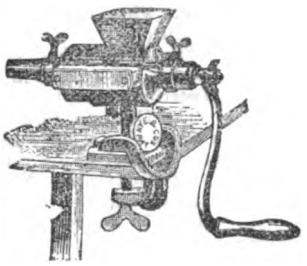

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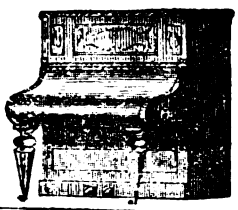

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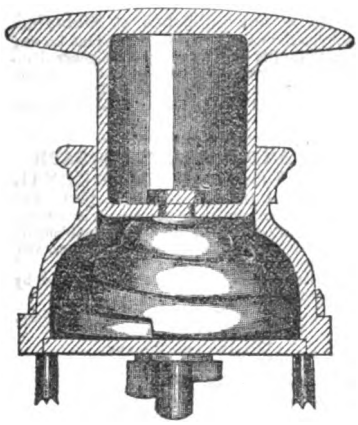

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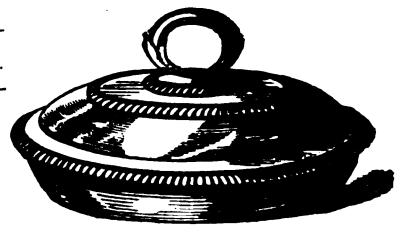

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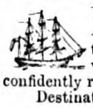

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Subscriptions received at 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, London.

THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 125.] LONDON, TUESDAY, JAN. 19, 1864. [Sub. 30s. per ann., and 12s. to Supplement. Single copy of either 9d.

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Office, 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, E.C.

THE MAILS FROM CHINA, &c.

Our issue of the 9th inst. contained a precis of the items of news from China, Japan, Singapore, &c., brought by the mails due on 27th ult., 6th and 13th inst. The present Number completes this intelligence, together with the movements in this country in reference to the Far East. Our next will be published, as usual, on the arrival of the mail due on the 27th inst., a telegram of which is now due, but delayed on account of the cable between Malta and Alexandria being deranged.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

The telegraphic summary of the news brought from the United States by the *Asia*, which vessel arrived at Queenstown at 4 P.M. on the 17th, gives the following:—

"NEW YORK, Jan. 5 (Evening).—Advices received here from Kanagawa to the 1st December state that the city was still guarded by Europeans. A peaceful solution between the Tycoon and Europeans was expected. The Tycoon was at war with the Daimios. Business was improved. The Japanese had paid an indemnity of $10,000 for firing on the American vessel *Pembroke*."

This adds nothing to the intelligence already published in the *London and China Telegraph* of the 9th inst. but the fact of the indemnity paid for intercepting the American vessels. That little circumstance is a further proof of the determination taken by the Tycoon to remove every cause of complaint from foreign residents.

KANAGAWA.

The rebellion of the Prince of Nagato is evidently nothing less than an attempt to upset the entire frame of Government at present existing in Japan. He attempts to seize the Mikado, for the sake of deposing the Tycoon, for this latter is the Siogoun, or (as explained in the letter of Colonel Sykes, given in the *London and China Telegraph* of the 9th inst.) the Sio-i-dai Siogoun, "generalissimo fighting against the barbarians," another mode of spelling which title we have in the following extract from the *North China Herald*:—

"We have received a slight modification of the rumours current as to the insurrection in Kioto. It appears that Nagato had formed the design of seizing the Mikado, when the latter was on his way to a temple called Isedairo-jin-gu, about seventy miles from the capital. The object he hoped to attain by thus seizing the Mikado was to extort from him the office of Sei-i-tai-sho-ngun (the great general who subdues barbarians). This design leaked out, however, and Nagato was ordered to leave the city. He thereupon assembled his men, and attacked the palace in force. Fearing that such would occur, preparations had been made beforehand, and the Daimios of the guard instantly collected and succeeded in driving back Nagato's men. The report of the bombardment of Osaca is utterly false, and must have arisen from a perversion of the fact that Nagato having failed in an attempt to obtain some arms which were stored in an arsenal in the province of Yamato, attacked the palace, and utterly destroyed it, killing every man, woman, and child in the place. The Tycoon has engaged the assistance of Satsuma and eighteen other powerful Daimios, and proclaims his intention of subjugating Nagato, and bringing him back to his allegiance."

The Prince of Nagato, therefore, apparently the head of the party opposed to commerce with the foreigners, is in direct rebellion against both the Spiritual and Temporal Emperors, and naturally, *per contra*, the cause of trade and amicable foreign relations takes the ascendant in the opinion of both heads of the Japanese polity.

The new church has been opened, and is named Christ Church. The *Japan Commercial News* contains the following account of the opening:—

The designs of the church were made three years ago by the Reverend S. R. Brown, of the American Mission at this port, and the building constructed from those designs has turned out to be a very handsome, commodious edifice. The church has been found, we hear, to be well adapted for sound. One prominent feature in the building, and one which reflects great credit upon the skill and foresight of the designer, is its strength and its capability to withstand the frequent shocks of earthquake to which such buildings are exposed in this country. There is a good deal of architectural beauty aimed at, and secured also; and, in our opinion, the generous souls who were the chief means of giving to the community this handsome church have reason to feel a good deal of honest, laudable pride in the result of their charitable exertions on behalf of Christianity in this pagan land. They can now appreciate the beautiful lines of Wilcox:—

"Rouse to some work of high and holy love,
And thou an angel's happiness shall know—
Shall bless the earth, while in the world above,
The good begun by thee shall onward flow."

The building in the clear is sixty feet by forty feet; the original estimate for it was $2,200; but it will cost upwards of $3,000, not including the cost of a very fine harmonium.

The incumbent—the Rev. M. B. Bailey—preached a sermon appropriate to the opening of the church, in the morning, from II. Samuel vii. 18-20; and in the evening from Psalm cxxii. 7-9.

The congregation, or attendance at the opening, consisted of upwards 300 persons—almost the whole of the foreign community—including the foreign ministers and consuls, with members of the various legations and consulates, and several officers from the ships of war in harbour.

There is no doubt that any further aid which may be required to secure a thorough completion of the church will be cordially given. It being a British Episcopal Church, the British Government bears one-half of all the expenses.

EXPORTS.

Per J. C. Munro, for London, despatched by Geo. Barnet and Co., 606 bales silk, 5,629 lbs. tea, 23 bales waste silk, 1,978 bales cotton, 5 bales flax, 11 pkgs. curios, 213 pkgs. tobacco, 173 boxes wax, 38 cases m o'pearl shells.

Per A. A. Eldridge, for San Francisco, despatched by Walsh, Hall, and Co., 37,780 lbs. tea, 400 tubs oil, 55 pkgs. merchandise, 13 cases paper, 5 pkgs. sundries.

Per Maggie Atkinson, for New York, despatched by R. B. Smith, 425,651 lbs. tea, 27 pkgs. sundries.

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TIEN-TSIN.

A correspondent of the *Daily Press* writing from this port says:—"The Chinese who were trained to the platoon and manual at so much pains by Captain Coney, of the British army, disbanded about two months since in consequence of their being unable to obtain any pay. They muster three thousand strong, and the worst of it is, they have taken the Russian rifles with which they were provided with them. There will be a deal of trouble with these men; they have doubtless acquired a pretty fair knowledge of the use of a deadly weapon, but their pretensions are most expansive, and they fancy themselves as good as European troops. They will doubtless pursue a system of guerilla warfare among the hills of Shantung and Shangsi, forming themselves into a most dangerous bands of highway robbers."

Here is a pretty result of the pet scheme of the British Minister in arming and training Chinese troops. Not only has the idea furnished three thousand drilled insurgents armed with rifles, at open warfare with the authorities, but it has inflicted a permanent injury upon British interests. For whereas, although the roads in Shantung and Shansi have been infested with robbers for many years, still these would never think of attacking Europeans. Now, however, these drilled troops with their Russian rifles will be more inclined to attack Europeans than any others, because they will expect more booty. At present the roads are so infested with mounted highwaymen that the last courier from Newchwang was robbed no less than four times *en route* to Tient-sin.

NEWCHWANG.

THE RACES.—The little community resident at the port of Ying-tze have been amusing themselves with some smart races, in which the animals contending were all China ponies. There were no less than seven presentation cups, and the performances of the ponies are spoken of very highly, their achievements in the hurdle races being something wonderful.

SHANGHAI.

The case of Manning *v.* Ellissen and Co. came off in the Consular Court on the 4th November, and resulted in a verdict for the defendants. This verdict was fully warranted by the evidence. The following is an outline of the case:—

The plaintiff in this came claimed 30,000 taels for damages sustained through the defendants disobeying his instructions to send the *Nora Creina* to Japan. The damages were estimated at $30,000 loss of sale, $1,800 loss of time by plaintiff through detention in China, and $1,080 for expenses, during detention, making with other items $33,265.

The defendants pleaded
1st—Denial of claim alleged.
2nd—Denial of loss alleged.
3rd—Denial of any liability whatever.

Mr. Lawrence, in opening for the plaintiff, stated briefly the grounds of the action. The Illawarra S.N. Co. had sent Mr. Manning to Shanghai with authority to sell the *Nora Creina*. He had come up from Australia in the *William IV.*, and on his way had arranged with his agents in Hong Kong to run the *Nora Creina* to Foo-chow, and if she were not sold there to lay her on for Nagasaki and Kanagawa. The plaintiff left for Japan in November, after an interview with Mr. Tootal, in which he gave that gentleman instructions to lay her on, as stated, if she were not bought at Foo-chow. While in Japan, he received a letter from defendants which astonished him very much, as it said that the *Nora Creina* had not been sold at Foo-chow, but had arrived at Shanghai and had been advertised for charter. He wrote expressing his astonishment; the defendants replied denying their instructions, and the result was the present claim by the plaintiff for loss sustained through the non-sale. While the plaintiff was in Japan there was a great demand for vessels; only three had been sold at the time of his arrival, but a large number since. It was contended, therefore, that, had the *Nora Creina* gone, she must have been sold. The questions for the Court to decide would be—whether the instructions alleged were given; whether, if they were given, there was any negligence on the part of the plaintiff in carrying them out; and whether the plaintiff had sustained damage in consequence.

The *North China Herald*, in reference to Admiral Kuper, says:—"Hitherto we have not had to record any act of unmistakeable pluck and dash on the part of Admiral Kuper. He has up to the present acted with the utmost prudence, and with an evident desire to avoid embroiling our relations with the Japanese. We have now, however, arrived at a crisis in these relations, and it will require a strong demonstration of some kind to put an end for ever to displays of arrogance on the part of the natives, and of submission on our own. There have been not a few who attributed the troubles of the Indian mutiny to the consideration shown for Oriental prejudices, and to the absurd concessions made to native exclusiveness. They (the natives of India) had come to despise authority, and felt themselves to be objects of dread. Had successive governments been as firm with the Bengal Sepoy as necessity obliged us to be with our domestics, we should have heard nothing of greased cartridges or of the thousand insolent requirements of caste." Such was the verdict of an Indian journalist. We may apply his remarks to our policy in China and Japan. We have in too many cases pampered the prejudices of the races towards whom we might have assumed a lofty stand, and shown ourselves willing to make almost any sacrifice rather than forego the advantagss of communication with them.

THE RACES.—The Autumn meeting took place on the 11th, 12th, and 13th November, winding up on the last day with a couple of steeple-chases and a hurdle-race. Mr. FitzJames's Exeter appears to be the "Eclipse" of this part of the world, carrying off everything for which he was entered, "hard-held." Mr. Barlow's Arab horse, Hadji, was the only competitor thought to have any chance with him, but the stride of the English horse landed him an easy winner. There were several races for China ponies, Mr. Fungus's Honi Soit taking the Hankow Plate of 100 guineas, but being defeated for the Champion Plate of 200 guineas by Mr. Williams's Cure.

THE REGATTA.—The aquatic sports were fixed for the day before the races, and embraced a prize for men-of-war cutters, a long race, and prizes for merchant ships' boats, men-of-war gigs, and outrigger four-oared gigs. The latter was won by Mr. Stout's crew, and in the ships' boat race the *Agincourt's* was first, and the *Childe Harold's* second.

Land in Shanghai still maintains a good price, a piece in Nankin Road, measuring 1 *mow*, 3 *fun*. 6 *le*, say under a 1,000 square feet, being knocked down, on Thursday last, with some old coal Godowns on it, to Dr. Dickson for the extraordinary sum of 17,600 taels. This is after the rate of, say, half a guinea per square foot.

HONG KONG.

An ordnance had been introduced for the suppression of fraudulent trade marks, &c. Wilberforce Wilson had assumed his duties as Assistant Surveyor-General, and Henry G. Thomsett as Harbour Master, Marine Magistrate, and Emigration Officer.

The Hong Kong *Government Gazette* of Oct. 31 publishes the Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Council at their sitting of the 8th of July, 1863. The Appropriation Bill was passed, under the title of "An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding Four Hundred and Seventy-seven Thousand Dollars to the Public Service of the year 1864." The several votes making up this sum were as follows:—

Civil establishments:—The governor, $240; colonial secretary, 6,288; colonial treasurer, 4,616; auditor-general, 6,722; clerk of councils, 72; surveyor-general, 8,762; postmaster-general, 15,768; registrar-general, 1,290; harbour master and emigration officer, 7,792; judicial establishment, 6,310; ecclesiastical establishment, 702; educational establishment, 9,334; medical establishment, 13,792; police magistrates, 4,282; police, 126,879; gaols, 39,698; charitable allowances, 480; transport, 1,500; works and buildings, 107,140; roads, streets, and bridges, 102,950; miscellaneous services, 250; land and houses purchased, 10,000; special expenses, &c., 1,500—total, $476,367.

At the sitting of the Council on the 28th of October a Bankruptcy Act was read a first time, bearing the title of "An Ordinance to amend the Law of Debtor and Creditor in the Colony of Hong Kong." By it "Ordinance No. 3 of 1846, for the Relief of Insolvent Debtors within the colony," is repealed, and the Supreme Court of Hong Kong is constituted a Court of Bankruptcy. The Provisional Assignee under the Ordinance of 1846 is to be the Official Assignee under the present Ordinance, which is to apply to all adults, whether traders or non-traders.

The export of cotton from all ports in China to England from 1st June to the latest return—24th November—amounted to about 150,000 piculs, or 20,000,000 lbs. The number of vessels under despatch by last accounts was over thirty. In consequence of this demand prices at Shanghai, the chief port of shipment, had advanced from 13 to 22 taels per picul, which, with freight and charges, would give its cost laid down in England at about 17*d*. per lb.

The *D. Maria Gloria* (Portuguese) left Macao for Havana, having on board 292 Chinese coolies. The *Luisita* (Portuguese) also left Macao with 343 Chinese coolies on board for Havana.

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After the experience we have had of the manner in which these unfortunate coolies are treated in the slave-holding country of Cuba, and the numerous atrocities which have in consequence been enacted after their embarkation at Macao, we thought this vile traffic had ceased. We can, at least, take comfort that the ships conveying them, and the various agents and brokers engaged in this traffic, are not under British colours.

The P. and O. steamer *Nubia* (not the *Simla*, as noted in the Hong Kong papers) passed Singapore on the 30th Nov., from Calcutta with troops intended for service in Japan. These troops consist of the 2nd battalion 20th Regiment, lately despatched from this country, and intended for service in India.

We noticed in our last the seizure of the steamer *Scotland;* we now subjoin a list of the guns on board:—English gun—bore, 8 in.; breech, 25 in.; muzzle, 17 in.; length, 9 ft. 11 in. American gun—bore, 10 in.; breech, 27; muzzle, 14 in.; length, 7 ft. 11 in. English gun (supposed)—bore, 6 in.; breech, 18 in.; muzzle, 12 in.; length, 7 ft. 6 in. About 150 shell, one case of 10 second fuzes, and about 50 8-in. shot. American gun—bore, 10 in.; breech, 27 in.; muzzle, 14 in.; length, 7 ft. 11 in. American gun (supposed)—bore, 8 in.; breech, 27 in.; muzzle, 16 in.; length 9 feet 8 in. American gun—bore 9 in.; breech, 27 in.; muzzle, 14 in.; length 9 ft. 11 in. English gun—bore, 5 in.; breech 17 in.; muzzle, 12 in.; length, 7 ft. 5 in.

The *China Mail* thus notices the port of Chinkiang and the Consular appointments.

"The following Consular changes take place in consequence of Mr. Gingell's death. Mr. P. J. Hughes, Vice-Consul in charge at Kiukiang, goes to Hankow. Mr. Adkins, now in Chinkiang, goes to Kiukiang, and is succeeded by Mr. G. P. Braune, formerly senior assistant at Taiwan.

"Chinkiang is looked upon at present as an obscure port, but it cannot long continue so. It is, in the opinion of many, the most desirable place between the sea and Hankow for the loading of tea ships. It is only out of the influence of the tide for half the year, there being regular tides during the other half; and the flood is never very strong. The only obstacles in the way of getting ships to Chinkiang are the Langshan shoals; but they, like the Goodwin Sands of old, are losing their terrors, and there is no reason why a few buoys, properly placed, should not mark the channels there as well as in any other river; in fact, we hear that the authorities intend to lay on a few buoys at the ends of the shoal, and moor a light-ship at a suitable place."

The demand for tonnage has been principally for ships to load cotton for Liverpool, and several vessels have been placed for that port at £3. 7s. 6d., the demand for small vessels to load for northern ports has been good and rates are higher. It is said that there are not enough small vessels at present in port to supply the demand. An American ship is loading for New York, but there is no employment for American vessels, and until the *Alabama* and other Confederate privateers are reported as on the other side of the Cape this want of confidence must prevail.

The following casualties, &c., are from the *Daily Press*:—The British barque *Pruth*, Captain Reay, from Bangkok bound to Shanghai, although upwards of sixty days out, has not arrived. This vessel is said to have been seen to windward of the Prata Shoals by a passing ship (the name of which we have not yet ascertained) with both anchors down in a gale of wind. She is supposed to have drifted on the shoal and been lost.

The *Virginia*, from Sydney, brings a cargo of coal, beche, le-mer, &c., two celebrated racehorses—one named Traveller—one hundred and sixty Chinese, and 3,368 oz. gold. She has had nothing but light winds during the passage, until she reached the Bashees. Passed Wellington, *alias* Duprey, Islands on the passage, a very small spot, but which, however, has eighty-two inhabitants, two of which are Americans; poultry and fruit to be procured there in abundance. Appearance of the residents anything but satisfactory.

The Danish brig *Comet* was seized by the Customs' authorities at Foo-chow for discharging cargo at Quantow, near Sharp Peak, outside the limits of the port.

The Hamburg brig *Ellen*, from this bound to Ningpo, is now seventy days out, and nothing has been heard of her.

The steamer *Fi-wan* has been raised, and now lies on the bank close in to Messrs. McGregor and Co.'s wharf.

The *Grosswater*, from Hong Kong to Ningpo, returned to port very leaky, having struck near the Nine-pin.

The *Elizabeth* reports the following:—On 25th Oct., in lat. 7 N., a little to the southward of Prince of Wales Bank, picked up four shipwrecked Malays, belonging to the Danish brig *Gazelle*, from Batavia to some port in the China Sea. According to their report the brig had struck and foundered some twenty days before, when the crew had taken to the boats. Six men had gone in their boat, two of whom died from exhaustion. The *Elizabeth* remained on the same place, or nearly so, for twenty-four hours, without seeing anything of the other boat which the four Malays had lost sight of three days previously.

CANTON.

The Canton Regatta Club had their annual races on Wednesday and Thursday the 18th and 19th November. The course selected was about a quarter of a mile down the Macao passage, in a slanting direction. For a grand stand two flower boats were utilised, and, on board of them, Tiffin was served at all hours of the day. These boats were very well placed, and spectators had a good view of the winning boat as they came in. The muster of people in attendance was good. The office-bearers were as follows—Umpires: D. B. Robertson, Esq., H.M.'s Consul, and Captain Corbett, of H.M.S. *Scout*. Stewards: Messrs. Fittock, Gray, Moul, Gifford, Carlowitz, Perry, Heaton, and Pugh.

THE PHILLIPPINES.

MANILA.

Mr. Boonar, the First Officer of the *William Sturges*, which was lost while entering the harbour of Ilo, in the Phillippine Islands, on the 20th September last, has written to the *North China Herald* complaining of the Spanish authorities on the occasion. She struck within sight of the town, and application was made for the Government steamer to be despatched to her aid; but this was refused, on the plea that the weather was too bad. During the night the *William Sturges* beat over the bank on which she stuck, and was trying to reach the Guimaras shore under canvas at daylight, being evidently in a sinking state. The authorities were again urged to send assistance, but to no purpose. The boat of the English ship *Planet* succeeded in reaching the ship a few minutes before she sank, and took off her officers and crew. The day following (Mr. Boonar continues) she was visited by the officials of the place, who commenced plundering the ship of whatever they could lay their hands on. The mate complained to the collector who was present, and showed him the stolen property in the boat, but he refused to notice it, and the boat was shoved off when the mate attempted to obtain possession of them. No redress whatever could be obtained for all these outrages.

SIAM.

BANGKOK.

The *Straits Times* has the following:—The American barque *Marion* has been sold here for $10,000. The American three-masted schooner *Fairy* is in the market, and will shortly be purchased by our respected townsman, Poh Jim, the owner of the *Chow Phia* and several other sailing vessels.

H. M. the King has lately been paying his usual yearly visits to all the temples of note, and has just left for his country palace at Pitchakaree, attended by all the ministers and nobles.

The fireworks opposite H.M.'s Palace in the river, and the far famed Pakham Races here, passed off with the usual demonstrations.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

The following petition has been forwarded by the Chamber of Commerce, Singapore:—

To the Right Honourable W. E. GLADSTONE, M.P., Chancellor of the Exchequer. The Memorial of the Singapore Chamber of Commerce

Showeth—That your Memorialists respectfully beg to direct your attention to the high duty levied on Pepper imported into Great Britain for consumption; the price in bond being 3½d. per lb., and the duty, 6d., amounting to 160 per cent. on its market value.

From the annexed Table A it will be seen that while the importation of pepper into Great Britain has increased very largely within the last ten years, the quantity taken out of bond for home consumption has not undergone anything like the same augmentation, but, on the contrary, has remained almost stationary.

That the heavy duty leads to pepper being much adulterated in preparing it for sale by retail, and a fraud is thus perpetrated injurious alike to the revenue, the importer, and the consumer of the article.

The annexed table B shows the quantity of pepper exported from the Straits Settlement to Europe and America. A large proportion of this is imported from Native States in the Indian Archipelago, and is principally procured in barter for British manufactured goods and the productions of British India.

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That the revenue arising from pepper has never much exceeded £100,000 per annum, so that while the abolition of the duty would not involve a very great sacrifice to the State, it would lead to a largely increased consumption and thus prove a valuable boon to the population of Great Britain, and at the same time supply a wider outlet for the manufactures and produce of the mother country and British India.

Your Memorialists, therefore, pray that you will be pleased to take what they have above stated into your favourable consideration, and allow the importation of Pepper into the United Kingdom free from duty.

And your Memorialists will ever pray, &c.

Singapore, 1st December, 1863.

A

TATEMENT OF THE IMPORT, HOME CONSUMPTION AND EXPORT OF BLACK PEPPER FOR TEN YEARS.

	Price in Bond.	Import.	Home Consumption.	Export.	Population.	Home Consumption per Head.	Percentage of Pepper Imported taken for Home Consumption.
		lbs.	lbs.	lbs.		oz. cts.	
1853	4½	5496885	3461334	4079904	27400000	2 —	65
1854	4½	942 948	3720534	399 990	.....	2 2½	40
1855	5½	6489005	3647344	3828826	.....	2 1½	60
1856	4½	10742261	3767118	4875409	28000000	2 2,	35
1857	4½	5483784	3656443	3171084	.....	2 1½	65
1858	3½	12357508	4030063	5478475	.....	2 4	33
1859	4½	8719265	4243437	6651834	.....	2 6	56
1860	4½	12810040	3749643	9131827	.....	2 1	30
1861	4	14684389	3813456	8065954	29000000	2 1½	27
1862	3½	18111632	4041083	12623463	.....	2 3½	24

B

EXPORT OF PEPPER FROM THE STRAITS SETTLEMENT TO EUROPE AND AMERICA.

	From Singapore. lbs.	From Penang. lbs.	Total. lbs.
1856	10,000,000	5,733,000	15,733,000
1857	8,267,000	6,400,000	14,667,000
1858	11,067,000	6,267,000	17,334,000
1859	12,933 000	6,667,000	19,600,000
1860	14,133,000	7,067,000	21,200,000
1861	14,000,000	5,333,000	19,333,000
1862	14,133,000	12,000,000	26,133,000

CHINESE EMIGRATION TO DEMERARA.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made for the immigration of Chinese on the plantations of Demerara for a period of three years. Mr. SAMPSON, who was attached to the working staff of Sir HARRY PARKES while Commissioner at Canton, has been appointed the agent at Canton in the place of Mr. AUSTIN, who conducted the last exodus of Chinese for Demerara. The responsibility now entrusted to Mr. SAMPSON will no doubt be as faithfully and cleverly discharged as his first duties in Whampoa. His appointment is chiefly owing to the very high opinion expressed by Sir HARRY of his services, and is another testimony to the many instances of men rising from the ranks to situations of great trust and emolument by their own efforts.

THE ANGLO-CHINESE FORCE.

The following is the correspondence relating to the disbanding of the European Chinese naval force under Captain Sherard Osborn :—

No. 1.

'PRINCE KUNG'S LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS TO INSPECTOR-GENERAL H. N. LAY.

"Peking, Oct. 24, 1862.

"The Prince of Kung, charged by Imperial authority with the superintendence of foreign affairs, addresses a communication to the Inspector-General, Mr. H. N. Lay.

"The official records show that at the interview which the Acting Inspector-General had with me in the autumn of 1861, he represented that, in order to render our navy efficient, it was absolutely necessary that foreign vessels and foreign guns should be procured. He subsequently addressed me in writing, begging that orders might be issued to the custom-houses to contribute towards the purchase of foreign vessels and guns. The Foreign-office thereupon memorialised the Emperor on the subject, and His Majesty's assent having been obtained, orders were issued to the custom-houses to pay into the hands of the Acting Inspector-General the amount sanctioned for the above purpose, and the Acting Inspector-General was desired to act without delay.

"The Acting Inspector-General has now come to the capital, and apprised us that all the arrangements connected with the purchase of vessels and guns he has officially handed over to the Inspector-General, Mr. Lay, to carry out on his behalf in England, and that he has remitted the moneys paid by the custom-houses to the Inspector-General Lay, who is proceeding in the matter with the utmost despatch.

"Mr. Hart has stated further that the ability of the Inspector-General Lay is great, and that he possesses a mind which embraces the minutest details; that he is, therefore, fully competent to make the requisite arrangements with more than a satisfactory result, and he has accordingly requested us to address a despatch to the Inspector-General Lay to serve as his authority.

"In any arrangements which the Acting Inspector-General might have made with respect to the purchase of vessels and guns, there is no doubt that he would have taken the greatest pains and would have left no point unconsidered; but as he has now requested that the management of the whole affair would be intrusted to the Inspector-General, this will be, of course, still more satisfactory.

"I therefore address this despatch to the Inspector-General, and transfer the management of the affair into his hands.

"There are three important points:—

"1. The purchase of the vessels, guns, gunpowder, coal, and the miscellaneous articles for the use of the vessels.

"2. The engagement of officers, gunners, and seamen, and others for services in the vessels; and the arranging the terms and conditions of every description of agreement.

"3. The retention, as proposed, of a sum of money to meet the salaries and wages that may be settled by the agreements, and also to provide for the payment of compensations and other items in time to come.

"The above three points we leave the Inspector-General to dispose of as, in his discretion, he may see fit.

"The money already collected from the custom-houses has been transmitted through Mr. Hart to Mr. Lay, and that still due should be, as collected, handed through Mr. Hart to Mr. Lay, who is alone charged with the responsibility of its disbursement; and we leave it to Mr. Lay to appoint, if he think fit, a person to help him, and also to make whatever arrangements may in his judgment seem desirable, with a view to the successful carrying out of the objects in view.

"China is in urgent need of the vessels and guns; effort should therefore be made to effect with the least possible delay their completion and despatched to Shanghai, there to await orders. The work (put into the vessels) should be strong, the materials genuine, both of super-excellent quality, that so the high trust we have confided (to Mr. Lay) may be fulfilled.

"In the event of the Inspector-General's returning to his post before these ships and guns are ready and despatched to China, and if any other circumstances, which we cannot here foresee, should arise, let the Inspector-General report thereupon to us himself, and recommend a person trustworthy in all respects to act in his room—so that, in respect of the arrangements subsequently made, the responsibility may be definitely fixed."

No. 2.

"AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO BETWEEN INSPECTOR-GENERAL H. N. LAY AND CAPTAIN SHERARD OSBORN, R.N., C.B.

"London, Jan. 16, 1863.

"The following conditions embody our mutual understanding:—

"'1. Osborn agrees to take the command of the European Chinese navy for a period of four years, and stipulates that there shall be no other European naval Commander-in-Chief.

"'2. Osborn, as Commander-in-Chief, is to have entire control over all vessels of European construction, as well as native vessels manned with Europeans that may be in the employ of the Emperor of China, or, under his authority, of the native guilds.

"'3. Lay will procure from the Emperor such an authority as may be necessary to cover Osborn's acts as the Commander-in-Chief of the European Chinese Navy.

"'4. Osborn undertakes to act upon all orders of the Emperor which may be conveyed direct to Lay, and Osborn engages not to attend to any orders conveyed through any other channel.

"'5. Lay, upon his part, engages to refuse to be the medium of any orders of the reasonableness of which he is not satisfied.

"'6. Osborn will appoint all officers and men on board the vessels of the force, subject, however, to the approval of Lay, as the representative of the Emperor.

"'7. Osborn's subordinates will not be at liberty to act without his permission, and Lay will not authorise his subordinates to call upon them to act without having first consulted Osborn and obtained the necessary order.

"'8. Lay and Osborn agree to carefully inquire into any complaints that may be preferred against the officers and men employed in the force by Chinese officials.

"'9. The force being European, it is indispensable that the flag under which it acts should have an European character.

"'First, to secure its own efficiency; secondly, to insure for it due respect in the eyes of the foreign communities.

"'Lay, therefore, agrees that the flag shall be green with two yellow diagonal bands bearing in the centre a blue imperial dragon.

"'Green is chosen because it is rarely used by European powers, and therefore not likely to be confounded with any other national colours.

"'10. Lay undertakes to procure from the Emperor, as soon as possible, a sum of money as a guarantee fund, to cover the pay and maintenance of the force for four years, and in the meantime it is understood that the vessels with their equipment will constitute the security for the just claims of the force.

"'11. In the event of the death of either Lay or Osborn, these conditions which are entered into with the authority of the Emperor of China are not, it is understood, in either case to be departed from.

"'12. The conditions of this understanding, the terms of the formal agreement, and the printed instructions, shall be formally ratified by the Emperor at Pekin, before Osborn shall be called upon to act with the force under his command.

"'13. In the event of Osborn's death from disease, while in command of the force, Lay will recommend the Emperor of China to make some grant to his widow and children.

(Signed) "'H. N. LAY.

"'SHERARD OSBORN.'

"Our motive for drawing up the above memorandum is that there may be hereafter no deviation from a plan of action, long deliberated and decided upon by mutual consent.

"We have to deal with Asiatics prone to deceit and falsehood, ready to evade any engagement, directly it interferes with their views or momentary interests. We are about to afford them material military aid, and it behoves us to guard against its being misapplied, and thereby bring scandal

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upon ourselves and those who in Great Britain have promoted our views; above all we are to take care that the great power and proportionate responsibilities conferred upon us by Her Majesty's Order in Council be not abused by us, by our successors, or by the Chinese authorities.

"Clause 1.—This condition needs no explanation. It is made a *sine qua non* by Captain Osborn.

"Clause 2.—This we agree is most necessary. We are aware that for some time local Mandarins have been, without Imperial authority, purchasing vessels of European construction, arming them, placing crews of all nations in them, and giving over the command to British or American subjects selected by themselves. Lorchas or junks commanded by Europeans, half pirates, half privateers, are swarming in the Yang-tse.

"They claim in many cases to be men-of-war belonging to particular Mandarins, Guilds, or Hongs. It is the object of this force to extinguish all these dangerous freebooters. They should come under Imperial authority, without which no European has a shadow of right to levy war in China.

"Clause 3.—This is inserted to meet any objection that might be raised on the ground that Europeans are serving without commissions or direct authority from the Emperor.

"Clauses 4 and 5.—These are to meet the following difficult questions:—Is this squadron to carry on war in China upon a Chinese method? Through what channel is Captain Osborn, unacquainted as he is with the language, to communicate with the Emperor or Regent? How shall he be protected against the charge of disobedience of orders? How are cruel or unjust orders from Peking to be prevented? How shall European officers and seamen levy war for a barbarous Sovereign without being made to participate in acts which our country would repudiate? How shall the officers be protected from orders, the execution of which would involve breaches of international law or treaty rights?

"There is in our opinion no other way of meeting these difficulties than by arranging that, as Mr. Lay is to live in Peking, and as the revenue which he collects is to be the guarantee for the maintenance of the force, he, as one well competent from a knowledge of the language and people, should be the channel of inter-communication between the ruler of China and Captain Osborn, and that in the event of any order being at variance with law or justice, he should submit it to the European representatives, and, supported by them, decline to communicate it to Captain Osborn. The remaining clauses do not seem to us to need explanation."

No. 3.

"INSPECTOR-GENERAL H. N. LAY, C.B., TO CAPTAIN SHERARD OSBORN, R.N., C.B.

"Peking, Sept. 25. 1863.

"Sir,—I beg to inclose for your information the translation of a letter to your address from the Prince of Kung, which was sent to me in July last, and to invite your attention to the marginal notes I have appended to it. From my remarks you will see that the Prince has not been quite accurate in making it appear that I had requested the appointment of a Chinese officer to command the steam fleet, or that I had consented that the fleet should be placed under the irresponsible authority of the local officials, as my letters to his Highness, which are upon record, show.

"I never gave more than a qualified assent to the rules with which he has furnished you. I accepted the money clauses, but those having reference to yourself and the fleet generally I told the Ministers plainly would have to be considered upon your arrival. The Prince doubtless thought that by declaring positively that these rules had been agreed to by me the chances of your offering any opposition to them would be diminished.

"I have, &c., "H. N. LAY."

No. 4.

"PRINCE KUNG'S LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS TO CAPTAIN SHERARD OSBORN, R.N., C.B. (WITH MR. LAY'S MARGINAL NOTES).

"Peking, July 8, 1863.

"His Imperial Highness the Prince of Kung issues these instructions to Osborn, the Assistant Commander-in-Chief of the Chinese steam navy.

"Whereas China, in view of the then unfinished military operations, did last year direct the Inspector-General of Customs, Lay, to purchase foreign steamers and guns for use in the fight and for the subjugation of the foe, and whereas the said Inspector-General has arrived at Peking, and reports that the seven steamers and the storeship purchased will shortly arrive at Shanghai, and requesting the appointment of an officer to take the command, highly recommends the said Osborn, as having hitherto in England been zealous in the performance of his duties, of high military capacity, and being thoroughly versed in navy affairs, able to assist a high Chinese officer* in the management of such vessels, so that there may therefrom be expected a speedy sweeping away of the appearance of rebellion; and whereas I, the Prince, memorialized the Throne, requesting that the officer already nominated by the Governor-General of the Two Keang and the Governor of Keang-soo might be appointed Chinese Commander-in-Chief of the Fleet, and that the said Osborn might be appointed Assistant Commander-in-Chief, and that the expenditure of the fleet should be controlled for a period of four years by the Inspector-General Lay; and whereas on the 23rd of the 5th Moon (July 8) the Imperial edict was received, 'Let it be as proposed. Respect this.'

"Now, therefore, in addition to the hurrying despatches of the Governor-General of the Two Keang and the Governor of Keang-soo, that they may at once order the Chinese Commander-in-Chief to repair to Shanghai with his officers and men, and take up his commission on board ship, it is further extremely proper to furnish the said Osborn with a copy of the agreement, in five articles†, entered into between the Inspector-General Lay and the Foreign-office, and to appoint the said Osborn to be Assistant Commander-in-Chief, and to direct him, in accordance with the articles of the agreement, to co-operate with the Chinese Commander-in-Chief in the command of the fleet now commissioned.

"It is to be expected that the fleet will act with vigour against the enemy. The crews are to be kept under strict discipline, and not suffered to annoy the people. If trading vessels, whether Chinese or foreign, illegally engage in the carriage of munitions of war, they are to be seized and detained until receipt of orders from the Foreign-office. If there are pirates on the Chinese seas or rivers from time to time, no matter where the place may be, they are to be captured and destroyed, in order to the complete restoration of tranquillity.

"As regards smuggling and smuggling guilds at the ports on the coast and up the rivers, the fleet is authorised to take measures for the due repression of the same. The said Assistant Commander-in-Chief will, moreover, consider himself under the orders of the Governor-General of the Two Keang and the Governor of Keang-soo, and will take their instructions as to the disposal from time to time of his force.

"(Enclosure.)

"Five rules agreed upon respecting the steam fleet:—‡

"1. It has been settled that the post of Chinese Commander-in-Chief of the steam fleet now purchased shall be filled by the high officer selected by the Chinese Government, and that Captain Osborn, C.B., a British subject, shall be Assistant Commander-in-Chief for a period of four years. The affairs of the fleet are to be managed by the said Commanders-in-Chief in a friendly spirit of co-operation. While Captain Osborn assists the Chinese Government in the command of the fleet, he will take the instructions of the Governors-General and Governors as to the employment or distribution of the force. In all operations he is always to confer personally with those officers before either undertaking or staying these, and is to accept the Chinese decision as final.§

"2. Captain Osborn, in the capacity of Assistant Commander-in-Chief to the Chinese Government, will receive a commission from the Foreign-office giving him the requisite powers. The foreign crews will be duly controlled by him; and in the event of any individual injuring the people or acting in a lawless manner, Captain Osborn will exercise due severity in the punishment of the same, in order to the sustaining of proper discipline.

"3. In order to the insuring of beneficial results from the fleet now purchased by the Chinese Government, Chinese sailors, as time and circumstances will permit, ought to be chosen for service on board the steamers, in order that they may become experienced, and that long-continued practice may prevent them from forgetting their duties and thereby rendering the fleet useless. The working of the ships and the management of the guns and other arms Captain Osborn and the other commanders will exert themselves to teach to such sailors, in order that they may attain a real acquaintance with the same.

"4. It is agreed that for the support of the fleet, consisting of seven steamers and one storeship, there shall be appropriated the monthly sum of 75,000 taels. This amount is to cover the expense of salaries, wages, rations, ammunition, coals, rewards, compensations, as well as every other possible and, at the present time, impossible-to-be-indicated expenditure. The control of the expenditure is confided to the Inspector-General Lay. The office of Customs at Shanghai will provide 10,000 taels monthly, the Kiukiang Customs will provide 10,000 taels monthly, the Foochow Customs will provide 34,000 taels monthly, the Amoy Customs will provide 6,000 taels monthly, the Canton Customs will provide 10,000 taels monthly, and the Swatow Customs will provide 5,000 taels monthly. In all will be provided monthly the sum of 75,000 taels, which in the proportions above mentioned will be received from each office of Customs by Mr. Lay monthly. Every three months Mr. Lay will send in an account of the expenditure to the Foreign-office, which in turn will communicate the same to the board of Revenue. Should there be any surplus money, Mr. Lay will retain it for future use.

"5. From the 17th day of the 6th moon—that is, from the 1st day of August, it will be the duty of each of the said officers of Customs to hand over in full, before making any other appropriations from the duties received, the monthly sum fixed on to the person appointed by the Inspector-General Lay to attend at the bank to receive the same. In the event of the money not being forthcoming, the Inspector-General Lay will at once proceed to deduct the same from the duties. For a period of four years, and for each month during that period, this rule is to be in force."

No. 5.

"CAPTAIN OSBORN'S REMARKS UPON PRINCE KUNG'S LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS.

"Peking, Sept. 28, 1863.

"In the first place, these instructions are in direct contravention of my formal agreement with Mr. Lay, which runs to the following effect:—

"That I was to be Commander-in-Chief of the European Chinese navy, with entire control over all vessels of European construction as well as native craft manned with Europeans in the employ of the Emperor of China, or under his authority, in the employ of natives; and I was to have an authority from the Emperor to cover my acts as the Commander-in-Chief of the European Chinese navy. On the other hand, I bound myself to act upon all orders from the Emperor conveyed through Mr. Lay, and not to attend to those delivered through any other source.

"A copy of this agreement was furnished to the Prince, yet, in spite of it, and, indeed, ignoring it entirely (for I am told he has not even acknowledged the document), the Prince sends me orders to place myself and my people under the authority of the Foutai Le, as well as that of no less than three other provincial authorities.

* This is not correct. So far from requesting that a Chinese should be appointed, I told the Ministers when they brought forward the proposition that it was altogether out of the question.

† The Prince chooses to assume that the rules were agreed to by me, while the fact is that I declared over and over again that assent to them was impossible, my most decided opinion being that to accept the terms proposed would be to court certain failure and discredit.

‡ I forwarded a translation of our agreement officially to the Prince, and in my covering letter called his special attention to the point embodied in that agreement—viz., that you would be under the orders of the Imperial Government at Peking, and the Imperial Government alone. His Highness "ignored" my letter, and up to this time has not acknowledged its receipt. Neither has he, I may add, approved the general agreement and book of instructions, which shows where other proof was wanting that he could not have been under the impression that the questions relative to the steam fleet were disposed of.

§ These conditions would practically place you under the orders of the lowest officer on the staff of either of the officials named. Prince Kung has seen that our military officers will act under Tsou-tais and Foutais, and hence it has occurred to him that if you could be persuaded to occupy a similar position the Imperial Government would be relieved of all trouble and responsibility. I have told the Ministers that I would rather see the force disbanded and the ships sold than consent to such a proposition; there can be but one naval Commander-in-Chief, yourself, and but one master, the Imperial Government. H.N.L.

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"Prince Kung acknowledges that the appointment of Commander-in-Chief of my force was filled up by the Governor-General of Keang-soo, and merely confirmed by the Emperor; and, further, he (Prince Kung) directs the said Chinese Commander-in-Chief to repair on board a ship at Shanghai. This would virtually suspend me from the post I at present hold, by virtue of a temporary commission granted me by the Inspector-General, Mr. Lay, upon the authority of Prince Kung's instructions and promises of last year.

"Apart from the conclusions which Mr. Lay has arrived at as to the want of good faith displayed in the document before me, my own suspicions are aroused by the crafty wording of its contents. In one paragraph I am superseded, and have, apart from the Emperor, Prince Kung, and the Board called the Chinese Foreign-office, all provincial high officers placed over me; in another I am enjoined to act in a friendly spirit of co-operation with my superiors, and this is immediately followed by a carefully-worded sentence, in which I am distinctly warned that the distribution of the force will be dependent upon the whim of the Governors and Governors-General of the provinces, that I am to follow their instructions in all things, and, as the original document runs, I am 'not to act, advance, retire, or remain stationary without conferring with those dignitaries, and to consider their decision as final.'

"Mr. Lay says very justly in his marginal notes that these conditions would practically place me under the orders of the lowest officer on the staff of either of the officials named.

"I have no intention of submitting to such terms, and for the following reasons:—

"1. Naval operations for the suppression of all the disorders enumerated in the Prince's orders could not be successful, fettered as I should be under such a system. It may be the Chinese system; if so, it explains their unfitness for war or naval operations.

"2. I came here to serve the Emperor, and under him the Regent, not to be the servant of mere provincial authorities. On that point I stand distinctly upon the terms of my agreement.

"3. The officers and men of the force were entered under a specific agreement to serve me as Commander-in-Chief. Directly a Chinese officer steps in as my superior in that force the agreement is null and o id and without it all law and order would cease and my power be at an end.

"4. By submitting to such instructions and violation of my origina agreement I should at once deprive myself of the power to assist in carrying out in China the policy of Western civilisation. My force, powerful as it will be for good or evil, might be directed against the interests of commerce or of common humanity. Brutal butchery might be perpetrated, and I should be powerless to prevent it. My men and officers, the pick of many from the Royal Navy of England, would be associated upon equal terms with the rowdies and pirates the Foutai might be pleased to employ.

"My power to restrain my own men within the bounds of ordinary discipline would be *nil*, and the European-Chinese force, instead of being a blessing, would become a curse to the Chinese people and to the best interests of Europe in this empire.

"5. If I was weak enough to forget what is due to my own position, and attempted to act upon such instructions, I am certain that I should come to a dead-lock with the provincial authorities within a month, exactly as is at present the case with Major Gordon, R.E. He is insulted by his Chinese superior, the pay of his men suddenly stopped at the will of the Foutai, he is called upon to attempt impossibilities and deprived of adequate forces, and he has again, for the second time, virtually resigned office as the military coadjutor of the Foutai. Yet they wish me to be 'the naval assistant of such a Mandarin.'

"6. To the argument advanced by the Chinese Foreign-office 'that the course proposed by Prince Kung is a usual one in China,' I reply I did not come here, or my followers either, to accustom ourselves to the treatment usual with Chinese sailors or soldiers, or to assist them in a retrogressive policy in the treatment of European *employés*, or Europeans in general. The employment of ships of war and war steamers of European construction is an innovation, that of European officers and gentlemen still more so. I and my force are part and parcel of a new order of things indicating 'progress in China.' I will be not pary to her lapsing back into her ancient system and treating Europeans as if they were Chinamen.

"European commerce in China, and consequent intercourse, is a departure from all foregone customs.

"The presence of Europeans at the open ports is the same.

"The residence of European Legations in Peking strikes at the root of China's most ancient prejudices.

"The entire responsibility of the conduct of the provincial authorities towards our merchants and missionaries being forced upon the Ministers at Peking is another departure from the most cherished institutions of these people.

"I merely claim for the European force under my command another stride in the same wise direction, and I will not, on all the foregone grounds, depart from a line of policy decided upon by Mr. Lay and myself after long and careful discussion—a line of conduct approved, I am sure, by my countrymen and profession, and which I see more and more reason not to swerve from since I have noted the present bearing of the Pekinese authorities towards foreigners.

"I may add in general terms that if I required any confirmation of my opinion of the utter impossibility of serving the Chinese Government upon the terms the Prince suggests, I should find ample grounds in my own experiences while at Shanghai, as well as in the information General Brown gives me of Major Gordon's present position. I found on my arrival at Shanghai that the Foutai's agents had tampered with the crews of the vessels under my orders. They were told that the Foutai would give them higher wages than those I engaged them at, that they would all be made officers, and that the discipline existing among the Europeans in his steamers was far pleasanter than the order I enforced. Puzzled to find such a different system existing in what was called the Imperial service, the men became naturally disaffected and anxious to leave me to join the Europeans employed by the Foutai; and to enable them to do so without prejudice to their pockets I found they were actually offered £12 a head bounty, the money to be lodged in the names of the deserters in an English bank. I had to discharge fourteen men, and was detained several days at Shanghai in consequence. It was no fault of the Foutai' that I was not detained there altogether.

"Foutai Le is an able Chinaman, and as unprincipled as all Chinese officials. His plan would be to render me powerless, and then to use or toss me aside, just as he does all European leaders in his force. He is a civilian by education, ruling over military and naval affairs without the slightest knowledge of either. He is squandering the revenue of the province as well as that derived from European trade, and is in league with unprincipled traders in Shanghai. Although he can procure from the British stores all such military supplies as he can require, he is encouraging the import of munitions of war by private firms, and granting permits to land the same in spite of all our proclamations against the importation by foreigners of goods contraband of war. Having secured the services of an excellent officer in Major Gordon, who appears to have entered his service, not that of the Emperor of China (for he holds no authority from the latter), Foutai Le proceeds to render him powerless, and to hamper his action in two ways—first, by depriving him of the means to carry out any decisive measures; and next, by placing in exactly similar positions a number of other Europeans, and playing one off against the other. Major Gordon wishes to attack Souchow-foo, and asks for 100 Europeans. The Foutai agrees, but says the 100 men must only be entered for one month. Gordon declines to enter into any such arrangement, seeing its injustice and folly. The Foutai insults him by questioning his desire to fight the rebels, and proposes that the assaulting column shall be formed of all the European officers in his employ, and that over their bodies the Chinese would advance to victory.

"Again, what faith can I have in any mandarin's listening to my advice as a subordinate, when I am told by General Brown, Commander-in-Chief of our military forces in China, and the superior of the Foutai, that he will listen to no advice or suggestion the General offers; that he purposely avoids all conference with him; and when an interview is sought by General Brown, insolently replies that he is too busy to see him! and be it remembered that Foutai Le is not a bit more unreasonable than other mandarins, and that he is an average specimen of his class.

"SHERARD OSBORN."

No. 6.

"INSPECTOR-GENERAL H. N. LAY, C.B., TO CAPTAIN SHERARD OSBORN, R.N., C.B.

"Peking, Oct. 13, 1863.

"Sir,—I regret to say that at an interview which I had to-day by appointment with the President of the Foreign-office, Wansiang, he requested me to intimate to you that the Prince of Kung would decline to ratify the agreements entered into by us under his letter of instructions of October, 1862.

"I have, &c.,

"H. N. LAY."

No. 7.

"CAPTAIN SHERARD OSBORN, R.N., C.B., TO THE PRINCE OF KUNG.

"Peking, Oct. 15, 1863.

"Your Royal Highness,—I have the honour to request that you will be pleased to furnish me officially, and in writing, with your decision relative to the agreements entered into between your agent, Mr. Horatio N. Lay, C.B., Inspector-General, and myself.

"The Inspector-General informs me that after a delay of four months and a half, during which time your Royal Highness has neither acknowledged a single letter nor referred to the agreements, Wansiang informed him formally that you intended to adhere to your manifest intention of ignoring all such agreements, as evinced in your instructions already addressed to me.

"I may remind you that I have now been three weeks in Peking fruitlessly endeavouring to point out to the members of your Foreign office, through Mr. Lay, that your instructions to me are entirely contrary to the understanding under which Her British Majesty's Government permitted myself and others to agree to serve the Emperor of China, and that I declined to act except upon the terms explicitly laid down in our agreements.

"To all these representations no attention has been paid.

"I therefore avail myself of this opportunity to remind you of the circumstances under which the force I command has been placed at your disposal. Last year (1862) you applied in an unofficial form to the British Minister of Legation in Peking for assistance to procure men-of-war of an European construction; you were recommended to employ your own official, the Inspector-General, as the best agent. You set aside a large sum of money; you ordered the vessels, and you gave instructions to both Mr. Hart and Mr. Lay to procure not only ships, but proper officers and men to fight and manage them; and, lastly, you furnished your Inspector-General with a formal authority to enter into all such agreements as he might think necessary to carry out the object you had in view. Upon the strength of that authority to your agent, and supported as your wishes were by the official representations of his Excellency Sir F. Bruce, Her Majesty's Government were pleased to suspend in favour of China the Neutrality Act, and the Admiralty of Great Britain granted me and other officers permission to serve the Emperor of China for a stated period, and every assistance was given by all departments to aid the Emperor to carry out the wishes expressed in your instructions to Mr. Lay.

"The Inspector-General having satisfied me that the powers you had given him were ample, I entered into certain agreements with him, subject to your ratification as Regent of China. It only remains for me to say that my power to maintain order and discipline in the force is now at an end, and that if I do not receive a favourable reply within forty-eight hours it will be necessary to immediately disband the force.

"I have, &c., "SHERARD OSBORN."

No. 8.

"CAPTAIN SHERARD OSBORN, R.N., C.B., TO HIS EXCELLENCY SIR F. BRUCE, K.C.B., &c.

"Peking, Oct. 19, 1863.

"Your Excellency,—Prince Kung having failed to ratify the agreements entered into between Inspector-General H. N. Lay, C.B., and

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myself, it becomes necessary for me to disband the European Chinese naval force.

"I have the honour to enclose you copies of the agreements in question, as well as all correspondence, and to request you will inform me whether you see any objection to my surrendering to Prince Kung the eight ships which I have brought out to this country. They are Imperial property, and I have no right to detain them; but I would submit that there might be some danger if vessels of so formidable a character were trusted to the rowdies and pirates now so numerous in Shanghai, and who, I dare say, are quite ready to serve the provincial authorities without agreements or guarantees.

"Directly I receive your Excellency's official instructions upon that point I shall, in conjunction with Mr. Lay, proceed to dissolve the force, sending the officers and men to England in detachments, and reporting all the circumstances to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and sending them an exact description of the ships, if you decide upon not surrendering them. "I have, &c.,

"SHERARD OSBORN."

No. 9.

"HIS EXCELLENCY SIR F. BRUCE, K.C.B., TO CAPTAIN SHERARD OSBORN, R.N., C.B.

"British Legation, Peking, Oct. 20, 1863.

Sir,—I have received your letter with its enclosures, informing me of the refusal of the Prince of Kung to ratify the agreements entered into by his agent, Mr. Lay, and yourself, and of your consequent resolution to disband the force.

"I have informed his Imperial Highness of my conviction that Her Majesty's Government would not have consented to the organisation of this powerful squadron had it not been on the understanding that it was to be placed under the orders of an officer in whose prudence and high character they had full confidence; and that I will not consent to the ships and stores being handed over to the Chinese Government without instructions to that effect from Her Majesty's Government.

"I therefore request you to take measures for keeping them in deposit until the pleasure of Her Majesty's Government be known.

"I am, &c., "FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE."

No. 10.

"CAPTAIN SHERARD OSBORN, R.N., C.B., TO HIS EXCELLENCY SIR F. BRUCE, K.C.B.

"Peking, Oct. 27, 1863.

"Sir,—Consequent upon the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 20th inst., in which you acquaint me you will not consent to the surrender of the ships and stores to the Emperor of China, and desire me to take measures for keeping them in deposit until the pleasure of Her Majesty's Government shall be known, the following questions have arisen in my mind, upon which I solicit your early instructions:—

"1. If the Emperor of China should repudiate the arrangements recently sanctioned for the regular payment of this force, what steps am I to take to avoid selling the ships and stores according to the 10th article of my agreement? As Prince Kung has already repudiated his former instructions to Mr. Lay, I am compelled to anticipate the probability of his treating all his engagements in the same fashion.

"2. Where shall I procure funds for the maintenance of the force, pending the orders of Her Majesty's Government?

"I have, &c., "SHERARD OSBORN."

No. 11.

"HIS EXCELLENCY SIR F. BRUCE, K.C.B., TO CAPTAIN SHERARD OSBORN, R.N., C.B.

"Peking, Nov. 6, 1863.

"Sir,—As you are aware, the scheme of keeping the ships of the flotilla in deposit, awaiting instructions from Her Majesty's Government, has been abandoned, and the Chinese Government has requested me to send the vessels to England to be disposed of. His Imperial Highness expresses his thanks to yourself for the trouble to which you have been put in procuring the fleet and in bringing it out to China, and requests you to accept 10,000 taels in addition to your pay for the labour entailed upon you by it.

"He further requests that the ships may be put under another flag. That, however, is a point which must be left to your discretion. I have, therefore, to request that you will take charge of the vessels and men, with a view to the disposal of the former in England or in India, as you think best. The officers and men to be sent home, and to be paid up to their arrival in England.

"But as the contract may be construed to give them a claim for pay for three months after their arrival, or up to the 30th August, it will be advisable to obtain the opinion of counsel as to the liability of the Chinese Government, they having declined to accept the flotilla, on the ground of their agent having exceeded his authority in the conditions attached to the scheme, you will feel with me that our honour is involved in winding up this affair on terms as little onerous as possible to the Chinese Government. I will give instructions to the Consuls to contribute what may be required, out of the moneys received by them on the indemnity account, to meet such part of the expenses of sending the vessels home as the Chinese Government is unable to provide for. The sum so advanced will form a lien on the ships, and to be deducted from the expenses of sale, or set off against the ships and stores, should Her Majesty's Government decide on taking any of them back.

"I think it but just to you to express my entire approbation of the honourable and dignified course you have pursued during the discussion of the question at Peking. An officer more alive to pecuniary advantages, less scrupulous as to the interests of Great Britain, and less careful of his own honour, might have admitted some unsatisfactory compromise as to his position, and might have trusted to an arbitrary exercise of the power wielded by him to have extricated himself from future embarrassments. By your firmness you have saved Great Britain from complications, and you have vindicated the honour of the British uniform in the eyes of the Chinese by refusing to accept an unbecoming position. However disappointing the result of your honourable wish to advance the course of progress in China, you have the consolation of knowing that you have gained the respect and approval of persons of every nation who are acquainted with the course you have pursued.

"I am, Sir, your obedient, humble servant,

"FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE."

(GENERAL MEMORANDUM.)

"Tien-tsin, Nov. 9, 1863.

"I have, with great regret, to inform the officers, seamen, and marines under my command that it has become necessary to send them to England in consequence of the Emperor of China having refused to ratify the agreement entered into between myself and his agent, Inspector-General H. N. Lay, C.B., upon the faith of the Prince Regent's instructions.

"The Emperor wished to place the entire control and disposition of the squadron under the irresponsible authority of the provincial mandarins, and to supersede me as Commander-in-Chief, leaving it to the local mandarins to form as many squadrons of European vessels as they might see fit, under different officers and under different systems of pay and discipline.

"Were I to accept such a position for this force and thus take service under provincial and subordinate Chinese officials, instead of under the Emperor of China, I should violate the spirit and word of Her Most Gracious Majesty's Order in Council, and act in disregard of the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, forgetful of every pledge I gave before I undertook the organisation of the squadron.

"To surrender ourselves to the irresponsible orders of local mandarins would certainly make us participators in acts of plunder and cruelty, which would bring disgrace upon us as British officers and seamen.

"I have, therefore, had no hesitation in refusing to depart from the terms laid down long before we left England.

"Provided the crews continue to conform to the rules and regulations of their agreement, they will be kept upon full pay until their arrival in England, and receive whatever further sum they may be justly entitled to under its conditions.

"It only remains for me to cordially thank the captains, commanders, officers, seamen, and marines of the squadron for their hearty support and excellent conduct during the time the vessels have been in commission, and to wish them a pleasant and speedy passage to their homes.

"SHERARD OSBORN, Captain, Royal Navy."

"Cheefoo, Nov. 14, 1863.

"Sir,—We, the captains and commanders of the European Chinese navy, consider it but just to you to state formally that the course you have deemed right to pursue, in disbanding the said force, has only served to strengthen those feelings of reliance and respect which induced us to take service under you.

"And further, that by your firmness with the Chinese Government in refusing to act under any other authority than that of the Emperor himself, you have saved us from an essentially false position, one which could only have been as repugnant to our own feelings as it would have been to yours.

"We are, Sir, your most obedient servants,

"HUGH T. BURGOYNE, V.C., Peking.
"C. S. FORBES, Keangsoo.
"S. MORIARTY, Ballarat.
"NOEL OSBORN, China.
"ALLEN YOUNG, Quantung.
"G. B. NICHOLAS, Tien-tsin.
"D. CRUIKSHANK, Thule.

"To Captain Sherard Osborn, C.B., Commander-in-Chief European Chinese Navy."

Naval and Military.

Since the despatch of the *Conqueror*, with marines for service in Japan, there have been no movements for China or Japan. The report of the *Lyra* being commissioned for the China station is still believed.

Of the British Army, two regiments are in China—the 67th and 99th; and the 2nd battalion of the 20th Foot is on its passage thither by latest advices from India. The 8th and 22nd companies of the Royal Engineers are in China also.

PIRATES IN THE CHINESE SEAS.—Dr. Swabey, on behalf of Commander Moresby and of the officers and crew of Her Majesty's ship *Snake*, applied for a decree pronouncing the crews of certain junks destroyed in the China Seas to have been pirates, and their total number to have been 246, of whom 30 were killed and 16 captured. In the month of May, 1862, the *Snake* was sent from Hong Kong in search of some piratical junks which had attacked and captured the English merchant vessel *Centaur*. One of the junks was taken and destroyed in a creek in Sandy Bay, but her crew escaped. In July of the same year an American merchant vessel, the *Phantom*, was wrecked on Patras Shoal. Her crew started for the neighbouring coast in their boats, but were intercepted and plundered by pirates before they reached the shore. The *Snake* having been sent in pursuit, discovered five heavily-armed junks off the island of St. John. After some sharp fighting three junks were destroyed. Some thirty men of the crews were killed or wounded, but were carried off by their companions, who escaped. The Court decreed for 196 pirates engaged, 11 of whom were captured. These will, therefore, be the numbers on which the amount of the recompense to the officers and men engaged will have to be determined by the Lords of the Admiralty.

THE LATE LORD ELGIN.—The result of the *post-mortem* examination of the late Lord Elgin has proved what had been suspected from the first—that his death was not attributable to any disease of Indian origin. It was found that the heart was in a state of what is called professionally "fatty degeneration"—that is, that it had lost its muscular character, and become weak and dilated. The right ventricle was fatally affected. There was also advanced disease of the kidneys. The changes in the structure of these vital organs had been long in progress. It is strange that they had not earlier given marked evidence of their existence, for they would have soon proved fatal under any circumstances and in any climate.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A REGISTER is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the FAR EAST, and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, *and other parts of the* FAR EAST, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, TUESDAY, JAN. 19, 1864.

THE POSITION OF PRINCE SATSUMA AND THE TYCOON.

THE view we took of the altered position of matters in Japan, as presented to the reader in our issue of the 11th inst., has been singularly confirmed by a statement from a semi-official quarter of the highest authority, as well as by facts that have come to our own knowledge. As will be seen elsewhere in our columns, the Paris *Moniteur de la Flotte*, the naval organ of the French Government, states that "peace may be considered "as certain for the present; that Prince SATSUMA has become "less savage, and has announced his intention to send thirty "young men of good family to be educated in England." The truth is, as we before hinted, the character and policy of Prince SATSUMA are, in reality, only now beginning to develop themselves. His differences with the TYCOON, and even with the MIKADO, appear to be arranged. It is in that way we interpret the fact that the TYCOON's officials were parties to, and present at, the conference with Colonel NEALE; and also the statement that, after having engaged in a conspiracy against the MIKADO, he suddenly withdraws during the night preceding the intended attack on his Sovereign. The enmity of a numerous party of Daimios towards the TYCOON and the treaty arises, there is reason to believe, not from aversion to the great principle of putting an end to the isolation of Japan from the rest of the world, but from its turning out that, as organised by that personage, the trade with foreigners results, in a very large degree, to his sole personal benefit. His rapidly-increasing wealth, and the power thence arising, have therefore rendered him an object of envy and dread to the rest of the territorial grandees. So far from SATSUMA and his family holding aloof from intercourse with Europeans, his chief merchant is known to have urged traders to come to Kagosima, asserting that they had abundance of commodities there to offer in exchange; and when the representation was met by the objection that it would be against the treaty, and that the TYCOON would interfere, the answer is reported to have been —"Who cares for the TYCOON? No TYCOON's man dare show "his face in SATSUMA's territory."

Another noticeable fact, affording a strong presumption that SATSUMA is earnestly bent on peace, is the circumstance that he has again purchased a steamer at the price of $75,000. And yet he must have been taught by bitter experience that such an investment would be a very precarious one in case of war with the foreigner. According to our information, SATSUMA was, at one time at least, much more open to an accusation of Anglomania than of Anglophobia. We have reason to believe that he is altogether disposed to adopt the customs of his new acquaintances; and that, in particular, he recognises the advantages and comforts of steam navigation—a mode of traversing great distances specially adapted to an island-realm like Japan. The ill-feeling lately existing between him and the TYCOON was embittered by an incident that may serve to mark the disposition and bias of these formidable rivals. SATSUMA, or a near relative, wanted to take passage in one of his own steamers to Kagosima; but the TYCOON insisted that the intending voyager should proceed by land, according to the immemorial custom of all Daimios. SATSUMA, who, like a sensible man, preferred a sail by steam for two or three days to an inconvenient land journey of nearly as many weeks, in the venerable fashion of his brother nobles, was, from policy or the force of law, compelled to give way. The proposition to send some of his young retainers to be educated in England still more strikingly attests the advanced spirit of the man. Foreseeing the changes soon inevitable in Japan, SATSUMA may have gained the conviction that the most powerful of her contending Princes will be the one who is closely allied with and supported by that European Power, the thunder of whose ships it has been his mishap to witness and suffer from.

The difficulty of following readily what is now going forward in Japan, and of unravelling the complicated story of the feuds of these petty but wealthy princelings, arises from the fact that each of them appears to be known by two, or three, or more appellations. Each has his family name; then a territorial designation—often more than one; and lastly, another, springing from some official, and probably hereditary, position. Among the statements brought us by the last mail in connexion with this new alliance between SATSUMA and the TYCOON, one is "that the former is now fighting for the latter against the "rebel Prince of NAGATO." The last-named personage, who figures also in the accounts as the Prince CHEW-SEU or TSIOSIU, appears to be the head, or at least the most active, of those Daimios who detest and would exterminate foreigners. He it is who has fortified the Straits of Simonosaki, so as to prevent produce from going forward to Nagasaki. So rigorous was he bent on making this blockade, that the steamer fired on by the forts of Awajee, and afterwards seized at Simonosaki, belonged to the TYCOON himself; and TSIOSIU is actually now detaining one of the Commissioners who was on board her, while the other has managed to make his escape and get back to Yedo. That SATSUMA is ranging himself on the side of the TYCOON in putting down this headstrong rebel is certainly no trifling addition to the vast number of circumstances which tell so favourably for the removal of every stumbling-block in the path of peace and commerce. But SATSUMA's determination to send to England a chosen few of his young nobility for education and improvement is, our readers will be surprised to learn, no experiment on his part, but simply the following out of a resolution long ago formed, and already in process of execution. We have reason to believe that there were at least two of his retainers among the suite of the late Japanese Embassy to this country, and that they did not return home with the rest, but have been here ever since, obtaining valuable knowledge of all kinds; and more especially addicting themselves to a branch of scientific industry that will render them of the highest service to their master hereafter, whether his aim be peace with foreigners or strife with his turbulent compeers.

Neither is SATSUMA the only Japanese noble who has comprehended the advantage of having men about him instructed in all the theoretical and practical proficiency of our workshops. There are other Japanese in England at this moment, whom, we shall still further startle our readers by saying, we have some suspicion to be actually the dependents of one of SATSUMA's principal rivals—possibly of the Prince of NAGATO himself. The strongest possible pledge for the duration of peace will be the presence of such visitors amongst us. The report they will take back of the extent of our commerce, of the number of our merchant ships, of the discipline of our army and navy, and of the perfection of our instruments of destruction, will be a most powerful auxiliary towards the maintenance of the present good understanding. So wonderfully have the sights they witness here worked on the convictions of these last-named emissaries, that two of their number are about to wend their way back again to the Far East, amazed and stupified, and more than half terror-struck, at the unlimited extent of the resources of our country, either for showering down benefits in friendship, or annihilating the foe that may call forth our anger. Such ambassadors will preach peace with a force and eloquence no foreigner could ever attain.

THE SHERARD OSBORN FLEET REJECTED.

IN our last issue, before the publication in *The Times* of the correspondence—which, by the way, was supplied by *some one* exclusively to that journal, and, we may add a query, was it by the Foreign Office?—we expressed our belief that it would not suit some of the members of the Cabinet at Peking to crush the rebellion root and branch. We now have the most ample confirmation of this by the publication of the correspondence alluded to. The "Foreign Board," which has swallowed up the exclusive power held by Prince KUNG to deal with foreign affairs, wished to retain the services of SHERARD OSBORN for distinct acts as might be directed by the local authorities; in fact, after their own fashion, to inflict extermination and capture on those who had caused their displeasure,

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and in this category we can assure our readers that those in absolute rebellion would not be the only victims; it would include peaceful, harmless, but powerful traders from whom a squeeze might be required. It is, indeed, a mercy that Captain OSBORN could see through this, and indignantly refused to become the tool of their rapacity. Seeing, however, that Mr. LAY was near him, we must give him credit for assisting Captain OSBORN to this decision, however much we dislike the unjust and rude manner in which he has treated our merchants.

(THE TIMES.)

It is undoubtedly a most lamentable fact that the perverse cunning of a few barbarians should have rendered abortive the sincerely well-intentioned efforts of England to make China safe for commerce; but every recent mail from China has served to make it a fact less and less unexpected. With a very questionable policy, and, as some think, with rather clumsy diplomacy, the European Representatives at Peking allowed or contrived that the foreign affairs should pass from the hands of Prince Kung, who was accessible to impulses, into the hands of a "foreign board" of fanatical Chinamen of the old Yeh school. When, therefore, Mr. Lay and Captain Osborn appeared at Peking some months ago, the former with his instructions all executed, and the latter with his squadron assembled at a convenient distance ready for work, and when the first requested to have his acts ratified, and the second to have his conditions of service confirmed, they found that everything had been changed at Peking during Mr. Lay's absence. The "foreign board" were all orthodox haters of "red devils," and belonged to the school that existed before our advance to Peking. They had, perhaps, learnt that European tactics are superior to Chinese tactics; but they had also found that European and American officers were to be hired by the different provincial governors at so many dollars per month. They had heard that these new instruments, however necesary, were dangerous, and they, not very unnaturally, thought that it was better that these auxiliaries should be hired in small independent bands by the local Chinese officers, who could look after them closely, than that they should form an important force, imposing its own conditions, and capable, perhaps, of an independent coercive policy. This was the narrow view of the subject taken by the "foreign board," and in this, we believe, they were not very earnestly combated by the European Ministers at Peking, for an impression had expanded itself among the diplomatic body that it might not be wise to add to the present jubilant exultations of the Peking Mandarins occasioned by the small successes of Major Gordon. The French Minister had, moreover, just received intelligence of the massacre of more missionaries in the province of Sz'chuen, and made no secret of his conviction that France was more likely to have to fight the Imperial ships and to conquer Chinese territory than to help to man the one or to protect the other. There was no question about money. The Chinese were quite ready to pay, and the ample revenues of the customs were placed at the disposal of the force. But the Chinese statesmen wanted small separate bodies of mercenaries to execute their orders of extermination, and not a single powerful force to put down the rebellion.

Captain Osborn, of course, at once saw that this was not what his Government or his countrymen expected from him. He had been sent out to enforce orders and to spread peace among these Mongol populations, and not to be the blind instrument of barbarian vengeance. There were, however, two courses open to him. The first and the more tempting was to leave Mr. Lay and the Mandarins to discuss questions in difference, and to put his fleet at once in action, to proceed up the Yang-tse, drive the Taipings from Nanking, and clear the river up to Hankow. Nothing would have been easier to that powerful squadron. In fact, several of the Taiping chiefs had already made overtures of submission. The prestige of the commander, and the evident power at his disposal, had done half the work. Here was fame for the leader and booty for the followers, certain and at hand. As to stores and pay, these were all secured by the credit already given upon those immense customs' revenues which were daily coming in at the treaty ports. Many men would have chosen this course and trusted to success to carry them through with it; Captain Osborn deliberately rejected it, and preferred to sacrifice the position he held and the fortune within reach of his hand rather than deviate a point from the punctilio of professional honour, or do one act of war without formal warranty from the sovereign Power whose commission he held. We believe that he will find the reward of his self-sacrificing choice in the approbation of his countrymen. The alternative was to insist upon the ratification of the engagement concluded in England under the clearly defined and written instructions of Prince Kung, and, failing to obtain this, to resign his command. This latter course Captain Osborn adopted. We are not about to track the sinuous course of the negotiations which took place. We believe that the public will feel sufficient interest in the matter to read the correspondence we publish this morning, and we are sure that they will be rewarded for the labour by the pleasure they must derive from seeing how well an English sailor has sustained the honour of his country under circumstances of no ordinary difficulty. Captain Osborn had to make sacrifices, not only for himself, but also for his followers, whose fortunes were in his keeping, and who had already heard of the mountains of bales of silk, the plunder of the silk provinces, stacked together in Nanking. Under these circumstances the steady and faithful conduct of the officers and men, the cheerfulness with which they all stood by their commander, and the tenor of that address to him which appears among the papers we publish are alike honourable to both parties; and they increase our regret at the failure of the expedition, for they show how strong it was in purpose and discipline, and what great things it might have done. However, it is vain to speculate now upon opportunities that are gone by. The Osborn expedition has been refused by the Imperial Government of China. China has adopted a retrograde policy. She is going back as far and as fast as she may to the old system of fighting bandits by bandits, and perhaps collecting her revenues by filtration through a great system of corruption. *It does not seem very probable that the European Customs' controllers will long be able to retain place with honour under the returning system.** Every friend of humanity and every honourable merchant will be grievously disappointed; every speculator upon fraudulent advantages to be derived from a state of confusion and a free market for smuggling will chuckle in secret, if, indeed, this class have not the impudence to sing a chorus of triumph.

In other days the consequence of this change in the Imperial counsels might have been more proclamations against trade and more China wars. That danger is, we believe, past. Commerce has now struck firm root in the Empire. The Russians may continue their daily advances from the North, and the French may, as their agents in China do not hesitate to avow to be their policy, conquer a province or two in order to be present to defend the rights of the Catholic Church. We, however, certainly have no business as conquerors in China. The future of China, if we may judge of what will happen from what has invariably happened under similar circumstances, will be determined by the necessities of commerce. When the Roman Empire broke up, and the fifty cities of Upper Italy were plundered by successive inroads of Huns and Goths, trade fled for peace to a stronghold, and the Republic of Venice arose powerful and secure, even under the Gothic kingdom of Italy. The contests that followed the fall of the Carlovingian dynasty made Genoa a city of refuge and a Power in the world. The robbers upon the Elbe and the pirates on the German Ocean, in the thirteenth century, produced the Confederacy of the Hanse Towns, with their quaint rules of trade and their strict discipline in their factories. May we not learn a lesson from these conspicuous precedents? Shanghai, as a European settlement, is but of yesterday, but it is already second only to Calcutta among the modern cities of the East. It is a city of refuge, it is a safe storehouse, and it has a *quasi* territory of thirty miles radius. Shanghai and its dependent territory and its trade are at this moment practically independent of all that Chinese factions can do against it. The Chinese who live under its protection, and many of whom give fabulous prices for a spot of ground within its precincts, are even now estimated at three millions. Its trade is increasing at so rapid a rate that against sixteen millions of imports in 1862 we have to put twenty-three millions in 1863, and against ten millions of exports in 1862 we have to put fifteen millions in 1863. These are facts which speak to those who can understand them. Free cities will, in all probability, be the future of China. The time may yet be when the men of commerce located in China shall, without distinction of race or nation, fortify themselves against aggression from any robber, and take measures to secure that the duties paid by commerce shall be applied to maintain the security of commerce. We are very far from this yet, and many obstacles are to be overcome before it can happen. Our difficulties in China, however, are evidently recommencing. The Empire has gone back into its old barbarism; the Taipings are miscreants and plunderers, in whom we can have no hope; the soldiers of fortune are *condottieri* now, and will be brigands a short time hence. Conquest is too costly and immoral to be thought of, and continual wars for the redress of commercial grievances are too expensive and vexatious to be endured. It remains to be seen whether some policy cannot be adopted which may tend to create a Chinese commerce which shall be able to protect itself.

(DAILY NEWS.)

The correspondence relative to the disbanding of the Anglo-Chinese naval force, published in the organ of the expedition, confirms in the most striking and conclusive manner the views of those who have from the first condemned the adventure as an unwise and impracticable interference with the internal affairs of that vast and distracted empire. Whatever name it might bear, such an enterprise, if carried out, must have been in reality a direct intervention on the part of this country in an aimless but gigantic civil conflict between rival races, religions, and interests, equally barbarous, and marked on either side by atrocities equally revolting and inhuman. And having been undertaken in the interest of the Imperialists, the expedition, if successful, would eventually have saddled us with the tremendous task of extending our rule over some three hundred and fifty millions more of the human race. It was foreseen from the outset that the imposing British contingent organised by Mr. Lay must either sink into a mercenary force, or imposing its own conditions of action on the Chinese Government, become virtually the rulers of the Empire. There was absolutely no escape from one or other of these alternatives, nor could there be any doubt as to which would prevail. It was not to be supposed for a moment that a British officer of the high character and standing of Captain Sherard Osborn would under any circumstances consent to become the instrument of a purely Chinese policy, and it is clear from the correspondence that he intended from the first to impose on the Imperial Government what he considered to be a British policy, and that with this end in view he had taken very decisive precautions for controlling its action. The second paper of the correspondence is "The agreement entered into between Inspector-General H. N. Lay and Captain Sherard Osborn, R.N., C.B.," and the sweeping nature of the conditions under which alone the Commander of the Anglo-Chinese fleet was to act will be seen by glancing at a few of the clauses contained in this memorandum:—

2. Osborn, as commander-in-chief, is to have entire control over all vessels of European construction, as well as native vessels manned with Europeans that may be in the employ of the Emperor of China, or, under his authority, of the native guilds.

3. Lay will procure from the Emperor such an authority as may be necessary to cover Osborn's acts as the commander-in-chief of the European Chinese navy.

4. Osborn undertakes to act upon all orders of the Emperor which may be conveyed direct to Lay, and Osborn engages not to attend to any orders conveyed through any other channel.

5. Lay, upon his part, engages to refuse to be the medium of any orders of the reasonableness of which he is not satisfied.

The two last of these provisions clearly destroy the independent action of the Chinese Government, and deprive it of all means of carrying out its own policy. Instead of being any longer supreme, it becomes in effect the servant of Messrs. Lay and Osborn. Captain Osborn will obey no orders except those conveyed to him directly from the Emperor through

* The italics are our own.

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Lay, and Lay is to exercise his own discretion as to what orders he will forward. If he is not satisfied with the orders issued by the Imperial Government, he simply refuses to convey them, and they become at once a dead letter. Under such an arrangement Mr. Lay and Captain Osborn would have exercised the supreme authority, and thus have become for the time being the rulers of China. Prince Kung had quite sufficient discernment to perceive this obvious bearing of the agreement between the Inspector-General and the Captain of the Fleet, and on its being communicated to him, he very naturally refused to ratify it. In his own instructions to Captain Osborn the Prince makes effective provision for carrying out the orders of the Imperial Government, by stipulating for the appointment of a Chinese Commander-in-Chief of the united navy, under whom Capt. Osborn is to serve. The British Captain repudiates this proposal, not only with characteristic firmness, but in a tone of conscious superiority that would no doubt help to convince Prince Kung of its wisdom and necessity. Captain Osborn can, indeed, hardly restrain his indignation at the bare thought of acting under the Imperial Government in any inferior capacity. The very notion of a British officer having to serve under a wretched, unprincipled, lying Mandarin, and being dictated to by barbarians, makes him turn away from the expedition in disgust. And truly we should have been ashamed of him if he had acted otherwise. He tells Prince Kung in plain terms that he came out to command, not to obey; to revolutionise, not to carry out the established policy of the Imperial Government:—"By submitting to such instructions and violation of my original agreement I should at once deprive myself of the power to assist in carrying out in China the policy of Western civilisation. My force, powerful as it will be for good or evil, might be directed against the interests of commerce or of common humanity. Brutal butchery might be perpetrated, and I should be powerless to prevent it. My men and officers, the pick of many from the Royal Navy of Engiand, would be associated upon equal terms with the rowdies and pirates the Foutai might be pleased to employ." He insists on this point again, and if possible in still loftier terms, in reply to the justification of its conduct attempted by the Chinese Foreign-office:—"To the argument advanced by the Chinese Foreign-office 'that the course proposed by Prince Kung is a usual one in China,' I reply I did not come here, or my followers either, to accustom ourselves to the treatment usual with Chinese sailors or soldiers, or to assist them in a retrogressive policy in the treatment of European *employés* or Europeans in in general. The employment of ships of war and war steamers of European construction is an innovation, that of European officers and gentlemen still more so. I and my force are part and parcel of a new order of things indicating 'progress in China.' I will be no party to her lapsing back into her ancient system and treating Europeans as if they were Chinamen."

The moral of all this is plain enough. As a "European officer and gentleman" Captain Osborn went to China to impress Western ideas and Western policy on the Imperial Government, and assist it in carrying out the new order of things. In this, as well as in his language and conduct at Peking, he showed a perfect sense of what was due to his character and position as an English officer. The passages we have quoted from his spirited remarks on Prince Kung's letter of instructions indicate plainly enough that he was determined to maintain this position. But they prove still more clearly that he had no business at all in China as the servant of the Emperor. Captain Osborn was at once a British officer, a subject of the Queen, and an *employé* of the Chinese Government. The position was a false one from the first, and, unless the Imperial Government were utterly imbecile, must in the nature of things have ended, as it has done, in failure and disappointment. The attempt to carry Western civilisation to China and diffuse Western ideas amongst the Chinese is a very laudable undertaking; but it cannot be made by anyone in the position of an officer of the native Government, which has always consistently opposed those ideas as fatal to its own existence. That Government, like all the governments of the East, will indubitably maintain its character to the end. And before Englishmen and English officers again engage in such a service it would be well for them to weigh more seriously than the leaders of the Anglo-Chinese expedition appear to have done the questions which it appears from the correspondence they proposed to themselves:—"How are cruel or unjust orders from Peking to be prevented? How shall European officers and seamen levy war for a barbarous sovereign without being made to participate in acts which our country would repudiate?"

The following letter on this subject has been addressed to the *Daily News*:—

SIR,—All who contemplate the relations between Europe and China with a judgment unbiassed by mercantile cupidity or the narrow prejudices of so-called civilisation, will agree with you that the failure of the Lay and Osborn scheme is a matter for congratulation. Regarding it merely as affecting British interests, we cannot be too thankful that this attempt to involve the nation in a disastrous policy has for the present proved abortive. But the question has another and not less important aspect. No thoughtful man can read this correspondence, or the equally suggestive comments of *The Times*, and not be painfully struck with the lax morality that governs our behaviour towards nations of a different type of civilisation from our own. You have pointed out that the terms proposed by Mr. Lay and Captain Osborn, according to which Captain Osborn was to obey no orders which were not transmitted through Mr. Lay, and Mr. Lay was to "refuse to be the medium of any orders of the reasonableness of which he is not satisfied," would have placed the whole naval power of China at the absolute disposal of a couple of Englishmen. Surely the wonder is, not that Prince Kung should have refused to ratify such an agreement, but that the two Englishmen should have had the assurance to propose it. *The Times* considers that upon this refusal two courses were open to Captain Osborn; the one, to retire from the transaction; the other, "and more tempting, to leave Mr. Lay and the Mandarins to discuss questions in difference, and to put his fleet at once in action, to proceed up the Yang-tse, &c.;" in other words, to commit a flagrant act of piracy, for all hostilities carried on by ships not commissioned by any Government are piracy. The temptation, as is afterwards explained, consists in the "mountains of bales of silk, the plunder of the silk provinces stacked together in Nanking;" and although there are compliments for the stoical rectitude of the commander who "would not deviate a point from the punctilio of professional honour" (would not, that is, be guilty of piracy) even for this splendid prize, it is clear, from the almost plaintive tone of the writer, that this was a sublime strain of virtue to which, under the circumstances, he would not have pretended to aspire. I suspect there has been tearing of hair and rending of garments among certain London speculators who knew all about this mountain of silks, and would rather be reading a promising invoice than the despatches, however lofty in tone, of their too squeamish emissary.

But let us see how far Captain Osborn's ideas of rectitude and honour carry him. The eight vessels under his orders were bought in England by the Chinese Government, and were confessedly its property. In fact, they were to be a security to Captain Osborn for the pay of his men. He might decline to serve on the terms proposed by his employers, but by his own admission he had no right to detain the ships unless his pay should be refused. Under these circumstances, what does he do? He writes to Sir F. Bruce as follows:—"I request you will inform me whether you see any objection to my surrendering to Prince Kung the eight ships which I have brought out to this country. They are Imperial property, and I have no right to detain them; but I would submit that there might be some danger if vessels of so formidable a character were trusted to the rowdies and pirates now so numerous at Shanghai," &c. The British Minister thus prompted, and evidently penetrated with the conviction that the obligations of morality vary with the latitude and longitude, replies:—"I will not consent to the ships and stores being handed over to the Chinese Government without instructions to that effect from Her Majesty's Government."

We have heard loud complaints because Her Majesty's Government have interfered with the purchase of vessels of war by one of two belligerent Powers between whom we have resolved to observe a strict neutrality. The law, according to the Lord Chief Baron, will not authorise even this measure, though so evidently necessary for the due performance of international duties. What must be his opinion of this outrageous act of our Minister at Peking, who, like his brother envoy at Kagosima, appears to think that the possession of a steam fleet by an Oriental Power is a thing which, *per fas et nefas*, must be prevented?

I know that to most people it has quite a ludicrous appearance on the face of it, to measure our dealings with "barbarous nations" by the ordinary rules of morality. This is only one among many symptoms of the deplorable anarchy of thought and sentiment which these latter times present. To whom are we to look for some teaching which shall either correct these generally received maxims, or reconcile them with such principles of morality as yet remain unshaken? Will the Bishop of Oxford tell us what religion has to say to it? Or the Bishop of London? They find much time for perorating on topics of less immediate interest. Will Cardinal Wiseman or Mr. Spurgeon enlighten us? If they are unable to deal with practical questions like these, they must excuse us if we spend our Sunday mornings in trying to think them out for ourselves.

—I am, &c.,

E. S. BEESLY.

FRENCH CORRESPONDENCE FROM JAPAN AND COCHIN-CHINA.

The *Moniteur de la Flotte* publishes very favourable news from its own correspondent in Japan, dated Yokohama, November 17. The letter states that on the preceding day the difficulty with Prince Satsuma was arranged. The Prince is to pay the English representative the sum of £25,000 demanded previous to the attack on Kagosima for the murder of Mr. Richardson. The Government of Jeddo have, moreover, withdrawn the decree for the expulsion of foreigners from Japan, and have discontinued the building of forts round Yokohama, which remains in possession of the European forces. The Prince of Satsuma had become much less savage, and had announced his intention to send thirty young men of good family to be educated in England. Peace may consequently be considered as certain for the present, and commercial transactions have resumed their activity. There were fourteen English ships of war in the port of Yokohama on the 17th of November, and in addition two corvettes at Nagasaki. The English admiral is said to be expecting two more vessels from the Pacific.

The *Moniteur de la Flotte* further publishes a letter from its correspondent at Saigon, in Cochin-China, dated the 29th November. It states that the French colony enjoys the most perfect tranquillity. The rice crop in the mountains was being gathered, and the harvest in the low grounds would next be attended to. The Admiral-Governor is neglecting nothing that tends to the maintenance of peace. He had sent several articles treating of morality and religion to the Chinese official journal published at Saigon. The last article, which demonstrates the absurdity of superstitious ceremonies, was written on the occasion of a demand addressed to the Governor by some Annamite peasants to make use of certain invocations to procure rain. Another article was written against the worship of deceased parents, to which the Annamites are much attached. These articles had produced the best effects, and the missionaries have accomplished numerous conversions among the most influential classes.

Admiral de la Grandiere had likewise been very successful in other measures he had adopted. He had permitted the natives to enter the naval service, and the number of volunteers is greater than he anticipated. He has even found skilful workmen in metals, whom he has engaged for the Meurthe at 32 f. the month. He has likewise engaged native boys as apprentices, and he expects that the school he has formed will supply the French navy with skilful engineers. The accounts from Camboge are likewise excellent. The excursion Admiral de la Grandiere made there last summer produced the best effects.

The town of Saigon is making great progress. New buildings are every day rising. There are thirty private carriages in the town, hitherto a rare sight in Cochin-China, besides several hackney coaches purchased at Singapore. The Governor has decided that every Chinese coming into the French colony must pay a tax of two piastres a year for permission to reside. Licences of three classes are to be granted to Chinese merchants who may desire to establish themselves in the colony. Fifty piastres a-year is to be paid for a licence of the first-class, twenty-five piastres for the second-class, and ten for the third. A decree had been issued for equalising the native coin with the French currency, by which much confusion will be avoided in commercial dealings.

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THE NEW PACIFIC MAIL ROUTE.—The Pacific mail steamship route about to be established between Sydney and Panama will not only give us an additional mail communication with Australia, but will more intimately connect that portion of the globe with the American continent; and also this country with the fertile islands of the Pacific, now growing into great importance through the French settlements there. The Pacific mail route has been chiefly desired by Eastern Australia and New Zealand. All other parts of Australia prefer the Indian route. The Peninsular and Oriental Company have offered to convey an additional mail to Australia from Ceylon at a comparatively small sum, and most probably Victoria and South and West Australia will accept that offer, which would make the mail communication with our antipodean colonies tri-monthly. Steam communications with the most distant parts of the world are increasing in number by means of our own and foreign ocean mail lines, and our own are diminishing in expense to the nation. The English and French lines give us a mail communication with India five times a month; with China, Brazil, the River Plate, and some parts of the West Indies, three times a month; and with Mexico twice a month. And we have by English and German lines a communication with the United States ten times monthly. Owing to the increase of traffic with the West Indies and the Cape of Good Hope the new contracts for conveying mails to those places have been entered into at reduced subsidies. Notwithstanding the French Oriental Mail line, the Peninsular and Oriental Company have as much traffic as they can manage, and as the Government have determined on sending troops to and from India and China by the Red Sea, it is probable that private steamers will be hired to do the work, and this will cause the establishment of another Oriental mail steam line. In a few years the large sum of nearly a million sterling a year now paid by this country for the conveyance of ocean mails will probably be reduced one half. The commerce of the East, through the advancing prosperity of India and the opening up of the trade with China and Japan, is enriching the Oriental steam packet companies both French and English. The development of the resources of Central America, South-Western America, California, and British Columbia, is rapidly increasing the profits of the Royal Mail Company, and the traffic between New Zealand and Australia with Panama will still further increase it.

CHINESE EMIGRATION TO THE WEST INDIES.—The Demerara Court of Policy met on the 17th Dec., at which a letter from the Governor of Trinidad reported the co-operation of the Government of that land with British Guiana in respect to the promotion of Chinese immigration for the next three seasons. His Excellency the Governor laid over a correspondence between the Secretary of State and the Immigration Commissioners and himself respecting the extension of the period of indenture of African immigrants to five years instead of three, and intimating the approval of the Secretary of State of the alteration on certain conditions. A Bill to effect the change proposed was introduced and read a first time. The Court adjourned to the 1st of January, but a meeting was subsequently called for Thursday, December 24. The ship *Sevilla*, Captain Kerr, arrived at Georgetown on the 15th ult. from Calcutta, after a passage of 90 days, with rice and 292 immigrants, of whom 206 were men, 56 women, 8 boys, 10 girls, and 12 infants. The percentage of mortality was lower than usual, only nine deaths having taken place during the voyage.

TRIAL OF THE "FAR EAST."—This double-screw vessel had her trial trip on the 15th inst., the result being highly satisfactory. The distance between the Nore and Mouse, nine statute miles, was run in 54.30, and in 50.25, or an average speed of 10.3 miles per hour. From this we may conclude that her passage to Hong Kong will be made within seventy days. Her consumption of coal being very small, she will carry sufficient from London for the voyage. Mr. John Dudgeon, of J. and W. Dudgeon, the builders, superintended the trial, and Captain Jones on behalf of the owners.

Foreign Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 15.

The Second Chamber of the States-General is convened to meet to-morrow for the purpose of voting temporary supplies for carrying on the service of the Foreign Department, as the First Chamber threw over the Budget for that department, and a new one cannot be prepared till definite arrangements are made, the current duties of the Foreign-office being for the present carried on by Mr. Huyssen van Kattendyke, the Naval Minister.

The Council of State have been engaged for some time past in drawing up a Bill for the better regulation of public education in the languages, geography, and ethnology of the Dutch possessions in the East Indies. I hear that the work is so far advanced that it will be shortly in a state to lay before the Chambers.

At the end of next June the annual meeting of the Congress for Rural Economy will be held at Haarlem. Among other subjects to be brought under discussion is the application of steam-ploughing to colonial agriculture; the influence to be expected from the railways in Java; the importance of cotton cultivation under the present high prices; the necessity for manuring the sugar plantations; the superior properties of the black variety of sugar cane; the importance of the cultivation of indigo; and an investigation of the reasons why the export of the produce of the *Klapperboom* is not made more available and productive in Java and Ceylon.

According to the "Delft Students' Almanack" for 1864, which has just been published, it appears that the total number of students at the Royal Academy in that town is 253, of whom 7 are studying for the rank of first class officers of the East India Civil Service, 83 for the second-class, 100 for general studies, 61 for civil engineers, and 2 for naval architecture.

Mr. Stieltjes, who has lately been rather suddenly dismissed from his appointment in Java, and has arrived in this country, as mentioned in a former letter, has announced his intention to come forward at Almeno at the approaching general elections as candidate for the representation of that town in the Second Chamber of the States-General.

The Netherlands Trading Company have advertised for tenders of ships for the usual return cargoes of produce from Java, and their surveyors are now examining the vessels already offered. The vessels must have been previously under charter to the company, or newly-built ships launched before the end of last September. They will be required to be ready to sail from a port in this country on or about the 10th of February next, and those that have already sailed must be placed at the disposal of the factory at Batavia by the 10th of June next. To-day is the last day for receiving tenders, so that I shall probably be able to give you in my next letter a list of the vessels chartered.

The Dutch Steamboat Company at Rotterdam has taken a contract to make the engines for a paddle-wheel steamship building by Government for service in the East Indies. The contract price is 45,800 fl.

Ever since the beginning of this month the frost has been very severe and the navigation of the rivers and canals is entirely suspended. The thermometer indicates from fifteen to twenty-one degrees of cold by the centigrade scale. In consequence of this the last arrivals from Java lie where they were caught in the ice. The *Stad Middelburg*, Captain Auwehand, and the *Noordster*, Capt. Luteyn, have found shelter at Vlissingen; the *Staatsraad van Ewyck*, Capt. de Winter, is frozen in at Willemsluys, and the *Patriarch Samkiri*, Capt. Lion, has put into Harwich, where she will remain till the thaw sets in. Of the outward bound vessels, the *Elizabeth and Jacoba*, Capt. Zwaneveld, hence to Macassar, is frozen up at Purmerende, but the *Jan van Brakel*, Capt. de Roever, from this port to Japan, has managed to get to sea, and sailed from the Texel on the 10th inst.

During the year 1863 the number of ships that arrived at Zierikzee was 105, whilst 46 sailed. Three ships sailed to Java from the port of Veere. At Vlissingen five vessels arrived from Java, and amongst those that sailed were two to Batavia, one to Ceylon, and one to Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope. At Nieuwe Deep the number of vessels that arrived from all parts during the year 1863 was 1,971, whilst 1,704 sailed from that port.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

GALTON—On the 11th Jan., at Laurel-grove, Brixton-hill, S., the wife of Edmund H. Galton, Esq., of a daughter.

HALL—On the 10th Jan., at Sheerness, the wife of Captain W. King Hall, C.B., H.M.S. Cumberland, of a daughter.

LITTLE—On the 17th Jan., at Vanbrugh-fields, Blackheath, the wife of J. M. Little, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

CHAMBERLAINE—LEVICK.—On the 31st Dec., 1863, at Cairo, in the Consulate Chapel, by the Rev. George Washington, M.A., Charles Tankerville Chamberlaine, Esq., son of the late Richard Tankerville Chamberlaine, Esq., M.D., M.R.C.S., to Louisa, eldest daughter of Henry Levick, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Packet Agent at Suez, Egypt. No cards.

ELLES—PYE.—On the 14th Jan., at St. Mary's, Wimbledon, by the Rev. H. W. Haygarth, M.A., Jamieson Elles, Esq., to Mary Chesney, eldest daughter of Kellow J. Pye, Esq., Wimbledon. No cards.

LUDLOW—MACPHERSON.—On the 4th Dec., at St. George's Church, Penang, by the Rev. James Mackay, B.D., Lieut. Edwin S. Ludlow, Adjutant 28th Regt. Madras Infantry, to Jane Emily, daughter of Lieut.-Col. R. Macpherson, R.A., and Resident Councillor at Singapore.

POWNALL—SWAYNE.—On the 9th Jan., at St. John's, Hackney, by the Rev. W. H. Pownall, late of Shanghai, to Sarah Sophia, daughter of the late Robt. Swayne, Esq., of Liverpool.

RICHARDSON—COPPIN.—On the 14th Jan., at St. George's, Hanover-square, William Henry, son of the late James Richardson, Esq., of Clifton, York, to Louisa Henrietta, youngest daughter of Commander Charles Coppin, R.N., and niece of the late Viscountess Kilcoursie.

DEATHS.

BATHURST—On the 15th Jan., at her residence, 7, Southwick-crescent, Hyde-park Lady Caroline Bathurst, widow of the late Lieut.-General Sir James Bathurst K.C.B., in her 81st year.

RANDOLPH—On the 29th Dec., at Madiera, Gower William Randolph, Esq., Fellow of All Soul's College, Oxford, late an Examiner in the Privy Council-office, and Private Secretary to Earl Granville, aged 36.

RYDER—On the 10th Nov., 1863, at Manila, Mr. John Northcote Ryder, late of the Royal Navy, and Superintending Engineer at Royal Spanish Arsenal, Cavite, Manila.

SWAN—On the 15th Jan., at Denmark-hill, Camberwell, Robert Dalgleish Swan, Esq., late of Ceylon, and formerly of the Indian Navy, aged 61.

WILKINSON—On the 21st Nov. last, at Shanghai, in the 28th year of his age, Henry Wilkinson, of the North China Insurance Company, the fourth son of Josiah Wilkinson, of Widmore-hill, Bromley, Kent, and of Nicholas-lane, London.

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Monetary and Commercial.

The cargo of the *Contest*, from Kanagawa to New York, which vessel was burnt in the Straits of Sunda by the *Alabama*, consisted of 93 half-chests tea, 342 bales cotton, 3,490 bales rags, and 15 of sundries. She left Kanagawa on the 14th October.

We are informed that Mr. Elias D. Sassoon, of the firm of David Sassoon and Co., and Mr. Haju Esmail Haju Habib have consented to join the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan, as members of a committee of directors in Bombay, the former as chairman.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Union Bank of London, Mr. P. N. Lauri in the chair, the profits were stated at £114,323, making, with a previous balance of £669, an available total of £114,992. A dividend of 18s. per share, or at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum was declared, leaving a balance of £60,992.

The preliminary announcement of a bank, called the "Imperial Bank of China," has been made by Mr. Montgomery Martin. It is proposed to procure privileges from the Imperial Government at Peking, and to employ capital under those concessions in loans, mortgages, &c. It is stated that Exchange operations will be excluded from the business of the bank.

Another project is also progressing for establishing a bank on similar principles to those already established in China.

The demand for bar silver for the East was again extremely strong, and an important advance has taken place, the last price being 5s. 2⅜d. to 5s. 2½d. A heavy amount has been bought for transmission by the Bombay and Calcutta steamers from Marseilles on the 18th and 19th inst. respectively, as well as by the Calcutta packet from Southampton on the 20th. As the supply here is very inadequate, a large sum will have to be imported from the continent, and gold will probably be sent from this side to pay for it.

The amount of Government Bills on India, for which tenders will be received at the Bank of England on the 20th inst., is 40 lacs (£400,000).

A circular has been forwarded to us from Sydney by Mr. C. Cecil, who, in conjunction with Mr. George Holmes, of Hong Kong, made various shipments to Messrs. Molison and Black, of Sydney. The circular complains of the charges made by this firm, and the general neglect of their interests. As the matter has been investigated in the law courts of Sydney, and we are not in receipt of a report of the case, we cannot give any opinion on its merits.

Frederick Huth, the founder of the well-known house, died on the 14th, aged 87.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Business done.
100	Agra and United Service, Limited	50	123 to 125	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	40½ to 41½	...
20	Do. New		19 pm.	
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	65 to 67 x.d.	...
50	London Joint Stock	10	38½ to 49½	...
100	London and Westminster	20	83 to 85	...
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	60 to 62	...
50	Union of London	13	41 to 42 x.d.	...
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	8½ to 9 pm.	...
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	5	1½ to 2 pm.	...
20	Do. New	5		...
25	Bank of Egypt	All	25½ to 26½	...
100	Bank of London	50	163 to 168	...
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	2	2 to 2½ pm.	...
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 5	...
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	78 to 80	
50	Do. New	30	17 to 19 pm.	
10	Labuan Coal Company	8	...	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	...	...
2	Telegraph to India Company	2	⅜ to ½ dis.	...
5	Bombay Gas	4	⅛ dis. to ¼ pm.	...
10	E. I. and London Shipping B.	All	3 to 6	...
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	5	¾ to ¼ dis.	...
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	...	...
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	1	2 to 2½ pm.	...
1	Oriental Gas	All	1¼ to 1½	...
1	Do. New	⅝	½ to ¾ pm.	...
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2 to 2	...
100	West India Steam Company	60	78 to 80	...
20	Ceylon Company	7	2⅞ to 3¼ pm.	...
20	International Finance Society	5	4⅛ to 4½ pm.	...
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2⅝ to 2¾ pm.	...
50	London Financial Association	15	12 to 12½ pm.	...
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	2	1½ to 2 pm.	...
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	16¾ to 17¼	...
20	British Indian Tea	2	⅜ to 1½ pm	...
10	Upper Assam Tea	1½	1½ to 2 pm.	...
10	Do.	All	14 to 17	...

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

SUGAR.—There has been less activity in the market during the past week, and prices have been more in favour of the buyer. By private sale on Thursday, 2,000 bags Mauritius went at 37s. to 45s.

COFFEE.—Firm, and maintains previous rates. At auction on Wednesday 43 cases Coorg Mercara went at 82s., and part of 800 bags Mysore, at 72s. to 73s. On Thursday, at auction 500 casks, 70 barrels, and 400 bags of Plantation Ceylon at auction met a good demand, and all sold with spirit at full rates—triage, 55s. to 69s. 6d.; fine ordinary to good middling, 72s. to 85s. 6d.; pea berry, 78s. to 86s.; 1,000 bags of native Ceylon also sold at 68s. to 70s.; 1,100 packages of other East India, at 71s. to 93s.

COTTON continues dull, and prices are still on the decline.

RICE.—Business inactive, and the little done was barely at previous quotations. At auction, 1,300 bags, middling to good white Bengal, at 11s. 6d. to 12s. 3d.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Easier; a part of 870 cases sold at 86s. to 89s.

NUTMEGS.—In good demand, and rather dearer; sales at 1s. to 2s. 8d.

GINGER.—A parcel of Cochin went off at 65s.

MACE.—14 cases disposed of at 9d. to 1s. 10d.

PEPPER.—Black: Penang, 3½d.; Singapore, 3¾d. White: 4,200 bags Singapore, fair, at 5¼d.

TAPIOCA.—Penang: 650 bags, 2½d. to 2¾d. Singapore: 370 bags pearl, at 20s. 6d. to 21s. per cwt.

SAGO.—On Friday 316 boxes 140 bags were bought in at 22s. 6d. to 24s.

HEMP.—Manila firmer; 1,000 bales bought in at £34. 10s. to £35. 10s.

JUTE.—At public sale 9,900 bales were offered, and about one-fourth sold heavily, at a reduction of fully 20s. to 40s. per ton, fine qualities being most in request; prices ranged from £20. 10s. to £31. 10s.; and cuttings at £11 to £11. 5s.

LAC DYE.—27 chests SLD taken in at 1s. 3d.

CUTCH.—569 boxes 19 brls. 2,032 bags Pegue sold readily, middling and good, 25s. to 25s. 6d; 1st to 3rd class dam., 23s. to 24s. 6d.; broken, 23s.

DRUGS.—The periodical sales commenced on Thursday. Large parcels were declared, of which a portion only passed auction; aloes, Cape, sold at 35s. to 49s.; East India, £4. 17s. 6d. to £8. 2s. 6d.; cubebs, 90s. to 100s.; Gums: Olibanum, 29s. to 52s.; myrrh, £4 to £7. 7s. 6d.; Arabic, East India, 25s. to 60s. 6d.; Ipecacuanha, 8s. 6d. to 8s. 7d.; oils, castor, 4½d. to 6½d.; opium, Turkey, 15s. to 18s. 6d.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £8. 10s.; nail rod, £9. 10s. to £10.; hoops, £11; sheets, single, £12; Staffordshire bars, £10. 10s.; rails, £8.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £120 per ton; yellow metal, 10½d. per lb.

TIN.—116s. for block; 117s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 30s. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English Pig, £21; W.B., £21. 15s.; shot, patent, £23. 10s.; sheet, £21. 10s. to £21. 15s.; spelter, £20 to £20. 5s.; zinc, English sheet, £25. 10s.; quicksilver, £7 to £7. 10s. per bottle.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton the 4th January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamer.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£32,530
Foo-chow-Foo	—	2,250
Hong Kong	—	5,560
Amoy	—	—
Singapore	£3,750	2,700
Penang	—	39,265

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0	to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 3½	
Silver in Bars	0 5 2⅛	to 5 2⅛
Mexican Dollars	0 5 2	

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

TEA.—Market firm; sales trifling since last mail. About 70,000 packages will be offered on the 19th. About 550 packages recovered from the wreck of the *Friar Tuck* have been sold. The latter were kiln-dried, bulked, and repacked: they sold at prices varying from 2¼d. to 1s. 0¼d.

SILK.—Market firm, at last mail's quotations; tendency upwards.

COTTON.—The Liverpool advices received this morning state that the demand throughout the week has been on a limited scale, and prices are generally ⅛d. per lb. lower. Of the 2,920 bales taken for export, 200 were China. China, indeed, is in fair demand, but freely offered at ⅛d. to ¼d. lower rates. The quotations are, middling fair, 19½d.; fair, 20¼d.; good, 21d. to 22d. The total stock is 250,000 bales, against 395,000 in 1863.

SUGAR.—3,000 bags of clayed Manila went yesterday at 40s. 6d.; and from Liverpool we hear of 2,100 mats unclayed Manila at 21s. 6d. per cwt.

SPICES.—Liverpool quotations are, Singapore black pepper, 3¼d. to 3⅜d.; Cassia Lignea, 92s. for pile 1, and 90s. for pile 2.

HEMP.—There has been a large and speculative inquiry for Manila at Liverpool, closing prices showing an advance of £2 on the spot, and £2. 10s. for arrival. Sales, 800 bales, at £35 in store, and 8,000 bales to arrive, at £33. 10s. to £35 for Liverpool, and £33 to £35 per ton for London.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Gambier: Small sales of heated, at Liverpool. at 23s. 6d., and 150 tons to arrive at 20s. 9d. to 21s. 6d. per cwt. Mother o'Pearl Shells: 60 cases of Manila at 80s. Rattans: 3,400 bundles at £29 for sound large, and £32. 10s. for 1st class damaged Singapore small canes. Sapan-wood: 15 tons Manila at £9. 10s. per ton. The above sales, all at Liverpool.

The memorial of the Singapore Chamber of Commerce for the reduction of duty on Pepper is considered to have great claim on the Chancellor's well-known advocacy of fair and equitable rates.

ARRIVAL NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Jan. 15, at Liverpool, from Hong Kong, John Nicholson.

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Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Jan. 7	Off the Lizard ...	Shanghai	Southern Belle	Benson.
— 10	Deal.....	Foo-chow-Foo	Thames	Miller.
— 9	Queenstown	Maulmain	Burlington.....	Oxnard.
— 8	Off Falmouth.....	Batavia	Doggersbank.....	Nuss.
— 9	Off Mount's Bay .	Do.	Kinderdyk.....	Zwanenburg.
— 8	Crookshaven	Rangoon.....	Susan A. Blaisdell ...	
— 12	Deal.....	Batavia	Wm. Simpson	Napier.
— 9	Off Mount's Bay .	Do.	Stad Enschede	Krischner.
— 9	Do.	Akyab.....	Regent	
— 9	Scilly	Batavia	Johanna Elisabeth ...	Junius.
— 7	Texel	Do.	Batavia	. Dolder.
— 12	Deal.....	Penang	Isabel a	Bruce.
— 12	Off Ramsgate.....	Manila	Amtmand Thesen.....	Lind.
— 12	Portsmouth	Shanghai	Procymatia	Noel.
— 10	Off the Wight.....	Batavia	Telanak	Popken.
— 11	Brouwershaven ...	Do.	Johann Lodewyk	Waal.
— 10	Off Newhaven ...	Do.	Amalia Augusta	De Veer.
— 13	Falmouth	Samarang	Record	Butcher.
— 11	Brouwershaven ...	Batavia	Hebe	Kiehl.
— 11	Palais Roads B.I..	Java.....	A. N. Cezard	Lebozer.
Dec.30	New York	Manila	Hamlet	Jelley.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Jan. 9	London	Shanghai	Tung Sing, str.....	Rowe.
— 4	Glasgow	Singapore	Lochleven Castle	Stewart.
Nov.23	New York	Shanghai.....	Gondola	
Jan. 9	London "..... ...	Do.	White Adder	Bell.
— 9	Do.	H. Kong & Canton .	Banian	Masters.
— 7	Falmouth	Batavia	Guurtje and Maria ...	Ei ns.
— 7	Sunderland.....	Shanghai.....	Royal Mint	Dodgson.
— 7	Do.	Hong Kong	Chanticleer	Dowell.
— 11	London	H. Kong & Canton	Star of China..... ...	Leask.
— 11	Do.	Bata., Samang., &c.	Salatiga	Kettler.
— 12	Do.	Shanghai	Prince Kung	Carr.
— 6	Cardiff.....	Do.	Triton	Neilson.
— 10	Shields	Hong Kong	Meggy Leslie.....	
— 6	Royan	Singapore	Prophete	Mouy.
— 14	London	Do.	Benvenue	Keay.
— 14	Do.	Shanghai	Vigil	Thompson.
— 15	Do.	Singapore	Alice Mary.....	Tosh.
— 14	New York	Hong Kong	Ina	Witting.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Nagasaki: Alice. For Nagasaki and Kanagawa: Mountain Ash. For Shanghai: City of Quebec, Assyrian, Yaratilda. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Far East (str.) For Hong Kong and Canton: Corea. For Hong Kong, Canton, and Foo-chow-Foo: Philomela. For Manila: San Luis, Conchita. For Singapore: Dewa Gungadhur, James Paton. For Penang: Sunium. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Copernicus.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Narari, Caractacus, Alice, Madagascar. For Hong Kong and Canton: Everest, Veronica. For Hong Kong: England. For Singapore: Euphrates, Invincible. For Manila: Jose y Maria, Olano. For Batavia and Singapore: Tigris.

At GLASGOW.—For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Three Bells. For Singapore and Penang: Dunnikier. For Batavia and Singapore: Falcon, Glenisla. For Shanghai: Wild Deer.

At GREENOCK.—For Shanghai: Taeping.

SPOKEN.

ELLEN RODGER, London to China, Dec. 10, 6 N., 24 W.
EMPEROR, of and from Sunderland, for Hong Kong, Dec. 26, 37 N., 13W.
NAOMI, Foo-chow-Foo to London, Nov. 24, 23 S., 58 E.
ELIZA STEWART, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Sept. 23, off Isle of Morty.
SIRIUS, Amsterdam to Samarang, Aug. 25, 26 N., 23 W.
Str. EMERALD (?), Amsterdam to Batavia, Sept. 9, 7 N., 20 W.
EARLY DAWN, Liverpool to Singapore, Sept. 9, 7 N., 20 W.
OLBIRUS (?), New York to Hong Kong, Sept. 11, 4 N., 17 W.
ANNA, Rotterdam to Batavia, Sept. 15, 2 N., 16 W.
OSBORNE HOUSE, Sunderland to Shanghai, 17, on the Equator.
BOMEVANTO (?), Liverpool to Shanghai, Oct. 5.
STORNOWAY, Liverpool to Shanghai, Aug. 17, 60 (?) N., 17 W.
FOPSMIT, Liverpool to Batavia, Dec. 8, 7 N., 25 W.
WILHELMINA (barque), Newcastle to Batavia, Nov. 14, 9 S., 34 W.
EASTERN STAR, Amsterdam to Singapore, Aug. 18, 34 S., 22 W.
3rd d.p., No. 906, London to Manila, Oct. 24, 38 S., 30 E.
ANNA MARIA WILHELMINA, Amsterdam to Japan, Oct. 21, 39 S., 30 E.
ÆGEAN, Cardiff to Shanghai, Oct. 14, 27 S., 25 W.
JANET MITCHELL, Foo-chow-Foo to London, Nov. 23, 24 S., 67 E.
HENCKENDORFF, Krasson for Japan, Nov. 11, 22 S., 99 E.
MARIA AGNES, Amsterdam to Padang, Oct. 30, 43 S., 51 E.
ELIZA THORNTON, London to Singapore, Oct. 24, 39 S., 36 E.
AUGUSTA, Cardiff to Manila, Aug. 12, 41 N., 12 W.
LOUISE (Dan. barq.), Hamburg to Singapore, Aug. 26, 21 N., 25 W.
SIR W. F. WILLIAMS, Shanghai to London, Nov. 10, 21 S., 84 E.
SVERIGE, Clyde to Singapore, Oct. 5, 38 S., 28 E.
MATHILDE (Brem. barq.) Hamburg to Singapore, Sept. 4., 16 N., 26 W.
GOV.-GEN. DUYMAER VAN TWIST, Bat. to Amst., 5 N., 29 S., 45 E.
EENSGEZINDHEID, Batavia to Amsterdam, Oct. 24.
SEA WAVE (barq.), Clyde to Singapore, Jan. 3, 42 N., 19 W.
JOAN MELCHIOR KEMPER, Amster. to Batavia, Nov. 30, 27 S., 28 W.
HELENA (Swed. barq.), Batavia to Falmouth, Dec. 26, 21 N., 36 W.
FRAU HELL (?), Rotterdam to Batavia, Nov. 30, 17 S., 34 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Medina, Cambridge, Broadwater, Ravensbourner, J. C. Munro, Esperanza. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, M. Theresa, William Eggerts. At NEW YORK: Sarah, via Shanghai, Maggie Atkinson.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Beatrice, Monarch, Naomi, Belle, Finzel, Mexican, Artemisia, Warwickshire, Hanover, Melrose, Grenadier, Humphrey Nelson, Palmerston, James Vinnicombe, Mirage, Osprey, Spirit of the Deep, J. H. Ransom, Hawthorne, Daisy, Spirit of Trade, Sophie, Philip I., Mimosa, Bosworth, Maiden Queen, Portland, Reindeer, Canadian, Edinburgh, India, Spray of the Ocean, Sir W. F. Williams, Sunbeam, Cambalu, Runnymede, Gananoque, Solent, Jubilee, Monita, Ocean Queen, Queen of the Ocean, Sovereign of India, Beautiful Star, Tamana, John Lidgett, Reindeer, Siam, Havelock, Ocean Bride, Edith, Queen of the Age, Gauntlet, Queen of Nations, Rock City, Clarendon, Jane Mitchell, Buckton Castle, Julia, Beemah, Langdale, Theodore and Julie, Alfred the Great, Wm. Melhuish, Fairlight, Ironside, Bellissimas, Laurel, Magnus. At LIVERPOOL: Alfred Kay, Joshua, Bates, Eliza Stewart, Iron Crown, Forfarshire, Our Queen, Sarah and Emma, Cordova, Palmyra, Alliance, Abdul Medjid, Regina, Ranee, Victoria, Star of the North, Allandale, Jane Leech, Lorton, Eleanor, Montgomery, Lady Elizabeth, Chalmers, Niphon, James Gibson, Spirit of the Sea, Macduff, Nile, Nielbreek. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama. At HAMBURG: Siwa, Selina Jane, Ophelia. At NEW YORK: Clara Babuyan, Vesta, Maria Lucie, Glenclune, White Eagle, Hainan, Anna, Sarah, Wilhelmina, Graf Eulenburg, Creole.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Pelicano, Minden, Flora, Der Preusse. At FALMOUTH: Agricola, Maggie Lauder. At LIVERPOOL: Alarac, Belvidere. At NEW YORK: Bavaria, Helvetia.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Avalanche, Maid of the Tyne, Andromeda, Halton Castle, Latona, Peter Symons, Oscar. At LIVERPOOL: Bogota, Thomas Mitchell, Louis Cezard, Oasis, Alfred Roy. At QUEENSTOWN: Agricola. At SHIELDS: Zes Gezusters (Dut.). At BORDEAUX: Chene (Fr.), Frehel (Fr.), Salazes (Fr.). At New York: Sclavonia, Moldavian, Caroline.

From BATAVIA.—At LONDON.: Java, William Simpson. At FALMOUTH: Frederika. At CHANNEL: Ceres, Helene, Richard.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: John Masterman, Daylight, Nipisiquit, Teesdale. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

There has been no change of importance in freights since our last issue. The different berths for the East are now moderately supplied with tonnage, but freights have not improved. Vessels are still in request for homeward freights.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 55s. weight, 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: 65s. To Hankow: 65s. weight, 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 42s. 6d. meast. To Shanghai: 50s. weight, 27s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 30s. to 35s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £36 and £2. For Shanghai: £45 and £47. 6d. to £50. For Manila: £1. 10s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £24 and £1. 6s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 20 tons light Government stores from the river Thames to Hong Kong.

The P. and O. Company have accepted tenders for the supply of 6,000 tons coal at Hong Kong, the shipments to extend over three months.

CASUALTIES.

The Voorwaarts, Kerkstra, from Batavia for Rotterdam, put into Mauritius Nov. 15 leaky in her upper works; had caulked topsides.

The Staatsraad van Ewyck de Winter, from Batavia for Amsterdam, was frozen up in the North Holland Canal on the 6th Jan.; also the Elizabeth Jacoba, Zwaneveld, from Amsterdam for Macassar.

Advices from Mauritius to Nov. 6th received at Boston, state that the ship Thomas W. Sears, of Boston Wilson master, from Padang for New York, which put into Mauritius Sept. 28, leaky, &c., had been condemned at that port.

The Carausius, Baird, from Hartlepool for Hong Kong, put into Falmouth 11th inst. with fore and main topsail yards carried away.

The Maid of the Tyne, from Singapore for London, put into St. Thomas's Dec. 25, very leaky, and wasdischarging.

The Therese, Denicke, from Hamburg for Singapore, which was discharging at Mandal on the 19th Dec., had broken masts and jibboom, and had sustained damage to rigging.

The East Anglian (str.) arrived at London on the 14th inst. from Scilly, bringing a cargo of damaged tea from the wreck of the Friar Tuck, from Foo-chow-Foo.

At MAURITIUS.—Nov. 23, from Penang, Chance; Dec. 4, from Sunderland for Shanghai, Wo-ke (str.).

At MADEIRA.—Dec. 25, H.M.'s Wasp, from Portsmouth, and left, 27, for China; 4, H.M.'s Pelorus, sailed for China.

NEW VESSELS FOR CHINA, &c.

Another vessel for the Singapore and Penang trade has been launched by Mr. Lawrie, named the Beaumaris Castle, of 1,200 tons.

At Maryport, from the shipbuilding-yard of Messrs. Robert Ritson and Co., a fine new ship of 700 tons register, called the William Ritson, built for Messrs. Fawcett, Johnston, and others, to be commanded by Captain John Brough, formerly of the Robert Ritson, and intended for the China trade.

From the yard of Mr. William Duthie, jun., Aberdeen, a fine clipper barque, of 342 tons O.M., named the Satzuma, by Mrs. George, sister of the owner. The vessel is the property of Charles T. Glover, Esq., of Aberdeen, and is intended for the Japan coasting trade, and will be commanded by Captain William Glover, brother of the owner.

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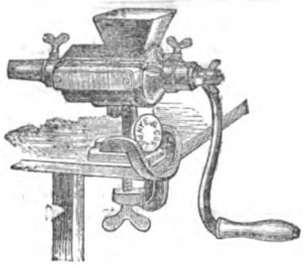

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"It is extremely clever."—*Times.*

A small MINCER or MASTICATOR, to assist digestion. Price £1. 10.
"Very suitable for invalids and for persons with decayed teeth."—*The Lancet*

IMPROVED MILLS for COFFEE, PEPPER, SPICE, MALT. &c., the best and most convenient made. Price 6s., 8s., 10s., 14s., 15s., and 20s.
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THE house of GELLE AINE and CO., celebrated for the superiority of its Perfumery, addresses itself to the fashionable world as much for its essentially hygeianic, refreshing, and tonic preparations as for its delicate and distingué perfumes.

STEAM WORKS AT NEUILLY SUR SEINE.

1st Class Paris Exhibition. Medal.

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REGENERATEUR, a superior pomade.
EAU D'ALBION for the toilet,
CARBOQUINA ROSE toothpowder.
CUCUMBER SOAP for softening the skin.
VIOLET ESSENCE and VIOLET WATER for the handkerchief.
CONCENTRATED EAU DE COLOGNE for the toilet.
LAIT PROPHYLATIC to remove freckles and improve the appearance of the skin.
COLD CREAM, AU LOTUS DE LYBIE, to soften and refresh the skin.
NIGRITINE VEGETALE, an incomparable dye for the hair and beard, not staining the skin.

SPECIAL PERFUMERY WITH A BASIS OF GLYCERINE.

SOAP, TOOTH-PASTE, POMMADE, CREAM FOR THE COMPLEXION, EAU DE TOILETTE.
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The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts, payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Kandy, Singapore, Galle, Penang, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Mauritius, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the overland route terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office, in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 2.

THE HONG KONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY.

AN ASSOCIATION, called the "HONG KONG and WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY," having purchased Messrs. J. C. Couper and Co.'s extensive DOCKS, with Engineer Factory and Foundry, at Whampoa, are prepared to execute all kinds of work with prompt despatch.

The Dock is built of Granite, and is 550 feet over all, with 520 feet on the blocks, and a breadth of 80 feet at the entrance. It can be used as either one or two Docks, being fitted with two Caissons. It is also furnished with Steam Pumps.

Depth of Water at Spring Tides, 16½ to 17 feet.
Do. Neap do. 13½ to 15 „

Attached to the Docks is a Pair of Shears, fitted with two capstans and three winches, and capable of lifting fifty tons, with a depth of water under the Shears, alongside the Jetty, enough for any vessels at all times of Tides.

The Engine-house on the Establishment contains Lathes of all sizes, and capable of taking any sized Shaft; one Self-acting Planing Machine, Screwing Machine, with Taps and Dies complete, Large and Small Drilling Machines, Punching and Cutting Machines, Rolling Machines, powerful Steam Hammer (3 tons), &c., &c.

Also, one Wood Dock, capable of taking a Vessel of 240 feet on the keel, on a Draft of 14 feet at Spring Tides, and 11 at Neap Tides. This Dock is also fitted with a Caisson, and is pumped out by steam.

The above are the only Docks in Whampoa fitted with Caissons.

There are also Two Mud Docks, one capable of taking in Vessels of 164 feet on the keel, with a Draft of 12 feet 6 inches at Spring Tides, and 9 feet 6 inches at Neap Tides. The other, Vessels of 120 feet 6 inches at Spring Tides, and 7 feet 6 inches at Neap do.

The Blacksmith's Shop contains 1 Large Boilermaker's Furnace and 12 Smiths' Forges, fitted with Steam Blowers.

The Iron Foundry contains a Furnace capable of melting 5 tons, and Brass Furnace for melting half a ton.

Attached to the premises is a Circular Sawmill driven by Steam, capable of cutting logs or planks of any length.

The whole under the Superintendence of experienced European Foremen.

All Tools and Materials connected with Machinery kept always on hand.

Copper and Yellow Metal Sheathing, Felt, Pitch, Tar, Oakum, Paints, Oils, &c., &c., supplied at market rates.

For Dock Charges, or further particulars, apply to Mr. D. LAFRAIK, Hong Kong; to G. N. MINTO, Manager, Whampoa; or to Messrs. JAMES MORRISON & Co., 1, Crown-court, Philpot-lane, London.

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ESTABLISHED IN INDIA, 1833. PAID-UP CAPITAL, £1,000,000 (One Million Sterling). SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, £2,000,000 (Two Millions Sterling), in 20,000 Shares of £100 each. RESERVE FUND, £192,658 17s. 8d.

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Current Accounts of firms and individuals are kept at the Head Office, on the terms customary with London Bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received at ten days' notice of withdrawal, at rates fluctuating with those of the Bank of England; and for longer periods at fixed rates, particulars of which may be obtained upon application.

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Letters of Credit and Circular Notes issued, payable at the chief cities of Europe and Asia, and also at Cairo an Alexandria.

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AUCTIONEERS, SHIP CHANDLERS, AND COMMISSION AGENTS,
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IS unequalled for its delicious flavourund a stimulating qualities.

In Bottles, 3s. 6d., 2s. 3d., and 1s. 6d. each.

Curry and Mulligatawny Paste, jars, 3s. 6d. and 2s. 3d. each.

Royal Combination Pickle, bottles, 2s. each.

N.B.—This pickle is highly approved, and as a zest for cold meat, &c., will be found unrivalled.

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	Bottles.
Pindaree Chutnee	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Bengal Club, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s
Green Mango, do.	1s 6d. and 3s
Cashmere, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s
Lucknow (sweet), do.	1s. 6d. and 3s
Curry Sauce	1s. 6d.
Tap, do.	1s. 6d.
Pickled Limes	1s. 6d.
Pickled Mangoes	2s. 6d and 5s.
Essence of Chillies	1s. 9d.
Tamarind Fish	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Balachow	1s. 6d.
Genuine Cayenne	1s. and 2s.
Nepaul Pepper	1s. and 2s.
Guava Jelly	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Preserved Mangoes	2s. and 3s. 6d
Do. Jamaica Ginger	from 3s. 6d.
Do. Chinese Ginger	jars, 5s. and 10s
Genuine Arrowroot, 1 lb. tins, 2s.; 7 lb. tins, 10s. 6d each.	

PAYNE and CO.

FOREIGN WAREHOUSEMEN, WINE MERCHANTS, AND IMPORTERS OF INDIAN DELICACIES.
328, REGENT-STREET, & 46, MORTIMER-STREET, W
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The Bank receives deposits at ten days' notice of withdrawal, on which interest is allowed at 1 per cent. below the Bank of England minimum rate of discount, rising and falling therewith, but not exceeding 5 per cent. The rates of interest allowed on deposits for fixed periods vary according to amount and the length of time for which they are made.

By special agreement quarterly or half-yearly payment of interest is allowed on deposits for six, nine, or twelve months.

The Bank issues drafts on its branches in India and China, and circular notes and letters of credit, payable throughout Europe, for the convenience of travellers per Overland route.

The Bank purchases approved bills on India and China, and also receives the same for collection on private account.

The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and receives the same for safe custody.

The Bank realises interest, pay, dividends, pensions, or other moneys for remittance through the Bank or otherwise. On remittances through the Bank no commission will be charged.

The Bank effects the registry of Indian Government loan notes, so that the interest may be paid in England.

The Bank grants credits in favour of parties abroad. Applications for such credits must be sent in at least three days before despatch of the mails, otherwise they will be deferred until the following mail.

Applications for drafts, bills for collection, and all matters involving correspondence by the mail, must be sent in one clear day before its despatch.

Every other description of Indian banking and money agency business conducted, and the utmost possible facilities given to parties in their transactions with India, China, &c.

Forms and powers of attorney furnished at this office.

Office hours, 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.; Saturdays, from 10 to 2.

JOSEPH PYKE,
Chronometer, Watch, and Clock Maker
Diamond Merchant, Jeweller, &c.,
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MINIATURE WAR MEDALS, complete, with Ribbons and Buckles, from 10s. 6d.
Regulation Ribbon of every description.

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All of the Newest Designs and best quality.

Ladies' Gold Geneva Watches	...	...	6 to 12 gs.
Gentlemen's do.	do.	...	8 to 14 „
Ditto Silver	do.	...	3 to 6 „
Gold English Lever	do.	...	12 to 25 „
Silver do.	do.	do.	5 to 14 „
Gold Chains	...	...	8 to 20 „

These Watches have a world-wide reputation for their accuracy, and cannot be purchased anywhere at these prices.

Two years' warranty given with each watch.

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Present prices, 7s. 3d. per dozen quarts, and 4s. 9d. per dozen pints. Free on board, protected by his own and the Brewer's Labels and Patent Capsule.

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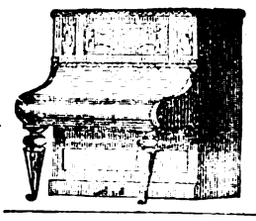

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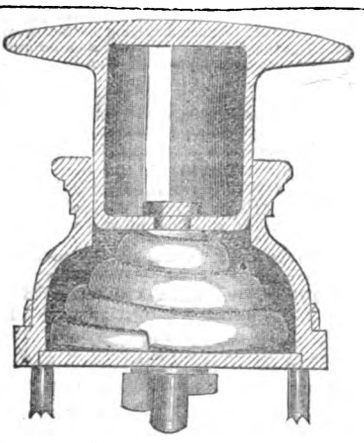

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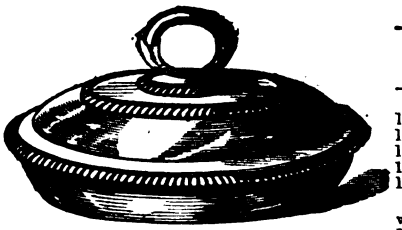

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Penang	Suniuni ...	W.I.D.	With des.
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Manila	Conchita ...	W.I.D.	With des.
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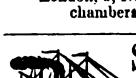

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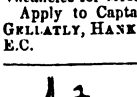

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 126.] LONDON, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 27, 1864. [Sub. 30s. per ann., and 12s. to Supplement. Single copy of either 9d.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Kanagawa			Dec. 1
	Nagasaki			„ 1
	Hakodadi			
CHINA—				
	Peking			Nov. 25
	Tien-tsin			„ 28
	Hankow			Dec. 3
	Shanghai	Oct. 10	Dec. 2	„ 8
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 9
	Amoy			„ 10
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	Oct. 26	Dec. 13	„ 15
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	Sept. 26	Nov. 22	Nov. 23
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Touron			
	Saigon			Dec. 8
SIAM—				
	Bankok			
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			
	Sarawak			„ 9
JAVA—				
	Batavia			„ 16
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	Nov. 17	Dec. 21	„ 22
	Penang	„ 10	„ 13	„ 24

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per Vectis, arrived 25th January.—From Shanghai: Mr. Goodall. From Hong Kong: Mr. O. Sullivan, Mr. B. Franz, Mrs. Matheson, infant, and European female servant, Mr. E. Clapp.

To Southampton, per Pera, expected to arrive 30th Jan.—From Shanghai: Mrs. Fish, Mr. C. D. Weeks. From Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Still, three children, andtwo servants. From Singapore: Mr. R. Bramwell.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

By last Mail.—Per Ripon, Jan. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Harton, Mrs. C. L. Grant, Mr. J. A. Wilson, Mr. Dixon, five second-class passengers, and two children.—To Shanghai: Mr. Gilmour, Thomas Pinder, F. Cox.—To Singapore: Mr. Robert Campbell, and three second-class passengers.—To Calcutta: Mr. Daniell, Lieut. P. B. Hodgson, Mrs. Cuming, Miss Horrox, Messrs. Baldwin, H. Seager, T. F. Wakley, P. Woodcock, Back, Eyre, O'Dowd, Knowles, and R. B. Smyth, Misses Gill and Cockburn, Mr. A. Thorndike, and twelve second-class passengers.—To Madras: Mr. A. McKenzie, Miss Bere, and four second-class passengers.—To Alexandria: Capt. Godfrey, and three second-class passengers.

From Marseilles, per Massilia, to leave Jan. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Houston, Mr. E. Figgess, Mr. Hadden.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. Palmer, jun., Mr. Arthur C. Oliphant, Mr. and Mrs. Rowley Miller, Mr. Barber, Mr. E. Elias, Mr. E. Fuchs.—To Singapore: Capt. W. Mansfield, Mr. J. S. Dick, Mr. P. Robinson.—To Calcutta: Messrs. R. V. Cockerell, Schiller, Ennis, Fisher, Dignam, R. Heenan, Marshall, D. G. Nicolson, and Livermore, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Boisragon, Lieut. H. H. Taylor.—To Madras: Mr. and Mrs. Puckle. —From Gibraltar.—To Hong Kong: Don Domingo A. Y. Urquido. From Alexandria. —To Shanghai: Mr. H. Blandford. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Jas. Whittall and man servant.

Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, Feb. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Staff Commander J. F. Loney, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. Hasland and two children.—To Shanghai: Mr. H. P. Buckley, Mr. W. K. Hughes. From Marseilles, Feb. 12.—To Penang: Mr. and Mrs. Friedrichs.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Borradaile, Mr. and Mrs. Odell, Mr. A. Smith.—To Shanghai: Mr. W. D. Gerard, Mr. Dudgeon.—To Singapore: Capt. P. P. Stafford.

Per P. and O. steamer, Feb. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. H. Kilby, Miss Phillips, Mr. G. E. Stokes.—To Shanghai: Mr. R. Nichol.—From Marseilles, Feb. 28.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. E. H. How, A. J. How, and Fearon, Mr. B. A. Clarke.—To Shanghai: Mr. L. S. Dunlop.

ADDITIONAL PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

By last mail from Marseilles, 28th Jan.—To Hong Kong: Mr. O. Durr.

Per P. and O. steamer, 4th Feb., from Southampton.—To Shanghai: Mr. Alabaster. To Hong Kong: Messrs. H. Collier, R.N., H. Brown, R.N., G. Alexander, R.N. J. Hancock, R.N., W. McNeil, R.N. and J. O. Wilson R.N. From Marseilles, 12th Feb.—To Hong Kong: Mr. A. Smith. To Singapore: Mrs. Kirby.

Per P. and O. steamer, 20th Feb., from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. H. Buich, R.N., A. Pritchard, R.N., J. Butchart, R.N., J. Galbaith, R.N., D. Crichton, R.N., and J. Torkington, R.N., Mr. L. Simmons. To Shanghai: Rev. W. J. Smith.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

KANAGAWA.

Our advices by the mail just arrived completely confirm the opinions we have expressed in late numbers of the *London and China Telegraph* as to the course of policy resolutely purposed by Satsuma and the party of Daimios of which he appears to be the head. That this policy is, as we ventured to predict, of a kind favourable to progress and commerce, seems to have been at length openly and boldly proclaimed. The *Japan Herald* of the 21st November has the following:—

"We hear from a generally well-informed source the following very important intelligence. We have another reason to believe it to be correct, but do not give it as a fact without further confirmation. A cabal, it is said, has been formed by the following great Daimios at Kioto, having for its purpose to move the Emperor (Mikado) to the pursuit of a more liberal line of policy. These are the names and ranks of those mentioned (for the behoof of our distant readers, we repeat that the value of the koku of rice may be estimated at three-fourths of a pound sterling):—SHIMADZOO Sasshiu *Satsuma!* no Kami, with his 710,000 kokus; HOSSOKAWA "Higo" Etszin no Kami, a Kokoshioo, with his 540,000 kokus. KOORODA Tchikshni Matzdaira Mino no Kami, a Kokoshioo, with 520,000 kokus; NABASHIMA (Hishin) Matzdaira Hisen no Kami, a great Kokoshioo, whose income is 357,000 kokus. ETZIZEN (Tisingo sama), a Kammong, with 320,000 kokus."

Up to the 28th November nothing further had been heard from Satsuma in reference to the matters on which his Envoys held the conference with Colonel Neale. There is no reason for alarm, or even for disappointment, in this. The final conclusion of arrangements could scarcely have been arrived at in so brief a space. As our Yokohama contemporary justly observes "These are not days of railways or electric telegraphs in Japan." The indemnity was to have been paid on the 19th November; but we have reason to believe that the British Minister consented to allow a short further time for the fulfilment of that part of the agreement.

We hear something more of a supposed wish on the part of the Japanese Government to close the port of Kanagawa to foreign trade; but the *Japan Commercial News*, which is singularly persistent in its endeavours to keep up distrust and anxiety in the Foreign Settlement, admits that the natives themselves consider "the Government makes this extraordinary proposition merely for the purpose of going through the form of a programme drawn up for them by the Mikado."

In pursuance of this plan of action, the Gorogio had endeavoured to get an opportunity of making to the French Minister a communication of the same purport to that noticed in the *London and China Telegraph* of the 9th inst. as having been made to the Ministers of Holland and America. Those officials had prepared the representatives of England and France for what was likely to occur. On the Gorogio, therefore, intimating a desire to have a conference with the French Minister, his Excellency, being unwell, desired to know the subjects upon which the Japanese Vice Minister wished to confer with him, and sent an officer to make the necessary inquiry of the Governor. The Governor declined to tell; and the result

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has been that the Vice-Minister has failed to obtain the desired conference. It has transpired, however, that what he had to say was exactly of a piece with the communications made to the American and Dutch Ministers relative to the determination of the Government to close the port. Subsequently a despatch from the Gorogio, embodying what he had to say upon the subject, was sent, we hear, to the French Minister.

A change in the Governorship of Kanagawa is reported. The former Governor Kiogokon-Note-no-Kami (chief Ometski to the embassy to Europe) has been transferred to the Governorship of Nagasaki, and Hori-Kounay appointed in his stead. Hori Kounay is the son of Hori Oriba-no-Kami, who was Governor of Yokohama at the time the Prussian frigate *Arcona* was here, and who committed "hari keri" in consequence of a quarrel with his superior Ando-Tsusima-no-Kami, arising out of the question of a Treaty with Prussia. The father was generally supposed to be opposed to closer relations with foreigners.

The rebellion of the Prince of Tsiosiu has given the Government a good deal of trouble. The three Daimios first sent to suppress it, found themselves unequal to the task, and seven others were despatched to their aid. Their united force was greatly superior to that of the rebel or Ronin army, which y the last accounts was surrounded in a valley of the Yamatho district, and would be obliged to surrender, or be starved to death.

Our readers will have been prepared, from the letters of our Amsterdam correspondent, to learn that the Dutch naval force in the Eastern seas was receiving reinforcements. A 16-gun frigate has already arrived at Japan. Immediately on the arrival at Batavia of the despatches from his Netherlands Majesty's Consul-General, communicating the intelligence of the attack on the *Medusa* at Simonoseki, the Dutch Admiral on the station was at first determined to send immediately a squadron of men-of-war from six to eight in number, then at his disposal, to inflict immediate and signal retribution for the insult. It was, however, determined to await further advices from Holland. Meanwhile the *Djambi*, 16, frigate, called at Nagasaki on the 17th November, and reached Yokohama on the 24th.

The intelligence received in London, *via* San Francisco and New York on the 18th inst., of the payment of the indemnity for the attack on the *Pembroke*, an American vessel, in the Inland Sea, in June last, is confirmed by our present advices. The amount, $10,000, was proffered quite unexpectedly to the American Minister, and, if accepted, is to be paid to Messrs. Russell and Co. This sum, however, has nothing to do with the settlement for the attack on the *Wyoming* in the same locality. General Pruyn is said to have referred the latter affair to his Government, and will await their instructions before he demands special reparation for that offence. As the *Commercial News* remarks: "The *Pembroke* was not materially injured in the course of Tsiosiu's attack upon her at Simonoseki, and therefore the penalty inflicted upon the Tycoon's Government, and now agreed to be paid by them, for even an attempt to injure an American vessel in Japanese waters must have a very salutary effect upon the conduct of the Daimios, and upon the Government also."

The same import of news from San Francisco asserted that a military expedition was being organised at Hong Kong, under General Sir John Michell, for immediate employment in Japan; that Kanagawa was guarded by Europeans; that the Tycoon was at war with the Daimios, &c., &c. We need scarcely say that of the above there is not one particle true, except so far as the suppression of Tsiosiu's rebellion can be construed into the Tycoon's being at war.

We admit, with pleasure, that the Japanese have recently witnessed an imposing display of British force, as much, no doubt, to their own intense gratification as to the delight of "jolly Jack and Joe the Marine." The *Japan Herald* states: —"On Tuesday (Nov. 24) the settlement was actually enlivened (so dull as it has been of late) by the landing of detachments from several of the British men-of-war in harbour for walking exercise. About 1,150, including 150 Marines, were formed in marching order under command of Captain Alexander, on the Bund, and, accompanied by the enlivening strains of the *Euryalus*' band, marched out some four miles from Yokohama, on the Kanagawa road, going some distance along the Tokaido. Many of the residents availed themselves of the inducement to a ride, and accompanied them, regarding with pleasure the evident enjoyment with which our brave tars entered upon the 'run out.' The Japanese, too, appeared to think it quite a spectacle, and lined the roads in great numbers, making their shrewd and intelligent observations upon the good order and briskness of the promenaders. The re-embarkation was well worth the inspection, and knowing that the same brave fellows would maintain a like excellent order were they landing before an enemy's hottest fire of ball or grape, none could witness it without a renewed feeling not only of pride in them, but in confidence for themselves."

An "Army and Navy Club" has been formed at Yokohama, which, though so lately established, has, under the guidance of the indefatigable Hon. Secretary, Lieutenant Smith, proved to be of the greatest convenience to the many officers attached to to the fleet in harbour, and to the residents who have been admitted to membership. New and more commodious premises than those previously occupied are found to be required, and have been secured.

The withdrawal by the Government of the restrictions on the trade of the native merchants has produced the good effects that were expected from it. "From the 1st to the 17th Nov (reports the *Commercial News*) 1,430 bales of silk had been brought into Yokohama for sale; and at the rate of supply during the last few days, we anticipate that our returns for the remainder of this month will show a very decided improvement. The improvement in the supply has yet had no effect in moderating the late high quotations, which, however, may be said to be in the buyers' favour. The supply of tea also has been large during the week, and some really *fine* tea—a thing extremely rare in this market for a considerable time past—has been offering, but at rates far too high to induce much business. Prices have ranged as high as $32 a picul. Our anticipations in raw cotton have been realised; the high prices have induced large supplies, and a considerable business has been done in this article. The high prices obtained here lately for raw cotton have, doubtless, contributed in some degree to bring about the advance in the prices of piece goods, in which —especially in cotton and woollen imports—a fair average business has been done. We are surprised to find metals still so neglected as they are."

EXPORTS.

Per *Dolphin*, for London, despatched by Aspinall, Corns, and Co.—368 bales silk, 6,103 packages tea, 215 bales cotton, 52 bales flax, 186 boxes wax, and 26 packages sundries.

Per *Scawfell*, for London, despatched by S. J. Gower.—181 bales silk, 112 bales flax, 1,312 chests and 677 half-chests tea, 751 bales cotton, 232 bales tobacco, 568 slabs tin, and 15 cases sundries.

NAGASAKI.

The circular of Messrs. W. J. Alt and Co., of the 1st of December, furnishes still further corroboration of the justness of the views we have expressed in reference to the character and tendencies of Satsuma. It states:—

"Our last report was dated the 1st of November, since then no political change has occurred; the greatest tranquillity prevails in the neighbourhood, and business is again reviving. It is rumoured among the native circles that the Prince of Satsuma is ready and willing to pay the original money indemnity demanded of him, being anxious to cultivate friendly relations with foreigners, and extend his trade with the open ports. These reports are to some extent confirmed by the fact of his agents having been both buying and selling to a considerable amount of late, and it therefore depends on what measure our own Government may direct whether the present improvement will be permanent or not."

CHINA.

PEKING.

DISMISSAL OF MR. LAY.

Despatch from the Foreign Board to the Ministers of England, Russia, and United States.

The Prince of Kung has to inform the foreign Ministers that Mr. Lay, the Inspector-General of Customs, having been commanded to conduct the purchase of steam vessels, has failed to act in conformity with his instructions, and has thus entailed the waste of the pecuniary resources of the Chinese Government. He has further to remark, that any person whom the Chinese Government may employ must be capable of so conducting business on behalf of this Government as to ensure its advantage in every way, if he is to be invested with authority for the administration of affairs. Now in the case of Mr. Lay, he has been in the receipt of a salary from the Chinese Government to the amount of upwards of 10,000 taels per annum,

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nd has been treated with constant liberality. Yet having been ommanded to arrange the affair of the steamers, he has failed to do so properly and satisfactorily, and he has uselessly wasted the revenues of the State.

Were he a Chinese subject he would undoubtedly be amenable to punishment; but inasmuch as he is a subject of your honourable nation * Great Britain * what is right is that he should be directed

to return to {your honourable * / his own *}

country, and as regards the Chinese Government, it is inexpedient that they should longer employ him. With respect to pending matters of business in which Mr. Lay is concerned, together with all monies and accounts, he has been called upon to send up everything within a period of four months and to hand over charge to his successor. During this period of four months the Chinese Government, in manifestation of their benevolent intentions, will still continue his salary at its former state. The Prince has further to add that he has appointed Mr. Hart to the post of Inspector-General of Customs; and he communicates herewith a copy of the despatches addressed to Mr. Lay and to Mr. Hart conveying his appointment.

In addition thereto the Prince has further to communicate with your Excellency, and to request that instructions to this effect may further be despatched to the consuls of all the ports. A necessary despatch.

N.B.—In the despatch to the English Minister, the following is added after the words "former rate:"—

"If Mr. Lay fails to hand over all matters of business, monies, and accounts within the period of four months assigned to him for this purpose, the Prince will further communicate and request your Excellency to take the necessary steps to enforce this settlement."

Our advices from Peking reach to the 23rd November. The weather was intensely cold, and game very plentiful. It is expected that the tomb ordered by the present Emperor, to be erected to the memory of Hsien-fêng, will be completed early next year, at the estimated cost of four million taels.

SHANGHAI.

THE TAKING OF SOO-CHOW.

The *Shanghai Recorder* gives the following account:—This city has at last fallen into Gordon's hands. The course of events which led to the fall of the city may be thus briefly related:—

Under date of 22nd November, we learned that Macartney had had a very narrow escape from being captured by the rebels. He started from Pa-ta-chiao, on a reconnoitring expedition in the country between Wu-lung-chiao and the Shimen. His boat was seen from a rebel camp, and a body of horsemen immediately started in pursuit. The boatmen, of course, instantly gave in, and nothing remained but to try a race on dry land. After a hard run of about two miles, Macartney with his orderly, who alone accompanied him, reached Wu-lung-chiao, but the rebels had become too much excited to pull up, and seemed surprised when the tables were turned upon them, and they were forced to become fugitives. Another race now commenced. The rebels got back safely to the spot at which Macartney's boat had been left, but while endeavouring to take it away, some few of them were killed. The affair, such as it was, counted for little on either side. If, however, any advantage was gained, it was on the part of the Imperialists.

Meanwhile Major Gordon had left his position at Wanti, with a large force of Infantry and Artillery and the *Tsatlee* steamer (commanded by Captain Jones), and had advanced towards the south-west for a distance of six or seven miles. He sighted the grand canal at a place called Fu-tzu-kuan, distant six miles from the west gate of the city. The rebels had thrown two dams across the creek so as to prevent entrance into the canal, but these were easily removed. They had recently entrenched themselves in a series of eleven or twelve stockades extending in a line a little way out from the bank of the canal, on the west side. The field trains, one 32-pounder one-eight inch, the steamer's gun, and the gun-boats, opened fire on two of the stockades—while the infantry, drawn up on the east bank of the canal, were being passed over in boats. The rebels after a few rounds gave way in two of the stockades, which were at once entered by a few men of the 4th Regiment and the French corps. The rebels still occupied the stockades up the creek towards Wowsi, and down towards Soochow, but a move of the troops in those directions soon dispersed them, while the *Tsatlee* pursued them towards the city. They evacuated position after position, until the steamer reached the suburbs outside the west gate. The Imperialist casualties were two wounded, and the rebel loss was likewise very trifling. This victory completed the line round Soochow in the occupation of the Imperialists. The positions held were as follows. On the south-west, Wulung-chaio; on the south-east, Ta-ta-chiao; on the north, Lu-kow and Wanti; on the north-west, Fu-tzu-kuan. There still remained a small creek leading into the Taiko, but this was threatened by Imperial gun-boats, to be assisted by steamers if necessary.

To follow up this victory, a force, consisting of the 3rd and 4th regiments, under the command of Major Kirkham, advanced on the evening of the 27th ult. to take four stockades and a breastwork in front of Ching's position, and close to the north-east gate of the city. The rebels had been in the habit of leaving these stockades at night, trusting to their position under the guns on the walls. On this occasion, however, the stockades, instead of being deserted, had been strengthened by a large reinforcement of men from the city. When, therefore, the disciplined troops advanced, expecting to have merely to march into and occupy the position, the enemy opened a most destructive fire and drove back the assailants, killing and wounding a large number. We regret to have to announce that Major Kirkham lies dangerously wounded, having been struck in the head by a bullet. Major Brook has taken his place temporarily. The casualties on the Imperial side were as follow:—Killed: Captains Wylie, Christie, and Hodson, Lieutenant King. Private Upshot of the bodyguard, and forty Chinese. Wounded: Four officers and sixty men.

This reverse was however retrieved on the following day by Major Gordon in person. That officer renewed the attack with his whole disposable force, excepting the 1st Regiment. On this occasion almost the whole of the artillery was brought to bear on the stockade immediately commanding the breastwork, before the attack was made, and the defences reduced to ruins. About 1,800 men were then thrown across an intervening creek, and after a sharp struggle, the breastwork was carried; the rebels retiring as before into their stockades. From these they kept up a heavy fire. They were quickly followed by the whole attacking force, and driven out of the first and second stockades, though not till they had offered a gallant resistance. The remaining two stockades were evacuated by them, and the whole open country in front of the east gate was thus cleared. Thirteen officers were wounded in the latter affair,—five amongst them dangerously—and 130 Chinese killed or wounded. Two twenty-four pounders and a number of smaller guns were captured from the rebels, who had evidently devoted all their energies to the defence of the position, which was within about 1,200 yards of the walls. Among the wounded were Col. Brennan and Major Tapp, both slightly.

The Chinese Mandarin steamer *Illawarra*, F. Torckler, master, which arrived at Chinhai on the evening of the 21st Nov., reports, that on the 20th, when off the Seshan Group, fell in with a large piratical junk, with about twenty Canton and fifteen Ningpo men on board. Went alongside for boarding, when from thirty to forty stink pots were thrown on board the steamer, which, as is generally the case, paralysed the Chinese portion of the steamer's crew. Steamer on this went full speed ahead. The pirates, who were close to an island, managed to get on shore. On this the steamer anchored, and lowered boats, intending to land, and attack them on the island. Captain Torckler and Sankee, one of the owners in command of the boats, seeing the junk with the Ningpo men still on board (who turned out to be prisoners) pull up sails and steer for the boats, waited and took her alongside steamer; having so done again prepared to land. The Seshan's are very steep with no good place for landing; steep rocks line the shore; on the heights above, fortifications are erected for the use of pirates in such an emergency as this. From these places muskets were directed on the *Illawarra's* crew, as they approached the shore, and when within five yards of the landing place, Sankee, who was sitting next to the captain, in the stern of the boat, received his death wound. Captain Torckler on this decided to return and get the steamer again under weigh (having only succeeded in killing two of the Cantonese). As the only plan by which they could have succeeded was to attack in the front and rear at the same time, and not having sufficient force so to do, proceeded to Chinhai for reinforce-

* According as the despatch is addressed to Sir R. Alcock or the other Ministers.

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ments, which being taken in, started again for the island on which they had left the pirates. On landing there they found only two dead bodies, with no clue as to what had become of the other pirates. The supposition is that finding they were alone, without food, or any means of obtaining it, they drowned themselves. Finding it useless to stay there any longer, got under weigh, proceeded to Chapoo, and anchored 1,000 yards from the shore, it being then low water. Commenced firing on the piratical junks anchored under the forts (about eight in number). The pirates there use their guns well, and must have had long 18 and 24-pounders, as nearly all the shots fell over or within a few yards of the steamer. After doing all the damage possible, weighed anchor, and returned to Chinhai.

Another *crim. con.* case came before the Court. The facts, as elicited on the trial, are briefly these :—A Mrs. Cheshire, who has been living for some time in Shanghai, accused Mr. Campbell, one of the Custom House assistants, of having inveigled her up to his bedroom, and having there made an indecent assault upon her. It appears by her statement, that on the evening of November 9th, Campbell called for her by appointment at a quarter past seven, and, at half past, went out with her for a walk. On the other hand, Campbell endeavoured to prove that at half past seven that evening he was in the Custom House mess-room, and that it was not until after that time he started for Mrs. Cheshire's lodgings. These statements he established by the testimony of two other Custom House assistants, who on that night dined at the mess. Mrs. Cheshire further asserted that the walk proposed by Campbell took them in the direction of the Custom House quarters, and that when they arrived there, he asked her in, and having taken her up to his bedroom, committed the offence with which he was charged. Campbell acknowledged having conducted her to the door of the house, but made no statement whatever as to whether he took her upstairs. He rested his case on the fact that during the time at which Mrs. Cheshire asserted the offence was committed, he could not have been within the walls of the Custom House quarters. Some ew things conspired to throw discredit on Mrs. Cheshire's tale—such as the fact that, although the assault was said to have been committed on a Monday evening, she did not mention it to her husband until the following Saturday. The reason she gave for so extraordinary a course of conduct is frivolous enough to create a smile :—"I allowed five days to elapse before I to d my husband, because I wished him to enjoy himself at the races. There was some little race to take place on Saturday, but h did not go, and I told him on that day."

However the sympathies of the settlement went, and however universally it was acknowedged that the crime of which Campbell stood charged should be carefully guarded against, there was absolutely nothing in the evidence to convict him. The court therefore took the foreign residents by surprise by bringing Campbell in guilty, and sentencing him to a fine of $1,000, or three months' imprisonment. This sentence was referred to Mr. Markham, H.B.M.'s Consul, for revision, and has been reversed by him. The feeling of the large majority of foreigners in Shanghai was that Campbell had been hardly dealt with, but the swearing on both sides was so positive that a decision in favour of either wats necessarily tantamount to a charge of perjury against the witnesses on the other.

Mr. Cheshire then addressed a letter to the papers, which we append with the remarks of the *Friend of China* :—

(To the Editor of the *Friend of China.*)

SIR,—May I request that you will insert the following copy of a letter which I have felt bound, in justice to myself, to send to the Editor of the *Daily Shipping and Commercial News*, as, after the very unfair treatment I have received in their columns, I have asked the same favor of the Editor of the *Recorder*, and trust you will both kindly do me justice :—

(To the Editor of the *Daily Shipping and Commercial News.*)

CHESHIRE *v.* CAMPBELL.

SIR,—After your very unfair and partial report in this case (all the evidence that told with the Vice Consul and Assessors having been as much as possible suppressed, and your leader in the *North China Herald* prejudging the case), an action to which the editor of the most common-place journals in England would not condescend, after seeing your reporter "hail fellow well met" with Mr. Campbell's and his honourable witness, I was fully prepared for your comments "on Mr. Markham's reversal (so called) of the verdict." I hope, for Mr. Campbell's sake, that every one in Shanghai will accept the verdict of "not proven" as equivalent to "not guilty," regardless of the opinion of Mr. Lay and the three impartial gentlemen who listened to the case throughout with the greatest possible attention, and therefore must be the best judges.

When, however, I see public opinion so perverts public inquiry as to admit a man's innocence, and, of course, his re-admission into ladies' society in consequence of a verdict of "Not Proven" ina case, stated by Mr. Lawrence (Mr. Campbell's own counsel), to be "the most difficult to prove," I shall, indeed, believe it true, what I have often heard since I have been here, that morality is not at a very high standard in this country. It is well known that in Scotland such a verdict is only one degree removed from "Guilty," and is about equivalent to the Irish one of "Not Guilty," only don't do it again. I have not the least hesitation in saying that had Mr. Markham *seen* and *heard* the witnesses in the witness-box, he would have approved of the verdict given by Mr. Lay and the three assessors.

I trust that in justice to myself, you will insert this letter in your journal of to-morrow.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM CHESHIRE.

We should have waited to see if the *Shipping News* did contain the above letter, before publishing it for Mr. Cheshire in our columns, but that the closing of the mail to-night makes it necessary for an exhibition of the strictest impartiality in the press in this quarter.

Hitherto, we have abstained from any remarks on the matter; —and what we have to say now is embraced in a few words :—

1st.—In a case involving a thousand dollar fine it was presumptuous, and in contempt of the law, for a Vice Consul to adjudicate.

2nd.—The Consul's reversal of his sub-ordinate's judgment is as improper as the decree annulled ; for we agree so with Mr. Cheshire, that, unless a judge sees the style of deponing in such a case, he is hardly able to decide rightly.

3rd.—This is the first appearance of Mister Cheshire in the matter, and we take the opportunity of his addressing us to say, that, in allowing his wife to take such a case into Court, he has proved himself—in crudest Anglo-Saxon—

AN UNMITIGATED ——— !

At last the man who has kept North China, from January to December (both months inclusive), in a state of ferment and anxiety—we mean General Burgevine—has gone from our gaze. He left for Yokohama, in the P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamship *Aden*, accompanied by his faithful henchman William, and Mr. Benson—ex-Quarter Master General of his old Imperial levies.

The *North China Herald*, of the 28th of November, says : —"It is stated that the rebels have succeeded in obtaining another man-of-war steamer, and that they have likewise captured two silk boats. The latter, along with the *Firefly*, are in the neighbourhood of Sauzali. The *Feilloony* left this river for Pa-ta-chiao on the 19th, with a quantity of ammunition, and about fifteen hundred dollars for the payment of Macartney's troops.

We are very glad to see the following letter from Mr. Webb, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce. It is too often the case in China that addresses are presented to persons who have by no means been agreeable to the interests of merchants :—

(To the Editor of the *Daily Shipping and Commercial News.*)

SIR,—In noticing the fact of Mr. Lay, Inspector General of Foreign Customs in China, being about to leave that post, you say that "you believe that his resignation will be regreted by the great body of mercantile men in China."

As a merchant myself, and knowing pretty well the opinion of my fellow-merchants, I venture to dissent from that opinion, and to say that Mr. Lay's *dismissal*, and the appointment of Mr. Hart in his place, will give great and universal satisfaction. The merchants in China are well pleased to see the duties well and even sternly collected, and not only do not object to, but approve of, foreigners being employed in such collection; but they have always protested, and with reason, against the arbitrary and uncontrolled actions of Customs officials, whether foreign or Chinese, and the unnecessary difficulties thrown in the way of business. Mr. Lay is thought to be (whether justly or not I do not wish to argue) utterly regardless of the interests and convenience of merchants, whereas Mr. Hart has won golden opinions, by giving every facility to trade consistent with a due regard to the Chinese revenue.

Now that Mr. Lay's connection with the customs is at an end, it is not worth while to enter into any other differences which exist between him and the foreign communities at the various open ports in China, for they are already too notorious; but I really cannot see why pœans should be sung in honour of one who, in various capacities, has done more harm to foreign interests in China than the lapse of many years will repair ; nor do I think that "the great body of mercantile men" will be content to be represented as sitting in sackcloth and ashes, and mourning his untimely departure. I am, sir, yours, EDWARD WEBB.

The English garrison has received a reinforcement of 150 men, volunteers from the 1st Belooch Regiment.

The American Government have appointed Mr. Seward, who has hitherto held the post of Consul at Shanghai, Consul-General for China. For the future, therefore, all communications with the minister will be addressed through the Shanghai Consulate.

On the 20th November, one of the largest meetings of Land Renters which has ever assembled in Shanghai, met at the

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British Consulate to consider several important propositions made by two of the principal Renters—Messrs. Smith and Hanbury. The annexation of Hong-ku to the English Settlement was determined upon. The resolution as passed was as follows: That whereas the Hong-ku district having been formally incorporated with the so-called English concession by the resolutions at the public meeting of 31st March, 1862, and 4th April, 1863, the Municipal Council be desired actively to proceed with the laying out of lines of road and other elementary improvements on that side, but that the expenses to be so incurred shall be regulated by the estimated income to be derived from that quarter.

"This meeting is furthermore of opinion that the large police force maintained there is necessitated by the presence of great numbers of that foreign seafaring class who cannot fairly be regarded as Hong-ku residents, but as generally appertaining to the port. Therefore the land renters on that side should not bear more than half of the heavy expense for police thus incurred."

On a question to that effect being asked by the chairman of the English Council, Mr. Seward announced that the land regulations hitherto in force in the English Settlement had been adopted by the Hong-ku Renters. The old question as to the right of the Chinese Government to tax their own subjects in those portions of their own territory known as Foreign settlements, was again brought up. The following resolution was proposed and seconded:—

"That whereas it is reported that the French Municipal Council deny the right of his Excellency the Taoutai to levy any taxes, dues, impositions, or squeezes in that portion of the settlement under their jurisdiction, and have refused to allow a certain tax of eight per cent. on rentals to be collected for the Chinese Government.

"This meeting is of opinion that the interests of landholders in other parts of the settlement will be seriously prejudiced by the adoption of a different line of policy; and whereas the said landholders have never yet consented to the levying of any such taxes, dues, impositions or squeezes on the part of the Chinese authorities as are now proposed, this meeting desires the Municipal Council to resist the collection of the same, until such time as one uniform system is agreed on for the whole European settlement, which system shall receive the approval of a future meeting before being acted on.

After a short discussion, however, the following amendment was carried:—

"It is inexpedient to raise a question as regards the past, but in respect to the future levy of the Chinese tax, the Council is requested to arrange that the collection of the tax shall be continued so long as present circumstances exist."

The Imperialists have lost another steamer, and forty men, though this time not by the accident of war, nor by treachery. The vessel so lost is the *Antelope*, formerly the property of Mr. Fernandes, of Macao. The following is the report brought to Shanghai by the *Szechuen*:—Nov. 30. The steamer *Shon-se* arrived at Kiukiang, having on board the body of chief engineer Groves, of Chinese steamer *Antelope*, who died at 10.30 P.M. the night previous. Also first assistant engineer Boyce, and two Chinese servants badly injured. They were taken on board the steemer *Sze-chuen*, and brought to Shanghai. Dec. 1st.—Left Kiukiang at 5 A.M., anchored in a fog, at 7 A.M. underweigh again. Met steamer *Fire Cracker* up at Little Orphan. At 9.40 A.M. stopped at Ngan-kin and Lai-toong, and at 7 P.M. anchored near the wreck of steamer *Antelope*, in Osborne Reach, above the crossing from two fathom channel. Took on board the wounded Chinese, and obtained the following particulars:—The *Antelope* got on shore about 9 A.M. of the 28th inst. On the 29th the vessel was nearly afloat, the heavy cargo having been discharged, and commenced to get steam on about 1 P.M. of same day to back off, after making a turn with the engine the port boiler blew up, tearing up the deck and carrying out the whole port side. There were on board at the time about 50 Chinese passengers and soldiers, 40 of whom are missing and killed. The two engineers were the only Europeans killed. The steamer is a complete wreck.

On the dismissal of Mr. Lay, &c., the *Friend of China* has the following:—We remember that in 1842, for instance, the year of the *Friend of China's* establishment in Hong Kong, we vaticinated anent the [illegible] of its birth, which James White, the then Editor "didn't"—as Punch has it—"seem to see," and with his pen—smiled! But time has shown that we were right, and that the now Member of Parliament was a little wrong. Occasionally, an editor talks to friends who call on him; and there are those in Shanghai who will not have forgotten our speaking thus:—"There is something suspicious "about that dismissal of Custom House Subs. Lay wants "to make it appear that even he himself is liable to instant "dismissal. The suspicious part of the business is this. Lay "has been accused of having said that the Chinese Government "gave him certain powers; when, in fact, he is *not* invested "with such powers. It's a bold game. If he wins the point, "we shall hear naught of the duplicity. If he loses—he'll be "kicked out ignominiously, and our Government dare not "defend him." Now to our story. By the *Gerard*, just in from Tientsin, we learn that the French, English and American Ministers were formally notified, a short time ago, that Mr. Lay had misunderstood both his position and his powers;—in a word—ignorantly, or with dishonest intentions—he had presumed to do what he ought not to have done. For these offences, punishable by Chinese law with the secret girdle—(*i. e.* coerced suicide,)—he was punished by dismissal, four months being allowed him to make up his accounts! The *Gerard* also brings advice of a letter having been written to Mr. Commissioner Hart, offering him the post from which Mr. Lay is thus contemptuously ejected;—with this condition, however, that he shall not make a call at Pekin until his presence is solicited. All glory to you, Prince Kung,—there's a kick in the old horse yet!

HANKOW.

A correspondent's letter from this place of 28th November, says:—"The *Fusi Yami* brought us the papers containing the 'Marquis of Argyle' business; and, singularly, we have something of the kind up here. A wretch, in the shape of a man, took advantage of his admission to a respectable house here in Hankow, to say what he ought not to say to the lady at the head of it; actually, one night, when he thought the husband was out, sneaking into the private apartments shoeless. But he reckoned in error. The husband was in another room, and hearing a noise of footsteps, dashed out, lamp in hand, and threw it at the fellow, giving him oil for dirty intentions. Desirous of keeping his wife's name from the public tongue—(I will not mention names, although, as it is to be a Consular business, it is but a question of time, and little odds) he was willing to remain silent; but the wretch I speak of, himself talked, and the consequence was that —— went and punched his head with a pistol, in the presence of two witnesses, who had then to perform the unpleasant task of separating the combatants."

At Hankow, the native authorities are talking about digging a defence creek at an expense of a quarter million of taels. It is proposed to dig it for a distance of six or seven miles, from a spot about a thousand yards below the British settlement, to the Han river. This would run behind the settlement and the Chinese city of Hankow. Hanyang would, however, be totally unprotected. The foreigners in Hankow put no faith in the proposal.

HONG KONG.

The Hong Kong papers are this mail (as of late) chiefly filled with extracts and comments on affairs in Japan and the north of China—the south, which they are supposed to represent, being next to nothing.

On the capture of Soochow, &c., the *China Mail* says:—

"Hang-Chow will, no doubt, soon fall, and, failing other means, the Imperialists will be able to starve the rebels out of Nanking. Between surrender and death, the Soochow army will, no doubt, cease to exist.

"Hang-Chow and Nanking cannot keep up communication; and, as the rebels have not now (as they had in 1860, when they burst through the besiegers of Nanking) any large army to help them from Kiangsee or anywhere else, they will soon be in a bad way. Full information has not yet reached us. At the date of our last advices Captain Murray and Mr. Mayers of the Consulate, who had both gone to the front, had not returned with detailed intelligence."

The *Iron Prince* steamer which reached here on the 8th instant, from the west coast, brought, as passengers, about 600 adult Chinese, and 200 children from Thaifu, a Hakka country 90 miles to the west of Macao. She reports the schooners *Beaver* and *Tientsin*, also the lorcha *Centaur*, as following her similarly laden. The occasion of this exodus was the termination of a contest which has been going on in that part of the province for many years, the combatants being Poontees on the one side, and Hakkas on the other. During the last twelve months the Hakka tribes have been the losing party, and being cut off from communication with their allies in Quangsi, the Poontees had no great difficulty in driving them from place to

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place, until, arrived at their *Ultime Thule*, the miserable remnant was "driven into the sea."

We gave in our last the estimate of cotton exported from China to 24th November. By the present mail we have to add the following vessels :—

			Piculs.
Istamboul ...	from Hong Kong	... ...	6,000.
Glen Huntly...	„ Shanghai...	... ...	4,000.
Light of the Age	„ Hong Kong	... ...	4,500.
Falcon	„ „	... ...	3,400.

The report on the price of this staple will be found under China exports.

The following items are from the *China Mail* :—

A meeting was held this day (Dec. 15) in the Club Chambers regarding the supply of ice—Mr. W. Ormiston (Chartered Mercantile Bank) in the chair—when a resolution was carried unanimously—"That the members of the present committee be requested to form a fresh association on the same footing as the former, give the supply of their cargoes of ice to succeed that expected in April, and that the list be sent round for subscribers' names."

At the west corner of the cricket-ground, on a spot where two roads diverge, preparations are in progress for the erection of a public drinking fountain where the meanest passer-by can stop, and help himself to a tinful of "sovoy." The fountain, in addition to being useful, is likely to be highly ornamental, and the site is most happily chosen. The structure will be the gift of Mr. John Dent.

The Theatre is doing good business. Mr. Faylor, an American, who plays the heroes, is spoken of as wanting genius and education, while Mrs. Faylor is commended as an actress of very great finish. Miss Lizzie Gordon, too, is mentioned as a lady who vividly recals the performances of the late Madame Vestris.

On the dismissal of Lay and the Osborn fleet the *Daily Press* writes :—

"There does not appear to have been any pecuniary demand made by the Prince Kung, either on the British Minister, on Captain Osborn, or on Mr. Lay. The Chinese Government appear to have been content to lose the money they had remitted, seeking only to be excused from being saddled with a fleet, the expenses whereof were quite beyond their means to liquidate. Captain Osborn consequently returned to Shanghai, registered the vessels as British at the consulate, dispatched them—part for England, and part for Bombay. They have all left ere this—and thus ends this singular act of officious, unacceptable, high-reaching interference."

"It should not be omitted to be stated that the substitution of Mr. Hart for Mr. Lay, as the Inspector-General of Customs, is a subject of sincere congratulation to the foreign community. Mr. Hart has ever exhibited a disposition to facilitate business, and to remove unnecessary annoyances and obstructions. He is, moreover, very popular with the Chinese officials. It will now be seen that the opposition of the merchants to the strict enforcement of the payment of duties was a pure fallacy—unnecessary obstructiveness, and arbitrary confiscations for palpable errors, were all they ever objected to:

"It should be further added, that during this juncture, when nothing but the clemency of Prince Kung affords Mr. Lay an immunity from being prosecuted criminally—and whilst his position with the Chinese Government is most unseemly—yet still he is acting (if all reports be true) in Mr. Wade's absence as Chinese Secretary to the British Legation—in other words, is the medium of communication between the British and Chinese Governments. It is not that other interpreters cannot be procured, but that there are subject matters on the *tapis* which it might be dangerous for those not implicated in the crooked line of policy lately pursued by the British Legation at Pekin to be acquainted with."

The *Chinese Commercial Guide* has not yet reached us from the author, Dr. S. Wells Williams; or the publishers, Messrs. Shortrede & Co., Hong Kong.

The following mercantile notices have appeared :—

The interest and responsibility in our firm of the late Mr. Andrew Brand ceased on the 31st of December, 1862. The partners now are Robert Smith, Thomas David Neave, Robert Richard Westall, Robert Brand, and R. Humpston Chambers, Smith, Kennedy, and Co.—China, November 21, 1863.

On and after this date William W. Robinet is no longer authorised to sign for our firm. Thomas Hunt and Co. —Shanghai, November 30, 1863.

We have this day business as merchants and general agents under the style of D. Nowrojee and Co.—Hong Kong, December 12, 1863.

North China Insurance Company.—The undersigned having been appointed agents in Ningpo for the above company, are now prepared to accept risks and to grant policies on the usual terms.—Davidson and Co., Agents. Ningpo, 1st Dec., 1863.

The undersigned beg to intimate that they have been appointed Agents to the Swiss Lloyds, Transport Insurance Society of Wintertheer.—William Pustau and Co. Hong Kong, 1st Dec., 1863.

The business hitherto conducted under the style of De Coningh Carst and Lels, will in future, from and after the 1st December, be carried on by the undersigned under the firm of Carst Lels and Co. P. Carst, junr., Mark Lels, H. Bruijn, G. F. Plate.—Yokohama, 28th Nov., 1863.

Mr. Clement Lucas is authorised to sign our firm in China.—Blain, Tate, and Co. Shanghai, 2nd Dec., 1863.

We have this day established ourselves at this port, as General Merchants and Commission Agents.—Theric and Co. Shanghai, 7th Nov., 1863.

Mr. Jamieson Elles has retired from the firm of Elles and Co., Amoy.

During the absence of Mr. J. W. Broadbent, Mr. Herbert Cope is authorised to sign our firm per procuration.—George Barnet and Co. Yokohama, 1st Nov. 1863.

CANTON.

The *Daily Press* says :—

Houqua died a few days ago at Canton, at the age of fifty-four. His son, who is about twenty-eight years old, succeeds to the estates; but as the young man does not possess much aptitude for business, his uncle, a brother of the deceased, and the seventh son of the first Houqua, is entrusted with the management of affairs.

The deceased was a most upright and liberal man in his dealings with others. He appears to have avoided the character of shrewdness and overreaching, for which his father was so well known. His gifts for charitable purposes were on an extensive scale.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Deficiency of the principal exports continues. Business must be limited until the beginning of the year, when the new crop of pepper will be offered. A few Bugis boats have arrived with Archipelago products, but there is still a great scarcity of the usual imports by these craft.

The Confederate steamer *Alabama* anchored in the Roads on the 21st December. The *Contest*, already reported, was the last prize destroyed by the *Alabama*.

The last news from Sarawak, brought by the steamer *Rainbow* on the 12th December, is of a very satisfactory character, owing to a large tribe of Kayans having made peace with the Dyaks of the Rejang. It will be seen in another column that a Consul has been appointed to Sarawak by our Foreign Office.

No fewer than seventeen merchantmen are at present in our harbour. Their gross tonnage may be roughly set down at 12,000 tons. Some of these have been lying here now for upwards of three months, and most of them for at least half that period, and so long as the *Alabama* is in the vicinity they might as well be abandoned.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

ARNOULD—On the 21st Jan., at the residence of her father, Shirley, near Southampton, the wife of Henry Arnould, Esq., of Hong Kong, of a son.

HARDING—On the 8th Dec., at Singapore, the wife of Capt. Harding, of a daughter.

JONES—On the 21st Jan., at Derry Ormond, Cardiganshire, the Lady Elizabeth Inglis Jones, of a son.

KUSTERMANN—On the 12th Dec., at Singapore, Mrs. F. Kustermann, of a son.

LITTLE—On the 17th Jan., at Vanbrugh-fields, Blackheath, the wife of J. M. Little, Esq., of a daughter.

LARKEN—On the 7th Dec., at Foo-chow, the wife of Thomas Lancaster Larken, of a daughter.

WATSON—On the 11th Dec., at Singapore, the wife of N. B. Watson, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

ANGIER—FOURNIER.—On the 19th Jan., at Dusseldorf Reformed Church, by the Rev. E. Roffhack, Samuel Haynes Angier, to Augusta Fournier (d'Albe), daughter of the late Lieutenant C. F. A. Fournier, of the Prussian Cavalry.

ROBERTSON—CARRUTHERS.—On the 26th ult., at St. Peter's, Eaton-square, Russel Robertson, Esq., Consular Service, Japan, to Annie, youngest daughter of the late Jacob Carruthers, of Glasgow.

MCBARNET—DE FONBLANQUE.—On the 14th Jan., at Corfu, Captain D. H. McBarnet, H.M.'s 9th Regt. of Foot, to Constance Barrington, eldest daughter of Edward Barrington De Fonblanque, Esq., Assistant-Commissary-General.

MILLER—MILLER.—On the 6th Jan., at Ardtrea Church, Moneymore, Ireland, by the Hon. and Rev. J. P. Hewitt, Rev. A. R. Miller, uncle to the bride, assisted by the Rev. Alexander Miller, Esq., of Rowley Miller, Esq., of Shanghai, youngest son of Alexander Miller, Esq., of Downpatrick, to Emily Charlotte, youngest daughter of the late John Rowley Miller, Esq., of Moneymore Lodge.

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MAR—GOUSLACK.—On the 23rd Nov., at Swatow, China, John Mar, pilot, to — Gouslack, widow of the late pilot Gouslack.

POWNALL—SWAYNE.—On the 9th Jan., at St. John's, Hackney, by the Rev. W. A. Cornwall, M.A., the Rev. W. H. Pownall, late of Shanghai, to Sarah Sophia, daughter of the late Robert Swayne, Esq., of Liverpool.

POWER—SCOTT.—On the 5th Dec., at Hong Kong, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, Colonial Chaplain, Alexander Bath Le Poer Power, eldest son of the Rev. A. B. Power, M.A., Blackheath, Kent, to Maria Scott, eldest daughter of the late Joseph Scott, of this colony.

DEATHS.

CUMMINS—On the 24th Nov., at Ningpo, Captain Cummins, of the British barque Henrietta.

EVES—On the 2nd Dec., at Shanghai, Captain Eves, of the ship Star Queen.

CHRISTIE, &c.—On the 27th Nov., near Soochow, the following officers of the Quinsan Force:—Capt. Henry Christie, 4th Regt.; Capt. Upshot, Bodyguard; Capt. Wylie and Capt. Knight, killed together with sixty Chinese soldiers, in action with the Taiping rebels on a stockade.

DUNN—On the 5th Dec., at Shanghai, Sarah Neufield, the beloved wife of John George Dunn, of Shanghai, and the daughter of the Rev. Charles Cookson, vicar of Maxey, Northamptonshire.

SMALES—On the 3rd Dec., at Malacca, J. T. Smales, Esq., M.D., of the Madras Medical Service.

GROVES—On the 29th Nov., on board the steamer Shanse, on the Yangtse Kiang, from the effects of a boiler explosion, Mr. C. W. Groves, an Englishman, for several years chief engineer of the Chinese steam transport Antelope.

HALL—On board the Chinese transport steamer Williamette, aged 32, at Woosung, by the accidental discharge of a fowling-piece, Mr. Richard M. Hall, native of Kingston, Long Island, U.S., formerly chief engineer of the Williamette.

HUTH—On the 15th Jan., at 33, Upper Harley-street, Frederick Huth, Esq., in the 87th year of his age.

JONES—On the 24th Nov., at the American Protestant Episcopal Mission House, Hongkong, of small-pox, Miss Catherine E. Jones, Superintendent of the Mission's Native Girls' School, and daughter of General Walter Jones, late of Washington City, U.S.A.

JENKINS—At Bangkok, Chief Engineer James L. Jenkins, of Newark, N.J., United States of America, aged 48 years.

LEMPRIERE—On the 16th Jan., at Pelham, Hampshire, Admiral George Ourry Lempriere, in the 77th year of his age.

MALTBY—On the 19th Jan., at his father's residence, Hanwell, Middlesex, Charles Maltby, Esq., of Fenchurch-street, City, late of Shanghai, China, aged 40.

PEREIRA—On the 5th Dec., at Hong Kong, Joseph Pereira, Ships' Compradore.

PARTRIDGE—On the 12th Dec., at the Seamen's Hospital, Hong Kong, Wm. C. Partridge, late second officer S.S. Cosmopolite.

SWAN—On the 15th Jan., at Denmark-hill, Camberwell, Robert Dalgleish Swan, Esq., late of Ceylon, and formerly of the Indian Navy, aged 61.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN has again been almost entirely without inquiry, and the sales effected in this market during the fortnight amount only to 55 bales of sound, and 20 bales of damaged Yarn moved off at auction. Nothing doing in Canton.

GREY SHIRTINGS.—The value of these goods is now much higher than at the date of last report, but the transactions which are put at about 75,000 pieces have been almost entirely on foreign account. From Amoy, sales are reported of 1,200 pieces, and at Foochow some 2,000 pieces have changed hands.

WHITE SHIRTINGS have met with good inquiry at the hands of the dealers in this colony, and sales of 16,050 pieces are reported, while in Canton 3,000 pieces have changed hands, in both instances at a material advance in price.

T-CLOTHS.—The sales of these fabrics in Hong Kong are estimated at 2,500 pieces purchased by the Chinese dealers, and about 11,000 pieces taken by foreigners.

AMERICAN DRILLS.—The market is quite bare of stocks, and there are not any transactions to notice.

WHITE SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, DYED DO., BROCADES, WHITE AND COLOURED.—The value of White Spotted Shirtings and Brocades is now about 60 cents higher than at the date of last report, while assorted colours remain without change to notice. The sales in Hong Kong are put at 1,000 pieces of the former, taken by a foreign purchaser, and 400 pieces of Dyed Spotted Shirtings sold to a Chinese buyer. In Canton 1,000 pieces Coloured Brocades have changed hands.

DAMASKS are without inquiry.

CHINTZES AND HANKERCHIEFS.—There have not been any sales of these goods reported during the last fortnight.

RAW COTTON.—The market for this staple has been in a very excited state during the fortnight, and the value of all kinds has advanced $5 to 7 per picul. The bulk of the purchases continues to be made upon foreign account for reshipment, and the transactions reported amount to 17,250 boles, of which some 1,400 (exclusive of 300 sold at auction) have been taken by the Chinese dealers. In Canton the sales of the fortnight are put at 600 bales.

WOOLLENS.—SPANISH STRIPES, MEDIUM CLOTHS, LADIES' AND HABIT CLOTHS.—The above goods have met with very limited inquiry during the fortnight, and the values of them remain unchanged—the sales reported in this market amount in all to only about 90 pieces. Neither does any demand exist for them in Canton.

LONG ELLS.—The prices of assorted colours of these goods show a marked improvement as compared with the rates current at the date of last report, but the transactions of the fortnight have been limited in this colony to 290 pieces. From Canton (where prices remain unchanged) sales of 1,000 pieces are reported.

CAMLETS.—The demand noticed as existing for these goods in last circular has not been maintained, and neither from this port nor from Canton are there any transactions in them to advise.

LASTINGS have not met with any inquiry either here or in Canton.

BLANKETS 400 pairs which have changed hands in this colony, constitute the sales of the past fortnight.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c., with the exception of Hoop and Wire, show some decline in price. The value of Iron shows no material change as compared with last advices, and the sales of the fortnight are put at 2,562 piculs of Nail Rod, 300 piculs of Square and Flat Bar, and 150 piculs of Wire. In Canton settlements of 3,200 piculs of Nail Rod, at an advance of 5 to 15 cents per picul, constitute the transactions reported.

LEAD.—There is not any change noticeable in the value of Lead either here or in Canton, and the sales of the past fortnight are put at 520 piculs, and 1,450 piculs for each port respectively.

TIN.—There are not any transactions to notice.

TIN PLATES have declined in value, to the extent of about 50 cents per box, without sales to report.

STEEL.—Nothing doing, either here or in Canton.

OPIUM.—HONG KONG.—The supplies of the fortnight have been per Bombay Castle, Nepaul, Imperatrice, Reiver, and Singapore; in all, 1,950 chests Patna, 1,100 ditto Benares, and 1,350 ditto Malwe. Prices:—Patna, $570; Malwa, $645; Turkey, $520.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—There is still a good supply of black teas at Canton. The supplies at Foochow are becoming slacker, but show no immediate symptoms of coming to an end. At Shanghai stocks are considerable. At Kewkiang the market for new greens, which will be short, is in full blast. At Hankow it is clear that the supplies are nearly exhausted. The export continues unprecedentedly large, and the firmness of the teamen is such as to cause prices to be maintained at a standard much beyond what the rates in the London market will justify. The advance in exchange may make shippers more cautious, and the coming China new year may cause the teamen to be more anxious to sell; but even so the export will amount to a figure which will place any hope of advance in England out of the question.

MACAO.—Tyshans, Congou prepared in Kysow fashion, sales 1,000 half-chests at 23.8 ts.; Souchong, 600 half-chests at 28 ts.; common Tyshans, sales 1,500 half-chests (mostly for India) at 14 to 16 ts.; stock of common leaf 300 piculs.

CANTON.—The teamen have remained as firm as last represented, and the consequence is that no business has been transacted during the fortnight in Congous, and very little in other descriptions. Three additional chops of country Congous and 1,000 half-chests of new Greens have arrived down, but the latter have not been placed upon the market as yet. About 1,000 half-chests Oolong have also come to hand. The settlements of the fortnight are as under:—Pouchongs: 2,000 half-chests (probably for India) at 22 to 23½ taels. Scented Caper: 3,000 boxes at 17½ to 18½ taels for fair, and 20 to 23 taels for medium to good. Scented Orange Pekoe: 4,500 boxes at 17 to 22 taels for common to fair, 24 to 26 taels for med. to good, and 28 to 33 taels for fine to finest. Canton Greens: 750 half-chests Young Hyson at 17 to 24 taels, and 600 chests Hyson for India at 17 to 23 taels. The stock on the market is thus stated:—Congous, 50 chops; Oolongs, 1,000 half-chests; Scented Caper, rather large; Scented Orange Pekoe, small; Country Greens, 1,000 half-chests.

AMOY.—During the early part of last month the market was very quiet, and the teamen continuing firm the business transacted was on a small scale. Latterly a demand for Oolongs for New York has sprung up, but still rates exhibit no material change. It is stated that there only remain 3,000 half-chests Oolong in the country, to complete the season's supply. Of Congous the full season's yield may be said to have come to hand. The settlements of the month are reported as follows:—Oolongs and Ankois, 5,000 half-chests of the former at $17 to 20 for inferior to common cargo, 21 to 22 for good common, and 23 to 24 for fair cargo—400 half-chests of the latter at 15¾ to 16½. In addition to which about 1,600 half-chests of last season's crop are reported as settled at 7½ to 8. Congous, 1,900 half-chests at 15 to 20—for good ordinary to but middling. Plain Orange Pekoes, 100 half-chests and 200 boxes at 13½ to 14. The remaining stock on the market is thus stated: Congou 1,400 half-chests. Oolong and Ankois 9,500 half-chests and 100 boxes. Plain Orange Pekoes 450 boxes.

FOOCHOW.—Exporters are unwilling buyers in the face of late advices from London, whilst the teamen, on the other hand, evince much firmness, on the pretext that the cost price in the country is so high as to exhibit a loss on current rates. Prices have not receded, as might have been expected; good common and flavory Congous are one tael lower, but the descriptions suitable for Australia and the United States have been maintained. The tone of the market generally is flat, and it appears to tend downwards; but a comparison of current rates with London quotations exhibits the fact that the standard of prices is still far too high. The settlements of the fortnight are as follows: Congous, 7,200 chests 9,700 half chests and 1,200 boxes at 6½ to 13 taels for ord. and broken leaf, 14 to 19 for good com. to flavory, and 18 to 24½ for Souchong kinds. Souchongs, 500 chests at 22 taels for com. Fowery Pekoe, 600 do. at 21 to to 24 taels for com. Oolong, 19,400 half chests at 13 to 21 taels for very com. to good cargo. The stock on the market is thus estimated: Congous, 69,200 chests (say 30,000 ord. 35,000 good com. to flavory and 4,200 good flavory to fine), Souchong 5,800 chests. Oolong 26,500 half chests, and Scented tea 10,000 boxes. The total supplies of Congous this season to date amount to 535,000 chests against 551,000 chest corresponding period of last season; the deficiency, however, being made up by the increased supply of Souchongs.

SHANGHAI.—Black: Since the date of the last report, the market has again been very dull, and only 9 chops are reported as settled. These were purchases made immediately after the departure of the last mail, and established a decline of two taels on previous quotations. Since the sudden advance in exchange, business has entirely ceased, and to tempt buyers a very considerable reduction would have to be made. Holders are showing more desire to realise, as their stocks are considerable. Settlements on the market, 9 chops, 4,582 chests Oopacks, Oonahms, Ningchows, and Hobows. Reshipped on owners' account, 15 chops, 5,816 chests Oopacks, Oonahms, Ningchows, and Hobows—24 chops—9,144 chests; making total to date 348,708 chests. Stock, waiting shipment, 6 chops, and for re-sale, 29 chops—35 chops. We quote, second and third crop Ooopacks and Ningchows. Taels 25 to 29 nominal; second and third crop Oonhams, taels 20 to 25 nominal; second and third crop Hobows, taels 17 to 20 nominal. Green: Throughout the whole fortnight there has been a steady demand for country teas, but settlements are small in consequence of the greater portion of the arrivals from Kewkiang being immediately re-shipped without being offered on this market. Fychows have been taken at taels 33 to 35, and Moyunes at taels 39 to 43, prices may be quoted from two to three taels higher. Pingsueys have

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also been inquired for, but the few chops remaining on offer are held for extreme rates. Shanghai packed have been dealt in at higher rates and stocks are now very much reduced. Re-shipments and settlements 26,558 half-chests Fychow, &c.; 3,166 chests Pingsuey 2,336 half-chests Japan—32,060 half-chests, making total to date 107,117 half-chests. Stock of Green Tea is estimated at 27,960 half-chests Fychow, &c.; 2,000 half-chests Shanghai packed Japan, 4,000 chests Pingsuey—33,860 half-chests.

HANKOW.—Foreigners continue to be unwilling buyers by reason of the advices from London. On the other hand, supplies from the country being small, the teamen are disinclined to yield on late quotations. The result is a small business, the settlements for the fortnight being, sales, 8 chops, contract 1 do.; shipped to Shanghai on native account, 5 chops—total, 14 chops, the stock on the market being 12 chops, which is mostly low dusty held at 17 to 18 taels. The following are the current quotations (short price) which show a decline of 5 mace on rates last reported. Oopacks, Ningchows, Leylings, and Choongsowkyes, 22½ to 26 taels per picul. Oonahms, 17½ to 20½ taels. The total shipments from Hankow this season, according to Custom-house returns, amounts to 34¼ millions of lbs., besides 2½ million lbs. of brick tea.

KEWKIANG.—A large business has been transacted during the fortnight, the settlements of Green being reported at fully 60,000 pkgs. There is an apprehension of a short supply, and prices have advanced fully 3 taels on opening rates. Quotations are:—Moyunes, 34 to 38 taels; Fychows, 28 to 32 taels. The season's yield of Green is estimated at 220,000 half-chests, or fully 60,000 less than last season. The export this season of Green is estimated at 3¾ million lbs. to Great Britain, against 6¼ millions same period last season. To the United States, 1¼ millions against 3 millions.

NAGASAKI.—The article continues to arrive pretty freely, and considerable settlements are reported at previous rates.

YOKOHAMA.—A fair business has been transacted in this staple during the past week, and prices have advanced $1 to $2 per picul on medium and fine kinds. Settlements estimated at 1,100 piculs.

RAW SILK.—CANTON.—The Silk season is drawing to its close. Beyond the little which still remains to deliver of what was contracted for, only a few bales have been sold on the market for this departure, and the prices asked by the brokers are consequently firmer than before. In Loong-Kongs about 10 bales go forward on Indian account for Europe, and of Canton Tsatlees and Imitation Japans about 50 bales only. Advices from Bombay being unsatisfactory for Silk, there have been no settlements for that quarter. Quotations are nominally the same as those given last mail, viz.:—Loong-Kong, No. 1, $440 to $445 (None); Loong Kong, No. 2, 425 to 430; Kow-Kong, No. 1, 400 to 405; Canton Tsatlees, 480 to 485; Imitation Japan, 465 to 470; Waste Silk, No. 1, 50 (very scarce); Waste Silk, No. 2, 40.

MACAO.—Nothing has been done in this staple during the month, present stock offering amount to 10 piculs Cumchook, held at $390, and 5 piculs, No 1, Kow-Kong, at $350.

SHANGHAI.—Since last mail about 1,400 bales have been settled, and as the receipts from the interior have continued moderate, the stock is further reduced, and some estimates do not make it equal 6,000 bales. The certainty of a short supply has caused the Chinamen to remain firm for late high prices, notwithstanding the rapid and considerable rise in the rate of exchange, and the purchases of the fortnight have been made without any alterations in previous quotations. Taysaams are still very scarce, and for coarse descriptions extreme prices have been paid. Tsatlees have been chiefly in demand, but some Hainings and Taysaams have also been sold. The settlements of the fortnight are reported at 1,600 bales against 3,000 bales at corresponding fortnight of last season, and against 4,000 bales the season before. The present unsold stock is 9,000 bales, against 7,000 bales same time last season, and 10,000 bales the season before. The following are the latest quotations:—Tsatlees: No. 2, chops, 450 to 460 tls. per picul; No. 3, 430 to 440. Market: No. 3, chops, 415 to 425 tls. per picul; No. 4, 400 to 410; No. 5 and common, 385 to 395. Taysaams: No. 1, chops, 400 to 410 tls. per picul; No. 2, 380 to 390; No. 3, 360 to 370; No. 4, 5, and common, 330 to 350. Yuenfa: No. 1, chops, 425 to 435; No. 2, 410 to 420; No. 3, 390 to 400; No. 4, and common, 370 to 385. Hainings: 370 to 430 tls. per picul. The P. and O. Co.'s steamer *Cadiz* has about 845 bales of silk engaged, and the *Egmont* (134 bales) and *Prince of Wales* (250 bales) loading for London have 384 bales now on board. The mail steamer *Granada* has just arrived from Yokohama, and brings 697 bales for Southampton, 314 bales for Marseilles, and 34 bales for Shanghai, making a total of 1,045 bales. Her advices report larger settlements at very extreme prices, and an increase in the supply, the receipts amounting to nearly 200 bales per diem.

YOKOHAMA.—Since our last, supplies have increased very considerably, and a large quantity of this staple has arrived to market. A few days ago there were 700 bales on offer, and considerable settlements have been made. Prices are rather in buyers' favour, but for good and fine silk, quotations are unaltered.

DRUGS, &c.—MACAO—Cassia Lignea: Sales 1,300 piculs, at $16.50 down to $16.25; stock 1,500 piculs. Cassia Oil: Sales 15 piculs at $202 to 205; stock 15 piculs. Aniseed Oil: Sales 60 piculs at $145 to 148; stock 40 piculs. Star Aniseed: Sales 700 piculs at $23 down to 21; stock 500 piculs held at $20. Galangal Root: Sales 500 piculs at $2.70 to 2.80; stock 800 piculs. Gall Nuts: Sales 20 piculs at $14.75; stock 10 piculs. Ginger Preserves: £2.90 for best. Vermilion: $38.

CANTON.—Cassia Lignea: No settlements. The stock is only 500 pls. which is held at $17.80. Cassia Oil neither stocks nor settlements. Cassia Buds: The market has been cleared by the purchase of 25 piculs, at $57.50. Aniseed: There are no supplies of either Star or Oil. Gamboge and Rhubarb: None on the market. China Root: No sales, quotation $3.75; stock 300 to 400 piculs. Galangal: No sales—stock small. Vermilion has advanced to $13 to 14. Galls are quoted $12.75; stock 200 piculs.

CAMPHOR.—HONG KONG.—In no demand, and with the advices from London by last mail it will be difficult to dispose of any for shipment to that market. For Singapore and the Straits there is little inquiry, and but 250 piculs are reported as sold during the fortnight at $21 to $22 picul packed. A lot of 500 piculs arrived since issue of last report, large shipment has taken place to Liverpool per *Falcon*. Nagasaki.—further supplies or settlement.

RAW COTTON.—CANTON.—This market has participated in the general excitement, and the rate for Shanghai and Ningpo has advanced to 25 to taels per picul. There is little or no stock.

SHANGHAI.—The speculative feeling mentioned in last report continued some days after the date thereof, until the rate for dry unadulterated reels touched 24 taels. The article continued scarce, and the market was "rigged" by gamblers who entered it against legitimate shippers to England, whose contracts had been violated, and who were compelled to take up the vessels which they had engaged, and had nearly laden. Lately, however, the demand for money and the advance in exchange has made it more difficult to obtain accommodation on cotton shipments and especially on purchases, and the consequence has been that gambling has been checked, and more prudence manifested, and the market has receded to 20 taels. Four ships have been dispatched to Liverpool during the fortnight, and about fifteen are still loading for that port and London. There is some stock on the market, but it is generally wet and adulterated. It is difficult to procure the article without these vices.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN. 1863-64.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1, to Dec. 1, 1863	1535326	41986599	36306300	1187694	9838864	90854783	99996
Corresponding period last season	1436086	31012392	30080150	836208	15674687	78529523	47573

TO UNITED STATES.

							Piculs.
From June 1, to Dec. 1, 1863	...	...	...	...	...	8396598	350
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	9969160	815

TO THE CONTINENT.

							Bales.
From June 1, to Dec. 1, 1863	...	...	...	...	...	1151527	3271
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	966164	6532

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

From June 1, to Dec. 1, 1863	...	...	...	...	...	Packages 193770	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	17305	...

TO AUSTRALIA.

From June 1, to Dec. 1, 1863	...	...	...	...	...	Total lbs 7119085	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	5915512	...

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	...	...	...	51,022,600	..
„ 1845 to 1846	...	...	...	57,334,200	18,604
„ 1850 to 1851	...	...	...	63,972,300	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854	...	...	...	77,327,800	61,990
„ 1855 to 1856	...	...	...	92,240,300	50,480
„ 1857 to 1858	...	...	...	76,990,255	68,311
„ 1858 to 1859	...	...	...	65,789,792	83,136
„ 1859 to 1860	...	...	...	85,560,452	64,163
„ 1860 to 1861	...	...	...	90,066,160	79,644
„ 1861 to 1862	...	...	...	109,854,040	70,199
„ 1862 to 1863	...	...	...	121,273,580	...

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to Dec. 1, 1863	152208	...	5943	4375	274	1446

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Dec. 1, 1863	2754	...	...	350	100	...

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to Dec. 1, 1863	23130	12502	1340	1350	...	336

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to Dec. 1, 1863	706	948	72039	1839	4240	119840

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TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes
From June 1, to Dec. 1, 1863 ...	6	100	2637	2318	11400	...

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents, and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.		6s. 5½d. to 6s. 5¾d.	6s. 6d. to 6s. 7d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s.10d. to 4s.10½d.	4s. 10½d. to 5s. 0d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 10d. to 4s. 9½d.	4s.10½d. to 4s.11d.
At Manila	6	ditto	Mail not	arrived.
At Batavia (guilders.)	6	ditto	..	..

The Exchange on India at Shanghai was 312 to 315 rupees per 100 taels, and at Hong Kong 231 to 228 per 100. Bar silver at Shanghai 111 per 100 tls., and Hong Kong 4½ per cent. prem. The current quotations at Shanghai for Mexican dollars was 80 tls. per $100, and the rate of exchange on Hong Kong was 25 to 26 per cent. discount.

The following is from Messrs. Sharp and Co.'s circular of 14th Dec. ;—

GOLD.—During the fortnight since last report we have received in gold about three and a half lakhs of dollars value, whilst the amount exported included that by the *Emeu* on the 1st instant, and excluding that to leave by the *Orissa* to-msrrow is two and a half lakhs. The reduced value in India consequent upon the scarcity of money there may sufficiently account for the fall on this side.

SILVER.—There has come to hand these two weeks past about $130,000. and there has been sent away $80,000, a portion of which left by the Europa Mail on the 1st instant. This bullion being now available both for Shanghai and India has commanded an improved price of late, its advance being only checked by the probable delay in its outturn at the Bombay Mint.

DOLLAR CURRENCY.—The amounts to hand during the lest fortnight sum up to tweive lakhs of dollars, whilst there have been sent away but a little over three. There has been no improvement in the price of clean coins.

DISCOUNTS AND MORGAGES.—Money is still worth twelve per cent for mortgages of house property, and discounts for short periods have been made at nine and ten per cent.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN.—None.

At SHANGHAI.—From Newcastle, Nov. 28, Oliver Cromwell. From New York, 30, Gertrude.

At FOOCHOW.—None.

At AMOY.—None.

At SWATOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From Sunderland: Dec. 2, Ethel; 6, Queen Bee. From Bordeaux: 3, Der Fruihs, (Fr.) From United States: None.

At MANILA.—No report.

At SINGAPORE.—From Sunderland: Dec. 3, Ottone (Brem). From Cardiff, 10, Sterling, (str.); 12, Emily, (Ham.); 19, Liberia. From Liverpool: 12, Early Dawn. From Bordeaux: 15, Marie (Fr.) From Hamburg: Dec. 1, Ida Maria (Ham.); 14, Elise (Ham.); Sophies (Hanov.); 16, Mathilde (Brem.); 21, Blohm (Dan.) From Rotterdam: 16, Louisa.

At BATAVIA.—From Great Britain: J. C. Schotel.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—For London: Nov. 27, Scawfell, Dolphyn; 29, J. C. Munro. From Nagasaki.—For London: 24, Europe.

From SHANGHAI.—For Liverpool: Dec. 1, Agincourt.

From FOOCHOW.—For London: Nov. 25, Renown; Dec. 5, Chalmers. For United States: Nov. 28, Florence Nightingale; Dec. 1, Helen Nicholson.

From SWATOW and AMOY.—None.

From HONG KONG.—For England: Dec. 5, H.M.S. Scout. For Liverpool, 6, Light of the Age, Falcon; 11, Lord Lyndhurst; 12, Itsamboul. For New York.—None.

From SINGAPORE.—For Liverpool: Nov. 22, Oasis; Dec. 16, Helene (Dan.), for Falmouth for orders.

LOADING.

At KANAGAWA.—For London: Confiance, Governor V. Swieten.

At NAGASAKI.—For London: Stamboul.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Anglo-Saxon, Heroes of Alma, Lammermuir, Nelly, Island Queen, Prince of Wales, Egmont, Sir H. Parkes, Strathallan, Lodore, Lansdown, Marquis of Argyle, Minerva, Sappho. For Liverpool: Spirit of the Times, Cissy, Fow-Tsum, General Putnam, Princess Royal, Rhine, Young England, Royal George, Childe Harold, Lovdianah, Solway, Zingara, Thos. Royden. For New York: Appollo, Anne Wood, Capella.

At AMOY.—For London: Confucius.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Bankside (full), Glarama, A. Oswald, Isabella Ridley, Standard, Stuart Wortley, Weymouth. For United States: Queen of the Seas (full), Peep o'Day (full).

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Tamerlane, Mary Ann Wilson, Agra. For Liverpool: Gemini, Junapore.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Early Dawn, Tre Broder (Norwg.) For Liverpool: Crusader, Spanker. For Bordeaux: Hoogly, Orixa, Saint Michael.

At BATAVIA.—For Channel for orders: Scharenhorst (Brem.), Sophia, Kon der Nederl (Dutch).

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—Nov. 19, Elize (Ham.), from Hamburg to Singapore, Ida Maria (Ham.), Hamburg to Singapore; 21, Ferris, Cardiff to Singapore; 27, Marie (Fr.), Bordeaux to Singapore; Dec. 4, Mary Goddard, Rotterdam to Hong Kong, Sirius (Dutch), Amsterdam, A. Piet Hein (Dutch), Amsterdam to Batavia, Anna Decatur (Am.), Cardiff to Singapore, Bahama (Eng. str.), London to Batavia; 6, Stirling (Eng. str.), Cardiff to Singapore.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—Nov. 5, Rubicon, from Amoy to London; 6, Julia, Shanghai to London; 7, Lorton, Shanghai to Liverpool; 13, Iron Crown, Hong Kong to Liverpool; 14, Broadwater, Yokohama to London; 15, Palmyra, Shanghai to Liverpool; 16, Ravensbourne, Yokohama to London; India, Shanghai to London; Cordova, Shanghai to Liverpool: 17, Siam, Shanghai to London; William Eggets, Kanagawa to Liverpool; Carn Tual, Nagasaki to London; 18, Sheveningen, Batavia to Rotterdam; 19, Mimosa, Foochow to London; Langdale, Foochow to London; Nile, Hong Kong to Liverpool; 20, Mirage, Shanghai to London; Bosworth, Foochow to London; 21, Der Preusse, Manila to London; Jas. Vinnicombe, Shanghai to London; Melrose, Amoy to London; Osprey, Shanghai to London; 22, Spirit of the Sea, Shanghai to Liverpool; Forfarshire, Hong Kong to Liverpool; Selina Jane, Macoa to Hamburg; 23, Spirit of the Deep, Shanghai to London; Ophelia, Macao to Hamburg; Cambridge, Yokohama to London; Venezuela, Macao to Hamburg; 24, Sarah and Emma, Shanghai to Liverpool; 25, James Gibson, Shanghai to Liverpool; J. C. Munro, Yokohama to London, 26, Clarendon, Shanghai to London; Lord Macaulay, Shanghai to London; 27, Abdul Medjid, Hong Kong to Liverpool; Portland, Foochow to London; 29, Our Queen, Shanghai to Liverpool; 30, Martha Theresia (Dutch), Nagasaki to Amsterdam; Dec. 2, Maggie Lauder, Manila to Cork; Avalanche, Singapore to London; 4, Gemima (Ham.), Hong Kong to Liverpool; Spirit of Trade, Shanghai to London; Hawthorn, Shanghai to London; Ranee, Shanghai to Liverpool; Macduff, Shanghai to Liverpool; Magus, Macao to Bremerhaven; 7, Star of the North, Shanghai to Liverpool; 8, Philip I. (Ham.), Shanghai to London; 9, Daisy, Shanghai to London.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—Nov. 8, Anna (Oldbg.), Shanghai to New York; 16, Clara Novella, Foochow to New York; 21, Bavaria, Manila to New York; Melbourne, Manila to New York; 23, Maggie Atkinson, Kanagawa to New York; 25, Caroline (Brem.), Singapore to New York; Helvetia (Olden.), Manila to New York; 27, Graff Eulenburg, Whampoa to New York; Dec. 2, Sarah, Shanghai to New York.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

JAPAN.—To London: Tea, £4 to £5; cotton, £4; silk, £5 to £6.

SHANGHAI.—To London and Liverpool: £3 to £3. 17s. 6d. To New York: A better demand exists for tonnage at advanced rates, viz.: £3. 17s. 6d. to £4 per ton of 40 cubic feet.

HONG KONG.—Tonnage is more inquired after, both for home and for the North. The following are some of the settlements, viz.;—Adriana (Dutch), 650 tons, 5 months certain, at £375 per month: Junapore, to Liverpool, with cotton, £3. 7s. 6d.; Offor (171), to Liverpool, with cotton, £3. 12s. 6d.; Troas (Br.), 666 tons, to Great Britain or United States and Manila—£6. 10s. for hemp, and £3 for sugar. Rates to Shanghai, &c., 35 cents per picul.

FOOCHOW.—To London, £3. 10s. to £4 per ton of 50 cubic feet; to United States, £4 per ton of 40 cubic feet.

SINGAPORE.—To London and Liverpool, £3 to £3. 15s.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

TEA.—The auctions concluded yesterday 10,931 packages passed, and 5,584 packages were sold; 4,994 packages were "without reserve." The sales have finished very heavily. The Indian tea sales are postponed to Friday, the 29th.

SILK.—The following quotations, &c., are from Messrs. Waithman's Circular:—Tsatlee, No. 1, 23s. to 23s. 6d.; Taysaam, 20s. 6d. for No 1; Maibash, 23s. to 23s. 6d. for No. 1. We have had a very dull market during the past fortnight, and prices for Tsatlee are rather weaker, some sales having been made at about 6d. under our last quotations. Importers generally, however, are not sellers to any extent at this reduction. Japans have been almost entirely neglected, except Taysaam kinds, of which the stock is very small. Deliveries from 1st to 23rd inclusive: China, 1,992 bales; Japan, 1,057.

MANCHESTER MARKETS.—Grey Shirtings, 7 lbs., 17s. 3d. to 17s. 6d.; 8¼ lbs., 21s. 6d.; 9¼ lbs., 26s. 6d.; Cotton Yarn, Nos. 16 to 24, 2s. 8d. to 2s. 9d.; Nos. 28 32, 2s. 9d. to 2s. 10d.; Madapollams, 7s. 7d. to 7s. 9d.; Long-Cloths, 21s. 9d.; T-Cloths, 14s. 6d.; White Spot Shirtings, 22s. 6d.; Brocade, do., 22s. 6d.; Damasks, do., 40s. The Circular of Sam Mendel of yesterday says:—"On Tuesday and Saturday last there was a more cheerful feeling in this market, with prices the turn stronger; but the more threatening aspect of continental politics has again caused depression, and quotations are nominal."

The specie to be taken by the Bombay mail steamer *Poonah* amounts to £567,940, of which £23,500 in gold is for Alexandria, and £57,100 in gold, and £487,340 in silver, for Bombay. Bar Silver, 62d. to 62¼d.; Mexican Dollars, 64d.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—January 24, at Falmouth, from Sourabaya, Wave; off Dungeness, from Java, Zwaan, Henrietta Gertruida, and Eensgezindheid, all for Amsterdam. Dec. 31, at Ascension, from Shanghai for London, Runnymede; 6, off Ascension, from Batavia, Zambesi, for Rotterdam; Jan. 21, at Texel, from Batavia, Hercules; 26, at Liverpool, from Rangoon, Jane Henderson.

DEPARTURES.—January 25, from London, for Singapore, Dewa, Gungadhur, from Liverpool, for Shanghai, Narari; 27, from Liverpool for Manila, Jose y Maria; for Shanghai, Caractacus; for Singapore, Maggie Lauder; from Greenock for Shanghai, Taiping,

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SPOKEN.—Banda, Hong Kong to Buenos Ayres, Dec. 2, 30 S., 38 E.

CASUALTIES.—The Landbouw, Kleynenberg, from Batavia, which arrived at Brouwershaven Jan. 21, is leaky, and has lost sails and boat, having experienced heavy gales. The Swallow (sch.), Scott, of and from London for Shanghai, with part cargo of coals, was totally wrecked off Cape Recife, during a heavy N.W. gale in the night of Nov. 26, in which she lost most of her spars and sails, and became unmanageable; crew saved; ship and cargo were sold Dec. 2. The Eliza Stewart, Osborne, from Hong Kong for Liverpool, put into Algoa Bay, Dec. 16, short of water, and with crew sick.

At TABLE BAY.—Dec. 7, Spray of the Ocean, Slaughter, from Foochow-Foo, with loss of main topsail and main deck bulwarks, having encountered a heavy north-wester Nov. 11, in 30 S. 43 E., and sailed 9, for London: 11, Macassar, Rip, from Amsterdam for Batavia, to repair rudder. Tuisco, Decker, from Batavia for Falmouth, had been on her beam ends in 28 S. 47 E., and cut away fore and main top-gallant-masts, yards and sails. Sunbeam, Barge, from Shanghai, and sailed 13, for London; 12, Johannes Christian, Obelt, from Batavia, and sailed 18, for Amsterdam; 14, Cambalu, Richardson, from Shanghai, and Beautiful Star, Catto, from Hong Kong; 16, Alfred Ray, Meades, from Hong Kong; Hainan, Schroeder, from Amoy; 17, Latona, Sedgwick, from Singapore.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 22.

In accordance with the arrangement mentioned in my last letter the Second Chamber of the States-General met and passed the Ministerial Bill for a vote of 599,245 fl. for the current use of the Foreign Department, being one-half of the sum placed on the estimates for that branch of the public service in the present financial year. Since the estimates were made up an unexpected demand on the finances of the country has sprung up on account of the Duchy of Limburg, which, forming an integral part of the German Confederation, is bound to pay her share of the seventeen millions of dollars voted by the Diet to defray the expenses of the occupation of Holstein. Of this sum the two hundred and forty-eighth part falls on Holland for Limburg—making about 70,000 fl.—according to the 52nd Article of the Final Treaty of Vienna in 1820. The anomalous position of Limburg in its joint relations to Germany and Holland has always been a sore subject with the Dutch, who have tried over and over again to get that province out of the German Confederacy. As, however, it is quite apparent from their internal dissensions and angry feelings on the subject of Schleswig-Holstein that the Bund is falling to pieces, the hopes of the national party are raised at the prospect of being at length released from what was certainly a very injudicious and inconvenient arrangement to both parties.

After passing the Bill for which they were convoked, the Second Chamber adjourned till their services are again required, and now the First Chamber is convened to meet on the 25th inst. to confirm the Bill.

Offers have been made by the Civil Governor of the Province of Groningen to Mr. Stieltjes, the civil engineer so summarily dismissed from his appointment in Java, to undertake the superintendence of the new canals about to be made in that province. That gentleman, however, has indignantly refused the offer, declining to have anything to do with the public works till he had received full satisfaction from the Government for their unjust conduct towards him.

From accounts received in this country from Java it is not improbable that a fresh expedition will have to be sent to Boni, to demand satisfaction for the murder of a Dutch subject in one of the provinces of that empire, all demands to deliver up the murderers having hitherto been peremptorily refused.

In a former letter I stated that the Netherlands Trading Company had given notice to the holders of the four per cent. loan of 1858 for five millions of florins, of their intention to reduce the rate of interest from four to three and a-half per cent., and giving the holders the option of acceding to these terms, or being paid off at par. It is a significant sign of the abundance of capital in this country, that of the five thousand bondholders 4,781 accepted the reduction of the interest, and only 219 objected, and were paid off at par.

By Royal Decree of November 18, 1863, No. 124, just published in the official *Staats-Courant*, on the petition of Messrs. J. S. Le Vino, L. Pineoffs, and J. Van Stolk, all of Rotterdam, as directors of the association called "The Netherlands Indian Gas Company (Limited)," the draft of the deed of settlement, together with the bye-laws, have received the King's approval and confirmation, so that the company is now fully constituted.

The following vessels have been chartered by the Netherlands Trading Company to load cargoes of produce in Java for the undermentioned ports:—*Sourabaya Packet*, Capt. S. C. Olivier; *Willem Daniel*, Capt. H. Zeylstra; *Rotterdam*, Capt. H. G. Adriaans; and *S. van Heel*, Capt. D. H. Dietz, all for Amsterdam. *Wilhelmina*, Capt. H. D. Wiersma; *Pieter*, Capt. H. Hogewerff; and *Gurtje Maria*, Capt. J. Flens, for Rotterdam. *Dordrecht*, Capt. F. A. Loos; and *Euterpe*, Capt. A. Kuypers, for Dordrecht; and *Grondwet*, Capt. F. C. Kaminga, for Middelburg. The charter of the *Vriendschap*, concluded in December last, has been cancelled, and the ship *Hollands Trouw*, Capt. K. J. Brauer, substituted, to carry a cargo to Amsterdam.

The *Record*, Capt. Butcher, from Samarang to Rotterdam, has put into Falmouth with loss of main-yard, and will remain there till the disappearance of the ice permits her to proceed to her destination.

The *Princess Amalia*, Capt. Van Bentveld, from Batavia to this port, has arrived at the Texel, where she lies for the present, icebound.

The Netherlands Trading Company have advertised on the part of the Colonial Department for tenders for 86,400 kilogr. of salt meat for the use of His Majesty's ships on the East India station; the tenders to be sent in by the 26th inst.

Permission having been granted to the soldiers of regiments in this country to exchange into the East India army, receiving the bounty of 120 florins for each, upwards of fifty men of the regiment, "Grenadiers and Jagers," quartered at the Hague, have volunteered for the service, and received orders to repair to the depot at Harderwyk for conveyance to Java as soon as the navigation is again open.

It is satisfactory to observe that, notwithstanding the continuance of the war in America, and the change in the tariff that came into operation in this country last year, the receipts of the Custom-house duties in 1863 were more than 100,000 florins above the estimates placed in the budget.

By Royal Decree of the 14th inst., No. 53, H.N.M. fourth class screw-corvette *Soestdyk*, of 10 guns, lying at Helvoetsluys, is ordered to be got ready for active service in the East Indies, and will be commissioned on the 1st of February. She will be commanded by Lieut. R. A. Houck, R.N.

The screw-corvette *Princess Maria*, of 10 guns, is to be commissioned at Nieuwe Deep on the 1st of May. Her destination is as yet unknown, and it is probably not yet determined; nor is her commander yet appointed.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

Per *Amalia Augusta*, Capt. de Veer, at Amsterdam, from Batavia: Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Everts.

Per *Johann Lodewyk*, Capt. van de Waal, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia: Messrs. van der Veen, Niclou, and Sellingen, four passported soldiers, and a Japanese woman and child.

Per *Kinderdyk*, Capt. Zwanenfeld, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia: Messrs. P. J. Outmans and A. J. Buyzet, four non-commissioned officers, and fourteen passported soldiers.

Per *Doggersbank*, Capt. Nuss, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia: Messrs. van Mansveld, van der Star, Willekins, and Wittenrood.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Since last mail this market has been very active, considerable sales having taken place at full prices. Last week 10,000 bags of private trade Padang, ex *Antonia Petronella*, at 44½, and 7,000 bags of Java, ex *Sliedrecht*, *Lobelia*, and *Ocean*, at 43 to 45, were taken, and this week 2,400 bags of Java, ex *Staatsraad van Ewyck*, at 45 and 45½ cents, and 1,500 bags of pale greenish Padang, ex *Julie*, were sold by importers at 46. A few lots out of the Company's last sale also changed hands at 45½ to 46 cents for good ord. Java, whilst 47 was obtained for some No. 6, and 47½ for No. 29. The Company have advertised for public sale on the 3rd of February next 2,078 bags and 107 casks Ceylon. The market closes in a firm condition.

SUGAR.—For the raw article there has been a very animated demand, and prices are much improved, whilst there is every appearance of a rising market. 836 kranjangs of very fine Sourabaya, No. 16½, ex *Tasmania*, were sold at 42 fl., since which a further rise of 1 to 1½ fl. has been established; and 5,000 kranjangs of Java have been sold at 2 to 2½ fl. above November sale prices. Brown and medium qualities are in most request, the demand for the finer descriptions above No. 16 being rather slack. In refined but little has been done, but manufacturers have also raised their demands. Owing to the severity of the frost the navigation is interrupted, and no shipments can be made.

RICE.—There are no transactions of any importance to record. 1,695 bags of rough Java, ex *Fanny*, are in the market.

SPICES.—A few parcels of nutmegs, No. 2, have been done at 55 cents; No. 3 is in request at 29, and likely to improve. For cinnamon, No. 3, 86 cents have been paid. Pepper looking up; 430 bags of Sumatra, ex *Antonia Petronella*, were sold at 20½ cents in bond.

METALS.—Banca Tin is regaining its former position; 500 blocks have been sold at 73 fl., but this price could not be maintained, and purchases might be made now at 72. Copper is higher, and cannot be had under 61 fl.

INDIGO firm, but with few sales.

COCHENILLE inactive; stocks nearly exhausted.

TOBACCO moves off, and fetches good prices. Stock of Java 8,413 bales.

RATTANS.—900 bundles (100 piculs), per *Fanny*, have been sold this week at former prices, to be received on board and landed at buyers' expense.

DRUGS.—The 60 chests of Gum Damar, to hand per *Fanny*, have been disposed of at full values.

CIGARS.—There have been some sales by auction of Manila, which went off as follows:—

350,000	Second Cortados, 1863, more or less damaged, all sold at 26¾ to 34¼ fl. per 1,000, duty paid.		
100,000	do.	do.	sold at 33 to 38¼ fl. duty paid.
50,000	do.	do.	sold at 28 to 37 fl. do.
20,000	do.	do.	bought in at 39 fl. do.
90,000	Second Habanos, 1863, partly damaged, sold at 24½ to 32½ fl., duty paid.		

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THE MUSSULMANS AT THE CAPE.

Some very interesting letters signed "H. C.," describing life, and society, and opinions at Constantinople, have been lately making their appearance in the *Athenæum*. The one in the number for the 16th inst. contains a singularly curious statement in reference to the establishment of a Mussulman ecclesiastical dignitary at Capetown. The writer says:—

I have before me a volume of the *Mejmoouai Funoon*, or "Magazine of the Arts," a monthly publication. It belongs [to the Jemiyeti Ilmiyehi Osmaniyeh, or Ottoman Literary Society, the newly-formed Useful Knowledge Society, and is compiled by its members. The editors are Munif Effendi and Kadri Bey. Among the contributors are H. H. Kiamil Pasha, late Grand Vizier, H. E. Edhem Pasha, H. E. Safert Pasha, H. E. Mehemed Jemil Pasha, Ambassador in Paris, Said Effendi (now in London on a mission), and Abu Bekr Effendi, Mussulman missionary at the Cape. The latter has contributed a series of letters on the Cape of Good Hope, which furnished the groundwork of a cock-and-bull story in the English papers, according to which the missionary of the Turkish Society for the Propagation of Islam among the Christians had depicted the dissensions among the Christians at the Cape, how a Bishop Colenso had criticised the text of the Scriptures, and how he believed that in ten years' time the inhabitants would abandon Christianity and adopt Islam; to promote which result he recommended that a number of well-paid Turkish missionaries should be sent to the Cape, and that a liberal distribution should be made of well-written Mussulman tracts. The real history of Abu Bekr's mission is, perhaps, more interesting than the imaginary one. In Capetown, a city of 30,000 inhabitants, 10,000 are Mussulmans, acknowledging the Padishah as the head of their religion When you were in Constantinople the Turks were much tickled by hearing from their Consul-General, Mr. De Roubaix, that there were Mussulmans who only spoke English or Dutch. It is a great satisfaction to the Turks to have these Mussulman dependents in an English territory, as they do not always bear with perfect complacency the assertion of some of the English here, that Queen Victoria is the greatest Sovereign over Mussulmans, and that our ambassador, Sir Henry Bulwer, represents the first Mussulman power. Dissensions on points of doctrine arising among the Mussulmans at the Cape, the matter was referred to Stamboul; and the Sublime Porte, instead of giving a verbal opinion, with great liberality sent out a distinguished mollah, Abu Bekr Effendi, well known in Stamboul circles, and they continue to pay him a salary of £400 a year. Abu Bekr Effendi has done much to improve the religious and moral condition of the Mussulmans of the Cape, and has established a school there. He has communicated to the *Mejmoosi Funoon* some interesting accounts of the Cape, and his proceedings; not, however, mentioning one little fact which has interested his numerous Stamboul acquaintance, that he has married there an English-speaking Mussulman lady, who is highly accomplished, and plays the piano, like several fashionable Khanums in Stamboul. The *Mejmoosi*, besides purely literary articles, has articles on geology, by Edhem Pasha; banking, by Munif Effendi; and Kadri Bey, telegrams, &c. As it is written in a good and pure style, it is much liked.

THE FEDERAL FRIGATE "NIAGARA."—The steam frigate *Niagara*, now lying off the battery, has been ordered to send half her crew on board Admiral Farragut's flagship *Hartford* and then proceed to Hampton Roads for the winter, thus virtually putting out of commission one of the finest ships in the navy. She was refitted, with her armament changed, at Boston last fall, and has since been among the fishermen on the coast, and more recently at Halifax, whence she sailed for this port. Her armament originally consisted of 12 11-inch guns, mounted as pivot guns on the spar deck. In the changes which were made she received 12 additional guns of the same calibre, besides several rifles. Being built to carry only 12, the additional weight of her armament, together with the increased quantity of ammunition she was required to carry, sunk her so low in the water that she became unmanageable. Indeed it is asserted that so useless was her armament of heavy Dahlgrens that she might have been captured by the *Alabama* had she met that vessel with an ordinary sea running. Even in mild weather and a moderate sea it has been found impossible to cast loose an 11-inch pivot gun and work it without endangering the lives of the men. The lower deck ports of the *Niagara* being only two feet out of water, it would have been equally impossible to have opened them without subjecting the ship to the imminent risk of being foundered. In fact, on her trip from Halifax, although she encountered no severe weather, it was found necessary to caulk her lower ports, and even then the sea frequently swept her decks. So this splendid ship is reported to be really as harmless at sea, for all purposes of war, as an unharmed merchant vessel, owing to the excessive weight and number of her guns.

THE "FLOWERY LAND" CASE.—The prisoners in this case have been committed for trial at the next sessions. The following letter has been written on the subject:—"Sir,—The inquiry now going on at Bow-street is another link in the long chain of crimes, "murders and piracy," committed on board our merchant ships by Greeks, Turks, Spaniards, Chinese, Italians, &c. The case of the *Flowery Land* (a sad burlesque on the hideous tragedy which occurred on board of her) starting with a valuable cargo on a distant voyage with such a gang of ruffians of all nations for a crew, is unfortunately not of rare occurrence; on the contrary, an affair of every day. Can this evil be remedied, and how? First, the commander of a merchant ship has little or nothing to do with the selection of his crew; he probably never sees them until a few hours before he sails, when he is fully occupied in settling shore accounts, and takes little heed of his crew till the pilot leaves him. How often at this crisis an unfortunate master finds himself in command of a sort of floating Babel, no three men speaking or understanding the same language? Supposing the motley group of many nations to be honest and well-conducted, how can a man speaking but one tongue give orders to, at the same moment, three or four sets of foreigners, having no common tongue? The case of the ill-fated *Tayleur*, wrecked on the Irish coast, was attributed to the ship being unhandy, and the crew, "composed of all nations," not understanding the orders given by the officers. Another case, the *Globe*, of Allos, in the Black Sea: the crew, consisting of Ionians, Maltese, Greeks, and Italians, early planned and discussed the murder of their shipmates, the English portion, and the plunder of the vessel, in their own languages, amongst each other, and in the presence of their unsuspecting victims. These ruffians had banded together on shore and shipped expressly for the purpose of murder and plunder. Surely British lives and the property entrusted in British ships deserve better protection than this. I trust that some one of the many members who represent in the House of Commons the shipping interest will consider this matter of foreign seamen, and what we gain and learn by their employment."

TELEGRAPH TO INDIA COMPANY.—The report of the directors states that the remaining assets have now been disposed of, and there are no further liabilities. Messrs. Glass, Elliot, and Co., the lessees of the line, have intimated that they will make no deduction from the half-yearly payment of £1,250 for the period ending 31st December, 1863, although the through communication was interrupted for about two months; they reserve to themselves, however, the right to claim the amount (£200) at any future time, should they think fit. The directors recommend that a dividend, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, to be paid to the shareholders for the half-year ending 31st December, 1863, payable on and after the 15th inst. The directors regret to inform the shareholders that intelligence has been received of a further interruption on the Malta and Alexandria cable, but they understand from Messrs. Glass, Elliot, and Co. that a ship has been despatched with a proper staff to repair the fault, and that the communication will, in all probability, be restored in about a month from this time. During the interruption on the Malta cable, this company will get the benefit of the receipts on the Alexandria, Cairo, and Suez line; and in consequence of the recent increase of the local traffic, the directors do not anticipate that there will be any deduction from the dividend of 5 per cent. per annum during the remainder of the lease. Before that term shall have expired, it is confidently expected that there will be a further extension of the telegraph in the direction of Aden, and possibly of India, by which the company's property will be greatly enhanced in value, and the directors will be able either to dispose of the line or to work it themselves with advantage and profit.

CANDELABRA FOR THE NIZAM.—A curious and very magnificent specimen of the style of Oriental luxury in which the great native chiefs of India indulge in their palaces, is now being exhibited in the Dudley Gallery of the Egyptian-hall. It is a gigantic candelabrum of the most costly design and elaborate execution—a specimen of one of five which were last year ordered in this country for the Nizam of the Deccan's palace at Secunderabad. The fact of such an order being given in England instead of Paris is a fresh proof of the great stimulus which was given last year to English trade by the International Exhibition, and to no trade more than the manufacture of English cut and engraved glass, which at Kensington last year carried off the honours from competitors in all parts of the world. Two conspicuous objects in this class were the great glass candelabra exhibited by Messrs. Defries under the east dome, and which were lighted with gas as darkness came on. On the last public day of the Exhibition an order came from India for five of these at £3,000 each, and for two of the concave prismatic mirrors similar to those manufactured by the same firm for the Sultan's new palace on the Bosphorus at £2,500 each—a single order for £20,000. The mirrors and four of the candelabra have been sent; the fifth is now on view at the Dudley Gallery. Its weight is no less than three tons, its height is 22 feet, its diameter at the head is 10 feet, and its 20 arms carry no less than 154 lights. In all there are upwards of 4,000 pieces of crystal and coloured glass used in the erection of this fragile structure, some of which are among the largest ever manufactured, such as the bowl under the arms, which is big enough to bathe in, being more than a foot deep and four feet wide, and all of which are either cut or engraved in every form of design which can be executed by the wheel. As a matter of course, a great deal of coloured glass is introduced to suit Oriental taste, and at the wish of the Nizam each candelabrum has been surmounted with a copy of the Imperial Crown of England, also in colours. The whole work would, no doubt, have better suited English notions of beauty had it been executed in bright crystal glass only, but such simplicity was found to be at variance with Oriental tastes, and coloured glass had to be partly introduced. The tints, however, have been well managed and harmonised skilfully.

SILKWORMS FROM CHINA VIA SIBERIA.—Since the appearance of the disease among silkworms, which has caused such serious loss to the producers of silk in France, several attempts have been made to procure seed from China. Some energetic travellers determined to carry the seed through Siberia, to protect it from the heat to which it would be exposed during a voyage by sea from China to Europe. M. Paul Maignon, a member of the Agricultural Society, has just arrived in Paris, after having accomplished a perilous voyage. Having carefully visited the southern provinces of China, and penetrated as far as 500 miles into the interior, he returned to France through Peking, Irkoust, and St. Petersburg, following the road taken two years since by M. de Bourboulon, the French Ambassador in China. He has obtained a vast deal of valuable information, which may be most useful to those who may feel disposed to undertake a similar journey. In his opinion the supply of seed required in France is not to be found in the province of Tohekiang, as was generally supposed, but in the western provinces on the frontiers of Thibet, rather even than in Japan. Nothing daunted by the danger and fatigue he has experienced, M. Paul Maignon speaks of extending his search at no distant period. It is said, moreover, that the Messagéries Imperiales Steam Navigation Company have resolved to fit up cool compartments in their ships for the conveyance of silkworms' seed from Shanghai to Suez.

THE PERSIAN GULF CABLE.—The ship *Marian Moore* has arrived at Bombay with a portion of the Persian Gulf submarine telegraph cable, and has gone to the Government transport moorings to have some fittings made ready prior to being taken in tow by the steamer *Victoria* for the Persian Gulf.

APPOINTMENT.—The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint George Thorne Ricketts, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Consul at Sarawak.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 27, 1864.

THE JAPANESE POLICY PROCLAIMED.

THE whole mass of the intelligence from Japan is but one continued proof of the correctness of the information which enabled us to assert that the views and tendencies of Prince SATSUMA have been entirely misapprehended in this country. From Nagasaki, where, be it remembered, being in SATSUMA'S own neighbourhood, his intentions and purposes are almost certain to be better understood than at Kanagawa or Yedo, we have it stated positively that he is, above all things, anxious for trade and friendly relations with foreigners. That the indemnity agreed on for past offences has not yet been paid to Colonel NEALE is probably owing to a delay caused by some Japanese forms of which we know nothing, since the belief current at Yokohama was that his people had junks not far from that port with cargoes of specie, or of goods, or both, to the value of upwards of $2,000,000. Another clue to the influence that produced the change in the policy of the TYCOON is obtained from the further accounts we have of the rebellion of the Prince of TSIOSIU, who is the chief instigator of hatred towards Europeans, and the direct actor in the latest outrages perpetrated against unoffending trading vessels. There has been published the order from the Government to certain Daimios named, announcing that TSIOSIU is "in open rebellion against the MIKADO and the TYCOON," having seized the commissioner sent to inquire into the occurrences at Simonoseki (the firing at foreign ships), and that, unless he submits, they are "to take himself and every mem- "ber of his family by force, and bring them to Yedo for trial "and punishment." The Daimios thus ordered were at first worsted, the Gokara, or chief officer of the father of the present TYCOON, meeting with his death in one of the engagements that took place. Later accounts represent the rebel army as surrounded, and reduced to the greatest straits. Thus, then, we find the head of the anti-European faction at open war with the established Government, and suffering defeat. The further little incident of the trifling indemnity for the attack on the *Pembroke* being tendered without pressure and almost without solicitation, is another, and not the least, important link in the evidence that convinces us our past anticipations were well founded, and that a future of rapid and undisturbed advancement may reasonably be prognosticated for our commerce with Japan. Not only, then, are we now enabled to speak from official facts and documents as to the clearly notified intentions of the Government, but every mail that arrives adds instances of the kindly feeling prevalent among the nation at large. If there be any section of the Japanese dissatisfied with the removal of the bars that prohibited intercourse with foreigners, that section will be found among the higher nobility alone—constituting even of them not the most numerous though a powerful part.

CHINA IN FOREIGN-OFFICE PIGEON HOLES.

THOSE who are in the habit of reading news from China, and of weighing what they read, must sometimes rub their eyes, and ask whether this jumble of disjointed provinces really corresponds to our idea of an Empire. Even when the Roman Empire was in the throes of dissolution, the mere name of Rome served as a rallying point for men's ideas; and to this day "Washington D.C." exercises a certain charm over all who had ever dreamed of a Republican Empire beyond the Atlantic. But what Chinaman cares twopence about Peking? What association has it with his history or his literature, supposing him to be of a soul aspiring to mandarin buttons? It is in this incapacity of the Chinese for any higher national life that the great difficulty will, we are confident, be found by any foreign nation which seeks to reconstruct the fast-decaying fabric of Chinese society. Therefore it is that we revert to our proposal of obtaining a foothold in the north of China, which might serve as a centre whence strong ideas might radiate, to redeem the bulk of the nation from that utter apathy to public life, which is the natural result of such a state of society as has been introduced by the Tartar dynasty of MING. It is vain, we fear, to hope that departmental jealousy at home can ever be so far allayed as to permit of the conduct of the delicate negotiations, which we shall have, ere long, to set on foot with the Peking Cabinet being entrusted to either of the only two boards that can pretend to any knowledge of Eastern affairs—the Colonial or the Indian. Yet if there is one lesson that the experience of our diplomacy in the Far East teaches us more clearly than any other, it is that our traditional routine of diplomatic formalities is utterly powerless in China. Merchants have long since discovered that in China they must incur tremendous responsibilities, for which, however, they reap in return enormous profits. Everything is on a scale commensurate with the vastness of the country and the population, with the exception of the space allotted to China in the pigeon-holes of the Foreign-office. There, the very lack of all that enables us elsewhere, even in Japan, to bind or to loose, to make treaties and bring to summary reckoning those who violate them—the absence, in short, on the part of the Chinese people, of national self-respect—instead of inducing anxiety and grave deliberation, serves only to lull the officials to repose. Were the most insignificant of European States to present the symptoms of decay which he who runs may read in every mail from China, we should have successive relays of couriers on the road, advising, imploring, snubbing, and remonstrating. Here with a trade increasing in one port alone (Shanghai), some 40 per cent. annually, with new centres of enterprise springing up within the heart of the country, with fresh landward routes in process of survey every year—some, we fear, not likely to benefit our own *prestige* with the great mass of the population—with all this before its eyes, the Foreign-office professes to wait the course of events, and is content to meet each new incident in the great drama with its own stereotyped European formulas. We look in vain for any attempt to make available even the concessions which were wrung from the Mandarins of Peking by the blood of some of our best soldiers and sailors. Captain BLAKISTON and Colonel SAREL showed us what could be done up the Yang-tze, provided we would assert our treaty rights. Captain SPRYE only awaits official sanction to give effect to the numerous memorials presented by almost every mercantile corporation in the country, as to the advantages of a south-west landward route through Burmah. Other projectorrs are eager to convey through Assam *viâ* the head-waters of the Yang-tse the enormous wealth of the Western provinces. Other Powers even, with interests avowedly opposed to our own, are pressing forward, so as to be in readiness to commence trade as soon as the catastrophe shall have occurred which the most short-sighted perceives to be imminent. Yet the Foreign-office folds its hands, shuts down the folio that opens at the heading "China," and—waits. The potent spell of "*non-possumus*" has, after the lapse of three centuries, been borrowed from Rome, with this difference, that whereas it is the talisman which alone preserves vitality in the Temporal Empire, it is used in Downing-street to check enterprise and prolong the agonies of decay.

Nor we fear is the apathy we complain of to be confined henceforth to instances of general inefficiency. It is obvious that armed bands, trained more or less to foreign drill, are everywhere organising. The very last intelligence we have points to imminent peril impending over even our latest opened ports. The mail from Newchwang, we read, was robbed four times in less than 200 miles, in suspicious proximity to which announcement we read that some 3,000 Chinese troops, organised by Captain CONEY, had disbanded for want of pay. Of course it is what we may expect to see, so long as the Foreign-office abdicates its function, as at present. Here were all the elements of confusion, which ought to alarm even an official mind—Chinese troops, a British commander, a Russian rifle—the kind of weapons that picked off men in the trenches before Sebastopol at 800 yards. In short, whichever way we attempt to interfere, whether by granting permission to commissioned officers of our twin services to do a little land piracy on their own account, or by endeavouring to secure the observance of

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treaties solemnly guaranteed, we are equally met with indifference at home and unblushing chicanery abroad. Yet the same Chinese question has before now unseated the very strongest ministry, and would infallibly be used as a party weapon in the event of any party move being again resorted to.

TO CHINA AND JAPAN *VIA* BRITISH COLUMBIA.

If one point more than another may be considered settled in what relates to the future of the world's destiny, it is that the progress of invention has deprived the ocean of the prestige it had acquired as the safest, easiest, and most pleasant means of communication between distant hemispheres. The land has again asserted its pre-eminence as the element most adapted for man's purposes in all respects—even for the requirements of those restless habits of locomotion which, whether engendered by the adventurous spirit of commerce, or by a craving for the excitement of travel, are so eminently characteristic of the present age. Railways and telegraphic wires seem destined to throw back the ocean from being the magnificent "silent highway" of nations into the position of a mere canal, of wider proportions than ordinary, excellently calculated, and, to that extent serviceable, for the heavy traffic that does not need and would not pay for speedier means of transit. Wherever a railway can be constructed, either to supersede or merely to shorten the sea voyage, there we may be sure a very short space of time will behold the steam-horse snorting and puffing his way. The rapid interchange of commodities is so essentially the very basis of modern commerce, that the many reasons which induce this desire for bringing all the centres of production and consumption as closely together as possible need not be recapitulated. They are known to the youngest clerk in a merchant's office, who has commenced the new year with the discovery that the more he knows of geography the easier will he master many of the mysteries of a Price Current. No wonder, then, can be felt that ever and anon, at intervals lessened at each recurrence, we hear of some new effort, some new route, some new projector, aiming at the shortest *trajet*, both for passengers and traffic, between Great Britain and the stores of wealth and trading activity that lie in the Far East. It is worthy of note, too, that this grand desideratum does not engage the attention alone of those who are resident at the two extremes of this golden chain. Wherever a route practicable for the engineer and convenient for the traveller is to be found, there, along the whole line, do we continually see advocates springing up, zealously setting forth its advantages and obviating objections. One glance at the Map of the World, following out indications with which our readers are well acquainted from former articles that have appeared in our pages—and coupling the much that has been done with the more that remains to do—will show that while we must look for telegraphic communication with China and Japan through St. Petersburg and Russian Asia, we ought to bestir ourselves at once to shorten the voyage for goods and passengers, by the agency of a railway, right through the British possessions in North America to Vancouver's Island.

In British Columbia they are fully alive to the subject, and are earnestly discussing the best route for the railway to run. In a prize essay, just published in that colony, the writer, the Rev. C. L. Brown, goes into the matter at length, and demonstrates that difficulties have been alleged that have no existence at all, or that have been grossly exaggerated. His statement is as follows:—

There is steam communication to the head of Lake Superior; thence to the Red River Settlement a road could be made without much difficulty From the Red River to Edmonton the way lies up the valley of the great Saskatchewan River, navigable for 700 miles. This is described as a splendid and extensive valley, capable of supporting a large agricultural population. At Edmonton the difficulties begin. Thence to Jasper House in the Rocky Mountains, 400 miles, the country is swampy and bad. There is a coalfield here, and the seams appear on the surface, at some places on fire. Here the party from which this information is obtained (the party of Canadians who entered British Columbia by this route last autumn) built their nightly camp fires of coal. The gorge through which this road enters British Columbia is the New Caledonia or Jasper Pass. It is described as a natural roadway through the mountains, which rise on either side like a wall, to a height of many thousand feet. From Jasper House to Tete Jaune Cache, at the head of the Fraser, the country around is rugged and mountainous, yet there is a valley through which a road or railway could be carried. From Tete Jaune Cache the road would probably take a direct course for Cariboo, by one of three valleys, as yet unexplored, which appear to connect the latter with the head waters of the Fraser. From Cariboo the line would be taken to the mouth of Quesnelle River, where it would join the great highways from the lower Fraser and (should such be ultimately constructed) from Bentinck Arm or any other seaport on the north-west coast. The whole distance between the heads of navigation, namely, from Lake Superior to Bentinck Arm, by this line is about 2,200 miles. It is preferable to the route by St. Paul's, Minnesota, because the whole course lies through British territory; and the Jasper Pass Road is more free from Indian molestation than the more southerly passes.

This line of route, it will be seen, has therefore the twofold advantage of bringing us not only to the shores of the Pacific, opposite Japan and China, but of affording conveyance to that increasing string of emigration that will be attracted to British Columbia by the further gold discoveries each mail adds to the allurements held out by the colony to the young and enterprising. No settlement has been so much abused as the one in question: no colony has had such a jealous rival close by its side. Every effort has been made by the Americans of San Francisco, and Oregon, and Washington Territory—assisted, singular to say, by a discontented party here in England—to deter emigrants from proceeding thither. But the gold is there, on British ground; that cannot be gainsaid. And what is more, further investigation has led to the conviction that the precious metal is to be found on the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains as well as on the western. Never was there a line of railway projected so tempting in all respects to the capitalist. It commences almost at the outset by running along the valley of the great Saskatchewan River, a wide level flat of fertile land, stretching away to the Rocky Mountains, and perfectly fitted for cultivation. The moment the difficulties of the route are met with, the constructors will be encouraged by finding that the progress they have already made has landed them in a coal-field, where that grand motive power in all kinds of vulcanic operation—locomotive, mining, smelting, forging, casting—actually crops up to the surface. The gorge in the Rocky Mountains once passed through, the constructors will probably become aware of their proximity to the richest gold-fields in the world by missing their labourers. Gold-finding, however, has its seasons, and when tired out or drowned out the navvies would gladly revert to the rail or tramway—to sure pay, and less hard work.

Neither, must it be remembered, is any portion of the route already without its wants to be supplied and its produce to be taken in return. The new Hudson's Bay Company will gladly avail themselves of its agency to forward goods out to their stations, and to receive back their valuable furs. By adopting, indeed, the American notion of enabling the railway company to locate settlers along the line, the Hudson's Bay Company, who are the ground landlords of half a continent lying between the Atlantic and Pacific, could not but be immensely benefited. Their predecessors observed so much mystery as to everything relating to their territory that its capabilities will never be known till they are in process of development by actual settlers. The selfish cunning of the old corporation has been justly punished by their now waking up to the fact that the grim secrecy of their policy has ended in letting a country abounding in gold slip through their fingers. Canadian geologists scruple not to say that two gold-bearing ranges, some 1,200 miles apart, will gladden the hearts of those who are bold enough to venture into a region now established to be no desert fit only for the occasional visit of the Indian hunter. A better acquaintance with it shows it to be a fine and noble territory, the interior of which, till a very high northern latitude is reached, has a soil and a climate that will amply reward the labours of the agriculturist, and, in its wilder districts, mineral deposits that will enrich the adventurous miner.

Once arrived by this easier and speedier route at Vancouver's Island, there is little need to enlarge on the benefits to English commerce that would at all times result from our possessing this new line of steam communication with China and Japan across the Pacific. We should then have, what we cannot get by any other possible means, a communication throughout along British ground or in British ships. That little strip of earth or sand between Alexandria and Suez may be closed against us at any moment. Our passage across that narrow isthmus is by permission, not by treaty; and between the PACHA, the SULTAN, and third parties, of whom there are too many concerned, it is hard to say what complications might at any moment arise that would result in the permission being withdrawn, were it only to assert the right of withdrawal. We will not go into the question of the time that would be taken in traversing the distance between London and Shanghai by this "north-west passage," as we are not in possession of the full data for speaking positively on the subject. When the thing is

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seriously taken up, it will be found that the economy of time will be much greater than would at first sight appear. The voyage across the Pacific would certainly have the merit of being safe and pleasant; and islands lie so abundantly in the track—to say nothing of Hawaii—that there would be no difficulty in fixing on suitable coaling stations, that, like all the rest of the ground trodden on, should be British property.

THE COMMUNICATION TO CHINA VIA SIBERIA.

SOME of our contemporaries have a paragraph announcing that we can communicate to Peking in a week. As already stated in our last, the telegraphic line is now open to Irkutsk, which is about two days' journey from Kiachta. The transmission of messages to Irkutsk occupies from one to three days, according to the state of the weather, &c. From Kiachta to Peking by express courier route the distance can be accomplished in nine ten days, or a total of say fourteen days from London to Peking. From Peking to Tientsin, and thence by steamer to Shanghai, would occupy about five days more, assuming a steamer to be ready for the purpose.

Literature.

Travels and Adventures of an Officer's Wife in India, China, and New Zealand, by Mrs. MUTER, form two delightful volumes, from the pen of the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel D. D. Muter, of the *13th Light Infantry*, just published by Hurst and Blackett. The interest abounding in their pages will be recognised at once when we state that they embrace a residence in India during the outbreak, which found the lady's husband holding the rank of Captain in the 60th Rifles. The rebellion over, the story of the authoress wafts us to Canada, whither she accompanies her consort on a visit to his father. On their return they proceed to China with the 2nd Battalion of the 60th, go on to the Peiho, winter at Hong Kong, again embark for Tientsin, visit Peking, and, on getting back to England after the Chinese war was a thing of the past, the Colonel exchanges to a battalion in India, and obtains permission to visit New Zealand on private business, on his way to join the regiment at Calcutta. With such a variety of lands, and manners, and men to describe, it is impossible that an accomplished woman, jotting down her impressions in a diary at the moment of their sensation, should not have produced a series of sketches that have all the reality and vividness of photographs. Then, professional subjects are continually touched on, and the opinions enunciated on such topics are put forward in a decisive tone, as becomes the convictions of a man who has experienced the evils he desires to remedy—for these portions of the volumes are acknowledged in the preface to be the composition of Lieutenant-Colonel Muter. A residence of some duration at Hong Kong on two occasions causes three or four chapters to be devoted to Victoria and Canton, and these are certainly not the least amusing of the series. The authoress sums up a comparison of the Indians and Chinese, as the result of her personal acquaintance with both, considerably to the advantage of the latter. She says—

> There are fewer barriers opposing the onward progress of the Chinese than of the people of India; and I prophecy that after the sharp trials which their own cruelty and the folly and ignorance of their rulers have brought on the "Flowery Kingdom," the race will rapidly rise, while the priest-ridden Hindoo will remain sunk in sloth, and the Mussulman in his savage fanaticism.

From one who has travelled so much, a description of Victoria, embracing a tribute to the courteous hospitality of Sir Hercules Robinson, acknowledged more than once in the course of the narrative telling how she was tossed to and fro in the China seas, will be received as especially trustworthy. The Governor of Hong Kong, it would appear from what follows, may at least congratulate himself on being lodged more nobly than the great majority of Her Majesty's vicegerents:—

> Victoria, as the loyal subjects of Her Majesty insist on calling every new place, is the city of Hong Kong; and, in speaking of Hong Kong, as I before observed, Victoria is our only concern, and one well worth the attention of the nation. This city has many peculiar points, as it has not grown like others, but sprung full-blown into the world. With the single exception of Melbourne, it has developed in a shorter period a greater growth than any other city in our empire. Unlike Melbourne, Victoria had no small beginnings. The trade now transacted in Hong Kong was created when the island was a wretched fishing-place, where pirates resorted for concealment. This trade required a depot protected by England, and the protection desired England guaranteed on that rock. The chief of the great China houses established their principal offices on the soil annexed to the British empire; and the exports and the imports, estimated at tens of millions sterling, quickly did the rest. It must not be supposed that all the goods exchanged are stored in the city. It is more like a broker's office, where samples only of the bulky articles are shown; ships proceeding from the harbour to ports along the coast for cargoes. Were the trade to be transferred to another site, Victoria would disappear as quickly as it has arisen, and the wretched and unhealthy rock would again become a desolate haunt of the pirate. How far the openings of new ports may have the effect of transferring the trade remains to be seen. Canton is doomed, for only the most absurd regulations of the Government of China could have made it the European mart for the commerce of that empire. The opening of the Yang-tse, the true channel of commerce, must have an effect; the results experience only can show. But in the meantime our Chinese city is growing with a vigour that bids fair to make it one of the most considerable of the British empire, and to shed on the nation no small credit throughout the Far East.
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> I commence my sketch, as in duty bound, at the Government House. If I exaggerate the pretensions of the abode of the Queen's representative, the fault lies with the Governor and Lady Robinson, whose kindness to me has thrown over the place a rose-coloured tint. The house warm and gay in the occupation of one may appear dull and cold when occupied by another; then the tints which feeling throws in may convey a false impression. I doubt whether there is a Government House in any of our colonies equal to this. It stands on a spur to the left of the principal ravine, across the rocky bed of the torrent. On the right spur is Head Quarter house. The architect selected the best spot, had it levelled, and on the plateau raised the structure, overhanging the town and overlooking the harbour. It is surrounded by a garden, and the hill, falling abruptly on three sides, is planted with trees and intersected by walks. The house is therefore isolated, and, as it ought to be, the finest by far among no ignoble competitors. The building is square, rising from a base composed of blocks of cut granite, and facing the harbour and city. The land at the back, by which the house is approached and entered, is on the level of the first floor, but in front it is much lower, that level being attained by a noble flight of granite steps, a fine verandah running along the full frontage. Two reception-rooms, occupying the whole length, and separated by a vestibule, open to this verandah. The vestibule leads to a square in the centre of the house, lighted from the roof by coloured glass—a noble hall, and one worthy of a London club. Half-way up, a projecting gallery encircles the hall, leading to the bed-rooms. The gallery is reached by a stone staircase, whose winding steps may be seen between pillars of granite. A passage leads from the hall to the entrance at the back. The apartments at the sides and behind the hall are the library, billiard-room, waiting-room, &c. They were all papered and painted, carpeted, and furnished as in England. There was no appearance of India about the place; no stucco-work, nothing bare and empty; all was rich, massive, and comfortable. The stables are connected with the residence on one side by a covered way, and the kitchens and other outhouses on the other side, giving the house, from the rear, a crescent-like appearance. It stands some three hundred feet above the sea, with the town extending before it to the right and left.
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> The city is built along the shore, facing the mainland. Much of its ground is reclaimed from the sea. Wherever I turned I saw evidences of energy and wealth—miles of granite quays, and good streets, well paved and macadamized, with rows of thriving young trees. The barracks, hospitals, Government stores, commercial depots, banking establishments and shops, are all of a good order of architecture. The most eligible sites are occupied by barracks, navy-yards, ordnance and commissariat stores. But this expanding town will have a fine opening for its increasing commerce on the opposite shore of Kowloon.

Randolph Methyl; a Story of Anglo-Indian Life; from the pen of Mr. W. W. IRELAND, author of the "History of the Siege of Delhi;" London: Ward and Lock. This is a picture of society and incident in India just prior to and during the late mutiny. Without making the slightest pretence to fine writing, the story is carried on with the greatest rapidity, every page almost having its own action and character. The interest never flags, and the author is never dull, whether he is narrating an exciting scene of the mutiny or recording the scandal of an out-station. He is ready with an opinion on every subject he touches, and if he startles at times with the singularity of his views, his remarks always evince knowledge of human nature and experience of the world. Mr. Ireland is an admirer of the past, so far as our Indian rule is concerned. His hero, "like most officers belonging to the Indian army, is disgusted with the treatment they received from the Home Government;" and Major Campbell, his model man, "meets any attack on the native character with indignant protest." These two volumes certainly contain some of the lightest and pleasantest reading that ever issued from the establishment of their publishers.

Messrs. NEGRETTI and ZAMBRA, who have attained such a high reputation as meteorological instrument-makers, have published a most valuable work, to be had at all their establishments, being a *Treatise on Meteorological Instruments*. The publishers are also the authors, which is alone a guarantee that the book fulfils its intention, that of a plain description of the various instruments now in use, with such information as is generally required regarding them. The descriptions are copiously illustrated by woodcuts, and nothing seems wanting to render the volume a complete hand-book of reference.

The *Chinese and Japanese Repository* for January has a very interesting article by Sir J. F. DAVIS, Bart., on "The Poetry of the Chinese," in which comparisons with Scriptural and classical poetry give great zest to the subject. The solemnity there is

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in the serene stillness of a moonlight night is expressed with wonderful power in the four following lines from a Buddhist poet:—

The rain has ceased, and the shining summits are apparent in the void expanse;
The moon is up, and looks like a bright pearl over the expanded plain:
One might imagine that the Great Spirit had stretched forth an arm
From afar—from beyond the sea—and was numbering the Nations.*

Another paper is a translation from the "Arte China" of Père Gonçalves, by Sir John Bowring. "Japan: its Political State, &c.," is a reprint from the *Chinese Repository*.

Practical Lessons on the Comparative Construction of the Verb in the French and English Languages, by JULES FESTU, published by Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., is a book we can earnestly recommend to all who desire to speak or write French with ease and correctness. The author rightly observes in his preface that "Syntax is one thing and construction another." Construction is precisely the difficulty most embarrassing to the Englishman who attempts to hold a conversation in French. M. Jules Festu's rules are so plain, and his examples so well chosen, that the difficulty just referred to will disappear, as if by magic, before his instructions.

THE DEFUNCT ANGLO-CHINESE NAVY.

(ECONOMIST.)

The danger just escaped in China was even greater than we had imagined. We knew that our recent acts in that empire tended towards a Protectorate, but we did not know they had been arranged with a view to that identical end. We believed that the Government favoured Captain Osborn's appointment, but we did not believe, after Mr. Layard's assurances, that his engagement was formally sanctioned by Her Majesty's Ministers, or that he considered himself responsible both to the Ministry at home and the British Ambassador in China. More extraordinary papers than those contained in the correspondence between Captain Osborn, Mr. Bruce, Mr. Lay, and Prince Kung were, we venture to say, never laid before a people professing to manage its own affairs. They show that Mr. Lay, formerly British Consul, now Inspector-General of Chinese Customs, and British referee on all occasions of difficulty, had devised a plan for creating an Anglo-Chinese fleet, for emancipating it from the authority of every one except himself—and, in a very limited degree, the Emperor of China—had planned a complete revolution in Chinese administration, and missed success in his enormous schemes only through a change of purpose on the part of the Chinese Regent.

The correspondence is, for Asiatic correspondence, very unusually clear, all the personages concerned having lost their tempers so completely as to leave them neither wish nor discretion for any further concealment. It appears, then, that in October, 1862, Mr. Lay, Inspector-General of the Foreign Customs of China, and manager of the large and increasing Customs revenue, persuaded Prince Kung that a foreign fleet was necessary to the Empire. The Regent accordingly authorised him to obtain such a fleet, specially empowering him to "arrange the terms and conditions of every description of agreement." This commission was almost plenary, but it must, of course, in justice be read as only conveying such powers as its framer had the right to convey—that is, such powers as could be considered legal under the laws and customs of China. Mr. Lay, however, a daring, ambitious, and probably philanthropic man, was determined to stretch his authority to its utmost possible bounds, and accordingly returning to England, selected Capain Sherard Osborn as Admiral, and entered with him into the following astounding contract:—Captain Osborn was to be "Commander-in-Chief of the European Chinese navy," under a commission from the Emperor, and engaged—we quote the actual words—"to act upon all orders of the Emperor which might be conveyed direct to Lay, and *not to attend to any orders conveyed through any other channel*," while "Lay, upon his part, engaged to refuse to be the medium of any orders of the reasonableness of which he was not satisfied." In other words, while Captain Osborn was to be Admiral, Mr. Lay was to be Admiralty, and to possess the power, moreover, of refusing to obey the nominal Sovereign of both. The whole system of Chinese administration was at once set aside, and an independent navy created, not amenable to the order of any Viceroy, or any Cabinet officer in Peking, or any Chinese authority, except the Emperor, and to him only when acting under the veto of Mr. Lay. It appears, moreover, that these stipulations were not worded in this manner, as stipulations sometimes are, merely to meet extreme contingencies, such as an Imperial order to the Anglo-Chinese fleet to attack a British ship, but were deliberately framed "after long and careful discussion," in order that Captain Osborn should never have any Chinaman as his superior, and that all Chinese customs whatsoever should be superseded. "I did not come here," writes Captain Osborn, "*or my followers either*, to accustom ourselves to the treatment usual with Chinese sailors or soldiers, or to assist them in a retrogressive policy in the treatment of European *employés*, or Europeans in general. The employment of ships of war and war steamers of European construction is an innovation, and that of European officers and gentlemen still more so. I and my force are part and parcel of a new order of things indicating progressive China. I will be no party to her lapsing back into her ancient system, and treating Europeans *as if they were Chinamen*." The determination to create an *imperium in imperio*, applicable to all cases, and active at all times, was never more frankly expressed, and Captain Osborn will probably admit that this was his real design. At all events, it is quite certain that this is the way in which it would have worked. Mr. Lay, being virtually for marine affairs chief Emperor—for the veto lay with him—and already in possession of a growing and great revenue, would, through the fleet, have been master of all the rivers and coasts of China, on which rivers and coasts stand all her great cities, except Peking. There is not, to speak plainly, a great commercial city in the Empire which ten lines from him to Capt. Osborn would not have battered down, while he could prevent the Emperor from undertaking operations against any one of them. A European would have been, in fact, the only effective authority in the country, which differs from all others, except the United States, in its dependence on water communications, and had the same system been applied, as it would have been, to the army—Captain Osborn complained openly because it is not—he would have been a visible Mayor of the Palace, with whom rather than with the Emperor foreign nations must have treated. It is difficult, perhaps impossible, to define the precise limits of the authority possessed by a Chinese Emperor, but we do not hesitate to affirm that this arrangement was beyond it. The very basis of such authority is the tacit contract that it shall not be transferred to foreigners, and even if Prince Kung intended to grant it, he could not have effected his object without treachery to the lad whose guardian and mouthpiece he is. We cannot believe that he intended anything of the kind, any more than that the giver of a general power-of-attorney intends that it should be employed to abolish his own right to cancel the instrument. The authority granted to Mr. Lay was actually used to cancel the power of the Sovereign who conferred it, a view which no Plenipotentiary, however ample his powers, could be justified in indulging. The Regent, therefore, in refusing to ratify Mr. Lay's agreements, has not, so far as these papers show, been guilty even of a technical breach of faith.

This, however, is but a part, and a very small part, of this remarkable affair. If the Regent of China chooses to transfer the country to a foreigner, that is an act on which his people must judge, not we, but there is evidence in these letters that he was transferring it to the British Government—that Captain Osborn was, perhaps in a limited sense, but certainly in some sense, in their employ. Captain Osborn himself writes to Prince Kung in terms which certainly seem to imply that the British Government had come to an arrangement with the Regent in the sense of Mr. Lay's contract, for he complains that the Regent's instructions are "entirely contrary to the understanding under which Her British Majesty's Government permitted himself and others to agree to serve the Emperor." Moreover, Captain Osborn, on receipt of definite refusals from the Court of Peking, at once applied to the Ambassador, requesting his official instructions as to the disposal of the fleet, and Sir F. Bruce responds that "he will not consent to the ships and stores being handed over to the Chinese Government without instructions to that effect from Her Majesty's Government." And, finally, Captain Osborn, in a general order disbanding his crews, makes this distinct and formal statement:—"Were I to accept such a position for this force, and thus take service under provincial and subordinate Chinese officials, instead of under the Emperor of China, I should violate the spirit and word of Her Most Gracious Majesty's Order in Council, *and act in disregard of the wishes of Her Most Gracious Majesty's Government*, forgetful of every pledge I gave before I undertook the organisation of the squadron." In other words, Her Majesty's Government did, in Captain Osborn's belief, instruct and desire him to assume *quasi* independent authority in China, and made this the condition of permitting him to serve. They may have been right in so stipulating, or Captain Osborn may be mistaken in making this statement, but the subject is one which cannot fail to attract grave attention in Parliament. A British Minister is justly allowed very considerable latitude in dealing with Asiatic affairs, but to assume a Protectorate over China, under cover of leading her a few officers, without previously consulting Parliament, is an act which demands not only serious but satisfactory explanation. For the present the plan is stopped; but our pleasure at that result must remain imperfect until the country has been assured that it will not be resumed.

(SPECTATOR.)

Mr. Lay has missed empire by a hair's breadth. Those who wish to understand what manner of men Anglo-Asiatics are, why England finds it so difficult not to extend her Asiatic dominion beyond all limits of moderation, why we alone of mankind seem able in the Far East to found, should study the correspondence published this week between Captain Sherard Osborn and Prince Kung. There they will find that an Englishman, known at home chiefly as an interpreter and assistant in various minor missions, without official dignity, without a single subordinate, without even a national reputation, has devised, and nearly carried out a scheme which in its imperial grandeur of conception makes European designs, even when announced by Napoleon, look almost dwarfish; has prepared, and almost consummated a revolution in the destiny of a third of the human race; has deliberately thought out and barely failed in a plan for reducing the most populous of the empires of the world into a dependency of Great Britain. They will perceive—if they can recognise character through correspondence—that he was pursuing this plan with a full consciousness of its end, with an adaptation of means to objects such as we find in Europe only among the few men who, at intervals of a century, leave a deep mark on the history of the world. They will recognise, in short, the great truth of our Asiatic position—that the strange careers opened by English authority in Asia breed statesmen such as were bred when Spain in her day of vigour pitched herself upon the New World, men whose thoughts are not the thoughts of every-day home life, who are not bound by the laws, or the limits, or the morals which chain down all classes in England, who at once in the grandeur of their aims, and the unscrupulous character of their plans, belong to a class whom comfort-seeking Londoners believe to have passed away, the true "Conquistadores." Mr. Lay is not unique except in his opportunities. There are scores of such men in India, and floating through half the great towns of Asia—men who start from the thought that they are by nature rulers, whose day-dreams are of conquering kingdoms and organising provinces, who are ready, grant them but a foothold, to add any empire in Asia to the long list of British dependencies, who not only believe that England had better govern all Southern Asia, but who have thought out the means by which to secure that enormous end, and ask little except an official smile to stake their lives and their fortunes upon the realisation of ideas which even to statesmen often seem the most unreal of dreams. Creating an army is said to be the most difficult of tasks, but there are Indians who have created a dozen; there is one in London now who made a disciplined force of the enemies he had just

* China was formerly divided into separate and independent States.

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been conquering, and every adventurer employed in China licks the most unpromising of materials in a few weeks into effective soldiers. It is thought a great thing to found a new trade, but less than ten firms built up in China a commerce now more than twenty-two times as great as the whole commerce of India, when the company, after seventy years of exertion, surrendered it to the nation as a perfected work. It is a great matter to found among any people a Government which shall be at variance with its history, its instincts, and its prejudices, yet create no insurrection; but Anglo-Asiatics will point to a hundred men, each one of whom, if vested with the authority of Great Britain, will land in any corner of Asia, obtain instruments from within the country itself, and in twelve months change a new conquest into an orderly dependency, where everybody, from the day labourers to the Governor, is growing rapidly rich.

(ARMY AND NAVY GAZETTE.)

The reason which induced the Regent to swerve from his original agreement was this—that he had since observed that officers in Her Majesty's army, acting under a similar Order in Council to that granted to Captain Sherard Osborn, had considered themselves justified in taking service under the authority of local mandarins, and not under that of the Emperor. The administration of the Imperial and local Governments in China being totally distinct, had Captain Sherard Osborn been weak enough to take service under the local Government, he would not only have acted in defiance of Her Majesty's Order in Council, but have enabled the Emperor to ignore his existence wherever it pleased him to do so, and have been placed in as false a position as that occupied by Major Gordon, Royal Engineers, which gallant and most able officer is now sighing to escape from the thraldom of local military service under the Foutai of Shanghai. On the 9th of November, Captain Sherard Osborn disbanded the force, and called on the officers and men to carry out the request of Her Majesty's Ministers. Though all law had from that moment virtually ceased, there was not one dissenting voice, either amongst crews or officers, as to their determination to carry out the wishes of their chief; and the letter addressed to him by the captains of the squadron, which—together with his memorandum—we publish elsewhere, is alike honourable to both, and may be said to interpret the unbounded confidence in all concerned in his integrity and ability. Were other proof required of the rectitude of Captain Sherard Osborn's conduct it will be found in the concluding paragraph of the last letter addressed to him by Her Majesty's Ministers at Peking.

MINING IN CHINA.

The following interesting article is from the *Mining Journal*. There are several portions which are open to correction :—

The mighty empire of China, reaching with its tributary countries 900 leagues from north to south, and about 1,500 from east to west, has given evidence in all ages of great metallurgic wealth. A metallic currency, running centuries back, constitutes an evidence of the value that has attached to the precious metals, whilst the infinite uses to which these are applied in the manufactures and the arts indicate a large and never-failing supply. Copper may be obtained in China at £40 per ton, and so abundant is silver, that Capt. Kinder, the master of the mint that is to be set up at Hong Kong, and which will be in operation in the course of eighteen months, contemplates getting all the silver he may require on the spot, not only from the influx of foreign silver currency, which the Chinese are accustomed to cut and melt, but from the native mines. The province of Kiang-nan gives 32,000,000 taels of silver in tribute to the Emperor every year, each tael being worth 6s. sterling, and this tribute coming mainly from its mines. The natural productions of the province of Trapien are gold, silver, iron, tin, and mercury. The silver mines are extensively worked. There are no means of ascertaining the value or supply of the quicksilver mines, but it is only reasonable to anticipate that in time to come China will overthrow the present monopolies in this most important article. The moderate extent to which gold mining is carried on—mines of gold being under the absolute control and the personal property of the Emperor—prevents that demand for a supply of quicksilver which would not fail to test the capacity of these mines. The western part of the province of Honan abounds in metals. In the province of Chensi the gold is washed so plentifully from the mountains that numbers of people earn a living by searching for it in the streams flowing from the mountains. This province touches on its northern boundary Tartary, and on its western the Mogul country.

The province of Se-Tchnen, touching on the west the kingdom of Thibet, carries on a large trade with the produce of its silk, its iron, tin, and quicksilver mines, as well as in loadstones and lapis armenius. At Tchong-king, a place of great trade, two rivers meet, one of which is called Golden Sand, from the character of the deposits on its banks. Along the whole course of its progress, and it appears to receive all the streams which flow from the mountains on the confines of Tartary, people are engaged in sifting the sand for the auriferous particles obtainable. In the island of Hainan, in the vicinity of the province of Quantung, an island large, mountainous, and populous, one part of which only is subject to the Emperor of China, the gold used in traffic for which the Chinese merchants once gained immense profits, comes from the mountains inhabited by an independent people, who, driven by the Chinese from the plains and valleys, have retired to the mountains in the interior of the island, where they preserve their freedom. Notwithstanding that communication with them is forbidden on pain of death, a considerable illicit intercourse is still kept up. The island of Honan is likely to prove one of the most promising fields for gold mining, if ever the country should be opened to foreign industrial enterprise. The province also of Koei-tcheon, a barren country, consisting almost entirely of inaccessible mountains, and the natives of which are rude and barbarous, affecting a defiance of the Chinese laws and government, abounds in mines of gold, silver, quicksilver, and copper. Gold is the only metal which enters into exchange between this province and the East of China, collected sometimes with great danger, from difficulty of access, from the sands of the mountain streams. The mineral wealth of the mountains of Tartary lying beyond is still unrevealed. Gold dust, it is very well known, is in abundance, but the tedious and broken communications of an unsettled country, and, indeed, the limited wants of the people, are far from favourable to any considerable yield.

The rivers of the province of Yunan, some proceeding from extensive lakes, and others from the mountains, bring in their currents quantities of gold dust and precious stones. Rubies of extraordinary size and beauty are found in these mountains, but the gold mines are not allowed to be worked. The gold here, as well as in Sechnen, is pale, soft, and ductile. The silver is not only used in exchanges for goods, but drawn into threads for silk and cotton manufactures. The white copper, called "petung," produced in this province, is of a close grain, takes a fine polish, and presents the general appearance of rich silver ore. It consists of copper, zinc, a little silver, and sometimes a few iron particles and nickel. For making "petung" the Chinese roll the copper into extremely thin sheets, which they first make red hot, and then, by increasing the strength of the fire, almost bring the metal to a liquid state. The sheets are now suspended over the vapour of tutenang, and placed in a sulphurising vessel on a quick fire, which fixes the vapour on the copper. The plates are then cooled, but more gradually than in the European mode.

Chinese tutenang, mines of which exist and are worked in Yunan and other provinces, is in reality zinc, and is extracted from a rich ore, or calamine. This ore is pulverised, and mixed with coal-dust, and the composition is then placed in earthern jars over a slow fire. Presently the metal rises as a vapour, and the fumes passing through a distilling apparatus are afterwards condensed in water. The calamine contains but little iron, and no lead or arsenic. As to iron ore, which is extensively distributed throughout the empire, the Chinese are far from managing it well. Although severe and arbitrary imperial restrictions are placed on the working of gold mines, frequently amounting to prohibition, these restrictions are to a very great extent evaded by the Mandarins, whose passion is to hoard up these metals, like the robbers of Eastern story; in a country where bribery can effect anything, the larger amount they can thus acquire the greater is their security. They can obtain at any time and at all points a vast aggregation of individual labour; but under such auspices, and labouring under such restrictions, the mining operations must assimilate very closely to those carried on in the Pyranees previous to the great associative efforts of modern times.

Then, as to coal. The Chinese possess this article in abundance, but it is unequally distributed. Some of the largest coal mines are amidst the rude and broken hills bordering on the River Pekiang, 260 miles from Canton. Those in the hills known as the Five Horses' Heads are worked by means of horizontal tunnels, from the mouths of which the coal is directly discharged into barges on the river. The levels are kept clear of water by means of adits in the same position. The Chinese have always proved capital hydraulic engineers. The coal is extremely soft, burns with a strong flame, and emits great heat. As the Chinese burn their fuel in close stoves, they previously char their coal in deep pits near the mines, and a living is gained by thousands in gathering the dust, mixing it with soft water, and then baking it in the sun, in forms convenient for transport. At Kelung, in Formosa, the coal mines, which outcrop on the hills facing the sea, are worked by the Chinese, and are sixteen miles in extent. They outcrop again in the neighbourhood of the north branch of the Tamsuy River, where the commodity is also procured, and brought down to the harbour for sale. The prevailing rock of the neighbouring hills is limestone. The lime used for domestic purposes is burnt out by the Chinese from the white nuggets of limestone that they unearth from the hill sides. At Kelung they use for this purpose the white masses of coral found in the harbour.

The Chinese are fond of terming their country the "navel of the earth"—a title which, in reference to its natural supply of minerals, is not inappropriate. The whole country is evidently of volcanic origin; the nitrous quality of the air in the province of Pecheli, in most parts of which provisions may be kept for a long time without undergoing corruption, is a circumstance not less confirmatory of this than general geologic structure. The inimitable lustre given to the silks dipped in a remarkable lake in the vicinity of Nan-yang, in the province of Honan, can only be attributed to the metallic exhalations with which its waters are charged.

Amidst the hills that dot the large alluvial plains of the Chinese territory on the south-west, and more especially where Taiwanfoo is situated, are immense sulphur deposits. Although the working of these deposits is forbidden by the Chinese Government, which in its arbitrary interference with trade and industry would compel the Mandarins to send to Foochow for the materials of their ammunition, the hills are literally alive with workmen. The demand which has sprung up at Hong Kong and elsewhere for purchase on European account, and the large quantity necessary for the manufacture of gunpowder for carrying on the present civil war, has naturally nullified the imperial prohibiton. As the Mandarins cannot sell it directly to the Imperialists, they dispose of it indirectly, and English and Americans take all they can deliver. The immediate neighbourhood of the mines has that dead, dreary stygian look and sulphurous stench which the traveller is accustomed to encounter in Tuscany. The straw sheds of the miners scattered over the ground are a relief to the eye for the prevailing grey and black, set off here and there by a red tinge of a stratum of clay, and the bright yellow of sulphur crystals. A haze rests on the scene from the steam rushing up impetuously from between the crevices of bleached limestone rocks; the condensed drops as they settle on the overhanging stones form long pendent crystals of clear sulphur, looking like petrified moss, of a bright yellow colour. From the hills above streams of fresh water run down into the mines. The filling of a pit freshly dug with water generates steam so fast that water is thrown up several feet, and the resounding noise is almost deafening in the vicinity. The mines amidst these hills would appear to have been originally worked at a lower level, for in the descent we come upon bleached sulphur-marked stones, and the remains of abandoned pits. On a long reach of sand, 200 feet above the plain, along which flows a mountain torrent, a sulphurous stream is continually bursting out at different points, rendering the water almost boiling, and strongly tainting it. The sulphur is deposited about the stones in this stream in ochreous and white crystals, and in the deeper parts the rocks at the bottom are coloured of a bluish green tinge.

There are no people in the world better adapted to mining pursuits than the Chinese. They have vigour of constitution, indefatigable industry, and keen and quiet perception, following up with almost unerring exactitude, and with little waste or superfluous labour, the veins of ore on

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which they are set to work. Their furnaces may be primitive; but their metallic manufactures are excellent, and the superior quality of some of these productions may be quite as fairly attributed to the completeness of their refining process as to the richness of the ore. They have been stimulated to refine their precious metals to the highest point possible, for the purpose of cloth embroidery. The value for this purpose set by them on the ductility of silver has been so great that they gave to the Japanese, in former times, an equal weight of gold for all the Japanese silver of a certain fineness that could be supplied. Like all eastern countries, China would seem to find full use for all the metal it produces, as well as for all the metallic currency it absorbs, and for which there is no return. In a country possessing such vast conveniences, by means of rivers and canals, for internal communication, none of the difficulties of transport which oppose themselves in some other countries to the transport or interchange of the products of the mines present themselves; but, with an arbitrary Government, seeking still to regulate the value of money, and which has not ceased to place restrictions on foreign trade—not to speak of its excluding as much as possible foreign industrial enterprise—and with no great middle class to bring about powerful combinations for mineral exploration, mining in the precious metals is carried on with but indifferent results to those which would follow the application of proper skill and well-directed enterprise.

JEWS AND SYNAGOGUES IN CHINA.

It has been long known that Jews existed in China. From the time when the Jesuits pursued their missionary efforts in the Celestial land it has been no secret that there, as in India and remoter countries still, small bands of Jews were found maintaining their peculiar national characteristics and engaged in industrial pursuits. It was not known, however, and could hardly have been imagined that they existed in such numbers as recent discoveries have shown they do. The following interesting narrative is published in the *Jewish Chronicle*. The incidents being communicated by a Jewish officer in the navy.

"At the breaking out of the war with China he received his commission as lieutenant, and went to the seat of war, and served under Commander Hollins. Our friend was assigned the command of a small vessel carrying three guns, for the purpose of penetrating the rivers and streams of the interior, and preventing any hostile assemblages. In an engagement with the Chinese the lieutenant was astounded at recognising the familiar tone of the Hebrew language. Thanks to his parents, in his youth he had received a good Hebrew education, and was able to carry on a conversation in the Hebrew language with the chief, who told him if he would give him up he would promise that they would not be molested, but permitted a free egress, and also, if he desired, he would show him the city. The officer accepted the preposition, and accompanied by him as a safeguard, and also a body of men from the ship, they visited the town. It was an immense city, surrounded on all sides by walls and fortifications, and contained over one million of inhabitants, all Jews. In no other part of the Chinese empire are there any Jews. Here they are allowed every privilege. They can carry their produce to other cities, and trade with them, but are not allowed to emigrate. They have their own laws, and their chief officer is a Jewish Rabbi, who with twenty others enact laws, decide disputes, and deal out justice to the inhabitants of the city. In this tribunal is vested the power of life and death, and from their decision there is no appeal. They keep a standing army of the young men of the place in order to protect their city. Their laws command the observance of the Jewish religion; but their rites and ceremonies differ from ours in many respects. They observe the Sabbath on what is to us Thursday, but still they call it the seventh day. Their synagogues are the most beautiful buildings that are to be seen in the empire. They are all built in one style, which resembles a mixture of the Gothic and Corinthian, and are ornamented by beautiful pagodas. Each synagogue is capable of holding over 2,000 worshippers, and generally consists of a large hall, with an arched roof all of stained glass, which presents a beautiful appearance. The roof is supported by pillars of variegated marble ornamented by fine porcelain cornices.

"The holy ark is a beautiful structure in itself, and is approached by nine steps of the whitest marble. On opening the doors and drawing the curtain the whole building is flooded by the light which issues forth. In every available spot inside the ark candles are placed, which are kept burning continually, but still are not seen. The effect, as may be imagined, is beautiful. In each house of worship are three 'saphorim,' which are written on pure white vellum. These are handled with the greatest care, and only by the priest himself. Women are not allowed to enter the synagogues, except on holidays and days of festivity. In the aggregate their rules are in strict accordance with our religion, and are sensible in themselves. The military leader who had been taken prisoner, together with the priests, spared no pains to make themselves understood, explaining everything which they thought would prove interesting.

"The party spent about six hours examining the place, and then returned to the ship laden with presents, what to them were curiosities. The officer has still in his possession several cabinets, not over four feet square, which contain over 300 drawers and secret places.

"The most interesting curiosity which he received was a prayer-book written in Chaldaic, on vellum, which he presented to the British Museum. Several little articles yet remain in his possession, which are highly treasured by him.

"Thus a community of Israelites exists in Oriental China never heard of before, yet consisting of over 1,000,000 souls speaking the original sacred tongue, keeping their own laws, and possessing documents which record their history thousands of years ago."

Naval and Military.

The following appears in the *Morning Herald*:—"The affairs in Japan are considered so satisfactory that telegrams have been forwarded to stop the *Conqueror*, with the detachment of marines on board, and to deliver to Captain Luard orders to return to Plymouth instead of proceeding to China and Japan. It is not probable that Captain Luard will meet these orders until he reaches Singapore."

A letter received in Plymouth from a naval officer at Yokohama, Japan, states that the English Admiral thought the result of the conference on the 15 h of November of so much consequence that he sent despatches immediately to Hong Kong by the Centaur, which, at the same time, embarked invalids for England. It was expected at Yokohama that when the Pelorus arrived in Japan the Pearl would go to Hong Kong. The Encounter and Scout have been nearly five years in commission, and the officers and crews of those ships expect that they will soon be sent home to be paid off. The Rattler is at Nagasaki, and the Barossa, all well, at Yokohama. The Hesper arrived there early in November. She had been terribly knocked about, having lost jib-boom, boats, bulwarks, &c., in a hurricane. A large quantity of stores and provisions is spoilt. The Hesper is considered unfit to do duty as a Government transport.

Captain John Moore, C.B., recently private secretary to the Duke of Somerset, First Lord of the Admiralty, has been appointed a naval aide-de-camp to the Queen, vice Capt. the Hon. James Robert Drummond, C.B., promoted to be Rear-Admiral.

The huge condensers and cylinders for the iron frigate Achilles, 35, 1,250-horse power, fitting at Chatham, have arrived at the dockyard from the establishment of Messrs. John Penn and Sons, the firm employed to supply the engines and machinery for the Achilles, and the mechanics employed on the vessel since her removal from the dockyard to the entrance of the harbour have completed fixing the boilers, cylinders, and condensers on board. The cylinders are the largest ever constructed for a vessel of war, each weighing between 29 and 30 tons. The two condensers weigh 23 tons 5 cwt. each, and the ten boilers nearly 22 tons each. The whole of the heavy portions of the machinery has been shipped on board without accident of any kind by means of the floating masting sheers, which have been towed down to Gillingham for that purpose. The work of completing the Achilles and fitting her for sea is being carried forward with the greatest possible energy, the number of mechanics employed on board daily being upwards of 1,000.

Her Majesty's ship Princess Royal, of 73 guns, 3,129 tons, 400-horse power, will be commissioned on the 6th of February, at Devonport, for the flag of Rear-Admiral George St. Vincent King, C.B., by Captain William Gore Jones (1861). The Princess Royal is intended to relieve the Narcissus, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Sir Baldwin Walker, K.C.B., whose period of service will have just expired on the day above mentioned. We have in a former number explained that the Cape station under the new Admiral will be very different to that which it has been under the present commander-in-chief.

Lieutenant Tickell, R.N., one of the oldest naval mail agents on the Southampton station, has been promoted to the rank of commander. Lieutenant Tickell has several times received the thanks of his superiors. When wrecked in a Peninsular packet he carried the mails, at great risk, over an unfrequented mountainous region in Spain; and when wrecked in a Mediterranean packet he boldly applied to the Bey of Tunis for assistance to carry the Indian mail to Marseilles, and obtained it. In the West Indies he conveyed the mails in an open boat a long distance for the purpose of giving early intimation to the Admiral on the station of an insurrection which had broken out in one of the Antilles.

The Ordnance Select Committee have recommended that the grip at the muzzle of the Armstrong breech-loading guns shall be ground out, as the recent action at Kagosima has confirmed the experience gained by the experiments at Newhaven of this being the principal cause of the frequent explosion of the Armstrong shells at the muzzles of the 110-pounders. This alteration will greatly lessen the severe jar which is thrown upon these guns through the projectiles being detained when at their highest velocity. In the case of 12-pounders, the damage caused by the grip has been obviated by cutting off the muzzle. The Armstrong and Whitworth Committee hope to commence their trials with the rival 12 pounders next week. One of Mr. Whitworth's guns has already been sent to Shoeburyness, and the rest will soon follow. His three guns are made out of solid blocks of steel. Armstrong's six 12-pounders, viz., three muzzle-loading, shunt-rifled, and three breech-loading polygroove rifled, are also of steel, but finished with a thin trunnion and breech-coil.

Monetary and Commercial.

At the meeting of the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan, the directors were authorised, after some discussion, to increase the capital from £1,000,000 to £2,000,000 sterling, by the issue of 10,000 new shares of £100 each at 2 prem., 8,000 of which are to be allotted proportionately to the existing shareholders, and the residue at the same premium to any persons that the directors think fit.

At the half-yearly meeting of the London Joint-Stock Bank, Mr. W. J. Lancaster in the chair, the profits for the six months were stated at £80,573, out of which £61,500 had been appropriated to the usual dividend at the rate of 12½ per cent. and a bonus of 8s. per share, and £19,073 had been carried to the reserve, which now amounts to £279,759.

At the half-yearly meeting of the City Bank a dividend and bonus equal to 12 per cent. per annum, both free of income-tax, were declared. The reserve fund now amounts to £130,000, and the directors consider the time has arrived to take into consideration the expediency of allowing it to accumulate at compound interest. The chairman stated that the earnings of the six months were considerably in excess of those of any previous period, although high rates of interest had only recently come into operation, they being at the rate of no less

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than 17 per cent. per annum. The accounts altogether be regarded as most encouraging for the prospects of the concern.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Alliance Bank of London and Liverpool, Mr. J. N. Daniell in the chair, the report stated the available balance to be £26,689, making with a previous sum of £244 a total of £26,933. A dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum was accordingly adopted, which will absorb £16,000, the sum of £2,000 was placed to reserve fund (which with £50,000 for premiums for new shares will amount to £54,000), and a balance was carried forward of £8,933. A resolution was passed for the name of the bank to be altered so as to be simply the Alliance Bank.

At the half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of London the operations of the six months showed a disposable balance of £35,530, out of which a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, and a bonus of £1. 5s. per share—together equal to 15 per cent. per annum—were declared, both free of income-tax. £12,000 is also transferred to the reserve fund, increasing it to £112,000, and £1,030 carried to the credit of profit and loss account. The chairman, Sir J. V. Shelley, M.P., stated that the business of the last half-year had exceeded that of any previous period, and the distribution is now raised from 10 to 15 per cent. per annum. The increase in the deposits amounted in the past year to £1,000,000. A shareholder having suggested that any new shares should be issued to the present proprietors at par, the chairman said he thought the period for their issue, together with the terms, might be safely left to the directors, who would look to the permanent interest of the bank rather than the immediate interest of individual shareholders. He certainly did not consider it desirable to issue new shares at par. The report was adopted unanimously.

At the annual general meeting of the shareholders of the London and Westminster Bank, the net profits for the last half-year amounted to £147,815, which is increased to £175,575 by the addition of £27,759, the unappropriated balance of the preceding half-year. Interest on the "rest," or surplus fund, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, has been added to that fund, which now amounts to £275,953, and a dividend was declared at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, besides a bonus of 12 per cent., making a total distribution of 15 per cent. for the six months, and of 25 per cent. for the year 1863. The balance carried forward to the profit and loss account for the current year is £18,844. The chairman, Mr. Alderman Salomons, M.P., said that the deposits are £1,000,000 in excess of those of July last. In March next the bank will have been established thirty years.

The following is the first report of the directors of the General Credit and Finance Company of London (Limited), to be submitted at the meeting on Feb. 1st:—

The company was constituted in May last, the allotment of shares being made on the 30th of that month. The deposit of £2 per share, equal to £250,000, received in June, with the first call of £250,000 due 30th October, make the whole capital employed to the 31st December equivalent to £360,000 for six months. During a great part of this period the aspect both of political and monetary affairs has been such as to inculcate extreme caution; and the unlooked for delay in the concession of the allied French company has caused a state of suspense with regard to important branches of international business. This concession now stands on the orders of the day of the Conseil d'Etat for final approval; and the directors have every reason to hope that all obstacles are removed, and that it will be granted in a few weeks. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, the directors have the satisfaction of stating that the net profit of six months' working, as shown by the annexed accounts, after deducting rebate, current expenses and income-tax, amounts to £33,168, being at the rate of nearly 18½ per cent. per annum. In ascertaining this profit, all securities held by the company are valued at the market price of the day. This represents the actual rate of divisible profit. The directors do not, however, recommend that it should be all divided. In the infancy of a company of this description it seems to them more prudent not to exceed a moderate rate of dividend until an ample reserve shall have been accumulated out of profits. Accordingly, they recommend the preliminary expenses, amounting to £4,883. 13s. 7d., to be written off at once; the sum of £9,534. 11s. 1d. to be carried forward to next account, and £18,750 to be appropriated to dividend, being 3s. per share, or at the rate of a fraction above 10 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax. The directors have purchased the freehold of the premises, No. 7, Lothbury, for carrying on the business of the company.

The biddings for 40,00,000 rupees (£400,000) in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were:—To Calcutta, 21,10,000 rupees; to Bombay, 17,00,000 rupees; and to Madras, 2,00,000 rupees. The minimum price declared was as before, viz., 1s. 11⅛d. per rupee on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11¾d. on Bombay. The applications within the limits amounted to 247 lacs (£2,470,000). Tenders on Calcutta at 2s. 0¼d. and upwards receive in full, and nothing is allotted at lower rates; those on Bombay at 2s. 0⅛d. receive about 9 per cent.; on Madras, at 2s. ⅛d., about 42 per cent.; and all above these prices in full. At the bidding on the 6th inst. the applications within the limits amounted to 370 lacs (or £3,700,000).

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Ripon*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was, in gold—to Alexandria, £62,000; to Galle, £4,500; to Madras, £4,481. 10s. In silver—to Singapore, £535; to Hong Kong, 23,750; to Shanghai, £10,200; to Madras, £21,220; to Calcutta, £119,780; to Penang, £520; to Hobson's Bay, £50. Total in gold, £71,381. 10s.; in silver, £176,055.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Business done.
100	Agra and United Service, Limited	50	122 to 124	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	41 to 43	...
20	Do. New		21 20 pm.	
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	64 to 66 x.d.	...
50	London Joint Stock	10	37 to 38	...
100	London and Westminster	20	23 to 24	...
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	60 to 61	...
50	Union of London	13	41½ to 42½ x.d	...
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	7 to 8 pm.	...
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	5	1½ to 2 pm.	...
20	Do. New	5		...
25	Bank of Egypt	All	27⅛ to 28⅛	...
100	Bank of London	50	173 to 178	...
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	2	1⅝ to 2⅛ pm.	...
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 5	...
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	78 to 80	
50	Do. New	30	17 to 19 pm.	
10	Labuan Coal Company	8	...	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	...	...
2	Telegraph to India Company	2	⅜ to ½ dis.	...
5	Bombay Gas	4	¼ dis. to ¼ pm.	...
10	E. I. and London Shipping B.	All	3 to 6	...
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	5	⅜ to ½ dis.	...
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	...	...
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	1	2 to 2⅛ pm.	...
1	Oriental Gas	All	1¼ to 1	...
1	Do. New	⅝	½ to ⅝ pm.	...
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2 to 2½	...
100	West India Steam Company	60	78 to 80	...
20	Ceylon Company	7	2⅜ to 3⅛ pm.	...
20	International Finance Society	5	6¼ to 7 pm.	...
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	9½ to 9¾ pm.	...
50	London Financial Association	15	10⅝ to 11⅛ pm.	...
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	2	1½ to 2 pm.	...
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	17½ to 17⅝	...
20	British Indian Tea	2	⅝ to 1½ pm.	...
10	Upper Assam Tea	1¼	1½ to 2 pm.	...
10	Do.	All	14 to 17	...

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—During the past fortnight there has been a fair amount of business transacted, the trade buying, however, only for immediate wants; the statistics being such as to prevent any speculative feeling, added to which the uncertain state of the money market tends to make buyers very cautious. Prices have, however, on the whole, been fairly maintained, the large public sales now in progress passing off with comparative steadiness. Low and dusty kinds of Congou have sold to a fair extent from 7d. to 9d. per lb.; fair common from 10d. to 11½d. per lb., and a few good common at 1s. to 1s. 0½d. per lb. Flavoury kinds below 1s. 2d. show no material alteration, but those ranging from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 6d. per lb. have been difficult of sale at ½d. to 1d. decline. Good Kaisow kinds have been better supported; Common to fair blackleaf kinds have sold rather easier; good Ning Chow and second-class Honam and Wopak kinds, of old import, have been taken to a moderate extent at from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 5d. per lb. In second-class Monings and Wopaks, of new season, sales have been made from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 11d., being about previous rates; fine to finest have been in demand from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per lb., the finest grades being still wanted for export. Fine to finest Kaisows maintain former value. Tayshans, of old import, have been sold to some extent at 1s. 0½d. per lb. for fair quality. Common Oolongs have been inquired for; medium to good are difficult of sale, but fine are in moderate demand. A few fine Souchongs have been taken at full prices, but the great supply renders buyers cautious, and sales difficult to make, except in very small parcels; the medium kinds remain without change. Flowery Pekoes have sold at very low prices, at public auction, from 11½d. to 1s. 1d. for common to fair quality. Common to fair Scented Capers remain dull of sale; good to fine have been in better request at previous prices. Good to fine Foo-Chow kinds have sold 1d. per lb. lower, fair to good Canton-make Orange Pekoes have sold to a moderate extent at previous prices, fine to finest have also been inquired for. Fair to good Foo-Chow kinds have sold 1d. per lb. lower; fine to finest maintain former value. Uncoloured Japans have sold to some extent for export at rather higher prices. Indian Teas at public auction went at former prices. Green teas continue scarce, and all the good to fine descriptions fully maintain former value; some Ping Suey kinds, recently to hand, realised extreme rates. There has been some demand for fair to good Hysons at former prices. Japan Young Hysons have also found buyers at former rates. Imperials continue scarce, and prices fully maintained. All country kinds of Gunpowder are in very limited supply, and extreme rates have been obtained for the few offering. Canton-made greens show no change to notice. 1,732 packages Indian tea were offered on the 12th inst., of which 1,668 packages were sold. The sales which commenced on the 19th inst. comprised 52,170 packages, of which 41,533 packages have passed auction, and 23,579 packages have been sold, including 20,364 packages without reserve. The

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following is a list of the sales:—3,947 packages Congou, 7d. to 1s.; 8,072 packages Congou, 1s. to 1s. 6d.; 790 packages Congou, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 3d.; 1,186 packages Souchong, 9½d. to 2s. 0½d.; 154 boxes Oolong, 9½d. to 1s. 9½d.; 3,545 boxes Scented Orange Pekoe, 8½d. to 2s. 1d.; 43 half-chests Padrae Pouchong, 1s. 2¾d.; 1,074 packages sea-damaged tea, 2d. to 6¾d.; 1,010 boxes Scented Caper, 7¾d. to 1s. 2¼d.; 89 half-chests Hyson, 1s. 4¾d. to 1s. 10¾d.; 407 half chests, 318 boxes Young Hyson, 7d. to 1s. 4d.; 37 half-chests Imperial, 1s. 1½d.; 840 boxes 22 half-chests Gunpowder, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 9d.; 108 boxes Kaisow Buds, 1s. 3d.; 658 half-chests Flowery Pekoe, 11¾d. to 1s. 9½d.; 479 boxes Orange Pekoe, 9¾d. to 1s.; 200 baskets Brick Tea, 2d.; 231 half-chests Twankay, 7d. to 9¾d.; and 392 packages sundries.

SILK.—A notice will be found in our Postscript.

SUGAR.—The heaviness of the market has not abated, and with little offering only small purchases have been made at drooping rates, now ruling about 1s. per cwt. lower than last week. In foreign the only business reported on last market-day was 5,500 bags Clayed Manila at 40s. 6d. Penang (price in bond): Grey and white, 32s. 6d. to 33s. 6d.; brown and yellow, 23s. 6d. to 32s. 6d. Siam and China: White, 30s. to 34s.; brown and yellow, 21s. to 29s. 6d. Manila: Clayed, brown, and yellow, 26s. 6d. to 28s; Muscovado, 20s. 6d. to 21s. 6d. Java: Grey and white, 33s. to 35s.; brown and yellow, 22s. 6d. to 32s. 6d.

COFFEE.—The market had a quieter tone last week, and for Plantation Ceylon a reduction of 6d. to 1s. per cwt. has in most instances been established. Java (price in bond) is quoted 60s. to 83s.; Singapore, 58s. to 70s.; Sumatra and Padang, 58s. to 70s.

COTTON.—The total import from China and Japan in 1863, was into London 14,500 bales, and into Liverpool, 146,307 bales—total, 160,867 bales of 130 lbs. each. Continued flatness existed during the past week, and even at a pretty general decline of ⅛d. per lb., barely 1,200 bales have been sold on the spot, part good fair Tinnivelli Madras at 22⅛d. to 23d. For arrival, 5,200 bales have been taken, the bulk China, at 18⅜d. to 19⅛d.

RICE.—The market on the spot has remained extremely quiet, and nothing of importance has been done, but for cargoes to be shipped in the Spring, there has been a renewal of inquiry, and three, together 4,000 tons, have been sold at 10s. 9d. for Nakrenzie or Ragoon. No business of consequence doing in Java.

CASSIA LIGNEA is about 2s. per cwt. cheaper, and of 872 cases at auction a few only sold at 86s. to 89s. for middling 2nd to 1st pile. Buds: Much dearer; single chests sold privately at a quotation of £16; 42 boxes at auction retired at £17, since selling slowly thereat.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Are 10s. per cwt. lower, owing to increased supplies; and of 1,126 bags at auction one-fourth sold at £4. 10s. to £5. for fair but stalky to very good. Dragon's Blood: Flat; only four cases at auction, retired. Rhubarb: Has risen 9d. to 1s. per lb., and of 168 cases at auction, one-fourth sold at 4s. 3d. for good flat, and 3s. 3d. to 4s. fair to good round; good business likewise done privately upon corresponding terms.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Steady; and of 84 cases at auction three-fourths sold at £12 to £12. 15s. per cwt., for false packed 2nd quality; £6. 5s. to £10 fair to fine 3rd. Damar: Remains flat; and of 522 cases at auction, a small portion only found buyers at 45s. to 45s. 6d. per cwt. for good. Gamboge: Very dull; 59 cases at auction, all retired.

OILS.—Anniseed: Considerable business has been done on the spot, and for arrival at 6s. to 6s. 3d. per lb., upon which terms no more can be had; 6s. 4d. has since been paid, and for single cases 6s. 5d. Cassia has gone back 9d. to 1s. per lb.; limited business done since our last, and the market now flat at 10s. sellers, 9s. 9d. buyers. Cinnamon steady. Of 14 cases at auction, half sold at 2s. 4d. to 2s. 7d. per oz. for good. Mace and Nutmegs: Nothing doing; Nutmeg Paste cheap; sales at 1d. to 1¼d. per oz.

HEMP.—Manila: This market has been very animated, with extensive operations for arrival and on the spot, attended with an advance of £2 to £3 per ton. 3,391 bales at auction, mostly retired.

SAGO.—Large and medium firm; small Pearl a shade easier. 2,311 packages at auction, mostly sold at 22s. 6d. to 24s. per cwt. for fair to very good small, and 19s. to 21s. 6d. large and medium. Flour: No auctions held; moderate business done privately at 15s. 6d. per ton. Tapioca: 516 bags of Penang, at auction, were withdrawn; middling white, 2¾d., siftings, 1¼d. per lb.; 342 boxes of fair to fine white Pearl were realised at 20s. to 20s. 6d., being again cheaper than the previous sales.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Has gone back in value 6d. per cwt., but 3,988 bags at auction were mostly sold at 24s. 6d. to 26s. for middling to fine; little private business passing. Gambier had also again receded 3d. to 6d. per cwt. Only 718 bales at auction sold at 21s. 6d. to 22s. for middling to fair block. Fair transactions have taken place privately upon similar terms.

SPICES.—Cloves: Not any Penang brought forward; Zanzibar ½d. pe lb. dearer; and of 3,765 bags at auction, the bulk sold at 2⅞d. to 3¼d. for ordinary to very fair. Mace: Continues very firm; and 25 cases Penang, 3 Sincapore, and 11 cases Madras at auction were nearly all sold at 1s. 10d. per lb. for fair palish, and 9d. to 1s. 5d. for low dull wormy to very good reddish. Nutmegs: Are 1d. per lb. dearer, and of 13 cases Penang, 6 cases Sincapore, and 37 cases Madras at auction, the bulk sold at 2s. 8d. to 4s. 1d. per lb. for bold ordinary to fine; and 1s. to 1s. 5d. ordinary small to middling medium. Pepper: Black continues gradually to improve; 2,951 bags Singapore at auction, mostly sold at 3⅛d. to 3¾d. per lb., and 2,169 bags Penang at 3⅜d. to 3¼d. Fair business done privately, and the market remains firm. White: Steady; and of 564 bags Singapore at auction, half sold at 5¼d. to 5⅝d. per lb. for middling to fair, and 60 bags Penang sold at 5d. for ordinary.

TIN.—There has been considerable speculation in this metal during the month, with large operations on the spot and for arrival: prices were driven rapidly up to £123 for Straits, three months prompt, £120 cash, and £123 for arrival; but for the last week the market has been very quiet, and prices have receded £2 to £3 per ton.

TOBACCO.—Java: The imports have been bad and dear until lately, when they have been quite the reverse; and the stock now on sale is the most desirable in every respect that has been seen for years. The sales of the month have been large. Manila: Another year has elapsed without bringing any supplies, but it is hoped that the Manila Government will alter their suicidal course, and allow regular auctions to be held in future. A far better course would be to allow anyone to buy it from the growers for export, the Government doing as is proposed by the Federal Government—laying a tax on it. Japan: Very scarce till the large arrival, which has been nearly all sold this month. Another lot just in is not yet landed. This article of import, though wretched in quality, possesses properties that are at present highly in favour with our manufacturers; the greatest care is requisite to maintain this, for, if it is lost, Japan would barely fetch half the price in other markets. The quotation is 4d. to 8d. Manila cheroots and cigars have been in large demand since the reduction of the duty, and until the supplies, recourse was obliged to be had to the Dutch markets. On the first arrival of the new, prices were let down needlessly low; soon after, news arrived of the advance in price at the factory. Next, a ship reported with a large quantity is found to have dropped more than half at Batavia. The stock here is very moderate; there can be none for months, and holders of No. 2 are now up to former quotations. No. 3 are scarcely inquired for, and much cheaper. The present quotation is 7s. 3d. to 7s. 9d.

JAPAN WAX.—Steady, but not much doing; of 321 cases at auction a few sold at 70s. to 70s. 6d. per cwt. for five large saucers.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls: All kinds—Bussorah, China, and Japan—very scarce, and much inquired for. None at auction. We quote Japan and China 50s. to 70s. per cwt. Camphor: Remains firm, and in demand, notwithstanding excessive supply; moderate business done privately in China at £5. 7s. 6d. per cwt., and 292 chests at auction were mostly sold at £5. 5s. to £5. 10s. Gutta Percha: Rather quiet; 19 tons at auction all retired. India-rubber: Remains very inactive, with scarcely any inquiry for either Batavia, Sumatra, or Penang; 165 baskets Java at auction, all retired. Musk: Has again experienced good demand, and 52 caddies sold at auction with spirit, at 27s. to 30s. per oz. for middling to good Tonquin, and 21s. 6d. pickings; but of 10 tins Grain only two found buyers at 40s. for middling. Rattans: Firm and in demand. Sapanwood: Firm; of 58 tons Manila at auction half sold at £9 to £9. 5s. per ton, and 31 tons Siam retired: very little private trade. Mother-o'-pearl Shells: Arrivals of Singapore, which are held for 150s. per cwt., with buyers at 140s. Star Anniseeds: Remain very scarce, and are much wanted. Sticklac, Siam: Remains very flat, and 390 cases at auction were all retired. Ivory: Sound Siam is in demand, and very scarce. Tortoise Shell: Auctions confined to 6 cases Singapore; sold upon fully previous terms, 11s. to 17s. per lb. Turmeric: Nothing doing; 40 bags China and 50 bags Java at auction all retired. Vermilion: A good deal inquired for, with very little offering.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £8. 10s. to £9; nail rod, £9. 10s. to £10; hoops, £11; sheets, single, £12; Staffordshire bars, £10. 10s.; rails, £8.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £120 per ton; yellow metal, 10d. to 10½d. per lb.

TIN.—116s. for block; 117s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 30s. to 31s per box.

LEAD, &c. — English Pig, £21. 5s. to £21. 10s.; W.B., £22; shot, patent, £24; sheet, £21. 15s.; spelter, £20. 15s. to £21; zinc, English sheet, £26. 10s.; quicksilver, £7. 15s. per bottle.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—The Welsh and Staffordshire iron market continues strong, with a good demand. Scotch Pig has fluctuated a good deal, and is not now at all active. Copper: Ores continuing very scarce, the price again advanced at the Swansea Ticketting about 7 per cent., and yesterday the English Smelters declared an advance of £5 per ton on all descriptions of copper. Tin: English is very steady at quotations. A parcel of Straits has been spoken of as obtainable at £118 cash, the general quotation is, however, £119 to £120. Tin Plates in great request. Lead also in demand, and price has again improved from 5s. to 10s. per ton. Spelter has been easier the last few days. Quicksilver is only to be had in small quantities for early delivery, and price quoted is £7. 15s. per bottle.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£42,780
Foo-chow-Foo	—	2,250
Hong Kong	—	29,310
Amoy	—	—
Singapore	£3,750	3,235
Penang	—	39,775

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	—
Hong Kong	—	—
Singapore	—	—
Penang	—	—
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	—	£37,900
To Saigon	—	2,840
To Hong Kong	—	—
To Shanghai	—	46,490

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0	to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 3½	
Silver in Bars		
Mexican Dollars		

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Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Jan.15	Liverpool	Hong Kong	John Nicholson	Heffermann.
— 16	Texel	Batavia	Prinses Amalia	Van Bentveld.
— 16	Liverpool	Akyab	Limerick Lass	Green.
— 18	London	Rangoon	Helen Baird	Harris.
— 18	Do.	Hong Kong	Warwickshire	Bell.
— 18	Do.	Akyab	Black Swan	King.
— 16	Liverpool	Singapore	Thomas Mitchell	McKenzie.
— 18	Do.	Do.	Bogota	Bell.
— 18	Off Dover	Batavia	Hendrika	De Groot.
— 15	Off Dungeness	Do.	Margaretha Simonetta	Hoffman.
— 20	Texel	Do.	Louise	Buys.
— 16	Off Dartmouth	Shanghai	Solent	Passmore.
— 18	Clyde	Maulmain	Henriette	Nielsen.
— 15	Off St. Alban's Hd	Batavia	Minerva	
— 19	Liverpool	Shanghai	Artemisia	Henry.
— 17	Texel	Samarang	Mathilde	Fekkes.
— 17	Do.	Padang	India Packet	Diepering.
— 18	Do.	Batavia	Stad Assem	Haverbult.
—	St. Nazaire	Do.	Isly	Bertaud.
— 20	Falmouth	Do.	Helena	Snellman.
— 5	New York	Shanghai	Burgomeister Duckwitz	Miesgades.
— 18	Texel	Batavia	Kon. Ned. Yacht Club	Zack.
— 18	Do.	Do.	Schoonderloo	Otto.
— 18	Do.	Do.	Emergeus	Smit.
— 6	New York	Manila	Sumatra	Kinsman.
— 21	Deal	Padang	Knight	Watson.
— 20	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Mercator	Woude.
— 20	Do.	Banjoewangie	Delft	Geelkerken.
— 21	Do.	Batavia	Patriarch Samhiri	Lion.
— 21	Do.	Do.	Landbouw	Kleynenberg.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Jan.15	London	Shanghai	Punjaub	Shrewsbury.
— 18	Falmouth	Hong Kong	Carausius	Baird.
Dec.10	Rio Janeiro	Singapore	Fanny	Steenbock.
— 19	Pernambuco	Japan	H.M.S. Pelorus	
— 8	Bermuda	Shanghai	Pyramid	Agin.
Jan.19	London	Manila	San Luis	Carranza.
— 19	Sunderland	Singapore	Winslow	Howard.
— 19	Off Portland	Amoor River	Aalborg	Becker.
— 21	Shields	Batavia	Tweelingen	
— 20	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Yeavering Belle	Peat.
— 23	London	Cardiff and Hong K.	Ocean	Radvan.
— 25	Liverpool	Hong Kong	England	Robson.
— 9	New York	Shanghai	Dennis Horton	

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Nagasaki: Alice. For Nagasaki and Kanagawa: Mountain Ash. For Shanghai: Solent, City of Quebec, Assyrian, Yaratilda. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Far East (str.) For Hong Kong and Canton: Southern Belle, Corea. For Hong Kong, Canton, and Foo-chow-Foo: Philomela. For Manila: Conchita, Elisa. For Singapore: Panic, Prince Alfred, Dewa Gungadhur, James Paton. For Penang: Sunium. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Copernicus.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Ophir, Narari, Caractacus, Alice, Madagascar. For Hong Kong and Canton: Everest, Veronica. For Hong Kong: Verbena. For Singapore: Invincible, Maggie Lauder, Bogota. For Manila: Jose y Maria, Olano. For Batavia and Singapore: Tigris. For the Cape of Good Hope, Singapore, and China: Castor.

At GLASGOW.—For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Three Bells. For Singapore and Penang: Dunnikier. For Batavia and Singapore: British Queen, Glenisla. For Shanghai: Wild Deer. For Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai, Elizabeth Ronneberg.

At GREENOCK.—For Shanghai: Taeping.

SPOKEN.

CAMBALU, Shanghai to Liverpool, Sept. 17, 14 N., 112 W.
JOHAN CHRISTIAN, Batavia to Amsterdam, Oct. 16, 6 S., 106 E.
CORNELIA, Rotterdam to Batavia, Jan. 3, 41 N., 7 W.
LUZON, Sunderland to Shanghai, Nov. 7, 18 S., 30 W.
HOLLAND, Amsterdam to Batavia, Oct. 17, 41 S., 20 E.
J. H. BOCKELMANN (brig.), Hamb. to H. Kong, Dec. 21, 7 N., 25 W.
FEROZEPORE (ship), London to Singapore, Dec. 22, 6 N., 28 W.
PATRIOT KING, Liverpool to Manila, Dec. 10, 11 N., 26 W.
HEDDA FREDERICKA (barq.), Batavia to Ams., Nov. 15, 31 S., 37 E.
TWEE GEZUSTERS, Rotterdam to Batavia, Dec. 2, 25 S., 26 W.
KONING WILLIAM II., Rotterdam to Padang, Dec. 19, 17 N., 31 W.
ALGIERS, Queenstown to Aden and Bankok, Nov. 3, 20 N., 27 W.
WILLEM DANIEL, Amsterdam to Samarang, Dec. 12, 7 N., 25 W.
SAN LUCIA, Cadiz to Manila, Oct. 7, 34 S., 3 E.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

(Exclusive of this Day's Advices.)

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Medina, Cambridge, Broadwater, Ravensbourne, J. C. Munro, Esperanza. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, M. Theresa, William Eggerts. At NEW YORK: Sarah (via Shanghai), Maggie Atkinson.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Beatrice, Monarch, Naomi, Belle, Finzel, Mexican, Hanover, Melrose, Grenadier, Humphrey Nelson, Palmerston, James Vinnicombe, Mirage, Osprey, Spirit of the Deep, J. H. Ransom, Hawthorne, Daisy, Spirit of Trade, Sophie, Philip I., Mimosa, Bosworth, Maiden Queen, Portland, Reindeer, Canadian, Edinburgh, India, Spray of the Ocean, Sir W. F. Williams, Sunbeam, Cambalu, Runnymede, Gananoque, Jubilee, Monita, Ocean Queen, Queen of the Ocean, Sovereign of India, Beautiful Star, Tamana, John Lidgett, Reindeer, Siam, Havelock, Ocean Bride, Edith, Queen of the Age, Gauntlet, Queen of Nations, Rock City, Clarendon, Jane Mitchell, Buckton Castle, Julia, Beemah, Langdale, Theodore and Julie, Alfred the Great, Wm. Melhuish, Fairlight, Ironside, Bellissimas, Laurel, Magnus. At LIVERPOOL: Alfred Kay, Joshua, Bates, Eliza Stewart, Iron Crown, Forfarshire, Our Queen, Sarah and Emma, Cordova, Palmyra, Alliance, Abdul Medjid, Regina, Ranee, Victoria, Star of the North, Allandale, Jane Leech, Lorton, Eleanor, Montgomery, Lady Elizabeth, Chalmers, Niphon, James Gibson, Spirit of the Sea, Macduff, Nile, Nielbreck. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama. At HAMBURG: Siwa, Selina Jane, Ophelia. At NEW YORK: Clara Babuyan, Vesta, Maria Lucie, Glenclune, White Eagle, Hainan, Anna, Sarah, Wilhelmina, Graf Eulenburg, Creole.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Pelicano, Minden, Flora, Der Preusse. At FALMOUTH: Agricola, Maggie Lauder. At LIVERPOOL: Alarac, Belvidere. At NEW YORK: Bavaria, Helvetia.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Avalanche, Maid of the Tyne, Andromeda, Halton Castle, Latona, Peter Symons, Oscar. At LIVERPOOL: Louis Cezard, Oasis, Alfred Roy. At QUEENSTOWN: Agricola. At SHIELDS: Zes Gezusters (Dut.). At BORDEAUX: Chene (Fr.). Prehel (Fr.), Salazes (Fr.). At New York: Sclavonia, Moldavian, Caroline.

From BATAVIA.—At LONDON: Java, At FALMOUTH: Frederika. At CHANNEL: Ceres, Richard.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: John Masterman, Daylight, Nipisiquit, Teesdale. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The freight market is quiet, and without any change of importance to report. Outward rates show no improvement, although the amount of disengaged tonnage in port is small. British vessels are readily placed homewards from the East, especially from China and Manila.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 55s. weight, 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: 65s. To Hankow: 65s. weight, 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 42s. 6d. meast. To Shanghai: 50s. weight, 27s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 30s. to 35s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £36 and 37s. 6d. For Shanghai: £45 and 47s. 6d. to 50s. For Manila: £1. 10s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £24 and £1. 6s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

CASUALTIES.

Amsterdam, Jan. 15: The Johannes Lodewyk, v.d. Waal, and the Kinderdyk, Zwanenburg, both from Batavia, have arrived at Brouwershaven, the former with damage to bulwarks, the latter with loss of bowsprit, cutwater, and cathead, having been in contact with one another 13th January, in Brouwershaven Roads.

The Lochleven Castle, for Singapore and Penang, put back to the Clyde, Jan. 18, much strained and leaky.

Deal, Jan. 18: The Benvenue, Keay, from London for Singapore, has been supplied with an anchor and chain to replace others lost.

The Swallow, from London for Shanghai, was wrecked, Nov. 26, during a severe gale near Cape Receife—crew saved.

At ST. HELENA.—Dec. 8, Artemisia, from Shanghai; 11, White Eagle, from Foo-Chow-Foo; 23, Sovereign of India, Moneta, and Finzel, all from Shanghai, Prince Alfred, from Foo-Chow-Foo, Tamanu, from China; 25, Hanover and Grenadier, both from Shanghai, Queen of the Age, from Hong Kong, Naomi, from Foo-Chow-Foo, Medina, from Japan; 26, Edith, from Shanghai; 27, Allandale, from Shanghai; 27, John Lidgett, and 29, Agincourt, both from Hong Kong.

At TABLE BAY.—Dec. 1, John Lidgett, Gamble, from Canton; Nov. 23, Florence Adelaide, sailed for Singapore.

At ST. HELENA.—Dec. 7, Graf v. Heiden Reinestein, Boer, from Batavia, and sailed, 9, for Amsterdam; 11, Gouverneur General Duymaer v. Twist, Hoeksma, from Batavia, and sailed, 12, for Amsterdam; White Eagle, Williams, from Foo-chow-Foo, and sailed for New York, 12, Beatrice, Taylor, from Hong Kong, and sailed, 15, for London; 14 Andromeda, Dannberg, from Singapore, and sailed for London; 18, Alma, Conn, from Sourabaya, and sailed for Amsterdam; 21, Guadaloupe, Munoz, from Manila, and sailed, 22, for Cadiz; 23, Jannetje, Lupcke, from Batavia, and sailed for Rotterdam; Sovereign of India, Scott, and Moneta, Spear, both from Shanghai, and sailed for London; Amphitrite, Berglund, from Batavia, and sailed, 24, for Amsterdam; Prince Alfred, Ellison, from Foo-chow-Foo, and Finzel, Murray, from Shanghai, and both sailed for London; Marie Lucie, Dietrichsen, from Foo-chow-Foo, and sailed, 24, for New York; Tamana, Neill, from Canton, and sailed, 24, for London; 25, Etha, Buschmann, from Pasaroeang, and sailed, 26, for Amsterdam; Dwina, Rittern, from Macao, and sailed, 26, for Bremen; Anna, Bok, from Batavia, and sailed, 26, for Amsterdam, Queen of the Age, Ellis, from Hong Kong, and Naomi, Sayers, from Foo-chow-Foo and both sailed, 26, for London; Hanover, Rich, from Shanghai, Grenadier, McMurtry, from Shanghai, and Medina, Brun, from Japan, and all three sailed, 26, for London, Azia, Molenaar, for Batavia, and sailed for Amsterdam; Alblasserwaard, Lindern, from Batavia, and sailed, 28, for Rotterdam; Alida Maria, Vries, from Batavia, and sailed, 26, for Amsterdam; Johanne Diedrichsen, from Macao, and sailed, 26, for Hamburg; 26, Ida Elisabeth, Dooren, from Batavia, and saied for Rotterdam; Constantia, Hellberg, from Java, and sailed for Falmouth; Emilie Bruynseels, from Batavia, and sailed, 28, for Rotterdam; Edith Robertson, from Shanghai, and sailed for London; 27, John Lidgett, Gamble, from Hong Kong, and sailed, 28, for Portsmouth; Allendale, Grey, from Shanghai, and sailed, 28, for London; 29, Moldavian, Wood, from Amoy, and sailed for New York; John Masterman, Westgarth, from Penang, for London; Agincourt, Custance, from Hong Kong, for New York.

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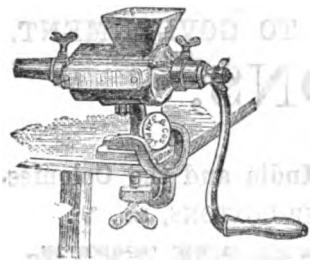

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The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

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AN ASSOCIATION, called the "HONG KONG and WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY," having purchased Messrs. J. C. Couper and Co.'s extensive DOCKS, with Engineer Factory and Foundry, at Whampoa, are prepared to execute all kinds of work with prompt despatch.

The Dock is built of Granite, and is 550 feet over all, with 520 feet on the blocks, and a breadth of 80 feet at the entrance. It can be used as either one or two Docks, being fitted with two Caissons. It is also furnished with Steam Pumps.

Depth of Water at Spring Tides, 16½ to 17 feet.
Do. Neap do. 13½ to 15 ,,

Attached to the Docks is a Pair of Shears, fitted with two capstans and three winches, and capable of lifting fifty tons, with a depth of water under the Shears, alongside the Jetty, enough for any vessels at all times of Tides.

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Also, one Wood Dock, capable of taking a Vessel of 240 feet on the keel, on a Draft of 14 feet at Spring Tides, and 11 at Neap Tides. This Dock is also fitted with a Caisson, and is pumped out by steam.

The above are the only Docks in Whampoa fitted with Caissons.

There are also Two Mud Docks, one capable of taking in Vessels of 164 feet on the keel, with a Draft of 12 feet 6 inches at Spring Tides, and 9 feet 6 inches at Neap Tides. The other, Vessels of 120 feet 6 inches at Spring Tides, and 7 feet 6 inches at Neap do.

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The whole under the Superintendence of experienced European Foremen.

All Tools and Materials connected with Machinery kept always on hand.

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N.B.—This pickle is highly approved, and as a zest for cold meat, &c., will be found unrivalled.

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	Bottles.
Pindaree Chutnee	1s. 6d. and 3s.
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Green Mango, do.	1s 6d. and 3s
Cashmere, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s
Lucknow (sweet), do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Curry Sauce	1s. 6d.
Tap, do.	1s. 6d.
Pickled Limes...	1s. 6d.
Pickled Mangoes	2s. 6d and 5s.
Essence of Chillies...	1s. 9d.
Tamarind Fish	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Balachow...	1s. 6d.
Genuine Cayenne	1s. and 2s.
Nepaul Pepper	1s. and 2s.
Guava Jelly	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Preserved Mangoes	2s. and 3s. 6d
Do. Jamaica Ginger	from 3s. 6d.
Do. Chinese Ginger	jars, 5s. and 10s.
Genuine Arrowroot, 1 lb. tins, 2s.; 7 lb. tins, 10s. 6d each.	

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NORTH CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY.—A General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Company will be held at the residence of Messrs. Gilman and Co., on Monday, 4th January, 1864, for the transaction of the following business:—

1.—To elect Directors of the Company for the year 1864. The retiring Directors are re-eligible, and will offer themselves for re-election.

2.—To consider an alteration in fundamental regulation of the Company, No. 11, with a view of making policies payable at thirty days' sight (instead of sixty days' sight), in conformity with the established custom of local offices.

By order,
W. LEMANN, Secretary pro. tem.

Shanghai, 1st Dec., 1863.

NORTH CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY.—NOTICE.—That in all policies of the Company granted on and from this date, the percentage under which Tea and Silk are warranted free from average, will be reduced to three per cent., instead of five per cent. as formerly.

By order,
W. LEMANN, Secretary pro. tem.

Shanghai, 1st Dec., 1863.

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Ditto Silver	do.	...	3 to 6 ,,
Gold English Lever	do.	...	12 to 25 ,,
Silver do. do.	do.	...	5 to 14 ,,
Gold Chains ...	...	...	3 to 20 ,,

These Watches have a world-wide reputation for their accuracy, and cannot be purchased anywhere at these prices.

Two years' warranty given with each watch.

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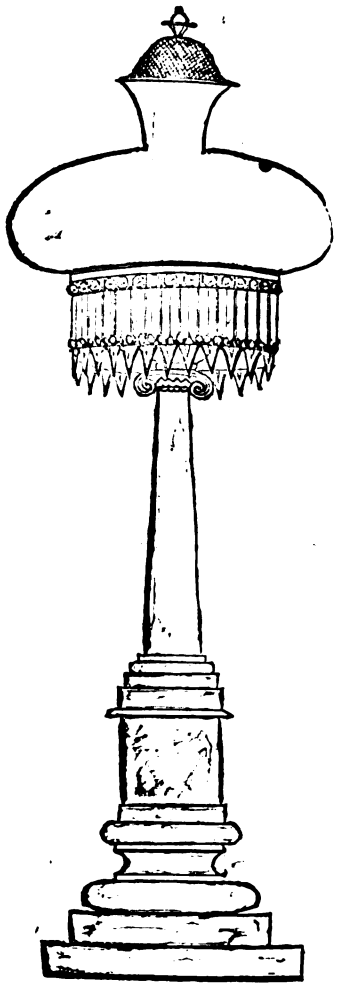

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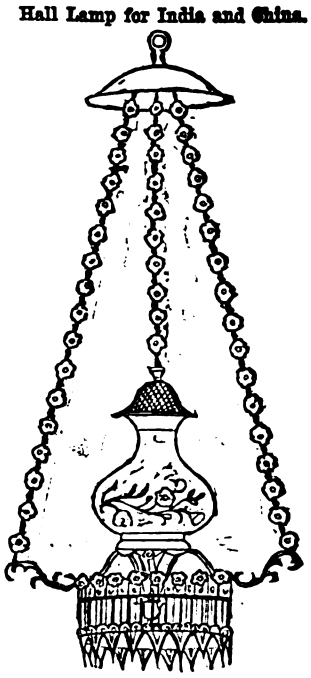

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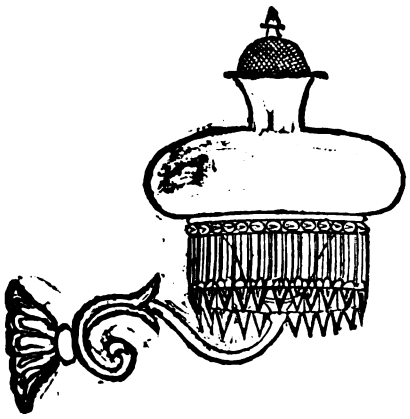

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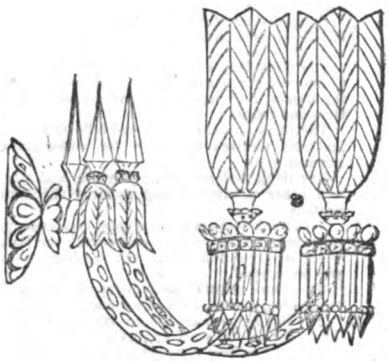

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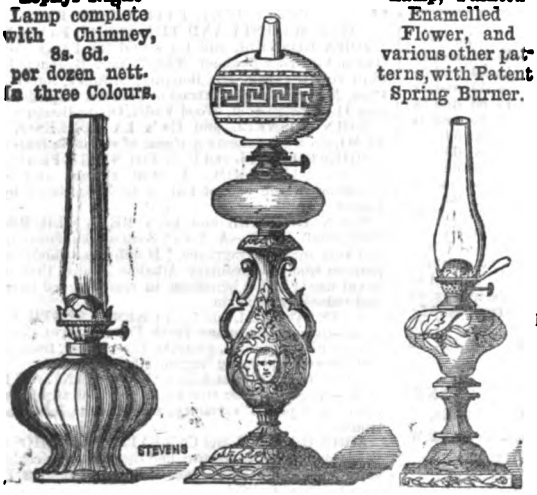

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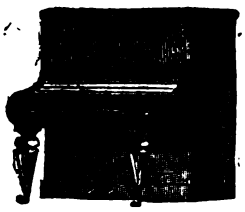

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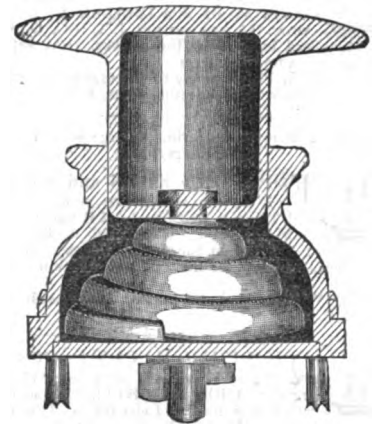

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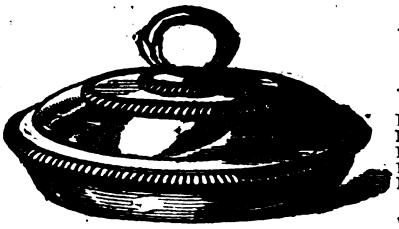

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H. Kong & Whampoa	Canadian ...	E.I.D.	With des.
Nagasaki & Kanagawa	MountainAsh	W.I.D.	With des.

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Caractacus do.	778	A 1 13years	Shanghai ...	,,

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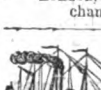
Shanghai	Solent	W.I.D.	With des.
Penang	Suniuni ...	W.I.D.	Jan. 27.
Manila	Conchita ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Bombay	Leonidas ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Kanagawa	Satzuma ...	W.I.D.	With des.

London, 5, Newman's-court, Cornhill; or York-chambers, 55, King-street, Manchester.



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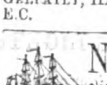

NOTICE to SHIPPERS to HONG KONG and WHAMPOA.—The splendid clipper ship COREA, A 1 fourteen years, 581 tons register, J. GARRY, Commander, will receive goods in the West India Docks till to-morrow (Thursday), the 28th inst.

For Freight or Passage apply to PHILLIPPS, SHAW, and LOWTHER, 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, E.C.

SINGAPORE direct, the very fast-sailing clipper-built barque PANIC, A 1 nineteen years in the Liverpool Underwriters' book, 450 tons register; loading in the East India Docks.

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For freight or passage app'y to the OWNERS; or to W. O. YOUNG, 71, Cornhill.

THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE FIFTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 28th December, 1863. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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PER FRENCH MAIL.

The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 127.] LONDON, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 3, 1864. [Sub. 30s. per ann., and 12s. to Supplement. Single copy of either 2d.

STATISTICS OF THE CHINA TRADE.

We have now under compilation "TABULAR STATISTICS OF THE TRADE WITH CHINA" for the past five years, in continuation of those published up to 1858. They will be issued as a Supplement to our next number, free to subscribers, and at 2s. 6d. to non-subscribers, with a copy of the *London and China Telegraph*. Extra copies to subscribers 1s. As the number printed will be limited, persons desirous of having copies will oblige by sending in their orders to the Publisher,

JOHN ELLISON, 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, E.C.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Kanagawa			Dec. 1
Nagasaki			„ 1
Hakodadi			
CHINA—			
Peking			Nov. 25
Tien-tsin			„ 28
Hankow			Dec. 6
Shanghai	Oct. 10	Dec. 2	„ 20
Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 9
Amoy			„ 10
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Nov. 10	Dec. 24	„ 26
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Oct. 10	Nov. 30	„ 16
COCHIN-CHINA—			Via Singapore.
Touron			
Saigon			„ 18
SIAM—			
Bankok			„ 14
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			„ 9
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 16
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Nov. 17	Dec. 21	Jan. 4
Penang	„ 10	„ 13	Dec. 24

The above Mails were delivered this morning, 38 days from Hong Kong. The English Mail arrived at Galle on 1st Jan., about 10 days over due, owing to the accident to the Bengal. The Mail of 10th Dec. arrived at Galle on 4th Jan.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

By next mail, per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, from Southampton, 4th inst.—To Hong Kong: Staff Commander J. F. Loney, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. Haseland and two children, Messrs. H. Coller, R.N., H. Brown, R.N., G. Alexander, R.N., J. Hancock, R.N., W. M'Neill, R.N., and J. O. Wilson, R.N.—To Shanghai: Messrs. H. P. Buckley, W. Kidner, W. K. Hughes, and Alabaster. From Marseilles, 12th inst.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. Borradaile, M'Iver, and A. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Odell.—To Shanghai: Messrs. Cochrane, W. D. Gerard, and Dudgeon.—To Singapore: Mrs. Kirby, Capt. P. P. Stafford.—To Penang: Mr. and Mrs. Friedrichs.

Per P. and O. steamer Delhi, Feb. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Miss Phillips, Messrs. H. Kilby, G. E. Stokes, H. Buich, R.N., A Pritchard, R.N., J. Butchart, R.N., J. Galbraith, R.N., D. Crichton, R.N., J. Turkington, R.N., and L. Simmons.—To Shanghai: Rev. W. J. Smith, Mr. R. Nichol, Mr. Macintosh.—To Singapore: Miss Buyers. From Marseilles, Feb. 28.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. E. H. How, A. J. How, Fearon, and B. A. Clarke.—To Shanghai: Mr. L. S. Dunlop, H. Evans, and Mr. Eyles.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

We have no later advices from Japan by the French mail steamer delivered to-day. There appears to have been no arrival at Shanghai or Hong Kong from that quarter since the departure of the previous P. and O. mail, details of which were given in our issue of January 27.

The following is an extract from a private letter, dated Yokohama, Dec. 1, 1863:—"The *Pearl*, 21, screw, Captain J. Borlase, leaves to-morrow for Hong Kong and Portsmouth. The 'old stationers' are clearing out, and in a month or six weeks the flag will be the senior ship on the station, Mr. Parker, master of the *Euyralus*, goes home in the *Pearl*, invalided. Commodore Osborn and his followers have met with unexpected disappointment, and the Anglo-Chinese fleet no longer exists. It appears that Prince Kung (the Regent) wanted Osborn to be subject to the orders of the Foutais, or heads of provinces—a proposition which the commodore strenuously opposed, as being contrary to the Order in Council, and derogatory to his position. The matter could not be settled, so the squadron is dispersed. The officers and men return home. The new ships go to Bombay for sale, and those bought from the Government will be returned. It is said so great was the anxiety of the Chinese authorities to obtain two or three Whitworth guns that they offered to place weight for weight of pure silver in the scales to purchase them; but even this was refused. Brother Nathan (American) has been nicely checkmated in his attempt to make dollars by supplying Dahlgren guns to Prince Satsuma, the *Scotland* (a sister ship to the *England*, burnt at Kagosima) having been seized by the Chinese for shipping stores at Cumsingmoon, a port not opened by treaty. At Yokohama everything is quiet, but no one can say how long such a pleasing state of affairs is to continue. The *Tartar*, 20, screw, Captain J. M. Hayes, reached Yokohama a few hours after the last mail left. The cold weather has set in here; the thermometer was at 33 deg. this morning. At Nagasaki everything is quiet. Mr. Alexander F. Boxer, master in command of the *Hesper*, goes to Hong Kong as acting master-attendant, vice Swain, invalided."

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

Our dates from this port are to the 20th Dec. The *North China Herald* of the 19th states that until the opinion of the Court of Peking has been ascertained regarding the Footai's recent violation of his promise to the rebel Wang, Major Gordon will refrain from further operations. The *Herald* considers that any attempt to impress upon the Footai that his breach of faith towards the Na-Wang and his associates was wrong, because it was dishonourable, would fail, for a Chinese is incapable of appreciating the dishonour. But if he finds that the consequence of his conduct has been to deprive him of the all-important aid of the disciplined Chinese contingent, he will in future refrain from acts of treachery which involve consequences so serious as to eclipse the immediate benefit to be derived from them. The Footai's career has now been stopped in the full tide of conquest. The loss of Soochow has inflicted a far more serious loss on the rebel power than the mere material loss of an important city. It was regarded

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as a principal stronghold; and its fall has depressed their courage proportionately to the reliance which had been placed in its strength. They would naturally conclude that if Soochow were untenable against Gordon's prowess, the attempt to defend smaller cities must be hopeless. The evacuation of Woosih was the first fruit of this conviction, and the remaining cities between Soochow and Nanking would have quickly followed on the first appearance of Gordon's troops before their walls. These prospects are now effectually checked. The news of Gordon's quarrel with the Footai will spread far and wide through the rebel armies; and their courage will revive when they learn that they have in future to deal only with their disguised enemies "the imps." We are sure (continues the *Herald*) that Sir Frederick Bruce will see the impossibility of Gordon again acting in concert with a man who recklessly violates, not only his own word, but that of others, and will urge the removal of the Footai to a scene where his peculiar talents may be employed without risk of offending the prejudices of foreigners in favour of truth and honesty.

MEETING OF THE FOREIGN CONSULS.

A meeting was held at the British Consulate on the 16th December, at which Major-General Brown was present. Mr. Seward, the United States Consul-General, was in the chair and the Consuls of all the European Powers attended. After the Chairman had read the statement of Major Gordon with respect to the surrender of Soochow, and the execution of the rebel leaders and pillage of the city, General Brown said it would be impossible for Major Gordon to co-operate further with the Footai. Unless, in fact, the Government of Peking disavowed the latter's proceedings, there would be no alternative but to withdraw altogether from active support of the Chinese Government.

Mr. Kroes, the Netherlands Consul, stated that he had heard something from M. Bonnefoy, commanding the French force, to the effect that the rebel leaders, after entering into their agreement with the Footai, had sought to fortify themselves within the city, and to oppose further resistance.

General Brown replied that in the interview he had with the Footai on the 11th, the latter did not attempt to advance any justification for the act, simply endeavouring to maintain that, granted he might be considered to have done wrong, foreign nations were not concerned in what had passed. Replying to a question from M. Rameau, the acting French Consul-General, General Brown stated that Major Gordon's connection with him as a British officer was such that he could not do otherwise than afford him protection and support, but that his instructions to him were to remain inactive until the decision of the Imperial Government on the point should be received. His attitude was to be one purely defensive, and he would cover Soochow as a point indispensable to the safety of Shanghai. As regarded the retention of command by Major Gordon, he felt happy in having been able to see him still at the head of the force, since, were he to resign, as he was undoubtedly anxious to do, there could be no doubt whatever that the larger part would join the rebels, and carry to them an accession of strength which the Imperialists would be powerless to resist. Of this danger he had fully warned the Footai, who, he believed, was quite alive to it, and who expressed relief when he was told that Major Gordon would still remain in command.

Mr. Cunningham (Swedish Consul) adverted to the confusion certain to ensue in case the Footai should refuse to continue the regular payments to the force.

Mr. Dent (Portuguese Consul) was strongly of opinion that a material guarantee for the payment of the force should be obtained, and that the Consular body, by virtue of their interest in the safety of Shanghai, were entitled to require such a provision.

The following resolution was next offered by Mr. Markham (the British Acting-Consul), and seconded by Mr. Keswick (Danish Consul), "That this meeting, as representing the whole foreign community, views with unqualified disapprobation the late proceedings of the Footai at Soochow, as an act of extreme treachery abhorrent to human nature, calculated to withdraw from the Imperial cause the sympathies of Western nations, and the aid of the gallant officers who have hitherto assisted them." Passed unanimously.

Discussion next ensued on the subject of the measures likely to be rendered necessary, pending the receipt of the views of the Government of Peking, and of instruction from the foreign Ministers. It was considered by several Consuls advisable that the meeting should not separate without the adoption of some means for securing the pay of the disciplined force, whilst by others it was thought a matter beyond the province of the meeting to discuss, and an eventuality which might be left to be dealt with by the military authorities. A resolution to the effect that a material guarantee should be obtained, securing the pay of the force, was proposed by Mr. Cunningham, and seconded by Mr. Dent, but was not carried.

The meeting dissolved, after passing resolutions of thanks to General Brown for the information afforded, and to the Chairman for presiding.

Bulkly, who murdered Captain McKinnon a few months ago at the International Hotel, in the French Concession, and caused so much excitement, has at length been arrested. He had taken passage for Havre, *via* Nagasaki, on board the French brig *Jean Joseph*, and was recognised at the latter port by a Mr. Lozey, who was present on the occasion of the murder. The arrest was made by the French consul, as Bulkly was on board a French ship, but he will, we presume, be sent to Shanghai for trial at an early date. Of the many outrageous acts which have been perpetrated in Shanghai during the past few months none has excited so much attention or horror as the murder of McKinnon. That men of the stamp of White and Webster should give way to their brutal instincts and resort to revolvers on the slightest possible provocation may be comparatively intelligible. But when men who hold in a certain degree a respectable position in society, at any rate sufficiently so to render them eligible residents at a respectable hotel, reply by a bullet to an unpalatable argument, the most severe measures of repression which the law allows become necessary. Bulkly's trial will, of course, only be a *pro forma* one, as the murder was an open one.

The W. M. and Wardens elect of a new Scotch Lodge about to be opened in this settlement, gave a banquet on Monday evening, the 30th Nov., at which a number of the members of the craft in Shanghai were present. Covers were laid for sixty-four, and about fifty sat down. The room was tastefully decorated with flags, and the dinner and wines excellent. The following toasts were drunk:—"The Queen," "Supreme Rulers of our Respective Countries," "Grand Lodge of Scotland and all other Grand Lodges," "The Masonic Lodges in China," "The Cosmopolitan Lodge," "Absent Brethren," "Our Guests," "The Ladies," and "The Press." The new lodge is to be named "The Cosmopolitan," and will be under the government of Bro. Donaldson, W. M.; Bro. Farr, S. W.; and Bro. Daly, J. W.

The sentence of death, passed by the American Consul on David Williams, who was the principal in the *Jupiter* piracy and murder case, has been confirmed by Mr. Burlinghame. The unfortunate man will suffer on the 18th December.

According to the correspondent of *The Times*, the following was the programme after the capture of Soochow:—

"Pending the receipt of Sir Frederick's reply, Gordon will act solely on the defensive, protecting Soochow in case the rebels should gather courage to attack it, but strictly refraining from any offensive movement. The tide of Imperialist success will thus be arrested when it promised to carry all before it. The Chung-wang was known to despair of further successful resistance, and there can be little doubt that the remaining rebel cities between Soochow and Nanking would have opened their gates directly Gordon approached. Soochow was considered as impregnable, and, having lost it, the rebels would naturally look on the defence of less strongly fortified places as hopeless. Woo-sih, a city on the Grand Canal, about thirty miles from Soochow, had already been evacuated, and overtures of surrender had been received from the important city of Kia-shing. The news of Gordon's intended inactivity will quickly spread through the rebel districts, and all thoughts of surrender will be abandoned. They readily acknowledge the immense superiority of the disciplined troops, but express utter contempt for the Mandarin soldiers as adversaries. Finding that for the future they will have to contend with these alone, their courage will revive, and the Futai will have the gratifying reflection that by his treacherous and cruel conduct towards the rebel leaders he has checked a career of success which promised fair to extinguish the rebellion in the province.

"It is to be feared that the Court of Peking will not be persuaded to view the Futai's conduct in the light in which foreigners look on it. According to Chinese notions, to compass

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two such important ends as the capture of an important city and the punishment of four noted rebel leaders, at the simple cost of a breach of faith, is rather a proof of diplomatic acuteness than a subject for reprehension. During the Futai's tenure of office nearly half the province has been recovered from the grasp of the rebels. Two years ago they were close to the gates of Shanghai; now their nearest station in this province is Chang-chow, about half-way between Soochow and Nanking. With the exception of the siege of Soochow, in which Gordon derived considerable assistance from the Mandarin soldiers, every success which has led to this result has been achieved by the disciplined troops, led by foreign officers and commanded by a foreign general. But it is in the highest degree improbable that more than a very small share of credit will have been awarded to them in the Futai's despatches to Peking. He himself will figure therein as the successful leader, and Mandarin troops as the men to whom the Emperor is indebted for the re-establishment of his authority in so important a portion of his dominions.

"Persuaded that this is the case, Prince Kung will hardly be likely to accede to any request by our Minister to express disapprobation of conduct on the part of a high officer which, according to Chinese notions, is really justifiable, and which, in this particular instance, resulted in the submission of an important city, and the destruction of four noted leaders of revolt. It is possible that he may be sufficiently enlightened to appreciate the real value of the force to the Imperialist cause, and to give Gordon permission to act independently, not because the Futai has done wrong, but in order that the Imperialist cause may not suffer. This, it seems to me, is the utmost that can be expected. If even this be refused, no alternative seems to remain but to withdraw permission from English officers to aid the Imperialists, in which case the Quinsan force would probably be disbanded. In the meantime, the Futai has taken up his residence at Soochow, which is garrisoned by Mandarin soldiers. Gordon is shut up in Quinsan, and unless a projected expedition by Ching against the small city of Pingwang be carried out, it seems likely that active operations are at an end for the winter. A meeting of foreign consuls was held on the

"That this meeting, as representing the whole foreign community, views with unqualified disapprobation the late proceedings of the Futai at Soochow, as an act of extreme treachery abhorrent to human nature, calculated to withdraw from the Imperial cause the sympathies of Western nations and the aid of the gallant officers who have hitherto assisted them."

"The propriety of taking some means to secure the pay of the disciplined force, pending the receipt of instructions from Sir Frederick Bruce, was next discussed; but the meeting concluded that any such matter was beyond its province. It is certainly possible that the Futai may decline to pay the troops if Gordon will not act; but he is unlikely to widen the breach already existing between himself and the foreign authorities."

The *crim. con.* case of "Andrews *versus* Bellwood," master of the British ship *Marquis of Argyle*, noticed in a previous issue, has ended in a verdict of £1,500 to the plaintiff Andrews, a clerk in the Agra Bank.

The *Shanghai Recorder* of December 15 gives the following as the latest from Soochow:—

"Lieutenants Cardew, of H.M.'s 67th Regiment, and Storey, of H.M.'s 99th Regiment, arrived here with their battalion of Disciplined Chinese (formerly commanded by Captain Kingsley) on Saturday morning. This is the first fruits of General Brown's visit to Major Gordon; doubtless other necessary and judicious arrangements will follow.

"We understand that General Brown returned yesterday per *Tsatlee*, from Quinsan, accompanied by Capt. Murray, R.A., Capt. Hartman, D.A.Q.M.G., and Mr. Mayers, of H.M. Consulate. Major Gordon, with his force, still remained at Quinsan, and the Footai continued in Soochow. We are not yet in possession of particulars with regard to what has taken place, but we understand that an interview took place between the General and the Footai, on Friday, the 11th inst., when we believe General Brown expressed to the Footai the horror and indignation generally felt in consequence of his late atrocious act, and warned him that upon the view taken of his conduct by the Government of Peking, must undoubtedly depend the future course of foreign policy with China. The Footai, we have been told, appeared much disturbed at the tenor of the interview. With regard to Major Gordon's force, we understand that its gallant commander, waiving his private feeling for the public good, will, in the present emergency, retain command, though without further co-operation with the Footai; and pending the decision of the Peking Government upon the conduct of the latter, the force will remain in *statu quo*, unless under circumstances of pressing danger to the country.

"The adopted son of the Na-Wang, a fine youth of eighteen, remains under the protection of Major Gordon, by whom his father's body has been recovered, and honourably interred at Quinsan. Major Gordon having learned that some 500 of the Na-Wang's late adherents were still assembled within Soochow, despatched his A.D.C., Major Brown, to the city, for the purpose of withdrawing these men from their position of danger. Major Brown having discovered these men, passed the night amongst them, and marched them from the city on the morning of the 11th. Unfortunately, on reaching the open country on their way to Quinsan, the men were plundered by the braves they met, and four or five were cut down on offering resistance. Major Brown himself was attacked by an Imperial soldier whilst endeavouring to protect these refugees, and would have doubtless suffered for his gallant interference but for the timely arrival of a Mandarin.

"Major Tumblety, with the 1st Regiment, returned to Quinsan on the 12th inst., from the outpost at Fu-she-kwan, having been called in by Major Gordon. The rebel prisoners, who, to the number of 2,000 or 3,000 had given themselves up to Major Tumblety, were dismissed by the latter before leaving for Quinsan.

"With respect to the interior of Soochow, we learn that the entire city has been completely gutted by the troops and peasantry, the latter having slaughtered a number of the rebels on the west side of the walls. We are glad to hear, however, that the accounts which first reached Shanghai with reference to the reported massacre by the Imperial troops were, to a considerable extent, exaggerated. From all accounts it appears improbable that indiscriminate slaughter took place; and we understand that the first party of foreigners who traversed the city; three days after the entry of the troops, saw but one corpse bearing marks of violence, though undoubtedly several hundreds must have perished in the pillage and sack of the place. We cannot learn that much treasure was discovered, though much private property of value was looted by the braves. Silks and furs were being sold in the latter part of last week at Ching's stockades. The Mo-Wang's palace is described as a very pretty place, and appears to have contained very little of value, beyond the furniture of the usual Chinese style, which was taken possession of by Dr. Macartney, whose ambiguous position with the Footai must place him in a position of considerable embarrasment at present. The place, after being stripped, was fired by a shell dropped either accidentally or intentionally among the ammunition with which several rooms were filled, and was in consequence totally destroyed by the fire and explosion.

"The following is the official list of the killed and wounded officers of the East Gate outpost of the city:—

2nd	Regt.	...	Captain Wiley	Killed.
„	„	...	Lieut. King	do.
„	„	...	Captain Maule	do.
4th	„	...	Captain Christie	do.
„	„	...	Lieut. Agar	do.
5th	„	...	„ Carrol...	do.
„	„	...	„ Williams	do.
„	„	...	„ Glanceford	do.
Staff	Major	...	Kirkham ...	Severely wounded.
4th	Regt.	...	Lieut. Toldson	Wounded.
„	„	...	Captain Harling	do.
6th	„	...	Colonel Brennan	do.
Artillery		...	Major Tapp	do.
„		...	Lieut Rhodes...	do.
„		...	Captain Baffy...	do.
Engineers		...	Lieut. Shamroffel	do.

"The promotions have been officially announced as follows:—

Staff Major	Kirkham	... to be ...	Lieutenant-Colonel.	
Major	Tapp	... Artillery	do. ...	do.
„	Williams	... 2d Regt.	do. ...	do.
„	Howard	... 4th „	do. ...	do.
Captain	Toots	... 2nd „	do. ...	Major.
„	Chapman	... 5th „	do. ...	„
„	Coates	... 5th „	do. ...	„
„	Brown	... A.D.C.	do. ...	„

The French steamer *Hydaspe* run down the steamer *Hellespont*, from Hankow, near Woosung; crew saved. The *Hellespont* sunk almost immediately.

HONG KONG.

The dates are down to the morning of the 25th of December. The English mail of the 10th of November arrived out on the 24th, just in time to distribute the plum puddings and other good things sent from many a home in England to their relations in the Far East.

A correspondence appears in the Hong Kong papers between the P. and O. Company and the Post-office, giving a caution

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against the carriage of letters by the hands of officers on board their steamers.

At the criminal sessions William Smith was charged with having with a pistol loaded with ball fired at Thomas Stone with intent to kill and murder him; there was another count for shooting with intent to do grievous bodily harm. Mr. Stone, master shipwright in the P. and O. Company's service, was walking down the Queen's-road with his friend, his chair following behind, the prisoner stopped the chair and got into it, the prosecutor desired him to get out saying the chair was a private one; the prisoner then used abusive language, but got out; he had a revolver in his hand which went off, either fired by the prisoner or accidentally, the shot passing close to the prosecutor.

A constable named Anderson who was present at the time said that when he saw the prisoner draw the revolver, he snatched it out of the prisoner's hand, during which the revolver went off. The prisoner, in defence, said that the men beat him because he got in the chair, and he only drew the revolver to "scare" them.

The jury found the prisoner guilty of shooting with intent to do grievous bodily harm, but recommended him to mercy on the ground that they thought there was some provocation. Sentence, twelve months' imprisonment.

The Legislative Council met on the 22nd of December. Present, his Excellency the Acting Governor, the Hon. the Chief Justice, the Hon. the Attorney-General, the Colonial Secretary, the Auditor-General, the Colonial Treasurer, the Surveyor-General, and the Hon. Messrs. Chomley and Murray.

The minutes of last meeting having been read and confirmed, his Excellency said that it would be ten days yet before the report of the special committee appointed to examine the bankruptcy ordinance could be sent in. The Council then proceeded to amend the draft of the Bill to prevent the use of fraudulent trade marks.

This was the signal for one of the most amusing discussions about eatables and drinkables that perhaps ever occurred a Council board. Nothing was heard sometimes but a confused Babel of—porter—penalty—pint—bottle—hogshead—sold—label—each—bottle—fined $50——What if he sold a dozen? —I think every bottle would carry the penalty of £5—the innocent purchaser—no—as it stands, the manufacturer, for whose protection the ordinance is framed, is not one whit protected by it.

The Ordinance was finally revised and passed under the name of "An Ordinance to prevent the fraudulent marking of merchandise," and was numbered 8 of 1862. His Excellency the Acting Governor next informed the Council that the main object of the meeting that day was the establishment of a mint in Hong Kong for the purpose of supplying the trade of China and Japan. A letter was read from the Duke of Newcastle recommending a local Ordinance for carrying the scheme into effect.

A second letter stated that the scheme had been matured at home. The establishment is to be under a master; a superintendent of bullion office, an assayer; superintendent of coining office, and machinery; and a superintendent of melting department. Clauses of an ordinance to provide such officers were read to the Council. The above designated officers are to receive, respectively, £1,400, £800, £800, £800, and £800. Various letters having been read, and the matter being brought to a close,

His Excellency read a despatch from the Duke of Newcastle proposing that Hong Kong pay to the Imperial Government a sum of £20,000 per annum for the five years commencing on the first of January, 1865, in part liquidation of the expenses of military protection. The Duke had intended making the demand for the 1st of January, 1864, but on consideration that the Mint's establishment would cost some money, he had determined to delay for a year.

The Mint Ordinance was read a first time and ordered to be printed in the *Gazette*. The Council then adjourned *sine die*.

General Brown, the commander of our forces in China, arrived from Shanghai per steamer *Ganges*, but nothing is noticed in our advices in reference to his movements. No doubt, however, he was there to arrange for the disposition of the 20th Regiment, which had arrived from Calcutta, per P. and O. steamer *Nubia*, at a cost of £30,000—a needless outlay, owing entirely to the conduct of General Brown in despatching to England from Shanghai the 31st Regiment, against the protest of Colonel Neale and Admiral Kuper.

Charles Ryall and Andrew Johnson, the gaol-keepers, were charged with the escape of Stanford, the opium swindler, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

The *China Directory*, published by Messrs. A. Shortrede and Co., will appear in January.

The Amateurs gave the first of their performances for the season. The house was little more than half filled, owing, perhaps, to the sum required in the shape of subscription. The latter used at one time to be $15, which many paid with a sigh, then $18, which increased the sigh to a groan, and now the charge, this year, of $20, has proved the proverb that it is the last straw that breaks the camel's back. Numerous patient animals have succumbed to the application of two dollars more, and the house was unfortunately thin compared with former years.

According to the latest returns, the circulation of notes of the—

Oriental Bank was	$1,093,937
Mercantile Bank	777,410
Agra Bank	488,680
India, Australia, and China, ...	413,267
Total	$2,773,294

It is noticed that the cargo of the *Amanda*, from Manila to New York, was on British account, and surprise is expressed that Captain Semmes did not respect it. In another column it will be seen that the cargo was fully insured.

CANTON.

The following letter in the *China Mail* of the 17th December gives an interesting account of the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the new Catholic church at Canton:—

The laying of the foundation-stone of a Christian Church at Canton, and within the walls of that city, would have been under any circumstances an event of no ordinary interest; how much more so now that the principal Chinese officers of the province and city were present; especially when one reflects upon the course of events which, since November 1856, has changed the spot on which stood the palace of Yeh and his predecessors the Viceroys of the Two Kuang into the site of the French Cathedral, whose construction is now being proceeded with under the auspices of the Right Reverend Philippe François Zephyrin Guillemin, Lord Bishop of Kuangtung and Kuang Se. Preparations on an ample scale had been made by the erection of suitable temporary buildings in which to receive the guests invited to be present at the expected solemnity; as also for the accommodation of the large trains of the high Chinese officers and their immediate *entourage*, and a body of three hundred Tartar troops under the conduct of a sous-officer and squad of Infanterie legere d'Afrique, who were marched to the ground, "Clarion-en avant," not only for the purpose of giving *eclat* to the spectacle, but also to co-operate with the Chinese police in preserving order; and here it may be said, with reference to this feature of the ceremony, that in general they were tall, good-looking men, carefully and neatly dressed in their peculiarly picturesque uniform, purely Tartar, armed with musket and bayonet, and reflecting great credit upon their instructors by their efficiency in drill and manœuvre. These soldiers formed a double line from the outer gates of the enclosure to the reception-hall, and from it entirely around the foundations of the cathedral. Opposite to the gate of entrance was placed a band of Chinese music, whose shrill strains announced the arrival of the guests, while the usual Chinese salute of three guns, with the "present arms" of the troops, gave notice of the approach of the various officials. The streets adjoining were densely crowded with Chinese, whose curiosity seemed unbounded. Hundreds penetrated inside the enclosure, but the behaviour of all was orderly, and no indication of hostile or unfriendly feeling was visible either in word or act.

At one end of the reception-room the Insignia of the Church were portrayed upon the wall, and beneath stood a desk approached by two steps, a rostrum, as it were, nicely carpeted. At a short distance from it were arranged rows of chairs, the front one of which was occupied by the Viceroy of the Two-Kuang, having on his left the Governor of Canton and the Hoppo, the Vice-Consul of England and Consul of Prussia, and on his right the Tartar General; another officer, whose rank answered to that of Marechal de Camp, the Treasurer of the Province, together with the Consuls of the United States and Spain. The other rows were filled by about a hundred foreigners, amongst whom were the Acting Chief Justice (Judge Ball) and the Assistant Magistrate, Mr. White, of Hong Kong. Several ladies were also present.

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The scene was at once remarkable and interesting, not only from the old associations connected with the spot on which were now gathered the representatives of many nations and various creeds, but from the unusual circumstance of the presence of the chief dignitaries of the province, who thereby gave to the solemnity its distinctive and exceptional character. I was given to understand that their coming was mainly due to the diplomatic tact and address of the French Consul, Monsieur Le Baron de Trenqualye, whose wishes to secure their co-operation were thus crowned by the most complete success.

Immediately on the arrival of the Viceroy, who came attended by the Governor and Hoppo at 3 P.M., the Consul ascended the rostrum and read an address in which he described briefly but comprehensively the history of the Roman Catholic missions in China, dating from 1583, making particular reference to the well known patronage and friendship extended by the Emperor Kang He to the Italian Missionary Mathew Ricci; his grief at his death and the providing of his place of sepulture over which he raised a costly monument, as well as to the fact, not probably so well known, that at one time there existed in the province of Canton, forty churches, of which seven were in the city itself, and that the number of converts was not less than 300,000.

The Bishop next addressed the company in a discourse more strictly confined to the objects of the Cathedral, and touching on many interesting points in connection with the labour of the missionaries and the founding of the building. Translations of both addresses had been placed in the hands of the Chinese officers, who, with the aid of Monsieur Blancheton, the Consular Interpreter, followed them as they were read, apparently with much interest, the Viceroy often turning to the Governor and drawing his attention to some particular point mentioned in connection with Chinese history.

The laying of the foundation-stone now took place by Bishop Guillemin, clothed in full episcopal costume, with mitre and crozier. This stone was a massive block of granite, so arranged as to slide easily into the place prepared for it; in its centre a space was hollowed out large enough to contain two slabs of marble, presented by Pope Pius the Ninth, one of which was brought from the brook Cedron, and bore the following inscription in Latin and Chinese:—

Ex torrente Cedron ex loco ubi D.N.J.C. lapsus est et genuum S.S. vestigia reliquit.

the other from the Catacombs near Rome, and on which was engraved in the same language as follows:—

Lapis sacerex catacumbis romanis extracus et a Papa Pio IX. dono datus.

These being deposited by the Bishop, the ceremony terminated by the chaunting of the Psalm "*Nisi Dominus*," &c., in procession, around the foundation of the Cathedral—the Viceroy and his colleagues, who had manifested much curiosity in all the proceedings, took their leave, when more than fifty of the foreign community present partook of a repast offered by the Bishop.

In the evening a large party of ladies and gentlemen were entertained at dinner by the French Consul at his Yamun, and thus terminated a day marked by a ceremony not easily forgotten, which was conducted throughout with the utmost order and solemnity, and elicited the respectful attention and sympathy of all present. Those who remarked the earnestness, devotion, and sincerity of the worthy Bishop, whose name is now inseparably connected with an event unprecedented within the ancient walls of Canton, must wish him a full measure of success in his ministry here, wherein he has so long and arduously laboured, and at its close the reward of the faithful in the life which is to come.

SIAM.

The *Singapore Free Press* has the following on the Sultan of Linga, about whom, it will be remembered, there was a discussion in our last session of Parliament:—

The ex-Sultan of Linga lately arrived here in the steamer *Chow Phya* from Bangkok, in disguise, and he has since gone to Muar to join his relative Sultan Ali. His departure from Bangkok was apparently without the knowledge of the Siamese officials, and was rather cleverly managed. It appears it was the ex-Sultan's custom to retire to his room about nine o'clock in the evening, accompanied by one of his wives, and he did not generally make his appearance again until about eleven or twelve o'clock on the following forenoon. He retired, as customary, on the evening of the 14th Nov., but next day he did not open his door at the usual hour. About one or two o'clock in the afternoon some anxiety began to be felt at his long seclusion, and inquiries were made as to which of his wives had been his companion during the previous night, but when the ladies were mustered they were all found present. The door of the ex-Sultan's apartment was then forced open, but it was found he had vanished, and that he had taken with him some valuable krises and other property. As the *Chow Phya* left Bangkok that morning it was at once conjectured that he had gone in her, and this has turned out to be correct. Captain Orton, of the *Chow Phya*, we understand, had no knowledge of the transaction, although it is probable that some of his underlings must have been in the secret. After what has taken place with reference to the ex-Sultan's intrigues on the east coast of the Peninsula, the Siamese Government is naturally annoyed at the manner in which he has chosen to quit Bangkok, as it might bring suspicion on it of having aided in his evasion. This suspicion would be the more likely to arise, as instead of carrying out the intention formerly expressed by the first King of Siam of removing the ex-Sultan to one of the inland provinces, the Siamese Government allowed him to remain at Bangkok, where the facilities for escape were much greater. We believe the first King has assured the Governor of the Straits Settlement that he was entirely ignorant of the ex-Sultan's intention to leave Bangkok and that His Majesty highly disapproved of his conduct. It is supposed to be the ex-Sultan's intention to make his way to Pahang to join Wan Ahmat, and these worthies will probably try to disturb the peace of the Peninsula by an attack on that part of the territories of Johore which adjoin those of Pahang. Wan Ahmat has already been intriguing in that quarter, but if he and the ex-Sultan make any open demonstrations we trust they will be dealt with promptly.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Intelligence reaches us of the capture by the *Alabama* of the following American vessels:—*Sonora*, Captain Brown, and the *Highlander*, Captain Snow, from Singapore for Akyab. The vessel reported to be the British ship *Martaban* turns out to be the American ship *Texan Star*, Captain Pike.

The following particulars are from the *Straits Times*:—Captain Pike, of the British ship *Martaban*, burnt by the *Alabama*, in compliance with our request, has sent us the following statement of the circumstances attending the destruction of his vessel. The statement speaks for itself; and as we do not wish to be hurried into an expression of opinion on a subject which is sure to arrest the attention of every Court in Europe, we must delay our comments till we are well informed as to the legal bearings of the question:—"I left Amherst on the 12th instant for Singapore, having on board a cargo consisting of 12,354 bags of rice. On the 24th inst., at 2 P.M., Pulo Pisang and the Carimons plainly in sight from the deck, made a steamer steering to the north, which upon making out the *Martaban* altered her course directly for us, and when within one mile set the Confederate flag and fired a gun across our bows. In answer I immediately set the British ensign at the peak and hove to. Upon nearing the *Martaban*, an armed boat's crew, with an officer, left the steamer, and came alongside; the officer, when coming on board, demanded to see the ship's papers, which he immediately did. The papers were, register, port clearance, and bill of lading. Upon examination, the officer informed me that they were not satisfactory, and that he should take charge until he could communicate with his commander, Captain Semmes, of the *Alabama*; calling two armed men, one of whom was stationed on the forecastle, the other on the poop, he sent the boat back with a message to Captain Semmes, who at once came on board the *Martaban*, and demanded to see my papers. I handed him the register, which he examined. The register was a *bona fide* British register on parchment, issued by the proper British authorities in Moulmein. After examining this document, Captain Semmes said to me 'that he was not to be humbugged by any false papers—that I ought to have had a certificate that the transfer was legal, and that he should burn my ship. Upon this I said 'that the documents I held were legal and sufficient proof of my nationality, and protested against his burning the vessel.' To this he paid not the slightest attention, but went on deck and said to his officer, 'Sir, you will burn this vessel.' He then returned on board the *Alabama*. The first lieutenant then came on board the *Martaban* and took charge, hauled down the English flag that

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was lying at the peak, let go anchor, clewed up sails, and made preparations for setting the vessel on fire, staving in the cabin skylights to make a good draught. In the meantime my crew, by his orders, had hoisted out my ship's boat and gone on board the *Alabama*, leaving myself and my officers on board, who were ordered to pack up a few clothes, giving us half an hour to do so and follow them. I was allowed two small trunks, my officers each a small bag, armed men in the cabin watching the packing. I was assured by the first lieutenant that the contents of my two trunks would be respected, but my two chronometers and all my nautical instruments were taken from me. We were then taken on board the *Alabama*, and immediately after the *Martaban* was set on fire.

"The *Alabama* then proceeded up the Straits, and at midnight came to anchor five miles off the town of Malacca. Steam was kept up all night. At daybreak I was called upon to open my trunks, which were searched by an officer and the master at arms; a bag containing 400 rupees was taken from me, and also a night glass and part of my private papers. My officers' bags were searched in the same manner. We were then required to sign our parole not to serve against the Confederate States until exchanged. We were put on board the *Alabama's* boat (my ship's boat having been broken whilst towing) and landed at Malacca. I had passed my examination as British shipmaster at Moulmein, and held my certificate of competency, as also my chief officer. On the part of self, officers, and crew, I beg to express my sincere gratitude for the kindness and friendly treatment shown us by the authorities and European inhabitants of Malacca, who ministered to our every want in the most generous manner, and procured us passage in a native brig to Singapore—they defraying entire expense—we being entirely destitute."

We have received the following communication from Mr. Beaver:—

(To the Editor of the *Daily Times*.)

Sir,—A false aspect having been attempted to be given to the exercise by Captain Semmes of his belligerent rights in burning the vessel called the *Martaban*, of Moulmein, formerly the *Texan Star* of Boston, United States, I request you to publish the following copy of the deposition of Samuel B. Pike, who was master of the *Martaban*. The document speaks for itself, and a certified copy of the original is in my possession.

I have received information that the American vessels *Sonora* and *Highlander* have also been burned by the *Alabama*.—I remain, &c.,

H. R. BEAVER.

Singapore, 30th December, 3 P.M., 1863.

DEPOSITION OF CAPTAIN S. B. PIKE, OF THE "MARTABAN," OF MOULMEIN.

Q. What is your name?—Ans. Samuel B. Pike.

Q. Where were you born?—Ans. Newbury-port, Massachusetts.

Q. Are you a naturalised citizen of any foreign Government?—Ans. I am not.

Q. How long have you been in command of the *Martaban*, formerly the *Texan Star*?—Ans. About two years and a half.

Q. In what port of the United States was the *Texan Star* registered?—Ans. She was built and registered at Boston.

Q. Has she ever had but one register in America?—Ans. There was a change of ownership, and she has had two American registers.

Q. Who were the owners under the last American register?—Ans. John Atkins, Samuel Stephen, George L. Rogers, and myself.

Q. What proportion of the ship did you own?—Ans. One-sixth.

Q. When did you sail from the last port in the United States?—Ans. A year ago last July.

Q. It is stated in the present British register that Mr. Mark Riddell Currie is the owner?—Ans. That is as I understand it.

Q. Do you state under your oath that this sale was a *bona fide* sale?—Ans. I do not state this.

Q. Do you not know that it was intended merely as a cover to prevent capture?—Ans. Yes, I do know it.

(Signed) S. B. PIKE.

(Signed) Witnessed by W. B. SMITH, Captain's Clerk.

LETTER FROM CAPTAIN PIKE.

(To the Editor of the *Straits Times*.)

Singapore, Dec. 31, 2 P.M.

Sir,—With reference to your Extra of yesterday, containing a letter from H. R. Beaver, Esq., in which he states that "a false aspect had been attempted to be given to the exercise, by Captain Semmes, of his belligerent rights in burning the vessel *Martaban*, of Moulmein," I beg to state, that previous to the burning of that British vessel under my command I signed no paper or document whatever, nor was I submitted to any examination such as that said to have been signed by me under oath.

I shall detail the particulars of my interview with Captain Semmes, the only one I had with him before he burnt the vessel I commanded, and to the truth of which I pledge my honour.

Captain Semmes, when he boarded me, came into my cabin. I asked him to be seated; he replied, "I *shall* sit down!" and demanded to see my papers. I handed him my register, a register emanating from the British authorities at Moulmein, which he seemingly read, repeating aloud the name of the owner, Mr. Mark Riddell Currie, of Moulmein, a British subject, and also the date of execution. Turning to me, he said, "I am not to be humbugged with any sham papers; you ought to have a certificate of sale," and (some document which I do not remember) immediately adding, "I shall burn your ship." I protested against this decision, stating that my papers were regular, and were positive proof of the nationality of my ship. Paying no attention to this, he then, with the register in his hand, directed the officer to burn the vessel, and immediately left the ship.

As correctly as I can calculate, the interview did not last more than three minutes. This is the true state of the case to the best of my recollection, so help me God.—I am, &c.,

SAMUEL B. PIKE.

P.S.—In the middle of the night, when on board the *Alabama*, many hours after the ship was burnt, I was asked some questions and signed a paper, the context of which I do not clearly remember—imagine the state of my mind at that time.

The *Thule*, *Amoy*, *Quantung*, and *Keangsoo*, of the Sherard Osborn fleet, have arrived from Shanghai, and sailed for Bombay.

H.M.S. *Scout* left for England on 19th December.

The French transport *European* arrived from Pondicherry with 950 troops, *en route* for Saigon.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From London, Dec. 4, Australia; 14, Madura. From Liverpool, Dec. 11, Silver Craig. From Sunderland, Dec. 8, Ben Nevis. From Cardiff, Dec. 10, Benjamin Bargis; 12, Magdalina. From Newcastle, Dec. 7, Etrick. From New York, Dec. 4, Donette.

At AMOY and SWATOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From London, Dec. 23, Alchymist. From Liverpool, Dec. 22, Annie Duthie; 23, Bella. From Cardiff, Dec. 12, Solo; 13, General Norwell; 14, Wellic; 20, Norna. From Hamburg, Dec. 23, Gottengen.

At MANILA.—Dec. 3, from Liverpool, Barinaga; 4, Asuncion.

At SINGAPORE.—From London, Dec. 27, Couranto. From Cardiff, Dec. 19, Liberia (Fr.); 29, Ferris. From Hamburg, Dec. 16, Mathilde; 20, Blohm.

DEPARTURES..

From JAPAN.—No report.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Nov. 27, Nelly; Dec. 3, Star Queen; 10, Balmacarra; 14, Heroes of Alma, Princess of Wales; 17, Lammermuir. For Liverpool: Dec. 5, Glenhuntly; 8, Fow Tsun; 9, Princess Royal, Loodianah; 16, Chryseis. For New York: Dec. 14, Apollo, Elizabeth.

From FOOCHOW.—None.

From AMOY.—For London: Dec. 10, Maria Wilhelmina. For New York: Dec. 14, Louise Kohn; 16, Confucius.

From HONG KONG.—For Liverpool: Dec. 21, Amazone; 22, Esmeralda.

From MANILA.—Dec. 5, for Liverpool, Conference.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Dec. 19, Pilgrim. For England: H.M.S. Scout. For Bordeaux: Dec. 26, Orixa.

LOADING.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Egmont, Fairleader, Island Queen, Lansdowne, Marquis of Argyle, Minerva, Sappho, Sir Harry Parkes, Strathallan. For Liverpool: General Putnam, Lodoise, Montmorency, Nonpareil, Royal George, Solway, Spirit of the Times, Young England, Zingara. For New York: Anne Wood.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Albrecht Oswald, Bankside, Glaramara, Isabella Ridley, Standard, Stuart Wortley, Weymouth. For New York: Kahlamba, Peep o'Day, Queen of the Seas.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Ocean Bride, Tamerlane. For Liverpool: Devonshire, Koh-i-Noor, Virginia. For New York: Ceres. For Havre: Tafferette.

At MANILA.—For Liverpool: Elias, Teide. For Falmouth: Manila. For New York: Castiliau.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Tre Brodre (Norwg.), Early Dawn. For Liverpool: Crusader, Spanker. For Bordeaux: Hydaspes, Saint Mitchell (Fr.), Hoogly (Fr.) For Boston: Pearl (Am.) For Copenhagen: Emma.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Feb. 3, at Deal, from Foo-chow-Foo, Bucton Castle; from Shanghai, Gauntlet.

DEPARTURES.—Jan. 29, from Portland, for the River Amoor, Aalborg; 31, from off the Start, for Hong Kong, Northland; 29, from Cardiff, for Shanghai, Launceston; 30, for Japan, Great Western, from Sunderland, for Singapore, Jane Woodburn.

SPOKEN.—Grondwet, Shields to Sourabaya, Dec. 10, 8 N., 23 W.; Java, Batavia to Falmouth, Dec. 11, 35 S., 19 E. (had lost bulwarks in a gale Nov. 19, in 29 S., 49 E.)

LAID ON.—At Liverpool, for Hong Kong, *via* Cardiff, Beatrice.

ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO, &c.

At a recent meeting of this society, Mr. J. Craufurd, F.R.S., Vice-President, in the chair, an important paper was read "On the Varieties of Man in the Malay Archipelago," by Mr. A. R. Wallace. The term "Oceania" has been applied to the region of islands extending over two-thirds of the Pacific Ocean, the inhabitants of which, though notoriously differing widely among themselves, have been considered by all ethnologists to form one of the most strongly marked varieties of the human race. The paper was an account, from personal observation, of the inhabitants of the chief islands of the Malay Archipelago, and an attempt, by a comparison of these with the inhabitants of the surrounding countries, to arrive at definite conclusions as to their mutual relations or their common origin. From Asia on the one hand, and from Australia on the other, immense submarine banks connect the adjacent islands to the mainland,

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while beyond the limits of these banks an unfathomable ocean is always found. The great islands of Sumatra, Java, and Borneo are situated on the Asiatic bank, and, from the fact that a number of the largest animals which could not have crossed the sea, such as the rhinoceros of Java and Sumatra, the elephant of Sumatra, and the tapir of Sumatra and Borneo, being all found in some part or other of the Asiatic continent, it is highly probable that all these great islands have formed a part of Asia from which they have been separated by the same convulsions which have raised the volcanic chains of Sumatra and Java. In the like manner, New Guinea and some adjacent islands have been once connected with Australia. The belt of deep ocean, however, between those banks indicates the separation as of very long [existence, and there is evidence in the geological structure of Java and Borneo that some parts of these islands are of recent formation, so that the gulf between the Asiatic and Australian regions was formerly greater than at present,—a conclusion strikingly confirmed by the almost total diversity of the animals of the two halves of the Archipelago. In the western islands all the chief forms of the Asiatic continent are found, while in the eastern half they are chiefly those characteristic of Australia, so that a line drawn across the Archipelago west of Celebes marks the division between two vast zoological areas. Turning from the consideration of the lower animals to man, two very strongly contrasted races are found in the region—the Malays, inhabiting almost exclusively the western half of the Archipelago, and the Papuans, whose headquarters are New Guinea and the adjacent islands, and these range over the eastern area, the people over all the islands as far as the Fiji being identical in their chief features with the Papuans, and the varieties being all forms of one great Polynesian race. But here arises the question, Are these races derived from America or Asia, or have they originated in some of the islands, and thence spread over the whole area they inhabit? The author considered there was evidence to show, which he gave in detail, that they had been derived from none of these sources, but from a great Pacific continent which had, geologically speaking, been recently submerged, and of which the numerous Pacific islands were the residuary relics. The discussion which followed was unusually interesting. Dr. Falconer strongly supported the views of the author as to the derivation of the inhabitants of this region both upon zoological and geological grounds. The elephant ranged on the continent as far north as 30 degrees, and these and other great beasts he believed had passed over during the human epoch on dry land. Certain species of oxen and deer, too, were met with alike in these islands and on the continent of India, but nowhere else on the globe; and while we had a parallel case in Europe, where, before the glacial epoch, there were deer like those of this archipelago, and rhinoceroses and other great mammalia living in this country and over Europe which had spread in from the south, while after the glacial era had passed away there was another fauna of great mammalia which had come in from the north, and arctic in character, we had less reason for objecting to such geological changes in the Pacific as were brought forward by Mr. Wallace to account for the distribution of the mammalia and the two races of man which inhabited those regions. The close proximity of Sicily to Italy seemed naturally to suggest a dismemberment from that peninsula, but the fossil fauna of the late tertiaries there affords convincing proof of its recent connection with Africa, and no doubt within the human epoch the great mammals of Africa had walked on dry land across the present Mediterranean. If such views as we admit in European geology be applied to the Malayan Archipelago, there are good grounds for supporting Mr. Wallace's theories. Sir Roderick Murchison, Professor Busk, Sir William Armstrong, Captain Speke, Mr. Christie, Mr. Bohn, Mr. Crawfurd, and others spoke upon various topics in connection with the paper.

BURGEVINE.

The Times correspondent at Shanghai writes:—Burgevine has at length left China, under pressure from the American Consul. Having become so notorious as a partisan of the rebels, every movement made in their favour by foreigners was naturally traced to his instigation. Rightly or wrongly, the seizure of the *Firefly* was said to have been planned and executed under his direction; his arrest by the Chinese on board the *Feiloong*, which they asserted he was actually endeavouring to carry off when taken, followed immediately, and increased the already prevalent suspicion that he intended to rejoin the rebel cause. The fact of his being allowed to remain at large was exciting much ill-feeling in the minds of the Chinese, who, being themselves firmly convinced of his hostile intentions, looked on the apathy of the foreign authorities as little short of connivance at his misdeeds. The United States Consul accordingly desired Burgevine to leave China, but he at first flatly refused, denying the power of the Consul to interfere, and expressing his willingness to undergo a trial rather than obey. On this he was arrested and confined in the Consular Gaol, until he could be impeached for misdemeanour; but after a week's imprisonment he consented to leave, and took his departure for Yokohama last week in the *Aden*. In whatever light Burgevine's conduct may be viewed by different judges, no one can deny a meed of pity at the close of a singularly checkered and somewhat remarkable career. Three years ago he arrived in Shanghai as second mate of an American ship, and shortly afterwards joined Ward, when the latter collected a band of Manilla men for the purpose of attacking Soonking. The attack was successful, and the Imperialist mandarins gave a large reward, which Ward, according to his custom, appropriated. The band was increased, and Tsing-poo was attempted; but the surprise failed, and the attaking party narrowly escaped destruction. When the foreign authorities interfered and refused to permit a body of foreigners to join either side in the contest, and Ward was obliged to disband his corps, Burgevine was the first to suggest the enrolment of a body of disciplined Chinese. The experiment was made and succeeded, was looked on favourably by the foreign authorities, and prospered. The career of this force was one of unchecked success until Ward's death in September, 1862, at the siege of Tse-kee. Burgevine, who had only partially recovered from a severe wound received at the siege of Tsing-poo, succeeded him in command of the Soonking force, as it was now called, and planned the expedition to Nanking which, through no fault of his, resulted in his disgrace and dismissal. During the three months of his command he had raised the force, from a small number of men in a state of inferior discipline, to 5,000 men, well armed and equipped, and provided with every requisite munition of war. In two months, under the command of Captain Holland, it had fallen to 3,000, and had experienced its first disgraceful reverse before Tai-tsan. In the mean time, Burgevine had twice been to Pekin to endeavour to get reinstated. The first time he obtained fair words and promises, which his return to Shanghai proved empty phrases. On his second visit he was arrested and threatened with death, released eventually at the instance of the Foreign Ministers, and sent back to Shanghai. His whole thoughts were now bent on attaching himself to the rebels, and negotiations were opened which promised to be most satisfactory. It was arranged that Burgevine should take command of a force of Chinese to be equipped and drilled after the European method under his orders. Officers were sent to Soochow for the purpose, and in July Burgevine himself followed, capturing the Kiao-chiao *en route*, and carrying her with him as an earnest of success. At first everything was *couleur de rose*; Burgevine went to Nanking, had an interview with Chung Wang, and was made a prince and second in command of the rebel forces. Money was advanced and sent to Shanghai for the purchase of arms, and the drill of the troops progressed. But difficulties supervened. The arms failed to arrive at the time they were expected. The rebel chiefs, not appreciating the difficulties which attended the transit, in avoiding Imperialist cruisers, became suspicious, and refused to pay the foreigners their wages until the money advanced had been accounted for. The latter, in their turn, became discontented. Burgevine's old wound broke out again through over-exertion and lack of medical attendance. He had resort to stimulants to deaden the excruciating pain, and indulged sometimes to excess. The result is known. Negotiations were entered into with Gordon, which resulted in the secession of the whole foreign contingent from Soochow, and now Burgevine has gone to Japan, broken in mind and body, poorer than when he first landed in China, a victim of Imperialist suspicion and ingratitude. He was indebted to his friends for money to pay his passage, and yet the local Government owes him more than £8,000, which it absolutely refuses to pay. Whether it should be allowed thus to repudiate its obligations towards a man who, in conjunction with Ward, was of infinite service in protecting Shanghai when the foreign troops here few, is a question for the foreign authorities to decide.

DESTRUCTION OF KAGOSIMA.—A public meeting was held in St. James's Hall, Ramsgate, on Tuesday, the 26th ult., J. Nottidge, Esq., in the chair; when Mr. Edmund Fry delivered an address on our late attack on the Japanese. The following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"That this meeting has heard with deep regret and dissatisfaction of the employment of a British naval squadron to bombard the city of Kagosima, and the consequent total destruction of the homes of 180,000 people—an act calculated greatly to prejudice the interest of civilisation and Christianity in Japan."—Last week a meeting was held in the Athenæum, Bristol, to consider the propriety of memorialising the Government in reference to the "late outrage in Japan and destruction of the Japanese city of Kagosima by British ships of war." Mr. H. O. Wills presided, and on the platform were Mr. Woodforde Ffooks (barrister-at-law), Mr. Robert Charleton, Mr. J. Whethered, Mr. J. G. Thornton, the Revs. J. Edwards B. Nicholson, and U. Thomas. The following resolution was passed:—"That this meeting regards with deep sorrow and surprise the recent destruction of Kagosima, in Japan, involving, it is believed, an awful sacrifice of human life, on what is regarded by this meeting as a totally insufficient cause of offence by the Japanese."

THE BRITISH POSSESSIONS ABROAD.—The annual official volume just issued of statistical tables relating to the British possessions beyond the four seas shows us territory exceeding 4,000,000 of square miles, and containing a population of about 145,000,000 souls. There is India, with its 933,722 square miles and 135,634,244 people; the North American colonies (not reckoning the immense Hudson Bay and Red River territories), with their 498,169 square miles and 3,305,872 people; the West Indies, with 88,511 square miles and 1,081,687 people; Australia and New Zealand, with 2,582,070 square miles and 1,333,338 people; and there is Ceylon, the Cape, Mauritius, and the rest. The public revenues of these vast possessions amounted in 1861 to £56,218,420, India furnishing £42,903,234 of this amount. The public revenue of Victoria exceeded £3,000,000, and that of Canada exceeded £2,000,000. The public debt of India is stated at £101,877,081; of the North American colonies, £16,058,724; of the West Indies, £1,695,911; of Victoria, £6,285,060; of New South Wales, £4,017,630; of the Cape, £565,005. The imports into these our possessions amounted in value in the year 1861 to £93,945,885, and their exports to £86,286,034, and these figures are exclusive of Hong Kong and of Gibraltar, from which no return of these particulars is given. From the United Kingdom there was sent to them in that year produce and manufactures of the value of £47,412,166 (again with the omission of two colonies as before, and of the Ionian Islands); to India, £21,679,032; to Australia, £13,467,370. The shipping frequenting these territories in the year, counting both entrances inwards and clearances outwards, amounted to 22,849,641 tons.

THE P. AND O. STEAMER "ELLORA."—The P. and O. Company's steamship *Ellora*, which broke down on her outward passage, and had put into Malta for repairs, arrived at Southampton on the 27th Jan. She left that port on the 19th. The *Ellora* brings 1,499 packages of general merchandise, of which 1,216 are bales of raw silk, value £120,000 sterling. She has neither passengers nor specie.

EMIGRATION TO DEMERARA.—During eleven years no less than 52,064 immigrants have been introduced into the colony. The following table shows the number introduced in each of the eleven years:—

1853	5,483	1859	4,809
1854	2,620	1860	8,152
1855	3,397	1861	7,180
1856	2,269	1862	8,802
1857	2,938	1863	3,192
1858	3,322		

Of these 31,775 were from the East Indies and 9,642 from China, the remaining 10,647 being made up of immigrants from Madeira, the West Indian Islands, the Azores, Africa, and Cape de Verde.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, *and other parts of the* FAR EAST, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 3, 1864.

MAJOR GORDON'S STATEMENT.

THE *Shanghai Recorder* furnishes the statement of the events discussed at the meeting of the foreign Consuls (reported in another column), in the shape forwarded to the papers by Major GORDON. It appears that after the failure of the night attack on the Low-mun stockades, General CHING came to the MAJOR and informed him that LAR-WANG, with three other Wangs and thirty-five Tunchwangs, and their followers, had opened negotiations for the coming over of their troops, and handing over Soochow to the Imperialists. CHUNG-WANG and MO-WANG were averse to this, and wanted to fight it out. The negotiation was continued, and on the 1st December GORDON told CHING that "if the FOOTAI did not grant the Wangs terms "sufficiently good to induce them to come over, he thought the "attack on the city might be foiled, as he had lost heavily in "officers and men in the attacks of 27th and 29th November, "and a little hitch with the bridge, which had to be seventy "yards long, might cause a repulse." At length GORDON himself sees LAR-WANG, and tells him that mere neutrality would not do, that "unless they could give up one of the gates "it would be better for them to fight, or else vacate the city." CHING and LAR-WANG continue their interviews; GORDON makes it imperative that MO-WANG should be given up to him, and this being agreed to, he "went to the FOOTAI, who was out, but he saw "a very high Civil Mandarin, named POW, and told him to tell "the FOOTAI that he would secure MO-WANG'S not giving any "more trouble to China." That unhappy individual was, it seems, by that time, past all the troubles of this world, for, at a council held that very afternoon in MO-WANG'S palace, "the "discussion got higher and higher, till KONG-WANG got up and "took off his robes. MO-WANG asked him what he was doing, "when KONG-WANG drew his dagger, and stabbed MO-WANG "in the neck. The MO-WANG fell over the table in front of "the throne, and the other Wangs seized him, and decapitated "him in the entrance. They then mounted their horses, and "rode off to their troops, MO-WANG'S head being sent to Gene-"ral CHING." On the night of the 4th, the rebels all shaved their heads, in token of submission to the Imperialists. Meantime, Major GORDON'S men are getting clamorous for pay, and he proposes to the FOOTAI, in order to keep them employed, to march on Wusieh, if he would give them two months' pay, as they had received no reward since GORDON had taken the command. Ultimately, he determines to make the men accept one month's pay—an offer made through CHING—which he did with difficulty, the men having made an attempt to march down on the FOOTAI. He then, at that functionary's request, gave orders for the march to Quinsan. In pursuance of an arrangement (the terms of which are not given in the document before us) Soochow was handed over to the Imperialists the next day at noon; but circumstances occur which lead Major GORDON to suppose that the FOOTAI was not keeping his promises of safety and protection to the Wangs. He became uneasy, and finds at last that LAR-WANG and four other Wangs had been beheaded, and their bodies brutally treated. Just before leaving for Quinsan the Major received a letter acquainting him that a chief had come over with 3,000 men, but he sent orders to inform the chief of the late treachery, and "to let him go with his men "and arms if he liked, or else to bring his troops to Quinsan."

THE DAIMIOS AND THE TYCOON.

THE meeting of Parliament will put an end to whatever uncertainty may still be felt among the mercantile community as to the position of our relations with Japan. A question will no doubt be put to Earl RUSSELL on a very early day that will enlighten us on the exact proposals made by SATSUMA'S envoys to Colonel NEALE, and on the spirit in which they were received by that diplomatist. We conceive that facts enough have been accumulated in our columns to justify the reader in framing for himself the answer that will be given by the Foreign Secretary. Every successive mail represents the powerful Prince in question as more and more anxious to be on amicable terms with the English. He complains, indeed, that he was harshly dealt with at Kagosima, but rather in the tone of a man who has been the sufferer from an unlucky misapprehension than of one whose anger has been justly aroused by wanton aggression and unlooked-for outrage. At the risk of laying ourselves open to a charge of wearisome repetition, we must again reiterate that we are only now beginning to arrive at anything certain with regard to the forms and processes of Japanese Government. All that we had hitherto learned was really no more than the names and titles of some half-dozen of the higher officials. Their attributes and functions have been explained to us by the Dutch and other authorities in a fashion that we shall discover to have been half invention and half guess-work. As long as we should have confined ourselves to negotiations with the MIKADO and the TYCOON, so long would our position in Japan have been dependent on the arbitrary decrees of a despotism that has always treated foreign commerce with a view simply to its own peculiar and personal profit. It is absolutely impossible, in our view of the matter, to overrate the value of the immense step gained in our intercourse with Japan by the appearance of the British squadron in Kagosima Bay. The talk about the immutability of the routine of affairs in that island-empire is now absolute nonsense. The supposed unchangeableness, far more unyielding, it was pretended, than that of the laws of the Medes and Persians, met with its death-blow the instant consent was given to the opening of the ports to foreign vessels. The fabric of its old institutions was shaken to the foundation to such a degree that it could never regain its former solidity. And here we have one of the most independent of the Satraps—for that old-fashioned word seems best to describe the position of these great Daimios—demanding to treat with the English Minister himself, and clearly intimating thereby that he feels unsafe in the hands of the TYCOON; seeing that he has been made to pay to his own damage, for the latter's mismanagement in past transactions, or, worse still, for the latter's bad faith in not impressing him with the resolute determination of Colonel NEALE to enforce instant satisfaction for the murder of Mr. RICHARDSON. The interview of SATSUMA'S representatives with the British Minister at Yokohama will be found to have marked an epoch in the history of Japan.

All that we have said in former articles of the bent of SATSUMA'S inclinations towards intercourse with Europeans and the acquisition of the vast advantages to be derived from their superior skill and knowledge, is confirmed to us by information obtained or volunteered in various quarters. He is evidently *the* man of his time. His character has been long known as that of an able administrator, keen in his appreciation of the benefits to be derived from trade, determined in his purpose, and brooking no interference from either the Spiritual or Temporal Emperor. He already monopolises the whole trade between Lewchew and Japan, governing Lewchew and the intermediate islands by his own officers; and, says the last number of the *Chinese and Japanese Repository*, "has the reputation "of allowing an underhand trade with the Chinese in a few "articles." Then, again, it is the custom, the *immutable* custom, of the Japanese system that all the great vassals should be closely watched by spies, whose duty it is to convey intelligence of their every act to the central power; but, we quote again from the authority just named, "it is said that into "some of the principalities those spies penetrate at the hazard "of their lives. From one, SATSUMA, hardly any are said ever "to return, and the Yedo Government, never acknowledging "them as its servants, never inquires into or avenges their "fate." In fact, there can be no doubt that our new acquaintance finds means for evading or turning to his own purpose the alleged rigorous routine of the customs of the country, whenever it suits his object so to do. His character may be

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summed up in the street phrase—"He stands no nonsense from anybody."

The intention, therefore, of SATSUMA in entering into direct relations with the British Minister need not for a moment be doubted. As we before stated, the trade with foreigners at Yokohama results, at present, in a very large degree to the sole personal benefit of the TYCOON. Nor is this any novelty in Japan. The Dutch have always asserted that at Nagasaki, which has been open to their commerce for two hundred years, the whole profit was cleverly monopolised by the TYCOON and the Council of State; and to effect this the more surely, the place was actually severed from the principality to which it belonged, and converted into an Imperial city. We know here at home to what an extent our trade with Japan has already developed itself, and the promise it gives of an extension far exceeding anything that was originally conceived. SATSUMA and others of the powerful Daimios see all this, not in Blue-books and official returns, but in the shape of bales of goods imported and exported under their own eyes. We in England also can clearly perceive that up to this time he has been virtually independent when in his own principality. But how long will he remain so if the TYCOON can monopolise all the wealth to be created for Japan by commerce with the foreigner? SATSUMA has taken the bold step of introducing himself to Colonel NEALE, in the person of his agents, paying the TYCOON the compliment of asking him to present them. We may rely on it that this is intended to be no mere exhibition of diplomatic proprieties. It is to be fraught with important results. Other Daimios will follow the example set by the most influential and most politic amongst them. The island-empire of the Far East is studded round with ports having a territory at the back of each thronged with consumers and producers. Unless there be some blunder on the part of our Foreign-office, or some fatal inattention to Japanese notions and prejudices on the part of the Europeans residing out there, trade and commerce will, with gentle pressure, and amid the cordial greetings of the whole native population, high and low, open to themselves haven after haven along that magnificent seaboard.

OUR ALLIES THE IMPERIALISTS.

AGAIN have we to cry shame on our alliance with such people as the Chinese. Our prognostication that Major GORDON would never be able to carry out the work he has been long engaged in is now verified. It is quite transparent, as we have often stated, that Europeans are only engaged and kept in pay so long as they serve to carry out Mandarin cruelty and rapacity. As soon as they demur or revolt at being the instruments of such cruelty as that perpetrated at Soochow, the Mandarins do not hesitate to turn round on them. Be it understood that we do not in any way mean these remarks to be construed into "coming "round to the rebels." We hold them to be as worthless as we did in 1859, when we stated that "right sure are we that "no Government could be worse than the present one, but we "cannot discern in the rebels any power or desire to consti-"tute a better Government." The following extracts of letters from Shanghai confirm our views in reference to the Anglo-Chinese forces:—

THE SACK OF SOOCHOW.

"'I and Major Williams and Mr. Smyth went for a walk right to the walls on the 4th. We got up and entered the city: saw the Mo-Wang's headless body. Gordon came in and had the body wrapped up. Ching's* men were looting the city. Gordon's men not allowed inside. Volleys were fired at us, and we ran. Whether the firing was from Ching's men or from the Taepings I cannot say. Gordon, I afterwards heard, was so disgusted with the Footai's breach of faith in not giving his men two months' pay, as promised, only giving promise of one month, that he flung his credentials in his (the Footai's) face, and the Footai would have been killed but for our interference. Gordon did take all his men back to Quensan in disgust, and when I left orders came for three regiments and some artillery to return. The rebels had risen on the troops, and it was said drove them out.' This is the latest."

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

"It appears that the rebel chiefs refused to surrender on the Footai's word that no unnecessary blood should be shed, whereon Gordon got the Footai's promise to himself, and gave his word, on which they capitulated. The Footai got in, had his troops concealed about, and, when Gordon was outside, commenced a wholesale massacre—men, women, and children. Gordon heard of it, gathered a few men together, among the rest Count or Prince Wittgenstein, and broke into the place, and the scenes then witnessed were so revolting that the Prince says they all fired and loaded and fired again on every mandarin and Imperial soldier they met. Gordon is said to have shot thirty-five *buttons* himself. They penetrated to the Footai's palace; but, suspecting, it is supposed, that some such thing might be looked for, he proved too strong for attack. Everyone is disgusted to no ordinary extent, and the feeling of regret is universal that Gordon did not succeed in capturing the Footai and hanging him. Gordon has returned to Quinsan, which he continues to hold in the mean time."

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

"Major Gordon, it appears, exerted himself to the utmost to save the wretched place from the terrors of Imperialist vengeance, but with so little avail that he was compelled to retire to Quinsan to save his own life from the hands of his allies. A correspondent writes from the North:—"The streets are running with blood." The mind refuses to picture to itself the horrors of such a scene. Soochow was five years ago the commercial metropolis of China, and its inhabitants numbered over a million. Those who have visited it recently describe it as still busy and populous. Imagine a town the size of Liverpool, defenceless and unarmed, given over to be sacked by savage soldiery, the same men who tortured our poor countrymen. Bowlby and Brabazon—men who crucify their prisoners in cold blood in their own camps, who hang women by their breasts till they die of agony or starvation, the most unfeeling whilst the most refined of tortures, the most relentless and unsparing of executioners—in fact, our good allies the Imperialists. Imagine, if you can, such men let loose on the inhabitants, with orders to spare neither man, woman, nor child. No words could describe one tenth part of the horrors which ensued. Not the aggregate of all the sufferings endured by the Poles from brutal Cossacks, savage peasants, or woman-whipping generals, which have brought all Europe to the brink of war, would equal the atrocities committed in the sack of this one city, taken virtually by British arms, with the assistance of Her Majesty's officers, with the sanction of Her Majesty's Government, and with supplies from Her Majesty's arsenals. And who is responsible for the blood which lies smoking on the soil of Soochow? Is it the Chinaman who follows the brutal instincts of his nature as developed by his education, or is it the Englishman, the professor of Western civilisation, who, having roused these passions and instincts, and given the opportunity for their employment, has found himself powerless to control them?

"What must be the feelings of those philanthropists who listened to Mr. Lay's scheme for the regeneration of China and the emigration of the Taeying! Within one year Mr. Lay has received his dismissal from Imperial employ, *with four months' double pay and* 6,000 *taels* (£2,000) *to pay for a passage home.* Captain Sherard Osborn has made some similar arrangement for himself, getting 10,000 taels, and his fleet is already on its way home under British colours. The general commanding in China has been for some little time in possession of an order recalling all British subjects from the Imperial military employ. The rebels are cleared out from the country between Shanghai and Soochow, and by the fall of the latter are scattered over the peaceful country to pillage and devastate the villages, whilst the Imperialists are glutting themselves with blood and pillage in Soochow. The amount of fighting men lost on both sides is probably not far short of 5,000; and now all British assistance is to be absolutely withdrawn from the Imperialists. The order has been withheld up to this date, for the purpose, it is said, of enabling Major Gordon to retire with some *éclat* under cover of the fall of Soochow. We should imagine this gentleman would bitterly regret that he ever lent his aid to an enterprise which has had such a bloody ending.

"This is the end for which Ministers have made statements in the House utterly at variance with the truth; for which generals have taken the responsibility of garrisoning Quinsan thirty miles beyond the radius with British troops, and sending guns with artillerymen in plain clothes to Taitsan to give moral support; for which they have rescinded orders in council and withheld instructions; for which British officers have prostituted themselves and the service by fighting for hire in the Imperial ranks; for which poor Tinling and Clayton met their death—and we are as far as ever from the regeneration of China and the suppression of the rebellion. All that we have succeeded in doing is to exasperate to the last degree against ourselves a people who were inclined to be friendly, and in whose power it lies to inflict enormous injury on our trade by devastating the tea and silk districts; we have introduced into Chinese warfare an element of rowdyism which it will take years to eliminate, and we have put into the hands of the Imperialists drilled troops and European arms to be turned against ourselves at the first opportunity."

* The Imperialist General.

NEW STEAMERS FOR CHINA.

On the 26th ult., Messrs. William Denny and Brothers launched from their lower yard the beautifully-modelled iron paddle steamer *Dumbarton*, for Messrs. T. A. Gibb and Co., of London. On leaving the ways she was named the *Dumbarton* by Miss M'Mickin, of Helensburgh, in the usual manner. The *Dumbarton* is intended for the Chinese river trade, and is constructed for passengers and cargo. Her dimensions are:—Length, 245 feet; breadth of beam, 35 feet; depth moulded, 22 feet 6 inches to spar deck, 14 feet to main deck; tonnage, nearly 1,500 tons, builders' measurement. Her engines, which are to be supplied by Denny and Co., engineers, will be 300 horse-power nominal. All the latest improvements have been introduced in the construction of the *Dumbarton*, and we anticipate from her light draught of water and model, that she will prove a very fast vessel. A considerable number of spectators witnessed the launch. She will, it is expected, be ready for sea in all this month, and will, we understand, be commanded by Capt. Findlay, late of the *Berwick Walls*. Messrs. Denny and Co. have also in hand a similar boat on account of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co., which will be shortly ready to launch, and will, we believe, be commanded by an old commander in their service, Capt. Thomas O'Sullivan, who has just arrived from China.

The double-screw *Far East*, Capt. Jones, will be despatched

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about the 10th inst. for Hong Kong and Shanghai. She will have a full general cargo, valued at about a quarter million sterling, and about twenty passengers.

There was launched, on the 26th Jan., from the yard of Messrs. J. Wigham, Richardson, and Co., Low Walker, a handsome paddle steamer of about 500 tons burthen, for the firm of Messrs. Apcar and Co., of Calcutta. The vessel is for the Indian coast trade, and has been built from designs by R. B. Durham, Esq. The engines, of 200-horse power, are by Messrs. Thompson, Boyd, and Co.

Messrs. Blumer, of Sunderland, launched from their building yard at North Sands a barque of 355 tons, classed nine years A 1, for Mr. John M'Donald, of Glasgow. This vessel, named the *Jane Woodburn*, proceeds to Singapore, for the purpose of trading in the China Seas.

The *Hoang Ho*, new China clipper ship, of about 700 tons, was launched by Messrs. Alex. Stephen and Sons at Kelvinhaugh. This fine ship is constructed on Messrs. Stephen's principle of iron frames and wooden planking, is for Liverpool owners, and classed 15 A 1 at Lloyd's. The ceremony of naming was gracefully performed by Mrs. Carrington, the wife of the captain who is to command the vessel.

MR. LAY CONFOUNDED.

Mr. Horatio N. Lay, the late Chief Inspector of the Customs, has not succeeded in becoming virtually Emperor of China. That many persons, who know anything of the high-handed manner in which he has carried out his functions, will be surprised at the edict of dismissal, which we gave in our last number, we do not expect. It is, nevertheless, one of the most ignominious downfalls that ever a man had. He has not even the consolations of his countrymen, for in the same number we published a letter from Mr. Edward Webb, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, who congratulates the community on being relieved from his overbearing and sometimes untruthful conduct, evidence of which stands in the Parliamentary Blue-books. Had his conduct been defensible, we feel quite sure Sir Frederick Bruce would have succeeded with Prince Kung in preventing such an *exposé*. That this will be a warning to his successor, Mr. Hart, we cannot doubt, and we trust that he will long maintain the good opinion of the Chinese and of his own countrymen. The great bulk of the merchants in China prefer a regular system of customs under Europeans rather than the venal habits of mandarins, who are ever open to private arrangements with unscrupulous people.

THE ROUTE THROUGH MONGOLIA AND SIBERIA.

We have been favoured with the following sketch of the route from Peking, lately travelled over by an English merchant from Shanghai. This route has now been accomplished by several gentlemen to and from Peking. All persons who are desirous of following this road must be possessed of a large stock of patience :—

Versts.		
204	Peking to Chan-kia-kow	3½ days.
1,171	Chan-kia-kow to Kiachta	34 „
516	Kiachta to Irkutsk	6 „
1,003	Irkutsk to Krasnoyarsk	6· „
560	Krasnoyarsk to Tomsk	4½ „
907	Tomsk to Omsk	6¼ „
632	Omsk to Tumen	4 „
669	Tumen to Ekaterineburg	1½ „
	Ekaterineburg to Perm	2 „
575	Perm to Kazan	3 „
392	Kazan to Nijni-novgorod	3 „
6,629 versts.		74 days.

At Nijni-novgorod the railway is in connection with St. Petersburg. The mode of travelling was as follows :—

From Peking to Chan-kia-kow—by mules and mule-litters.
From Chan-kia-kow to Kiachta—camels and camel-carts.
From Kiachta to Tumen—Russian post carriages.
From Tumen to Kazan—sledges.
From Kazan to Nijni—post carriages.

In summer travellers can come by steamers from Perm to Nijni; time, from five to seven days.

In winter the whole journey from Kiachta to Nijni is done in sledges, at the rate of 250 versts a day.

CONSULAR APPOINTMENTS.

The following appointments of Consular offices in China have been gazetted :—

Walter Henry Medhurst, Esq., Her Majesty's consul at Tangchow, and at present in England on sick leave, to be Her Majesty's consul at Hankow.

Martin Crofton Morrison, Esq., now Her Majesty's consul at Foo-chow-Foo, to be Her Majesty's consul at Tangchow.

Francis Gerhard Myburgh, Esq., to be Her Majesty's consul at Nagasaki, v. George Staunton Morrison, pensioned.

Correspondence.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

DEAR SIR,—You have published, in your last issue, a narrative extracted from the *Jewish Chronicle*, the information in which may well startle your readers and the world in general, namely, that there exists in China a community of Jews, numbering more than a million of souls, living under their own laws, practising their own time-honoured rites and ceremonies, maintaining an effective army composed of the young men of their own tribe, possessing a beautiful ark, and most rare and ancient documents, and worshipping in synagogues which are the most magnificent buildings in the empire. Surely, if this narrative be true, the lieutenant to whom it is ascribed must have not only tumbled upon the missing ten tribes, but found out what has become of the ark, a question I believe which the most careful research has hitherto failed to solve, and he owes the public an apology at the very least for not having made known his interesting discovery before. The fact, at any rate, is of so important and wonderful a character that the lieutenant can scarcely consider me exacting if I suggest that he should be asked to furnish the religious and scientific world with some more details concerning his valuable discovery, which may assist them in deciding how far his story is to be credited. Perhaps he will let us know in what ship he served, the date of his visit, the name of the stream up which he sailed, and of the immense city he saw; the name, also, of the province or district in which they are situated, and the reason why so valuable and notable a discovery was not made known at the time by the commander of the vessel to the naval Commander-in-Chief or to the world at large. These and other particulars are essential to the acceptance of his story as true, for, until its publication, the only reliable information extant as regards the existence of Jews in China was that published a few years ago under the warrant of two well-known men—the Bishop of Victoria and the late Rev. Dr. Medhurst, who were instrumental in sending a mission, at the suggestion and cost of some philanthropic people in England, to Kae-fung-foo, the only place in China were, till then, Jews had been reported to exist. The result of that mission was the discovery of a *small* community in the aforesaid city, numbering, if I mistake not, but a few hundred, who were certainly living in the practice of the Jewish faith, who possessed a synagogue (built, however, after the fashion of the well-known Chinese temple), and who had amongst their records a number of copies on sheepskin of the Hebrew Pentateuch; but by their own account they were *very poor*, and their numbers were rapidly diminishing; they had *no* Rabbi, the last having died years before, they had utterly *lost* the knowledge of the Hebrew tongue both spoken and written, and they believed themselves to be the *sole* representatives of the race in China. Having been one of the many persons who saw the two or three *bona fide* members of this community whom the mission had brought back to Shanghai, and having been present when the late Dr. Medhurst conversed with them in the Chinese language, and examined the copies of the Pentateuch purchased from them, I can vouch for the truth of this version of their story. I beg leave to enclose my card, and I am, Sir, very faithfully yours,

Shrewsbury, 29th Jan., 1864. YOUNG CATHAY.

[Enquiries have been instituted, the result of which, we trust, we shall be able to give in our next.]

KING LAY.

(DAILY TELEGRAPH.)

"Shall we annex China?" was the audacious but not untimely question which was lately discussed in a popular magazine. Translate the tremendous query into what it means, and the mind of every thoughful and honest Englishman must be staggered at the prospect. It implies the gradual assumption of a territory five times as large as British India—the actual possession and government of the half of the continent of Asia—the direct and responsible rule of two hundred millions of the human race, in addition to as many as now obey the sceptre of England; in a word, it is a project for bringing under Anglo-Saxon supremacy a full third of all the habitable globe, and more than a third of the human creatures whom God has placed upon it. Even as a dream, how awful and breath-suspending the idea appears! Whence could come the omniscient sagacity—whence the omnipotent administration—which would dare address itself thus to control and direct from one centre the affairs of a hundred nations and a thousand tongues? Is there, could there be, so much spare energy and opulence of brain and blood in this little island that it would add to those vast dominions which are already tinted with its colour upon the map, those which stretch along one whole side of the immense Pacific? Has even our own astonishing race lordly gifts enough to annex, beside the creeds and civilisations which we are modifying already, the oldest culture and the most teeming brood of heathens that are known under one name? To all these reflections which the thought suggests, we say solemnly—almost sorrowfully—that the thing may actually be! We have come in contact with these polished savages, and their polish has not saved them from the fate of all barbarous forms of society which admit our ships. We have shattered with Armstrong guns and shrapnel shells the edifice of Chinese Government, which was as imposing as the porcelain tower in appearance, and as brittle in reality. We stand at Shanghai and Canton in presence of a disorganised society and a broken rule, which hang together just as long as we are pleased to think it convenient. The vultures of general insurrection and revolution keep off from the carcases of old Chinese ideas, just as long as we stand by to guard their relics. In a word, we have destroyed a vast and ancient order of things, and can now build with the fragments, or upon the fragments. Russia is not ready to prevent us;

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America has not the time, nor France the governmental skill. We alone are strong enough, and have opportunity enough, to occupy China if we please—not to-day, indeed, nor to-morrow, but with a progress as steady and sure as that which led us from the little factory on the Hooghly to be lords of the gates of the Khyber and the mouths of the Irrawaddi.

If this stupendous supremacy be our "manifest destiny," we shall not shun it. Nothing seems written down in the decrees of Providence so clearly as that the education of the human race is to be advanced by the agency of vast embracing empires, like that of Rome and of England. But in the name of England, of civilisation, and of the nineteenth century, we demand one thing—and that is, that the work shall be done, if at all, honestly. "*Quocunque modo*" must not be the shameful badge of our flag, if, after the sins and the repentances of India, we are to advance it to the source of the Yang-tse-Kiang. We blush to say that this flag is now returning upon the seas, in ignominy and detected cunning, from as flagitious an endeavour as was ever made to filch an empire. If Captain Sherard Osborn feels as we feel, he will lower his jack half-mast, and paint with "mourning blue" the hulls of the vessels which he is bringing back from the waters of China. Whoever passes them upon the ocean, whoever sees them sail into an English harbour, beholds the break-down of a piece of business which we denounced at its commencement, grieved over in its course, and will now not scruple to describe as those who set it on foot deserve. Not until now has the bright flag of Britain, and the honourable swords of her soldiers and sailors, been offered to the barbarian for sale. But these vessels which Captain Osborn is disconsolately bringing back, and the men on board of them, have been bought and sold to the yellow-faced Chinese; and the reason why they are not at this moment helping Tseng-Kwo-Fan to cut the flesh from Taiping prisoners, and stick arrows in their wretched living limbs, is because the Chinamen outwitted us at last in the cunning bargain we were driving. The men who have conducted this sorry and frustrated plot have made Her Majesty play the recruiting sergeant to the Regency of China; and, for the first time in history, persuaded a British Sovereign to recognise as her soldiers and subjects men who sailed to fight for a cause they knew nothing about, and for a prince whose language they could not speak. Worse than this—these vessels, which Prince Kung has contemptuously rejected upon learning their double errand, were fitted in Royal dockyards, furnished with national stores, and hoisted the colours of England, to go and do the dirty work of tea-merchants and compradors upon the rivers of China.

Happily, the gigantic bubble has burst. His Majesty "King Lay" has collapsed along with it. Its design was this. The authorities found it costly to carry on the war against the Taepings, and keep the peace—as we ought only to have done—in the treaty-ports and upon the seas. They lent a too-ready ear, therefore, to King Lay, who, being already the Chief Commissioner of Foreign Customs under the Chinese Regency, saw his way to be also Commander-in-Chief of an Anglo-Chinese fleet. His Majesty of the dock-warrant and port-entry accordingly got Prince Kung to agree to pay for a fleet of English war-ships, with English crews and officers, to be used against the Taipings. Captain Osborn was to be the admiral, and the ships the security to him for pay and expenses. The thing went so smoothly, that the flag of this filibustering squadron was duly recognised at the Admiralty, and published for respect upon the seas; and, with much flourish of trumpets, the fleet arrived in China. But, meantime, Prince Kung had put on his "considering-cap," and therewith perceived that a foreign fleet not completely under Chinese orders would make *nominis umbra*, shadow and nothing more, of his Government; while in the same interval Messrs. Lay and the authorities had been laughing in their sleeves at the capital trick put upon the Celestials, in making them pay at once for ending our wanton war with the Taipings, for getting an English fleet upon the Yang-tse, and for annexing China—Government and all—in the sort of way that a skittle-sharper annexes the savings of a rustic. The ships arrived, and King Lay proceeded to explain to the Chinese Regent that he would be "the pivot" for orders and communications to this fine force, which would shortly make "dog's-meat" of the "Heavenly Father" and his followers. Undoubtedly that consummation was desirable to Prince Kung, but not at such a price. He pointed out that the Viceroy, Tseng-Kwo-Fan, who governs nearly all North China under the Council, was the proper person to direct the fleet. King Lay demurred. Prince Kung was judiciously firm. Captain Osborn refused to obey the direct orders of the new Government to which he belonged. The scheme broke up ignominiously. King Lay was dismissed from his position for acting disloyally and unfairly towards his Chinese master, and Captain Osborn struck his fighting flag, and weighed his anchors for home again. Thus the end of this sad affair is, that in the face of the whole world we are caught out in such a bargain as a China tea merchant would be ashamed to plot in the Hong. We have refused to give Prince Kung the ships which he bought, and was ready to pay for. We have made the Regency men our deadly enemies by plotting, as we made the friendly Taipings our foes by the sword and cannon. We are laughed at, loudly and bitterly, by all the amused barbarians of Eastern Asia; and to the humiliation of having offered the arms and flag of England for a quarrel not ours, we have added the shame and disgrace of being detected and rejected. Never had worthless dodge so worthy an ending; never was cunning ambition so helplessly flung! If we had only to record the discomfiture of King Lay and his friends in London, our satisfaction would be complete; but, alas! the sting of the affair is that the banner and the honour of England come tarnished out of this scheme to "annex China."

Naval and Military.

The following vessels on the China station have been ordered home—Scout, Vulcan, Hornet, Pearl, Encounter, Ringdove, Centaur.

The clipper ship John Lidgett, 770 tons register (owned by Messrs. John Lidgett and Sons, of London), Commander Gamble, arrived at Spithead on the 2nd inst. from Hong Kong with the following military and naval (invalids and time-expired men) officers and men on board from Hong Kong, the Cape of Good Hope, and St. Helena:—There embarked at Hong Kong—Royal Artillery, Capt. H. Porter (invalid); Assist.-Surg. Tate (invalid); and seven men. Royal Engineers, two men; 44th Regiment, one man; 67th Regiment, Lieut. Dawson (on duty) and one man; 99th Regiment, Brevet-Major Kempson and 50 men; Commissariat Staff, eight men; Army Hospital Corps, six men Assist.-Surg.; M'Dowell (in medical charge of troops), wife and child, one naval assist.-surgeon, one midshipman, and 51 naval invalids and time-expired men. Three military invalids were embarked at the Cape of Good Hope, and four at St. Helena. Five naval and eight military invalids died during the passage home. The ship sailed from Hong Kong on the 16th of September, and was 28 days to Batavia, where she lay at anchor five days. From Batavia to the Cape of Good Hope she made the somewhat long passage of 44 days, owing to the unusual circumstance of having to beat to windward through the trade winds. At the Cape she lay at anchor 16 days. She made the passage thence to St. Helena in ten days, where she anchored for two days, and thence she completed her voyage to Spithead in 35 days—making 45 days under canvas from the Cape. The weather was very fine throughout the whole voyage. The John Lidgett is a novelty in naval architecture, she being the first vessel built on the newly-introduced plan of an iron framing with wooden outer planking—an iron ship with a wooden skin. She is of large capacity for stowage, and her officers report her to be an exceedingly fast ship under canvas, having surpassed in speed every vessel she has fallen in with on the outward and homeward voyage. On her outward voyage she had as cargo 1,100 tons of railway iron, and southward of the Cape met with a very severe cyclone gale, in which the cargo shifted and the ship went over on her beam-ends, in which position she lay 48 hours, with her starboard rail under water. The poop cabins were destroyed, and everything moveable on the deck was swept away, yet such was the enormous strength of the ship that she took in no water through a leak, nor was there the slightest strain in any part of the hull afterwards discovered. Had she been an ordinarily framed wooden ship she would in all probability have foundered. The ship's fittings throughout combine all the most recent improvements. The anchor is weighed and the topsails are hoisted, and all other heavy work is done by steam, for which a small engine is provided. The same engine furnishes an ample supply of distilled water. One hundred pounds weight of fresh bread was baked on board, and served out to the troops per day throughout the voyage. The accommodation on board for the troops and the general arrangements and ventilation of the troop deck appear to have been excellent. After disembarking the troops the John Lidgett will sail from Spithead for the Thames, having a quantity of Government stores on board, and a part tea cargo from Hong Kong, and wool from the Cape for London.

Her Majesty's six-gun paddle-wheel steam sloop *Gorgon*, Commander J. C. Wilson, from the Cape of Good Hope, went alongside Woolwich dockyard yesterday, having discharged her ammunition and guns at the Royal Arsenal on the foregoing day. Commodore Dunlop, C.B., accompanied by Mr. Ponsonby, his secretary, went on board and mustered the ship's company, preparatory to their being paid out of commission. Having witnessed the usual course of exercises performed by the men, the commodore inspected every part of the ship, and expressed himself much pleased with the cleanliness and order which was apparent throughout, and specially remarked the healthy and robust condition of the crew. On the eve of her intended departure for England, the admiral of the station, Sir Baldwin Walker, ordered her to proceed to Madagascar, in consequence of the reported death of the King. She was detained there between four and five months. The *Gorgon* has been in commission nearly five years, and has taken some valuable prizes during the command of Commander Wilson, who exchanged from the *Fury* with Commander Pym in March, 1861. Commander Wilson was enabled to render some valuable assistance to Dr. Livingstone and his mission, for which he has received a letter of thanks from the Bishop of Oxford. The *Gorgon* had a fair passage home of fifty-four days. She left Admiral Dupré and several French ships at Madagascar. Commander Wilson states that he has no doubt the French admiral is stationed there with the intention o establishing a protectorate over Madagascar, and will probably land at Bembatooka Bay, at the north-west end of the island—a most convenient spot, and near the capital. The inhabitants, the North Sacklavas, have exhibited much friendly feeling towards the French rule, and are in opposition to the ruling tribe—the Hovas.

WESTERN CHINA.—A letter from Calcutta says:—The easiest road to Central Asia is through Cashmere and Ladakh. The highest pass on the line is 13,000 feet, by which a road for ponies could easily be made. But the transit duty is prohibitory, and yet it yields only a miserable £1,800 a year in the exports and imports from and to Yarkand and China. Thus the supply of shawl wool, which is so important for our Umritsur manufacturers, is cut off from us. The Mharajah forestalls all purchasers by making large advances to the Thibetans, and his agents are not only exempt from the transit duty of 10 per cent. on both sides, but their purchases are carried by forced labour free of charge. The Thibetan taxes are annually becoming more oppressive, so that the population of the wool-producing districts is only two-fifths of what it used to be. The result of all these causes is that Cashmere shawls are yearly degenerating in quality, and the export from Bombay in 1862-63 diminished from £423,657 in the previous year to £241,337. The Punjab Government despatched the son of a native official in Lahore, our frontier province, to the Gurpon, or governor of Gurtokh, the capital of the Chinese province of Narè Khoorsum, asking him to select a convenient site for a fair, and to meet an English officer on the frontier. He returned the letter unopened, and the native has gone to the province of Rodokh, only eighteen marches from the Karakorum hills, by which the best route is supposed to lie to Yarkand. It is somewhat disgraceful to us that while our subject, the Maharajah of Cashmere, annually interchanges presents with the Chinese Viceroy at L'hassa, we have no communication whatever with Thibet, and Sir F. Bruce refused to apply for passports for the expedition which Lord Canning proposed to send there.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

SILLAR—On the 22nd Jan., at South Norwood, the wife of W. C. Sillar, Esq., of a son.
THOMPSON—On the 31st Jan., at Tooting-common, the wife of Wm. Jas. Thompson, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

WINCHESTER—CHISHOLM.—On the 6th Dec., at Belford Church, Northumberland, by the Rev. Geo. Walker, Capt. John Winchester (late of the Caribean), to Annie, eldest daughter of Geo. Chisholm, Esq., of Ellwick Farm, Northumberland.

DEATHS.

NOTLY—On the 20th Oct., 1863, drowned off Cochin, E.I., while nobly endeavouring to assist the crew of the Wing of the Wind, John James Notly, aged 25, second mate of the Victoria, and second surviving son of the Rev. Charles Notly, Eye, Suffolk.
M'CULLOCH—On the 16th Jan., at Lochenhead, N.B., Edward M'Culloch, Esq., of Kirkclaugh, late of Ceylon.
PARKER—On the 6th Dec. at the United States Consulate, Fuhchau, Montgomery D. Parker, of Boston, Mass. U.S.A.
LINSTEAD—On the 21st Jan., at Adelaide-villa, Camberwell, Constance Elizabeth Rose aged four years; and, on the 24th Jan., Ernest Theophilus, aged six years—the two eldest and beloved children of Theophilus Gee Linstead, Esq., of Hong Kong.
WITT—On the 26th Nov., before Hankow, Jacob Witt, a native of Hamburg, Germany.

Monetary and Commercial.

M. Behic, the active Minister of Commerce, has sent to the Chamber of Commerce, at Mulhouse, specimens of the English and American tissues sold in the markets of China; and has suggested that an examination of them will enable French manufacturers to make tissues which will obtain a sale in that country.

The steamer *Atrato*, with the mails from the West Indies and Mexico, has brought no less than £750,000 in specie; of which £395,000 is in bar silver and Mexican dollars, and £355,000 in gold. The proportion in gold is unusually large. The Mexican dollars amount to about £70,000. A portion of the silver is not of a kind suitable for transmission to the East. Bar silver 62d.; Mexican dollars 64d.

The amount of bullion going forward by the steamer from Southampton on the 4th inst. is as follows:—

(These particulars could not be obtained in time for this number.)

The export of gold to China from San Francisco for the year 1863 was $4,000,000.

To satisfy many inquiries, we beg to intimate that the cargo per *Amanda*, from Manila to the consignment of Messrs. Halliday, Fox, and Co., London, was fully insured with the war risk.

We regret that in June last we inadvertently announced Mr. F. M. Page's China Exchange Tables for sale at a lower price than that named in the subscription list circulated at the time, and we doubt not that our readers in China will exonerate Mr. Page from any loss by such error.

The exports as per Sam Mendel's Circular are, from London, Liverpool, and the Clyde, from Jan 17 to Feb. 1, 1864, as follows:—

To SHANGHAI.—Plain cottons, 114,000 yards; coloured cottons, 103,035 yards; printed cottons, 3,360 yds.; twist, 138 lbs.

To HONG KONG and CANTON.—Plain cottons, 472,860 yds.; coloured cottons, 52,519.

To SINGAPORE.—Plain cottons, 293,490 yds.; coloured cottons, 49,850 yds.; printed cottons, 38,000 yds.

To BATAVIA.—Plain cottons, 130,260 yds.; coloured cottons, 76,100 yds.; printed cottons, 88,750 yds.; twist, 21,550 lbs.

To MANILA.—Plain cottons, 70,250 yds.; coloured cottons, 333,822; printed cottons, 7,500.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—About 20,000 packages are advertised for this week, including 7,000 without reserve. The duty-paid clearances from the port of London, for the week ending Saturday, Jan. 23, 1864, were 1,168,000 lbs., against 1,018,316 lbs., for the corresponding week of 1863. The following is a list of the sales:—Total offered at the China sales, 52,366 packages, of which 28,899 sold, 24,443 being without reserve. 261 chests, 211 half-chests Congou, 5½d. to 1s. (the lowest price being for damaged); 1,481 chests, 419 half-chests Congou, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 4¾d.; 24 chests, 5 boxes Congou, 1s. 9d. to 2s. 4d.; 152 half-chests Twankay, 7d. to 7½d.; 232 half-chests Imperial, 10½d. to 1s. 6d.; 733 half-chests Hyson, 9½d. to 2s. 4d.; 976 half-chests 200 boxes Young Hyson, 11¾d. to 1s. 6d.; 42 half-chests Gunpowder, 1s. 5½d. to 2s. 5½d.; 31 boxes scented Caper, 10½d. to 1s.; 52 boxes scented Orange Pekoe, 1s. 3½d.; 100 chests 200 half-chests Souchong, 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 9¾d.; 243 half-chests Oolong, 1s. ½d. to 1s. 4d. Of Indian Tea, 2,050 packages were offered, and all sold. 200 chests Congou, 1s. 4d. to 2s. 3½d.; 33 chests Pekoe Fannings, 2s. ½d.; 553 chests Souchong, 1s. 11½d. to 3s. ½d.; 628 chests Pekoe, 2s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.; 81 chests Pekoe Souchong, 1s. 7½d. to 2s. 8¾d.; 206 chests Broken Leaf, 7½d. to 1s. 8½d.; 44 chests broken mixed Black, 1s to 1s. 2½d.; 41 chests Broken Leaf, 1s. ¾d. to 1s. 6¾d.; 42 chests Dust, 6½d. to 1s. 6½d.; 18 chests Hyson skin, 1s. 5d.; 2 chests 24 boxes Orange Pekoe, 3s. 1½d. to 3s. 1¾d.; 85 chests Bohea, 8½d. to 1s.; 3 chests Tea Pickings, 9½d.; 5 chests Jungley Pekoe, 3s.; 20 chests 23 half-chests Green Dust, 8½d. to 8½d.; 6 chests Broken Pekoe, 2s. 6½d.; 20 chests Jungley Broken Congou, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 9d.; 34 chests Jungley Souchong, 2s. 4d. to 3s. ½d.; and 3 chests Jungley Broken Souchong, 1s. 9½d.

SILK.—During the early part of the past month, there was some disposition to do business in China and Japan raw silk, but this rapidly subsided; the market has since become very quiet, and prices show a decided downward tendency. The deliveries for the month are again small, being only 2,494 bales of China and 1,275 bales of Japan.

COTTON.—Of East India and China sorts the circular of Messrs. Whitaker, Whitehead, and Co. reports:—This description of cotton has been very much depressed during the past fortnight, and sales have been made with difficulty. Fair and the better grades, which are exceedingly scarce, have steadily maintained their value, but there has been great irregularity in the medium, and lower qualities and a further serious decline in price has resulted. China Cotton has been in moderate demand at about ¾d. per lb. decline. Bengal and Scinde have been very much depressed, and to effect sales a decline of 1d. and 1½d. per lb. has to be submitted to. Cotton to arrive is almost entirely neglected. A few sales have been made, but at lower and rather irregular rates. The transactions, however, are not worth reporting. We quote Madras: Tinnivelly, good fair to good, 23d. to 23½d.; fair, 22½d.; Western, 21d. to 22d. China: Middling fair, 19d.; fair, 19½d.; good, 20½d. to 21d. Bengal: Middling fair, 15¾d.; fair, 16¾d.; good, 17d. to 18d. Scinde: Middling fair, 15d.; fair, 16d.; good, 16½d. to 17d. The quantity of China cotton afloat is about 70,000 bales.

NUTMEGS, which had before risen, have advanced 2d. to 3d. per lb. further for the middling and fine descriptions, and smaller kinds have fetched 1d. to 2d. per lb. more money. 85 cases at sale were actively bid for, and sold generally at the advance we have noticed.

CLOVES sell freely; 2,467 bags Zanzibar were all taken at firm prices; 28 cases Penang have realised fully previous value.

PEPPER.—The possibility of an alteration in the duty on this article has led to an active demand; 4,902 bags of black at auction were all taken at very firm prices; privately there is a good inquiry, but holders generally want an advance. White is also rather dearer.

PIMENTO continues to be freely offered; of 1,895 bags at auction, only about 700 sold, prices being rather in favour of buyers.

CINNAMON.—The quarterly public sales of cinnamon were held on Monday, and 2,634 bales Ceylon were offered. Common qualities changed hands at 1d. per lb. more money than at last auctions, and other kinds sold at the rates then current. Prices ranged from 10d. to 3s. per lb. Advices from Colombo state that cinnamon was in good demand, at 9½d. to 10d. for plantation, and 7d. to 7½d. per lb. for inferior. The shipments from October 1 to December 27 amounted to 137,565 lbs., against 197,355 lbs. during the same period in 1862, 259,823 lbs. in 1861, and 195,259 lbs. in 1860.

HEMP.—For Manila there is an active demand, and fair to good roping sold at £34. 10s. to £35.

RICE.—The demand is still inactive; no sales reported by private contract, and 7,000 bags of Rangoon offered by auction were bought in at 10s.

SAGO.—Flour, 620 bags offered were bought in at 16s.

TAPIOCA.—600 boxes of pearl offered were mostly sold at 20s. to 21s.

TIN still remains in the same position as during last week; transactions are by no means numerous. Business has been done in Straits at £118, cash, and small parcels have obtained £119, cash, and £122, three months.

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

The uneasiness caused by the warlike prospects of the continent, which led to all but a suspension of business some time ago in the market for cotton cloth, continues without much change, and with much the same effect. This market, like the Liverpool cotton market, has lately been very flat, and any business that has been effected has been almost of a forced character and at lower prices. The state in which the money market was at Calcutta and Bombay according to the latest letters prevented many of the leading houses from being in a position to make remittances, and even the richest and wealthiest men were in this position. With such advices it will not be surprising that the houses here who are in the India trade are not doing much just now for shipping. The yarn market has also been very quiet, and there has scarcely been business enough to test prices. Some sellers, however, seem to think the feeling is less desponding than it has been, that prices have reached about the lowest point, and that we may possibly have a resumption of business next week provided the fears engendered by the present warlike rumours should subside. During the flatness, which has now lasted something like a month, it is thought that a good many orders on shipping account will have accumulated, which would be executed at present prices if only the political horizon should clear a little. In home trade yarns some sellers report rather more business doing, but it has not been of much account, and there is no change in prices.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Jan. 24	Falmouth	Sourabaya	Wave	Henderson.
— 24	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Zwaan	v. Hemert.
— 24	Do.	Do.	Henrietta Geertruida	De Boer.
— 24	Do.	Do.	Eensgezindheid	De Waal.
— 21	Texel	Do.	Hercules	Deterding.
— 26	Liverpool	Rangoon	Jane Henderson	Kerr.
— 28	Deal	Canton	Queen of the Ocean	Ellison.
— 15	New York	Manila	Antonio Terry	Luces.
— 11	St. Thomas	Amoy	Julia	Morris.
— 28	Texel	Batavia	Johanna Elisabeth	Junius.
Feb. 1	London	Lagos and Akyab	Maria Helena	Oliviera.
— 1	Marseilles	Alexandria	Mocris, str.	
Jan.	New York	Foo-chow-Foo	White Eagle	Williams.
Feb. 2	Portsmouth	Hong Kong	John Ladgett	Gamble.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

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DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Jan.25	London	Singapore	Dewa Gungadhur	Mackenzie.
— 27	Liverpool	Shanghai	Maravi	Anderson.
— 29	Do.	Manila	Jose y Maria	Ron.
— 29	Do.	Shanghai	Caractacus	Twiss.
— 29	Do.	Singapore	Maggie Lauder	Cargill.
— 29	Greenock	Shanghai	Taeping	McKinnon.
— 29	London	Manila	San Luis	Carrauza.
— 28	Do.	Penang	Sunium	Mathew.
— 26	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Malabar	Castillon.
— 26	Liverpool	Singapore	St. Katharine	Davis.
— 25	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Northland	Howard.
— 26	Newport	Do.	Sailors' Home	Briant.
— 29	Ramsgate	Manila	Hjalmar	Sellstedt.
— 28	Sunderland	Shanghai	Comus	Black.
— 30	Liverpool	C. of Good Hope, &c.	Castor	Wise.
— 10	Madeira	China	Stirlingshire	Cunningham.
Feb. 1	London	H.Kong, Canton, &c.	Philomela	Archer.
Jan. 30	Pill	Shanghai	John Stanton, jun.	

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Nagasaki: Alice. For Nagasaki and Kanagawa: Mountain Ash. For Kanagawa: Satzuma. For Shanghai: Solent, City of Quebec, Assyrian, Yaratilda. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Far East (str.). For Hong Kong and Canton: Southern Belle, Corea. For Manila: Conchita, Elisa. For Singapore: Panic, Prince Alfred, James Paton, Blue Jacket. For Penang: Marengo. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Copernicus.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Ophir, Alice, Madagascar. For Hong Kong and Canton: Everest, Veronica. For Hong Kong: Verbena. For Singapore: Invincible, Brami, Bogota. For Manila: Olano. For Batavia and Singapore: Tigris.

At GLASGOW.—For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Three Bells. For Singapore and Penang: Dunnikier. For Batavia and Singapore: British Queen, Glenisla. For Shanghai: Wild Deer. For Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai, Elizabeth Ronneberg.

At PORT GLASGOW.—For Shanghai: Yeum-Tze-Fee.

SPOKEN.

BANDA, Hong Kong to Buenos Ayres, Dec. 2, 30 S., 38 E.
NEDERLAND EN ORANGE, Batavia to Rotterdam, Nov. 6.
CARL JULIUS, London to Batavia } 37 S., 11 E.
BURMAN, Clyde to Shanghai }
LOIRGON (?), Sunderland to Shanghai, 37 S., 12 E.
MONEY (?), Fr. ship, Cardiff to Batavia, Jan. 13, 48 N., 10 W.
FOP SMIT, Liverpool to Batavia, Dec. 17, 1 N., 31 W.
LANRICK, Newcastle to Sourabaya, Oct. 2, 3 N., 16 W.
MAUD, Picton to Singapore, Oct. 22, 33 S., 19 W.
ANNA, Batavia to Amsterdam, Nov. 26, 26 S., 50 E.
VESTA } Batavia to Rotterdam, Dec. 3, 36 S., 20 E.
HOCHELAGA }
6 GEZUSTERS (Dut. barq.), Batav. to Amstrdm., Nov. 28, 27 S., 52 E.
TUSKIS (?) (Brem.), from Batavia, Nov. 27.
DAYLIGHT, Penang to London, Dec. 3, 35 S., 28 E.
ALIDA KLASINA, Batavia to Amsterdam, Dec. 11, 25 S., 63 E.
KAAP HOORN, Samarang to Amsterdam, Dec. 13, 32 S., 13 E.
ARCADIA, Shanghai to London, Oct. 23.
LADY WHARNCLIFFE } Shanghai to London, Sept. 25, 7 N., 109 E.
ROBT. WATSON }
EBBERN SNARE, Shanghai to London, Oct. 3, 2 N., 107 E.
JULES CEZARD, Batavia to Nantes, Dec. 2.
MORNING STAR, Singapore to Liverpool, 45 days out.
INDIAMAN, ship, Lvrpl. to H. Kong } Nov. 26, lat. 20, lon. 31.
ISABELLA, do., London to H. Kong }
EMILY A. HALL, ship, of Prtlnd., Crdff. to Sngpre., Nov. 29, lt. 21, ln. 31.
ALBERTA, China to Liverpool, Nov. 23.
GEN. DUNLOP (?), Dut. ship, Pdng. to Amstrdm., Nov. 11, 35 S., 25 E.
JOSEPHINA BERNHARDINA, Amsterdam to Batavia, Dec. 21, 6 N., 20 W.
OTTO, Newcastle to Sourabaya, Dec. 29, 38 N., 17 W.
MARIE, Rotterdam to Sourabaya, Jan. 8, 36 N., 21 W.
ELLINE, Rotterdam to Singapore, 41 N., 12 W.
PALLAS (barq.), of Bremen, for Hong Kong, Nov. 27, 18 N., 145 E.
MAIDEN QUEEN, Foo-chow-Foo to London, Nov. 22, lat. 4, lon. 109.
ALBRECHT BEYLING, Schiedam to Batavia, Oct. 19, 33 S., 21 W.
EERSTELLING, Newcastle to Sourabaya, Oct. 20, 33 S., 24 W.
WURSATA (barq.), Clyde to Singapore, Nov. 5, 16 S., 31 W.
MONTROSE (?), London to Hong Kong, Dec. 6, 3 N., 27 W.
TREBIZOND, Madeira to Singapore, Dec. 19, 3 N., 27 W.
ZEERMEEUW, Newcastle to Sourabaya, 29 S., 98 E.
MARIA, Batavia to Middleburg, Nov. 10, 25 S., 62 E.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The amount of tonnage loading on the different berths for the East has again decreased, but no improvement in outward freights has taken place, there being but little business doing in exports from this. Homeward freights continue firm at somewhat higher rates, especially from China and Manila. In coal freights there is little alteration, but a few vessels could be fixed for Singapore, to load from the north.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 55s. weight, 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: 65s. To Hankow: 65s. weight, 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 42s. 6d. meast. To Shanghai: 50s. weight, 27s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 30s. to 35s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £37 and 37s. 6d. For Shanghai: £45 and 47s. 6d. to 50s. For Manila: £1. 10s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £26 and £1. 6s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

The Admiralty have engaged freight by the Corea for the conveyance of twenty-five tons light government stores from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Landbouw, Kleynenberg, from Batavia, which arrived at Brouwershaven Jan. 21, is leaky, and has lost sails and boat, having experienced heavy gales.

The Swallow (schr.), Scott, of and from London for Shanghai, with part cargoe of coal, was totally wrecked off Cape Recife, during a heavy N.W. gale in the night of Nov. 26, in which she lost most of her spars and sails, and became unmanageable; crew saved; ship and cargo were sold Dec. 2.

The Eliza Stewart, Osborne, from Hong Kong for Liverpool, put into Algoa Bay Dec. 16, short of water, and with crew sick.

LIVERPOOL, Jan. 25.—The Hidalgo, Roberts, arrived here; reports having spoken, Jan. 12, in lat. 37 N., long. 24 W., the Pieter Schoenmakers, Kers, 128 days out, from Batavia for Amsterdam, with crew sick; Europeans all well. Advices from Lisbon since received report the arrival there, on the 28th Jan., of the Pieter Schoenmakers, with twenty Lascars dead, and the rest of the crew sick.

The Antonio Terry, Luces, which arrived at New York Jan. 15, from Manila, had experienced very heavy weather, and had sprung mainmast.

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 28.—The Schoonderloo, Otto, from Batavia, lying aground in the Great North Holland Canal, was run into yesterday by the Odin or Idun, Jacobsen, from Dram to this port, and sustained considerable damage in her stern post.

According to advices from Singapore, under date Jan. 4, the Alabama (Confederate str.) had burnt the Martaban (British ship), from Maulmain, and the American ships Sonora and Highlander, from Singapore to Akyab, in the Straits of Malacca. The Martaban was the Texan Star (American), Capt. Pike, and to have changed her name.

SHANGHAI, Dec. 22.—The Hellespont (British str.), Mackenzie, from Hankow, was in collision Dec. 21 with the Hydaspe (French str.), and immediately sunk; crew and passengers saved by the Hydaspe, which put back leaky.

The Maggie Leslie, Stephen, from Shields for Hong Kong, put into Portsmouth Jan. 30 with windlass broken.

The British ship Coy Barroln parted from her anchors Dec. 10 outside Ningpo, went on the rocks, and became a total wreck; crew saved.

OFF ASCENSION.—Dec. 6, Zambesi, from Batavia for Rotterdam; 31, Runnymede, Rickaby, from Shanghai for London.

At ST. HELENA.—Dec. 7, Graf v. Heiden Reinestein, Boer, from Batavia, and sailed, 9, for Amsterdam; 11, Gouverneur General Duymaer v. Twist, Hoeksma, from Batavia, and sailed, 12, for Amsterdam; White Eagle, Williams, from Foo-chow-Foo, and sailed for New York, 12, Beatrice, Taylor, from Hong Kong, and sailed, 15, for London; 14 Andromeda, Dannberg, from Singapore, and sailed for London; 18, Alma, Conn, from Sourabaya, and sailed for Amsterdam; 21, Guadaloupe, Munoz, from Manila, and sailed, 22, for Cadiz; 23, Jannetje, Lupcke, from Batavia, and sailed for Rotterdam; Sovereign of India, Scott, and Moneta, Spear, both from Shanghai, and sailed for London; Amphitrite, Berglund, from Batavia, and sailed, 24, for Amsterdam; Prince Alfred, Ellison, from Foo-chow-Foo, and Finzel, Murray, from Shanghai, and both sailed for London; Marie Lucie, Dietrichsen, from Foo-chow-Foo, and sailed, 24, for New York; Tamana, Neill, from Canton, and sailed, 24, for London; 25, Etha, Buschmann, from Pasaroeang, and sailed, 26, for Amsterdam; Dwina, Rittern, from Macao, and sailed, 26, for Bremen; Anna, Bok, from Batavia, and sailed, 26, for Amsterdam, Queen of the Age, Ellis, from Hong Kong, and Naomi, Sayers, from Foo-chow-Foo and both sailed, 26, for London; Hanover, Rich, from Shanghai, Grenadier, McMurtry, from Shanghai, and Medina, Brun, from Japan, and all three sailed, 26, for London, Azia, Molenaar, for Batavia, and sailed for Amsterdam; Alblasserwaard, Lindern, from Batavia, and sailed, 28, for Rotterdam; Alida Maria, Vries, from Batavia, and sailed, 26, for Amsterdam; Johanne Diedrichsen, from Macao, and sailed, 26, for Hamburg; 26, Ida Elisabeth, Dooren, from Batavia, and saied for Rotterdam; Constantia, Hellberg, from Java, and sailed for Falmouth; Emilie Bruynseels, from Batavia, and sailed, 28, for Rotterdam; Edith Robertson, from Shanghai, and sailed for London; 27, John Lidgett, Gamble, from Hong Kong, and sailed, 28, for Portsmouth; Allendale, Grey, from Shanghai, and sailed, 28, for London; 29, Moldavian, Wood, from Amoy, and sailed for New York; John Masterman, Westgarth, from Penang, for London; Agincourt, Custance, from Hong Kong, for New York.

At TABLE BAY.—Dec. 7, Spray of the Ocean, Slaughterer, from Foo-chow-Foo, with loss of main topsail and main deck bulwarks, having encountered a heavy north-wester Nov. 11, in 30 S. 43 E., an sailed 9, for London; 11, Macassar, Rip, from Amsterdam for Batavi to repair rudder. Tuisco, Decker, from Batavia for Falmouth, had been on her beam ends in 28 S. 47 E., and cut away fore and main top-gallant masts, yards, and sails. Sunbeam, Barge, from Shanghai, and sailed 13, for London; 12, Johannes Christian, Obelt, from Batavia, and sailed 18, for Amsterdam; 14, Cambalu, Richardson, from Shanghai, and Beautiful Star, Catto, from Hong Kong; 16, Alfred Rey, Meades, from Hong Kong; Hainan, Schroeder, from Amoy; 17, Latona, Sedgwick, from Singapore.

The Annette, str., from London, for Shanghai, had arrived at Bahia, and the Vulcan, str., from New York for Shanghai, at Pernambuco.

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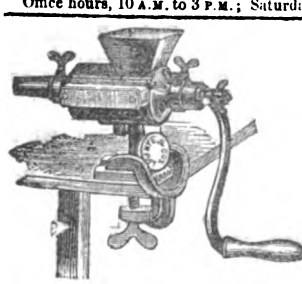

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All debts owing to and by the said concern will be received and paid by the said Thomas Barlow, by whom the business in future will be carried on.

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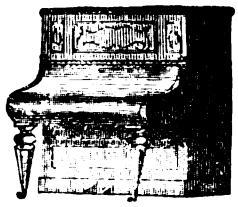

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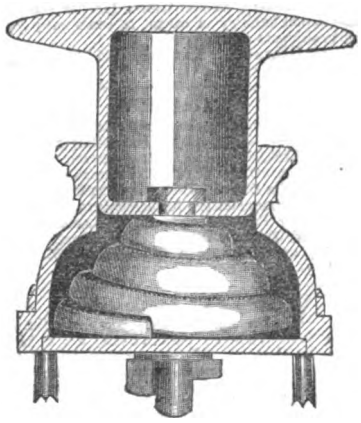

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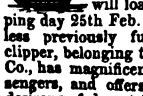

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 128.] LONDON, FRIDAY, FEB. 12, 1864. [Sub. 30s. per ann., and 12s. to Supplement. Single copy of either 9d.

STATISTICS OF THE CHINA TRADE.

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JOHN ELLISON, 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, E.C.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Kanagawa			Dec. 18
	Nagasaki			„ 23
	Hakodadi			
CHINA—				
	Peking			
	Tien-tsin			„ 3
	Hankow			„ 15
	Shanghai	Oct. 26	Dec. 19	„ 26
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 23
	Amoy			„ 26
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	Nov. 10	Dec. 24	Jan. 1
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	Oct. 26	Dec. 19	Dec. 23
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Touron			
	Saigon			„ 31
SIAM—				
	Bankok			
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			„ 20
	Sarawak			„ 28
JAVA—				
	Batavia			„ 31
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	Nov. 17	Dec. 21	Jan. 8
	Penang	„ 26	Jan. 8	„ 10

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per Massilia, arrived Feb. 10.—From Shanghai: Mr. Alt. From Hong Kong: Mr. E. Boom and Mr. Crewa. From Singapore: Mr. Duillot.

To Southampton, per Ripon, expected to arrive 18 Feb.—From Shanghai: Assist.-Surgeon Creagh, Mr. Ordine, Mr. Evisson. From Hong Kong: Mr. Olive, Messrs. P. E. Barnes, C. Brandt and Forster. From Singapore: Capt. McNeur, Jno. Palmer.

To Alexandria.—From Shanghai: Mr. J. H. Wright, Mr. Gilemeister. To Suez, per Carnatic, arrived Feb. 1.—From Hong: Mr. and Mrs. Fichta.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

By last mail, per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, from Southampton, 4th inst.—To Hong Kong: J. Davis, Staff Commander J. F. Loney, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. Haseland and two children, Messrs. H. Coller, R.N., H. Brown, R.N., G. Alexander, R.N., J. Hancock, R.N., W. M'Neill, R.N., and J. O. Wilson, R.N.—To Shanghai: Messrs. H. P. Buckley, W. Kidner, W. K. Hughes, Alabaster, and G. Bouchard.—To Singapore: Capt. Stafford.—To Calcutta: Mr. Daniell, Mr. and Mrs. Firth, Mr. W. A. Nedham, Major A. C. Plowden, Miss Martin, Mr. Bedford, Lieut. J. Miller, Mr. J. R. B. Smith, Capt. Walker, Mrs. Kilner, Mr. W. H. Collins, Mr. Grylls, and fourteen second-class passengers.—To Madras: Col. Hutchinson, Mr. R. C. and Miss Kinchant, Capt. and Mrs. Ansley and infant, Mr. E. W. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Puckle, and four second-class passengers.—To Ceylon: Miss Marland, Mr. Hamilton, and G. Wheeler.—To Alexandria: Capt. and Mrs. Birch, Mr. D. Scott.—From Gibraltar—To Hong Kong: Coelho Santos.—From Suez—To Calcutta: Mr. R. M. Dalzell—To Madras: Major A. Drury.

From Marseilles, per Euxine, on 12th inst.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. Borradaile, and A. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Odell.—To Shanghai: Messrs. Cochrane, W. D. Gerard, and Dudgeon.—To Singapore: Mrs. Kirby, Mr. Wilson.—To Penang: Mr. and Mrs. Friedrichs.—To Calcutta: Mr. D. Cowie, Lieut. and Mrs. Keir, Mrs. Impey, infant and servant, Messrs. J. B. Dickson, C. B. Stewart, W. D. Wilson, and R. G. Wilberforce, Mrs. Palmer, Messrs. Cook, Anton, and Collins, Miss Davey, Mr. A. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Blechynden and child, Major Acton, Capt. M. Batt, Messrs. W. F. Bick, W. Billing, and N. Gifforth, Mrs. Dennehy.—To Madras: Mr. and Mrs. Pelly and servant, Messrs. P. O. Sullivan, H. J. Bett, Kerr, E. A. Morgan, and J. Beaumont.—To Ceylon: Messrs. Gordon, Ross, Bischoff, W. Walker and Francis.—To Alexandria: Messrs. C. and R. Collins, and Richardson.—To Alexandria and back: Mr. Freak, Mr. and Mrs. Wright.

Per P. and O. steamer Delhi, Feb. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Miss Phillips, Messrs. H. Kilby, G. E. Stokes, H. Buich, R.N., A. Pritchard, R.N., J. Butchart, R.N., J. Galbraith, R.N., D. Crichton, R.N., J. Torkington, R.N., and L. Simmons.—To Shanghai: Rev. W. J. Smith, Mr. R. Nichol, Mr. Macintosh.—To Singapore: Miss Buyers. From Marseilles, Feb. 28.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. E. H. How, McIver, A. J. How, Fearon, and B. A. Clarke.—To Shanghai: Mr. L. S. Dunlop, Mr. H. Evans, and Mr. Eyles.

Per P. and O. steamer, March 12, from Marseilles.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Schwabe, infant, and two children.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. T. M. Drysdale, H. Marshall, and Jas. Deacon.

Per Far East, for Shanghai for Hong Kong.—Mrs. Boyle, daughter, and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Henderson and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Langan, Mrs. Atkins, Mrs. Hy. Jones, family, and servant, Miss Patridge, and Miss Henry, Messrs. Finnis, Morgan, Hay, Egan, Robertson, Peyton, Goddard, Limber, Grosser, Hilder, Jones, McKenzie, Abell. Two Japanese, and ten second-class passengers.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

KANAGAWA.

Intelligence of the highest importance is brought by the present mail. In addition to the payment of the indemnity levied on Satsuma, the Japanese Government, and the Daimios too, give a still further and unlooked-for pledge of their desire for amity with "the foreigner," by determining to send another embassy to the European Courts. This interesting announcement was made on the occasion of a conference held on the 6th December on board the *Semiramis* French steamer of war, at which the Minister of that country, accompanied by Admiral Jaurez, were the only European representatives present. The following facts are gathered from a communication made to his countrymen by the diplomatist just named:—

It will be recollected by our readers that, since the extraordinary communication made by the Japanese authorities to the American and Netherlands Ministers, relative to the determination of the Japanese Government to close Yokohama to foreign trade, or rather that it should be abandoned by foreigners, the Gorogio and native authorities have been persistent in their endeavours to obtain an opportunity to make the same communication to the English and French Ministers, which opportunity has been as carefully avoided by them, especially as heretofore the conference, on the part of the Japanese, was proposed by them to be conducted by one or two governors of inferior rank. The proposition, however, to appoint a special envoy to confer with the foreign Ministers put the matter in another shape; and having it clearly understood that the question above referred to—the closing of the ports—could and would not be entertained for a moment's conference, two members of the Second Council of State were admitted to the conference above mentioned. It was first again repeated by the French Minister, that the proposal itself in reference to the closing of the ports could not be listened to; that the making or unmaking of treaty obligations could be only in the Imperial Sovereigns themselves, but that any explanation of the ground upon which any such proposition could be made might be open to another reading. The old story of discontent on the part of some of the Daimios was, of course, repeated, and the suggestion made that, if the concession were granted by foreigners, it need only be of a temporary nature, &c.; that the Gorogio had been deeply moved by the lamentable occurrence of the murder of Lieut.

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Camus; and were anxious to initiate the settlement of any questions arising out of it; and, further, that as the matters now introduced could not be concluded by the Plenipotentiaries, it was the purpose of the Japanese Government to send an embassy to the Court of the French Emperor (which would also visit other Courts) to treat upon them. We believe that, on the several conditions that the envoys shall be of the highest rank, and that their powers shall be complete, there will be every encouragement given by the foreign representatives to its going forward. But not one word has transpired of any *resident* ministers and envoys from Japan to other Courts being contemplated by the Japanese Government. The calculations said to have been made, and the *personnel* of the legations canvassed, are, at present, purely imaginary.

We extract the account given by the *Commercial News* of what refers to the payment of the indemnity by Satsuma:—"We announced in our last issue that Satsuma's envoys had given notice of their intention to call upon the British Minister on the 9th inst., with a view to bringing the negotiations upon which they had entered to a close. Accordingly, on the 9th inst., Satsuma's envoys, accompanied by some strangers, who, curiously enough, turned out to be special envoys of Shimadzu Sabro himself, were at the British Legation at the hour appointed. After getting through some preliminary matters, the original envoys stated to the effect that they had the honour of bringing the negotiations so far, and they now wished to introduce envoys of Shimadzu Sabro himself. Shimadzu's people were then shown by Satsuma's envoys to the chief seats at the conference, the latter removing to lower places. During the conference the Japanese showed the strongest desire to see the difficulty which they had been sent to arrange amicably settled. They appointed Friday, the 11th inst., for the positive payment of the indemnity—$100,000; and they further signed a written engagement that Satsuma would undeviatingly seek up the murderers of Mr. Richardson and execute them in the presence of the British authorities who might be appointed to witness the execution. Afterwards the envoys made some characteristic presents, according to Japanese custom upon joyous occasions. On Friday, speculation as to the payment of the indemnity was put at rest by the money having been actually brought in hand-carts to the British Legation about noon that day. The agreement to seek up the murderers having been signed and the indemnity paid, the envoys returned to Yo lo, where they gave an account of their doings to the Tycoon's Government, who immediately addressed a handsome congratulatory despatch to the British Minister, stating their gladness and sincere satisfaction that matters had been so far settled between Great Britain and Japan, and expressing a hope that this might prove to be a sign of solid, lasting peace between the two countries, and that no further difficulties may arise. This, they say, is their sincere wish and desire. The great number of merchant junks and the unprecedentedly large quantity of raw cotton (about 5,000 bales) which have come to this port since the indemnity has been paid, lead to the belief that a more liberal trade policy has been agreed upon. During the week there has been very little heard of the rebellion of Mats'daira Daized-no Daibu. All the intelligence from the South is to the effect that matters stand now just as they did a month ago. From all we have heard, it appears that Tsiosiu has not met with the support which he expected, and that he must in consequence succumb for the present to the authority of the Mikado. Still, seeing how ripe this country is for rebellion, it is hard to say how Tsiosiu's enterprise may turn out.'"

As respects the general position of affairs, the following statement puts in a singularly strong light the great fact that the party of the Daimios favourable to an extended intercourse with foreigners is daily gaining power, and if Satsuma has joined them, the victory may be considered as already decided. A correspondent who has peculiar opportunities of piercing through the mist that has hitherto enveloped the internal dissensions now disturbing Japan, writes:—"It seems there is an under-current in our favour, working secretly, slowly, but, it is to be hoped, surely. A party, headed by Echizen-no-kami, a powerful Daimio, but one who has been forced to shave his head and become a priest for expressing too openly his friendly feelings towards foreigners, seems to be taking advantage of the general confusion, and is gradually on the increase; and it is believed that several Daimios are secretly favourable to the wish of Echizen-no-Kami, to admit foreigners into the country, and have added their names to the league. Echizen-no-Kami himself is running out piers for the accommodation of foreign shipping, and secretly making preparations on a large scale for opening a commodious harbour."

HAKODADI.

The advices from hence are to the 30th November. The Japanese vessels *Waterwitch* and *Governor Wallace* were in port on that date. The small Russian Government sch. *Perwee*, which left there on the 7th inst., bound for the Manchourian coast, was totally lost on the following morning by running ashore on the south, or Nambu, side of the Straits of Tsugar, opposite Hakodadi. Only one life was, however, lost, and the remainder of the crew returned to Hakodadi a few days afterwards. Some cold weather and snow had been experienced, but the weather had lately been more mild. The harbour was deserted by ships of war of all nations, and the foreign residents left to take care of themselves, or trust in the goodwill of the native authorities and people. There had not been the slightest disturbance, or threat of any hostile movement. There was still a great want of native money, and as, from there being no vessels of war there, the Consuls are the only persons who can obtain any exchange from the Government, they now actually rule the market. It is strange that foreign Governments allow this state of things to continue. In insisting on consular officers being allowed exchange by the Government we seem to make it their interest to frustrate one of the principal clauses of the treaty—viz., that foreign coin shall pass weight for weight with native money. So long as this exchange is allowed, the representatives of foreign Governments cannot expect to see the dollar taken in Japan at anything near its intrinsic value; and one of the greatest obstacles to trade will continue to exist.

The following market report is from the *Japan Herald*:—

IMPORTS.

Since our last report our market has continued satisfactory for imports. Supplies of woollen and cotton goods have come to hand, and sales have been made at a slight advance upon former quotations. A further improvement would have taken place but for the difficulties reported to exist in the dealers trading with foreigners. American Drills:—Grey Shirtings, 5½ catty, 4 00 to 4 10; 6 do., 4 25 to 4 40; 6½ do., 5 25 to 5 50. White do., spots, 3 85 to 4 00; do., dyed spots, 4 50 to 5 00. Chintz, assorted, 2 50 to 4 00. Camlets, BBB, good colours, 22 50 to 23 00; assorted, 21 50 to 22 00; S, good assortment, 22 00 to 22 50; SS, assorted, 21 50 to 22 00; SSS, good assortment, 20 00 to 20 50. Taffachelass, 4 00 to 5 50. Lead, 7 25 to 7 50. Tin, block, best, 29 to 30, none; plate, 8 75. Spelter, 6 75 to 7 00; assorted, 12 75 to 13 00. Long Ells, assorted, 7 50 to 2.

EXPORTS.

SILK.—Since our last report, supplies have fallen off to a very perceptible extent. There have been rumours of silk merchants at Yedo having been murdered by Ronins, and the dealers of Yokohama affect to believe that this system of intimidation will deter the country merchants from sending their produce down here. In consequence of anticipated imports they look forward to higher prices, and have therefore been very firm throughout the week. A pretty fair business has been done at the high rates quoted, but we should not be surprised to see a somewhat easier tone ere long. Ida: Medium, 540 to 555; inferior, 510 to 520. Mybash: Best parcels, 560 to 575; medium, 540 to 550; inferior, 520 to 530. Coshu: Best parcels, 500 to 515; medium, 470 to 480; inferior, 440 to 450. Hatchogee: 410 to 420. Oshio: Best parcels, 530 to 545; medium, 500 to 520; inferior, 450 to 475. Mashta: 450 to 460. Æchesan: 480 to 490.

TEA.—Business in this article has been moderate, owing to the ad- 200; common, 350; good ditto, 500; medium, 300; fine, 200. Quo 720 piculs at our quotations;—Stocks ordinary, 150 piculs; good ditto, vanced rates demanded by the teamen. Settlements amount to about tations are as follows:—Ordinary, $1.00 to 3.00; good ditto, $4.00 to 6.00; common, $8.00 to 12.00; good ditto, $13.00 to 18.00; fair to good, $19.00 to 24.00; fine, $25.00 to 28.00; finest nominal, $29.00 to 32.00.

RAW COTTON.—Our market has again been badly supplied during the past week, and it appears evident that some influence must be at work to keep supplies back; they are quite insufficient for the demand, and for the fulfilling of contracts incompleted. Late advices from Europe and China are favourable, and prices have further advanced in consequence. Japanese raw cotton, $24.50 to $27.00; vegetable way, 13.50 to 14.00; rapeseed, 2.00 to 2.10; rapeseed oil, 7.00 to 7.50; fish, 4.50; seaweed, cut, 4.50 to 6 00; uncut, 2.50 to 4.50; cutterish, 10.00 to 14.00; mushrooms, 28.00 to 30.00; isinglass, 59.00 to 21.00; coir, 3.50 to 4.00; gall nuts, 7.00 to 7.50; dried shrimps, 13.25 to 13.50; iron, 3.20; camphor, 26.00 to 30,00; fokling, 3.00 to 4.00; copper—bolts, 24; wire, 27 to 28; ginseng, 1.50 to 2.00 per cat.; flour, 2.30 to 2.60 per pcl.; coal, 9.10 to 10,00 per ton; tobacco, 2.00 to 5.00 per pcl.; saltpetre, 11.00 to 12.00 per pcl.; timber—Planks 12ft. by 1ft. per hundred planks, 18 to 20.

EXCHANGE.—London, Bank, 6 m. st. 5s. 1¾d. to 5s. 1d.; private, 5s. 2¼d. to 5s. 2d., buyers; documents, 5s. 2¼d. to 5s. 2d.; Shanghai Bank, 10 d.s.s., 82 to 81; private, 10 d.s. 82, buyers; Hong Kong, Bank, 4½ to 5; private, 6 to 7; Peking gold, per bar, 215; Spanish dollars, 1 per cent. discount; Itzibus, buying 238, selling 239 for 100 Mex. dollars.

FREIGHT.—To Shanghai, per sailing vessel; for silk $3 per picul, measurement $3. Per steamer; for silk $4 per picul, measurement $3 to $5 per ton. To London; cotton £4, tea £4 to £5, silk £6 to £5.

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CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

The London Mail of 26th October arrived on the 19th Dec. When the previous mail left (20th Dec.) per French steamer *Hydaspe*, she run into the *Hellespont*, but no particulars were given. We now append an account from the *Friend of China*:—

We have been favoured with the following report by Mr. Thos. Devine, pilot of the French mail steamer *Hydaspe*, on her down trip this morning:—

The French mail steamer *Hydaspe* left Shanghai at 8 A.M., and passed Woosung at about 9.45 A.M. Five miles below Woosung, met the steamer *Hellespont*, coming up. We were steering S.E. by E. ½ E., and the *Hellespont* steering about N.W. by W., I should judge. The *Hellespont's* helm was put hard-a-starboard, and I ordered the *Hydaspes'* helm hard-a-port. Seeing, however, that we could not clear her, I ordered the engines to be reversed, and to go full speed astern, which was done; and we had been running astern full speed for fully five minutes when the *Hellespont's* broadside struck the *Hydaspes* on the port bow, knocking in three of the iron plates, and forcing the cutwater over to starboard.

"The *Hellespont* struck just forward of her starboard mizen rigging, and began sinking rapidly. The *Hydaspes* lowered three boats, and succeeded in getting off all the passengers, captain, and crew, and every possible assistance was rendered. I would have towed her ashore, had it been possible, but she was sinking too fast. She went down in eight fathoms water, the lone tree bearing S.S.W., distance three-quarters of a mile; and the wreck of the *Ocean Mail* bearing E. by N., distance about a mile and a-half. The *Hellespont* had no pilot on board. The *Hydaspes* returned to Shanghai, and anchored below the shipping, bringing with her all who were taken from the ill-fated steamer. We learn that the *Hydaspes* also fouled the brig *Sea Horse* early this morning, on first leaving her berth, doing, however, only trifling damage. We are told by Capt. Munro, of the *Sea Horse*, that no blame is to be attached to the steamer, as she had not a clear passage out, which certainly should have been kept open."

On the 11th December an attack was made on the city of Wousie by the Imperial force, commanded by Major Rhode and the Mandarin Kosoling, one of the fighting generals of this province. They did not succeed in taking it, on which account they proceeded in throwing up stockades on each side of the Grand Canal within 500 yards of the city wall and 200 yards of the rebel stockades. These were finished before daylight and all guns brought in position. They commenced firing on the two rebel stockades in front of them, as also the city. After the rebels had stood the fire for an hour manfully in the stockades, they left the same in utter confusion. This opportunity Major Rhode took, and followed the rebels right up, and was in the city with men before they had time to close the gate. The rebels at once retreated, and a good number of them were killed. The Chung-Wang, who was present himself, retreated with his men on Chang-how-foo. Three Europeans were taken prisoners, who stated that they were lately very badly treated by the rebels.

The company of Royal Engineers, hitherto stationed in Shanghai, together with the invalids of the Royal Artillery and 67th Regt., proceed to Hong Kong, on board H.M.'s *Vulcan*, Lieutenant Maude in charge.

An interesting case of salvage has taken place in the English Consular Courts, in which the owners of the tug steamer *Martin White* claimed taels 11,000 from the owners of the ship *Electra*. The *Electra* got badly on shore, and her captain engaged the services of the tug to tow him off. She failed on the first attempt, but succeeded during the next high tide, when the *Electra* was found to have sprung so bad a leak that she was obliged to be deposited on a mud bank to prevent her sinking The *Martin White* remained by her for some time, checking an inclination which she manifested to slip off into deep water, and eventually claimed the above-named sum for her services. The defendants asserted that the vessel swung off with the tide, irrespective of the efforts made by the *Martin White*, which they asserted was deficient in steam power for the required purpose. They further insisted that the *Electra* could have been kedged ashore as easily as the *Martin White* could have towed her there, and argued consequently that, as the *Electra* would not have been lost without the steamer's aid, no claim for salvage was admissible. The court, however, thought differently, and estimated the value of the *Martin White's* services at 5,000 taels, for which judgment was given.

Everything was quiet at Ningpo at the date of our last advices; but active operations were being carried on against Hangchow by the Anglo-Chinese and Franco-Chinese contingents, aided by a large force of mandarian soldiers under the Foutai.

The pirates appear to have recovered to a certain extent from the blow given them by Colonel Cooke at Wantaquan, and have resumed their depredations in Hangchow Bay. The brigantine *Wandering Wave*, from Hong Kong to Hangchow, was captured by pirates in Hangchow Bay last week. While lying there, she was suddenly boarded by a number of men who approached in boats. Stink-pots were thrown on board, and the crew murdered. The captain, Lynill, managed to escape (after receiving a gunshot wound in the shoulder) by getting into a lorcha which was lying alongside. The pirates were fired on from the lorcha, which got under weigh and stood out to sea, but was shortly afterwards pursued by the pirates, who chased her during three hours, but ineffectually, and she got safely to Ningpo. The *Wandering Wave* was engaged in rebel interests at the time.

The following refers to gas:—A lover of light could hardly have selected a more obscure subject on which to ask information than as to the steps which are being taken to light the settlement with gas. Most persons have a vague idea that some project of the kind is in existence; some, even, may be aware that the energetic step of ordering pipes and fittings from England has been taken. But we doubt whether even the shareholders in the Shanghai Gas Company know much more. A meeting is called occasionally, at which some five or six individuals attend, and are informed that the necessary arrangements are in progress. The great proportion of the shareholders, however, are, we imagine, resigned to their fate, and will be agreeably surprised whenever the arrival of the necessary materials and a fresh digging up of streets offers hope that their capital is, at least, likely to be utilised, and that even a prospect of dividend may loom dimly in the future. The following short paragraph, which formed part of the last half-yearly report of the Municipal Council, contains the sum of our present information on the subject. It could not well be more vague, nor express a more resigned determination to hope against hope that all will come right—some day:—

LIGHTING.—Your Council trust that, ere long, the plans of the gas company may be sufficiently developed to admit of some satisfactory arrangement being concluded with regard to the effective lighting of the settlement.

"Christmas is coming—so is gas!" as our correspondent observes. We wish we could thing gas was so near at hand as the Christmas even of 1864.

KIU-KIANG.

CUSTOMS EXACTIONS.

(To the Editor of the *North China Herald*.)

SIR,—Now that Mr. Hart, a gentleman who is believed to have some regard for the convenience of merchants, has replaced Mr. Lay at the Foreign Customs, it might not be out of season to point out, through your columns, one of the greatest difficulties under which we labour in connection with that institution, leaving the remedy to one of your Shanghai correspondents to suggest, and the execution to the fertile resources of the new Inspector-general to carry out.

I allude to the "Half-duty System" [illegible] whereby a merchant is compelled [illegible] of fifty per cent. additional duty as a guarantee that the produce sent down from a river port to Shanghai for transshipment abroad be really re-exported. This regulation is particularly oppressive in its working as regards our most heavily taxed article of export—tea. To the question of the justice of a law which compels the payment of a guarantee in silver, while the return is made in inconvertible paper, I will not now allude, my wish being solely to bring the *modus operandi* before the public.

On every chop of tea shipped from a river port the shipper has to pay a sum averaging five hundred taels in addition to the regular export tax, as a so-called coast trade duty between that inland port and Shanghai, redeemable in the shape of a drawback granted ultimately at the original port of shipment on presentation there of the Shanghai certificate of re-exportation, this drawback being available only in payment of duties on further shipments. In this way a merchant can never recover the whole of his advances, a fixed sum being left perpetually in the hands of

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the Chinese collectors. The floating capital enjoyed by this means by the bankers at this second rate port I estimate at seldom less than one hundred thousand taels. What the proportion of this amount is to each individual merchant here may easily be imagined.

Now, what object can the Chinese have in collecting a coast trade duty on an article at once recognisable as *packed solely for foreign consumption*, as all tea for exportation is, unless it be to place capital in the hands of Chinese bankers at the ports, as an equivalent for the heavy bribes they have to pay in order to obtain the concession of privileged collectors to the Customs? This being the object, I would ask whether it be fair that foreign merchants should be called upon to provide this capital without themselves receiving any equivalent? In directing the attention of your readers to this main point I pass over the further loss of time, money, and trouble, incurred where teas are re-sold or divided in Shanghai, a grievance of itself worthy a separate and special explanation.

I believe I am right in saying that not one chest of tea packed for foreign export ever passes into Chinese consumption, and that, were this vexatious impost to be withdrawn, the office of Customs would gain as much in the actual saving of the labour that this "Half-duty System" causes, as the merchant loses in interest on his capital locked up in the Haikuan banks.

Trusting that, if my remarks will not succeed in leading to an abolition of the system, they may at least serve as a profitable exposition of the difficulties under which any but large capitalists must suffer as long as it continues in force.

Yours, &c.

MACAO.

A proposal is announced for building a dock in Macao. The prospectus will be found in our advertising columns.

HONG KONG.

On the arrival of the French mail on the 3rd inst., we gave the intelligence of the arrival of the London mail of November 10 on the 24th of December. The present mail brings dates to January 1, five days later than per French mail.

The following is from the *China Mail*:—

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The report of the committee of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce has just been published. It displays an amount of vigour and intelligence which will, in future, stamp the Chamber with an authority which it never before possessed. We shall leave it to our readers to form their own estimate of the report; but, at the same time, we cannot avoid congratulating the Chamber upon the very complete manner in which its affairs appear to be managed. Those who take the trouble of reading the report will undoubtedly be impressed with the idea that the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce is assuming a position of authority which it will be difficult to set aside. We are now, at length, being made to feel that there is a mercantile body in China which claims to have a voice in the commercial affairs of the different nations. Why such moral power should not long ago have been erected, we are at a loss to imagine. It is almost surprising that the commercial community of Hong Kong should so long have overlooked the decided influence which was at their disposal by merely arranging themselves into the present simple form of organisation. There is scarcely any trouble, and no serious expense required in order to give weight to the opinions of a large mercantile community; and this consummation has at last been reached by the Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber's report evinces a very wholesome regardlessness of recent attempts to bring the merchants of China into disrepute, while the honest, straightforward language in which it is uttered must certainly command the attention of the few English statesmen who interest themselves in China affairs.

The Chamber of Commerce, as it is now conducted, supplies a want which has long been seriously felt in this part of the world. It is not the business of newspapers here to advocate any particular interest, and a journal which devoted itself to supporting the interests of trade, and to following them out in all their minor ramifications, would very rapidly lose influence among that class of readers in Europe whose attention it is of importance to command. The Chamber at length speaks for itself. It is its own organ. It addresses the world, so to speak, without the cumbrous intervention of a newspaper. This, we think, is not only in good taste, but shows excellent judgment; and we are glad at last to see the Hong Kong Chamber come to the front in such a creditable manner, and display an amount of honesty and intelligence which is certain to give the mercantily community of this colony an amount of influence which it assuredly never possessed before.

We now reprint the report of the Committee of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, presented to the members at the half-yearly meeting held on the 16th November, 1863:—

REPORT.

In obedience to the 13th Rule of the Chamber, the committee have now to submit to the general body of its members their report of the various subjects that have engaged their attention, and of their proceedings in furtherance of the objects of the institution during the six months ending on the 31st ult. On some subjects they have had to give their consideration to questions bequeathed to them by their predecessors in office; while on the other hand, the necessities of an ever-increasing and restlessly active commerce, have suggested several matters of detail, productive, if adopted, of much convenience to the commercial community.

In the report for the year ending last May, notice was taken of the great want of a bankrupt law in this colony, and of the steps that, up to that time, had been taken to remedy the evil. A draft ordinance prepared in England, under the sanction of the Colonial-office, is about to remove this long-felt defect in the insolvent law of the colony, as it has already been read a first time before the Legislative Council, and is published for general information in the *Government Gazette* of the 31st October.

The correspondence between the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Governor of Hong Kong upon the subject of the currency of the colony has been printed and circulated; and a new subsidiary coinage will be soon introduced into the colony. The committee doubt not that the change when effected will prove a great boon to the population of the island, where alone its character as a legal tender can be maintained. The larger question of an Imperial Local Mint has, the committee are happy to announce, been approved of by the Home Government, and a draft ordinance for submission to the Legislative Council has been received by the Colonial Government, and will appear in due season as a preliminary step to its establisment.

The Proclamation of February 28 of this year, prohibitory of the export coastwise of munitions of war, had led to some correspondence between this Chamber and the Colonial Government during the tenure of office of the late committee. Subsequently several Indian firms, feeling that its stringent terms pressed severely on them, as regarded shipments of saltpetre made in Bengal in ignorance of its existence, had an interview with his Excellency the Acting-Governor, to pray for some delay in carrying out the provisions of that Proclamation, so far as these shipments were concerned. Out of that interview a correspondence (which is annexed as Appendix A), arose, from which it appeared that the local Government had no power to make the concession.

The scheme proposed by the Baron de Meritens, Commissioner of Customs at Fuh chau, for extending trade in Formosa by adding two new ports—Keelung and Takao—to those, Tamsui, and Tai-wan-Foo already opened by treaty, had claimed the attention of the late committee just before their retirement from office. The correspondence commenced by them, and continued by your present committee, appears in the annexed appendices marked B; but there have been later modifications of the original plan therein specified, which have made Keelung, for Custom-house purposes, a dependency of Tamsui; and while laying down certain regulations for the control of vessels resorting to the port, have done away with bonds and passes in connection with it. The rules appended to the correspondence, therefore, apply only to the Southern port of Takoa, and the committee have reason to believe that the Baron de Meritens is at present endeavouring to introduce there an arrangement similar to that already in operation in the north, by making Takao a dependency of Tai-wan-Foo, with a custom-house establishment at the latter station. When that is done, there will no longer be any necessity for exacting the securities at first proposed as the consideration for enlarging the field of trade in the Island of Formosa.

The Baron de Meritens deserves much credit for the sagacity and breadth of view shown by him in his efforts to open more widely the trade of China to foreign enterprise, and success at these new ports will encourage an extension (already contemplated) of the system to important stations on the mainland.

On the appearance of the Blue Book on affairs in China, laid before Parliament in January of the present year, it was found to contain the memorandum addressed to Earl Russell by Mr. H. N. Lay, referred to in the Committee's Report to the Chamber of last May. The document was evidently not meant for the eye of the parties assailed in it, but Lord Russell, as was to be expected, published it, and in doing so, only did justice to the general commercial body in China. The Chamber of Commerce at Shanghai, and many of the firms specially accused by Mr. Lay of smuggling, have written in disproof of these charges, and in refutation of his bold and reiterated assertions of the existence of universal fraud on the part of the foreign community in their dealings with the Chinese Customs' revenue. But it appeared to this committe that, in the memorandum, many other questions of vital importance to foreign residents were advanced, in a manner unfavourable to their interests; and that the adoption of the whole of the paper by Mr. Under-Secretary Layard, in his place in Parliament, as an authoritative text book on all matters relating to foreign commerce in China, made it incumbent on them to review these and other questions in a communication to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. They accordingly addressed on the 22nd ult. a letter to Earl Russell, which is now submitted to you, and will appear in the appended correspondence as Appendix C. The letter was enclosed (open) to Sir F. Bruce, for transmission to London, and a duplicate of it was forwarded yesterday direct to the Foreign Office. The committee have only to add, in explanation of the scope of their letter, that they framed it in the conviction that it is essential to a right understanding with the Government in China, that the treaty rights of foreign consuls should be rigidly main-

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tained—but that their judicial decisions, whatever might be the grade of the deciding officer, should not be final. Mixed courts, which have been frequently suggested, would offer in their construction almost insuperable difficulties; but there is another description of court, adverted to in the letter, and established at the present time in Turkey and Egypt, which might possibly be introduced with much advantage in China, in connection with the supreme court of Hong Kong.

The committee, in concert with the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, have made arrangements for receiving from London a fortnightly telegram, to the latest date possible, by each mail. The form of message and the letter to Mr. William Walkinshaw, one of your late vice-chairmen, requesting him to make suitable arrangements, are marked D in the appendices. The Shanghai Chamber have agreed to pay half the expense. The contents will, immediately on arrival, be available to all members of the Chamber; and it remains for them to decide now whether other parties may be admitted to a knowledge of these telegrams on payment of a subscription. The committee trust that their action in this matter will meet the approval of the members.

A scale of maximum commissions has been prepared (see appendix E) by the committee as applicable to the business of Hong Kong, and as valuable for reference in disputed cases. It has been submitted to the consideration of all the members, and several alterations having been suggested, they will have now to be settled, in order that the table may be published under the sanction of the general body. The committee purpose constructing a similar scale of warehouse rent, porterage, boat hire, &c., and, when prepared, it shall in like manner be circulated to all the members.

The absence of all right of appeal from the judgments of the British Superintendent of Trade in all suits between British subjects and other foreigners or Chinese, whether original or by appeal from the lower Consular Courts, has long been deemed a hardship by Her Majesty's subjects in China. The committee, therefore, regarding with favour a suggestion to raise a fund, out of which pecuniary aid might be given to parties engaged in combating such restriction of appeal, or in suits involving the assertion of principles of general importance to men engaged in trade in this country, issued the circular marked in the appendix F, and handed a copy to each member. The proposal has already obtained the approval of many of the members, and a deed of agreement has been signed by them, engaging to the extent of the amounts severally subscribed to meet calls for pro rata contributions when required. The class to which assistance may be given is subject to the discretion of the committee; but they are bound by the conditions of the deed to give full information to the subscribing parties. The Chamber of Commerce at Shanghai has raised a similar fund with the same objects.

The committee submit now to your judgment various changes and amendments in the rules of the Chamber, and in the bye-laws subordinate to them as set forth in appendix H. It remains with this meeting to adopt or reject these proposed alterations. The committee believe that they will improve the constitution of the society.

It may not be out of place here to notice an impression, more or less prevalent in Hong Kong, that this Chamber might be clothed with the attributes of a tribunal of commerce, and that by it all questions of mercantile law and usage might be cheaply and expeditiously disposed of. France is usually referred to in support of the feasibility of the scheme; but it seems to be overlooked that the conditions of success there were secured by the Revolution of 1789, through the then sweeping away of all the old landmarks of law, and by the subsequent introduction of the Code Napoleon, which directly provided for the present system. In Great Britain and its dependencies the commercial law has grown out of long custom, legalised by the decision of the Courts and by various Acts of Parliament; and root and branch changes in it would be necessary before tribunals of commerce could be made to work. The idea, however, has been a favourite one at different times; and not very long ago, for instance, in Liverpool, where an intelligent and earnest body of men probed the question deeply; but every attempt to engraft these courts on the commercial system of Great Britain has only brought into strong light the almost insuperable difficulties that bar success. That fact seems now so generally recognised, that the question, the committee believe, has died out at home, and in their opinion it is only as a court of arbitration that this Chamber can be presently and practically useful to the commercial community in the adjustment of differences.

The committee have remitted to London in the sum of £290. 5s. 5d. the contribution received from the Portuguese community of this colony to the fund for the relief of the distressed operatives of Lancashire, referred to in the minutes of the proceedings of the general meeting held on May 26th, 1863. Its receipt has been acknowledged with sincere thanks by the Secretary to the Mansion House Committee.

The accounts for half-year ending 31st October have been audited by Messrs. Ormiston and Lemann, and are now submitted to the meeting. (Appendix G.) The balance at credit of the Society with the Oriental Bank is $4,455.28 and the deposit $5,000—previously made with the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, &c.—remains untouched. Some small expense must be incurred for additional furniture to the rooms now occupied by the Chamber, and which are leased from Mr. Douglas Lapraik, at a monthly rental of $65; but apart from that, and notwithstanding the list of members having been increased by four during the half year, the cash balance is less than last reported by $44,449; and the committee do not therefore as yet feel themselves in a position to recommend any reduction in the rates of subscription. In increased support alone from the mercantile body lie the means of lowering the scale.

JAS. J. MACKENZIE, Chairman.

The following programme of rejoicings at Macao on account of the birth of a young Prince of Portugal is furnished :—

On January 3rd, 1864 (Sunday), a *Te Deum* will be sung in the churches at noon, and, an hour after divine service, his Excellency the Governor will receive visitors. In the evening amateur theatricals will be given in the theatre, both by male and female performers, no less than four young ladies having agreed to perform.

On January 4th there will be a dinner at the Governor's house.

On January 5th there will be an exhibition both of Chinese and European-made fireworks.

On January 6th there will be a ball and supper at the Baron de Cercal's house.

THE FALL OF SOOCHOW.

On this subject the *China Mail* says:—"A man named Jones stated, on oath, that one of the reasons for his own and his companions' deserting the rebel cause was their knowledge of the fact that General Brown was giving Major Gordon his support. Such support, it is true, simply consisted in stationing British soldiers at a short distance from the scene of Gordon's operations. Small as this support would seem, it was quite sufficient to turn the scale in the major's favour; the defection of the rowdies was only the first fruits of this policy; its mature results are to be found in the surrender to Imperial authority of the leading men in the Soochow city. Only one of the Taiping chiefs—viz., the Mo-Wang, was adverse to giving up the city; and at a general meeting of the Wangs which was held in Mo-Wang's 'palace' on the fourth ultimo, that prince still proving obstinate in his desire to continue hostilities, the other princes solved the difficulty by assassinating him and surrendering themselves to General Ching."

"This they did upon the understanding that their lives should be spared. Gordon himself had received the General's assurance that such should be the case, and there is no doubt that this method of disarming hostility would rapidly have led to the extinction of the Taiping rebellion, and that in a manner highly consistent with the principles of justice and humanity. But General Ching defeated this policy by a disgraceful act of perfidy, which, unless disavowed and punished by the authorities of Peking, must permanently lower the Imperialists in the eyes of foreign nations. Notwithstanding the promise given to the Taiping leaders, and on the strength of which they shaved their heads and marched submissively through Futai's camp to go through the form of surrendering the city, they were all seized and executed, while Major Gordon was absent in the city, calling at the house of one of the chiefs. Such a revolting act of treachery affected the gallant major so painfully that he refused to co-operate further with Futai's forces, and even declined to accept the surrender of three hundred Taipings who desired to submit to him. The whole affair has been reported to Peking, and its enormity in European eyes will be forcibly set before Prince Kung if Sir Frederick Bruce does his duty.

"In the meantime, Gordon remains at Quinsan with his forces, independent, but inactive. His position at Quinsan will serve the purpose of covering Shanghai, a circumstance to which the wealthy inhabitants of that city are by no means indifferent. General Brown, before leaving Shanghai for Hong Kong, which he has made his head-quarters, had an interview with the general body of foreign Consuls, who unanimously empowered him to take what steps he considered best for the safety of Shanghai. In this manner all difficulties which might arise from the death of foreigners in rebel employ or in command of marauding parties are effectually obviated. The General, or any officer to whom he may delegate the command of Shanghai, will not be called upon by any of the foreign Consuls to answer for injuries sustained by rowdies who should be discovered disturbing the peace of the province. Had it been otherwise, the General would have been liable to be hampered at every turn."

The quantity of cotton shipped from all ports in China, from the 1st of June to the 23rd of December, was 243,180 piculs.

SIAM.

The American barque *Agnes* has been sold for $16,000. The American ship *Silas Freeman*, has also been sold. The British barque *Tell* and the Hambro' barque *Hertha* were offered for sale, but as they could not realise the price demanded they have since been chartered, and are now loading—the former for Hong Kong, the latter for Singapore.

The steamer *Enemy Chaser* is undergoing repairs, with a view to enable her to replace the *Chow Phya*, and the far-famed *Alligator*, of Tringanu notoriety, has gone into dock, and it is said she also will run the mails during the *Chow Phya's* absence.

JAVA.

On the arrival of the *Batavia* from Singapore, it was rumoured that she had seen the *Alabama* being chased by the *Wyoming*, and the *Java* reported that she had arrived at your port.

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Our produce market has been very excited since the arrival of last mail steamer. The Sultan of Soerakerta has prohibited the use of opium by his employes, on pain of dismissal from from the service. No other news.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

When the present mail left, on the 8th of January, the London mail of November 26 had not arrived. In our issue of the 3rd inst. we reported its arrival at Galle on the 1st of January. The detention was owing to the accident to the *Bengal* in the Red Sea.

In our issue of the 3rd inst. we gave a full account of the captures made by the *Alabama*. We now append some comments from the *Straits Times*:—"Various reports are current as to the whereabouts of the *Alabama* and the Federal steamer *Vanderbilt*. One report states that the *Alabama* passed to the eastward, through Durian Straits, another that she has burnt the whaler *Atlantic* in Rhio Straits, and a third that she had been spoken on the Gulf of Siam by an English brig. To none of these, however, can we attach any positive reliance, though any or all are probable. With regard to the *Vanderbilt*, the report that she is at present in Penang is in every probability true, though how it can have reached this we are at a loss to understand. In the Calcutta papers of the 23rd of December it is stated that the *Vanderbilt* was spoken by the *Persia* somewhere between Moulmein and Penang steering for the latter port; also that another Federal ship-of-war, the *Onward*, had been spoken in the Bay of Bengal."

Our Christmas season passed off with more than ordinary joviality. The *Corps Dramatique* gave a performance in the Theatre Royal on the evening of the 29th, a full account of which appears in the body of our Journal. On New Year's-day the sports on the Esplanade were kept up with great spirit. In addition to the standard sports of leaping, foot-racing, sack-racing and wheel-barrow racing, there were a great many others peculiar to the place, and intended chiefly for the natives. Lewis' Australian Hippodrome is also here just now for a week or so; the first performance came off last night and was a very good display. Some second Barnum has also advertised a mermaid to be exhibited, caught, he says, in the inland Japan sea.

The Singapore Gas Works at Rochore are now, by the energy of Mr. Wells, the engineer, so far completed as to illuminate with gas the buildings and premises occupied by the company. Christmas eve was the first occasion of coal gas illumination in Singapore, and this works a bright era in the history of this central depot. There is perhaps scarcely a town of its size and number of inhabitants, now about 100,000, which presents, especially throughout its outskirts, a more gloomy, dreary, deserted, and disconsolate appearance than Singapore when the evening shades prevail.

So that gas-light is here as desirable for its bestowal of comfort, and inspiring cheerfulness, as for its usefulness as a guide and companion, and its security as a protection to life and property. The benefit and safeguard conferred by efficient gas-light, is quite equal to that of a greatly enlarged police, and the pleasure and safety of a visit to town by night is greatly enhanced.

The company's building is now entirely lighted by gas, and the cheerful brilliance so pleasingly diffused throughout its apartments is a delightful contrast to the murky duskiness of the surrounding neighbourhood. The whole of the building operations of the company are completed, and there remain but the iron roof now discharging from the *Early Dawn* to be placed over the large brick works, and the retorts, &c., the plant as it is technically termed, to be put up. All the iron work is now in progress and partly finished. The gas holder it is estimated will contain about 70,000 cubic feet, and requires six tons of rivets for its fastenings. The scrubber, the purifyer, the engine exhauster and condenser will shortly be in operation, and the completion of the works will be pushed rapidly forward.

His Honour, the Governor, has been pleased to extend the exemption authorised under the provisions of notification No. [illegible], dated 15th instant, to all exportations of arms to places to the westward of the Straits of Malacca.

The following are the returns of the Stamp Office for the last eight months, that is, from the date at which the last Government Administration Report was made up:—

April,	1863.....	Rs.	15,398.8
May	„	„	16,724.13.7
June	„	„	13,221.12.5
July	„	„	16,793. 1.8
August	„	„	16,357. 8.8
Sept.	„	„	19,716. 1.5
Oct.	„	„	15,831. 8.3
Nov.	„	„	15,266. 4

We extract the following from the *Government Gazette* of the 25th of December:—

Some anxiety is felt on account of the non-appearance of the Siamese steamer *Enemy Chaser* here. The *Enemy Chaser* was sent out to take the place of the *Chow Phya* on the line between this and Siam. The brig *Antelope*, which had left Bangkok five days after the steamer, has already arrived here.

On the transfer question we have the following news:—"Colonel Freeth, from Ceylon, who is wanting to complete the transfer commission, has not yet made his appearance, and nothing definite can of course be done. It is probable, however, that when he does arrive the business will be short, as Colonel Cavenagh and Sir Hercules Robinson have been busy collecting all the information that is likely to be required. The condition of the revenue promises to be most satisfactory, and a considerable surplus over the expenditure will be at the disposal of the new government. The stamp tax during the year that has just finished shows the receipts to be £21,000, for Singapore alone; this is a little over our most sanguine conjectures, and is the more satisfactory as it is certain. The committee appointed at the public meeting held three weeks age in the Town Hall, are, it is believed, drawing up a report upon the condition of the settlement.

Intelligence has been received from Labuan that the United States steamer *Wyoming* had been there and taken in 150 tons of coal.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

ADAMSON—On the 28th Dec., at Dinder, the wife of W. Adamson, of a son.

CUTHBERTSON—On the 29th Nov., at Shanghai, Mrs. W. G. Cuthbertson, of a son.

DEACON—On the 27th Jan., at Ditchleys, South Weald, Essex, the wife of Albert Deacon, late of China, of a daughter.

DILL—On the 21st Jan., at 19, Regency-square, Brighton, the wife of Dr. Dill, of a daughter.

HEAD—On the 4th Feb., at Ashurst Lodge, Lankton, Kent, the wife of Charles Head, Esq., of a son.

LANCASTER—On the 1st Feb., at St. Aubin's Lodge, Hackney-downs, the wife of William Locke Lancaster, Esq., of a son.

THOMPSON—On the 31st Jan., at Tooting-common, the wife of Wm. Jas. Thompson, Esq., of a daughter.

WITHOP—On the 27th Dec., at Singapore, the wife of Capt. G. C. H. Withop, of the Dutch barque Gebroeders Houtman, of a daughter.

WORTHINGTON—On the 31st Jan., at Greenbank, Cheetham-hill, Manchester, the wife of Tom Worthington, Esq., of a son.

WULFF—On the 8th inst., at Walthamstow, Mrs. G. H. Wulff, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

HANKEY—SOUTHEY.—On the 4th Feb, at the Parish-church, Clapham, by the Rev. W. H. Howard, M.A, vicar of St. Thomas's, Exeter, uncle of the bride, assisted by the Rev. Wodehouse Raven, M.A., incumbent of Christchurch, Streatham, Ernest, youngest son of John Alers Hankey, Esq., of 10, Park-crescent, Portland-place, to Henrietta Maria, eldest daughter of Thomas Southey, Esq., of Clarence-house Clapham-park. No cards.

JACKSON—PATRIDGE.—On the 9th inst., at the New Wesleyan Church, Plumstead-common, Woolwich, by the Rev. Samuel Tindall, of Stockton-on-Tees, assisted by the Rev. James Smith, of King's Lynn, Mr. Thos. A. Jackson, of the firm of John Jackson and Sons, King's Lynn, to Martha, second daughter of David Patridge, Esq., Chief Engineer in Her Majesty's Dockyard, Woolwich.

ROBERTSON—CARRUTHERS.—On the 26th Jan., at St. Peter's, Eaton-square, Russell Robertson, Esq., Consular Service, Japan, to Annie, youngest daughter of the late Jacob Carruthers, Esq., of Glasgow.

TRAUTMANN—GRANT.—On the 4th Feb., at St. Paul's Church, Hooton, Cheshire, Johann Friedrich Heinrich Trautmann, Esq., of London, late of China, eldest son of Friedrich Trautmann, Esq., of Hamburg, to Ellen, daughter of the late Frederick Grant, Esq., of Gorst Hills, Cheshire. No cards.

DEATHS.

BOONE—On the 20th Jan., at Suez, Egypt, Phœbe, the beloved wife of the Right Rev. W. J. Boone, D.D., Bishop of the American Episcopalian Mission at Shanghai, China, and a native of South Carolina.

CLARK-KENNEDY—On the 30th Jan., at 69, Oxford-terrace, Hyde-park, Lieutenant-General Sir Alexander Kennedy Clark-Kennedy, K.C.B. and K.H., of Knockgray, Kirkcudbrightshire, Colonel of the Scots Greys, in his 82nd year.

CRIBB—On the 16th Dec., at Hong Kong, on board H.M.S. Melville, John Cribb, Quarter-master H.M.S. Racehorse.

DOWN—On the 22nd Jan., greatly esteemed by all who knew him, Henry Down, Esq., Commander in the P. and O. Service, in the 44th year of his age. Friends at a distance will please receive this intimation.

FRANKS—On the 30th Jan., at the residence of her father, Upper Norwood, Ross, the beloved wife of Mr. E. A. Franks, of Thornton-heath, Croydon, in her 33rd year.

HORAN—On the 14th Dec., at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, Michael Horan, Private H.M. 99th Regt., aged 24 years.

JOHNSTON—On the 5th Feb., at 74, Gloucester-terrace, Hyde-park, Wilkinson Dent, infant son of Colonel Charles Cornwallis Johnston, Royal Engineers, aged 13 months.

LINSTEAD—On the 21st Jan., at Adelaide-villa, Camberwell, Constance Elizabeth Rose, aged four years; and, on the 24th Jan., Ernest Theophilus, aged six years—the two eldest and beloved children of Theophilus Gee Linstead, Esq., of Hong Kong.

MEDHURST—On the 31st Jan., at Chesterfield-house, Bath-road, Peckham, Capt John W. Medhurst, late of H.M.'s 99th Regiment, and Town Major of Hong Kong, in his 42nd year. Friends will please accept this intimation.

MONCREIFF—On the 22nd Dec., 1863, at Singapore, while on his passage from Shanghai Thomas Moncreiff, Esq.

SHORT—On the 14th Dec., at Hong Kong, on board H.M.S. Melville, John Short, Stoker of H.M.S. Centaur.

SMITH—On the ——, while on his passage from Shanghai to England, H. Smith, late of Astor House, Shanghai.

WELLS—On the 14th Dec., at the Detachment Hospital, Kowloong, Joseph Wells, Private H.M. 99th Regt., aged 27 years.

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COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

SHANGHAI.

BLACK TEAS.—A dull market is again reported, but since the advices by the last mail holders are becoming firmer, and teas of this description are beginning to meet with more inquiry. The settlements reported are: 11 chops, 5,766 chests, and 10 chops, 5,277 chests, re-shipped of Oopacks, Oonams, Ningchows, and Hohows. Stock, 27 chops of which 5 are for reshipment. Oopacks and Ningchows are quoted at 24 to 29 taels; Oonams, 19 to 24 taels; Hohows, 17 to 20 taels per picul. Green: Prices have advanced fully from 2 to 3 taels, and the demand has been quite active during the fortnight, with only small quantities offering in the market. Settlements and reshipments are 39,711 half-chests Fychow, 7,106 half-chests Pingsuey, 3,700 half-chests Japan. Fychows have been settled at 37 to 38 taels, and Pingsuey at 31 to 35 taels per picul. Stock estimated at 31,000 half-chests Fychows, 780 half-chests Japan, and 4,000 half-chests Pingsuey.

SILK.—The high prices last quoted have been sustained during the fortnight, and owing to the small stocks, holders are very firm, feeling confident that high figures will be maintained. The settlements amount to 1,650 bales, leaving a stock of 6,000 bales.

COTTON.—Good quality is in much demand, and a really good article being scarce, holders are firm at 26 taels per picul, and every probability of higher rates being yet obtained.

FOOCHOW.

TEAS.—There has been a large business done, but arrivals having almost ceased, good flavory teas have advanced five mace. Lower grades are less inquired for. Settlements reported: Congou, 25,500 chests at from 6½ to 22 taels; Souchong, common to fine, 2,000 chests at 18 to 32 taels; Pekoe, 325 chests, at 20 to 21.5 taels; Oolong, common to good, 25,500 half-chests, at 12½ to 20 taels; scented tea, 1,900 chests, at 18 to 21 taels. Estimated stocks—Congou, 45,000 chests; Souchong, 3,500 chests; Oolong, 22,000 chests; flowery Pekoe, 450 chests; scented teas, 5,000 chests.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—The quotations for this article are those at which the dealers would now be willing to make moderate purchases for the supply of their more immediate wants, but they must, in a measure, be regarded as nominal in the absence of any disposition on the part of holders to realise.

GREY SHIRTINGS do not show any material change in price in this colony, and the transactions which have actually taken place are confined almost entirely to purchases made on foreign account. The estimated settlements of the fortnight are put at 32,000 pieces for goods here and to arrive.

WHITE SHIRTINGS have found purchasers amongst native dealers to the extent of 7,000 pieces, and the value of these fabrics shows no material alteration.

T-CLOTHS.—The sales of these goods, which show a material advance in price, although they are still relatively cheaper than Long Cloths, amount to about 6,000 pieces for the fortnight. From Canton, although the nominal value of all the above named articles of import has advanced, there are not any sales to advise.

AMERICAN DRILLS.—Sales of about 5,000 pieces have been effected during the past fortnight.

WHITE SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, DYED DO., BROCADES, WHITE AND COLOURED.—The value of the above goods, with the exception of coloured Brocades which show an improvement of about 40 cents, and in which alone any transactions have to be reported remains, as before quoted. The sales of assorted Brocades in this colony are put at 1,000 pieces, and in Canton 800 pieces. White Spotted Shirtings have changed hands.

DAMASKS continue to be without any demand.

CHINTZES AND HANDKERCHIEFS.—These goods have not met with any inquiry during the past fortnight.

RAW COTTON.—Considerable quantities of very inferior and damaged staple which have recently arrived from the ports of Shanghai and Ningpo have weakened the tone of the market, and the value of good cotton is not at present quite equal to that quoted in last circular, while the decline from the highest point of the market, which was reached a few days after the departure of the last mail steamer may be considered about $2 to $3 per picul. At the present moment the market is rather flat, and the transactions of the fortnight are estimated at about 23,000 bales; 1,800 of which exclusive of about 1,000 damaged and inferior have sufficed to supply the requirements of the native dealers.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths.—The first-mentioned goods have met with a fair amount of inquiry during the fortnight, but there is not any alteration to notice in prices, and the sales effected amount to about 960 pieces.

LONG ELLS.—The quotations for this description of Woollens remain as given in last circular, with a good business doing. Sales of 940 pieces have been made.

CAMLETS also remain at the same figures as before, with sales of 500 pieces for the fortnight.

LASTINGS show a trifling advance in value, as compared with the rates previously current, and the settlements of the past fortnight are put at 200 pieces.

BLANKETS.—100 pairs sold at about former rates. In Canton the value of almost all kinds of Woollen goods is quoted higher, but in the absence of any transactions, the prices given must be regarded as nearly nominal.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.—The prices of the various descriptions of Iron in this colony show no change when compared with the rates current in the middle of the month, but in Canton the advance established in the different kinds amounts to from 10 to 20 cents, and in the case of Iron Wire to 50 cents per picul. The sales reported in Hong Kong amount to about 1,200 piculs of Nail Rod, 445 piculs of Round Rod, and 70 piculs of Square Flat Bar. In Canton the sales are put at 850 piculs of Nail Rod.

LEAD has declined somewhat both here and in Canton, and the transactions in the article are estimated at 480 piculs, and 1,200 piculs for each port respectively.

TIN.—No sales of this article have been reported.

TIN-PLATES.—Are without change in price in Hong Kong, but they have declined in value in the Canton market.

STEEL.—Nothing doing.

OPIUM.

PATNA.—Has fluctuated between $565 to $580, and during the first week after the mail's departure very large clearances were made at medium rates by Chinese; latterly the market has become dull, and quotations are now $562.50 (cash) and $555 per chest; 12th sale to arrive.

BENARES.—Remain, as usual, subject to the market rate of Patna, and is now quoted at $10 less than Patna. The demand has been an average, as usual.

MALWA.—It is difficult to find out the true state of the market. Much latitude is allowed the Chinese in clearing the opium, and though the quotations by them have been bordering on $650 per chest, I hear of transactions at $630, cash, effected to Europeans.

TURKEY.—Chinese seem to inquire after inferior descriptions, and those rule firm at $520 to $530. There appears to be very little first-class in the market, none having been imported per last two mails.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6	months sight.	6s. 6d. to 6s. 6¼d.	6s. 6d. to 6s. 7d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 10d. to 4s. 10½d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 0d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 10d. to 4s. 10½d.	4s. 10½d. to 4s. 11d.
At Manila	6	ditto	4s. 7½d.	4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.
At Batavia (guilders.)	6	ditto	..	..

The Exchange on India at Shanghai was 312 to 314 rupees per 100 taels and at Hong Kong 228 to 229 per 100. Bar silver at Shanghai 111 per 100 tls., and Hong Kong 4 per cent. prem. The current quotations at Shanghai for Mexican dollars was 79 tls. per $100, and the rate of exchange on Hong Kong was 25 to 26 per cent. discount.

The following is from Messrs. Sharp and Co.'s Circular of Dec. 31:—

GOLD.—This bullion, on account of the state of matters in Bombay, has been much neglected, and had any arrivals of importance come to hand it must have declined considerably. The total imported during the fortnight, including a sum omitted in our last account, is one lakh, the amount sent hence, including the shipments per *Orissa* on the 15th, and excluding those by the *Singapore* to-morrow, is rather more than three lakhs.

SILVER.—The amounts received are under one lakh of dollars, the amounts sent away are equal to two; this is exclusive of the shipments (if any) to be made to-morrow by the *Singapore*, which will, however, probably be small. Bar silver at the moment may be quoted scarce in the colony.

DOLLAR CURRENCY.—Three lakhs and a half have been imported, mostly from the Coast, and six lakhs have been exported. New coin remain very much the same as previously quoted.

DISCOUNTS AND MORTGAGES.—Money has been somewhat in demand during the fortnight, and mortgages have been done at 12 per cent. for a term. Discounts of Bank's own acceptances short at 9 per cent., and of first chop bills short at 10 per cent.

SHIPPING INTELLGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From London, Dec. 14, Medusa; 22, Aurora Australia. From Folkestone: Powerful (str.). From Swansea: 12, Atila. From Newport: 20, Kate. From Liverpool: 21, Elfin. From Newcastle 22, Lettire Catherier.

At FOOCHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From Glasgow: Dec. 25, Bonara.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: Dec. 27, Couranto. From Cardiff: 29, Ferris; Jan 1, Henriette; 5, Anna Decator. From Glasgow: 3, Roslin Castle; 6, Frederica. From Rotterdam: 1, Marie Godard; 3, J. C. Simony.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—For London: Dec. 7, Confidence.

From SHANGHAI.—For Liverpool: Dec. 18, Young England; 19, Nonpariel; 22, Royal George, General Putnam; 24, Solway. For New York: 23, St. Paul, Guiding Star.

From NINGPO.—For Liverpool: Dec. 9, Merry England.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: Dec. 8, Standard; 14, Isabella Ridley, Bankside. For New York: 10th, Queen of the Seas; 19, Peep o' Day.

From HONG KONG.—For London: Dec. 29, Ocean Bride. For Liverpool, 20th, Offor.

From MACAO.—For London: Dec. 20, Mary Ann Wilson; 26, Agra.

From MANILA.—For Denmark: Emma. For Rotterdam: Zanzibar.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Jan. 6, The Brodre, Confiance.

From PENANG.—For London: Jan. 7, Rockcliff.

LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Alexandra, Forerunner, Louis Kniffler, Governor. V. Swieton.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Island Queen, Egmont, Sir Harry Parkes, Strathallan, Lansdown, Marquis of Argyle, Fairleader, Oliver Cromwell, Oithona, Sappho. For Liverpool: Spirit of the Times, Lodore, Alice Tainter Mountmorency, Ralston Veloz, Antelope, Solway, Thomas Royden. For New York: Silvercraig, Hermoine, Johanna, Thetis, Anne Wood, Capella.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Weymouth, Albrecht Oswald, Glaramara, Stuart Wortley, Kahlamba.

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At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Tamerlane, Norwood. For Liverpool: Koh-i-noor, Junapore, Orient, Argonaut, Ceres, Creole, Hamilla Mitchell.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Early dawn, Spanker. For Liverpool: Crusader. For Bordeaux: Hooghly, St. Michael.

At PENANG.—Etoile for Bordeaux, Edinburgh Castle for London.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

JAPAN.—To London: Cotton, £4; Tea, £4 to £5; Silk, £4 to £5.

SHANGHAI.—Excepting Cotton, for which the rate has advanced, very little is doing. £3. 17s. 6d. to £4. is given for Liverpool and London.

FOO-CHOW.—To London: £4 per ton of 50 cubic feet. To America: £4 per ton of 40 cubic feet.

HONG KONG.—For coasting purposes there is some activity, but little doing for England. To Liverpool and London, for cotton, the rate is £3. 15s. to £4, and £4 to £4. 10s. to New York; to Ningpo and Shanghai, 35 to 40 cents per picul; to Banghok and back, 60 cents per picul.

MANILA.—Tonnage is required, and freights have advanced, viz.. clayed sugar, £3; unclaoed, £5. 10s.; tobacco, £6; for. hemp, £6 To New York: Slightly higher.

SINGAPORE.—Tonnage is in demand; the rates for coasting are good. No fresh vessels are an the berth for England or Continent.

CASULTIES.

JAPAN.

STRANDING OF THE ORIENTAL

News of thh Oriental, late under the American, now under the Prussian, flag—having been stranded on Saragota Spit, not far from this port reached here on Sunday last, and three of the British gun-boats went down at once to see if the report was true. On their return, it was ascertained that the report was true, and that the vessel could not be got off, and that there was seven feet of water in the hold. The Prussian man-of-war, the Gazelee, went to assist her, but from all we have since heard the Oriental will be considered a total wreck. We hear that the vessel is not insured. She is reported to have a general cargo, but we have not learnt the exact description of the goods in her. She is said to have saiied from Macao, via Hong Kong, for this place.

SHANGHAI.

LOSS OF THE "TROY."

The British ship *Troy*, from Shanghai to Ningpo, parted her cables in a gale outside Chinhai, drove on the rocks, and became a total wreck. Crew all saved with loss of everything.

Steamer *Governor General*, Captain Bell, from Ningpo, December 12, experienced very strong N. E. winds; she reports the total loss of a Danish brig name not known; the vessel was at anchor when during a violent gale she went down, nothing but the heads of her lower mast being above water; the crew are all safe.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

SILK.—We have no improvement to notice in the silk market; the little business done since last mail has been at lower prices, the firmness of some of the leading importers alone preventing a more serious decline. In Japan silk there has been more disposition to do business the last few days, buyers being attracted by the comparatively moderate rates now ruling. Deliveries from 1st to 8th inclusive: China, 765 bales, Japan, 493 bales; total, 1,258 bales.

SUGAR.—Prices for common and middling qualities have advanced 6d. to 1s. per cwt.; 4,500 bags Manila clayed sold yesterday at 40s.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Cutch: Steady: at auction yesterday, 99 boxes, 1,296 bags Pegue sold at 25s. 6d. to 26s.; first-class, 24s. 6d. Turmeric: Steady; 112 bags Bengal, part sold at 27s. 6d. to 28s. for fair. Sapan Wood: 19 tons Singapore, damaged, sold at £7. 15s. to £9.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Feb. 10, off the Wight, from Hong Kong, Queen of the Age; 9, off Plymouth, from Shanghai, Jubilee.

DEPARTURES NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Feb. 6, from Shields for Singapore, Volunteer; from Sunderland for Hong Kong, Trafalgar; 5, from Lamlash for Hong Kong, Figaro; 10, from Glasgow for Batavia and Singapore, Glenisla; 10, fram London, for Shanghai, City of Quebec; 9, from Cardiff for Hong Kong, Clara; 10, from Portsmouth for Hong Kong, Maggie Leslie; Jan. 26, from Madeira for China, Fun Sing, str.; Feb. 11, from Liverpool for Singapore, Brami.

SPOKEN.—Gondola (ship), steering S.E. (supposed New York to Shanghai), Dec. 26, 1 S., 29 W.; Canadian, Hong Kong to London, Nov. 22, 23 S., 61 E.; Jubilee, Shanghai to London, Oct. 28, just out of Sunda Straits; Robin Hood, from Liverpool for Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 2 N., 24 W.—had experienced very heavy weather after leaving the channel; Jonge Zusters (?), Batavia to Amsterdam, Nov. 3, 11 S., 100 E.; Anna, Batavia to Amsterdam, Dec. 7, 32 S., 29 E.; John Currie (?), Kondon to Hong Kong, Jan. 2, 2 N., 24 W.

The Robin Hood, from London to Hong Kong, which was spoken Jan. 1 in lat. 2 N., lon. 24 W., had lost her sails and main yard.

LAID ON.—At London, for Hong Kong and Canton, Gauntlet; at Glasgow, for Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya, Thomas Mitchell.

In the Manchester markets of this week there was more inquiry. Grey shirtings, 7 lbs., 17s. 3d. to 17s. 6d.; 9 lbs., 24s. 3d. Long cloths, 19s. 9d.; T-cloths, 14s. Maddapollams, 7s. 6d. to 7s. 7d.

LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

THE DEATH OF LIEUTENANT TINLING AND CAPTAIN DEW.

Lord CHELMSFORD called the attention of the First Lord of the Admiralty to the particulars of the death of Lieutenant Tinling, of Her Majesty's ship *Encounter*, at Shoushing, on the 5th of March, 1863, and asked for explanations of the statements made by the Secretary of the Admiralty with respect to them, by which the family of the young officer had felt themselves aggrieved.

The Duke of SOMERSET read a letter from Captain Dew, of the *Encounter*, describing the circumstances under which Lieutenant Tinling was killed. He was not on duty or acting under orders, but, at his own urgent request, had accompanied Captain Dew to the scene of action. The commander had told the officers volunteering that they were considered on leave; he had also cautioned them not to expose themselves, as he considered himself responsible for their safety.

Lord GREY believed that Lieutenant Tinling was virtually acting under orders, though he was represented as only an amateur. The question had an important public bearing, as illustrating the manner in which this country was being involved in the affairs of China. Our policy was neither neutral as between the Imperialists and the Taipings, nor effective in support of the established Government. He contended that England ought either to be neutral, or to intervene in a manner worthy of the nation.—Lord HARDWICKE said that a junior officer volunteering to accompany his commander on any service must be considered as still acting under orders.—The Duke of SOMERSET, in reply to Lord Grey, defended the policy of the Government as to China. That they could attempt to assume the whole administration of the Empire was out of the question, nor could they abandon Shanghai to the rebels.—Lord RUSSELL said the Government had taken the only practical course, and it had been successful. Wherever our authority had extended, there had been a revival of trade and prosperity.—Lord GRANVILLE thought the past services of Lieutenant Tinling had been fully recognised. It was admitted that he possessed every quality of a naval officer.—Lord CHELMSFORD contended that as Captain Drew was engaged in hostile operations, and Lieutenant Tinling was acting under his orders, that officer must be considered as having died in the discharge of his duty. After a few words from Lord ELLENBOROUGH and Lord HARDWICKE the subject dropped.

POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT IN CHINA, &c.

Mr. FERRAND gave notice that he would, on the motion for going into Committee of Supply, move the following resolutions:—

"That the Eastern policy of Her Majesty's Government, begun by the present Prime Minister in China thirty years ago, and from that time enforced by every Whig Government, has led to constant little wars, which have culminated in the deeply deplored burning of Kagosima and the massacres of Soochow.

"That the Government have admitted that these little wars were the result of the pressure put on them by merchants to extend their trade.

"That our military and naval armaments required to carry out this Eastern policy have greatly increased the heavy taxation of the country.

"That it is a flagrant injustice and a violation of the principles of free trade to tax the agricultural and other trades of Great Britain, and especially of Ireland, for commercial wars waged to open fresh markets for manufactures in which they are not engaged, and have no pecuniary interest."

BURNING OF KAGOSIMA.—DIVISION IN HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That this House, while only imputing to Admiral Kuper a misconception of the duty imposed on him, deeply regrets the burning of the town of Kagosima, as being contrary to those usages of war which prevail among civilised nations, and to which it is the duty and policy of this country to adhere" (Mr. Buxton). Amendment proposed, "To leave out the words 'while only imputing to Admiral Kuper a misconception of the duty imposed on him'" (Mr. Longfield). Question, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question," put and negatived. Amendment made. Main question, as amended, proposed. Whereupon previous question put, "That that question be now put" (Viscount Palmerston). The House divided—Ayes, 85; Noes, 164.

MINORITY—AYES.

Adderley, Rt. Hn. C. B.	Gurney, S.	Pakington, Rt. Hon. Sir J.
Aytoun, R. S.	Hadfield, G.	Parker, Major W.
Baines, E.	Hamilton, Lord C.	Peacocke, G. M. W.
Bathurst, A. A.	Hamilton, I. T.	Peto, Sir S. M.
Bazley, T.	Hay, Sir J. C. D.	Pilkington, J.
Bright, J.	Hennessy, J. P.	Powell, F. S.
Brooks, R.	Hibbert, J. T.	Roebuck, J. A.
Cave, S.	Hubbard, J. G.	Sclater-Booth, G.
Cole, Hon. H.	Humphrey, W. H.	Seely, C.
Collins, T.	Hunt, G. W.	Sclwyn, C. J.
Corry, Rt. Hon. H. L.	Ingestre, Viscount	Smith, J. B.
Cox, W.	Kelly, Sir F.	Smith, S. G.
Crossley, Sir F.	Kinglake, A. W.	Somes, J.
Cubitt, G.	Lawson, W.	Stanley, Lord
Dalglish, R.	Leatham, E. A.	Stracey, Sir H.
Dawson, R. P.	Lennox, Lord G. G.	Sykes, Colonel W. H.
Denman, Hon. G.	Lennox, Lord H. G.	Taylor, Colonel
Disraeli, Rt. Hon. B.	Leslie, C. P.	Tottenham, Lt.-Col. C. G.
Duncombe, Hon. W. E.	Liddell, Hon. H. G.	Walcott, Admiral
Dunne, Colonel	Lindsay, W. S.	Westhead, J. P. B.
Du Pre, C. G.	Longfield, R.	White, J.
Edwards, Colonel	Lygon, Hon. F.	Whiteside, Rt. Hon. J.
Elphinstone, Sir J. D.	Macaulay, K.	Whitmore, H.
Ewing, H. E. Crum.	Macdonogh, F.	Wyndham, Hon. H.
Farquhar, Sir M.	Manners, Right Hon. Lord J.	Wyndham, Hon. P.
Ferrand, W.	Morgan, Hon. Major	
FitzGerald, W. R. S.	Naas, Lord	Tellers.
George, J.	Noel, Hon. G. J.	Cecil, Lord R.
Greenall, G.	O'Neill, E.	Forster, W. E.
Greene, J.	Packe, C. W.	

MAJORITY—NOES.

Acton, Sir J. D.	Fitzwilliam, Hon. C. W. W.	North, Colonel
Adeane, H. J.	Foljambe, F. J. S.	North, F.
Angerstein, W.	Fortescue, C. S.	O'Hagan, Right Honourable T.
Archdall, Captain M.	French, Colonel	O'Loghlen, Sir C. M.
Astell, J. H.	Gard, R. S.	Paget, Lord C.
Baring, H. B.	Gavin, Major	Palmer, Sir R.
Baring, T. G.	Gibson, Rt. Hon. T. M.	Palmerston, Viscount
Barttelot, Colonel	Gladstone, Rt. Hon. W.	Paxton, Sir J.
Bass, M. T.	Glyn, G. G.	Peel, Rt. Hon. Sir R.
Beach, W. W. B.	Goddard, A. L.	Peel, Rt. Hon. F.
Beale, S.	Goldsmid, Sir F. H.	Peel, J.
Beaumont, S. A.	Gore, J. R. O.	Pender, J.
Beecroft, G. S.	Gore, W. R. O.	Pennant, Hon. Colonel
Bellew, R. M.	Goschen, G. J.	Pinney, Colonel
Bentinck, G. W. P.	Gower, Hon. F. L.	Ponsonby, Hon. A.
Berkeley, Hon. C. P. F.	Gregory, W. H.	

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Brady, Dr.	Gregson, S.	Potter, E.
Bramston, T. W.	Grenfell, H. R.	Powell, J. J.
Bridges, Sir B. W.	Grey, Right Hon. Sir G.	Repton, G. W. J.
Briscoe, J. I.	Grosvenor, Lord R.	Robartes, T. J. A.
Bruce, H. A.	Haliburton, T. C.	Rothschild, Baron M. de
Buller, Sir A. W.	Hanbury, R.	Russell, H.
Bury, Viscount	Handley, J.	Russell, A.
Butler-Johnstone, H. A.	Hankey, T.	Russell, F. W.
Butt, I.	Hardcastle, J. A.	Salomons, Mr. Ald.
Calthorpe, Hon. F. H. W. G.	Hardy, J.	Scott, Sir W.
Cardwell, Rt. Hon. E.	Hartington, Lord	Scourfield, J. H.
Castlerosse, Viscount	Headlam, Rt. Hn. T. E.	Seymour, A.
Chapman, J.	Henley, Lord	Shafto, R. D.
Clay, J.	Hervey, Lord A.	Sheridan, H. B.
Clifford, C. C.	Hodgkinson, G.	Smith, Augustus
Clive, Capt. Hn. G. W.	Horsfall, T. B.	Smith, Sir F.
Codrington, Sir W.	Hutt, Right Hon. W.	Smyth, Colonel
Coke, Hon. Colonel	King ake, J. A.	Stansfeld, J.
Collier, Sir R. P.	Kinnaird, Hon. A. F.	Steel, J.
Cowper, Rt. Hn. W. F.	Knatchbull - Hugessen, E.	Sturt, H. G.
Craufurd, E. H. J.	Laird, J.	Sturt, Lieut.-Col. N.
Crawford, R. W.	Layard, A. H.	Talbot, Hon. W. C.
Damer, S. D.	Lefevre, G. J. S.	Tempest, Lord A. V.
Davey, R.	Levinge, Sir R.	Thompson, H. S.
Dering, Sir E. C.	Lewis, H.	Tollemache, Hon. F. J.
Dodson, J. G.	Locke, J.	Tracy, Hon C. R. D. H.
Duff, M. E. G.	Long, R. P.	Turner, J. A.
Duff, R. W.	Lowe, Right Hon. R.	Turner, C.
Duke, Sir J.	Mackinnon, W. A.	Villiers, Rt. Hon. C. P.
Dundas, F.	Manners, Lord G. J.	Walter, J.
Dundas, Rt. Hn. Sir D.	Martin, P. W.	Weguelin, T. M.
Dunkellin, Lord	Massey, W. N.	Whitbread, S.
Dutton, Hon. R. H.	Miller, W.	White, L.
Enfield, Viscount	Mitchell, T. A.	Wickham, H. W.
Evans, T. W.	Montagu, Lord R.	Wood, Rt. Hn. Sir C.
Ewart, W.	Morris, D.	Woods, H.
Ewart, J. C.	Morrison, W.	Wynn, C. W. W.
Fane, Col. J. W.	Mowbray, Rt. Hn. J. R.	Tellers.
Fenwick, H.	Neate, C.	Brand, Hon. H. B. W.
Fermoy, Lord	Newdegate, C. N.	Dunbar, Sir W.

THE DEBATE ON KAGOSIMA.

(THE TIMES.)

Mr. Buxton did but speak last night the universal mind of the country when he deplored the disastrous conflagration of the city of Kagosima, and called upon the Government to clear our fair national fame from the imputation of having wilfully caused it. Nor can Admiral Kuper very fairly complain that his conduct upon that occasion has undergone close criticism. The destruction of the unarmed portion of a city is a fact which upon the face of it carries heavy responsibility and cause for censure. It is to a British officer like the loss of his ship. It may be proved to have been unavoidable; but the burden of apology and excuse is upon the officer in command. There is no more wholesome restraint upon the conduct of an Englishman serving abroad than the knowledge that the eyes of his countrymen are upon him in every act he performs, and in every spot of the globe where he may be commanding. If no act of gallantry misses its applause, no heroism can repress the cries of shame that will follow upon a cruel or an unnecessary violence. No naval or military commander, and no colonial governor will ever wisely forget that the critics who are observing him from afar are regarding his conduct from opposite points of view. While the general acclaim urges him on to decisive and famous deeds, there are cold and unsympathising critics who like not his trade, and are not very well affected to his cause; who think the policy he is sent to force through little better than a wickedness; and who are on the watch for any excess he may commit, and ready to call him to account even for the laurels he may have won. After a success, moreover, we are rather accustomed to store up the gains as an acquisition which is secure, and to turn aside from the cost, whether this be counted against our purses or our sympathies. Other causes also are at work. Party spirit sometimes steps in with ungenerous comments upon achievements which have a party effect; or mere notoriety-hunters sometimes seek occasion for a popular display of indignation. But do what an officer may, if his acts are in any way questionable, he may be sure they will be questioned; and even if he may, as Admiral Kuper has in the case of Mr. Buxton, meet with a reasonable critic, who would impute to him only "a misconception of the duty imposed upon him," he will be certain to find some more savage foe pushing to the front, who, like Mr. Longfield, moves to make the censure upon him short, sharp, and unconditional.

We must, of course, accord that we should have liked Admiral Kuper's achievement much better if Kagosima had been left unharmed; and we will also confess that, failing this, we should have liked his despatch much better if it had dwelt more pointedly on the fact that the burning of the city was an unavoidable accident, and if he had bestowed a few words of regret upon the occurrence. That is to say, we should have liked this sailor's despatch better if it had been more carefully and considerately written. There can be no doubt that in recording the destruction of the city without any expression of regret he may enable some persons to infer, if they please, that he rather exulted in the catastrophe; and he may offer an excuse to others who may believe that he contrived it. But the facts themselves are sufficiently stated. He tells us plainly enough that the ships under his command did not fire until fired upon with shot and shell from all the batteries; that they then engaged those batteries, and were caught by a typhoon while firing into them. He tells us also that he was obliged to take his ships out of action on account of the irresistible force of the wind, and that the tempest, lasting as it did all night and part of the next day, blew the flames all over the town. One would think that these were facts sufficient to reduce the discussion to the simple issue whether Admiral Kuper was or was not justified in returning the fire of the batteries. Lord Russell took this view of the case in the despatch in which he approved the conduct of Colonel Neale. Mr. Buxton has criticised the statements in the despatches, but he has not answered, or refuted, or even varied them. In the whole of his long speech he never once alluded to the tempest which was the immediate cause of the fire, and the evidence of "eye-witnesses" which he brought forward failed to substantiate what he undertook to substantiate — that "Admiral Kuper shelled Kagosima on purpose." After all that has been said, the case still substantially rests upon the despatches, and the only fair inference which can be drawn from the wording of those despatches is that the Admiral was at the time too impressed with what he saw on board his own ships, and too concerned for the death and wounds of his own sailors, to be able to bestow a fair amount of sympathy for sufferings which were not immediately under his eye, and for a catastrophe which he probably regarded as the necessary consequence of an imperative act of duty.

No one will be found now-a-days to question the position that "it is the duty and policy of this country to adhere to those usages of war which prevail among civilised nations." The best and the most humane of these usages have originated with ourselves, and we have never departed from them. Nor will any one think it necessary that Mr. Buxton should adduce to the House of Commons a long array of authorities from Lord Bacon to General Halleck, in order to prove that to burn down the private dwellings of non-combatants is, if done wilfully, a breach of the usages of war, as well as a crime against humanity. But the question in dispute last night was simply a question of fact, not of opinion. This issue of fact was not very fairly treated by Mr. Buxton when he placed the loose phrases of eye-witnesses, who wrote under no responsibility, and who were not shown to have been in a position to know what shots were directed against hostile batteries and what shells were cast into the town, against the deliberate statements of the Admiral and the Consul. It was not candid in any of the Opposition speakers to leave out the all-important circumstance of the storm, and to assume that a British Admiral was trying to burn a city when all his efforts were required to silence the batteries of the fortifications. We must say even to Lord Stanley, that a party advantage is too recklessly sought when to obtain that advantage it is necessary to tarnish the reputation of our common country, and to put invidious constructions upon some doubtful words in the despatches of an absent Admiral. Mr. Buxton fairly admitted that to attempt to fix upon Lord Russell an approval of any such act of wanton destruction as is now suggested would be, "not censure, but calumny." If this be so, it is conceded that Lord Russell could not have read these despatches as Mr. Buxton and his much more fierce allies now read them, and there is nothing in their language which compels this construction. Still, we must cordially agree that the House of Commons is usefully and honourably employed in investigating such a catastrophe as this. The time employed upon it will certainly not have been misapplied if it shall tend to convince not only our soldiers and sailors, but also those engaged in civil pursuits in the East, that any act of wrong or oppression committed upon the people whom they are perhaps too much inclined to consider as barbarians will be closely examined and severely criticised in this country.

CONSULAR CHARGES AT AMOY.

(MITCHELL'S MARITIME REGISTER.)

"A British Shipmaster" writes us a letter respecting certain charges which he has been obliged to meet in the ports of Amoy and Chif-Au, incurred by bringing two seamen before the British Consul at those places. It appears from our correspondent's statement, that while at Amoy, in October last, one of his crew, an able seaman, refused duty. For this offence, the man, having been brought before the Consul, was sentenced to pay a fine of five dollars, and to be kept in confinement till the ship sailed from Amoy, the cost and expenses of his imprisonment to be deducted from his wages. On a subsequent occasion, while the ship was at Chif-Au, this man was detected broaching the ship's cargo. For this offence, aggravated by insolent language, the delinquent was sentenced to three months' hard labour. "I have been debited by the Consul," says our correspondent, "and have paid for the man's support, under heading of gaol expenses, the sum of 3 dollars 60 cents for fourteen days, at the rate of 1s. per day, which would amount to 2 dollars 9 cents only, the dollar, by the Consul's rate of exchange, being 4s. 10d." "I am at a loss to find out (he adds) what the balance of 70 cents is for, or why I should debit the ship with his keep, as he had no wages due to him the first time he was locked up, all the wages being swallowed up in a fine and court costs in the Consulate." In the second case referred to by our correspondent, a seaman was brought before the Consul for using abusive language, for which he was sentenced to two months with hard labour. In this case, also, a demand was made by the Consul for eleven days' "diet money," which sum was paid, like the former charges, on account of the ship, no wages being due to the man. Our correspondent is at a loss to understand why these charges should fall upon the ship. He states that, though familiar with the mode of dealing with delinquents by our consular officers in various parts of the world, he has never before heard of such demands, and has always understood that the labour performed by prisoners under sentence in such cases is taken as a set-off against the cost of maintenance.

The criminal jurisdiction conferred upon her Majesty's Consuls in China is founded upon the Treaty of 1842, under which the five ports of Canton, Amoy, Foo-choo-foo, Ningpo, and Shanghai, were opened to British trade, and is regulated by a commission appointed in 1843, and by subsequent ordinances issued by the Queen in Council. In cases of murder, piracy, slave-trading, manslaughter, aggravated assault, wilful destruction of the ship, deliberate and concerted mutiny, or other offences of a "very serious nature, involving risk to the life or welfare of others," the offender is sent home at the public expense, or remitted to the jurisdiction of the Court at Hong Kong; but "in cases of petty theft, and also in cases of insubordination (we quote from the instructions to Consuls issued by the Board of Trade), and of other crimes of that description, the "Consul will, in no case, send the offender for trial, unless the master or agent of the ship, or some other person against whom the offence has been committed, undertakes to prosecute, and to pay the expenses of sending home the offender and witnesses. This undertaking must be such as to be satisfactory to the Consul, and must be "forwarded by him to the Board of Trade." By this, therefore, it would seem, our Consuls are invested with a summary jurisdiction in all cases when the offence charged does not fall within the category of offences "involving risk to the life or welfare of others." In the table of Consular fees as

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settled by Order in Council, and appended to the instructions referred to, there is no provision made for the exercise of this jurisdiction, and no authority for the exaction of any charges connected with the punishment of offenders. We are, therefore, as much at a loss as our Correspondent to understand by what authority the Consuls at Amoy and Chif-Au levied the charges referred to in his letter. Offences against discipline committed by seamen, whether at home or abroad, are punishable, according to the Merchant Shipping Act, by imprisonment, and by certain forfeitures of the offender's wages, at the discretion of the Court, while similar punishments may be awarded in cases of wilful damage to the sihp, or embezzlement of her stores or cargo. But we are not aware of any law by which the ship can be fixed with the cost of punishing offenders of this class, or of maintaining them while undergoing sentence. Offences against the criminal law committed at home are punished at the public cost, and it would be a strange and most unfortunate policy which would reverse this arrangement within the jurisdiction of the Consular establishment, and make the expense of punishing offenders fall upon the parties prosecuting. Our correspondent would do well to address himself to the Board of Trade upon this subject. That department is, we believe, ready at all times to act upon representations respecting unauthorised charges made by our Consuls, and is sincerely desirous to put a stop to all such exactions. We have said that our Consuls in China possess a somewhat extensive, and, in some respects, an exceptional jurisdiction, but we shall be more than surprised to learn that they are justified in making charges upon a ship, for the punishment of the refractory, or otherwise delinquent, members of that ship's company. Such an authorisation would lead manifestly to very grave abuses, and would be subversive of the very object with which the jurisdiction in question has been conferred.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 6.

The First Chamber of the States-General, to the surprise of the whole country, after having caused a deal of trouble and annoyance to the Government by rejecting the Budget for the Foreign Department, have now changed their minds, and instead of confirming the provisional credit for that department, have actually accepted and passed the whole Budget as originally laid before them by Government, and which they thought proper to throw overboard. After this feat of heroism and patriotic spirit they have adjourned to their firesides till they are again summoned from their repose to deliberate further on the interests of the nation.

The elections are now beginning. At Almelo the two Liberal candidates have been returned—Mr. G. M. van der Linden, the former member, by 1,346 out of 1,468 votes, and Mr. van Limburg-Brouwer (vice H. van Loghem), by 767 out of 1,465. Mr. Stieltjes is, therefore, not elected.

Public notice is given to parents and guardians by the Colonial Minister that on the 1st of September next five young gentlemen will be elected by competitive examination, before Professor G. J. Mulder, of the University of Utrecht, for the service of military apothecaries in Netherlands India. Applications, with testimonials, to be sent in on or before the 6th June next.

The Colonial Department publishes a communication received from the Spanish Government, containing particulars of the new lighthouses erected on the Island of Burias, in the Philippine group. They comprise the following:—A. Port of Busin: 1. A stationary white light on the north entrance to the harbour, 10 metres above the level of the sea. The tower is square, and stands on a rock 5 English miles S.S.W. of the Anima Sola shoal. 2. A stationary white light on the western entrance, 8½ metres high; tower also square, and built on an eminence on the N.W. point of the island, 2 miles S.E. of Temple Island. 3. Another stationary white light near the end of the pier, erected on a house with a dome-shaped roof, N.E. of the channel forming the inner harbour. B. Port of Bu sainga: A stationary blue light at the entrance of the harbour, on the N.E. coast of the island, 8½ metres above the sea; square tower, about 8 miles S. of the Anima Sola shoal. C. Port of Malaguing-Gilog: Stationary blue light at the entrance of the harbour, 8½ metres above the sea; tower square, N.N.E. of entrance, and N.E. of Sibuyon Island. D. Port of Boca Engano: Stationary white light at the entrance of the harbour, 8½ metres above the sea; tower square, standing on a promontory S. of Point Macoto, W.N.W. of Ticao Island, and W.S.W. of Dousol.

A treaty has been signed between this kingdom and the Grand Duchy of Hesse-Darmstadt, empowering the latter State to appoint Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents in ports and places of Netherlands India. The ratifications of the treaty have already been exchanged.

According to an official return the number of officers in the army of Netherlands India on the 1st of January this year was as follows:—1 lieutenant-general, 4 major-generals, 11 colonels, 30 lieutenant-colonels, 58 majors, 308 captains, 489 lieutenants, and 495 sub-lieutenants. The medical department of the same army consists of 185 officers, of whom 1 has the rank of major-general, 4 of lieutenant-colonels (directing medical officers of the first class), 8 of majors (directing medical officers of the second class), 24 of captains (medical officers of the first class), 70 medical officers of the second class, and 78 of the third class. Amongst these gentlemen 29 are decorated with different orders, 17 being knights of the military order of Willem.

Another well deserved tribute of praise to the laudable exertions of Admiral Fitzroy in the cause of humanity is the introduction in this country of that gallant officer's storm signals for the benefit of the shipping interests. The Minister for the Naval Department gives public notice for the benefit of those concerned that the signals will be hoisted when bad weather may be expected, but confined for the present to the ports of Nieuwe Deep, Helvoetsluys, and Vlissengen. The signals differ but slightly from those in use along the English coast, and consist of a cone, a drum, and a ball. The cone or triangle with the point upwards (when placed over the drum or square) signifies bad weather from the north-west. The cone with the point downwards and under the drum means an approaching storm from S.W. or S. The triangle hoisted alone signifies "pay attention to barometer and look out for a storm." The ball when exhibited alone means that westerly winds may be expected. The signals are to remain exposed the whole day unless the arrival of fresh telegrams require an alteration to be made. At night the storm signals will be given by three lanterns, in which case a triangle with the point uppermost means a storm from the westward, and with the point downwards from S. or S.W. It is understood that measures are being taken for the extension of the system of storm signals, as above indicated, all round the coast of Holland and the adjoining islands in the North Sea, where they cannot but prove extremely useful.

Captain Buschman, of the ship *Etha*, from Passaroean to this port, reports having seen on the 19th November last in 29° S. lat., and 49° E. lon., the ship *Java* from Batavia to Falmouth, which had lost her bulwarks in a heavy gale, but otherwise all well on board.

Intelligence has been received from Lisbon that the Dutch barque *Peter Schoemmakers*, Captain van Varelen, from Java to Rotterdam, had put in to the first named port short of hands, having lost twenty-one men of her crew of Malays by death, and having nine more on the sick list.

Orders have been given to fit out for immediate service H.N.M. steam frigate *Admiral van Wassenaar*, of 45 guns, now lying in ordinary at Nieuwe Deep. She is to reinforce the squadron in Japan, and when reported ready for sea the crew of the steamer-frigate *Zealand* will be turned over to her in a body.

The following appointments by the Governor-General have been confirmed by the King:—Mr. W. T. Yssel de Schepper to be head of the Statistical Department; Mr. A. J. Wattendorff to be Secretary-General of the Government in Netherlands India; Mr. D. W. Rost van Toningen to be Assistant Resident of Soemedang and Limbangan; Mr. J. F. Schultze to be Assistant Resident of Madjalengka; Mr. J. B. van Dyk to be head of the police at Sourabaya; Mr. F. C. Geselschap to be Secretary of the Residency of Tagal; Mr. E. K. de Neve to be Assistant Resident of Sintang, in the Western District of Borneo; Mr. W. Broers to be Civil Governor of the South District of Borneo; Mr. C. A. Niesen to be harbour master of Riouw; Mr. W. F. Buschkens to be Assistant Resident and Magistrate at Batavia; and Mr. C. W. Frederikz to be Inspector of the tea cultivation.

The following gentlemen have been gazetted as members of the Chamber of Commerce:—A. H. Cramerus, C. F. Deeleman, A. J. W. van Delden, F. H. Heineken, J. A. Krayenbrink, J. F. van Leeuwen, and R. P. Tolsen, for the Chamber at Batavia; A. T. Couvreur, G. L. Dorrepaal, J. P. von Hemert, H. H. Misegaes, A. W. Remmert, H. Salomonson, and J. H. Veekens, for that at Samarang; and A. J. Anamaet, A. J. Bake, E. ten Brinck, W. F. A. Cores de Vriese, J. J. H. Kervel, O. C. Matzen, and R. Sehlmacher, at Sourabaya.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

Per *Hendrika*, Capt. de Groot Stiffry, at the Texel from Batavia.—Mr. Abold and family, Mr. T. van Gheel-Gildemeester, and Mr. R. J. Reul.

Per *Landbouw*, Capt. Kleynenberg, at Brouwershaven from Batavia.—Mr. Koelman, Secretary of the Residency of Tagal, wife, and five children; a non-commisssoned officer of the navy.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Nothing of importance has been done since last mail, but many small purchases of Java are made every day for consumption, and full prices easily obtained. Pale and bright sorts are most in request. The *Knight* has arrived from Padang bringing 7,000 bags for the private trade. The stock of coffee on company's warrants is only 128,888 bags. The deliveries in January amounted to 22,893 bags.

SUGAR.—The market both for raw and refined is in a complete state of stagnation, and quotations are purely nominal. Refiners are stiff in their demands for the prices previously paid, but there are no purchasers.

RICE.—The only sale reported was 4,850 bags of uncleaned Necransie (being the remainder of cargo per *Harvest*), which was sold at 6⅝ fl. There is some inquiry for Rangoon, but the high prices asked check business.

SPICES.—Great animation has prevailed this week. Nutmegs, No. 1, 1863, were purchased at 75 cents, and 67 given for No. 2; but since then the prices have somewhat receded, and the former might now be had at 72, and the latter at 62. Cloves were also in great favour, and a large business was done with a considerable rise in values, owing to the report that the forced deliveries of this spice to the Resident of Amboyna are to be discontinued. No. 1 has been paid for at 30 cents, No. 2 with 29, and No. 3 with 28. Mace has also risen and fetches 5 cents above sale prices. Pepper rather firmer. Java cinnamon calm, and values unaltered.

METALS.—Company's copper is weaker, and may be had at 61 fl. Banca tin has rather improved since last mail, and been sold in small

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quantities at 71½ fl., at which figure there are sellers. The deliveries in January were 5,165 blocks. Stock on warrants, 70,373 blocks; unsold in company's warehouses, 75,338 blocks.

INDIGO AND COCHENILLE.—No alterations to report. Market steady, but little business done.

RATTANS.—No sales reported; prices firm.

HIDES.—Quiet. The following are advertised for sale by auction on the 27th inst.:—1,000 Samarang cowhides, ex *Catherina Maria*; 2,000 do. do., ex *Princess Sophia*; and 1,056 do. do., ex *Cornelia Mathilde*; 1,000 Java buffalo, ex *Fanny*; and 550 buffalo, and 500 ox, ex *Ocean*, have been taken for exportation.

JAVA TOBACCO.—3,696 bales were sold last week for export. The company have advertised for public sale on the 19th inst., 1,198 bales in warehouse here, and 818 do. at Rotterdam. This week no transactions are reported. Stock 4,717 bales.

CIGARS.—A public sale of Manila went off as follows:—177,000 Secunde Habana, 1861, the sound sold at 30½ to 32½ fl., the damaged at 23 to 26 fl.; 160,000 Secunda Cortados, 1863, all sound, found purchasers at from 32 to 33½ fl.

WARFARE IN CHINA.—The *Scotsman* has the following account from a correspondent in Hong Kong. We must confess it has not come to our knowledge before:—Last summer a British merchant, Mr. A. S. of Canton and Hong Kong, took a steamboat trip to what is there called the West Coast of China—that is, the shores of Tonquin Bay. He found a bloody war raging between two native tribes—the Poontees, who occupy the interior, and the Hakkas, who hold the coast line—corresponding to the Germans and Danes, the subject of the dispute also being the same, the possession of the seaboard. The war had raged for ten years, and was carried on with great ferocity. Mr. S., having some knowledge of Chinese, had a conference with the chiefs of the Hakkas, whom he found heartily tired of the conflict, and desirous of peace. They entreated him to use his influence to procure foreign intervention. He showed them that this was out of the question, as both parties professed to be loyal subjects of the Emperor, and that their proper course was to petition him to interpose his authority to put a stop to the civil war. This was agreed to, and the chiefs, with Mr. S.'s help, drew up a petition, which he forwarded to the Governor-General of Quantung. No notice was taken of this petition, and the war continued to be carried on with increasing bitterness. The Pontees, the landward tribe, got the upper hand, and seemed bent on exterminating the unfortunate Hakkas, whom they drove from refuge to refuge, till they had only one town left. They had again petitioned the Chinese Government to help them to emigrate; but their second petition met with no more success than their first. When their last refuge was attacked, Mr. S. happened to have two vessels there taking in cargo, and they interposed, to prevent a general massacre. Happily the owner, suspecting that the Hakkas might be in extremity, had despatched two other vessels—one a steamer—to their assistance, which arrived just as the town was set on fire, and the inhabitants were being driven into the sea. These four vessels, by loading to the utmost of their capacity, and even above it, carried off 2,800 souls—men, women, and children, the last remnant of an industrious and enterprising race—three-fourths of whom have been slaughtered through the tender care of a paternal Government. The people were most grateful to their deliverer, and the chiefs have presented him with the title-deeds of their lands, including several townships and a gold mine. These are, perhaps, not of much value, but a man who has the consciousness of having saved 2,800 lives does not need much further reward. These exiles have been landed in Hong Kong; and it is to be hoped that as they are grouped in families they may be welcomed as immigrants in Queensland or some other of our Australian colonies.

THE FRENCH IN COCHIN-CHINA.—The following is from a Paris paper:—Admiral de la Grandiere, Governor of Cochin-China, has founded a newspaper at Saigon, the capital, by a decree, in which he says that, considering French Cochin-China is little or erroneously known in France and in the neighbouring colonies; that inaccurate information given by ill-informed newspapers may injure the true interests and the development of the colony, the best mode of inspiring merchants and manufacturers with confidence is to inform them of the numerous resources possessed by Lower Cochin-China. The Governor further announces that an official, political, and commercial newspaper shall appear on the 10th and 25th of each month from the 1st of January, 1864. It is to publish official announcements, leading articles on the resources of the country, on the commercial and agricultural questions connected with them, and the price of articles to be exported. The editor will thankfully receive all articles signed by the contributor, which shall appear to be of advantage to the paper, and all other useful communications addressed to him. The decree founding the paper is followed by three additional decrees, and three notes emanating from the administration of the colony. The first decree fixes he indemnity to be paid to Asiatics summoned to give evidence. The second opens an annual credit of 5,000 fr., granted to the Governor for secret service money, and the third permits the exportation of rice from the 1st of January. The first two administrative notes refer to the perpetual rent representing the part of the land tax to be paid by the purchasers of lands and the formalities to be fulfilled by those who propose to build on their land. The third note states that the Treasury had received a sum or 277f. 50c. restitution money of which it had been robbed. It was restored through Consignor Lefebre, Vicar-General of Cochin-China. The leading article explains the object of the publication, and proposes to make known to France a country of which it is ignorant, and further to explain to the colonists themselves the resources of the soil, which have never been developed; to contradict the assertion of insalubrity, greatly exaggerated; to enlighten the native population as to the intentions of the French in coming to the remote East; to explain the Emperor's views, and thus to reassure capitalists by demanding their co-operation. This article is followed by another on the rice trade; next, a notice to navigators on a shoal situated between Manilla and Saigon; on the postage payable on letters, the price of merchandise, exchange on London, Hong Kong, and Singapore. The first number of the newspaper was published on the 1st of January last.

A NOVEL SCIENTIFIC VOYAGE.—A letter from Toulon gives some curious details relative to a scientific voyage about to be undertaken by the Duke de Luynes. Lieutenant Vignes, of the Imperial navy, has been appointed to the command of a steam gun-boat belonging to the Duke, which is to sail towards the end of the month on this voyage of discovery. After having visited the most interesting places in the Mediterranean, and particularly the coast of Syria, the boat is to be carried on the backs of mules across the mountains of Judeah, to be launched on the Dead Sea, of which the waters are to be analysed, as chemists are not agreed as to their quality. The gun-boat is to be again carried to the Mediterranean, whence it will proceed to the Black Sea, ascend the Don, cross the Steppes of Dolgo in a waggon to reach the Wolga, which it will descend to the Caspian Sea, that immense conglomeration of water and of oil of petroleum, continually agitated with storms. After having carefully studied these phenomena, as well as the various inhabitants of that little-known region, the travellers will cross, on camels, the deserts of Asia Minor to the town of Mossoul, where they will explore the course of the Tiger and the Euphrates, and examine the ruins of the great cities which flourished on their banks. After having accomplished that prodigious journey across seas, rivers, mountains, and deserts, the gun-boat will return to France by the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea. All the difficulties attending such a dangerous journey have been well considered and carefully anticipated. Even the construction of the boat is a *chef-d'œuvre* of naval architecture and of comfort. All the pieces into which the boat is divided when taken asunder are actually numbered, so that it may easily be put together in twenty-four hours. It will be for the first time that a steam-boat shall have been carried across the precipices of Daghestan and the scorching sands of Mesopotamia. A picked crew have been placed under the command of Lieutenant Vignes by the French Government, for the navigation and transport of the gun-boat. The Duke de Luynes is to be accompanied by several friends, as well as by savans and artists of the greatest merit, who have solicited the honour to share with him the dangers of this hazardous enterprise.

THE PIRACY ON THE "FLOWERY LAND" TO SINGAPORE.—Seven of the prisoners in this case were found guilty and condemned to death, The seaman Carlos was acquitted of murder, but found guilty of scuttling the ship, and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment with hard labour. On being asked, through interpreters, what they had to say why sentence of death should not be pronounced upon them, some of the prisoners, especially Blanco, Duranno, Santos, and Lopez, made statements incriminating each other, the witnesses Powell and Williams, and to some extent the second mate, but most of them agreed in absolving the carpenter Anderson and the boy Early. According to Santos, Duranno and Lyons killed the mate. Lopez declared that some of the prisoners were innocent; that there were four who committed the three murders; and that the two men who had been discharged were the most guilty of all. Lyons made no statement, nor did Marsolino. Blanco particularly complained of ill-treatment and of the way in which the ship was victualled, leaving it to be inferred that those were the exciting causes of the mutiny. He also stated that Carlos, with others, was concerned in killing the captain's brother. Mr. Baron Bramwell, having assumed the black cap, said, addressing the convicts,—You have been found guilty of the crime of wilful murder, and it is now my duty to pass upon you the sentence of the law. After some experience and very much reflection, I have come to the conclusion that I shall best discharge that duty by adding to the form of words prescribed by law no observation of mine of any sort or kind. The learned judge then pronounced the sentence of death in the usual form, and it was afterwards interpreted to them in their own languages. Lopez was the only man among them who betrayed any emotion, and that he struggled to suppress. Some of them, including Watto and Lyons, even laughed at a lapse of memory by Duranno, in repeating a statement he appeared to have prepared in his own mind, and this they did just as the awful sentence of the law was about to be pronounced upon them.

ADMIRAL JOHN THOMPSON.—Admiral John Thompson, the senior retired admiral, died on the 30th of January. The gallant deceased, who had attained the advanced age of 88 years, entered the navy in December, 1787, and after serving on the home stations accompanied Lord Macartney to China, and was promoted to lieutenant December 18, 1794. As lieutenant he served at the blockade of Toulon, took part in Hotham's action, July 13, 1795, and in December, 1796, was wrecked in the River Tagus. He was advanced to post rank Oct. 21, 1810, accepted the rank of retired rear admiral Oct. 1, 1846, became vice admiral May 27, 1854, and admiral June 9, 1860.

MR. OLYPHANT'S CHALLENGE.—It has so often been charged upon Mr. Welles, the Secretary of the Navy, that he has not a vessel in the navy that our merchant steamers cannot sail round, that his blood has got up, and he has challenged the fastest steamer in New York city, the *Kinkang*, to run a race with his United States steamer *Eutau*. Mr. Olyphant, an East India and China merchant, says that mercantile houses cannot afford to incur the expense of racing, but that if Secretary Welles will pay the expenses he will run his steamer. Of course Welles has to pay for the delay of the steamer. I presume the race will be run, and I feel certain that the Secretary will be disgraced by a defeat.

THE COLLECTION OF ROBERT FORTUNE.—Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods will sell by auction, on the 3rd of March, a very beautiful collection of Chinese and Japanese curiosities, collected by Mr. Fortune. We doubt not but that this well-selected assortment will meet with good competition; but we must caution our readers against sending any ordinary goods to this market, which is inundated with such, and leave a heavy loss to the owners.

APPOINTMENTS.—The Queen has been pleased to appoint James Hay Erskine Wemyss, Esq., to be Lieutenant and Sheriff Principal of the Shire of Fife, in the room of the Earl of Elgin, deceased. The Queen has been pleased to appoint John G. Austin, Esq., lately conducting the Emigration from China to Demerara to be Lieutenant-Governor of the colony of British Honduras.

MAJOR GORDON, who is commanding a force in the Chinese service, is a son of Major-General Gordon, of Southampton.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, *and other parts of the* FAR EAST, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, FRIDAY, FEB. 12, 1864.

SATSUMA'S INDEMNITY PAID.

THE intimation we were enabled to convey, in our issue of the 27th ult., has been completely verified by the later intelligence just received. We stated then that the indemnity demanded for the murder of Mr. RICHARDSON was ready, and close at hand, for that SATSUMA'S people had junks not far from Yokohama with cargoes of specie or of goods, or both, to the value of upwards of $2,000,000. As will be seen from the account given in another column, after some further interchange of communications—which would be more fitly designated as *pourparlers* than as negotiations—the $100,000 agreed on were paid on the 11th December. The conference immediately preceding was signalised by a display of refined courtesy and sensitive appreciation of what is supposed to be due to the greatness and dignity of another, which is eminently the distinction of Eastern diplomacy and etiquette in its best phases. SATSUMA, whose noble character and political abilities shine with greater brilliancy at every fresh appearance on the scene, retired for the moment from the arena, and let his father, who was the real offender, come forward, by his representatives, to make, as it were, his own personal *amende*. The envoys of SHIMADZU SABOOLO (or SABRO, for these Japanese names scarcely ever appear twice spelt in the same way) took the management of the final arrangement on themselves, and, we shall see when we have the official account, expressed their regret for the outrage which led to the demand for reparation. In addition to the payment of the money, a promise was made that the actual perpetrators of Mr. RICHARDSON'S death should be sought out and punished, if they could be found. This may turn out to be impracticable. A strange picture of the interior life of Japan in this respect is opened to us in the correspondence lately laid before Parliament, where we have SATSUMA'S Minister writing to Colonel NEALE that endeavours had been made to secure the murderers; but, he says, "it is "impossible for us to do so owing to the political differences "at present existing between the Daimios, some of whom even "hide and protect such people;" and he guards himself against the supposition that SATSUMA would resort to a trick said to be not unusual among the Chinese; for he adds, "If we were "to execute criminals condemned for other offences, and told "you they were the offenders, you would not be able to recog- "nise them; and this would be deceiving you, and not acting "in accordance with the spirit of our ancestors." We can well afford now to let that part of the matter lie. The demands made have been acceded to, as far as we can assert them to be within the power of either the Daimio or the TYCOON. The latter has written a congratulatory letter to the British Minister, to express his delight at the settlement of affairs, and his hope that a lasting peace between Great Britain and Japan is now inaugurated.

The above is the best possible comment on the motion brought forward by Mr. BUXTON in the House of Commons on Tuesday night, which, to the credit of our representatives, was negatived by a large majority; the House marking its sense of the folly and indecency of the proposition offered to its consideration by refusing to allow the motion to be withdrawn, and insisting on proclaiming to the nation and to the world its judgment on the point at issue by the unmistakable verdict recorded in the Division-list. The special antipathy borne to Earl RUSSELL by the Opposition enabled Mr. BUXTON to rally round him a larger number of supporters than he could have hoped; for it became quite clear early in the debate that the acquittal of Admiral KUPER from any blame was resolved on by all parties, and that a desire to damage the SECRETARY for FOREIGN AFFAIRS was the sole incentive to the speeches that emanated from the followers of Mr. DISRAELI, who himself had the good sense to take no part in the debate, though voting for Mr. LONGFIELD'S amendment.

The harmony that, from the accounts now come to hand, would appear to prevail between SATSUMA and the TYCOON, may have had its effect in quieting the rebellious Prince of NAGATO, who, it may be necessary to apprise the reader, is the personage referred to both as MATS'-DAIRA-DAIZED-NO-DAIBU and TSIOSIU; so we judge from the Parliamentary papers, where the province of Nagato is spoken of as "governed by the Prince of TCHU-SHU." It may be well to recollect that this Daimio also has had a taste of the punishment sure to be inflicted for outrages on foreign commerce. The United States steamer *Wyoming* blew up a steamer of his and sank a brig, on which occasion we note, for Mr. BUXTON'S information, "considerable damage was done to the town." The Americans, like ourselves, find it impossible to lay down beforehand the precise quantity of mischief shot and shell may do.

HER MAJESTY'S SPEECH *QUOAD* CHINA.

LOGICIANS are familiar with the mode of argument which is based upon a negation. Given, such and such premises, certain conclusions must be drawn, and if they are not drawn, it must be because they lead to results which either invalidate the premises, or are distasteful to the studious inquirer into verity. Her MAJESTY'S Ministry, in the singular production which was minced out by Lord WESTBURY on Thursday last to an indifferent audience of fifty peers and four ladies, and "Her MAJESTY'S faithful Commons" (without one single notability among them), have certainly carried the art of saying nothing to its highest perfection. Like SAM WELLER, when asked if he saw his father in court, in order that the venerable TONY might be committed for contempt in giving vent to his feelings, they have looked everywhere but in the right direction. The traditional half column of small type in the pages of the leading journal has been filled up, yet not one word appears relative to subjects which are pressing close upon thousands of persons engaged in far the most lucrative of all the foreign trades of this trading country; one which is capable of almost illimitable expansion; and which is destined yet to concentrate upon itself the attention of all who profess an earnest interest in the welfare of their fellow men.

The entire omission from Her MAJESTY'S Speech at such a crisis as the present of all mention of China betrays a conscious weakness, which is certain, ere long, to lead to serious interpellations being addressed in the House to the FOREIGN SECRETARY. Are we to attribute to the same cause the fact that the American question in like manner receives the "go by" at the hands of Her MAJESTY'S Government? Rumours, more or less definite, have, as all the world knows, been rife of dissensions in the Cabinet. Such divergences of opinion are part and parcel of the Constitution, and rightly used, act as safeguards against enthusiasm, or are beneficial, as compelling attention to grave questions of public policy. Reticence accordingly must result from one of two causes; either it indicates that the minds of the Cabinet are divided, or else it is a confession of utter defeat. If the latter, then we may expect that Mr. LIDDELL'S notice of inquiry is but the forerunner of a debate that may once again unseat Lord PALMERSTON. If the former, then we unhesitatingly declare that China cannot be left an "open question" in any Cabinet representing the public feeling and intelligence of the country. If only in the name of humanity, it is absolutely necessary that our relations with China be placed upon such a footing as shall prevent the national name from being defiled, by even momentary complicity, with the shame of such atrocities as those which accompanied the capture by Major GORDON of Soochow. And it is hardly possible to fall into a more lamentable error than to suppose that we can withdraw our countenance from the merchants and adventurers who have made China the scene of their efforts. Rightly or wrongly, Lord PALMERSTON, two years ago, pledged this country to a definite policy with regard to China which no amount of recalcitration on the part of Mr. LIDDELL or Mr. BUXTON can undo. The man who puts his hand to the plough durst not look behind him. It is somewhat new to us, to imagine Lord PALMERSTON inaugurating a policy which he so dreads carrying out that he seeks to shirk responsibility by ignoring his own work.

In good sooth any ordinary thinker, in view of the actual situation of affairs in China, would have supposed that a Constitutional Ministry, itself in great measure responsible for the

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state of affairs there, would have been glad of the opportunity of inviting attention to the subject by giving it at least one paragraph. Granted that the QUEEN's Speech was traditionally and designedly bald in style, and non-committal in intent; still it is a confession of weakness to omit all notice of a country where civil war, on a scale only second to that ravaging the New World (itself doomed to similar non-recognition), has so long been prevalent. It was a duty to have noticed it, if only that the Chinese Government had hoped to profit by the semi-official assistance vouchsafed by this country, but which it has with true barbarian short-sighted cunning contemptuously rejected, so soon as it thought itself independent of extraneous aid. The whole history of the LAY-OSBORN flotilla is a severe blow to our *prestige*, followed up, as it has been, by such a tacit confession of weakness as is involved in the Ministry slurring over the entire subject in their opening address.

MR. CONSUL MORRISON ON JAPAN.

Two small pamphlets, entitled the "Bombardment of Kagosima," and "Our Position and Policy in Japan," have been forwarded to us, the author being Mr. G. S. MORRISON, late Consul at Nagasaki. The first mentioned is a sharp criticism on Mr. COBDEN's letter to the Mayor of Rochdale, which appeared in the journals of November last, in which the hon. member is shown to have misapprehended the facts on which he bases his charge of reckless cruelty against Admiral KUPER and Colonel NEALE. The former of those officers, according to the pamphlet before us, had publicly stated that it would be no light cause which should induce him to fire a single shot; and so little was he meditating a bombardment, that "the ship's "crews were at their dinner, and *not a gun shotted*, when—a "hurricane raging at sea, and a blinding rain pouring upon the "decks—the guns from the batteries suddenly showered their "iron hail upon the unprepared vessels." The other of these *brochures*, that on "Our Position and Policy in Japan," is of the greater interest at the present moment, when we have received intelligence that Prince SATSUMA has made the atonement demanded for his past outrages, and the point that presses is to determine on the attitude we are to maintain for the future. On this head we are glad to find Mr. MORRISON stating in clear and unmistakeable language views entirely coinciding with those that have been upheld from the first by the *London and China Telegraph*. He says:—

Our only safe and wise course is in a firm stand upon the rights which we have fairly acquired by treaty, and in making it clearly understood that, though we prefer to remain at peace, we are able and determined to repel and punish all aggression and outrage from whatever quarter. It is mere foolishness to talk of conciliating the goodwill of those opposed to us. Asiatics do not understand conciliation as anything but weakness. It is first necessary to give them an evidence of power; it is the only quality which they respect. But even were it otherwise—if conciliation were possible—to what end should it be employed? The people, properly so called, need no conciliation; they have no animosity towards us; our presence is their gain; to what end conciliate the nobles? That they may voluntarily see established in the country institutions which must destroy their own power. The only measure of conciliation which could secure their approbation would be our withdrawal from Japan, to leave them, as heretofore, despotic masters of the land. When liberty and despotism meet, there must be collision, and the weaker must succumb. No temporising can prevent the consequences, but, by encouraging arrogance may increase the eventual difficulties. If conciliation means a humiliating, submission, those who recommend it can have learnt little from our own experience in China, or that of the Dutch in their prison at Desima.

It would be well if Messrs. COBDEN and BRIGHT, and their school of politicians, would bear in mind that in upholding the supposed "sacred right" of the Japanese not to be interfered with, they are in reality labouring, not for the benefit of the nation—if by that term we are to understand "the people"—but simply and solely to fortify and consolidate a system of the most crafty and despotic feudalism the world has ever beheld: the nobles are everything, the masses nothing. The school in question have the unfortunate and disagreeable peculiarity of always believing a foreigner in preference to an Englishman. With the hope of at length convincing them of the real position of things in Japan, we will translate for their benefit an extract, furnished us by Mr. MORRISON, from M. RODOLPHE LINDAU'S "Voyage Autour du Japon":—

In reality the people of Japan love foreigners. They do not contest their superiority, and seem instinctively to recognise in them liberators, destined to break the yoke which the feudal aristocracy press upon them. The relations between the Japanese and European traders have generally been agreeable, and have had no other inconveniences than the twists and turns common to all commercial transactions. We have encountered ill will an daystematic opposition solely from the class of nobles, who foresee clearly in the introduction of the foreign element a revolution entirely to the advantage of the democracy, and who, in resisting with all their power the movement by which they feel themselves carried away, stand, as it were, legitimately on the defensive. Their opposition will not cease till the hour when the liberal party shall issue triumphantly out of the struggle that now divides the empire into two hostile factions.

NEW STEAMERS FOR CHINA.

The paddle-wheel steamers *Teen-Chang* and *Vulcan*, which have been under despatch by the China and Japan Steam Company for Shanghai, will, we understand, leave in about three weeks, from the Clyde.

The paddle-wheel steamer *Prince Kung*, despatched by Messrs. Elliot and Co., of Austin Friars, for Shanghai, left Dartmouth on the 4th inst. This vessel, commanded by Captain Carr, is intended for towing purposes, and is of the following dimension:—Length, 112 feet; beam, 21 feet; depth, 11 feet 7 inches; and her engines are of 100-horse power nominal; builders' tonnage, 245 tons. She was built at Limehouse, by Messrs. Young and Co.

Messrs. George and John Mills, Southwick, have launched a barque of 398 tons register, named the *Ringdove*, to be engaged in the China trade. She is classed for thirteen years, and is the property of Messrs Robinson and Foster, of Liverpool.

CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING AFFAIRS IN JAPAN.

SUCH is the title of a collection of the despatches interchanged between Earl RUSSELL and Colonel NEALE, just laid before Parliament, in continuation of Correspondence presented in February, 1863. The paper of the earliest date is a letter from Colonel NEALE of the 12th Nov., 1862, and that of the latest is a despatch from Earl RUSSELL, of the 11th Jan. in the present year, expressing the satisfaction of the British Government at the termination of the pressing difficulties with Japan, and their approval of Colonel NEALE's conduct throughout the matter. The collection opens with Earl RUSSELL's letter, ordering a demand for reparation for the murder of Mr. RICHARDSON, and the whole of the rest of the correspondence arises entirely out of the negotiations and events that were consequent thereon. Our readers were kept so well acquainted with everything relative thereto immediately it transpired, that we find nothing in these papers which it is necessary to reprint in reference to Colonel NEALE's demand on the Japanese Government and the attack made by the forts in Kagosima Bay on Admiral KUPER's squadron. But incidentally occurring in the correspondence are passages that give us some degree of insight into the policy of the different parties that constitute the political world of Japan. We use the word "some" advisedly, for so late as the 29th July last we find Colonel NEALE writing—"In common with my colleagues, I feel "utterly unable satisfactorily to penetrate the mysterious "policy and proceedings of the TYCOON's Government, if, in-"deed, any defined policy with regard to foreigners is deter-"mined upon. * * * In general, all confidence with "foreign representatives is withheld." On the other hand, the attitude of SATSUMA and the party opposed to the TYCOON is made very intelligible, their jealousy of that official being mainly caused by the fact, as we ourselves have stated, that he gets almost the entire benefit derived from the opening of the ports to trade.

In a representation addressed to the MIKADO, the hostile Daimios dubs the TYCOON Mayor of Kuanton (the eastern district of Yedo), and threaten to renounce their allegiance to him. The Prince of MORI says:—"The TYCOON is young, and unable to "govern. Everybody laughs at him. The Daimio of SATSUMA "has acted rightly in demanding the reins of Government, and "this would, perhaps, be a remedy for every evil." The joint petition of the Daimios names distinctly the grievances alleged against the TYCOON. And here, curiously enough, we detect the civil war in the United States as near being the cause of a similar internecine conflict in Japan; for it falsified that personage's promise of plenty and abundance, and he is thus taunted with his breach of faith:—"Both you and HARRISOOH (Mr. HARRIS, "the American Minister), said that cotton would be sold for a "mere nothing, and that silk and manufactured goods would not "cost us anything. The daily necessities of life would be "brought to our country from all the quarters of the globe, and "our farmers would not be required to sow and reap. We "anxiously expect these miracles, and at present enjoy advan-"tages which you never mentioned, namely, that those articles "which you and HARRISOOH promised to give at very low "prices, are now three times as expensive as they formerly "were." Then follow positive charges of gross malversation against the TYCOON and his officers, who shroud their crimes by the assassination of any persons who might dare to complain:—

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You monopolise the import and export duties completely, and we had a right to suppose that those duties which, according to your statements and those of your financier, Harisooh, would enrich the Japanese nation, ought to cover expenses, such as building fortifications and buying men-of-war, which you say must inspire the barbarians with the respect due to our great country. But what have you done for the last three years? What has been the tenour of all your despatches? "Japan must be fortified, fortifications must be built, the artillery and navy increased. Money is required. The presence of foreigners occasioned great expenses: entertainments must be given to the ministers, the petty consuros cannot be forgotten, and foreigners must be made to respect and fear our great nation by witnessing the boundless resources of the country and the majesty of its ruler." If we could only see those fortifications, those men-of-war, we would complain less about the expense; but everything is proposed, and nothing executed. You think that drawings and plans will scare foreigners and cause them to flee from our country, but we doubt it, for they nearly equal us in this art. You sometimes talk to us about political economy, and we candidly own you give us excellent advice; unfortunately we have numerous proofs that you do not follow the precepts you give us. Why was such an incredible sum of money spent for all the vain and useless pomp which accompanied the sister of the Mikado on her journey to Yedo preparatory to her marriage with the Tycoon? Why was so much money expended in rebuilding the palace of the Tycoon? We shall not mention the various ways in which public money is wasted, as this would cause our nation to blush, and the Mikado to mourn. Public rumour, however, says that numerous thefts have been committed by the highest officers of the Tycoon; if any protest against the course which is now pursued, they are instantly and mysteriously silenced for ever. As you always remind us of the great principles of political economy when you demand pecuniary supplies, pardon us for making the following remarks:—Owing to the troubled state of the country, the presence of the Daimios at Yeddo was formerly highly necessary. This is not the case at present, and still our lords are travelling to and from the capital. The personal fatigue, vexation, and the expense of the immense retinue which always accompanies them, can no longer be supported. The time has come that these ruinous journeys should cease, and that the lords of Japan declare themselves unable to defray the expenses which you impose upon them.

As foreign trade has nearly ruined us, and as fortifications and numerous other unforeseen expenses are deemed necessary in all the ports which have been opened to the barbarians, we not only demand that the new ports, Osaka, Neegata, and Yedo, shall not be opened, but that Kanagawa be closed. You always assert that we are opposed to friendly intercourse with foreign nations; but this is utterly false. We willingly consent to open the whole of Japan if this step does not occasion expenses which surpass our means. We have not murdered our adherents who were favourably inclined towards the opening of Japan to foreigners.

You teach the young to despise and insult foreigners; and although you always tell us that the foreign nations are powerful, and greatly to be feared, a high functionary of the "Tori" lately said that, with the exception of the Russians, all the foreigners could be insulted with impunity.

The ill-feeling of the Daimios is of course reciprocated by the TYCOON, and it may well be doubted whether SATSUMA had fair play, and whether the determination of the British Government to exact reparation was honestly impressed upon him by the Yedo officials; for Colonel NEALE writes on the 2nd of March:—"There are strong reasons to entertain the belief that the "TYCOON and his Government would view with passive satisfac-"tion SATSUMA, NAGATO and TOSA, (the three powerful Daimios "who are hostile alike to the TYCOON's dynasty and to foreign "intercourse) made aware of the contingency of Her MAJESTY's "Government exacting redress, if needs be, at the port of their "own seaboard possessions." In that regard there may have been a double game of tortuous policy on foot; for it has been stated to us that the murder of Mr. RICHARDSON by SATSUMA's retainers was perpetrated with the hope of bringing about a rupture between the TYCOON and the Europeans. If so, the Yedo Emperor caught SATSUMA in his own snare, and heard of the burning of Kagosima with grim delight. Indeed SATSUMA's Minister positively asserts to Colonel Neale—. "We have not received from the TYCOON any orders "or communications by steamer that your men of war "are coming here." Even the Prince of NEGATO, the personage designated by the Daimio of MORI as "the learned NAGAOOTA," who has carried his apparent hostility to foreigners to the extent of firing on ships of war penetrating into the Inland Sea—which act, by-the-bye, does not necessarily involve dislike to foreign commerce—expresses himself very sensible of how much Japan has to gain by intercourse with Europe In a letter to the Gorogio, or Great Council of State, advising a solid union between the MIKADO and the TYCOON, he says:—

After our independence has been restored it is urgent and pressing that we reform our military institutions, the naval sciences, as well as all branches of industry; we should find out the great advancements and developments of arts and sciences in other countries. The whole nation must devote life and soul to the benefit of our State, and we must learn and study the interior arrangements of foreign lands, in order that the commerce of our country may flourish in this important age. I think all this ought to have been done long since, but nothing, however, of the kind is to be found in the edicts which have appeared so often during the last seven years. Inventions and improvements press on with rapidity, and the time is now come to make all these changes and improvements; but if our attachment to old customs causes us to postpone these measures of such great importance, if these changes are later suddenly forced by circumstances upon the inhabitants, a very bad impression will be produced, creating disorder and confusion. These are the reasons why they should be effected now, calmly and gradually. I think that the Mikado will not be disinclined to this, and therefore I wish that the Sjogoon (Tycoon) should act under the orders of the Mikado, and not conclude matters by his own authority. He ought to let these designs be known to all the Daimios in the name of the Mikado; then there will be a general quiet restored, then the dormant soul of the whole nation will awake, and will be united in power and in independence, and finally then it will display our force and strength to the other five portions of the universe, without anxiety and fear for our own country.

The TYCOON's Government appear to have wavered to the last between a desire to satisfy the representations of the Daimios, and a still greater anxiety to retain all the profits of trade in their own hands. They would evidently have consented to close Yokohama to foreigners if that would have contented the Japanese nobles, trusting to have continued their monopoly of gain at Nagasaki and Hakodadi. But this was not what the Daimios wanted; we shall probably find their inmost wishes to be—"Close all the ports, or open all." At last, however, the TYCOON's Ministers see their way to a decided course, and they announced, in November last, that the Government had for the present changed its policy, and requested a return of the despatch regarding the closing of Yokohama. The correspondence winds up with the letter from Earl RUSSELL to Colonel NEALE, stating the satisfaction of Her MAJESTY'S Government with himself and the result produced in the following terms:—

Foreign-office, January 11, 1864.

Sir,—I have received your despatches of the 16th and 17th of November, the one reporting the withdrawal by the Government of the Tycoon of the order for the expulsion of foreigners, the other giving an account of your communications with the agents of the Prince of Satsuma, which terminated in an agreement that the Prince should pay the indemnity demanded of him for the sufferers on the 14th of September, 1862, and should endeavour to the utmost to discover the murderers of Mr. Richardson, and should cause them, when discovered, to be executed in the presence of British officers as witnesses of the execution.

Her Majesty's Government have received with the greatest satisfaction this intelligence of the termination of the pressing difficulties with Japan, and I have to convey to you their entire approval of the conciliatory and judicious manner in which you have conducted yourself generally in these matters.

Her Majesty's Government trust that they may now look forward to British intercourse with Japan being carried on without giving occasion for future collision. It is their earnest desire that nothing should occur to interfere with peaceful commerce, and they are prepared to make full allowance for the peculiar character of the Japanese Government. In short, the employment of measures of coercion or retaliation could only be warranted, in their opinion, by the necessity of prompt interference for the protection of the lives and properties of British subjects, or for the vindication of the honour of the British flag if assailed by wanton attacks on the part of the Government or influential nobles.

Her Majesty's Government are glad to find that the return of friendly relations has been quickly followed by an increased trade; but Her Majesty's Government approve your interference with the Japanese Government, as reported in your despatch of the 16th of November, to prevent the erection of batteries which would have placed foreign shipping at Yokohama in a disadvantageous position in case of any difference with the Japanese Government. I am, &c., RUSSELL.

Tables of the British trade with Kanagawa are given by Colonel NEALE, which have been reprinted by some of our contemporaries as novelties; but they made their appearance three months back in the *London Gazette*, and were reproduced in the *London and China Telegraph* of the 27th November last.

Naval and Military.

Princess Royal, 73, screw, at Devonport, named for commission as the flag-ship for the Cape of Good Hope, will not hoist the pennant till about the 14th.

Rear-Admiral the Hon. J. R. Drummond, it is reported, succeeds Rear-Admiral Kingcome in command in chief of the Pacific.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* says:—Our troops as a body were never in better condition to take the field; and the locality is—as Lord Grey pointed out—so well suited to them that it almost tempts one to wish for war. We have now in the United Kingdom, in addition to the household brigade and depots, 17 regiments of cavalry, 50 batteries of artillery, 10 troops of horse artillery, and 38 battalions of infantry. In the aggregate the strength of the artillery may be roughly put down as 12,000 men, the cavalry 9,000, and the infantry 32,000, or 53,000 altogether. One half of this force placed beside the Danes would see the Austro-Prussian army on the south side of the Dannewerke for a period far outlasting the patience of their compatriots. The household troops at home number nearly 5,000 men, and after sending out 25,000 men of all arms we should have a good reserve in them, in the 28,000 now forming regiments, and in the 152 regimental depots.

By the death of Lieutenant-General Sir A. K. Clark Kennedy, colonel of the Scots Greys, the following promotions will take place:—Major-General T. H. Johnston to be Lieutenant-General; Colonel Charles Crutchley, Commandant of the Royal Military Asylum, to be Major-General; Major William Fulton, 15th Regiment, to be Lieutenant-Colonel. The colonelcy will, it is expected, be conferred on Lieutenant-General Bloomfield Gough, C.B.

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Literature.

Some Glimpses into Life in the Far East, published by Richardson and Co., of Cornhill, is a series of sketches of places, persons, and things, as observed by the writer during a residence at the British settlements in the Straits of Malacca some thirty years ago. They are written in a style that will make them greater favourites with those who have a personal knowledge of the subjects than with strangers to them. The sketches of persons in particular will be eagerly read, and pleasant reminiscences of many an agreeable dinner party be revived by the author's minute and yet lively manner of relating the incidents that occurred. The writer was long a resident at Penang, and while in charge of a plantation away from the town mixed more freely with the natives than is usually done by Europeans, and appears to have lost no opportunity of acquiring information as to their customs, superstitions, and modes of thinking. The book has therefore the charm of laying before us scenes and characters that have not been "used up" before by successive narrators—no slight recommendation even for a volume devoted to the Far East. With the exception of a chapter allotted to Batavia, and another to Whampoa, Singapore and the Straits occupy the entire book, so that we get a very complete notion of the life led there in the days of the East India Company. That great defunct can now be freely spoken of, and the writer pictures the doings of the high officials appointed under the old *regime* as of a kind that must make both Englishmen and natives rejoice that its reign is over. Here is a Malay account of the way in which justice was administered by the Company's Resident in the Province of Wellesley:—

> The Government of the English is *odil* (just), their judges will neither take bribes nor flattery; but here it is only an English Government in name. The nonia (the official's native mistress) is the real rajah. All the law suits are carried on in the back rooms of the East India Company's official's house; and the man that can make the nonia the largest present is sure to gain his cause when it comes to be tried. Before court day I have seen dozens of Chinese and twenties of Klings carrying up ducks and fowls, fruits and dollars, as presents to the nonia; so what justice can there be when this is allowed? All the *anyia* and *fetina* (oppression and defamation) that takes place comes from these back rooms; for there the nonia can have her say when no one else can.

Governors Bonham (Sir George) and Butterworth sit for their portraits, which are perhaps tinted by the dislike the author evidently imbibed for the Leadenhall-street authorities, and whatever emanated from them. Other whole-lengths are those of Captains Congalton and W. Scott, who are unquestionably favourites, and seem to have gained a warmer hold on the sympathies of the limner, from the fact of their being ill-treated by the Company's grandees. There cannot be a single character mentioned, or spot described, that will not be immediately recognised as an old acquaintance by all who knew them as they then appeared; and that qualification will gain for these "glimpses" so hearty a welcome that there can be no doubt of the promised second volume being enquired after by a host of those who have enjoyed the first.

The Chinese Commercial Guide, by S. WELLS WILLIAMS, LL.D. Hong Kong, A. Shortrede and Co., and F. Algar, Clement's-lane, London. The fact that the present is the *fifth* edition of this most useful volume is a sufficient guarantee for its value. The last edition was published at Canton in 1856, and such has been the extension of our trade in Chinese and Japanese waters, and such the alterations introduced by later treaties, that the present edition is almost a new work. The titles of the chapters give at once an idea of the contents of the book, and show how indispensable it is to the merchant and the ship-master. The fullest information is afforded as to the treaties with China; the articles of import and export; the laws and practices of the different ports, with the forms in use at each, in the English and Chinese languages; moneys, weights, and measures, not only for China and Japan, but for countries in the Eastern Seas generally; with tables of prices and exchanges. A separate chapter does the same for Japan. And lastly, there are 259 pages of Sailing Directions for all the seas and coasts of both those mighty empires. A very great merit in such a book is the addition of a very excellent index to each part—that is, one for the purposes of the merchant, and another for those of the navigator. In fact, the author is entirely justified in stating that "the present edition of the *Chinese Commercial Guide* has been made as complete as the nature of the subjects treated of would permit." This is indeed but modest praise, and is inadequate to the multiplicity of its contents and the care and judgment evinced in putting them together. No counting-house interested in the trade with China or Japan, or with any port eastwards of India, should be without a volume so necessary for reference. To complete the whole, a very useful map is appended. A meed of praise is due to the printing and publishing office also, for if we mistake not it is the thickest and most elaborate book yet produced in Hong Kong

The *Chinese and Japanese Repository* for February has the continuation of Sir J. F. Davis's article on the "Poetry of the Chinese," which the reader will be sorry to see brings the subject to a close. The present paper contains a translation of "London: in Ten Stanzas," a poem written by a Chinese who accompanied an English gentleman home in 1813, as his instructor in the language. A most pleasant prospect the reader has, however, in the interest that will be afforded him by the translation of the "Story of Han-wan and the White Serpent," very spiritedly put into English by H. C., interpreter in Her Majesty's Civil Service in China. The story is as full of adventure and enchantment as one of our old favourites of *The Arabian Nights*. We think the readers of the *Repository* look for these translations of Chinese literature, of which little is known, more than for comments and reprints on current events, which are fully attended to in our daily, weekly, and special Eastern journals.

The Statesman's Year-book: a Statistical, Genealogical, and Historical Account of the States and Sovereigns of the Civilised World for the Year 1864; by FREDERICK MARTIN: Macmillan and Co. This being the first issue of a book which has every claim to establish itself as a regular annual, we have given the title at full length; and further, will let the compiler give his own account of a performance that has been often contemplated but never hitherto achieved. He says in his preface:—"The *Statesman's Year-book* is intended to supply a want in English literature—a want noticed and commented upon more than fifteen years ago by the late Sir Robert Peel. All readers of newspapers—in other words, all educated men of the present day, must have frequently felt the need of a book of reference, giving an account, or, so to speak, a portrait of countries and states, in the same manner as a good biographical dictionary would give a sketch of individuals." The volume contains a full account of all the States of Europe, and of the principal States of Asia, America, and Australasia, considered under their political, social, and commercial aspects, each being described in the following particulars:—Reigning Sovereign and family; constitution and government; church and education; revenue and expenditure; army and navy; population; and trade and commerce. We can only add by way of comment that the quantity of facts brought together is really surprising, and reflects great credit on the industry and knowledge of Mr. Martin, who has conscientiously done his best to carry out the programme laid down. If there be any defect in the book it is, perhaps, that there is a tendency to give columns of figures instead of half-a-dozen lines of results, by which unlucky *penchant* the book is swollen to a size and price that may endanger the large sale it ought to reach, and inevitably will reach, in future years. For instance, with regard to China, we have a page of tables containing the budget of 1843, and the census of 1812: possibly, nothing later was to be had; but are these worth any man's paying for? Japan has eleven pages devoted to it, six of which are taken up with columns of hard unpronounceable names, when all the real information to be derived from them might have been given in as many lines. Again, of the colonies of Great Britain, Canada and the Australian territories have a fair space allotted to them; whilst all the other dependencies owning the sway of Queen Victoria—including the Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, Mauritius, Hong Kong, and the West India Islands—are jammed into ten pages crammed with figures. The kind of government subsisting in each colony ought surely to be given. Every petty German State has a couple of pages consecrated to it, with separate headings for "constitution, revenue, and population," and paragraphs acquaint us that Reuss-Greiz contributes 334 men to the army of the Confederation, and that in Schaumburg-Lippe only about 100 men are kept under arms. On the other hand, all that we can learn about the Cape of Good Hope is the area and population, with the Imperial expenditure for the colony. About its Government, whether representative or not, and the revenue raised within it, we are left entirely in the dark; but, on the other hand, the tables giving information on the first-named points are very unnecessarily printed twice over. We candidly mention these defects, because the book is destined to make its way, and the sooner faults are corrected the sooner will the compiler gain the thanks and the reputation he has well earned.

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Macmillan's Magazine continues Henry Kingsley's tale of "The Hillyars and the Burtons," which he who has once begun will not be content to let drop. The letter of the month, from the Competition Wallah, is on "British Temper Towards India, Before, During, and Since the Rebellion," which Mr. Broughton stigmatises as abominable. *The Rose, the Shamrock, and the Thistle* has a capital mixture of the grave and gay. Mr. Serjeant Burke's fourth paper of the series on "Women of Merit connected with Criminal Trials" is a narrative of the little that is known of the wife of one Bernardi, who died in Newgate in September 1736, "having been a State prisoner about forty years, without trial or any allowance from Government." The Speaking Minister of Napoleon III. was surely not wrong in saying that our judicial practices were arbitrary enough as long as there was any question of dynastic rivalry. *The Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, Parts 3 and 4 of Vol. XX., has no article immediately referring to China or Japan, but the whole of its contents are of more than average importance. *The Illustrated Arabian Night's Entertainments*, issued by Ward and Lock, is, we fear, a mistake. The best illustrations for those tales would be engravings of costumes, weapons, implements, and places referred to. The being must be dull indeed who, while reading these unsurpassed creations of inventive fancy, needs a picture of the story to give a fillip to his imagination. Besides, such cartoon-like designs dwarf the letter-press, and put it out of countenance.

The most notable book which has appeared during the past fortnight is thus noticed :—Mr. HENRY MORLEY, the author of the "Biography of Bernard Palissy," publishes a massive octavo volume entitled *English Writers*, comprising the writers before Chaucer, with an "Introductory Sketch of the Four Periods of English Literature." Though complete in itself, and closed with a copious index, the work, evidently the result of great labour and research, forms the first of a series of three volumes.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

ATTACK ON KAGOSIMA.

(Feb. 5.) Mr. WHITE desired to make one or two remarks on the paragraph in the Royal Speech with reference to Kagosima. It was there stated that the injury inflicted on that town arose accidentally and inadvertently, but he could not understand how any one who had read Admiral Kuper's despatches could come to that conclusion. The hon. member for Maidstone had given notice of a motion on this question, but it was of so harmless and innocuous a character that he preferred expressing his views on it at once. For his own part, he owned that when he read Admiral Kuper's despatches he trembled for the safety of a son resident in that quarter of the world. One of the gentlemen who was murdered by the Japanese was a personal friend of his own. He had, therefore, every interest in desiring that due protection should be afforded to Her Majesty's subjects in those parts; but, at the same time, he could not believe that their safety or the security of British property would be attained by such high-handed proceedings as had taken place on this occasion —(hear, hear). He did not wish to throw any reflection on the Admiral. His experience of foreign stations convinced him that the men whose profession was fighting were least disposed to resort to violence, unless it was absolutely necessary. It was generally the non-combatants who urged on such measures; and in the present instance, if any one was to blame, he had no doubt it was, not the Admiral, but Colonel Neale or the Minister who gave him the instructions on which he acted—(hear, hear). He was sorry, however, that Admiral Kuper did not express regret at being the instrument of so great a disaster. He wished he had followed the example of Sir Michael Seymour, who, when compelled to resort to coercive measures against the Chinese, regarded it as a calamity, and performed his harsh duty with the utmost possible leniency—(hear, hear).

THE TAKING OF SOOCHOW.

(8th.) Mr. W. E. FORSTER asked the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether it was true that the town of Soochow, in China, had been taken from the Taipings by help of Her Majesty's officers, employed by the Imperialists with the sanction of Her Majesty's Government; whether, also, the Imperialists were aided by supplies from Her Majesty's arsenals; and whether the town thus taken was delivered over to pillage and massacre by the Imperialist troops, notwithstanding the protest, and contrary to the pledge of the British officer in command; and, if so, whether any and what steps had been taken by Her Majesty's Government to withdraw their assistance to the Peking Government.—Mr. LAYARD said that he could not give his hon. friend a very definite answer. The Government had received information that Soochow had been taken, and that an act of treachery had been committed, but of the exact nature of that act he was unable to inform his hon. friend, as he had seen nothing but the accounts in the newspapers. According to the last advices from from Shanghai, General Brown had delayed his departure for Hong Kong to make full inquiry into what had taken place. In the absence of definite information her Majesty's Government had, of course, taken no steps in the matter.—Mr. FORSTER reminded his hon. friend that he had not told him whether the town was taken with the assistance of her Majesty's officers, and with the assistance of supplies from her Majesty's arsenals.—(Hear.)—Mr. LAYARD said that, as was well known, Major Gordon was an officer in her Majesty's service, who had been authorised to command Chinese troops. As to the supplies he could give no answer.

MAJOR GORDON AND CAPTAIN OSBORN.

(8th.) Lord NAAS inquired of the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether any despatches had been received during the recess from Sir Frederick Bruce relative to the state of affairs in China; and whether the Government had received any official accounts of the proceedings of the Chinese force under the command of Major Gordon, of the Royal Engineers; and, if so, whether he would lay them upon the table of the House; also, whether he would lay upon the table all the documents in possession of the Government relative to the dismissal of Mr. Lay from the service of the Emperor of China and the withdrawal from the Chinese waters of the fleet lately under the command of Captain Sherard Osborn, of the Royal Navy.—Mr. LAYARD said that papers on the affairs of China, in continuation of those laid on the table last year, would shortly be produced. The Government had no official information of the dismissal of Mr. Lay, and consequently no papers upon the subject. There would be no objection to produce the documents relating to the withdrawal of Captain Osborn's fleet.

THE TAKING OF SOOCHOW, ETC.

(8th.) Colonel SYKES gave notice that, on going into Committee of Supply, he would call attention to a resolution passed by the Consuls at Shanghai upon the subject of the capture of Soochow; and would ask the First Lord of the Treasury whether Her Majesty's Government intended to pass without notice further violations of the instructions addressed by the Foreign-office to the British authorities in China, directing them to observe a strict neutrality in the civil war now raging in that country.

KAGOSIMA.

(9th.) Mr. BUXTON moved the following resolution :—"That this House while only imputing to Admiral Kuper a misconception of the duty imposed on him, deeply regrets the burning of the town of Kagosima, as being contrary to those usages of war which prevail among civilised nations, and to which it is the duty and policy of this country to adhere." In stating the reasons which had induced him to propose this resolution, he observed that the character of the country had suffered in the eyes of other nations by the burning of Kagosima, and that if the act passed without notice it might become a precedent. It was not his purpose, he said, to assail Admiral Kuper; he only imputed to him a mistake and misconception of his duty. That the town was burnt not by accident, but purposely, and as an achievement, as part of the operations against the Prince of Satsuma, he showed from the despatches of Colonel Neale and Admiral Kuper, as well as from other testimony; and he contended, upon the authority of writers on international law, that this act was a direct breach of the usages of war as recognised among civilised nations, and referred to cases in which similar acts had been denounced. He examined the nature of the demands made upon the Prince, and urged that in the early days of our intercourse with the Japanese, a civilised and interesting people, we ought to have acted with the greatest possible forbearance, instead of employing a severity as inconsistent with policy as with humanity, and which must have inflicted intense suffering upon the inhabitants of Kagosima.

The motion was seconded by Mr. AYTOUN, who adverted to what he considered a want of moderation and of a respect for the feelings of the natives evinced by the foreign merchants in Japan, and the arrogant spirit shown by the British residents. Mr. Buxton, he observed, had exempted Lord Russell from blame in the horrible outrage, the burning of Kagosima; but it appeared to him that Lord Russell had justified the act, and upon indefensible grounds.

Mr. LONGFIELD moved, as an amendment to the resolution, the omission of the words, "while only imputing to Admiral Kuper a misconception of the duty imposed on him." He denied that there was any misconception of his orders on the part of Admiral Kuper, or that the slightest blame was attributable to him. On the contrary, he contended that the Admiral had only obeyed the orders he had received from Colonel Neale, whom he was bound to obey, and had executed them in their letter and in their spirit, though he had no doubt they were repugnant to him. He read extracts from the papers to establish his position, and showed that it was not to be tolerated that the gallant officer should be made the scapegoat of others. This amendment was seconded by Sir J. HAY, who insisted that the transaction was the necessary consequence of the orders of the Foreign-office, and that Lord Russell was responsible for the burning of the town of Kagosima. He thought that Admiral Kuper had been most unjustly treated by the Government.

Admiral WALCOT defended Admiral Kuper, contending that the authorities of the Prince of Satsuma were the real culprits in this matter.

Lord STANLEY called the attention of the House to one or two points which he thought required explanation. He could not understand, he said, the justification of the double demand upon the Tycoon and upon the Prince of Satsuma. Then it appeared to him that the amount of the demand was exorbitant. The policy of the act of burning the town was very questionable, considering the peculiar state of Japanese society; it would be a long while before the effect of the act would be forgotten.

Lord R. MONTAGU referred to the original cause of the quarrel with Japan—the murder of Mr. Richardson by the retainers of a Daimio, which was only one of many murders committed in the country year by year. The Tycoon had complied with all the articles of the demand but one, the punishment of the offender, which he refused on the plea that he had no power to enforce that demand. We were therefore forced to resort to the Prince Satsuma, and to compel compliance. In his opinion we were bound to put a stop to the state of things in Japan, or their haughty nobles would become still more intractable; and he denied that the course taken, in the destruction of Kagosima, was contrary to the usage of nations.

Sir F. CROSSLEY condemned the severity exhibited in the bombarding of the town, and suggested that in the instructions to officers abroad it should be impressed upon them that human life was not to be sacrificed when it could possibly be avoided.

Mr. LIDDELL observed that, if this question were looked at from the Japanese side, much was to be said. He considered that the hasty treaty with Japan ought to be revised, and that we ought to acquaint ourselves better with the state of things in that country before we enforced the conditions of the treaty in an arbitrary manner.

Mr. KINGLAKE agreed that, in the present state of our information, it would be unjust to cast blame upon Admiral Kuper; but he did not agree

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that the instructions of Lord Russell were so cogent that the Admiral was bound to shell the Prince's Palace wherever he found it. He discussed the policy, which had culminated, he said, in this act, and which, he added, was not an old, but a new policy. Among other oppressive results of this policy, the British authorities had distinctly interfered with the sovereignty of the Japanese Government, disputing their right to erect batteries on their coast.

Mr. LAYARD, after remarking that he was not inclined to disagree with much of what had fallen from Mr. Buxton, called the attention of the House to the state of our previous relations with Japan, and to the causes which had led to the treaty with Japan—a treaty which, he contended, the British Government was bound to make, but which had not been forced upon the Japanese. He described the state of the country at that time, and the parties into which the ruling powers were divided. Our policy, he said, had been a peaceful and conciliatory policy. Nevertheless, in spite of concessions on our part, outrages were committed upon British subjects, and he detailed the circumstances attending the deliberate and unprovoked murder of Mr. Richardson on the high road in open day. Could the British Government have suffered this outrage to remain unredressed? Our demand for the surrender of the retainer who had committed the act it was our duty to make from both the Tycoon and the Daimio. Mr. Layard then gave a minute description of the operations against the Prince of Satsuma, justifying the conduct of Colonel Neale and Admiral Kuper, and expressing his belief that the loss of life among the inhabitants of the city was very small. In pointing out objections to the resolution he contended that the burning of the town was not, as alleged in the resolution, contrary to the usages of war, and he read a list of cases in which towns had been destroyed (insisting particularly upon Charleston), and the act had been justified by the laws of war. We had no political object in Japan, he said; our objects were commercial only; but he complained of the difficulties thrown in the way of the Government by a certain class of British traders. If the resolution were pressed he should move the previous question.

Sir J. ELPHINSTONE defended Admiral Kuper, who, he thought, had been treated with injustice.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER observed that they were all agreed the burning of the town was a deplorable occurrence. The only question was whether it was a matter not only of regret but of blame. If of blame, on whom? That depended upon whether the destruction of the houses was intentional. He believed, on the evidence referred to by Mr. Buxton, that it was intentional. Then on whom did the blame rest? It could only fall upon three persons—Admiral Kuper, Colonel Neale, and Earl Russell. The two former were in a difficult position, and great allowance must be made for them. It was clear to him, he said, that the idea of shelling the houses was suggested in the despatch of Lord Russell, though he was sure that the result was regretted by him. But he had not expressed that regret, and it became, therefore, the duty of that House to signify its opinion by adopting the resolution as amended.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, confining himself to the motion, without entering into the general policy of this country towards Japan, observed that it contained three propositions—the first, that the House should express its deep regret at the burning of the town of Kagosima; and this House had already done so in its Address to the Crown; the second, that it is the duty and policy of this country to adhere to the usages of war; and there could be no difference of opinion upon this proposition. The third proposition was that the burning of the town was contrary to those usages of war which prevail among civilised nations. This proposition was true only when the act was wilful, wanton, and unnecessary, and he put it to the House that it could not affirm this proposition without attributing to Earl Russell, Colonel Neale, or Admiral Kuper, one or all, a wilful and deliberate intention of destroying the town. Now, no one could pretend or suppose that Lord Russell had such intention. As to Colonel Neale, he handed over to Admiral Kuper the conduct of the operations, and the Admiral took precautions to prevent unnecessary bloodshed or damage to the town. There was not the smallest evidence from which an inference could be drawn that Admiral Kuper wilfully, wantonly, and unnecessarily shelled and fired the town; and was the House to resolve, nevertheless, that he did; and was the nation falsely to accuse itself in the eyes of the world.

Mr. WHITESIDE insisted that the construction put upon the instructions of Earl Russell by Colonel Neale and Admiral Kuper was that the town was to be destroyed. The thing, therefore, was intended to be done, and the Attorney-General had put the question upon that issue.

Lord PALMERSTON observed that the treaty with Japan, a wise and useful measure, had been entered into with the treaty-making Power of the country, the Tycoon, the assent of the Mikado not being required. No man could doubt that when British subjects were exposed to repeated acts of outrage it would be unbecoming and criminal on the part of their Government to suffer those outrages to pass unnoticed. A demand was accordingly made for redress and satisfaction. It had been asked why there should have been a double demand. Because there had been a double default. Satisfaction was given by the Tycoon, but the Prince of Satsuma refused. Were we to submit to this refusal, or to compel a compliance? It was necessary that he and the other Daimios should be taught that they could not commit outrages upon British subjects with impunity. He justified the course taken by Earl Russell, who did not say, "Go and burn the town;" and he vindicated likewise the proceedings of the Admiral. He maintained that the burning of towns during war was not contrary to the usages of war; to affirm the contrary, therefore, would be at variance with the fact. He thought Mr. Buxton might be satisfied with what had been said in the debate; but if the motion was pressed he should move the previous question.

Mr. LONGFIELD's amendment having been agreed to,

Mr. BUXTON offered to withdraw his resolution; but this course being objected to, the previous question was moved, and the House divided upon the question that the original question on the resolution be now put, which was negatived by 164 to 85.

The question, therefore, was not put.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES.—Mr. Liddell to call attention to the reported disbandment of the expeditionary force recently raised for service in China, and address questions to the Government as to their future policy in China—(hear). He should also move for further correspondence on the subject, and that "it is the opinion of this House that further interference on the part of this country in the civil war in China is impolitic and unnecessary." Colonel Sykes.—Copies of a letter from the Admiralty to Admiral Kuper respecting the death of Lieutenant Tinling; and of reply of Captain Dew.

Monetary and Commercial.

The biddings for £400,000 in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were to Calcutta £220,000, to Bombay £160,000, and to Madras £20,000. The *minimum* price declared was, as before, 1s. 11¼d. per rupee on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11⅛d. on Bombay. The applications within the limits amounted to £1,400,000. Tenders at 2s. 0⅛d. will receive on Calcutta about 65 per cent.; on Bombay about 8 per cent.; on Madras about 75 per cent.; and all above that price in full.

Owing to the important decline in the Bombay exchange, the diminution in the applications on last occasion is more than £1,000,000. These changes are suggestive of relief to our money market. It is stated that the orders to purchase cotton in India are now upon a considerably reduced scale.

The directors of the Singapore Gas Company have made a call of £1 per share, payable on the 19th inst.

The Labuan Coal Company have issued a notice that they are prepared to supply steamers with coal at $5½ per ton.

The report to be presented at the meeting of the Bank of Egypt on the 12th of February states that the profits, including a balance of £5,145 brought from the previous half-year, to be £15,970, of which £8,750 is recommended to be applied to the payment of the usual dividend at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum, leaving £7,220 to be carried forward.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Consolidated Bank (founded last year by a junction of the Bank of Manchester with the London Banks of Heywood, Kennards, and Co., and Hankey and Co.), Mr. T. A. Hankey in the chair, the report stated the profits at £49,842, which, with a previous balance of £7,368 and a sum of £1,217 derived from premiums on shares, made an available total of £58,427. A dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum and a bonus of 1s. per share (being an additional 2½ per cent. per annum) were declared, £20,000 was placed to the reserve fund, and £1,076 was carried forward. The paid up capital is now £597,628, and the deposits held amount to £4,006,558.

The intelligence of hostilities between Germany and Denmark will have a serious effect on the employment of vessels now out in the Eastern seas, more especially if the Danes fit out, as is rumoured, a few *Alabama's* to snap up the German flags. British shipowners will see nothing to regret in this game, and, of course, will make hay while the sun shines; indeed, if the American vessels continue to be blockaded as at present, the palmy days of 1853-4 may again be enjoyed by shipowners.

The following letter appeared in *The Times* from the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India:—

"52, Threadneedle-street, Feb. 3.

"Sir,—With reference to the statement in *The Times* of to-day, under the heading of 'Court of Bankruptcy,' to the effect that this bank is a creditor upon the estate of James Crossley for £65,038, I beg to say that the acceptances of Crossley which the bank holds are fully provided for by friends of the drawers of the bills in this country.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully, "D. T. ROBERTSON, Chief Manager."

Insurances have been effected on the British ship *Edinburgh*, which left Shanghai for London on the 22nd August last, at the rate of 12 per cent.

The report of the British and Foreign Marine Insurance Company (for which Messrs. Lyall, Still, and Co. are agents at Hong Kong), to be presented at the meeting at Liverpool on the 25th inst., states the net premiums to have been £329,526 out of which £101,356 has been paid for losses, while the premiums on the risks run off are stated £187,072. The sum of £5,856 has accrued as interest on invested capital, and out of this a payment of 2s. per share, or at the rate of 5 per cent., is recommended, the preliminary expenses of £6,432 being at the same time written off.

The following is from the report to be submitted by the directors of the Universal Marine Insurance Company to the fourth annual meeting, which will be held on the 11th of February:—

The directors have to submit to the shareholders the accompanying annual statement of the accounts of this company, closed on the 31st of December, 1863, and embracing all the company's transactions to that date. It is shown by these accounts that the net receipts of the past year for premium, after deduction of all brokerage, discounts, and returns of premium, and of the expense of reinsurances effected by the company, amounted to £252,762. 18s. 7d.; while, on the other hand, the sum that

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during that period became due and has been paid out of the company's funds, for the adjustment of claims, was £169,200. 1s. £83,562. 7s. 7d. remained therefore as net balance on the underwriting account in favour of the company on the 31st of December last, and a further sum of £4,403. 8s. 7d., for interest to that date, has also been received. From these sources of revenue the investments of the company, which were shown by the previous year's accounts, laid before the shareholders, to have been on the 31st of December, 1862, £91,932. 9s. 10d., have in the interval gradually increased to £162,608. 1s. 10d., while also the large amount of £127,304. 9s. 2d., then at the charge of income and expenditure account, has now diminished to £53,715. 2s. 10d. In offering to their fellow-shareholders their congratulations upon these gratifying results of the business of the past year, and the improvement that has taken place in the general position of the company, the directors point with unqualified satisfaction to the testimony borne by the accounts which they now present to the uninterrupted and large amount of confidence reposed in the company.

The exports as per Sam Mendel's Circular are, from London, Liverpool, and the Clyde, from Jan. 1 to Feb. 1 1864 as follows:—

To SHANGHAI.—Plain cottons, 114,000 yards; coloured cottons, 103,035 yards; printed cottons, 3,360 yds.; twist, 138 lbs.

To HONG KONG and CANTON.—Plain cottons, 472,860 yds.; coloured cottons, 52,519.

To SINGAPORE.—Plain cottons, 293,490 yds.; coloured cottons, 49,850 yds.; printed cottons, 38,000 yds.

To BATAVIA.—Plain cottons, 130,260 yds.; coloured cottons, 76,100 yds.; printed cottons, 88,750 yds.; twist, 21,550 lbs.

To MANILA.—Plain cottons, 70,250 yds.; coloured cotto ns, 333, printed cottons, 7,500.

The new companies formed during the fortnight are as follows:—

The Great Eastern Northern Junction Railway. This railway will be 108¾ miles long, with 21¼ miles of connections and branches. Its total cost is to be £1,500,000. It will start from a junction with the Great Eastern, at a point near St. Ives, above Cambridge, and run through Peterborough, Bourne, Sleaford, Lincoln, and Gainsborough, to Askern, near Doncaster, where existing lines connect it with the Great Northern coalfields, and the manufacturing districts of Yorkshire and Lancashire.

The Credit Foncier (Limited) has for its object the application of the land credit system to Great Britain and Ireland. The capital is £3,000,000, in 30,000 shares of £100 each.

The Wallachian Petroleum Company (Limited) is intended to import petroleum from an entirely new source, in the province of Wallachia, proved by analysis to be equal to the Pennsylvanian. The capital is fixed at £120,000, in 12,000 shares of £10 each. The first cargo has just arrived, and on the reopening of the navigation of the Danube 1,500 tons now at Ibraila, and in course of delivery, will come forward.

The Mexican Bank, capital £2,000,000, for banking operations in Mexico.

The Titanic Steel Company. It is mentioned that the processes of Mr. Mushet, especially when in combination with the Bessemer process, will produce, from materials which will cost about £6 per ton, steel in no way inferior to that produced from the best Swedish iron.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Ceylon*, from Southampton on the 4th inst., was:—In gold, to Alexandria, £25,500; to Galle, £11,000; to Madras, £3,669. In silver, to Hong Kong, £6,918; to Madras, £65,000; to Calcutta, £208,936. Total, in gold, £40,169; in silver, £210,854.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Business done.
100	Agra and United Service, Limited	50	120 to 122	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	42 to 43	...
20	Do. New		21 20 pm.	
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	64 to 66	...
50	London Joint Stock	10	36 to 37x.d.	...
100	London and Westminster	20	76 to 78x.d.	...
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	59 to 61	...
50	Union of London	13	42¼ to 43½	...
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	3¼ to 4¼pm.x.n.	...
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	5	1½ to 1¾ pm.	...
20	Do. New	5		...
25	Bank of Egypt	All	25¼ to 26¼	...
100	Bank of London	50	173 to 176x.d.	...
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	2	1⅛ to 1⅞ pm.	...
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3½ to 4½	...
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	77 to 79	
50	Do. New	30	16 to 18 pm.	
10	Labuan Coal Company	8	...	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	...	...
2	Telegraph to India Company	2	⅜ to ½ dis.	...
5	Bombay Gas	4	¼ dis. to par	...
10	E. I. and London Shipping B.	All	3 to 6	...
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	5	1 to ½ dis.	...
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	...	...
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	1	1¼ to 2¼ pm.	...
1	Oriental Gas	All	1¼ to 1⅝	...
1	Do. New	⅝	¼ to ½ pm.	...
10	O. Inland Steam	All	½ to 1½	...
100	West India Steam Company	60	79 to 81	...
20	Ceylon Company	7	3 to 4 pm.	...
20	International Finance Society	5	6¼ to 6½ pm.	...
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2¼ to 2½ pm.	...
50	London Financial Association	15	11 to 11½ pm.	...
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	2	2 to 2¼ pm.	...
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	16⅝ to 17⅛	...
20	British Indian Tea	5	⅝ to 1¼ pm.	...
10	Upper Assam Tea	1½	1¼ to 2 pm.	...
10	Do.	All	14 to 17	...

SHIPPING STATISTICS.

According to the statistics of vessels entered inwards at the port of London, there is an increase of 73 vessels with a capacity of 43,743 tons. From 1st January to 31st December, 1863, the difference between 824 vessels and 576,096 tons in 1862, and 897 vessels and 619,839 tons in 1863. The Port of Liverpool also exhibit an increase of 89 vessels with a capacity of 71,540 tons, the arrivals in 1862 having been 329, and 308,270 tons, and in 1863, 418 vessels, and 379,810 tons. The port of Bristol shows an increase of 9 vessels with a capacity of 5,483 tons, the difference between 10 vessels and 4,084 tons in 1862, and 19 vessels, and 9,567 tons in 1863. In the Clyde there is a decrease of 8 ships and with a capacity of 2,156 tons, the arrivals in 1862 having been 28 vessels with a capacity of 11,924 tons, and in 1863 only 20 vessels and 1,968 tons. The net increase has been 169 vessels with a capacity of 118,610 tons, the difference between 1,191 vessels and 899,774 tons in 1862 and 1,354 vessels and 1,018,384 tons in 1863.

The vessels from China into London, Liverpool, and outports, total up (in the six months) 234 against 151 in 1862. From Singapore and Penang, 48 against 54 in 1862. From Philippine Islands 59 against 28 in 1862. From Java and Sumatra 5 against 6 in 1862.

The clearances for China in the same period are 166 against 154. From Singapore and Penang 60 against 53. From Philippine Islands 13 against 11; and from Java and Sumatra 21 against 20.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Low and dusty kinds of Congou have sold at about previous prices, as also fair common with leaf; in good common, transactions have been few, and prices remain unaltered. Flavory kinds, below 1s. 2d., have sold rather lower, those up to 1s. 6d. per lb. continue very difficult of sale. Good Kaisow kinds from 1s. 7d. to 1s. 10d., have given way from ½d. to 1d. per lb. Common to fair black-leaf kinds show no improvement. Good qualities, of old season, have met with a moderate inquiry. Prices for second-class Monings and Wopaks of this season, show no material change. Fine to finest maintain former value; also similar grades of Kaisow. Tayshans have sold ½d. per lb. lower. Common Oolongs have been in demand for export, and quantities suitable are now difficult to meet with, at 1s. per lb.; medium kinds are difficult of sale, but fine in better request. Souchongs remain without alteration. Flowery Pekoes continues to be sold at public sale at low rates. Common scented Capers have been inquired for for price, fair qualities are difficult of sale, but good to fine have been taken at former rates. Foo Chow kinds show no alteration. Fair to good Canton make Orange Pekoes remain difficult of sale at rather lower prices; fine to finest have been better supported. Foo Chow kind are comparatively scarce, and have sold at fully former prices. Uncolored Japans have realised ½d. to 1d. per lb. higher prices. Indian teas continue to command full rates. Green teas scarce in first hands, and sales made principally from speculative holders. Young Hysons have changed hands freely at 1d. to 2d. per lb. higher prices. Hysons, Imperials, and Gunpowders have sold at extreme rates. Canton-made Greens show no improvement. 22,289 packages were brought forward at public sale on the 3rd inst., of which 10,900 packages were sold, 9,062 packages being without reserve. The stock in the United Kingdom on the 30th ult. was estimated at 89,900,000 lbs., against 81,600,000 lbs. last year, and the quantity afloat at 46,934,590 lbs., against 38,440,000 lbs.

SILK.—We have no favourable report to give of silk. The market since the commencement of the year has been excessively quiet. Various attempts have been made to produce business by slight reductions in price, but all without the desired effect. The deliveries continue upon the most limited scale, marking that Asiatic silk no longer forms the staple article of consumption; still, in the face of repeated reports of short settlements and confident assurances of limited supply, importers are little disposed to submit to serious reduction in prices. A certain speculative disposition, too, is not wanting, which seems ready for action in case of any decidedly lower range. The finer sizes of Japan silk are the only class in which any important change of prices can be quoted. These seem especially to feel the influence of the competition of European silk, as being most nearly allied to them in size and character, and in these we may trace a reduction of 7½ to 10 per cent. upon the prices of the early part of November.

	Ordinary,				Superior.	
	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Tsatlee, No. 1 and 2	22 0	to	23 6			
,, No. 3 and 4	19 0		20 6		21 0	21 6
,, No. 5	18 0		18 6			
Ditto, Hang-Chow	19 0		19 6		20 0	
Yuenfa	10 0		21 0		21 6	
Taysaam	15 6		18 6		19 6	20 0
Ditto, skeins	16 0		16 6			
Ditto, long reel	16 6		17 6		18 0	18 6
Canton	11 0		16 6		17 0	17 6
Chinese Thrown	15 0		19 0		21 0	22 0
Maibash, dyepot Japan	19 6		21 6		22 0	23 6
Ida, bricks	18 6		20 6		23 0	26 6
Sodai ,,	19 0		20 6		21 6	22 6
Oshu, re-reeled	17 6		19 6		20 6	22 0
Koshu, Selé	19 0		20 0		21 0	21 6
Acchezan, slips	15 0		18 6		19 6	20 6
Mashtah ,,	17 0		18 0		19 0	20 0
Hatchojee, Tussah	18 0		18 6		19 6	

SUGAR.—The market was again cheaper in the earlier part of last week, but on the 5th inst. there was an improved feeling, and on that day, 483 bags Mauritius were realised at 38s. to 41s. 8d., (duty 12s. 6d.) for middling brown to low middling brown. Madras: 1,936 bags Jaggery were brought in, but 198 brown and yellow date, sold at 32s. to 33s.

COFFEE.—Plantation Ceylon, 72s. to 108s.; common, 66s. to 72s.; market well supplied; the better class of plantation well maintain their value, the lower are rather cheaper: so also with Native; superior realises fully former terms; common neglected, and difficult to sell. Mocha: market well supplied, and prices again the turn in favour of buyers. Of 1,710 bales and half bales at auction about half sold at 94s. per cwt. for good clean long berry, and 86s. 6d. to 89s. ordinary to middling short.

COTTON.—The market was much depressed till within the last day or two, and with a considerable reduction in rates, and difficulty in selling; quite recently confidence has returned, demand revived, and value partially restored. The total business small, and the latest quotations are:—Surat: Oomrawuttee and Dhollera, 1s. 5d. to 1s. 11½d.; Mangarole, 1s. 4½d.

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to 1s. 10¾d.; and Compta, 1s. 4½d. to 1s. 10½d. per lb. Madras: Tinnevelli, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 9½d. per lb.; Northern and Western, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 9d.

RICE.—Prices are again rather lower; business to a fair extent accomplished at 9s. 6d. to 10s. per cwt. for middling to good pinky. Not any business of consequence doing in Java.

CAMPHOR.—Firm, at £5. 5s. per cwt. for good China, at which moderate sales have been effected. 84 chests inferior dark at auction, partly sold at £5.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—84s. to 92s.; very quiet, with most limited business on former terms. Buds: £16 to £17; nothing doing.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Have not suffered any further reduction, and of 293 bags at auction, two-thirds sold at 90s. per cwt. for fair to stalky. Dragon's Blood: In reeds, £10 to £14; in lumps, £4 to £11; flat; 8 cases at auction retired. Rhubarb: 1s. 9d. to 4s. 6d. and 6s. Little offering; only 18 cases at auction, mostly retired.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Of 174 cases at auction, only one-sixth sold at £8. 15s. to £9. 2s. 6d. per cwt. for false packed, second quality being very cheap; and £5. 15s. to £6 middling third. Damer: Of 655 cases at auction, half sold at a slight concession—40s. to 41s. per cwt. for fair picked, but small and rather yellow. Gamboge: Nothing of any consequence doing.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Good Natural has sold with some irregularity, reboiled has realised former terms. Of 47 tons at auction half sold at 2s. 2½d. to 2s. 3½d. per lb. for good to fine, and 8d. to 1s. 6d. reboiled. India Rubber: Very flat and inactive; 96 baskets Java sold at auction at 1s. 4½d. per lb. for good, being cheap; and 280 baskets Java, 165 baskets Singapore, 150 baskets Penang, and 988 baskets Assam, all retired.

HEMP.—Manila: The recent advance has been well maintained, but without any great animation in the market; business to a tolerable extent concluded on the spot, and for arrival, at £34. 10s. to £35 for fair current quality, and up to £36. 10s. for fine Sorsogan. 2,109 bales at auction, mostly retired.

HORNS.—Buffalo: Have realised fully former prices, and 51 tons Bombay, 25 tons Madras, and 13 tons Singapore sold at auction at 40s. to 41s. 3 lb. average, 28s. 6d. to 31s. 2 to 2¼ lbs., and 21s. to 26s. 6d. 1¼ to 1¾ lb. Deer: Steady; and 133 tons Madras, 7 tons Ceylon, 4½ tons Calcutta, and ½ ton Singapore, sold at auction at 45s. to 47s. per cwt. for 1¼ to 1½, and 36s. to 43s. 2 to 1¼ lbs.

JAPAN WAX.—58s. to 70s. Very quiet, and only 30 cases at auction, and those retired.

OILS.—Anniseed: Quiet at the quotation 6s. 4d. to 6s. 5d., with very little business. Cassia: Very flat; 44 cases at auction, all retired. Cinnamon: Steady; only 1 case at auction, sold at 2s. per oz. for fair. Mace and Nutmegs: Nothing doing; nutmeg paste cheap; small sales at 1½d. per oz.

SPICES.—Cloves: Penang firm; of 56 chests, half sold at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 3½d. per lb. for good. Zanzibar again the turn in favour of the seller, and 2,467 bags sold at 2⅝d. to 3¼d. for ordinary dark to good. Ginger: Steady; of 90 cases at auction, one-third sold at 70s. per cwt. for middling. Mace: 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per lb. dearer; 7 bags Penang only at auction, sold at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 6d. per lb for fair reddish to middling dull palish. Nutmegs: The bold and medium classes are 3d. to 4d. per lb. dearer, the small 1d. Of 169 cases Penang, and 11 cases Singapore, at auction, three-fourths sold at 3s. to 4s. 2d. for middling to fine bold, and 1s. 2d. to 2s. 3d. middling small to fine medium. Pepper: Black in good demand, at ⅛d. per lb. advance; and of 6,409 bags Singapore at auction, two-thirds sold at 3⅝d. to 3¾d. per lb., and 785 bags Penang sold at 3½d. White: Is ¼d. per lb. dearer; and of 844 bags Singapore at auction, three-fourths sold at 5½d. to 5¾d. per lb. for middling to fair.

SAGO.—Pearl: Quiet, without any quotable alteration in terms; and of 3,057 bags at auction, a few only found buyers at 21s. 6d. per cwt. for middling small. Flour: Also quiet, 620 bags at auction, all retired, and very little doing privately.

TIN.—Prices had improved about £1 per ton; limited business being done in Banca up to £122 per ton, and in Straits at £117. 10s. to £119 cash, and £121 full prompt: quite recently the advance appears to have been lost; the latest transactions being at £118 cash, for Banca as well as Straits.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Very dull: not any brought to action, and scarcely anything doing privately. Gambier: Of 750 bales at auction, a small portion only sold at 22s. 6d. per cwt. for cubes in mass; a fair amount of business done privately, but upon rather easier terms.

TOBACCO.—Manila Leaf: None here. Java: Sold very freely, and prices firm. Japan: Quality of the late arrivals inferior to those previously received. Quotations. Java, 6d. to 1s. 1d.; Japan, 4d. to 8d. Manila Cheroots and Cigars; firm in price, and stock much reduced; 7s. 3d. to 7s. 9d.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Black Lead: Very quiet; and of 391 barrels at auction, only one-third sold at 8s. to 11s. per cwt. for ordinary lump, and 8s. 6d. dusty. Galls: All kinds—Bussorah, China, and Japan—very scarce and much wanted. None at auction. We quote Japan and China 50s. to 70s. per cwt. Musk: Has again experienced a good demand, and quite maintained the previons rule; 46 caddies sold at auction, at 27s. to 31s. per oz. for middling to good Tonquin, and 23s. 6d. to 24s. pickings; 10 tins Grain sold at 31s. to 51s. for ordinary to good. Rattans: 8s. to 12s.; firm, and wanted; none brought to auction. Sapanwood: Brings barely previous terms, and 24 tons Manila at auction sold at £8. 12s. 6d. to £9 per ton; 6 tons Batavia sold at £8. 17s. 6d. to £10; 5 tons Ceylon sold at £8. to £10. 17s. 6d., and 7½ tons Bombay retired. Mother o'Pearl Shells: No auctions held: sales of Singapore effected privately at 150s. to 152s. 6d. per cwt. Soy: Firm, with moderate business within our quotations, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 7d. Star Anniseed: Remain very scarce, and much wanted. Sticklac (Siam): Is a little better; and 300 cases at auction chiefly sold at 45s. to 60s. 6d. per cwt. for very small to very good bold, and 51s. to 53s. blocky. Ivory: Siam is in demand, and very scarce. Tortoiseshell: Auction confined to 2 cases Singapore, one of which sold at the previous value, 15s. per lb. Turmeric: Nothing doing; China scarce and wanted; Java neglected, 155 bags offered at auction, not any placed. Vermilion: Has at length realised some advance, the higher quotation, 2s. 8d., having been realised for a few cases privately.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£42,730
Foo-chow-Foo	—	2,350
Hong Kong	—	36,228
Amoy	—	—
Singapore	£3,750	3,235
Penang	—	39,775

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	—
Hong Kong	£31,568	—
Singapore	—	—
Penang	—	£2,952
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	—	£37,900
To Saigon	—	2,840
To Hong Kong	—	—
To Shanghai	—	48,420

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0	to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 3½	
Silver in Bars	0 5 1½	
Mexican Dollars	0 5 3	

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £8. 10s. to £9; nail rod, £9. 10s. to £10; hoops, £11; sheets, single, £12; Staffordshire bars, £10. 10s.; rails, £8.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £120 per ton; yellow metal, 10d. to 10½d. per lb.

TIN.—116s. for block; 117s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 31s. to 32s per box.

LEAD, &c. — English Pig, £21. 5s. to £21. 12s. 6d.; W.B., £22. 5s.; shot, patent, £24; sheet, £21. 15s.; spelter, £21. 5s.; zinc, English sheet, £26. 10s. to £27.; quicksilver, £7. 10s. per bottle.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—The operations in Metal have been steady, the last few days trade has been more quiet. Iron: Manufactured of all descriptions continues firm. Scotch Pig is depressed, no doubt attributable to the state of the money market. Copper: Some second hand parcels of both Copper and Yellow Metal are to be obtained under Smelter quotations, but the Smelters themselves are firm. The Ore Market continues stiff. Tin: English is in good demand, and price well maintained. Tin Plates: The inquiry is excessive, and manufacturers now generally ask from 1s. to 2s. per box advance. The shipments last month were about 78,000 boxes, against 60,000 boxes in Jan., 1863 and 49,000 boxes in 1862. Lead continues in good demand here and prices are well maintained. Spelter: The market is rather excited in consequence of the hostilities between Denmark and Germany, and the probable check to shipments. The stock here is 6,177 tons, against 4,752 tons in January last year. Quicksilver is now £7. 10s. per bottle, immediate delivery.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Jan. 24	Falmouth	Sourabaya	Wave	Henderson.
— 24	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Zwaan	v. Hemert.
— 24	Do.	Do.	Henrietta Geertruida	De Boer.
— 24	Do.	Do.	Eensgezindheid	De Waal.
— 21	Texel	Do.	Hercules	Deterding
— 26	Liverpool	Rangoon	Jane Henderson	Kerr.
— 28	Deal	Canton	Queen of the Ocean	Ellison.
— 15	New York	Manila	Antonio Terry	Luces.
— 11	St. Thomas	Amoy	Julia	Morris.
— 28	Texel	Batavia	Johanna Elisabeth	Junius.
Feb. 1	London	Lagos and Akyab	Maria Helena	Oliviera.
— 1	Marseilles	Alexandria	Moerts, str.	
Jan. 21	New York	Foo-chow-Foo	White Eagle	Williams.
Feb. 2	Portsmouth	Hong Kong &c.	Joh nLidgett	Gamble.
— 2	Deal	Foo-chow-Foo	Bucton Castle	Ridley.
— 4	London	Hankow	Finzel	Murray.
— 4	Do.	Shanghai	Cambalu	Richardson.
— 3	Deal	Do.	Gauntlet	Welsh.
— 5	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Spray of the Ocean	Slaughter.
— 5	Do.	Do.	Belmah	Johnson.
— 5	Do.	Shanghai	Sovereign of India	Scott.
Jan. 31	Cuxhaven	Batavia	Helena	Seltman.
Feb. 3	Liverpool	Shanghai	Jane Leech	Bingham.
— 4	Deal	Singapore	Andromeda	Danneberg.
— 4	Do.	Hong Kong & Canton	Tamana	Neill.
— 5	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Prince Alfred	Ellison.
— 4	Liverpool	Singapore	Morning Star	Johnston.
— 6	Dartmouth	Shanghai	Moneta	Spear.
— 8	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Naomi	Sayers.
— 8	Do.	Do.	Gananoque	Ritchie.
— 8	Do.	Shanghai	Queen of Nations	Mitchell.
— 6	Off Dungeness	Sourabaya	Alma	Conn.
— 5	Helvoet	Batavia	Doggersbank	Nuss.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

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DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Jan. 25	London	Singapore	Dewa Gungadhur	Mackenzie.
— 27	Liverpool	Shanghai	Maravi	Anderson.
— 29	Do.	Manila	Jose y Maria	Ron.
— 29	Do.	Shanghai	Caractacus	Twiss.
— 29	Do.	Singapore	Maggie Lauder	Cargill.
— 29	Greenock	Shanghai	Taeping	McKinnon.
— 29	Loudon	Manila	San Luis	Carrauza.
— 28	Do.	Penang	Sunium	Mathew.
— 26	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Malabar	Castillon.
— 26	Liverpool	Singapore	St. Katharine	Davis.
— 25	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Northland	Howard.
— 26	Newport	Do.	Sailors' Home	Briant.
— 29	Ramsgate	Manila	Hjalmar	Sellstedt.
— 28	Sunderland	Shanghai	Comus	Black.
— 30	Liverpool	Cape, Singp.,&China	Castor	Wise.
— 10	Madeira	China	Stirlingshire	Cunningham.
Feb. 1	London	H. Kong, Canton, &c	Philomela	Archer.
Jan. 30	Pill	Shanghai	John Stanton, jun.	
— 29	Portland	Amoor River	Aalborg	Becard.
— 29	Cardiff	Shanghai	Launceston	Pearson.
— 30	Do.	Japan	Great Western	Robson.
— 30	Sunderland	Singapore	Jane Woodburn	Harrison.
Feb. 3	London	Nagasaki & Kanaga.	Mountain Ash	Dickson.
— 5	Do.	Shanghai	Assyrian	Mearns.
— 5	Do.	H. Kong & Canton	Corea	Garry.
— 5	Do.	Singapore	Jas. Paton	Allison.
Jan. 31	Marseilles	Hong Kong	Carl Brodersen	Ludwig.
Feb. 2	Cardiff	Singapore	Heros	Hartmeyer.
— 1	Off Plymouth	Sourabaya	Tweelingen	Lange.
— 2	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Racehorse	Mann.
Dec. 24	Buenos Ayres	Singapore	Esperanza	Lopez.
— 27	Rio Janeiro	Cape and Japan	H.M.S. Pelorus	
Jan. 11	Bahia	Shanghai	Annette, str.	
— 23	New York	Do.	Nabob	
Feb. 4	Clyde	Singapore	Lochleven Castle	Stuart.
— 3	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Bedford	Gourley.
— 8	Liverpool	Do. *via* Cardiff	Beatrice	Thomas.
— 6	Do.	H. Kong & Shanghai	Ophir	Baillie.
— 5	Dartmouth	Shanghai	Prince Kung, str.	Carr.
— 4	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Venus	Rocford (?).
— 5	Clyde	Batavia, &c.	Three Bells	Simpson.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Nagasaki: Alice. For Kanagawa: Satzuma. For Shanghai: Solent, Delhi, Finzel, City of Quebec, Queen of Nations, Beemah, Yaratilda. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Far East (str.). For Hong Kong and Canton: Southern Belle, Lord Raglan. For Manila: Conchita, Elisa. For Singapore: Panic, Prince Alfred, Blue Jacket. For Penang: Marengo. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Copernicus.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Patna, Alice, Madagascar, Jane Leech, Wild Deer. For Hong Kong and Canton: Everest, Veronica. For Hong Kong: Horsa, Verbena. For Singapore: Invincible, Brami, Bogota. For Manila: Olano. For Batavia and Singapore: Tigris.

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore and Penang: Dunnikier, Hoang-Ho. For Batavia and Singapore: British Queen. For Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai, Elizabeth Ronneberg.

At PORT GLASGOW.—For Shanghai: Yeum-Tze-Fee.

SPOKEN.

BANDA, Hong Kong to Buenos Ayres, Dec. 2, 30 S., 38 E.
NEDERLAND EN ORANGE, Batavia to Rotterdam, Nov. 6.
CARL JULIUS, London to Batavia } 37 S., 11 E.
BURMAN, Clyde to Shanghai }
LOIRGON (?), Sunderland to Shanghai, 37 S., 12 E.
MONEY (?), Fr. ship, Cardiff to Batavia, Jan. 13, 48 N., 10 W.
FOP SMIT, Liverpool to Batavia, Dec. 17, 1 N., 31 W.
LANRICK, Newcastle to Sourabaya, Oct. 2, 3 N., 16 W.
MAUD, Picton to Singapore, Oct. 22, 33 S., 19 W.
ANNA, Batavia to Amsterdam, Nov. 26, 26 S., 50 E.
VESTA
HOCHELAGA } Batavia to Rotterdam, Dec. 3, 36 S., 20 E.
6 GEZUSTERS (Dut. barq.), Batav. to Amstrdm., Nov. 28, 27 S., 52 E.
TUSKIS (?) (Brem.), from Batavia, Nov. 27.
DAYLIGHT, Penang to London, Dec. 3, 35 S., 28 E.
ALIDA KLASINA, Batavia to Amsterdam, Dec. 11, 25 S., 63 E.
KAAP HOORN, Samarang to Amsterdam, Dec. 13, 32 S., 13 E.
ARCADIA, Shanghai to London, Oct. 23.
LADY WHARNCLIFFE
ROBT. WATSON } Shanghai to London, Sept. 25, 7 N., 109 E.
ESBERN SNARE, Shanghai to London, Oct. 3, 2 N., 107 E.
JULES CEZARD, Batavia to Nantes, Dec. 2.
INDIAMAN, ship, Lvrpl. to H. Kong
ISABELLA, do., London to H. Kong } Nov. 26, lat. 20, lon. 31.
EMILY A. HALL, ship, of Prtlnd., Crdff. to Sngpre., Nov. 29, lt. 21, ln. 31.
ALBERTA, China to Liverpool, Nov. 23.
GEN. DUNLOP (?), Dut. ship, Pdng. to Amstrdm., Nov. 11, 35 S., 25 E.
JOSEPHINA BERNHARDINA, Amsterdam to Batavia, Dec. 21, 6 N., 20 W.
OTTO, Newcastle to Sourabaya, Dec. 29, 38 N., 17 W.
MARIE, Rotterdam to Sourabaya, Jan. 8, 36 N., 21 W.
ELLINE, Rotterdam to Singapore, 41 N., 12 W.
PALLAS (barq.), of Bremen, for Hong Kong, Nov. 27, 18 N., 145 E.
MAIDEN QUEEN, Foo-chow-Foo to London, Nov. 22, lat. 4, lon. 109.
ALBRECHT BEYLING, Schiedam to Batavia, Oct. 19, 33 S., 21 W.
EERSTELLING, Newcastle to Sourabaya, Oct. 20, 33 S., 24 W.
WURSATA (barq.), Clyde to Singapore, Nov. 5, 16 S., 31 W.
MONTROSE (?), London to Hong Kong, Dec. 6, 3 N., 27 W.
TREBIZOND, Madeira to Singapore, Dec. 19, 3 N., 27 W.
ZEEMEEUW, Newcastle to Sourabaya, 29 S., 98 E.
MARIA, Batavia to Middleburg, Nov. 10, 25 S., 62 E.
GRONDWET, Shields to Sourabaya, Dec. 10, 8 N., 23 W.
JAVA, Batavia to Falmouth, Dec. 11, 35 S., 19 E.
SIR W. F. WILLIAMS, from Shanghai, Jan. 7, 3 N., 22 W.
QUEEN OF THE AGE, from Canton, Jan. 12, 14 N., 32 W.
NIEUWLAND, Sunderland to Hong Kong, Dec. 31, 3 N., 23 W.
EDINBURGH, Shanghai to London, Oct. 20, on the line, 108 E.
HALTON CASTLE, Singapore to London, Oct. 28, 8 S., 104 E.
ANNA SOPHIA, Amsterdam to Batavia, with troops, Jan. 6, 4 N., 23 W.
MARIE LUCIE (Hamb. bq.), Foo-chow-F. to N. Y., Jan. 7, 2 S., 35 W.
ALIDA (Brem. brig), Swansea to Singapore, Dec. 25, 12 S., 36 W.
HIERONIMUS (Dutch bg.), Hamb. to Hong Kg., Jan. 4, 4 N., 23 W.
ALBUERA, London to Shanghai, Nov. 15, 10 S., 33 W.
FISLEE (?), (Hamb. bq.), Hamb. to Hong Kg., Nov. 1, 39 S., 17 E.
J. A. U., Liverpool to Manila, Nov. 22.
TUISCO (barq.), from Batavia, Nov. 27, 31 S., 33 E.
BOMBO (?), (Aust. bq.), from Manila, Oct. 15, 7 N., 108 E.
SOOLO (Hamb. bq.), Cardiff to Hong Kong, Oct. 25, 4 S., 108 E.
CLARO BABUYAN (barq.), Shanghai to New York, Nov. 6, 15 S., 96 E.
PRESIDENT PLATE (Dut. ship), Batav. to Rttrdm., Jan. 23, 33 N., 42 W.
QUEEN (ship), Penang to London, Jan. 23, 33 N., 42 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

(*Exclusive of this Day's Advices.*)

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Medina, Cambridge, Broadwater, Ravensbourne, J. C. Munro, Esperanza, sc. Cawfell, Dolphin, Europe. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, M. Theresa, William Eggerts. At NEW YORK: Sarah (*via* Shanghai), Maggie Atkinson.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Beatrice, Monarch, Belle, Mexican, Hanover, Melrose, Grenadier, Humphrey Nelson, Palmerston, James Vinnicombe, Mirage, Osprey, Spirit of the Deep, J. H. Ransom, Hawthorne, Daisy, Spirit of Trade, Sophie, Philip I., Mimosa, Bosworth, Maiden Queen, Portland, Reindeer, Canadian, Edinburgh, India, Sir W. F. Williams, Sunbeam, Runnymede, Jubilee, Ocean Queen, Beautiful Star, Reindeer, Siam, Havelock, Ocean Bride, Edith, Queen of the Age, Gauntlet, Rock City, Clarendon, Jane Mitchell, Langdale, Theodore and Julie, Alfred the Great, Wm. Melhuish, Fairlight, Ironside, Bellissimas, Laurel, Magnus, Renown, Nelly, Star Queen, Chalmers, Balmacarra, H.M.'s Scout, Heroes of Alma, Princess of Wales, Lammermuir, Marie Wilhelmina. At LIVERPOOL: Alfred Kay, Joshua Bates, Eliza Stewart, Iron Crown, Forfarshire, Our Queen, Sarah and Emma, Cordova, Palmyra, Alliance, Abdul Medjid, Regina, Ranee, Victoria, Star of the North, Allandale, Lorton, Eleanor, Montgomery, Lady Elizabeth, Chalmers, Niphon, James Gibson, Spirit of the Sea, Macduff, Nile, Nielbreek, Esmeralda, Glenhuntly, Fow Tsun, Princess Royal, Loodianah, Chryseis, Amazone, Agincourt, Light of the Age, Falcon, Lord Lyndhurst, Itsamboul. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama. At HAMBURG: Siwa, Selina Jane, Ophelia. At NEW YORK: Clara Babuyan, Vesta, Marie Lucie, Glenclune, Hainan, Anna, Sarah, Wilhelmina, Graf Eulenburg, Creole, Florence Nightingale, Helen Nicholson, Apollo, Elizabeth, Louise Kohn, Confucius.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Pelicano, Minden, Flora, Der Preusse. At FALMOUTH: Agricola, Maggie Lauder. At LIVERPOOL: Alarae, Conference, Belvidere. At NEW YORK: Bavaria, Helvetia.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON. Avalanche, Maid of the Tyne, Hallton Castle, Latona, Peter Symons, Oscar, Pilgrim. At LIVERPOOL: Louis Cezard, Oasis, Alfred Roy. At QUEENSTOWN: Agricola. At SHIELDS: Zes Gezusters (Dut.) At FALMOUTH: For orders, Helene (Dan.). At BORDEAUX: Chene (Fr.), Frehel (Fr.), Salazes (Fr.), Oiixa. At NEW YORK: Sclavonia, Moldavian, Caroline.

From BATAVIA.—At LONDON; Java, At FALMOUTH: Frederika. At CHANNEL: Ceres, Richard.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: John Masterman, Daylight, Nipisiquit, Teesdale. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

CASUALTIES.

The Landbouw, Kleynenberg, from Batavia, which arrived at Brouwershaven Jan. 21, is leaky, and has lost sails and boat, having experienced heavy gales.

The Eliza Stewart, Osborne, from Hong Kong for Liverpool, put into Algoa Bay Dec. 16, short of water, and with crew sick.

LIVERPOOL, Jan. 25.—The Hidalgo, Roberts, arrived here reports having spoken, Jan. 12, in lat. 37 N., long. 24 W., the Pieter Schoenmakers, Kers, 128 days out, from Batavia for Amsterdam, with crew sick; Europeans all well. Advices from Lisbon since received report the arrival there, on the 28th Jan., of the Pieter Schoenmakers, with twenty Lascars dead, and the rest of the crew sick.

The Antonio Terry, Luces, which arrived at New York Jan. 15, from Manila, had experienced very heavy weather, and had sprung mainmast.

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 28.—The Schoonderloo, Otto, from Batavia, lying aground in the Great North Holland Canal, was run into by the Odin or Idun, Jacobsen, from Dram to this port, and sustained considerable damage in her stern post.

The Maggie Leslie, Stephen, from Shields for Hong Kong, put into Portsmouth Jan. 30 with windlass broken.

The Java, from Batavia to Falmouth, which was spoken on December 11, in lat. 35 S., lon. 19. E., had lost bulwarks in a gale, on November 19, in lat. 29 S., lon. 49 E.

The Sir W. F. Williams, from Shanghai, which was spoken on January 7, in 3 N., 22 W., reported that her master had died in the China seas.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 5.—The Morning Star, from Singapore, has been ashore on Pluckington Bank, but was towed off to an anchor after remaining a short time.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Outward freights have experienced no improvement, there being but little animation in shipments, and the tonnage on the berth for the different eastern ports having increased. Vessels are still required for homeward charters from all the principal ports, except for rice, the season for which is now too far advanced.

The Admiralty have engaged freight in the Corea for the conveyance of twenty-five tons, and in the Southern Belle for 27 tons (including a few combustibles), light government stores from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

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MESSRS. RAND AND BECKLEY
(SUCCESSORS TO LAURIE, BEDFORD, AND RAND)
SADDLERS AND HARNESS MANUFACTURERS,
INVENTORS OF THE PATENT ELASTIC SADDLE.

MESSRS. R & B. have a large assortment of well-seasoned Saddlery and Harness suitable for India and the Colonies, always on hand.

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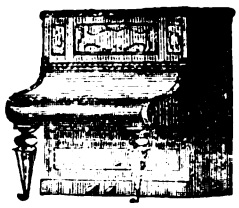
TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND INDIA.



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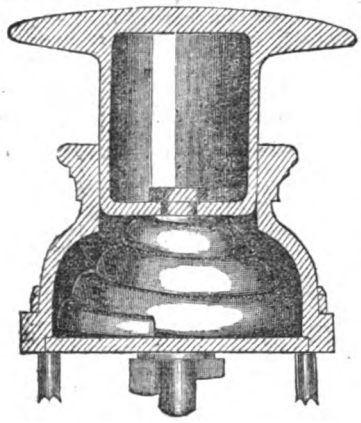

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As soon as the Capital is subscribed for, and a Meeting called to frame laws and appoint Directors, &c., and sign a deed of settlement similar to the "Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock Company's Deed," it is proposed to buy from Mr. B. E. Carneiro that property in the Inner Harbour of Macao, situated on the Praya Manduco, and now known as "Gude de Carneiro."

Together with the Four Large Houses and Twelve Godowns, strongly built, and ground appertaining, measuring in all 70,575 superficial feet for the sum of... ... ... Dols. 45,000

(The above Houses and Godowns are at present partially insured in Hong Kong for 20,000 dols., at a premium of 1½ per cent.)

A contract was made to build a Dock capable of taking in a ship with 205 feet keel and 260 over all, and entrance at the gate of 55 feet, a breadth on the inside on the top 66½ feet, and bottom 35 feet, now partially constructed, and can be finished in three or four months' time, and with a depth of water at spring tides of 14½ to 15 feet, at neap tides 11½ to 12 feet, for the sum of 24,000
Machine and Pumps and for putting up 5,000
Extra wages and other expenses 1,700

Total cost of Granite Dock and building, &c., 75,700

If the Proprietors think desirable, the Portuguese Government have granted permission to extend the Dock 31 feet longer, and have also granted permission to fill up a space that can be used as a timber yard and for other purposes—205 feet by 90 feet. The extra contract for this work would be:—

To lengthen the Dock 31 feet 5,400
To lengthen the Keel 20 feet 3,500
To filling up the space 205 by 90 feet 10,300

Total Amount ... 19,200

This would still leave an available sum of 55,100 dols. which could be partially used to purchase ship stores, machinery, and to send for Engineers, &c., and the balance kept as a reserve fund. Mr. S. B. RAWLING has consented to act as Engineer to the Company, upon a payment of 5 per cent. on the cost, for his services, the Company paying his travelling expenses.

Application for Shares can be made to Mr. S. B. RAWLING; Messrs. PHILLPS, MOORE and Co., of Hong Kong, and B. E. CARNEIRO, of Macao, and every information can be obtained from the same sources.

Macao, 21st December, 1863.

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Do. Neap do. 13½ to 15 ,,

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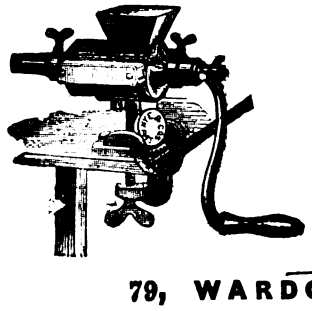

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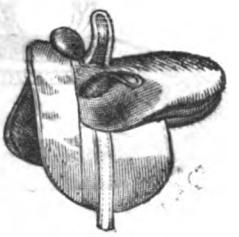

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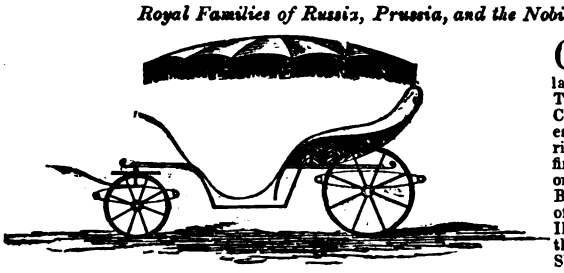

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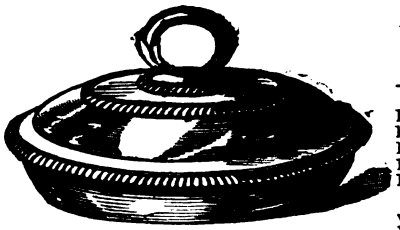

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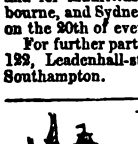

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 129.] LONDON, SATURDAY, FEB. 27, 1864. [Sub. 30s. per ann., and 12s. to Supplement. Single copy of either 9d.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Kanagawa			Dec. 18
	Nagasaki			„ 23
	Hakodadi			
CHINA—				
	Peking			„ 11
	Tien-tsin			„ 14
	Hankow			Jan. 2
	Shanghai	Nov. 17	Jan. 7	„ 9
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 6
	Amoy			„ 11
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	Nov. 17	Jan. 1	15
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila			
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Touron			
	Saigon			„ 10
SIAM—				
	Bankok			
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			
	Sarawak			„ 12
JAVA—				
	Batavia			„ 15
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	Dec. 17	Jan. 20	„ 22
	Penang	„ 10	„ 13	„ 24

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, to Marseilles, per Euxine, arrived Feb. 24.—From Shanghai: Mrs. Alisch, infant, and servant. Announced in Hong Kong papers.—Capt. H. D. Brown, wife, and servant, and Mrs. Courset.

To Southampton, per Ceylon, expected to arrive March 2.—From Hong Kong: Ensign Spence, J. Brown, W. Clark.—From Singapore: Capt. and Mrs. Salter and two children.

By last Bombay mail, to Marseilles, per Vectis, arrived Feb. 19.—From Hong Kong: Mr. P. G. Lawrie.

To Southampton, per Poonah, arrived Feb. 25.—From Hong Kong: Mr. T. Platt.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

By last mail, per P. and O. steamer Pera, Feb. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. V. F. Maddock, R.N., D. Wakeham, R.N., H. A. Searle, R.N., and H. Chum, R.N., Miss Phillips, Messrs. G. E. Stokes, H. Birch, R.N., J. Ellis, R.N., A. Pritchard, R.N., J. Butchart, R.N., J. Galbraith, R.N., D. Crichton, R.N., and L. Simmons.—To Shanghai: Mr. E. Nichol, Mr. H. Evans, Mr. O. Eyles, and nineteen second-class passengers.—To Penang: Mr. B. Rodyk.—To Singapore: Miss Buyers.—To Calcutta: Capt. R. N. and Miss Chambers, Capt. and Mrs. Dundas and infant. Mr. and Mrs. Lambert, Mrs. Davidge, Mrs. Scott and child, Mr. Gowan, Mr. A. P. Corbett, Ensign Norman, Mr. Newbett, and nine second-class passengers.—To Madras: Capt. G. Radcliffe, Messrs. J. K. Winter, D. Rasbotham, and B. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. R. Smith, Miss Smith, Mr. Walls, and four second class passengers.—To Ceylon: Mrs. Higgs and infant, Mrs. Forbes and infant, Messrs. Forbes, Oxlee, F. Herring, L. Kelly, and Weir.—To Alexandria: Miss Trulove, Messrs. Walker and Overman. From Alexandria.—To Ceylon: Miss Kelly.

From Marseilles, per Vectis, to leave Feb. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Odell, Messrs. E. H. How, A. J. How, Fearon, and B. A. Clarke.—To Shanghai: Mr. Mackintosh, Mr. and Mrs. Henderson.—To Calcutta: Mrs. Paul, Surg. and Mrs. M. Smith, infant, and European female servant, Mr. L. Berkeley, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Conner, Mr. and Mrs. Purcell, Mr. and Mrs. Leeds, Major and Mrs. Ross, Messrs. J. B. Finch, H. J. Becher, and R. Merington, Staff.-Surg. Major H. Downes, Capt. W. J. Randall, Messrs. H. B. Goodwin, and C. B. Stewart.—To Madras: Messrs. W. B. Cross, J. Beaumont, and Oakes, Major Drury.—To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Northway.—To Alexandria: Mr. and Mrs. Larkins, Miss Larkins, Miss Burrows and female servant, Messrs. Phillips and Freeland, Mr. and Mrs. Amhurst, Miss Amhurst, and Miss Paton

Per P. and O. steamer, March 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. G. Williams, R.N., Mr. J. Gittings, Commander J. W. Webb, R.N.—To Singapore: Mr. Wyon. From Gibraltar.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. Manuel Pereira and Edward Pereira. From Marseilles, March 12.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Schwabe, infant, and two children.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. T. M. Drysdale, H. Marshall, Jas. Deacon, E. Cubbett, Edward Mellish, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wright, Mr. Fearon.—To Shanghai: Mr. L. S. Dunlop.

Per P. and O. steamer of March 12, from Southampton.—From Suez.—To Shanghai, via Bombay: Mr. Cornes.

Per Far East steamer, for Shanghai and Hong Kong, from London, sailed Feb. 24.—Mrs. Boyle, daughter, and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. Langan, Mrs. Atkins, Mrs. Harry Jones, family, and servant, Miss Patridge, and Miss Henry, Messrs. Finnis, Morgan, Hay, Egan, Peyton, Goddard, Church, Limber, Grosser, Gidley, Jones, McKenzie, Abell, two Japanese, and ten second-class passengers.

ADDITIONAL PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

By last mail, from Marseilles, per Vectis, to leave Feb. 28.—To Singapore: Mr. Macfarlane.—To Ceylon: Commander C. F. B. Robinson.

Per P. and O. steamer, March 12, from Southampton.—To Shanghai, via Bombay: Messrs. Nimmo and Stevenson.

Per P. and O. steamer, March 20, from Southampton.—To Kong Kong: Mr. Henry Parke. From Marseilles, March 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Odell.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

By the present mail we have no intelligence from Yokohama or Nagasaki of a later date than what appeared in our issue of the 12th instant. We have further news down to the 11th of December from

HAKODADI.

The *Osborne* and *Dove* leaving this evening or to-morrow morning, clear this harbour of foreign shipping;—the combu, or sea-weed season is finished, and Hakodadi will resolve itself into that usual winter state of tranquillity and congelation which may be daily exemplified by grouse, hares, and vension for the table, sleighing as amusement, and business at a standstill. To talk of sleighing, however, is rather premature, for with the exception of the early part of November, the weather has been exceedingly mild, and we cannot say that winter has commenced.

Exchange is as low as ever, dollars at the present being down to 210. We have had a report that for the representatives of America and Portugal no more exchange will be received. Should this prove true, it is the step I advocated in my last letter, and one, without doubt, in the right direction. I reiterate that so long as Consuls and other Government officers draw exchange from the Japanese Government, so long will the dollars rema in at depreciated value, and trade with Japan be muffled, as it were, and prevented from gaining its full tone. A business, to be successful, should be superintended by persons interested in its success; but with trade in Japan the reverse is the rule, and the employes of foreign Governments are really interested against its furtherance. If Consuls find a difficulty in existing in Japan on their present small (?) salaries, let their salaries be increased when their exchange is stopped, but by all means let the present wholesale trading in coin by Government officers be put an end to.

Wars and rumours of wars have no existence here, and we are as quiet—and likely to continue so, I think—as if there was not the slightest hitch between our respective Governments and that of Japan. This has hitherto been a favourite wintering station of Russian vessels of war, but we have not seen one for a long time, although now their more northern ports must be closed. The question then is—where are the Russians, and why do they make themselves so scarce in these parts?

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

The dates are down the 9th January. The English mail of 10th Nov., and French mail of 17th, had arrived out. The following is the position of the Anglo-Chinese force according to the *Commercial Record*:—

At Soochow and Quinsan matters have remained in *statu quo*, if we except an additional little piece of outrage committed by the Futai on a French priest, who, under the authority of a pass from the Imperial Government of Peking, and by permission of the Mandarin then in charge of the city, entered Soochow and took up his residence at the former property of the French

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Roman Catholic Mission. The Futai on learning this ordered his removal, which was forcibly carried out, the priest beaten and caused to kneel and made to undergo other indignities; the matter is now in the hands of the French Consular authorities.

The Imperialists, under Ching and Major Bayley, have taken Ping-wang after some sharp fighting, losing about 150 men and inflicting a loss on the rebels of about 500, besides 300 prisoners subsequently slaughtered, together with one European inside the stockade, subsequent to the capture. The sum of 10,000 taels, together with some other presents, were sent from the Imperial Government at Peking to Major Gordon, upon the bare news of the fall of Soochow reaching the seat of Government, and before the delicate position in which the gallant officer stood towards the Futai was known in those quarters. This kumshaw reached the Major through the Futai, and was immediately rejected and returned as being altogether unacceptable. The rumour is that the Futai (who has received the yellow jacket of honour!) has written to humble himself to the Government and acknowledge that he was to blame in the matter of the Soochow butchery, praying that he may be punished accordingly; should this prove true he will probably be degraded one week, to be reinstated with honour and promotion; but such a proceeding will not for a moment we hope be tolerated or acknowledged.

The *North China Herald* says:—

The city of Soochow appears to be in a state of perfect tranquillity. For the services rendered by the Futai (?) in the capture of the place, the Emperor has been pleased to elevate him to the rank of Kung-paou, a distinction which gives the recipient the privilege of wearing yellow robes when in the Emperor's presence. The following ordinances issued by the throne will exhibit clearly the light in which the respective services of the Futai and of Gordon have been represented by the former.

On December 24, 1863, the following decree was issued to the Inner Council:—

"Li memorialises announcing that, having led his forces to the attack of Soochow, he has retaken the city. The perusal of his report has afforded us joy and satisfaction indeed. Gordon, as a tsung ping of the province of Kiang-soot in command of his auxiliary force, has displayed thorough strategy and skill, and has put forth most distinguished exertions. We ordain that a medal of distinction of the highest class be conferred upon him, and, further, that he receive a donation of ten thousand taels in token of our approbation. Respect this!"

On the same day was issued the following private decree of approval to Gordon for the great bravery and exertions (which attended) the recapture of Soochow. The donation of ten thousand taels is to be provided and sent to him by Li. "Foreign nations already possess orders of merit under the name of 'stars;' let therefore the decoration of the first class which we have conferred upon Gordon be arranged in accordance with this system. Respect this."

The "kumshaw" of ten thousand taels mentioned above was accordingly prepared and offered for Gordon's acceptance, but was by him indignantly refused. The events which succeeded the surrender of the city seem to have disgusted Gordon with the Chinese service, and to have had the effect of making him regard a Chinese distinction as a degradation.—[Quite proper too.—ED. *L. & C. T.*]

We have been informed that for the services which the Futai has represented himself to have rendered the Imperial cause in the province of Kiang-su, he has been promoted to the yellow jacket. This distinction (the Huang Ma Kua) raises the recipient over the heads of all other mandarins, and expresses in the most unmistakable manner the approval of the Emperor. It does not, however, interfere with his subservience to the Governor-general Tsung Kun-fan, and he will, therefore, in all probability continue to act as Futai in this province.

The following notification was also issued by the Futai's friends:—

"On account of the floating rumours regarding the late affairs in Soochow, the undersigned have thought it best to publish this card and make known the real facts of the case.

"The public ought to bear in mind that it was when Le Futai had invested the city and had captured in succession twenty-three stockades in front of Lowmun, that the hearts of the rebels first began to fail them, and that it was on the departure of Chung Wang on the 23rd of 10th moon (December 3rd) for Woochow, Ne Wang and others first gave intimation of surrender. Now, if they sincerely wished to save their own lives, the question arises under what plea did they again collect an army and intrench themselves? Each of the five wangs and four headmen had under him 20,000 or 30,000 men, who continued to wear long hair, and were in possession of the three gates of the city.

"On the 25th (December 5) Né Wang sent out Mowang's head. On the 26th the Futai went to the stockade situated immediately without the wall, to receive the allegiance of the rebel wangs. The wangs and headmen, in all nine men came, but accompanied by a large body of men fully armed, and whose appearance wore an air of fierceness. They demanded of the Futai the exclusive right to garrison the Soochow city, and sole power over their own men. On the spot it would be dangerous for the Futai to refuse the demand, as well as impossible to grant it. Accordingly the Futai, having answered in a few words, left the stockade, and ordered the gates to be closed and the headmen seized and beheaded.

"The remaining 20,000 or 30,000 rebels in the city, seeing their leaders killed, at once shaved their heads and tendered allegiance, willing to return to peaceful avocations.

"Now, we find that Né Wang and the other wangs and headmen, during the three years of their possession of Soo-chow, had committed incalculable evil, and the people they killed exceeded myriads of souls. Their surrender was not made in good faith. If opportunity offered they would again raise the Taiping standard.

"If such men are not killed, though Soochow might be recaptured, the advantages resulting from the success would be less than what should be expected.

"Rebels in other places have, on surrender, been spared, and even received into services of honour; why should these be singled out as objects of punishment? It was because the Futai found it impossible to tolerate their existence, and he deserves no censure for his course of action.

"SOOCHOW COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE DEFENCELESS."

The *Recorder* has the following notice of the markets:—

Our market presents a pleasant spectacle at this season of the year, and must strike a stranger with astonishment, leading him to believe that it is our own fault if we are not the best fed people in China.

In the butchers' shops, particularly that picture of cleanliness the Bucherie Francais, you see enormous joints of well fed and well grained beef, mutton, 14 and 15 lbs. to the leg, delicate home fed pork—fresh sausages in graceful festoons, &c., &c., whilst fresh fish of every description, shrimps, prawns the newly discovered Saddle Island oysters, even down to white bait and splendid soles, adorn the fish stalls. A little further on you meet with pheasants of gorgeous plumage venison, wild geese and ducks—teal, pigeon, woodcocks, snipe, hares, quail, golden plover, an occasional white swan, and hosts of smaller birds.

The fruit market keeps pace with the rest. Tientsin, grapes, oranges, amoy pumeloes, chestnuts, walnuts, apples, pears, &c., &c., displaying their tempting and luscious beauties to the purchaser. Nor are we badly off for vegetables, numbering Shantung cabbages and occasional cauliflowers, with the usual supply.

A Steam Tug and Lighter Company has also been established, which will be found in our advertising columns.

The *North China Herald* of January 2nd, contains a review of the year 1863.

In addition to the Marine Insurance Society a Fire Office has now been established. The notice of it will be found in our advertising columns.

The following mercantile notices have appeared:—

N. Latimer, A. Little, and J. Nutt, have established themselves at Shanghai, Kiukiang, and Chinkiang, as Commission Agents and Public Tea and Silk Inspectors; at Shanghai, as Nichol Latimer and Co., and Kiukiang and Chinkiang as Latimer, Little, and Co.

The business of T. W. Jackson, at Ningpo, will in future be carried on under the style of Jackson, and Co.

Mr. George Robert Davis is authorised to sign for the firm of W. R. Adamson and Co., per procuration at Yokohama.

Mr. John Andrew Maitland is admitted a partner in the firm of Thorne Brothers and Co.

Mr. C. Kraemer has been admitted a partner by Mr. Henry Drucker; style of firm, Drucker and Co.

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Mr. John George Dunn has been admitted a partner by Mr. David Reid; style, Reid and Co.

Mr. William Waller has established himself as public silk inspector and commission agent, under the style of Waller and Co.

Messrs. Freiderich Adolph Joost and Mr. Emil Brunkow have been admitted partners in the firm of Siemssen and Co.

W. J. Alt and Co., of Nagasaki, notified, on the 1st of December, that the interest and responsibility of Mr. Herbert Montague Wright in their firm ceases on that day, and that from the 1st of January the business would be continued under the style of Alt and Co.

Monsieur Bertolini advertises that he is about to leave Europe, but strangely omits to say who succeeds him as agent for the *Messageries Imperiales*.

CHEFOO AND TIENTSIN.

By the *Island Queen* from Chefoo we have the following items from Taku to the 14th Dec. The *Nora Creina* had left Taku on that day, having experienced great difficulty in getting over the bar. Cold weather had set in on the 10th. The *Island Queen* attempted to get over the bar, but was obliged to return to Chefoo, where she discharged her cargo, except the opium, which she brought back to Shanghai. At Chefoo the winter had set in severely. Snow eighteen inches deep, with high winds. Quotations at Chefoo (nominal)—Bean cake, taels 0.92; Peas (very scarce), taels 4 to 4.3.; Opium (Malwa), taels 53; Cotton (more plentiful), taels 18. Opium quotations for Tientsin—Malwa, taels 630.

The Chefoo mail will be forwarded *via* Tientsin, as junks refuse to cross to Chefoo. No advices have been received from Tientsin of later date than the 9th Dec. Ice was then setting in, and there was no trade doing except in opium, which had advanced taels 630.

HANKOW.

From this place, and the other ports on the Yangtsze, we have no important advices. Our correspondents bewail the general dulness of trade induced by the approach of the Chinese New Year, but report no events of any interest. The river has fallen so considerably, that should it sink one foot further, steamers will be unable to pass Kiukiang. The shock of an earthquake was felt in Hankow on the 25th of December, and the lives of 300 Chinese lost by the consequent falling of an embankment upon which they were at work.

AMOY.

NINE PIRATICAL JUNKS DESTROYED BY H.M.S. GUNBOAT "HAUGHTY."

Piratical junks from Canton having for some time past committed all sorts of depredations along the coast, the gunboat *Haughty* went in pursuit, and on the 13th December four piratical junks were descried in Owick Bay; two were captured and destroyed, the rest escaping.

Subsequently a piratical lorcha was seen in the Hatan-shan River, and attacked and burned by boats of the *Haughty*. On the 20th the Chinese authorities pointed out to the Commander two large junks which had been captured a few days before by the pirates, who had murdered most of the crews. The pirates had hastily abandoned the two junks on hearing from Swatow that the *Haughty* had been ordered to look out for them. A day or two afterwards, in front of the piratical village of Hanchow, three junks were shelled by the *Haughty*, and when deserted by their crews two were destroyed and one retained as a prize.

On the 3rd January, the mandarins requested the capture of a large suspicious-looking junk, which was sent in as a prize, to be disposed of by the proper authorities at Swatow On the same day, in Pinghai Bay, two more pirate junks were attacked by the *Haughty*. One was destroyed in the bay; the other stood out to sea, firing with great precision into the *Haughty*, who gave chase, and destroyed the pirate after a most determined resistance on the part of the crew, who lost between 20 and 30 men killed and wounded, but a few escaping untouched by the fire of the *Haughty*, which was hulled several times, had her rigging injured, and seven of her crew wounded. Amongst the latter, the second master is seriously hurt, and one of the crew has since died.

The several junks thus destroyed between the middle of December and the 6th January are supposed to have been under the command of a European desperado.

HONG KONG.

The English mail of 26th November had not arrived. The French mail of 17th November arrived on the 1st January. The rise in the Exchange on England, which was reported by telegram to be at 7s., was exaggerated. The tightness of money was not so intense as would appear by the telegram. The rise in freights to England was owing to a scarcity of tonnage, which would not be relieved probably until the S.W. monsoon set in. The steamer *Bahama*, Captain Rowe, arrived from London (19th September) on 25th December. She was detained in Batavia for coals over a week, we believe. The *Bahama* is offered for sale in Shanghai.

The following, on the subject of the Committee of the proposed City Hall, is from the *Evening Mail*:—

(To the Editor of the *Evening Mail*.)

HONG KONG, Jan. 8, 1864.

DEAR SIR,—On reading the circular put forth by the self-constituted committee of six gentlemen, respecting the construction of a city hall, it must be obvious to anyone that the public are not adequately represented by that committee; and, in order that they may be, I would recommend that a public meeting be called of all intending subscribers, and that they choose both chairman and committee, in all thirteen, and that the choice be made as follows:—

1st. From British merchants and bankers, four members.
2nd. From other foreign merchants, four members.
3rd. From those engaged in trade, three members.
4th. That the nautical community be represented by one of our talented marine surveyors.
5th. That only one legal gentleman be chosen to take care of the public interests, as two would be quite enough to cause a commotion in heaven itself.

Here, sir, you would have thirteen gentlemen on the committee who would fairly represent the public of Hong Kong, and as the building is intended for public convenience, and not for private interest, it is but reasonable that the great body of the public should have a voice in the management.

I would suggest that any four of the committee may at any time call a public meeting, or grant permission for the use of the theatre; and I would recommend no one to subscribe who is not represented. I will not, for one.—Yours faithfully,

COSMOPOLITE.

(To the Editor of the *Evening Mail*.)

HONG KONG, 9th Jan., 1864.

SIR,—Your issue of yesterday contains a letter signed "Cosmopolite," in which objections are raised to the present provisional committee for promoting the erection of a city hall—first, as numerically insufficient, and as failing adequately to represent the community of Hong Kong, and secondly, as being self-constituted.

The first objection is merely a matter of opinion, on which it does not become me to speak. The committee are, however, quite ready to act in concert with other foreign merchants, with those engaged in trade, and with a talented marine surveyor, if the public are of opinion that the progress of the undertaking will be thereby accelerated.

The second objection involves a question of fact to which I can speak explicitly. A public meeting for the purpose of promoting the erection of a city hall was held in the Club House on the 8th October, 1861, at which Mr. Pollard, Mr. Owen, and myself were appointed a committee to obtain a site and collect funds. We had power given to us to add to our number, which we have used by associating with ourselves a merchant, a banker, and a member of Government. The charge, therefore, against the committee of being self-constituted is groundless.

So soon as the site has been procured, the purpose for which the committee was appointed will have been attained, and the whole question will then again be submitted to a general meeting.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

C. W. MURRAY, for the Committee.

We omitted to notice in our last a daring attack made on Mr. Foster, surgeon of the *Coquette*, while returning from Government House, in the afternoon, at broad daylight. It is almost amusing, to see how clever these miscreants are in selecting an unwary victim. The rascals made clean off with his watch, chain, &c.

In our last issue we called attention to the supplies of coal t Labuan, and in another column will be found a report of the directors, which is confirmed by the arrival at Hong Kong of the steamer *Stirling*, from Labuan, with 1,000 tons for Government.

Under the title of "Hong Kong Taxed in Downing-street," the *Mail* puts forth a growl against the colony being taxed some £24,000 a-year for the building and expenses of the Mint, and for an annual contribution towards military protec-

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tion. It is contended that the Mint ought to produce a handsome annual revenue, probably £40,000 a-year, but of that sum it is not proposed that the colony shall touch a penny. It is agreed, moreover, that "it is a most unfair proceeding to make the Colonial Government of Hong Kong pay for all the mintage required for an enormous China trade. If the matter could be so modified as to give Hong Kong half the proceeds in case of success, the concern paying for its own premises, and the salaries of officers, then we might give the money for the original cost of the Mint, and guarantee the salaries for three years in case of failure. The £20,000 Ordinance should then stand over until the end of the three years, and its enactment should then depend upon the success of the Mint scheme. This would be in some measure fair; for supposing the coinage to yield £40,000 a year, half of that sum, at least, would be from sources unconnected with the trade of Hongkong, and could be allowed to go towards the maintenance of our arms in this part of the East." [Probably this is the course that will be pursued. If the Mint is to be built, and all its expenses paid out of colonial funds, it is clear it must be treated as a Colonial concern—as part and parcel of the colony—and all the profits must go into the Colonial Treasury.—ED. *London and China Telegraph*.]

The local Government have just taken over the waterworks from the engineer who undertook to construct them, upwards of two years ago. Nothing has gone wrong during the course of these works beyond the falling in of an arch in one of the tanks, which was caused by the contractor removing the wooden supports from under it before the lime was dry, which he did, Chinaman-like, on his own responsibility, as he wished to use the supports elsewhere, and wanted to save the expense of new ones. His mistake only cost him the trouble of rebuilding the wreck.

Her Majesty's Consul at Canton communicates that of the pirates charged with the destruction of the *Parana* and the murder of her crew, sixteen have been found guilty, and sentenced to be decapitated, their heads to be exposed near the place where the crime was committed; the remaining eight are to be flogged, and banished for a period of three years. All these twenty-four prisoners have been handed over to the Judicial Commissioner that their sentence may be executed. The twelve men sent from Hong Kong are still under examination.

We learn that a gentleman from Manila, whose name we know very well (says the *Mail*) was robbed of his watch and chain the other morning while walking along the Praya between Peddar's Wharf and Bosman's. The depredation was committed by two Chinamen, in broad daylight (8 A.M.), and as great resistance was offered, the gentleman in question is considerably injured. We may talk as we please about doing without the military, but this island is an asylum for scoundrels who want nothing but opportunity to raise a small Taeping rebellion in our midst. The police are of no use. The last batch from Bombay are the worst of the lot.

Miss Amelia Bailey has given her First Concert in the Exchange Rooms, Queen's-road, where Mr. R. Sipp made his first appearance as a pianoforte-player. Both vocalist and instrumental are said to be the best ever heard in Hong Kong.

CANTON.

The following gossip from the city of Rams has been sent to us (*China Mail*):—

That respectable class of Chinese styled the literati give the subjoined as generally well authenticated:—

The domestic quiet of the Governor of Canton has been sadly disturbed by a scene frequently enacted in most families of the many social grades in China. It appears that the Governor had a fair concubine presented to him by the celebrated and increasingly popular statesman, Tseng-kwo Fan; that she possessed attractions equalling those of his legal wife, and that he, to show his appreciation of her, gave her the use of his wife's chair with its eight bearers. But Mrs. Governor could not brook the insult, and her gentle ire influenced her hands, and other weapons, till the broken sedan, her old friend, was a proof of what is called the sweetness of revenge. But the husband was not to be outwitted, so he bought a new chair for his favourite, but this, jealousy or right destroyed.

Upon the principle that the Emperor is the father of the people, and all his officers an adumbration of his pure rule, this family quarrel in high life was deemed a great disgrace, and, as is the rule, several high officers were called in to settle the dispute. But arguments availed not, persuasion was powerless, and Mrs. Governor, to show her disgust of the whole, absconded. Hong Kong is the next place from which anything is heard of her, and the chagrined husband immediately sends a letter of conciliation, but, before it reaches its destination, her ladyship has again taken flight; one of the foreigner's fire steamers is steaming her away north, and soon her tale of grief will justify her unexpected appearance under the parental roof. This has its own moral.

On Tuesday evening last, an adroit plan to rob was as adroitly executed near the Great Peace Gate of Canton. It appears there is a long, very narrow passage-entrance to a bank called Sai Wing Hong, which is entered from one of the principal thoroughfares in that locality. On the evening of the 31st, about dark, several men dressed as literati of the first rank called professedly to transact most important business. While the banker was absorbed in this supposed lucrative transaction, in came six or seven men dressed as beggars, pretending to ask for a little rice. Very little notice was taken of them, as is usual in Canton. Soon the moment came for action, and swords and daggers were produced and used. The panic that followed must be imagined. Suffice to say the literati embraced this opportunity to transact their business, and composedly walked out with more than a thousand dollars. No cue to the sharpers.

JAVA.

BATAVIA.

The following items are from the *Java Times*, lately started in Batavia, and which we trust will have a prosperous career:—

The committee for the projected Zoological and Botanical Garden have advertised, that owing to their inability to procure a suitable piece of ground for the purpose, they must for the present relinquish their plan.

The Opera-house has been lighted up with gas, which is a decided improvement.

The British barque *Dolphin*, Withers, master, from Yokohama to London, put in lately at Anjer for a new fore-topmast. While there a portion of the crew mutinied. The captain obtained assistance from two vessels lying close by, and after a desperate struggle, in which pistols had to be resorted to, the mutineers were secured and placed in irons. The commandant of the fort arrived shortly after the men had been secured, and, at the request of the captain, took them on shore and placed them in confinement. The master proceeded overland to Batavia, and made arrangements for engaging new hands. The delay caused by this disturbance on board is the more unfortunate, because bets to a large amount were laid on the *Dolphin's* arriving in Europe before another vessel (the *Scawfell* probably).

A meeting of the British residents in Batavia was held on the 22nd of December, presided over by H. B. M. Consul. The proceedings consisted in the church committee handing in their report to the community, and it was gratifying to observe that, notwithstanding the large number of subscribers who had either left the place or withdrawn their subscriptions, the funds were on the whole in a flourishing condition.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

The London mail of the 10th of December reached Singapore on the evening of the 14th of January, and the Messageries mail, from London to the 17th, and Marseilles to the 19th of December, arrived on the morning of the 20th of January. Colonel Freeth arrived from Ceylon by the Messageries steamer, and the business of the transfer commission will, it is expected, be got so speedily through, that Sir Hercules Robinson, who has now had a long stay here, proceeds to China immediately on the arrival of the next outward mail. There appears to be no doubt whatever that the transfer will take place, unless any unforeseen obstacle should be thrown in the way by the Colonial or Indian Office. It has transpired that the present revenue, after deducting the entire expenses of Government, on the model suggested by Sir Hercules Robinson and Colonel Cavenagh, leaves a very substantial surplus. It is very creditable to our Governor, Cavenagh (says the *Straits Times*), that, though an Indian servant, his recommendations have, it is understood, always been favourable to a more independent system of Government for these settlements than can be enjoyed under the Council of India.

Brigadier General Brice C. B., and Brigadier Major Milman, of the Royal Artillery, also arrived by the Messageries steamer,

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on a tour of inspection; and no doubt the forts and the manner in which they are, and ought to be, garrisoned, will be timeously considered, that the commission may embody some recommendations on the subject in their report. It is not at all improbable that some of the far-famed forts will be dismantled. It appears that there are serious objections to two of them, and these two are the largest and most expensive.

Colonel de Sausmarez, brigadier, left, per *Pluto*, on his tour of inspection, on the 11th. Colonel Warden now commands at Singapore as senior officer. Colonel Bond is making his official inspection of the two garrison batteries stationed at Fort Canning.

For the information of home readers, we give the speculations rife at Singapore at the time of the departure of the mail, Jan. 22nd, as to the whereabouts of the *Alabama*. By the last Bombay mail we learnt that this bold Confederate cruiser was off the coast of Cochin, where she had captured and burnt a vessel called the *Emma*. The *Straits Times* reports:—

Nothing whatever has been heard of the *Alabama* since the date of our last summary. The ship *Thomas Blyth*, from Liverpool which arrived here on the 15th, reports that, when off Acheen Head (at the western entrance of the Straits of Malacca), on the 31st Dec., she was boarded by the boats of a war steamer flying the American flag, and giving the name of *Wyoming*. This was doubtless the *Alabama*, as the *Wyoming* is known to have been at Manila at the time; but it is probable that the Confederate cruiser has since then left our straits, because a large American ship, laden with rice, from Bassein, arrived in harbour safely two days ago; and from the narrowness of the straits through which she had to pass, it is quite impossible that she could have escaped the notice of the *Alabama*, had she been there to watch for her. The safe arrival of the *Oxenbridge* also discredits the report that the *Alabama* had gone to cruise off the rice ports.

Frank Mahoney, Richard Humbly, and John Gready, three men belonging to the Confederate steamer *Alabama*, out of a number of others who had absconded from the said vessel, had been charged before the sitting magistrate with having, on several occasions, assaulted the petty-officers and crew of H.M.S. *Saracen* and *Rifleman*. The charge being fully borne out in one case, his Worship fined the defendants 50 rupees each, or the alternative of two months' imprisonment in the House of Correction, with hard labour, in default of payment.

The appointment of Crown Prosecutor at Singapore and Malacca has been conferred by the Government of India on T. Braddell, Esq.; and the Deputy Commissioner of Police had, by the Governor, been appointed Her Majesty's Coroner for the island of Singapore.

At a meeting of the shareholders of the Tanjong Pagar Dock, resolutions had been passed entirely favourable to the project, and it was determined to carry through the works with the least possible delay.

The *Government Gazette* of the 15th January notifies that, as the result of an inquiry before Lieutenant Burn, Master Attendant, and Mr. G. T. Wright, Marine Magistrate, into a charge of drunkenness brought against William Garland, late master of the British ship *Glen Isla* by Messrs. Cama and Co., agents of the vessel, his certificate of competency as a master had been cancelled.

The party of convicts, who are told off as tiger hunters, had exhibited before the authorities a tiger which one of their number shot in a by-path near Thomson's-road. On Sunday night, at 10 P.M., the peon in charge of the party, armed with a double-barrelled gun, charged with a bullet in each, ascended a tree and lay in wait. Shortly afterwards the tiger made its appearance, howling in search of prey, when the man fired, both shots taking effect. The bullets penetrated the back near the neck, and lodged in the ribs. The animal measured about nine feet from the mouth to the end of the tail.

In our Shipping Intelligence will be found the official notice from Lloyd's of H.M.S. *Vigilant* having touched on a rock before unknown, and of the loss of the *Surat* and *Lammermuir*. We are here enabled to furnish the particulars. The following letter from Commander Hobson appeared in the Singapore *Government Gazette* of the 8th January:—

Her Majesty's ship *Vigilant*, Singapore, Jan. 5.

Captain J. Burn, Resident Councillor, Singapore.

Sir,—Her Majesty's sloop under my command having on the 6th ult., grounded upon a hitherto unknown rock, in latitude 13·52' north, and longitude 118·36' east, I have the honour to acquaint you with the fact, and request you will be pleased to take measures for giving it publicity. The rock in question appears to be a mere pinnacle, from ten to eleven feet below the water; no soundings were obtained near it with 66 fathoms of line, nor could discoloured or broken water be perceived from the mastheads; there can, however, be no possible doubt of its existence, as the *Vigilant* lost part of her false keel upon it. Good sights having been obtained about two hours before the ship struck, the position I assign to this danger is as reliable as a hurriedly fixed position can be; it is quite in the fair way of the Manila trade, and should be given a wide berth by any ship passing it, even although, as may well happen, it be missed by the lead when sought for.—I have the honour to be, &c., WILLIAM R. OSBORN, Commander.

The following are the particulars of the loss of the *Surat* and the *Lammermuir*:—

The British barque *Surat*, J. Black, master, sailed from Liverpool on the 21st of August, bound for Hong Kong,—cargo, coals. On the 8th of January, sounded in 18 fms. among the Thousand Islands; at 2 p.m. struck on a coral reef 14 feet below water, not laid down on the chart; made all endeavours to get her off, but could not; got all ready for leaving the vessel; in 20 minutes she had 7 feet water in her hold; at 4 p.m. 10 feet water in her; arrived at Onroust 4 p.m. on the 11th. Bearings taken from the Shoal:—W. Island W. ½ S., N. Island N.N.W., N.E. Island N.E. by E. ½ E. in about lat. 5·26 S. and long. 106 34 E.

The steamer *Koningen der Nederlanden* saw on the 16th inst. the wreck still on the rock, high out of water.

Ship *Lammermuir*, Captain Joass, from Shanghai, bound to London, struck on a sunken rock in Macklesfield Straits on the 31st December, about 2.30 a.m.; entrance point S.S.W. ½ W.S.W.; point of Pulo Leat, E.S.E. The rock appeared to be a perfect pinnacle, with deep water all round; remained about 15 minutes, and then came off, and afterwards in about one hour sunk; the water on the rock at the time the vessel was on it was about 14 feet; the vessel hanging on a pivot, twisting round on her centre several times before coming off.

The crews of these two vessels had arrived at Singapore in the *Koningen*. If the bearings of the rock on which the *Lammermuir* was lost are correct, it is in a most dangerous position, being nearly midchannel in the Straits.

The P. and O. Company's steamer *Behar*, on her way from Bombay to Singapore, on the 7th of January, spoke the English ship *Alliance*, from Penang to Jeddah, with commander dead. At the request of the chief officer sent a surgeon board to view the body. The *Alliance* was returning to Penang.

H.M.S. *Centaur* arrived from Hong Kong with seventy invalids on board *en route* for England.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

ALT—On the 13th Feb., at Twickenham, the wife of Lisle Bowles Alt, Esq., of a son.
APEL—On the 18th Jan., at Singapore, the wife of Mr. Jules Apel, of a daughter.
BURN—On the 19th Jan., at Mount Emily, Singapore, the wife of Capt. James Burn, Bengal Staff Corps, and Officiating Resident Councillor, Singapore, of a daughter.
CLUNIS—On the 14th Jan., at Singapore, Mrs. John Clunis, of a son.
COMPTON—On the 19th Feb., at Brunswick House, Clapham-common, Mrs. Charles Henry Compton, of a son.
COOPER—On the 18th Feb., at Whampoa House, Aldwick, West Sussex, the wife of J. C. Cooper, Esq., late of Whampoa, of a son, stillborn.
DAY—On the 1st Jan., at Murray Barracks, Hong Hong, the wife of Captain Henry J. Day, 99th Regiment, of a son.
FENNELL—On the 11th Feb., at Newlands, Regent's-park, Millbrook, Southampton, the wife of Arthur Fennell, Esq., of a son.
HORNE—On the 18th Feb., at her father's house, 10, Russell-square, the wife of Horace Horne, of Moorgate street, of a son.
KENT—On the 11th Feb., at Hazelhurst, East Moulsey, Surrey, the wife of F. J. Kent, jun., Esq., of a son.
KENNEDY—On the 18th Feb., at 39, Brook-street, Grosvenor-square, the wife of Colone Clark Kennedy, C.B., of a daughter.
MARKHAM—On the 7th Jan., at the British Consulate, Shanghai, the wife of John Markham, H.B.M.'s Consul, of a son.
MOODY—On the 8th Feb., at Bournemouth, the wife of Colonel R. C. Moody, Royal Engineers, of a son.
PURVIS—On the 11th Jan., at Glassmount, Singapore, the wife of John M. Purvis, Esq., of a son.
VANDERSPAR—On the 17th Feb., at Bath, the wife of John Louis Vanderspar, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

CRAWFORD—ROY.—On the 17th Feb., at No. 30, Richmond-street, Glasgow, Mr. D. Rae Crawford, of Hong Kong, to Lillias Leishman, eldest daughter of Mr. Archd. Roy.
EVERS—JACKSON.—On Thursday, the 11th Feb., at the parish church, Brighton, by the Rev. H. M. Wagner, vicar, Arthur Evers, Esq., of London, to Mary A. Calvert Jackson, only child of R. B. Jackson, Esq., of Castelnau, Surrey, late H.M.'s Consul at Foo-chow-Foo, China.
HAGAN—LING.—On the 7th Jan., at the Roman Catholic Chapel, Hong Kong, by the Rev. Father Raimondi, John Hagan, Inspector of Police, to Miss Jane Ling, of London.
MONGAN—HOWLETT.—On the 24th inst., at Earlham, near Norwich, by the vicar, the Rev. J. H. Payne, James Mougan, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul, Tien-tsin, China, to Emily Mary, elder daughter of John Howlett, Esq., of Bowthorpe Hall, Norfolk.
ROBERTSON—CARRUTHERS.—In the notice of this marriage which appeared in our issue of the 12th Feb., the date given as 26th Jan. should have been 26th Dec.
WRIGHT—CHURCH.—On the 20th Feb., at Salcombe Regis, near Sidmouth, Devon, by the Rev. William Hanson, M.A., assisted by the Rev. S. M. Walker, M.A., vicar of St. Enader, Cornwall, uncle of the bride, James Hanson Wright, Esq., of Shanghai, only son of the late James Wright, Esq., of Balham, Surrey, to Eleanor Anne, only daughter of Lieut.-Colonel W. J. Church, of H.M.'s Madras Army.

DEATHS.

BRACESVIDLE—On the 7th Jan., at Hong Kong, James Bracesvidle, late chief officer barque Ettrick.
BOYLE—On the 8th Jan., at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, James L. Boyle, Master of the schooner Tien-tsin, aged 40 years.
BROUGHALL—On the 25th Feb., at Broadwater Down, Tunbridge Wells, Mary, the wife of William Broughall.

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CLINKER—On the 16th Feb., at 1, Summit-place, Upper Clapton. David Beddime Clinker, aged 33, late agent of the Commercial Bank of India, at Calcutta, and youngest son of the late Henry Clinker, Esq.

D'OUTEIRO—On the 4th Jan., at Macao, Jose Marie D'Outeiro.

GRIFFIN—At Shanghai, China, on Dec. 4, 1863, Captain Wm. H. Griffin, a native of Baltimore, Md., for many years a pilot of San Francisco.

JANSSON—On the 6th Jan., at the Seamen's Hospital, Hong Kong, J. Jansson, seaman, ex Swedish barque Theodore Dill.

PATERSON—On the 21st Feb., at Maybole, Ayrshire, William Richard Paterson, Esq., late of Manilla and Singapore, and son of the late Lieut.-Gen. Sir William Paterson, K.C.H., of Exeter.

MAULE—In December last, killed at the capture of Soochow, H. B. Maule, Esq., Captain in the 2nd Regiment of Foot of the Chinese force, late Captain in the 4th (the King's Own) Regiment.

NISBET—On the 26th Dec., at Ningpo, Thomas Nisbet, late of Hong Kong.

TATE—On the 4th Jan., at the Shanghai Hospital, of small-pox, Patrick Tate, the Australian Rider, and a member of Professor Risley's Company of Equestrians.

TOMLINS—On the 9th Dec., on board the British barque Esk, Hong Kong, Harold J. G. Tomlins, master, aged 40 years.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—The Foochow and Amoy mails have not arrived. The remarks made in last report may almost be repeated. The supply to the Hankow market is clearly all but exhausted, nor can any more country Congous be expected at Canton. Black teas generally tend down a little, but not on a scale to correspond with the rise of freight and exchange; they are still pitched far too high for safe investment, and it is singular how firm the teamen are. The scarcity of money and the approach of China new year, must produce their natural effect shortly. Green teas at Kewkiang have again advanced, and are now 7 taels above opening rates. At Canton, there is a small stock of country greens, but there appears no indications of the market opening.

CANTON.—The market remains very dull and inactive. The few settlements of Congous which have taken place have been on previous terms, the approach of China new year appearing to have little effect in reducing rates. The prices ruling generally are above the home values, and the difference appears likely to be further enhanced by an advance in both exchange and freight. In Scented Teas, Canton Greens, and other descriptions, a very limited business has been transacted on previous terms. The following are the transactions reported for the fortnight:—Congous, 4 chops, say black leaf on Pekoe flavour, at 27 taels; and black leaf Pekoe flavour at 31 to 31¾ taels; and 400 half-chests Tyshaans, at 20 taels. Oolong, 1,300 half-chests, at 22½ to 24 taels for medium to good. Scented Caper, 2,000 boxes, at 18 to 22 taels for fair to good. Scented Orange Pekoe, 900 boxes, at 25 taels for good medium up to 37 taels for finest. Canton Greens, 400 boxes Gunpowder, at 21 taels for good; 2,000 boxes Imperial, at 19 taels for good; and 750 half-chests Young Hyson, at 19 to 25 taels for good to fair. The stock on the market is thus reported:—Congous, 46 chops and 1,500 half-chests Tyshaan; Oolongs, 200 half-chests; Scented Capers, fair; Scented Orange Pekoe, small; Canton Greens, uncertain; Country Greens, 6,000 packages.

SHANGHAI.—Black: There has been a better demand throughout the fortnight, and 15 chops have been settled. During the last few days business has been checked in consequence of the further rise in exchange, and the difficulty in procuring tonnage. Prices have ruled unevenly, and in some instances show an advance of fully one tael on last quotations. Arrivals from Hankow have been small, and our stocks are considerably reduced. Settlements on the market, 15 chops, 7,305 chests Oopacks, Oonahms, Ningchows, and Hohows. Re-shipped on owners' account, 20 chops, 8,015 chests Oopacks, Oonahms, Ningchows and Hohows, 35 chops—15,320 chests, making total to date 374,071 chests. Stock, waiting shipment, 5 chops, and for re-sale, 11 chops—16 chops. We quote, second and third crop Oopacks and Ningchows, 25 to 29 taels; second and third crop Oonahms, 19 to 25 taels; second and third crop Hohows, 17 to 21 taels. Green: During the early part of the fortnight considerable settlements were made at a further advance on our last quotations, but during the last week the scarcity of money and the rapid advance in exchange have checked buyers, and holders seem willing to accept lower prices. Very little has been done in Pingsueys and Shanghai packed, as our market is very barely supplied, and teamen are asking extreme rates. Re-shipment and settlements, 41,408 ½-chests Fychow, &c., 3,770 chests Pingsuey, 339 ½-chests Japan—45,517 ½-chests, making total to date 203,160 ½-chests. Stock of green tea is estimated at 24,624 ½-chests Fychow, &c.,; 2,400 ½-chests Shanghai packed Japan; 3.600 chests Pingsuey—30,624 ½-chests.

HANKOW.—Little has been doing here, the market remaining very dull, and supplies from the country being very small. Three chops are reported as being settled, and one a Chinese shipment—four chops in all. Seven small chops of half chests comprise the present stock. There is no change in quotations, which are at present—Oopacks, Chongsowkyes, Leyling, and Ningchows, tls. 21 to 26 per picul, short price. Oonahms, tls. 15 to 18.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—There was little change early in the fortnight, and as the dealers continued firm, very few transactions were concluded. A scarcity of money having been severely felt latterly, the Chinamen have appeared more anxious to realise, and a decline of 10 taels per picul has been submitted to, but it has failed to induce any extensive operations, and a further considerable fall must take place before any important purchases are entered into. The further advance in the rate of exchange causes the laying-down cost to be nearly 3s. per lb. above the last home quotations. The arrivals from Japan have been about 900 bales, and the mail steamer, now due, will probably bring further supplies. The settlements of the fortnight are stated at 1,200 bales, against 2,200 bales corresponding fortnight last year, and 4,000 bales year before. The present stock is 5,500 bales, against same quantity last season, and 12,000 season before. The following are the current quotations:—Tsatlees, No. 1 chops, — to — taels per picul; 2, 440 to 450; 3, 420 to 430; Market, 3, 390 to 400; 4, 400 to 410; 5 and common, 380 to 385; Taysaams, No. 1 and 2, 380 to 420; 3 and inferior, 330 to 370; Yuenfa, No. 1 and 2, 400 to 450; 3 and inferior, 390 to 400; Hainings, 370 to 420.

CANTON.—Beyond a few bales of Loong-Kongs, which are held by the up-country dealers at exorbitant prices, there is nothing now remaining, and with the departure of this steamer the silk season terminates. Comparing the total export with that of last season, there is a falling-off of over 1,000 bales. The total shipments this season amount to 2,753 bales to Europe, and 5,574 cases to Bombay and New York. Direct to London by European houses bales 1,430, of which 1,246 are new reels, and 184 old reels. Waste silk, 560 bales.

DRUGS, &c.—Cassia Lignea, no sales reported—rate $17½, stock 1,000 pls. Cassia Oil, market still bare. Cassia Buds, no sales, rates $57½, stock 75 pls. Star Aniseed, no sales; stock 40 pls.; $25 is the asking rate. Aniseed Oil, market still bare. Rhubarb, no settlements reported, 50 pls. are on the market. Gamboge, no sales, market bare. China Root is quoted $3.75., stock 400 pls. Galangal, no sales, stock small. Galls, no sales, stock trifling.

COTTON AT SHANGHAI.

The *Recorder* has the following comments on this staple:—The almost insatiable demand for cotton, which week after week during the present season has increased, causing a corresponding increase in the quotations, has from a variety of causes received a check which in all probability will be more than temporary, and perhaps more particularly in this market than in any other. The growers of cotton here are all natives, small farmers, or planters, who will find their interest so much better served to grow for European markets than for native manufacturers or markets, that we may expect a very large increase in next season's crop. Further, as the shipment out of the country of the raw material increases, the demand for Manchester goods will also increase in proportion as the extent of their own manufactures are decreased. The cotton yet comes forward dirty and seedy, and the staple in some instances very poor, but it is nearly as capable of classification as American, and quite as much so as East Indian. Parcels have been shipped, samples of which are about equal to good middling New Orleans. We anticipate as soon as the extent of the production becomes thoroughly known in England, and a classification given to grades, that orders, on lines for execution for home speculation and trade account, dependent on the size of the crop, will be sent out. When this system prevails, the trade here will become large indeed, and we look with much satisfaction on the probable prospects opening for China on its development. The necessities of the trade beginning with an approximate estimate of the extent of the crop to come, the influx of money and manufacturers will bring us into contact with the poorer and working classes of China who cultivate the soil, and who will be enriched and consequently rise in the social scale to an extent which the tea and silk trades cannot effect from the different nature of their cultivation. A statistical table has been published by the Commissioner of the Imperial Customs here of the amount of cotton shipped from the 1st of June to the end of December last year. The quantities are given in piculs, and for the benefit of home readers we place them in lbs. English, viz.:—June, 2,115,323 lbs., average price during the month at 13 taels per picul, or 7d. per lb; July, 2,844,570 lbs., at 15 taels per picul, or 8d. per lb.; August, 4,284,277 lbs., at 14 taels per picul, or 7¾d. per lb.; September, 3,526,573 lbs., at 13 taels per picul, or 7d. per lb.; October, 7,382,457 lbs., at 15 taels per picul, or 8d. per b.; November, 10,263,615 lbs., at 20 taels per picul, or 10¼d. per lb.; December, 16,158,899 lbs., at 22 taels per picul, or 1s. per lb. The cotton arriving into Shanghai, whether from Hankow, Ningpo, other outports, or the inland districts, is sent false packed, much of it being too wet and otherwise adulterated for shipment. Holders of such would gladly sell. Sales were made in the early part of the fortnight at 26 taels per picul for up river staples, and as high as 26.80 taels for a parcel, duty paid, from Hankow. A reduction during the fortnight may be noted of 6.00 taels. Closing rates for No. 1 Shanghai, 20.00 taels; country, 21.50 to 23.00 taels; at Hankow, 22 to 23.50 taels.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—There has not been any inquiry for Cotton Yarn in this colony during the past fortnight, and the prices demanded are generally somewhat higher than the dealers feel disposed to pay.

GREY SHIRTINGS.—The advices last received from India of drooping prices for these fabrics have checked, to a great extent, the demand noticed in our last, and the annexed quotations show a material decline in value as compared with the rates then current. The sales of the past fortnight are estimated at 9,000 pieces purchased by foreigners, and 500 taken by Chinese dealers.

WHITE SHIRTINGS have not met with any inquiry, and there are not any sales to notice.

T-CLOTHS.—The transactions in these fabrics, the quotations for the heavier qualities of which are slightly higher, have been confined to purchases effected by foreigners, and amount to 2,200 pieces during the fortnight.

AMERICAN DRILLS.—There is not any stock of these goods on hand.

WHITE SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, DYED DO., BROCADES, WHITE AND COLOURED.—Prices of all these goods remain as quoted under date of 31st ultimo, and the only sale to notice is 500 pieces of dyed spotted shirtings. Damasks 200 pieces sold during the past fortnight.

WOOLLENS, SPANISH STRIPES, MEDIUM CLOTHS, LADIES' AND HABIT CLOTHS.—These goods do not show any change in price; and the business done amounts to about 400 pieces.

LONG ELLS.—Stocks of these fabrics are now rather low, but prices remain without alteration, and the sales of the fortnight amount to 500 pieces.

CAMLETS.—Without change to notice in value, have found buyers to the extent of 650 pieces.

LASTINGS are in extremely small stock, and have been in good demand during the fortnight, sales of about 1,600 pieces having been reported.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.—A fair inquiry has existed for most descriptions of iron during the past fortnight at prices which do not show any change in the quotations current at the date of last report. The sales effected are estimated at 3,696 piculs of Nail Rod, 500 piculs of Square and Flat Bar, and 420 of Hoop.

LEAD.—Again shows a decline of about 5 cents per picul, with sales of 1,500 piculs reported.

TIN.—The sales of the fortnight amount to 600 slabs.

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TIN PLATES.—Owing to the small stock now in this market the value of these has advanced about $1.50 per box, and sales of 430 boxes are reported.

OPIUM.—Benares: This drug has been more inquired for than Patna; and was at the time of the arrival of the *Lightning* on a par value with it, being then saleable at $575 per chest. Since that time, however, it has given way also, and now maintains its usual relative value of $10 per chest below Patna. The demand continues good, while the closing rate is $532½ to 535 per chest. Malwa: Owing to the small supplies that have come on during the past fortnight, this drug has not suffered so much as Patna and Benares. The demand, which is entirely Chinese, continues pretty good, but then holders have to submit to having reductions even on best quality drug, which continues very scarce. Prices have ranged from $630 to 640 per picul, the latter being the closing rate. Turkey: Demand limited; quotation $520 to 525.

Per Onward, for San Francisco, despatched by Allmand and Co.:—Tea, 316 packages (4,060 lbs); rags, 1,000 bags; merchandise 142 packages; cuttle fish, 25 boxes; sundries 80 piculs. Passengers: In the Onward, for San Francisco, Capt. D. H. Lynch, Mr. Davis, Capt. Crowell, Mr. Hayle, Mr. Eusden, Mr. Hill, Mr. Newton.

In the Confiance, for London, despatched by Aspinall, Corns and Co.:—Silk, 190 bales; tea, 3,363 cases; cotton, 697 bales; bees wax, 100 boxes; sundries, 14 boxes.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6	months sight.	6s. 8d. to 6s. 9d.	6s. 9d. to 6s. 10d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 11d. to 5s. 0d.	5s. 0d. to 5s. 1d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 11d. to 4s. 11½d.	5s. 0d. to 5s. 1d.
At Manila	6	ditto	4s. 8d.	4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.

On Calcutta, at Shanghai, Rs. 317. At Hong Kong, Rs. 226.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Dec. 26, Bahama (stm.); 30, Fort William, from Liverpool; Jan. 8, Ann Adamson. From Liverpool: Dec. 31, Stornaway. From Anglesea: Sarah Newman. From New York: Jan. 7, Takee.

At HONG KONG.—From London: Jan. 14, Her Majesty. From Liverpool: Jan. 3, Constancia; 5, Belted Will. From Sunderland: 1st, Esk. From Cardiff: 4, Fidelio; 11, Sterling (str., *via* Singapore). From New York: 2, Resolute.

At BATAVIA.—From Glasgow: Jan. 7, Dolphin. From Amsterdam: Jan. 5, Susanna.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: Jan. 9, Eliza Thornton; 17, Constantine. From Sunderland: 11, Silver Cloud. From Liverpool: 15, Thomas Blyth. From Cardiff: 11, Alardus. From Glasgow: 19, Scotland. From Jersey: 12, S. Western (str.). From Rotterdam: 15, F. Hendrik.

DEPARTURES.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Jan. 2, Island Queen; 6, Strathallan; 7, Marquis of Argyle. For Liverpool: Dec. 31, Zingra; Jan. 2, Montmorency. For New York: 8, Hermine. For Montreal: 8, H. E. Sassaune.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: Dec. 24, Glaramaza; Kahlamba, for New York.

From AMOY.—For London: Dec. 29, Amaranth.

From HONG KONG.—For Liverpool: Dec. 31. Virginia; Jan. 3, Juanpore. For England: 11, H.M.S. Centaur.

From MANILA.—For Liverpool: Elias. For Falmouth: Helvetren. For New York: Castilian.

From SINGAPORE.—For Liverpool: Jan. 12, Crusader; 18, Spanker. For Bordeaux: 11, Hoogly; 13, Saint Mitchel.

From BATAVIA.—For Holland: Jan. 1, Jusulaneren, Princess Amalie; 3, Van Galen.

LOADING.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Egmont, Fair Leader, Lansdowne, Sappho, T. Dryden, Oithona, O. Cromwell. For Liverpool: Antelope, Spirit of the Times, Alice Tainter, T. Roydon, Ralston, Veloz. For New York: Silver Craig, Kate Carnie, Thetis, Hermie.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Tamerlane, Cornelia Hendrika. For Liverpool: Devonshire, J. L. Dimmock, Koh-i-noor (cleared), Norwood, Rio, Annie Duthie, Bella, Alchymist. For New York: Resolute, Orient, Creole, Solo, Hamilla Mitchell.

At MACAO.—For Hamburg: Orion.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Rutherford, Early Dawn, Eliza Thornton. For England: H.M.S. Centaur. For Copenhagen: Emma. For Boston: Pearl.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—Jan. 1, Passing Cloud, from Cardiff to Singapore; 4, Augusta Norwood, Cardiff to Singapore; Surat, Liverpool to Shanghai.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT. — Dec. 27, Bankok, from Bankok to London; Merrie England, Ningpo to Liverpool; 28, Chalmers, Foochow to London; Amazone, Hong Kong to Liverpool; Jeannie Joseph, Nagasaki to Havre; 29, Standard, Foochow to London; Tow Tsun, Shanghai to Liverpool; Itsamboul, Hong Kong to Liverpool; Star Queen, Shanghai to London; 30, Maria Wilhelmina, Amoy to London; Balmacarra, Shanghai to London; 30, Lord Lyndhurst, Hong Kong to Liverpool; 31, Zingra, Shanghai to Liverpool; Jan. 1, Ballarat, Shanghai to London; Nonpariel, Shanghai to Liverpool; Zouave, Canton to Demerara; 2, Glenhuntly; Shanghai to Liverpool; Young England, Shanghai to Liverpool.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—Jan. 1, Confucius, Amoy to New York; Apollo, Shanghai to New York; 4, Peep o'Day, Foochow to New York.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

SHANGHAI.—Tonnage is in good demand, and rates have considerably advanced, and are likely to be higher. They are as follows:—Cotton freights to Liverpool, £5 to £5. 7s. 6d.; tea, £3. 17s. 6d. to £4 per ton.

HONG KONG.—There is some activity in the market, and the prospects generally are good. The rates to London and Liverpool are: £3. 15s. to £4 per ton; to Bangkok and back, 60 cents; to Shanghai, 85 cents per ton and 40 cents per picul.

SINGAPORE.—Vessels are in active demand for China and the rice ports. The rates to Hong Kong are 55 to 60 cents per picul; to Rangoon and back, 55½ cents; to England, tin, £3; sago, in boxes, £4; sago flour, £3. 5s.; gambier, in bales, £3. 5s.: sugar, £3. 15s.; black pepper, coffee, hides and horns, gutta percha, £4; meast., £4.

CASUALTIES.

The British steamer Nankin has been totally lost coming out of Sual, with a cargo to Hong Kong.

The British barque Homer, of Singapore, has been lost in the Gulf of Shuntung; crew saved.

The British schooner, Prince of Wales, was dismasted near Chefoo, about the 22nd of December.

COMMERCIAL POSTCRIPT.

The board of directors of the Imperial Bank of China is nearly completed, and the undertaking will be formally announced in a few days.

The state of the silk trade is thus described in Messrs. Durant and Co.'s Circular:—"The periodical public sales are concluded. The quantity offered was 2,600 bales Bengal silk, 5,000 bales China, 1,500 bales Japan, and 6,000 bales Canton silk. The whole was allowed to pass without biddings, except some few damaged bales—and about 200 bales printed 'to be sold without reserve.' These were generally in small breaks and of common quality, and were sold at apparently low prices. The general market has been very quiet for the last fortnight, with continually heavy prices—the repeated accounts of short settlements and shorter shipments from China and Japan having failed to rouse attention. The continental markets seem to have been equally dull and depressed. It remains to be seen if the reduction in the Bank rate of discount produces any beneficial effect."

A deputation from the Chambers of Commerce have waited on Government to propose a division of the matters belonging to trade from the politics of the Foreign Office. They propose that the Board of Trade should take cognizance of all commercial interests.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Feb. 22, at Texel, from Batavia, Nicolas Witzen; 12, at New York, from Hong Kong, Agincourt; 25, off Cape Clear, from China, Beautiful Star; at Queenstown, from Shanghai, Spirit of the Sea; 23, at Bremen, from Rangoon, Schlosser; 24, from Macao, Dwina.

SPOKEN.—Volba, Manila to Havre, Dec. 22; Langdale, Foo-chow Foo to London, Dec. 21, 29 S., 40 E., and was supplied with provisions Margaretha, Bavaria to Amsterdam, Dec. 31, 32 S., 14 W.; Clarissima, Macao to London, Jan. 1, lat. 35, lon. 20; Carobel, Bristol to Singapore, Nov. 7, 10 N., 25 W.; Oriental, Cardiff to Shanghai, Nov. 22, 15 S., 29 W.

DEPARTURES.—Feb. 22, from Cardiff, for Manila, St. Fillan; 24, from Cardiff, for Hong Kong, Ocean; from Hull, for Singapore, Honigby; from Lamlash, for Singapore, Falcon.

LAID ON.—At London, for Singapore, Maggie.

At ASCENSION.—Jan. 8, Tasmania, Jonker, from Batavia, for Amsterdam; 14, Mexicana, Collins, from Amoy. Off Ascension.—Jan. 12, Ravensbourne, from Japan, for London; 13, Edinburgh, from Shanghai, for London; 24, G.D.L.J., from Shanghai, for Liverpool; 26, Sarah and Emma, from Shanghai, for Liverpool.

At ST. HELENA.—Jan. 11, Palmerston, Peters, from Shanghai, and sailed for London; 13, Robertus Hendricus, Mulder, from Batavia, and sailed 14 for Amsterdam; 14, Luconia, Admiraal, from Probolingo, and sailed for Amsterdam; 15, Theodora Machtilda, Wyck, from Patjitan, and sailed 16 for Amsterdam.

Off ST. HELENA.—Jan. 12, Melbrek, from Hong Kong.

At TABLE BAY.—Jan. 7, Mary, Silversparre, from Batavia, and sailed 11, for Falmouth; Camoens, Marques, from Macao, and sailed, 9, for Havana; 18, Jane and Isabella, Cole, sailed for Singapore; 15, Leila, Rapson, for Singapore.

At ALGOA BAY.—Jan. 16, Melrose, Huson, from Amoy, and sailed, 17 for Boston.

CASUALTY.—Teneriffe, Feb. 12. The Jane E. Williams, Young, of and from Liverpool for Shanghai, which took fire Feb. 4th ninety-three miles from this island, and was abandoned next day, was afterwards taken in tow by an inland vessel, but went down within sight of the port of Orotava.

The Julibee has been accepted by the Admiralty for the conveyance of Government stores to Hong Kong.

The Fantasie, Forbeck, from Batavia to Falmouth, which put into St. Helena Dec. 30, was leaky. Having been trimmed by the head, and the leak found and stopped, she proceeded on the 1st Jan.

The *Amberwitch* steamer from London to Bombay, with fittings, fo. the Persian gulf cable fleet, arrived in Table Bay on the 26th (December) On the 27th during a strong south east gale in Table Bay, she parted both cables, and before she could be brought up had run foul of the barque *Hastings*, carrying away her jibboom, &c.

The *London Gazette* of last night announces the appointment of Rear-Admiral Augustus Leopold Kuper, C.B., with temporary rank as Vice-Admiral, while Commander-in-Chief on the East Indian and China Station, to be an Ordinary Member of the Military Division of the Second Class, or Knights Commanders, of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

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ADVERTISEMENTS.

SINGAPORE DOCKS.

THE Public are hereby informed, that in consequence of one of the Proprietors retiring from business, Shares to the amount of 60,000 dols. will be Sold in the SINGAPORE DOCK COMPANY, which is shortly to be registered under the Limited Liability Act.

The Company intend also at once to complete their New Dock, which has been dug out and laid dry, ready to receive the masonry. The ground is clear of springs, and therefore all engineering difficulties are at an end.

The communications between the Docks have also all been completed for now over three years, and have been found to be perfect, and answer well.

Steam Engines.—One working to 40-horse, and another to 20-horse power, are in place, and as each Dock serves as a reservoir to the other, the two Docks, when finished, can be laid dry in three hours.

The New Dock, as before stated, being ready to receive masonry, dressed granite, and other materials ready on the ground, and in sufficient quantity to complete the Piers for Caissoon, Sill, &c., the whole can be completed, it is estimated, within twelve months.

This dock will be made of sufficient dimensions to admit the largest frigate, and can be completed now for about the sum of 50,000 dollars.

The Company have also a Patent Slip on the spot, not yet made use of, that could be laid down and rendered available at a very small cost; the embankment being finished, and partly bunded in.

The dock property has over 4,000 feet of water frontage, with deep water close to; and nearly one mile of direct property in an unbroken line.

Two large Godowns, capable of holding over 5,000 tons of goods, are now erecting, and will be ready in about three months.

There are at present 560 feet of wharfage made, and accommodation for four large vessels to load or discharge at one time.

Large sheds are also now in the course of erection for storage of coals, and other goods.

The present dock, opened in 1859, is in fine working order, admitting two large vessels at one time; and has machinery worked by steam for the repairs of Engines, Boilers, Iron Vessels, &c.; appliances for sawing timber and woodwork generally are also complete.

A very large and well selected stock of Timber, Yellow Metal, Copper, and Iron on hand.

The largest portion of this ground is in perpetuity; the remainder on lease for 99 years, at the small rent of 300 dols. per year.

There are two large substantial brick dwelling and two engine houses, and blacksmith's shop; two large bungalows, about 10,000 nutmeg trees, some thousand cocoanut and fruit trees, and flower gardens in full bearing.

There are also, belonging to this estate, a heaving-down hulk, and branch establishment in Singapore.

The Singapore branch has also a good stock of teak timber, spars for masts, a quantity of native timber, &c., &c.; in fact, all that is necessary for the repairs of ships.

To give further particulars in this advertisement would be superfluous, but should information as to the desirability of the investment be required, I must recommend a perusal of the prospectus of the Tangong Pagar Dock Company (Limited), which enters largely into the profits said to be realised by this Company.

Application for shares to be made to W. W. KER, Esq., 25, Poultry, London, E.C., where a photographic view will be shown of the Docks, and all particulars given.

Singapore, 21st January, 1864. W. CLOUGHTON, Director.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Subscribed Capital 2,000,000 taels, in 400 Shares of 5,000 taels each.
Paid up Capital 200,000 taels.

DIRECTORS.

F. B. Johnson, Esq. (Messrs. Johnson and Co.)
H. H. Wiggins, Esq., Manager Commercial Bank of India, Chairman.
H. D. Stewart, Esq. (Messrs. Turner and Co.).
F. Porter, Esq. (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston, and Co.).
J. Thorne, Esq. (Messrs. Thorne Brothers and Co.).
David Reid, Esq.

Agencies are about to be established at the several ports in China and Japan.

L. JOSEPHS, Secretary

SHANGHAI TUG AND LIGHTER COMPANY.

Capital, 80,000 Taels, in Shares of 500 Taels each.

CHAIRMAN.

H. D. STEWART, ESQ.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. E. Buissonnet,	Messrs. F. Porter,
F. B. Forbes,	T. Probst, and
F. B. Johnson,	P. H. Underwood.

The company will be prepared to conduct all business connected with the lighterage of merchandise and specie at this port on and after the first of January next. The discharge of entire cargoes, if required, will be undertaken by first-class iron and other boats, which will be removed about by a steam-tug.

Applications for shares will be received by the undersigned.

J. KEARNY ROGERS, Secretary.

Shanghai, Dec. 23, 1863.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS—JAPAN.

(Feb. 18th.) Mr. BUXTON desired to take that opportunity of stating that having found that Admiral Lambert, on whose conduct he remarked on a late occasion, was second in command, and acting under the orders of a superior, he regretted having expressed himself as he had done with respect to that gallant officer.—Mr. LAYARD said he might also take that opportunity of making an explanation with regard to a statement of his the other evening. He regretted to say that he had done an injustice to a meritorious newspaper, the *Illustrated London News*, in assuming that their correspondent was not in Japan on the occasion of the attack upon the batteries at Kagosima. The editor of that paper had informed him that their correspondent really was in Japan at the time.

"THE MARTABAN."

(19th.) Mr. G. SHAW LEFEVRE asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether it was true that a British ship, the *Martaban*, had been captured by the *Alabama*, and burnt by order of its captain; and, if so, what steps the Government are taking to obtain reparation, and to prevent the repetition of such outrages.—Mr. LAYARD said that no official information had been received. All he knew of the matter he had obtained from the newspapers.

CHINA.

(22nd.) In reply to Colonel Sykes, Mr. LAYARD said he hoped to produce the papers relating to Captain Osborn and Mr. Lay very shortly, perhaps in the course of the present week; and the remainder of the correspondence, which was more voluminous, he hoped would be ready next week.

BRITISH POLICY IN THE FAR EAST.

Mr. FERRAND said he had been requested to postpone the resolutions standing in his name, the hon. member for Northumberland having given notice of a motion with regard to the policy of Her Majesty's Government in China for an early day in March. He was further induced to do so by a wish entertained on the part of many hon. members that the discussion that evening should be confined to the Naval Estimates.

CHINA.

(23rd.) COLONEL SYKES gave notice that he should ask the Secretary to the Admiralty whether the *Africa*, 4 guns, 150-horse power, built in Her Majesty's dockyard at Devonport, and launched on the 20th of March, 1862, had been sold to the Chinese Government, and if so for what sum, and whether the amount had been paid; whether any other of Her Majesty's vessels had been sold to the Chinese Government, and if so for what sums, and whether the price had been paid; and lastly, whether any arrears remained due on account of the Anglo-Chinese fleet lately commanded by Captain Osborn.

SALE OF GOVERNMENT SHIPS TO THE CHINESE.

(26th.) Colonel SYKES wished to ask the Secretary to the Admiralty whether the *Africa*, of four guns and 150 horse-power, built in Her Majesty's dockyard at Devonport, and launched 20th March, 1862, was sold to the Chinese Government; for what sum, and whether that sum had been paid? Whether any other of Her Majesty's vessels had been sold to the Chinese Government; for what sums; whether the price had been paid; and whether any moneys were due, and the amount, from the Chinese Government on account of vessels sold, or for the supply of warlike or naval stores to the so-called Anglo-Chinese fleet lately under the command of Captain Sherard Osborn, C.B., R.N.? And, when the ship's books of Her Majesty's ship *Encounter* were likely to be received at the Admiralty? Lord C. PAGET said the purchase money of the *Africa* was fully paid, and likewise that of the *Jasper* and *Mohawk*, and the stores supplied were also paid for. But he might state that there was a sum of £766. 7s. 6d. still due on the books of the accountant-general of the navy for store supplies for the expedition. He might also state that the Accountant-general said he believed there were stores supplied after the arrival of the ships in the Chinese waters, which might amount to some small sum. He had that day received a visit from Captain Sherard Osborn, and he stated this on his behalf. Captain Osborn said that the actual debt of the Chinese Government would be about £100 when the Admiralty paid him for certain stores which he supplied to the British squadron before he left China. With regard to the latter part of the question, all the ship's books were already at the Admiralty which could be there before the ship was paid off; and the hon. and gallant gentleman could have any extracts from them by calling at the Accountant-general's office.—Colonel SYKES said the noble lord had not stated whether he got the cost price of the ships from the Chinese Government.—Lord C. PAGET replied that the ships were sold at a valuation. They were disposed of for their real value at the time, just as they would be to any private individual.—Colonel SYKES: At a loss. (Laughter.)

MR. LAY.

(26th.) Mr. LESLIE asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if it was the case that Mr. Lay, after being dismissed by the Chinese Government from the office of Inspector-General of Customs, had been appointed by Sir Frederick Bruce to act as Chinese Secretary to the British Legation.

Mr. LAYARD begged to say that no information of the kind referred to had been received by Her Majesty's Government; on the contrary, as far as he was aware, Mr. Lay was now on his way back to England.

THE CONDITION OF SHANGHAI.

The *North China Herald*, on the condition of Shanghai, says:—

The improvements which are rapidly being made in the Municipal Government of Shanghai are a subject for sincere congratulation. By the exertions of the present energetic Municipal Council, the English settlement has been brought more nearly to a model state than would, perhaps, have seemed possible under the anomalous system of Government prevailing; and we are glad to see that attention is now being turned to Hongque. That district is now finally entrusted to the Council under whose auspices the English settlement has advanced so rapidly, and we hope their efforts will go far to produce similar results there also. Their task will be no easy one, for it is little less than to evoke order out of chaos. It at least possesses the merit of simplicity in one respect, namely, that the evils to be remedied are so patent, that there can be no hesitation in selecting those which require to be first dealt with.

The two principal afflictions at Hongque at the present moment are rowdies and bad roads. To the latter we are glad to see that the Council are turning their earnest attention; and the foreign Consuls show a determination to spare no means to remove the former. We are not aware what the peculiar difficulties are which have to be encountered in dealing with the roads through Wills' estate, to which Mr. Hanbury alluded at the last meeting of the Municipal Council; but doubt not they will yield to the energy of the gentlemen whose task it is to combat them. The conversion of our own streets from the beds of mud which rendered many of the streets almost impassable last winter, into the firm, well-drained roads in which we now rejoice, is an earnest of what may be effected before the next cold season, in the principal thoroughfares of Hongque. Improvement there has begun at the opposite end to that generally the case. The alleys and narrow private streets are, in many instances, models of cleanliness, whilst the principal thoroughfares, such as the Bund and Woosung-road, resemble more nearly ploughed land than roads after a few days' rain.

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We repeat, however, that before next winter we expect to see the American Bund in as good, or nearly as good, order as the English. We would gladly look forward to an equal improvement in the bridge communications between the two settlements; but fear the cost of erecting a new one in a more appropriate situation, is greater than any funds which could at present be raised in Shanghai for the purpose would meet. Wills' bridge possesses the merit of enabling persons quitting the English Consulate to walk to Hongque in a straight line. But individuals desiring to reach that locality from the northern portion of the settlement, are compelled to go at least a quarter of a mile further than could be necessary if the bridge were constructed in the position which naturally suggests itself to any one walking along the English Bund and looking in the direction of Astor House. However, until an unwieldy cargo boat shall have demolished a few of the supports of the present structure, so effectually as to render it a matter of consideration whether it be worth while to repair them rather than make a new bridge, we fear the present petty annoyances of a circuitous route and cash tolls will have to be submitted to.

Arrangements for the moral purgation of the Hongque settlement are, however, equally urgent as for its material improvement. The evil of rowdyism, though there is a temporary lull in its apparent fruits, is as strong as ever—as will be apparent to any one passing the streets after nightfall. The first and third rules agreed on at the last general consular meeting, are perhaps the most efficacious that could be adopted to reduce to a minimum the almost unlimited freedom the Hongque rowdies have hitherto enjoyed for indulging their various propensities. But the most stringent measures will have to be adopted to compel the low boarding-house keepers, who are the actual fosterers of the nuisance, to act on these rules. The exclusion from their premises of Yang-tze pirates, Soochow refugees, *et hoc genus omne*, the most monied among their customers, will considerably reduce their profits, and no effort is likely to be spared to evade regulations entailing this result.

Not only a frequent inspection of the registers will be necessary, but a careful comparison of these lists with the actual occupants. Otherwise, it will be no difficult matter to produce an admirably-kept register, but entirely, or to a great extent, fictitious. The obligation upon the boarding-house keepers to produce the certificates of discharged seamen will be a check on the unlimited admission of that class, but will furnish no proof that the house does not contain a number of less reputable individuals, whom it might be difficult to class under any appropriate category. The exclusion of Manilamen and Chinese only from the privilege of parading the streets after 10 P.M. shows that the Municipal Council are not converts to the theory of equality between the black and white races, which at present forms the leading principle in the Government of India; but it is no doubt a wise measure, so far as it goes.

Manilamen, besides being the most numerous, are perhaps the most unscrupulous of the rowdy class. Malays and negroes might, however, be advantageously included in the catalogue, for though not numerous, they add the extreme of ruffianism to the bodily strength and daring of their whiter brethren. Lascars, we presume, are included in the ban on the principle of colour, for we doubt their being frequently guilty of any worse crime than drunkenness—that is if the term Lascar is used in its legitimate sense of Hindostanee sailors. It would, no doubt, be very desirable that some system should be devised to keep order among the Cantonese in the settlement. But it would have been well if the Taotai had accompanied his recommendation to this effect by some suggestion for arriving at this system. We confess our inability to conceive any more effectual one than a stringent exaction of night passes, and an obligation on policemen to be present on their beats for the purpose. At present, the Hongque staff of police is very inadequate, and the few who are available appear, as a rule, to act on the principle of keeping themselves out of harm's way during the hours when harm is likely to be encountered.

THE CANTON CLAIMS.

By the subjoined notification it will be seen that the claim of interest on the claims recognised has been allowed, thanks to the perseverance of Mr. Gregson, M.P.:—

The undersigned having received the instructions of Her Majesty's Government respecting the further settlement of the Canton claims on the Chinese Indemnity, the same are hereby notified for the information of those interested.

1st. Interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum is to be allowed on admitted claims from the date of loss, to the dates of payment of the principal, which is the case of the factory property will be from the 15th day of December, 1856, to the 22nd day of October, 1861; for the amount payable on the first certificate issued by Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, and from the 15th day of December, 1856, to the 22nd day of October, 1862, on the amount of the second certificate; or, four years 312 days, and five years 312 days on the certificates respectively.

2nd. Interest at the same rate to be paid on the other admitted claims from the time of loss to the 31st instant inclusive.

3rd. The sum allowed to be payable on presentation of a certificate to the officer in charge of the treasury chest at Hong Kong to be granted by the undersigned after the verification of the interest and the claims non-admitted.

4th. Each claimant on receiving the certificate for interest to give a receipt in acknowledgment thereof as accepted in full satisfaction of the claim to which it refers as per annexed form.

Subjoined is a list of the claimants to whom the above arrangement applies, who are requested to send to this office the amount of their claims for interests for verification with as little delay as possible.

D. B. ROBERTSON, H.B.M.'s Consul for Canton.

LIST OF CLAIMS REFERRED TO IN THE FOREGOING NOTIFICATION.

1 R. H. Camajee & Co.
2 Birley & Co.
3 W. H. Wardley & Co.
4 Albert Deacon.
5 Blenkin, Rawson, & Co.
6 Eduljee Framjee Sons & Co.
7 S. Short.
8 P. F. Cama & Co.
9 Cowasjee Pallanjee & Co.
10 D. N. Mody & Co.
11 R. McGregor & Co.
11*a* MacGregor and Co.
12 The Mercantile Bank
13 Arthur Smith.
14 Mohommedbhoy Dossabhoy.
15 Ahmedbhoy Ramtoola.
16 Ameroodin Jafferbhoy.
17 Vully Mohommed Alloobhoy
18 P. & D. N. Camagee & Co.
19 Abdoollally Ebrahim & Co.
20 Canton Library.
21 G. L. Agabeg.
22 Gifford & Co.
23 A. Wilkinson & Co.
24 Samuel Mackenzie.
25 Holliday, Wise & Co.
26 Reiss & Co.
27 D. W. Mackenzie & Co.
28 Agra & U. S. Bank.
29 Solomon Ebrahim.
30 Li-sien-sang.
31 Bateson, Butt & Co.
32 Moul & Co.
33 Y. J. Murrow.
34 Nowrojee & Co.
35 Muncherjee Pestonjee Setna.
36 Commercial Bank of India.
37 Henry Rutter.
38 Chalmers & Co.
39 Dr. Dickson.
39*a* Mr. Dickson.
41 Dr. Hobson.
42 The Wesleyan Missionaries.
44 The Canton Rooms.
45 Church Society.
46 Queen's Factory Gardens.
47 Public Gardens.
48 Neave, Murray & Co.
49 Oriental Bank Corporation.
50 John Scarth.
51 Framjee Nowrojee.
52 S. P. Johannes.
53 J. Trubshaw.
55 S. A. Seth.
56 W. W. Dale.
57 The Post-office.
58 John Coleman.
59 A. J. Campbell.
60 G. Marshall.
61 Gibb, Livingston, & Co.
62 Adam Scott.
63 Jamsajee Pestonjee.
64 R. Ruttonjee & Co.
65 Lindsay & Co.
67 H. B. Lemann.
68 Canton Billiard Club.
69 John Silverlock.
70 John Darling.
71 G. Urmson.
72 Canton Fire Brigade.
73 Russell & Co., for Eng. Consts.
74 Dent & Co.
74*a* Dent & Co.
75 R. H. Chambers.
76 W. M. Norton.
77 O. Cleverly.
77*a* O. Cleverly.
78 Lyall, Still, & Co.
79 F. B. & B. D. Metta & Co.
80 R. S. R. Fussell.
81 A. Roger.
82 F. Ede.
83 John Cardno.
84 B. C. Bhabba.
85 M. Fischer.
85*a* M. Fischer.
86 G. de St. Croix.
89 Amerally Abdoollally.
90 Jardine, Matheson, & Co.
90*a* Jardine, Matheson, & Co.
91 Habibbhoy, Ebrahim, Sons & Co.
92 Fletcher & Co.
93 Gilman & Co.
94 W. Allanson.
95 D. W. Bottlewallah.
96 Ahmed Hadjee Esaac.
98 Hadjee Abdoola Nathan.
99 A. Fincham.
100 D. Sassoon Sons & Co.
102 Allarakia Adam.
103 William Dent.
104 B. Kenny.
104*a* Dr. Kenny.
105 Turner & Co.
108 Canton Bowling Alley.
109 D. Poonjabhoy.
110 Richard Deacon.
111 Cassumbhoy Nathabhoy.
112 C. S. Lungrana.
114 Rev. J. H. Gray, M.A.
115 F. B. Johnson.
116 A. J. How.
117 H. D. Margesson.
119 T. C. Piccope.
120 Steamer *Queen*.
121 R. H. Baldwin.
122 T. K. Ashton.
123 A. L. Agabeg.
124 R. D. Park.
125 D. J. Barradas.
126 W. Walkinshaw.
127 E. A. Still.
128 Francis Porter.
129 Hadjee Mohomed & M. M. Hossein.
130 Antonio Xavier.
131 John Butt.
132 Henry Davis.
133 Thomas Smith.
134 J. C. Couper.
135 Gow & Co.
136 A. W. Grosvenor.
137 George Brice.
139 Alladinbhoy Habibbhoy.
139*a* Seamen's Bethel.
140 R. Jardine.
141 T. L. Larkin.
142 E. Whittall.
143 G. V. W. Fisher.
144 J. Whittall.
145 Mrs. Couper.
146 Herman Schaffer.
147 J. des Vander Hoevan.
148 J. A. Tinaway.
154 Owners of cargo of ditto.
155 Mrs. Cleverly.
156 Mrs. Couper.

Form of receipt with reference to Factory Property, other claimants to give special receipts, information regarding which can be obtained on personal application to this Consulate.

I (or we) hereby acknowledge to have received from D. B. Robertson, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul at Canton, Certificate No. , for the sum of $, payable at sight by the officer in charge of the Treasury chest in the Colony of Hong Kong, being the interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum on $, the amount contained in the first Certificate, No. , granted for indemnity for losses at Canton by Her Majesty's Minister at Peking from the 15th day of December, 1856, to the date thereof—viz., the 22nd October, 1861; and on $, the amount contained in the second Certificate, No. , payable twelve months after said date, or from the 15th December, 1856, to the 22nd October, 1862. And I (or we) have hereby accepted the same as a settlement in full of my (or our) claim for losses incurred by me (or us) through the destruction of the foreign factories at Canton on the 14th day of December, 1856, and I (or we) hereby relinquish all further claims on Her Majesty's Government in respect thereof.

OUR HELP TO THE IMPERIALS.

(HERALD.)

We are conjured by ministerial prints not to comment upon the proceedings of Captain Sherard Osborn and Mr. Lay in their absence. The House of Commons itself is bidden to hold silence. But if there ever was a case in which individuals deserved to be criticised in their absence it is this. Why, in fact, are they absent? What business have they in China? At home they might be doing no mischief; abroad, they may be preparing incalculable cost and difficulty for England. The main question, however, is, what have we to do with the internal politics of China? Why should we crusade to keep the Yellow Dwarf of modern times upon his goblin throne? Why are we bound to cement every crack in the obsolete willow-pattern plate? Some of our contemporaries affirm that it is a moral duty on the part of Great Britain to strengthen the Govern-

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ment whose Emperor we roasted out of his palace at Zehool, to prohibit the burning of cities, and to arrest the Taeping massacres. As to the Imperial Lord of the Vermilion Pencil, who strangles a Cabinet minister once a month, we cannot see what claim he has upon the states of the West; while, in reference to incendiarism and slaughter, it is certain, whatever else may be doubted, that the Imperialists carry their atrocities to a more flagitious extent than the rebels. If there be, as is pretended, a people to be saved from brutality, and a civilisation to be rescued from corruption, the influences to effect the purposes must be far other than those of the imbecile cabal at Peking. All this, however, is beside the real matter in hand. China must take care of China.

We now discover that England has been doubly duped. Captain Sherard Osborn had no right whatever to hoist the Imperial Chinese flag on board of English gun boats. Mr. Lay had no right to the authority which he assumed. What was Earl Russell doing when he acquiesced in these piratical transactions, which, instead of favouring our trade, imperilled its very existence in China? There is a way, no doubt, of bolstering up these ricketty schemes, and of forestalling the defence which the Government will stand very much in need of when the postponed discussion in the House of Commons takes place. However, the apology must be ample indeed which can convince the public that England, without meditating conquests in China, should encourage private individuals, with gun boats under their command, to take part in the sanguinary civil wars of Asia, and to stipulate for the highest titles and powers in the gift of the most stupendous among Oriental monarchies. If they will engage themselves in such a service; if they will become the subjects of Eastern despots; if they will, as independent volunteers and adventurers, enter into the conflict between the old and the new generation amid the chaos of the Oriental world, we cannot help it; but it is not for the ministers of the British Crown to sanction or assist their schemes, and still less is it for them to permit the sailing of armed vessels from our shores with the avowed object of reconstituting the rotten and disfigured Imperialism of China.

THE WIDOWED LADY ELGIN.

(DAILY TELEGRAPH.)

A sad figure, draped in mourning, and wearing the widows' cap, has just landed upon our shores, leaving in India her noble husband, with whom she shared so many cares and honours, and bringing home thence only a great and lasting sorrow. Touched alike by the dignity of her grief and station, His Majesty the Emperor of the French did not allow this lady to pass through his capital unnoticed, but sent a gentleman of his household to express respectful sympathy with her, and to conduct her a little way on her road to England. The courtesy is one which we are proud to imitate, alike in its sincere and unobtrusive aspects; for, while we would not permit ourselves to dwell publicly on personal bereavement of Lady Elgin, we cannot let her arrival among us pass without mark of profound, if restrained interest. The landing at Dover of her ladyship and suite is the last-written chapter of the sad history of the consorts of our Viceroys. Their position in India is a proud one, and such as no Emperor in the world can call it condescension to recognise with his best attentions. They sail, each with her distinguished lord, to be the Queen Regent of a continent, over which he is practically a King. No Court in Europe has power over a vaster population, a more magnificent country, than that which these Englishwomen adorn and share; they are in India the "Lady of the Lord Bahadur," mistresses paramount of society, and to the eyes of the natives undoubted "Maharanees"—indubitable Empresses. It seems a happy fortune—it is a splendid one; but look back only through three such reigns upon the viceregal throne, and note what is paid for the dazzling honour. Lady Elgin is back among us now, without the beloved presence which so short a time ago, in plenitude of reputation and power, was to her her husband—a higher title than that of Governor-General in the heart of the faithful wife. The man by whose side she left her country sleeps far away from it now, among the rhododendrons and oaks of the Himalaya. He is one more in the long roll of the English who lie in an Indian grave; and she one more in the list of those who come back, never to hear the name of the costly country without thinking of the little spot in it which is hers by the title-deed of tears. She survives her husband. Her predecessor in the saloons of Government House, Lady Canning—the graceful hostess in Calcutta, the accomplished friend of Her Majesty here—died before Lord Canning, adding to his great anxieties for the suppression of the mutiny the load of an irreparable loss. Lady Canning's predecessor, again—Lord Dalhousie's amiable wife—departed this life before her husband. Can any incident of domestic loss seem sadder? She had quitted India, obliged to fly from its cruel sun for her life; but all too late. Her husband caught the tidings of her death at sea from the hoarse bawling of the newspaper boys as he drove in the evening along the Strand at Calcutta, and re-entered his palace a lonely man. Three Governors-General, and two Vice-Queens dead in fifteen years—such is the gloomy retrospect suggested by the arrival of Lady Elgin; that is the price we pay, enviers of England, for the country which we water with our tears and fertilise with our blood.

Were this grouped picture of bereavement and distress a mere coincidence—if it could not be paralleled throughout the annals of our rule, and if it were not illustrated daily by sorrow as great, though not so well known, among the less distinguished exiles returning from the East—there would be nothing in it to dwell upon. But this is the story of Indian life, and this the common fate of the gentle and courageous women who share our danger and our duty in India. If you paint your gallery of Calcutta Vice-Queens in sombre hues, paint also in the same sad tints the long line of English ladies who have added their tears to the soldier's blood and the statesman's life, to make up the price of Hindostan. The Dover boat does not often bring us back the widow of a Viceroy; but week by week it carries across the narrow sea some sorrowful face to which the white cliffs of England, with their emerald crown of meadow, are not the gladsome sight they once promised to be in imagination. For those saddened travellers, although their grief is not public, there is some spot of India where they have laid their tribute to its fierce glory. Be it where the palm-trees let their evening shadows fall like a giant dial hand, or where tamarinds and acacias are noisy with forest birds—in the English cemetery, the jungle, the plain, or the little hill-station—that spot is "India" for them. Thousands of English wives and widows among us, if their gentle eyes fall upon these words, will feel them dimmed as they bring back to them the place, lonely, or loud with the voices of the neighbouring bazaar, where they have left "another for India." Lives, too—for this is the barb of the anguish—which might have been spared; lives taken in tribute by the sun from the race which has subdued his dominions; lives of little ones, of husbands, brothers, sisters, friends; all silent and distant under the parched soil. If we are to be reproached, as we may be, for the worst pages of our conquests in the East, let us have the credit of the best. We have bought our right to civilise the Orientals with a price; we have buried our dead, the best and gentlest of our dead, by thousands in their midst; the most eloquent literature of our sway is written upon the tombstones that stand thick, and lovingly kept, in the cemeteries of the soil entrusted to us as a nation.

These thoughts suggest, too, a history that has never been written, and perhaps can never be written, "The History of Englishwomen in India." Smart writers, and those who borrow Oriental life from them at second-hand, to the edification of all equally ignorant with themselves, represent Anglo-Indian society as a compound of frivolity and vice. It is needless to say that their view is due to invention, or to experiences of a different kind from those who consort with decent people. Since the rough days past, when the mistress of the English household in the East was a native concubine, a moral influence of immeasurable benefit has been at work. Steam-ships and railways have reduced the journey thither enough to make the land a home for English wives and mothers; and society is never bad where the true type of these is found. Imprisoned by the heat, and with no absorbing imperial duties like those which occupy their husbands, our countrywomen pass a time of weary luxury; but they have had their work to do, and they have done it, and are doing it in sustaining with the noble influences of home—the best workers there—and, above all, in presenting to the Asiatics the precious spectacle of the freedom and the purity of an English household. There was no influence like this at work to help the old civilising powers; nor is it possible to measure how far it spreads, or how deep it strikes. We do not deceive ourselves, or seek to deceive our readers, by pretending that there are no scandals at the stations, or that the contact between the gentle representatives of England in India and native society is close as can be. But there are, thank God! many English houses there which are silent centres of good to the people—houses where the wandering Hindoo catches glimpses of a noble equality, in duty, labour, faith, and intellect, between the husband and wife; and that experience makes its mark in his mind and home. Let them die still, then, for India, if it be God's will; or let them mourn their dead who die there. Let our sisters still bear their proud, sad share in the moral conquest of this grand country, which must be for most who have sojourned long there Golgotha, "a place of skulls," and Aceldama, "a field to bury strangers in." From the consort of a Viceroy weeping for the dead master of the great appanage, to the subaltern's wife or widow who thinks with choking heart of the grave where she planted the moon-flower and the champak, they have done something for India even in their sorrow. They have helped to erase with their tears the boundary-marks which keep the nations of the earth apart, and which defer the crowning and happy federation of its races.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 22.

The Colonial Minister has laid before the Second Chamber of the States-General the papers relating to the private cultivation of tobacco in the Residency of Rembang, containing the Governor-General's decree of the 27th of April, 1863, honourably dismissing Mr. H. C. Bekking, and giving Mr. Lawick von Pabst notice that he had not made out a case for obtaining a reversal of the former decree of the 12th of April, 1861, together with a memorandum explaining the contents of the decree; and further, the report of Mr. O. van Rees, Resident of Sourabaya, dated 16th February, 1863, that he was ordered to draw up on the subject. From the latter it appears that the attempts made under the administration of the Residents Bekking and Lawick van Pabst, to encourage the free cultivation of tobacco, did not exceed the powers and instructions belonging to public servants.

In the last sitting of the Supreme Court (civil side) the case of C. Andreas, now appellant, *versus* the Government of Netherlands India, was tried. The case for the plaintiff was conducted by Mr. Procurator Eyssell, whilst Mr. Francois appeared for the defendants. It appears that the plaintiff claims payment of the sum of 150,435 fl. 48 cents and interest as compensation for injustice done to him under the following circumstances:—On the 11th of August, 1859, there was a public competition for tenders to transport colonial produce. There were eleven offers made, the lowest being that of Mr. Andreas, which was 5 doits per picul, and the highest was 6 doits, so that the extreme difference of all the eleven tenders was only one doit. According to the regulations in force in Netherlands India, Mr. Andreas was thus declared the contractor; but it is required to obtain the confirmation of the Governor-General, who may at his pleasure give the contract to one of the other bidders, though in that case he is bound to give compensation to the original contractor who

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makes the lowest offer. Two months later the Government cancelled the whole proceedings of the above-mentioned competition, on the alleged grounds of having received information of a private combination or conspiracy among the eleven bidders to divide the profits of the contract among them, and it appeared in evidence that the price previously paid for the same work was only 3 8-10th doits. Besides this the Government urged several other objections, viz.—1. That the bids were not made verbally. 2. The trifling difference between the maximum and minimum offers. 3. That the person to whom the contract had subsequently been given for 4¼ doits had immediately sub-let it with a profit of 60,000 florins. 4. That Mr. Andreas had subsequently offered to take the contract also for 4¼ doits; and 5. That witnesses had made a declaration, and were willing to swear to the truth of it, that they were present at a meeting held by the eleven bidders in the office of Mr. Andreas to settle among themselves the offers to be made by each, and to agree to the manner of dividing the profits arising from the contract. Mr. Andreas then brought an action against the Government before the High Court of Justice in Netherlands India, but was nonsuited by decision of that Court, dated 24th of January, 1861, on the following grounds:—1. That the Government possesses the undoubted power to refuse its sanction to preliminary contracts in special cases and for important reasons; 2. That it did no more than act in conformity with the power it possesses; and 3. That not having exceeded the bounds of its authority, it cannot be made responsible for any claim to compensation by a private individual for imaginary wrongs. The pleadings on both sides occupied the Court the whole day. Judgment deferred.

The Netherlands Trading Company have chartered the following twenty-three first class vessels to load cargoes of produce in Java for the undermentioned ports:—*Quintett*, Capt. Slyboom; *Bellatrix*, Capt. Haacke; *Antony van Hoboken*, Capt. Hazewinkel; *Sliedrecht*, Capt. Feenstra; *Julie*, Capt. Brem; *Johannes*, Capt. Ouwehane; *Staatsraad van Ewyck*, Capt. Smid; *Cornelia Adolphina*, Capt. de Roever; *Krimpenerwaard*, Capt. Heyninge; and *Lewe*, Capt. Nyenstein, all for Amsterdam; *Marie*, Capt. Riesthorst; *Nereus*, Capt. Planten; *Sophia Amalia*, Capt. Lourens; *Vriendschap*, Capt. Jansen; *Johannes*, Capt. Rademaker; *Hendrika*, Capt. Volk; *Antonia Petronella*, Capt. Voorendyk; and *Jason*, Capt. van Bueren, all for Rotterdam; *Grootmeester National*, Capt. Giesse; and *Fortuna*, Capt. de Groot, both for Dordrecht; and *Orange Nassau*, Capt. van Hees, *Almonde*, Capt. Surie; and *Dageraad*, Capt. ——, for Schiedam.

At the last meeting of the Indian Association an important discussion ensued on the subject of private possession of land in Java. The three questions debated in succession were:—1. What is the present state of private landholders? 2. What improvements are considered desirable? and 3. What means can be employed for such ameliorations? From the general tenor of the speeches made it would appear that there is a great deal more land in the possession of private owners, particularly in some districts, than is generally supposed. Most of the speakers concurred in the opinion that it was highly desirable to transfer systematically but by degrees the possession of land from the communes to individuals, whilst to attain this object it was needful to pay attention to the following important points:—The legislation of the present landowners and confirmation of their rights of possession; settlement of private property by the clearance and improvement of waste lands; stopping the further division of communal lands; and the mutual division of the Sawahs amongst those entitled to their possession.

By the Cape mail a letter has been received here stating that a bottle had been picked up by Mr. F. Lloyd, near St. Francis Bay, Port Elizabeth, containing the following:—"Monday, July 20, 1863. Dutch barque *Almonde*, Capt. H. G. Surie, from Amsterdam to Batavia, in 39 d. 29 m. south lat., and 18 d. 05 m. east lon. All well on board. Whoever finds this is requested to forward it to a meteorological observatory, as the object is to ascertain the strength and direction of the current." By consulting a map it will be seen that the bottle was thrown overboard about 325 miles south of the Cape, and had been carried 500 miles in a north-easterly direction, though in what time is not exactly ascertained.

The Minister of Finance gives notice that thirteen Dutch bonds of 1,000 fl. each have been destroyed inadvertently by an Englishman of the name of Thomas Carleton Crawfurd, who considered them of no value and tore them up, merely preserving the coupons. The numbers and dates are given, and no caveat is entered by other parties, new bonds will be issued after the expiration of the period prescribed in such cases.

The Dutch barque *Boni*, Capt. Moller, from Java to Dordrecht, put into Table Bay on the 3rd of January to land a sick passenger, and proceeded the next day. With that exception, all well on board.

H.N.M. steam transport *Heldin*, 10 guns, has been taken out of the dry dock at Nieuwe Deep, and is ordered to be got ready for the pennant. She will be commissioned in April, and is destined for the East India station. On being removed from the dock her place was taken by the *Holland*, old 22-gun sailing jackass frigate, ordered to be repaired for service as guardship at Sourabaya. One or two vessels are to be fitted out to cruise in the Channel and North Sea for the protection of Dutch interests in the war between Denmark and Germany.

Policies of insurance to a large amount have been made by Government on specie shipped from the Dutch West India colonies to Netherlands India. It is understood to be the unrequired surplus of the sum sent out as compensation to the planters for the emancipation of their slaves last year.

The *Rotterdam Courant* asserts that a fresh embassy from Japan to Europe is being fitted out and will visit this country. It adds that the expenses will not be borne by the State, but by the individuals composing the mission.

The Colonial Minister advertises for workmen to be employed in the steam-factory at Sourabaya.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Though the transactions have not been very extensive since last English mail prices have been well supported, and the market is in a favourable condition. For company's No. 6 47½ cents have been paid, and 45 for Nos. 21, 22, 23, and 26. Among the sales were 3,900 bags of Sumatra ex *India packet* at 45½ and 46 cents 1,050 bags of private trade Java ex *Record* at from 44 to 48 according to quality, and 1,720 bags of Pamanoekan ex *Orange Nassau* and *Ocean* at 44 and 45. A public sale of 6,722 bags of Java ex *Mathilde* and *Batavia* is announced to be held next week. At the company's sale of their whole stock of Ceylon, consisting of 2,078 bags, and 107 casks, all was disposed of at from 33 to 48½ cents for plantation, and 39 to 44 for native.

SUGAR.—A better feeling prevails for the raw article, and some sales have been effected for export at about November prices. The dealings would have been more extensive had the market offered a better assortment. Refined goods dull, but holders firm.

RICE.—The only sales to record are 1,800 bags of cargo Java ex *Zwaan* at secret prices, and 5,400 bags of table rice ex *Mercator* at 17fl.

SPICES.—Nutmegs No. 1, 1863, continue to support the late advance, and even 73 cents has been paid. No. 2 is rather lower, but still commands 63. Mace sells readily at 65 cents. Cloves again are in favour at 27, as is also Java cinnamon, No. 3, which is not be had under 93 cents. Pepper moves off quietly at steady prices.

HIDES.—Java continue in favour. About 4,000 ox and 2,000 buffalo have been disposed of both by tender and private contract at full values.

METALS.—Both copper and tin are rather lower; some of the former has been sold at 60 fl., and Banca Tin at 70 fl., at which latter price there are still sellers.

INDIGO AND COCHENILLE.—No alteration.

RATTANS.—Last week the first parcels were brought to market and found ready purchasers at stiff prices. Amongst the parcels sold were 7,555 bundles (312 piculs) ex *Staatsraad van Ewyck*, and 827 bundles (78 piculs) ex *Batavia*.

DRUGS.—Some public sales are announced for the end of this month.

TOBACCO.—The transactions in Java sorts have not been on a large scale, but values are well supported. The stock, which on the departure of the last English mail was only 4,717 bales, has by the late arrivals been increased to 10,352 bales.

CIGARS.—Since the sales reported in last letter nothing has been done in Manilas.

RESULT OF PUBLIC SALES OF JAVA TOBACCO BY THE NETHERLANDS TRADING COMPANY.

673 bales	DS	.. ..	.. average price	35½	cents.
306 „	RF/ A Room	.. ..	„	23	„
219 „	RF/ Modjomanis	.. ..	„	27	„

BY THE PRIVATE TRADE.

634 bales	RS	.. ..	„	37	„
204 „	Kebon Aroem	.. ..	„	37	„

All sold.

FIRE AT ROTTERDAM.

The *Cologne*, steamer, Captain Ryan, which arrived in the river from Rotterdam, reports that shortly before her departure from that port, at 6 A.M., the greatest consternation was caused among the citizens in consequence of the outbreak of a dreadful fire at the Schieland Palace, the museum and picture gallery of Rotterdam, situate near the High street. The picture gallery formed one of the most interesting exhibitions in Rotterdam. No particulars could be obtained as to the cause of the fire. The Rotterdam fire brigade and engines were soon on the spot after the alarm had been given, but from the first it was seen to be impossible to check the flames. At the time the *Cologne* left Rotterdam all that remained of the old palace were the bare blackened walls. The loss is irreparable.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A REGISTER is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the FAR EAST and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, *and other parts of the* FAR EAST, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEB. 27, 1864.

THE PROSPECTS OF CHINA IN PARLIAMENT.

IF among our readers in the Far East there be any who, like ourselves, felt a momentary impatience at the scant attention paid to so important a subject as China in the opening Speech of the Session, we can convey to them comfort, if only in the unprecedented attitude of parties, and the efforts being made to get up papers, &c., which shall provide the various speakers with the requisite implements for the war of debate. Everything points to an early debate on our relations with China, provided the exigencies of the Dano-Germanic war do not force an earlier solution of the question which is on everybody's lips—"What do the Opposition intend to adopt as the basis of their "attack on foreign policy?" The home administration is so solidly based (with the exception of a few shortcomings, such as the law of lunacy, the punishment of death, &c.), that every one instinctively feels that the real tug of the Session will come in the shape of Schleswig-Holstein, of America, or of China. As to the first-named, pending the editing of the voluminous correspondence, of which Mr. LAYARD says truly, that when it is published, abridged or *in extenso*, the most eager political glutton will own himself satisfied, it is quite possible that the question may settle itself. As to the great American question, parties are running so high in the North with respect to the forthcoming Presidential election, that it is quite within the bounds of probability that while the Northern forces are being manipulated by electioneering agents so as to secure their votes, General LEE may possess himself of Washington, and very much this opinion seems to prevail in our own Legislature, where all parties seem to be eagerly awaiting the result of the Presidential campaign. Then, again, there are always a large class of waiters upon Providence, who cannot give a sign till Mr. GLADSTONE has given them his Budget speech, in which he usually contrives to offer a choice of three courses upon every question of both home and foreign policy. The reductions for this year are so trivial that we may expect an unusual crop of paradoxes, and among these it is whispered that the fate of the LAY-OSBORN expedition, or, as it is now more frequently termed, the OSBORN-LAY Armada, is to occupy a very prominent place. The correspondence and papers have been moved for, and the House is in an expectant attitude.

When, therefore, we find that the papers of the OSBORN-LAY expedition have been moved for, identified as it is with the Ministerial policy in the Far East, we perceive that it is not intended that China shall be practically ignored this Session. It is too much the fashion to accept commercial success as the test of wise policy. When in the face of intestine troubles, the trade of all our treaty ports has been found to have run up some 150 to 220 per cent., there is a tendency to exaggerate the importance of such phenomenon, and to underrate the efficacy of a sound and firm policy. We do not anticipate that in the forthcoming debates any serious question can arise as to the attitude assumed by the Foreign Office and Sir FREDERICK BRUCE. It has now been satisfactorily proved that Mr. LAY was acting entirely beyond his powers in assuming the authority he did, and though this does not excuse the perfidy of Prince KUNG in seizing on so shallow a pretext for throwing overboard the men, who more than anything else had contributed to uphold the Imperial authority, and provide it with the requisite funds for employing the aid of mercenaries, yet it affords sufficient justification for Ministers acting upon second-hand information, and worried by the alternate claims of a blind humanitarian fanaticism, and undisguised commercial cupidity.

"MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARED"—THE DENOUEMENT

UNDER this heading our readers will have observed an advertisement in our last number per French mail of 17th inst. It appears, however, that the young lady therein described so minutely did not take passage to the land of her birth (Macao), but simply sped across the Channel to that more fascinating city, Brussels, often described as the miniature Paris. As usual, it turns out that this young lady did not take this step without the kind services of one equally or more interested than herself. A certain medical practitioner named WELLINGS, of East Moulsey, formed an attachment to ALICE BOWRA—for such is the name of the eloper—and on promise of marriage she consented to entrust herself to his care, or, in other and more familiar words, to "run away with him." It appears that ALICE BOWRA inherits from her father, CHARLES W. BOWRA (deceased), considerable property, and it is generally believed that Mr. WELLINGS made this the object of his choice more than the charms of the young lady, not yet out of her teens, while he is a full blown widower with several children.

After the marriage was consummated, we find our hero up and doing, giving early attention to the substantial part of the marriage—the property. The following is a report of the proceedings in the Vice-Chancellor's Court; and, to judge from appearances, the rights of the newly-married couple will be severely contested by the trustees to the estate, who, together with the relatives of the deceased father, are no doubt very wrath at the manner in which their authority has been eluded and defied. There appears to have been a culpable omission in not making the young lady a ward of the Court of Chancery, and thus have secured all parties against such unpleasant proceedings. As it is we may expect to see that the litigants will, at the end of the suits, come out like the celebrated Kilkenny cats.

BOWRA V. THOMPSON.

FEB. 20.—In this case a young lady, eighteen years of age, entitled to considerable property under her father's will, out of which, by an order in Chambers, she was allowed maintenance, had privately left the house in which she lived and gone off to Brussels in company with a surgeon of the name of Wellings. From Brussels Wellings wrote to say that he had married her in that city. Under these circumstances a bill was filed to administer the estate of the young lady's father; but on the hearing it was objected that, if the marriage was a valid one, the suit was wrong in form. The Vice-Chancellor said that at present no decree ought to be made. The case must stand over in order to see what could be done, with leave to amend.

WELLINGS V. WOOLLETT.

FEB. 22.—Mr. Jessell applied to this Court in this suit under these circumstances:—The case of "Bowra v. Thompson" (a notice of which appeared in our columns of yesterday) relates to a young lady, aged 18, who was stated to have been married at Brussels by a Mr. Wellings, and owing to the short period which had elapsed since she left her home, it was made a question whether, under the *code civile*, the marriage could have been valid, for want of the necessary formalities, and the bill, which was filed in her maiden name, and sought to secure her property, might therefore be correct in form, but the case stood over that the parties might consider what had best be done, with leave to amend and to be in the paper any morning. It was now stated that in fact the parties were married in London, and the letter being written from Brussels, and containing the passage, "I was married *this* morning," it had been assumed that the marriage took place at Brussels. After the marriage a bill had been filed by the lady in her married name in the Rolls' Court be her next friend and her several other trustees, who on the next day after such service filed their bill in "Bowra v. Thompson." Under these circumstances it was now asked that no steps might be taken in "Bowra v. Thompson" without notice to the parties in "Wellings v. Woollett," as by swearing the gentleman to be out of the jurisdiction a decree might be obtained behind their backs.

The Vice-Chancellor said he thought he might assume that the parties in "Bowra v. Thompson" would not take the step suggested, knowing of the other suit; but should they do so he would direct a note to be made, that when it came on the Court would know how to deal with it, in order that nothing might be done by inadvertence until notice had been given, which must be done forthwith. Mr. Jessell said he would notice at once.

BOWRA V. THOMPSON.—THE TRUSTEE FOR C. W. BOWRA.

At a subsequent period of the day Mr. Pemberton asked that a petition in this case for inquiries whether a valid marriage had been solemnised, and, if so, under what circumstances, might be in the paper to-morrow.

The Vice-Chancellor stated what had already taken place on Mr. Jessell's application, and said that, as notice must be given, it ought to stand over until the day after to-morrow, and he trusted that no hostility would exist. As the parties were abroad living together, if a valid marriage had not taken place it was expedient that there should be one. The question of whether a mere order for maintenance constituted an infant a ward of Court was in some doubt, and that matter might be discussed, but not now. Counsel in the other suit must have a right to appear at the same time. Mr. Pemberton said that his client (defendant) had not then been served with notice of the other suit.

THE PERSIAN GULF CABLE.

By the last Bombay mail we learn that the *Tweed*, belonging to Messrs. John Willis and Son, with part of this cable on

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board, had arrived off Galle in seventy-eight days from London. The *Coromandel*, having on board Colonel Patrick Stewart, Sir Charles Bright, Captain C. Stewart, and Dr. Esselbach, left Bombay on the 21st January for Kurrachee, whence she will proceed to Gwadur to meet the *Marian Moore* and *Kirkham* with 360 miles of cable, which will be towed thither by the *Semiramis* and *Zenobia*. The laying of the cable westward from Gwadur towards the landing-place near Cape Mussendom, on the Arabian coast, will then be commenced.

LIGHTS FOR KIU-KIANG.

THE street lamps and large columns supporting three lights of red, white, and blue, for Kiu-Kiang, which have been constructed by Messrs. H. and J. GARDNER, of the Strand, have been shipped off per screw steamer *Far East*, which left Gravesend on the 24th inst. for Hong Kong and Shanghai.

CAPTAIN SHERARD OSBORN and Captain ALLEN YOUNG have arrived in London per overland mail from Bombay, having left the steamers *Keang-soo* and *Kwang-tung* in Bombay in charge of the local Government until the opinion of our Ministers can be ascertained relative to their disposal. Why they should be consulted remains to be seen. The remaining portion of the fleet are on the way to England from China.

STEAMERS FOR CHINA.

The screw steamer *Yuen-Tze-Fee*, lately launched for Messrs. Trautman Co. and others by Messrs. Blackwood and Gordon, at Port Glasgow, having been built by them for the Shanghai and Tien-tsin river trade, was recently tried with most satisfactory results as to her speed and general qualities. In particular, the successful manner in which she was steered elicited the high approval of her owners. Her power in this respect is owing to her having been fitted with the Lumley patent rudder, in the use of which an angle of ten degrees is obtained where twenty would have been the minimum radius under the old system of steering. The *Yuen-Tze-Fee* is one of the first vessels in the merchant service that have been fitted with the new form of rudder.

REPORT OF THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE last mail brought to hand a document, the title of which we have placed at the head of this article, that is certain to excite considerable attention in mercantile circles in this country, and is a clear and convincing refutation of the random statements that have of late years been so lavishly circulated in this country, as to the low state of commercial morality in the foreign trading community of the Chinese seaboard. We should not have noticed the subject at all, had it not been for the frequency with which such grave though vague charges have been reiterated even by public men of all shades of party opinion, with the unfortunate result of neutralising much of the good which a less mistrusted and misrepresented body of men might have effected for themselves, without requiring to call into play the ponderous machinery of the Colonial or, yet worse, of the Foreign Office. It is with much satisfaction that all unbiassed and reflecting persons at home, have hailed the action of the Committee of the Chamber in disclaiming and refuting the sweeping accusations of wholesale smuggling indulged in by Mr. LAY, and in protesting against the adoption by the Foreign Office of any such report as a final and conclusive authority on so grave and delicate a subject.

But it is not alone in defending from calumny the characters of their constituents that the Chamber has exhibited an energy so marked, that when we contrast its action with the puny efforts of others nearer home, we can but throw up our hands and moan forth, "*O! si sic omnes!*" Thanks to its perseverance, the colony has within the last two years received three great boons—a modified and intelligible bankruptcy law, a new decimal system of coinage—on which, by the way, we commented nearly a year since—and lastly, an Imperial Local Mint—an institution which, under proper management, cannot fail to be largely self-supporting, when we consider the extraordinary fluctuation in the market price of the circulating medium, and the heavy charges for freight and insurance necessitated by the constant outflow of that metal from this country, in regulation of the exchanges.

We are disposed to regret that the Committee decline to accept the responsibilities of a Tribunal of Commerce, for the purpose of deciding expeditiously, but with right of appeal, upon all questions of mercantile law and usage. They imply a conviction that the time is not yet ripe for such a deviation from the tortuous paths of English jurisprudence, as would be implied in their surrendering their right to the enjoyment of all the quirks and quibbles, which the wisdom of our ancestors and the ingenuity of our lawyers have engrafted on the strong common sense and appreciation of truth and fact and right which are the basis of all law. We doubt not, however, that the Committee had good reason for their resolution, though we beg to assure them that they have lost a splendid, perhaps final, chance for inaugurating in the British commercial world a great and most salutary change. Such opportunities, it is but too true

> "On silent pinions fleet away,
> Ah! never, never, to return!"

But we will yet cherish a hope that amid a small society, where each man knows pretty well what is going on, so much good sense will prevail as to lead them to forego the luxury of litigation, entangled by conflicting precedents, and encumbered by obsolete and most inapplicable rules. Even were such a tribunal constituted, there would still remain opportunity enough for the most determined stickler for law and litigation to indulge himself to the top of his bent. Meanwhile, we beg to assure them that the feeling in favour of Tribunals of Commerce has by no means died out at home, as they seem to imagine.

THE REPLIES TO MR. LAY'S CHARGES.

A PARLIAMENTARY Blue-Book has been published containing the refutations of the China firms assailed by Mr. LAY as smugglers. The documents consist of—

Mr. Robert Jardine to Mr. Layard	March	28, 1863
Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co. to Mr. Layard.	June	10, „
Messrs. Dent and Co. to Earl Russell	June	30, „
Shanghai Chamber of Commerce	August	10, „
Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce	October	22, „
Messrs. Lindsay and Co. and H. H. Lindsay ..	April and Sept.	

We append the letter of Mr. JARDINE as a specimen of the refutations. All the circumstances of these cases are well known to our readers, and have now, by the lapse of time, become matters of history:—

TO A. H. LAYARD, ESQ., UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
3, Lombard-street, March 28th, 1863.

Sir,—My attention has been called to a memorandum by Mr. Lay, Inspector of Customs, in the service of the Chinese Government, included in the papers recently presented to Parliament, in which very grave charges are made against the leading merchants in China, and my firm, Jardine, Matheson and Co., is named as having been engaged in "smuggling."

The memorandum is dated the 11th January, 1862, and I think I may reasonably complain that it should have now been published without any opportunity being afforded to the parties so wantonly aspersed of meeting the statements made in it.

I have no official documents in this country with which to refute the charges I refer to. But in one of the two cases specified by Mr. Lay (that of the *Rose*), a copy of the decision given by the Consular Court at Shanghai appears in the public papers entirely exonerating the master and owners of the *Rose* from the charge brought against them. On receipt of the Parliamentary papers in China, my firm will take the earliest possible opportunity to furnish you with a complete and satisfactory vindication of their conduct throughout.

There is nothing which we desire more than an efficient Custom-house system established on the coast of China, and we have from the commencement cordially approved the principle of a foreign inspectorate. I beg, therefore, to protest against the terms used by Mr. Lay in speaking of the leading houses, and mine among them, particularly in Paragraph XI. of his memorandum, page 175, as being most uncalled-for and insulting, and giving a colour to our conduct directly the reverse of the truth, as will be readily testified by every high officer of the British Government who has served in China since the opening of the trade in 1834.—I have, &c., (Signed) R. JARDINE.

DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR STAFF IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

The following list is compiled mainly from information supplied to us by Consular Officers in England, and will be found to differ from the Foreign Office List. We should be glad if the officers in China and Japan will inform us of any inaccuracies:—

PEKING.—Sir Frederick W. A. Bruce, K.C.B., Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary; T. F. Wade, Esq. (on leave), Secretary of Legation and Chinese Secretary; F. St. John, Esq., Second Secretary; — Saurin, Esq., Third Secretary; —Murray, Esq., Assistant Chinese Secretary; — Lockhart, Esq., Surgeon.

TIENTSIN.—James Mongan (on leave), Consul; J. Gibson, Esq., Acting-Consul; J. T. Middleton, Esq., First Assistant; J. B. Goddard, Esq., Second Assistant.

TANGCHOW OR CHEFOO.—Martin Crofton Morrison, Esq., Consul; W. G. Howlett, Esq., Assistant.

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NEWCHWANG.—T. T. Meadows, Esq., Consul; A. Davenport, Esq., Senior Assistant.

HANKOW.—W. H. Medhurst, Esq. (on leave), Consul; P. J. Hughes, Vice-Consul; W. E. King, Esq. (on leave), Interpreter; J. A. Webster, Esq., Assistant Interpreter.

KIU KIANG.—T. Adkins, Esq., Vice-Consul in charge.

CHIN KIANG.—G. P. Braune, Esq., Vice Consul in charge.

SHANGHAI.—Sir Harry Parkes, C.B., Consul; John Markham, Esq., Vice-Consul; Chaloner Alabaster, Esq., Interpreter; W. H. Lay, Esq., Senior-Assistant officiating; C. T. Jones, Esq., Senior Assistant; R. Douglas, Esq., Assistant.

NINGPO.—F. Harvey, Esq. (on leave), Consul; R. J. Forrest, Esq., Acting-Consul; A. R. Hewleet, Esq., Interpreter.

FOO-CHOW.—C. A. Sinclair, Esq. (Consul at Chin Kiang), Acting-Consul; W. F. W. Holt, Esq., Acting-Interpreter; C. Carrol, Esq., Assistant.

TAI-WAN.—R. Swinhoe, Esq., Consul.

AMOY.—W. H. Pedder, Esq., Consul; Geo. Phillips, Esq., Assistant.

SWATOW.—G. W. Caine, Esq., Consul; W. Gregory, Esq., Interpreter.

CANTON.—D. B. Robertson, Esq., Consul; W. H. Fittock, Esq., Vice-Consul; W. S. F. Mayers (acting at Shanghai), Interpreter; W. Payne, Esq., First Assistant; J. P. M. Frazer, Esq., Second Assistant; F. Hance, Esq., Vice-Consul at Whampoa.

MACAO.—E. L. Lanca, Esq., Consular Agent.

JAPAN.—YEDO.—Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B., Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary; Lieut.-Col. E. St. John Neale, C.B., Secretary of Legation; R. Eusden, Esq., Japanese Secretary; Abel Anthony James Gower, Esq., L. Fletcher, Esq., J. MacDonald, Esq., A. Von Siebold, Esq., R. B. Robertson, Esq., E. M. Satow, Esq., Assistants and Students of Japanese; A. R. Jenkins, Esq., of R.C.S., W. Willis, Esq., M.D., Medical Officers.

YOKOHAMA.—C. A. Winchester, Esq., Consul; M. O. Flowers, Esq., Vice-Consul; P. B. Walsh, Esq., First Assistant; Martin Dohmen, Esq., Interpreter and Packet Agent.

NAGASAKI.—F. G. Myburgh, Esq., Consul; A. Annesley, Esq., Assistant; R. E. Schmidt, Esq., Interpreter.

HAKODADI.—Capt. F. H. Vyse, Consul; — Enslie, Esq., Interpreter; — Lowther, Esq., Assistant.

THE CHINESE CUSTOMS AND OUR INDEMNITY.

(To the Editor of *The Times.*)

SIR,—In the present crisis of Chinese affairs it may be interesting to some of your readers to know that a decided opinion prevails at Shanghai that the English control over the Chinese Customs, and the employment of British subjects in their collection, will cease simultaneously with the full payment of the war indemnity. I therefore append an exact statement of our claims on the Government in this respect, compiled by and just received from a friend of mine high in the Imperial service, and the accuracy of which may may be relied on:—

	Taels.
Indemnity for the prisoners unfairly captured on the 18th of September, 1860	300,000
Of which has been received	297,577½
But on the sycee being weighed at Hong Kong it was found to be wanting in weight	2,422½

So that we stand with the Chinese Government thus:—

Dr.	Taels.
Indemnity for prisoners who were unfairly captured on the 18th September, 1860	300,000
For losses at Canton	2,000,000
For war indemnity expenses incurred, &c.	6,000,000
	8,300,000

On the other hand, we have received, Oct. 25, 1860:—

Cr.	Taels.	Taels.
Indemnity for prisoners	297,577½	
Plus short weight	2,422½	
	300,000	
For losses at Canton	3,450,457	3,750,457
Balance remaining unpaid December, 1862		4,549,543

Therefore, at the present rate of payment, it will take from three to four years more to clear off the outstanding amount. Our interests in the meantime are not likely to suffer from the retirement of Mr. Lay.

I also enclose a summary of the trade of the port of Shanghai, which you can publish if you think it worth while.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

24, Billiter-street, E.C., Feb. 17. HENRY C. BATCHELOR.

SUMMARY OF TRADE AT THE PORT OF SHANGHAI FOR 1862.

Value of Import Trade—	Taels.	£ s. d.
General Imports	27,968,014,3	14,399,655 6 4
„ „	18,733,570,6	
Opium Imports		5,736,276 10 0
„ „		2,728,021 14 4
		22,863,953 10 8
	Taels.	
Exports—General	15,256,165,9	4,703,984 9 8
„ „	32,313,800,9	9,663,421 18 10
		14,657,406 8 6

Take an *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. as an average on this, multiply by two, and you have the result of this year's income from duties paid. [Mr. George Royle, of Kensington, writes to say that the tael is worth on an average 6s. 6⅝d.]

SHERARD OSBORN AND MR. LAY.

(THE TIMES.)

If, as the French proverb says, the absent are always in the wrong, it is not likely that they who are at once absent and unsuccessful will be treated as if they were in the right. Such is the position of Captain Sherard Osborn and Mr. Lay, whose conduct in respect of the naval expedition to China is to be discussed in the House of Commons. Not only must these men undergo in their absence the censure which always, and seldom with entire injustice, follows upon ill-success, but they must endure the taunts and the triumph of those who have no sympathies with the policy of which they were the exponents. There has always been a small party which only saw in the social and political convulsions of China the opportunity of British trade. To strengthen the hands of the Government was, in their eyes, but to give that Government power to destroy European intercourse; to arrest the burning of great cities and the murder of multitudes by the Taiping marauders was but to go out of our way to do unprofitable acts of humanity. Perhaps there was a certain shrewdness, gross and cruel as it was, in this view of the matter; and professors of that policy will hardly fail now to vaunt their sagacity. But it is not only the natural enemies of Captain Osborn and his object who will come to this inquiry with very discontented minds. There were others who thought they saw in this expedition the means of building up again the Chinese Empire; and, if not restoring those peaceful arts which gave splendour to the ancient cities, at least staying the pillage and massacres which are now destroying the old civilisation and brutalising the people. They, perhaps weakly, but honestly, wished to give peace to China, and believed that it was as much our interest as our duty to abstain from all encouragement of the robbers and pirates who laid waste the country and murdered and pillaged its inoffensive and industrious population. The men who thus think form the great body of the English nation. Their hopes have been disappointed, and they have a right to ask from Mr. Lay and Captain Osborn n account of their stewardship. They will require to be shown where the fault lies—whether they were wrong in forming such expectations, or whether a great result has been lost in mismanagement.

The story of Mr. Lay's fall from power in China reads like one of the old chapters in histories of absolute monarchies, either Eastern or Western. The favourite, or the necessary man of the day, springs up in these histories, and for a little time he is all-powerful; some morning his favour or his necessity passes away, and he is cast aside. Such has been Mr. Lay's career. If he had been a Chinaman, he would have been ordered to put himself to death; as he is an Englishman, he is simply dismissed. Some years ago he was picked out by the Chinese as a necessary man. He had intelligence, industry, courage, and, what surprised them much more, he had an integrity which was found to be proof against every temptation, and which came out unsullied from the test of many little traps and pitfalls set to catch him. At that time the Chinese had no notion of such a public servant as this, and they probably fancied there was not another such in the world. Mr. Lay taught them how to make three millions a-year out of their Customs, which had produced them previously rather less than the indemnities they had to pay for breaches of treaty. The whole of this machinery was in his hands, for it was substantially of his own creation. He was the indispensable man, and he was their master. It must be confessed that he was rather a hard master. When the British force went towards Peking, Mr. Lay, the Chinese official, took service among the invaders of China; and in the discussions that preceded the treaty put exceedingly strong coercion upon his Mandarin masters. Lord Elgin more than once declared that he could not have obtained the treaty of Tien-tsin without the exertions of Mr. Lay. The Chinese put up with all this, and he was more absolute in favour than ever after this treaty had been wrung from his employers, in great part by his open and demonstrative interference. It is necessary to remind the public of these facts, for they explain, and to some extent account for, the grievous mistakes which he afterwards committed. He had trod very heavily upon the thin crust of Imperial favour, and it seemed to bear him; he now undertook to build upon it. There can be no doubt that when Prince Kung employed Mr. Lay to equip and commission a naval force to suppress the rebellion, the intention was that he should effect this service upon his own terms and conditions. There seems also to be as little doubt that Mr. Lay relied so entirely upon his personal influence with the Chinese that he neglected the precautions which any less confident man would have taken. If Lay had been as careful to get full powers from the Imperial Government as Osborn was to protect his men and officers in his engagement with Lay, the miscarriage of the expedition could never have taken place. It seems to us here, accustomed as we all are to see the Sovereign power absolute over the two services, that nothing more insulting to a monarch could ever have been inserted into an agreement than the clause by which Mr. Lay undertook to be the sole medium of commands from the Emperor to his admiral, and to suppress such orders as he should deem unreasonable. Yet it is possible that even this might have been conceded at the moment when the rebels were taking city after city, and when the treaty ports, with all their lucrative Custom-houses, seemed to be in danger. It is not only possible, but it is also highly probable that when the rebels were spreading northwards it would have been easy to obtain from the Imperial Government of Peking a commission which would have made Captain Osborn the High Admiral of all the naval forces of China, dependent for instructions upon no other than the Prince or the Great Council. But what can we think of the negotiator who, believing himself to have the power of exacting and of granting such terms, did not take care to have his own instructions worded in the language of the agreement, and the Imperial Commission confirmed with all formalities of seal and edict? What can we say of him, except that a man who has shown himself very able in one sphere often seems to lose his head when he steps out into a wider world of statesmanship? In these matters Mr. Lay appears to have acted with an almost Chinese closeness of counsel. No one in England who was urging on this expedition could have imagined that Mr. Lay was acting only upon a general authority and a loose letter of approval; and, certainly, no one who saw the gunboats sailing from these shores under the new flag of China could have imagined that there was not an Imperial Commission on board any one of the vessels.

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These are the capital and obvious mistakes which have occasioned the miscarriage of the naval expedition to China. If the ordinary precaution of obtaining the commissions had been observed, Captain Osborn could have taken Nankin and cleared the Yang-tse, while he left Mr. Lay to debate the terms of the agreement at Peking. Having done this, he would certainly have been in a position to make provincial governors very chary of interfering with him, and he might have dictated his own terms to the Imperial Government. But without a commission from the Emperor of China Captain Osborn would have been a pirate. Nothing, indeed, could be more unselfish and chivalrous than the conduct of both these Englishmen when they found themselves in the false position into which Mr. Lay's too great confidence in his own personal influence had betrayed them. It was as grand in its way as the Balaklava charge; but it was also not the most expedient thing to do. Mr. Lay was clearly wrong, and the Chinese were right when they repudiated a portion of the contract he had made. No power which Mr. Lay has shown gave him authority to stipulate with Captain Osborn that all orders should pass through his hands. Whether he had authority to stipulate with Captain Osborn that the commander of the naval expedition should be placed under no superior, but should receive his orders direct from the Government, is very doubtful. It was quite right in Captain Osborn to insist upon such a stipulation; but it should have appeared in his commission, and should have come direct from the Regency. The Chinese, moreover, were not only right, but they were in a position to make full use of their advantages. Mr. Lay had organised the Customs in a most efficient manner, and he had, moreover, left at Peking an *alter ego* whom he had educated in all the learning of China. During Mr. Lay's absence in England the Chinese had discovered that they might rely upon the services of the subordinates if they disembarrassed themselves of the principal. Of course, they took advantage of this discovery. The fleet was no longer a necessity to their safety, and the Controller of Customs was no longer a necessary condition of their large revenue. With the unscrupulous selfishness of Asiatics, they repudiated all engagements except the merely pecuniary part of the transaction, and cast their agent and their admiral adrift. In all this there is much to be deplored. There is nothing, however, to be regretted in the firm and chivalrous conduct by which two Englishmen have, at the expense of fame and fortune, withdrawn themselves unsullied from a false position.

THE ATTACK ON KAGOSIMA.

(To the Editor of *The Times*.)

Sir,—I trust you will allow me to remark that the article in *The Times* of Wednesday on the subject of Mr. Buxton's motion is inaccurate as regards Mr. Longfield's motion. I allude to that portion of the article which says that "even if he may, as Admiral Kuper has in the case of Mr. Buxton, meet with a reasonable critic, who would impute to him only 'a misconception of the duty imposed upon him,' he will be certain to find some more savage foe pushing to the front, who, like Mr. Longfield, moves to make the censure short, sharp, and unconditional." I had the honour to second Mr. Longfield's motion, and neither his speech nor my remarks can possibly bear any such interpretation. I am not now going to discuss our Japanese policy, or the wisdom of the course pursued at Kagosima. But it is well known that if a diplomatist is embarked with a naval officer, even though the diplomatist be of inferior rank, the naval officer is bound to be guided by his judgment as to the adoption of coercive measures, and is in somewhat similar position to the military officer who, in this country, is requested to quell a riot after the Riot Act has been read by the civil magistrate. The whole course of Mr. Longfield's remarks went to exonerate Admiral Kuper, who has been most unjustly blamed by the country, and has been left undefended and unrewarded by the Government. The result of the debate was very satisfactory to Mr. Longfield and myself, for our amendment was adopted by the House, and all shadow of blame was thus removed from a gallant and absent officer.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
44, St. James's-place, Feb. 11. J. C. D. HAY.

Sir,—I have read with much surprise the condemnatory observations made by so many speakers in the House of Commons on the attack at Kagosima. They show little acquaintance with the fixed and unchangeable principles and tactics which must ever guide the practice of war, whether by sea or land. However anxious to do so, it is impossible to make the firing of shipping upon forts and batteries protecting towns and harbours so certain as not to permit many of the shot and shell to go over and fall into the town. In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred there will always be some motion, and the slightest motion will, of course, affect the aim from a ship's guns. To avoid the destruction of an enemy's property when no clear military object is to be gained by doing so, and to show the greatest kindness and allay in every possible way to his sufferings and feelings when helpless and in your power, will, I trust, ever be the principle which will guide every civilized, Christian nation.

To be merciful to the lives and property of the enemy at the expense of our own, or for the same reason to neglect opportunities of more readily attaining the objects of the war, would not be consistent with reason or common sense. Should it once be known that our commanders are not to fire on batteries for fear of injuring "houses of innocent people," those houses would soon be the receptacle of concealed troops, who would rush down upon our own men when landing to storm the very batteries upon which they were forbidden to fire. Do these gentlemen reflect upon the greater chances of failure and sacrifice of our men's lives, as well as the disgraceful results and injurious consequences to the interest and reputation of our country, such a system of warfare must entail? On foreign and distant stations the value of the lives of British soldiers and sailors is immeasurably increased by the difficulty of replacing them, and any morbid feeling of humanity to the enemy would be cruelty to our own men and destruction to the end and purpose of war. Will Continental nations refrain from besieging cities and towns for fear of burning the houses of innocent people? Can war be carried on with muffled gloves and buttons on the ends of our swords? Sir, your obedient servant,
Frant, Feb. 12. G. R. SARTORIUS, Admiral.

THE HONG KONG SHIPWRIGHT AND THE SHARPERS.—At the Westminster Police-court on Monday, Charles, *alias* Edward, Williams, Henry Eddon, and William Hope, all well dressed, who had refused to give any addresses, were charged with conspiracy and fraud. It appeared that Charles Adolphe Brandt, a Prussian, carrying on business as a shipbuilder at Hong Kong, and who arrived in London only a few days ago, was walking along the Strand on Saturday, when he was accosted by Eddon. The latter at first pretended that he was the master of a ship with whom he (prosecutor) was acquainted, and after getting into conversation with him pressed him to take a glass of wine. The other two prisoners, who affected to be strangers to Eddon, then came in, and, after talking about their rich relatives, a dispute arose as to the comparative strength of two of them. The prosecutor was asked by Eddon to be present when it was ascertained how many yards Hope could throw a 14lb. weight. He accompanied them to a place named at Chelsea, where he was inveigled into a skittle-alley. There they pretended to lay large wagers, and the usual well known artifices of skittle-sharpers were resorted to. The result was that the prosecutor was induced to part with £20, and then stake his gold watch and chain, value £24, and £6 in gold on another wager. It was undecided when the stakeholder, a person pretending to be the landlord of the Princess of Denmark beershop, New-road, Chelsea, gave the watch and money to Hope, alleging that he had won them. The pretended landlord then affected to advance the value of the watch to Hope, in order that the prosecutor might not lose it. He accompanied the latter to his lodgings to get the £24, which was paid in foreign coin. Hope then offered to lay a wager of £500 or £1,000, to be decided on the Monday, and ultimately the parties all agreed to meet again at the Duke of York's Column on that day between two and four o'clock. The prosecutor was proceeding from the beershop, when he was assaulted, and an attempt was made to steal his watch by some person unknown. On Monday morning he communicated with the police, and the prisoners were captured near the appointed place. John Shaw, 11 F, a detective who apprehended the prisoners, said he knew them all as constant and daily companions of each other, and as skittle-sharpers. He found an imitation gold chain, with a piece of paper at the end of it instead of a watch, fifty-six medals to imitate sovereigns, and two flash imitation Bank of England notes on the prisoners. Hope, on his way to the station, asked witness whether £10 in his pocket would not be better than proceeding with this prosecution, and one of the others added that it was not as if they had robbed a poor man who could not afford it. The prisoners said they had treated the prosecutor very much like gentlemen, for he had bills about him to the amount of £60,000, which they might have induced him to lose by play, and that he had described himself as a man of large property. He had said that he was about to be married at Hong Kong to a young woman with a large estate of her own. Mr. Selfe having told them that he must have their addresses, they very reluctantly gave some. They were remanded until Monday, and Mr. Selfe said he must have good sureties in £100 each for their re-appearance, with 24 hours' notice of bail.

THE FRENCH IN COCHIN-CHINA.—The following is from a Paris paper:—Admiral de la Grandiere, Governor of Cochin-China, has founded a newspaper at Saigon, the capital, by a decree, in which he says that, considering French Cochin-China is little or erroneously known in France and in the neighbouring colonies; that inaccurate information given by ill-informed newspapers may injure the true interests and the development of the colony, the best mode of inspiring merchants and manufacturer, with confidence is to inform them of the numerous resources possessed by Lower Cochin-China. The Governor further announces that an officials political, and commercial newspaper shall appear on the 10th and 25th of each month from the 1st of January, 1864. It is to publish official announcements, leading articles on the resources of the country, on the commercial and agricultural questions connected with them, and the price of articles to be exported. The editor will thankfully receive all articles signed by the contributor, which shall appear to be of advantage to the paper, and all other useful communications addressed to him. The decree founding the paper is followed by three additional decrees, and three notes emanating from the administration of the colony. The first decree fixes he indemnity to be paid to Asiatics summoned to give evidence. The second opens an annual credit of 5,000 fr., granted to the Governor for secret service money, and the third permits the exportation of rice from the 1st of January. The first two administrative notes refer to the perpetual rent representing the part of the land tax to be paid by the purchasers of lands and the formalities to be fulfilled by those who propose to build on their land. The third note states that the Treasury had received a sum or 277f. 50c. restitution money of which it had been robbed. It was restored through Consignor Lefebre, Vicar-General of Cochin-China. The leading article explains the object of the publication, and proposes to make known to France a country of which it is ignorant, and further to explain to the colonists themselves the resources of the soil, which have never been developed; to contradict the assertion of insalubrity, greatly exaggerated; to enlighten the native population as to the intentions of the French in coming to the remote East; to explain the Emperor's views, and thus to reassure capitalists by demanding their co-operation. This article is followed by another on the rice trade; next, a notice to navigators on a shoal situated between Manilla and Saigon; on the postage payable on letters, the price of merchandise, exchange on London, Hong Kong, and Singapore. The first number of the newspaper was published on the 1st of January last.

TRIAL TRIP OF THE S. S. "COHEN."—This large screw steamer, recently launched by the Messrs. Gourlay, took her trial trip in the river with the triumphant result that she was then proved to be the fastest steamer that ever sailed the Tay. The *Cohen* has been built for J. Cohen, Esq., merchant, Moulmein, and is intended, we believe, for the India and China trade. Her length is 240 feet; her breadth of beam 27 feet; and her depth 16 feet. She is of 774 tons burden O.M., and 200-horse power; barque rigged, with full poop, top gallant forecastle, and lengthy deck house. To suit the warm climate in which she is destined to sail, her deck has been made of solid teak, and her cabin of the same—the latter highly polished. By twelve o'clock a select party had arrived on board, among whom were R. A. Robinson, Esq., from London (formerly of the firm of Robinson and Russell, shipbuilders, Blackwall), the representative of the owner; and J. Z. Kay, Esq.,

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Dundee Local Engineer and Examiner in Steam to the Board of Trade. Mr. Henry Gourlay, for the builders, was also present; and superintended the trials of speed. The vessel started down the river about half-past twelve o'clock, and ran to opposite Barry lighthouse—the high sea rendering it inexpedient for trial purposes to run her further out. She made the run down to this point and back three times—the log being in active use on every occasion—and her sailing powers thus tested, were shown to be of the very highest order. She ran the measured mile the first time against a strong tide in 5 minutes 48 seconds; and in returning with the tide, she passed the posts in 3 minutes 32 seconds! On her second voyage, she ran about much the same speed; but on returning to the offing for the last time, she ran the nautical mile in 3 minutes 13 seconds! This last performance gives a speed of 17 nautical or about 21 statute miles an hour!—and that, too, with the screw not fully immersed in the water, the vessel not being in proper sailing trim. This is a rate of speed equal to that of the Queen's yacht, and fully equal to that of any screw we ever heard of belonging to an unsubsidised company, and constructed for carrying purposes.

CHINESE FUNERAL IN AUSTRALIA.—The mortal remains of Mr. Long Yong, a Chinese merchant, lately resident at the camp, Spring Creek, were interred, with much ceremony, in the Beechworth cemetery. Mr. Long Yong carried on business both at Castlemaine and Melbourne, as well as at Beechworth, and bore a high character amongst his own countrymen and also was held in estimation by all Europeans with whom mercantile transactions brought him into contact. The deceased, a few hours before his death, sent messengers to Mr. Tsze Hing, the Chinese interpreter, requesting that his funeral should be on a grand scale, and as soon as death ensued that gentleman took measures to carry the wishes of the deceased into effect. The procession was headed by a buggy, containing three or four celestials, whom we presume to have been priests, as they took a very active part at the grave. Next came the hearse, ornamented with plumes and drawn by four horses, and then a long line of from 15 to 20 buggies, filled with Chinese. The rear of the procession was brought up by a large number of horsemen, and as it wound slowly through the streets of the borough was calculated to arrest the attention of Europeans from its singularity, as, in place of the black habiliments of woe to which we are accustomed, the whole of the followers, with the exception of the undertaker, were dressed in white and wore white hat-bands. At the cemetery a large number of our townspeople assembled, led thither by curiosity or other motives, to witness the celebration of the funereal riets. The usual celestial ceremonies were duly observed; a fowl, backed by a large piece of pork, and teapot and cups were produced, and, so far as we could make out, were supposed to be devoted to the use of the deceased on his lonely journey, and a quantity of papers that were to us as incomprehensible in their nature as Egyptian hieroglyphics were burnt, as also many tapers. The head board, marked over with a number of Chinese characters, which, it seemed, made known the name and virtues of the departed, was smeared over with the red colouring matter from the outside of the tapers, and then, at a given signal, the white hat-bands were taken off by the Chinese and consigned to the care of the undertaker. A bottle of pale brandy was uncorked and moderately partaken of by the Chinese, and a bottle of the same spirit was placed at the disposal of the sexton. Silver coins were then distributed to a few who were chief mourners (some ladies amongst them), and the ceremony was concluded.

THE MATE OF THE "FLOWERY LAND."—To the Editor of *The Times*.—Sir,—Will you permit me to bespeak the sympathy of your readers for William Taffir, the second mate of the *Flowery Land*? The admirable tact and marvellous fortitude he has evinced in bringing to justice the perpetrators of a series of the most barbarous murders of modern times must be too well known to require further comment. Taffir, who is an intelligent young man, is suffering so much from the terrible ordeal through which he has passed as to be for the present quite unfit to pursue his professional avocations. During the time which elapsed between the murders of the captain, his brother, and the first mate, and the landing of the crew at the entrance of the River Plate—nearly a month—Taffir may be said to have stood face to face with death. But for his energy and activity the seven pirates who are about to expiate their crimes on the scaffold must have escaped, to perpetrate further atrocities, in all probability, when the occasion offered. Taffir, who is destitute of means, has no claim upon the owners of the *Flowery Land*, nor, it would seem, upon the Executive. He has received his wages up to the time of the loss of the ship, and for the time he was engaged in giving his evidence the Government has remunerated him after the rate of his former pay—namely, £4 per month. But, having regard to the services he has performed in the cause of public justice, to the terrible sufferings he has undergone, and to his failing health consequent upon them, I think it will be admitted that he has a claim upon public sympathy which should be recognised in a substantial manner. I have, therefore, undertaken to receive subscriptions on behalf of Taffir, in the hope of enabling him to secure the quiet repose necessary to recruit his shattered health, and ultimately to return to the merchant service an able and efficient officer, to which service I have no doubt he will always do credit.—I am, Sir, your most obedient servant, WILLIAM MITCHELL, *Shipping Gazette Office*.

THE "FLOWERY LAND."—A subscription is on foot for the second mate, William Taffer, of this vessel. He has, in a letter to *The Time* made the following statements:—"I never was intoxicated on board the *Flowery Land*, and I have my characters to show that I am and always have been a sober man. Had I been drunk at that time we should all have been drowned, for the boats were nearly drawn down with the ship by the eddy, and had I not prevailed upon the men to pull the boat out of the eddy we must have been sucked down, as they appeared quite ignorant of the danger. It is even wrong in stating that the whole of the men were drunk, as most of them were very sober men—particularly the Manilla men. There was no short allowance of either food or water, as we had been out thirty-two days, and she was provisioned for six months, and as far as sharing any rations with them, I never had any rations shared out, as I always had my mess in the cabin with the captain, his brother, and mate. As to the men who have been reprieved I will not say a word; but as to those five who have suffered this morning they were the greatest villains that ever lived, and all were guilty of the crime for which they have been executed."

THE NEW YORK STEAMER CHALLENGE.—The ship or steamer race offered by Government to one of our East India merchants will not come off. The merchant owner builds steamers to make money, and not for show. He asks $12,000 a day for his steamer, and then he is willing to let her race for a year, or longer. Government has no money to spend in races, and the merchants will not make up the needful. Despatches have been sent to our consuls abroad to communicate with the rebel Semmes, and to offer him the freedom of every American port and a free pardon, if he will bring the steamer *Alabama* into New York harbour, and sail a race with the Federal steamer *Eutaw*. If Semmes wins, he is to be paid $50,000 for the trouble, and the *Alabama* allowed to depart. If he loses, he is to give a certificate to that effect, and also sign a letter endorsing old Welles as the greatest naval secretary the world has ever seen. Such certificate Mr. Lincoln thinks will go far to mitigate the intense hate and contempt felt by the masses of the people, and particularly the large shipping merchants, towards the Navy Department and its white-headed secretary. We have a great fleet of vessels of war, steamers, gunboats, *Monitors*, &c. Of what possible use are they? We can't catch Semmes, and we have no war with any nation that has vessels and cargoes to pick up and rob.

EXECUTION OF THE "FLOWERY LAND" PIRATES.—On the 22nd inst. five of the seven pirates recently convicted at the Central Criminal Court of the murder of the captain of the ship *Flowery Land*, on the high seas, within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty of England, in September last, were hanged in front of the prison of Newgate, in the presence of an immense concourse of people. The five were—John Leone, or Lyons, 22 years of age; Francisco Blanco, 23; Ambrosio or Mauricio Duranno, 25; Marcus Vartos, otherwise Watto, 23; and Miguel Lopez, otherwise Joseph Chancis, and sometimes called "the Catalan," 22. Basilio de los Santos and Marsolino, who had been convicted with them, were reprieved on Friday evening, so that the lives of these two men have been spared. The whole of the convicts were natives of Manila, except Watto, who was a Levantine.

BARNUM FOR CHINA.—No one would have dreamed that a civil war was raging could he have jammed into the Academy of Music last night, when 5,000 persons in masks and grotesque costumes were assembled at the Arion Ball. Blondin was present, and at midnight walked the tight rope. A nephew of Barnum left yesterday for China. The object of his mission is to procure a regular file of a Chinese newspaper, that Barnum has been informed has been printed on silk at Peking for a thousand years. As literature it will pay no duty, and silk does. Barnum will exhibit the file at the Museum (if he gets it), and afterwards sell the silk to Arnold and Constable. Barnum is getting old, but he will be idolised to the last, and will humbug the people to the last hour of his existence. There are doubts now whether Barnum is for war or for peace.

RETURN OF M. SIMON FROM CHINA.—M. Eugene Simon has returned to Paris from China, after having accomplished a mission intrusted to him by the Emperor. He has brought with him a flock of Chinese sheep, called *ongti*, consisting of two rams and twenty-two ewes, remarkable for their fecundity. This flock is a present made by the French residents of Shanghai to the Zoological Society in the Bois de Boulogne. Fifty per cent. of these ewes produce lambs twice a year, and three at a birth; twenty per cent. produce two at a time twice a year. These sheep are of the middle size, and resemble the Southdown. Their wool, though long, is very inferior to that of the Merinos. It is proposed to send French sheep to Suez to be exchanged with masters of ships coming from China for Chinese sheep.

PARSEE MUNIFICENCE.—Mr. Sorabjee Pestonjee (of the firm of S. P. Framjee and Co., London) has given one lac of rupees to found a Fellowship in the Bombay University to be called "Framjee Cowasjee Fellowship." There is an amount of 1,75,000 rupees also collected to found a Canning Fellowship, open for competition for all Universities of India, of which Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, of London and Liverpool, has subscribed 50,000 rupees, and Mr. C. N. Cama, of Bombay, 25,000, and others sums of not less than 5,000 rupees each. Government has been asked to give equal aid, which, if obtained, will make the F. C. Fellowship of 250 rupees per month tenable for five years, and the "Canning" 300 rupees a month for the same period. One fellowship to be awarded every year.

THE ANNAMITE AMBASSADORS.—The Annamite Ambassadors, who quitted Valentia in the beginning of December to return to Cochin-China, did not arrive at Alexandria until the 27th January, after having been forced by stress of weather to seek shelter in the ports of Genoa, Civita Vecchia, and Messina. The Ambassadors embarked at Suez on the 29th January, on board the transport *Japon*, which was placed at their disposal by the French Government to convey them to their own country. They appeared to be perfectly satisfied with the accommodation prepared for them.

THE INDIAN MUTINY FUND.—The balance-sheet of the accounts of the fund for the relief of the sufferers by the mutiny in India for the past year, shows that the receipts for that period were £226,688, and the payments £16,578, leaving a balance of £210,110. In the year 1863 the sum of £385. 8s. 4d. has been added to the annual disbursements by the grant of allowances to 38 relatives of sufferers by the mutiny, while, during the year. 67 persons, receiving in the aggregate £789. 4s. per annum, have ceased to be pensioners on the fund. There are still 1,280 recipients on the books of the fund.

Naval and Military.

Admiral Sir James Stirling, formerly on the China station, has declined to be "shelved" on the retired list, which would have been the case had he accepted the service pension lately held by Admiral Mends. The flow of promotion, however, has not been impeded by the circumstance, as Admiral the Hon. Sir Montagu Stopford has accepted the £150 per annum, and consequently has ceased to be a candidate for further active employment.

The screw steamship Princess Royal, 84, Capt. Jones, at Plymouth, will shortly be ready to depart for the Cape of Good Hope to take the place of the Narcissus. Rear-Admiral George St. Vincent King has hoisted his flag, white at the mizen, on board. He immediately saluted the flag

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of the Port Admiral, which was duly acknowledged by the Royal Adelaide. Rear-Admiral George St. Vincent King, C.B., will now be styled commander-in-chief of the East India and Cape of Good Hope station. The following appointments have been made to this vessel:—Captain: W. G. Jones. Commander: Alexander Buller. Lieutenants: George W. Carter, Thomas Royes, George Rivington, Lord Walter Kerr, and Francis W. Lowther, H. W. Dowding and W. C. J. Blount. Sub-Lieutenant: Thomas E. Miller. Master: William T. Hains. Second Master: Thomas L. Mourilyan. Midshipmen: Arthur A. Duffield, Henry A. Baring, Alexander Cochran, Gerald C. Langley, Richard F. Meade, Dudley C. Stuart, Edward Beauchamp, John Durnfold, Ronald M. Hall, and Lionel Fanshawe. Chaplain: Rev. H. E. Yeoman. Naval Instructor: J. W. Lawley. Naval Cadets: Gordon Glennie and E. C. Moore. Surgeon: Francis Y. Toms. Paymaster: James F. Phillips. Assistant-Surgeons: Robert Hague, M.D., and Alexander Goodall, M.D. (acting). Assistant-Paymasters: Francis P. Lyne and John S. Scriven. Clerks: Charles F. Graham, and Edward T. Dixon. Assistant-Clerk: Robert C. Bates. Master's Assistants: Augustus Fane and David A. Canning. Chief Engineer: E. Boulton. Assistant-Engineers: Aaron Symes and R. T. Rundle. Lieutenant R. H. D. King is appointed Flag-Lieutenant, and Mr. Penfold, Paymaster, R.N., secretary to Rear-Admiral King.

In the new navy estimates, just published, the sum of £55,438 will be required to be voted for carrying out the different works now in progress for the enlargement and extension of Chatham dockyard during the ensuing year, which amount is exclusive of the sum required for the ordinary operations connected with the dockyard. The formation of the new basins, docks, factories, and other buildings intended to be constructed at Chatham, the whole covering an additional space of 300 acres, will involve an outlay of £815,000 beyond the sums already expended; but the sum of £27,000 only is taken in the estimates for the ensuing year. From this it appears that the work will be spread over a number of years. On the occasion of the recent visit of the Lords of the Admiralty to Chatham, it was decided to erect more powerful and costly machinery for carrying on the works connected with the building of the iron and iron-clad ships, and accordingly a sum of £16,318 is taken in the estimates for new machinery, exclusive of £1,500 for improved machinery in the ropemaking department of the establishment. There is also an item of £1,090 for preparing the foundations for the new machinery, and the sum of £900 will be required for the new 25 ton crane which the Lords of the Admiralty directed to be placed between Nos. 3 and 4 docks. The expense of dredging and clearing the harbour of mud is again large, the sum of £1,500 being required for that work during the year. There is a decrease in the number of established workmen, the number being 1,467, against 1,544 last year.

EXPORTS FROM CHINA.

(Chinese Commercial Guide.)

Alum, aniseed stars, oil of aniseed, apricot seeds or almonds, arsenic, artificial flowers, bamboo ware, beans and peas, bone and horn ware, borax, brass foil or tinsel, brass buttons, camphor, canes, cantharides, capoor cutchery, carpets and druggets, cassia, cassia oil, cassia twigs, cassia buds, cassia fistula, castor oil, chestnuts, china-root, chinaware, cinnabar, clothing, copper cash, copper ore, China spelter, copperas, cotton rags, crackers and fireworks, cubebs, curiosities, dyestuffs, dates, eggs, fans, felt cuttings, fishlines, furniture, galangal, garlic, glass, glass beads, gold, ground-nuts, gypsum, grass cloth, hair, hams, hartall, hemp, honey, ivory-ware, India ink, indigo, joss-sticks, kittysols, lackered-ware, lampwicks, lead (red and white), leather articles, lichees, lily flowers, liquorice, lung-ngan, manure-cakes, marble slabs, matting, mats, melon seeds, mother-o'-pearl ware, mushrooms, musk, musk seed, nankeen, nut-galls, oil (bean oil, tea, wood, cotton seed, mien yu, sesamum, ground-nut, olive, cabbage or rape, fish, &c.), oiled paper, olives, oyster shell, paints, palampores, paper, pearls, peel-orange, peppermint oil, pictures, oil paintings, pottery, rattans, rattan-ware, rhubarb, rice, rouge, rugs, hair, samshoo, salt, sandalwood-ware, sea shells, seaweed, seasum deed, shoes. Silk: under this head are—Nankin raw, Canton raw, refuse, firganzine or thrown, sz'cheun yellow, sz'cheun kwang sz', reeled from supions, tung kung sz'; wild raw silk, ye tsan sz'; cocoons, tsan kwan; soss, jung; tassels, wei sien; silk and cotton mixtures, sz' mien, and oz' mau chau; ribbons, sz' tai, and lan kan kwei tai; thread, sz' sien; satin, sz' twan crape, tsau sha; gauze, sha; lustring, kinen; pongee, chau; velvet, tsien jung; crape shawls, tsau-sha tah poh kin. Silver and gold ware, soy, straw braid, sugar, sugar candy, tallow, tinfoil. Tea: under this heading are—Fychow, Pingshui, Twankay or Tun kai, Oonam, Oopack, Pekoe, Hyson, Congou or Kong-hu, Hai-mei, Tsan-tun kiai, Tai Shan, Souchong or Sian-chung, Caper, Ankoi Souchong, Plain Orange Pekoe or Shanghiang, Oolung, Hungmuey or Hung-mei, Young Hyson, Hyson skin or Picha, Twankay, Scented Orange Pekoe, &c. Tobacco, tortoise sheel, trunks, turmeric, turnips, twine, varnish, vermicelli, vermilion, wax, wood, wool.

Monetary and Commercial.

The Messageries Imperiales mail steamer *Moeris* left on the 19th instant, with 46 passengers, 910 packages of merchandise, and £171,200 in specie for India and China; and 47 passengers, 729 packages of merchandise, and £200,000 in specie for Alexandria.

With regard to American steam navigation and Government subsidies, the subjoined paragraph appears in the *New York Journal of Commerce*:—

"The Chamber of Commerce some time ago appointed a special committee to prepare a report and memorial to Congress upon the subject of granting subsidies to certain ocean steam lines. They have given the subject a careful and laborious consideration, and have prepared a report which will probably make about 50 printed octavo pages, presenting a complete history of the Government subsidies to steam lines all over the world, and showing the effect of the policy in commerce. Accompanying this formidable statistical document is a brief memorial recommending that annual appropriations be made to the proposed American steam lines from San Francisco to China, from New York to Rio, and from New York to Liverpool. The report and the memorial will be submitted to the Chamber at the regular monthly meeting next Thursday. The general question of subsidies for steam lines is now before the Senate Committee on Commerce, who are reported to be strongly in favour of it. The Chamber have on former occasions exerted themselves to procure subsidies for steam lines. Last year they made an effort to effect such an arrangement for the San Francisco and China line, and succeeded in getting a bill through one branch, but could not get it through the other."

The Agra and United Service Bank have declared the usual dividend, at the rate of £10 per cent. per annum, for the six months ended the 31st of December, with a bonus of £4 per share, making altogether 18 per cent. for the past year; and, in consequence of the increased business of the bank, they have raised the reserved fund to £225,000.

The biddings for £300,000 in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were to Calcutta, £160,000; to Bombay, £120,000; and to Madras, £20,000. The minimum price declared was as before, 1s. 11⅛d. per rupee on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11⅜d. on Bombay. The application within the limits amounted to £1,870,000. Tenders on Calcutta, at 1s. 11⅛d., will receive about 80 per cent.; on Bombay, at 2s. 0⅛d., about 21 per cent.; on Madras at 2s., about 63 per cent., and all above these prices in full. On the 3rd inst., when the amount offered was £400,000, the lowest rate accepted was 2s. 0⅛d. on Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras.

The ordinary general meeting of the Oriental and General Marine Insurance Company was held on the 25th inst. at the London Tavern; Mr. Mocatta in the chair. A dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. was declared, the chairman intimating that they were in a position to divide a larger sum, but they deemed it prudent not to do so. A much larger dividend might be expected for the next year. The report will be found in our last page.

The annual meeting of the Oriental and General Marine Insurance Company is to be held on the 25th inst. The report to be issued to the shareholders states that after payment of all claims for losses, averages, and all other expenses, to the 31st December last, there remains a balance of £67,274. 16s. on insurance and interest accounts. The directors recommend that £3,339. 5s. be applied in payment of interest on capital, being at the rate of £5 per cent., leaving £63,935. 11s. to be carried forward.

A prospectus has been issued of the British and Californian Banking Company with a capital of £2,000,000 (one-half to be first put forth) in shares of £50. The undertaking is introduced by the London Financial Association, and the board of direction is principally composed of established London banks. The chief point urged in favour of the project is that California is already brought by telegraph within ten days of Europe, and that on the completion of the Great Pacific Railway, now under construction, the transit for passengers and goods from New York to San Francisco will occupy only six days, when the latter port is likely to become an important depot for the trade to China, Japan, and other parts of the East.

The half-yearly meetings of the London joint-stock banks are now concluded, and in every instance they exhibit a degree of prosperity little looked for even by the most sanguine advocates of this class of enterprise. Their profits continue to increase, and the public confidence is clearly shown, not only by the high value of their shares in the market, but by the constantly augmenting amount of the deposits left in their care. Ten years ago the six joint-stock banks then existing held only £22,000,000, while now their number has doubled (including the Consolidated, with which the private firms of Messrs. Heywood, Kennard, and Co., and Messrs. Hankey and Co. have amalgamated), and their deposits reach the enormous amount of nearly £71,800,000; and this without reckoning the Agra and United Service Bank, formerly devoted exclusively to Indian banking, but now doing a large and profitable London business.

The Stock Exchange Committee have appointed a special settling day in the shares of the Hong Kong and China Gas Company (Limited), which are to be officially marked.

The Trade and Navigation Returns for the month of December, 1863, and for the year ending the 31st December last, have at length made their appearance. The returns for the month in question are always subject to delay, on account of the necessity of affording time for the making up of the landing

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accounts of all cargoes appertaining to the year. The total value of the exports of British and Irish produce for the year is £146,489,768, against £123,992,264 for the year 1862, and £125,102,814 for the year 1861, so that there is an increase of more than 18 per cent. over 1862, and of just above 17 per cent. over 1861. The exports to the Far East for the month of December last, and the three last years, were as follows :—

CHINA.—Cotton Yarn: 56,678 lbs. in December last; the quantity for the year being 2,060,862 lbs., against 3,214,059 lbs. in 1862, an 6,733,914 lbs. in 1861. The value is £221,197 for the year against £183,963 in 1862, and £307,238 in 1861. Cotton Manufactures: 3,470,068 yards in the month of December; and 46,477,529 yards in the year 1863, compared with 80,696,465 in 1862, and 243,654,141 in the year before; the value for the years 1863, 1862, and 1861 being respectively £1,163,984, £1,269,998, and £3,177,048. Woollen and Worsted Manufactures: For the month of December last the export was 94,813 yards; and for the three years respectively, 1,613,005 yards in 1863, 2,037,448 yards in 1862, and 2,884,224 yards in 1861. The value for the month was £17,030, and for the years—in 1863, £296,669; 1862, £254,681; and 1861, £360,528. Worsted Stuffs: For the month of December, 1,057,567 yards; for the years 1863, 1862, and 1861 respectively, 9,238,611, 8,398,271, and 4,704,056 yards. The value was £69,318 for the month, and £650,335 for the year 1863, against £415,756 in 1862, and £350,155 in 1861. Lead: Export for the month, 1,099 tons, and for the year 14,556 tons; that for the years 1862 and 1861 was 9,977 and 5,644 tons. The value for the three years respectively was, 1863, £310,181; 1862, £213,756; and 1861, £122,788.

SINGAPORE—Cotton Yarn: The export for the month of December was 77,300 lbs., and for the years 1863, 1862, and 1861 respectively, 2,011,936, 1,593,371, and 1,660,387 lbs., the value for the month being £10,186, and for the years respectively, £213,231, £99,389, and £96,798. Cotton Manufactures: The quantity for the month was 4,091,218 yards; and for the year, 29,059,153 yards against 32,726,886 yards in 1862, and 44,381,991 yards in 1861. The value for the month was £105,719; and for the years 1863, 1862, and 1851 respectively, the value was £701,548, £567,488, and £616,189.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—Cotton Manufactures: The export for the month is 1 005,956 yards; and for the year 1863, 14,256,429 yards, against 14,338,218 yards in 1862, and 34,421,490 yards in 1861. The value for the month is £26,705; and for the three years, respectively, beginning with 1863, £351,096, £294,510, and £596,219.

JAVA.—Cotton Manufactures: The export to this island for the month of December last was 2,176,510 yards, and for the year 1863, 16,165,927 yards, against 26,322,463 yards in 1862, and 48,147,358 yards in 1861. The value for the month was £64,055; and the value for the years 1863, 1862, and 1861 respectively was £411,389, £496,180, and £758,401.

The declared value of British and Irish produce and manufactures exported from the United Kingdom to the countries and ports hereinafter mentioned was as follows, for the months and years named :—

	November, 1863.	December, 1863.
China (exclusive of Hong Kong) ..	£162,560	£213,472
Hong Kong	181,151	126,391
Singapore and the Eastern Straits ..	172,644	179,477
Dutch Possessions in India	75,872	86,458
Portuguese Possessions in India ..	7,211	—
Philippine Islands	16,616	39,412
Japan	2,894	32,477

	1861.	1862.	1863.
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	£3,114,694	£2,024,118	£2,412,958
Hong Kong	1,733,963	1,113,224	1,473,431
Singapore and the E. Straits ..	1,027,384	1,064,681	1,486,813
Dutch Possessions in India ..	1,091,511	776,564	652,025
Portuguese Possessions in India	6,647	—	7,211
Philippine Islands	784,564	458,404	556,863
Japan	43,100	21	108,897
Labuan	1,217	4,694	—
Siam	35,979	21,907	11,958
Cochin China, Cambogia, and Tonquin	—	247	36,597

The annexed circular has been forwarded to the shareholders of the Labuan Coal Company (Limited) :—

I am desired by the directors of this company to forward for your perusal the annexed extracts from Mr. Sinclair's correspondence and reports, and also to inform you that the general tenour of the advices from the mines since the issue of the circular from this office of the 9th November last has been good, and quite equal to their expectations. The steamer *Stirling*, after having undergone an overhauling at Singapore after her passage out, arrived finally at Labuan on the 23rd December, and, according to the last accounts, was loading, and expected to leave the latter port for Hong Kong with her first cargo on the 1st Jan. The directors look with confidence to the services this vessel will render, and estimate that she will perform an average annual number of at least eighteen runs to the various ports enumerated in her charter-party, her capacity enabling her to discharge about 1,000 tons each time. A total quantity of about 1,700 tons of coal had been delivered in Hong Kong and Singapore, under contract, by sailing vessels chartered by the company's agents in Singapore for the purpose. While the progress abroad has been favourable, the interests of the company have been substantially advanced in this country by the consent of the Secretary of State for the Colonies to grant a lease of the mines upon the terms originally agreed upon, to which effect is now being given by the Commissioners of the Emigration Board, with whom the solicitors of the company are engaged in settling the details. I have much pleasure in adding that the directors have received intimation from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty of their lordships' intention to have Her Majesty's ships on the China station coaled as much as possible at Labuan, affording satisfactory proof thereby of their full reliance in the quality of the coal, and its fitness for steam purposes.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Pera*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was, in gold to Gibraltar, £1,500; to Alexandria, £24,830; to Galle, £2,000; to Madras, £3,336; to Calcutta, £65; to Singapore, £720. In silver: to Madras, £4,040; to Penang, £660; to Singapore, £2,200; to Hong Kong, £8,150; to Shanghai, £22,360. Total in gold, £32,451; in silver, £37,410.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—We are still unable to notice any improvement in the state of our market. The imports have been far in excess of the wants of the trade, and only a very limited proportion has found buyers, and prices for most descriptions continue much depressed, with a tendency in favour of buyers. Low and dusty kinds of Congou have been offered freely at public sale, without reserve, and sold irregularly, but establishing a decline of ½d. per lb. Good common have been sold to a limited extent from 1s. to 1s. ½d. per lb. Flavoury kinds from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 8d. per lb. have been in full supply, and sales have been effected with great difficulty, and prices must be quoted about 1d. per lb. lower. Good Kaisow kinds have been in better request at former rates. Common to fair black-leaf kinds have sold at public sale from 11½d. to 1s. per lb. Grades ranging from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 5d. have met but little demand. Prices for second-class Monings and Wopaks have given way about 1d. per lb. Fine to finest, also Kaisows of similar quality, maintain fully former value, with, however, only a moderate business doing. Tayshans show no alteration. Oolongs, Souchongs, and Flavoury Pekoes remain much as before. Common Scented Capers have been inquired for, as also the fair to good and fine kinds with strength, and prices show no material alteration. Foochow-make of Orange Pekoes have sold at former prices, but Canton-make continue in very limited demand. Uncoloured Japan kinds have been taken to a fair extent for export at former prices. The public sales of Indian tea continue to go off briskly at full prices. Green teas have been in active demand; some considerable purchases have been made of common Gunpowders and Young Hysons at prices showing an advance of 1½d. to 2d. per lb., whilst the good to fine kinds of both, from recent arrivals, have been freely taken at an advance of 1d. to 2d. per lb. Hysons have in some degree participated in the movement. Imperials continue very scarce. Common Twankays remain dull of sale, but good qualities show some improvement; the finer kinds of Canton-made Young Hyson and Gunpowder have been saleable at fully 1d. to 2d. per lb. higher prices, but the common to fair descriptions, however, continue neglected.

At the public sales on the 16th 45,691 packages were offered, and 23,732 sold, of which 20,927 were without reserve. The following is a list of the sales :—2,691 chests, 3,895 half-chests Congou, 7¼d. to 1s.; 3,253 chests, 1,078 half-chests Congou, 1s. to 1s. 6d; 424 chests, 53 half-chests Congou, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 4d.; 1,169 packages sea-damaged Tea, 2d. to 10½d.; 1,049 boxes Scented Caper, 7¼d. to 1s. 2¾d.; 1,254 boxes Congou, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 9¾d.; 5 half-chests Souchong Congou, 1s. 4d.; 181 half-chests, 64 boxes Hyson, 7d. to 1s. 10d.; 519 half-chests, 575 chests, 381 boxes Souchong, 10¼d. to 1s. 8½d.; 64 half-chests Japan Oolong, 8¾d. to 9½d.; 2 boxes, 88 half-chests Imperial, 6¾d. to 1s. 9d.; 99 half chests, 1,725 boxes Gunpowder, 9d. to 2s. 2½d.; 6 chests Coocheela Tea, 1s. 2d.; 705 chests Flowery Pekoe, 10½d. to 5s.; 211 half chests Japan Tea, 11d. to 1s. 2d. to 1s 3½d.; 396 boxes, 15 chests, 415 half-chests Oolong, 9½d. to 1s. 6d.; 131 half-chests Hyson skin, 6½d. to 8d.; 2,352 boxes Scented Orange Pekoe, 8½d. to 1s. 4¾d.; 85 half-chests Orange Pekoe, 8½d. to 10d.; 529 half-chests, 236 boxes Young Hyson, 8d. to 2s. 0½d.; 21 chests Java Twankay, 6½d. to 7d.; and 88 half-chests Twankay, 7½d. to 9d.

SILK.—The tone of the Silk Market has not improved since last mail, still the disposition shown by some importers to meet the market has produced a considerable aggregate of business during the fortnight, Japan silk perhaps attracting more attention than China silk. Our quotations generally show a further trifling reduction. Deliveries from 1st to 24th inclusive:—China, 2,204 bales; Japan, 1,387 bales; total, 3,591 bales. Quotation: Tsatlee, No. 1, 22s. 6d. to 23s. 6d.; No. 3, 20s. 6d. to 21s. Japan: Mibash, No. 1, 22s. 6d. to 23s.

COTTON.—The latest sales comprise 500 bales American, 26½d. to 27¾d.; 50 Pernam, &c., 27d.: 20 Maranham, 27d.; 110 Maceio and Bahai, 26d.; 500 Egyptian, 26¼d. to 34d.; 200 Smyrna, 23¾d. to 25½d.; 4,620 Surat, 12d. to 23d.: China, 19¾d to 19½d.; Japan, 20½d. to 21¾d. The market very firm.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE COTTON TRADE.

RAW COTTON.	Price Feb. 18, 1864	Price Feb. 1863	Price Feb. 1862	Price Feb. 1861	Price Feb. 1860	Price Feb. 1859
	s d	s d	s d	s d	s d	s d
Upland fair.....per lb	...	1 11¼	1 1¼	0 7½	0 7	0 7
Ditto good fair	...	...	...	0 7¾	0 7¾	0 7¾
Pernambuco fair	2 3	1 9½	1 1½	0 9¼	0 8¼	0 8
Ditto good fair	...	1 10½	1 1¾	0 9¾	0 8¾	0 8¾
No. 40 MULE YARN, fair, 2nd quality.....	2 10	2 3	1 3	1 0	1 1	1 0¾
No. 30 WATER TWIST, ditto	2 10	2 4	1 2¾	0 11¾	1 0½	0 11¾
26-in, 66 reed, Printer, 29 yds, 4 lbs 2 oz...	13 0	9 10½	6 10½	5 9	6 3	5 4½
27-in, 72 reed, ditto ditto 5 lbs 2 oz ...	15 0	12 3	7 7½	6 6	7 0	6 3
39-in, 60 reed, Gold End Shirtings, 37½ yards, 8 lbs 4 oz	22 0	16 9	10 9	8 9	10 0	9 10½
40-in, 66 reed, ditto ditto, 8 lbs 12 oz...	23 6	18 9	12 0	10 0	11 3	10 9
40 in, 72 reed, ditto ditto, 9 lbs 4 oz ...	25 0	20 9	13 3	11 3	12 6	11 7½
89-in, 48 reed, Red End Long Cloth, 36 yards, 9 lbs	21 6	17 0	9 10½	8 6	9 1½	9 0

SUGAR.—Considerable business has been done, and rates are maintained owing to an anticipated reduction in the duty. Clayed Manila sales at 41s. 6d.

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RICE.—There is no change to observe in this market, which remains quiet. About 15,000 bags have been sold privately. Middling Nakrenzie, 9s. 6d., and Rangoon 8s. 10½d. (cash); also a cargo of 800 tons Nakrenzie, for spring shipment, at 10s. 6d., and one of 1,060 tons old crop (floating), at 10s.

PEPPER.—The demand is less active; at public sale, the sound part of 909 bags Black Singapore was withdrawn, but afterwards sold at 3⅝d. to 3⅞d. for grey to fair, and 616 bags Penang were taken at 3¼d. to 3⅝d.; privately only a limited business has been done. 80 bags common Penang White sold by auction at 5¼d.

COFFEE.—Ceylon: Only 100 casks, 170 barrels and bags Plantation have been offered in public sale, which went off readily at fully last week's rates; good middling coloury to fine, 85s. to 95s. 120 barrels 724 bags native were principally disposed of as follows:—Small, 66s. to 66s. 6d.; fine ordinary to superior, 70s. to 72s. 6d. Privately, about 1,500 bags have been taken on similar terms.

SAGO.—2,100 boxes of pearl offered were mostly all sold at full prices to 1s. advance for large grain, small sold at 19s. to 23s. 6d.; large, 21s. 6d. to 22s. 6d.; 200 bags of flour bought in at 15s. 3d.

TAPIOCA.—Of 200 packages of Penang offered, a small part sold at 3¼d.; and a part of 200 cases of flour, at 21s. 6d. to 22s. 6d.

HEMP.—Manila current large sales at £34 to £36; Sunn £23. 10s.

SPICES.—600 bags of Zanzibar cloves, part sold at steady rates, 3¼d. to 3⅜d.; 970 bags of Pimento met a dull demand, and only 200 bags sold on easier terms, low middling and middling, 2⅜d. to 2½d.; 16 packages of nutmegs sold, ordinary limed, 7d. to 9d.; mace, a few lots at 1s. 8d. for good; of 1,800 cases of cassia lignea, about half sold at 1s. to 2s. per cwt. decline, first pile, 90s. to 92s.; second, 87s. to 88s.; third, 85s.

CAMPHOR.—China and Japan large sales at £5. 5s. to £5. 7s. 6d., and buyers at the latter price.

CINNAMON.—Good business at about 1d. dearer than at last sales.

INDIA-RUBBER.—Very flat; Java is offered at 1s. 5½d. Gutta Percha nominal at 1s. 4d. to 2s. 4d.; no demand.

SAPANWOOD.—Is quiet, and rather lower; and of 67 tons Manila at auction, one-fourth sold at £7. 15s. to £8 per ton; of 29 tons Singapore, three-fourths sold at £8 to £12. 10s.; and of 16 tons Batavia, one-third sold at £9 to £10.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch: Sales at 25s. 6d. Gambier in demand. Sales at 3d. to 6d. higher; of 1,874 bales at auction, three-fourths sold at 22s. for fair block, and 24s. 6d. to 25s. 6d. cubes; good business done privately at 21s. 9d. to 23s. for ordinary to good block on the spot, and 21s. 9d. to 22s. arrivals; and in cubes 24s. to 25s. 6d.

TIN.—Market very dull; sales of Straits at £117, and Banca £118 to £120.

WAX.—Japan: Sales flat, and rather cheaper; 183 boxes sold at auction at 55s. to 65s. per cwt. for ordinary to good block, and 58s. 6d. to 59s. damaged saucers.

TURMERIC.—No China here: of Java 160 bags at auction all retired. Privately moderate business done at 15s. 6d. to 18s. per cwt. for ordinary to good. Very little offering, and advanced prices demanded.

TORTOISE-SHELL.—Auctions have comprised 9 cases Sydney, two-thirds sold at 15s. per cwt. for good, 7s. 6d. to 11s. 6d. inferior and pickings, and 10s. hoof; 2 cases Singapore sold at 15s. 6d. to 16s.; and 2 cases Manila retired.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£65,090
Foo-chow-Foo	—	2,350
Hong Kong	—	44,378
Amoy	—	—
Singapore	£3,750	5,435
Penang	—	40,435

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	—
Hong Kong	£31,568	—
Singapore	—	—
Penang	—	£2,952
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	—	£37,900
To Saigon	—	5,160
To Hong Kong	—	7,400
To Shanghai	—	79,900

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 3½
Silver in Bars	0 5 1½
Mexican Dollars	0 5 3½

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £8. 10s. to £9; nail rod, £9. 10s. to £10, hoops, £11; sheets, single, £12; Staffordshire bars, £10. 10s.; rails, £8.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £120 per ton; yellow metal, 10d. to 10½d. per lb.

TIN.—116s. for block; 117s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 31s. to 32s. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English Pig, £21 5s. to £21. 12s. 6d.; W.B., £22. 5s.; shot, patent, £24; sheet, £21. 15s.; spelter, £21. 5s.; zinc, English sheet, £26. 10s. to £27; quicksilver, £8 to £8. 10s. per bottle.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—The metal trade is less animated than at the early part of the year. Iron.—Manufactured iron is in good demand. Scotch Pig is easier. Copper is quiet; although smelters are firm, some second-hand parcels are still offering under quotations. Tin.—English is not so much in demand; Foreign is rather lower. Tin Plates.—Orders do not come in freely at the advanced rates now demanded. Lead very firm. Spelter only in moderate demand. Quicksilver scarce and firm at quotations.

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

Mr. Mendel's Circular states that the improvement of last week has been again lost, and the rates are now in favour of buyers:—Grey Shirtings, 7lbs., 17s. 6d. to 17s. 9d.; 9lbs., 24s. 3d. Cotton Yarns, 16-24, 2s. 7d. to 2s. 9d.; 28-32, 2s. 9d. to 2s. 10d. Maddapollams, 7s. 6d. Long Cloths, 19s. 9d. T-Cloths, 14s., 13s. 9d. White Spot Shirtings, 22s. 6d.; White Brocade do., 22s. 6d. White damasks, 40s.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Feb. 13	St. Nazaire	Batavia	Jules Cezard	Ropers.
— 16	Liverpool	Shanghai	Allendale	Gray.
— 13	Brouwershaven	Batavia	President Plate	Harten.
— 14	Do.	Do.	Alblasserwaard	Van Lindern.
— 14	Do.	Tjilatjap	Vesta	V. Eyk.
— 14	Texel	Batavia	G. P. Servatius	Waamstecker.
— 16	Do.	Do.	Amphitrite	Berglund.
— 15	Brouwershaven	Do.	Constance	Kimmerer.
— 15	Do.	Do.	Emilie	Bruynseels.
— 18	Deal	Shanghai	Hanover	Rick.
— 18	Do.	Do.	Sunbeam	Barge.
— 15	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Gaaf v. Hdn. Reinestein	Boer.
— 16	Brouwershaven	Do.	Jannetje	Lupcke.
— 4	New York	Amoy	Selavonia	Mutter.
— 5	Do.	Shanghai	Claro Babuyen	Harrington.
— 18	Portsmouth	Macao	Johanne	Diedrichsen.
— 19	Dartmouth	Japan	Broadwater	Stockman.
— 19	Off Scilly	Shanghai	Mirage	Roberts.
— 15	Cuxhaven	Macao	Esther	Buttschau.
— 16	Texel	Batavia	Hedda Frederika	Larsen.
— 17	Brouwershaven	Do.	Ida Elizabeth	Dooyen.
— 17	Do.	Do.	Loevesteyn	Hulshof.
— 17	Texel	Do.	Anna	Bok.
— 17	Do.	Samarang	Kaap Hoorn	Dik.
— 17	Palais Roads, B.I.	Singapore	Louis Cezard	Chevalier.
— 17	Bordeaux	Do.	Chene	Blanchard.
— 9	New York	Amoy	Hainau	Schrader.
— 9	Do.	Do.	Moldavia	Wood.
— 24	Liverpool	Shanghai	Lorton	Wollard.
— 23	Off Cape Clear	Zebu, P.I.	Hy. Darling	
— 21	Liverpool	Akyab	Montrose	Lofgren.
— 19	Off Dungeness	Java	Nederland en Oranje	Boumeester.
— 19	Do.	Do.	G.Gl.Duymaer v.Twist	
— 19	Scilly	Do.	Constantia	Hilberg.
— 23	Off Scilly	Hong Kong	Reindeer	M'Clelland.
Feb. 10	Off the Wight	Hong Kong	Queen of the Age	Pincombe.
— 9	Off Plymouth	Shanghai	Jubilee	Grant.
— 9	Texel	Batavia	Wilhelmina and Clara	Abrahams.
— 15	London	Shanghai	Sir W. F. Williams	Martin.
— 15	Do.	Hong Kong	Beatrice	Taylor.
— 15	Do.	Kanagawa	Medina	Le Brun.
— 15	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Janet Mitchell	Branscombe.
— 15	Do.	Penang	Daylight	Ritchie.
— 15	Do.	Canton	Canadian	Russell.
— 12	Plymouth	Batavia	Java	Dehle.
— 13	Falmouth	Akyab	Montrose	Lofgren.
Jan. 29	New York	Foo-chow-Foo	Glenclune	Turnbull.
— 29	Do.	Do.	Marie Lucie	Diedrichsen.
Feb 14	London	Shanghai	Ruanymede	Rickaby.
— 14	Deal	Do.	Edith	Robinson.
— 14	Cowes	Macao	Dwina	Von Rattern.
— 14	Do	Rangoon	Schlosser	Kahle.
— 15	Off Falmouth	Batavia	Richard	Willemje (?).
— 16	Deal	Shanghai	Grenadier	McMurtry.
— 16	Do.	Do.	Humphrey Nelson	Chellew.
— 16	Queenstown	Manila	Josh. Taylor	
— 6	New York	Amoy	Julia	Morris.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Feb. 20	Glasgow	Singapore	Elizabeth Ronneberg	Dinesen.
— 19	Port Glasgow	Shanghai	Yuen-Tze-Fee, str.	Stock.
— 18	Liverpool	Do.	Madagascar	Ginja.
— 21	London	Do.	Yaratilda	Dinough.
— 15	Shields	Singapore	Rangoon	Thomas.
— 18	Liverpool	Do.	Brami	Forgeson.
— 18	Glasgow	Do.	Dunnakier	Main.
— 22	Liverpool	Batavia & Singapore	Tigris	Miller.
— 20	Do.	Hong Kong	Horasa	Markwell.
— 20	Do.	Do.	Verbena	Ross.
— 23	London	H. Kong & Shanghai	Far East, str.	Jones.
— 4	New York	Shanghai	Horatio	Palmer.
— 4	Do.	Hong Kong	Baron Kellner	Couch.
— 19	Cardiff	Do.	Cathaya	Stewart.
— 17	Shields	Do.	Chineseren	Hoyer.
Feb. 6	Shields	Singapore	Volunteer	
— 6	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Trafalgar	Hall.
— 5	Lamlash	Do.	Figaro	Ducksell (?).
— 10	Glasgow	Batavia & Singapore	Glenisla	Pcock.
— 10	London	Shanghai	City of Quebec	Dalrymple.
— 9	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Clara	Talfrey.
— 13	Falmouth	Do.	Maggie Leslie	Stephens.
Jan. 26	Madeira	China	Tun Sin, str.	Rowe.
Feb. 11	Liverpool	Singapore	Brami	
— 13	London	Cardiff & Singapore	Hammersmith	Mairn.
— 10	Newport	Hong Kong	The Cedars	Stonehouse.
— 12	Cardiff	Do.	Louis	Aubril.
— 15	Liverpool	Do. and Canton	Everest	Curwen.
— 15	Do.	Shanghai	Wild Deer	Cobb.
— 15	Do.	Singapore	Invincible	Locke.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

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LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Nagasaki: Alice. For Kanagawa: Satzuma. For Shanghai: Solent, Delhi, Finzel, Queen of Nations, Beemah. For Hong Kong and Canton: Cambalu, Canadian, Southern Belle, Lord Raglan, Gauntlet, Jubilee. For Manila: Conchita, Elisa. For Singapore: Panic, Prince Alfred, Blue Jacket, Moncta, William Simpson. For Penang: Marengo. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Copernicus. For Bankok: Helen Baird.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Patna, Alice, Recife, Truro, Jane Leech. For Hong Kong and Canton: Veronica. For Hong Kong: Glendower. For Singapore: Bogota, Lorton. For Manila: Olano. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Cherokee, str.

At GLASGOW.—For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Hermelin. For Singapore and Penang: Hoang-Ho. For Batavia and Singapore: British Queen. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Thomas Mitchell.

SPOKEN.

ANN ROXBY, Shanghai to Liverpool, Dec. 4, 31 S., 33 E.
WM. WILSON, Foo-chow-Foo to London, Dec. 17, 29 S., 7 E.
YANG-TSZE, London to Hong Kong, Jan. 5, 2 N., 26 W.
DEWA GUNGADHUR, London to Singapore, Feb. 4, 46 N., 12 W.
WILLEM HENRICH (Dut. barq.), Newcastle to Bat., Jan. 7, 3 S., 21 W.
AMELIA WORRELL (?), Foo-chow-Foo to Lon., Oct. 25, in Java Straits.
THOMAS MITCHELL, Foo-chow-Foo to Lon., Nov. 19, 24 S., 68 E.
BEAUTIFUL STAR, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Nov. 30, 28 S., 47 E.
CONSTANCE (ship), Cardiff to Hong Kong, Jan. 7, 3 N., 22 W.
MARIE AND HILLEGONDA, Bat. to Rottm., Dec. 9, 32 S., 39 E.
AMPHRIA (?), Eng. ship, Batavia to Falmouth, Jan. 7, 3 N. (?), 32 W.
HIERONIMUS (Dan. brig), Hamburg to Hong K., Jan. 7, 3 N., 22 W.
MARIA, Batavia to Middelburg, Jan. 22, 29 N., 42 W.
NICOLAAS WITSEN, Batavia to Amsterdam, Dec. 27, 18 S., 4 W.
AZIA, Batavia to Amsterdam, Jan. 4, 3 S., 20 W.
ANA (Dut. barq.), Antwerp to Batavia, Sept. 15.
ASKEW (Dan. barq.), Gothenburg to Shanghai, 22 Sept., 8 N., 26 W.
PUDSEY DAWSON, Cardiff to Shanghai, Jan. 11, on the line, 29 W.
PALMYRA, Shanghai to Liverpool, Jan. 3, 25 S., 3 E.
EDINBURGH, Shanghai to London, Jan. 14, 7 S., 16 W.
ANNA SOPHIA, Amsterdam to Batavia, Jan. 9, 7 S., 30 W.
ALARIC, Manila to Liverpool, Nov. 30, 26 S., 60 E.
CHASE, Clyde to Manila, Nov. 27, 17 S., 31 W.
ALIDA KLASINA, Batavia to Amsterdam, Jan. 1, 10 S., 13 W.
LOTUS, Clyde to Batavia, Nov. 19, 35 S., 46 E.
CHRISTINA, Amsterdam to Batavia, Dec. 16, 17 S., 31 W.
VON LAFFERT LEHSEN, Bordeaux to Shanghai, Nov. 7, 38 S., 32 E.
ELECTRA, Amsterdam to Batavia, Nov. 15, 39 S., 47 E.
CHAPTAL, Java to St. Nazaire, Dec. 31, 31 S., 57 E.
HINDA, Shields to China, Nov. 25, 25 S., 26 W.
MINDEN, Manila to London, Nov. 17, in Straits of Sunda.
CORDOVA, Shanghai to Liverpool, Nov. 4.
SIBA, Macao to Hamburg, Nov. 9.
FAIRLIGHT, Shanghai to London, Dec. 19.
BOLISSIMA, Macao to London, Dec. 21.
WM. EGGERTS, Japan to Liverpool, Dec. 19, 28 S., 51 E.
SIAM, Shanghai to London, Dec. 23, 30 S., 37 E.
ALFRED THE GREAT, Foo-chow-Foo to London, Dec. 24, 31 S., 32 W.
A. R. FALCK, Sourabaya to Amsterdam, Jan. 5, 25 S., 4 E.
JOHANNA, Batavia to Rottm., Dec., 30 S., 41 E.
MARGARETHA, Batavia to Amstm., 30 days out, Dec. 21.
RICHARD, Dutch ship, Batavia to Falmouth, Jan. 29, 32 N., 46 W.
VALDIVIA, of Liverpool, London to Singapore, Jan. 11, 9 N., 27 W.
LITTLE EDITH, Cardiff to Shanghai, Jan. 21.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Cambridge, Ravensbourne, J. C. Munro, Esperanza, Confiance, Dolphin, Europe, Scawfell. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, M. Theresa, William Eggerts. At NEW YORK: Sarah (*via* Shanghai), Maggie Atkinson.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Monarch, Belle, Mexican, Melrose, Palmerston, James Vinnicombe, Osprey, Spirit of the Deep, J. H. Ransom, Hawthorne, Daisy, Spirit of Trade, Sophie, Philip I., Mimosa, Bosworth, Maiden Queen, Portland, Edinburgh, India, Ocean Queen, Beautiful Star, Siam, Havelock, Ocean Bride, Rock City, Clarendon, Langdale, Theodore and Julie, Alfred the Great, Wm. Melhuish, Fairlight, Ironside, Bellissima, Laurel, Magnus, Renown, Nelly, Star Queen, Chalmers, Balmacarra, H.M.'s Scout, Heroes of Alma, Princess of Wales, Marie Wilhelmina, Standard, Isabella Ridley, Mary Ann Wilson, Agra. At LIVERPOOL: Alfred Kay, Joshua Bates, Iron Crown, Forfarshire, Our Queen, Sarah and Emma, Cordova, Palmyra, Alliance, Abdul Medjid, Regina, Ranee, Victoria, Star of the North, Eleanor, Montgomery, Lady Elizabeth, Chalmers, Niphon, James Gibson, Spirit of the Sea, Macduff, Nile, Nielbreek, Esmeralda, Glenhuntly, Fow Tsun, Princess Royal, Loodianah, Chryseis, Amazone, Agincourt, Light of the Age, Falcon, Lord Lyndhurst, Istamboul, Young England, Nonpareil, Royal George, General Putnam, Solway, Merry England, Offor. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama. At HAMBURG: Siwa, Selina Jane, Ophelia. At NEW YORK: Vesta, Anna, Sarah, Wilhelmina, Graf Eulenburg, Creole, Florence Nightingale, Helen Nicholson, Apollo, Elizabeth, Louise Kohn, Confucius, St. Paul, Guiding Star, Queen of the Seas, Peep O'Day.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Pelicano, Minden, Flora, Der Preusse. At FALMOUTH: Agricola, Maggie Lauder. At LIVERPOOL: Alaric, Conference, Belvidere. At DENMARK: Emma. At ROTTERDAM: Zanzibar. At NEW YORK: Bavaria, Helvetia.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Avalanche, Maid of the Tyne, Halton Castle, Latona, Peter Symons, Oscar, Pilgrim, Tre Brodre, Confiance. At LIVERPOOL: Oasis, Alfred Roy. At QUEENSTOWN: Agricola. At SHIELDS: Zes Gezusters (Dut.) At FALMOUTH: For orders, Helene (Dan.). At BORDEAUX: Frehel (Fr.), Salazes (Fr.), Oriza (Fr.). At NEW YORK: Caroline.

From BATAVIA.—At FALMOUTH: Frederika. At CHANNEL: Ceres, Richard.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: John Masterman, Nipisiquit, Rockliff, Teesdale. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The amount of tonnage loading on the different berths in London still exceeds the requirements of the trade, and freights continue without alteration, at rates lately current.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 55s. weight, 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: 65s. To Hankow: 65s. weight, 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 42s. 6d. meast. To Shanghai: 50s. weight, 27s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £39 and 37s. For Shanghai: £49 and 47s. 6d. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £24 and £1. 6s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

The Admiralty have engaged freight in the Gauntlet for 59 tons Government stores, including 15 tons heavy ordnance, and have invited tenders for the conveyance of 165 tons of navy provisions from Deptford to Hong Kong, also for 5 tons light measurement stores, and 4 tons gunpowder from the River Thames to Shanghai.

CASUALTIES.

The Clara Talpey, from Cardiff for Hong Kong, put into Queenstown Feb. 16, leaky. She has been surveyed, and will discharge part of cargo.

The President Plate, Harten, which arrived at Brouwershaven, Feb. 18 from Batavia, had experienced a hurricane near Madagascar, during which she lost sails and rigging, and sustained damage to rudder.

The Claro Babuyan, Harrington, which arrived at New York, Feb. 5, from Shanghai, had had her mizen topmast carried away.

ROTTERDAM, Feb. 18th.—The Emilie, Bruynseels, from Batavia, in towing from Brouwershaven to Helvoet Feb. 16 ran aground near Bruinisse, but got off without damage.

TENERIFFE, Feb. 14th.—The Jane E. Williams, barque, Young, of and from Liverpool for Shanghai, with coals, was abandoned, on fire, Feb. 5th, at the north side of this island; master and three men drowned in attempting to land near Port Orotava.

The Falcon, Wilson, from the Clyde for Singapore, arrived at Lamlash Feb. 17th with sails carried away.

BERGEN, Feb. 4th.—The Pieter, Hoogerwerf, of Rotterdam, from Liverpool to Batavia, &c., which had put into an outport north of this place Feb. 2, has been brought in here. She has lost bulwarks, sails, and stanchions, and is said to be leaky, having struck upon the coast.

Intelligence was received here Feb. 23 of the loss in the China Sea of the Surat, barque, Black, from Liverpool to Hong Kong; also of the Lammermuir, ship, Joass, from Shanghai to London, which vessel i reported to have been sunk in Gaspar Straits Dec. 31, after striking on reefs not marked in chart.

At ST. HELENA.—Dec. 30, Fantasie, Forbeck, and Johannes Christiaan, Obelt, both from Batavia, and sailed for Amsterdam; 31, Rubicon, Hoseason, from Amoy; Jan. 2, Volta (barq.), of Dunkirk, Allemes, from Manila, and sailed 8, for Havre; Heilige Liduina, v. Brink, from Batavia, and sailed for Schiedam; 4, Macassar, Coulon, from Banjoewangie, and sailed, 5, for Rotterdam; 5, Edinburgh, Watt, from Shanghai, and sailed, 6, for London; 6, Halton Castle, Scott, from Singapore, and sailed for Liverpool; 7, Nuevo Lantero, Estval, from Manila, and sailed for Alicante; Siwa, Brorsen, for Macao, and sailed, 8, for Hamburg; 8, Reindeer, Clelland, from Hong Kong, and sailed for London; Anna, of Oldenburg, Schulken, from Shanghai, and sailed for New York; Mimosa, Johnston, from Foo-chow-Foo, and sailed, 9, for London; 9, Alaric, Daniel, from Manila, and sailed for Liverpool; Spirit of the Age, from Shanghai; India, of Stockholm, Funch, from Shanghai, and sailed for London; Wm. Melhuish, Duff, from Foo-chow-Foo, and sailed for London; Rocket, Freeman, from Padang, and sailed for Falmouth; Batavia, Pranje, from Java, and sailed, 11, for Amsterdam; 10, Margaretha, Muller, from Batavia, and sailed, 11, for Amsterdam; 11, Peter Symonds, Ockenden, from Singapore, and sailed for London; Clara Novello, Hingston, from Foo chow-Foo, and sailed for New York; 12, India, Vonck, from Batavia, and sailed, 12, for Rotterdam; Minden, Murch, from Manila, and Siam, Wilson, from Shanghai, and both sailed, 13, for Loudon; 15, Havelock, Cock, from Shanghai, and sailed, 15, for London; 17, Lord Macaulay, Care, from Shanghai, and sailed, 17, for London; 27, Merchantman, Gardiner, from Samarang, and sailed, 28, for Amsterdam; 29, Selina Jane, Groenevold, from Macao for Hamburg; Kortenaar, Schuchard, from Batavia for Rotterdam.

At TABLE BAY.—Jan. 7, Portland, Thomas, from Foo-chow-Foo, and sailed, 9, for London.

At ALGOA BAY.—Dec. 16, Eliza Stewart, from Hong Kong.

At PORT NATAL.—Dec. 10, Isabella Hartley, from Singapore.

At MAURITIUS.—Arrived Dec. 24, Calliope, Simmons, from Singapore, 31, Notre Dame des Victoires, Mangul, from Singapore; Jan. 5, Helen's Bank, Lawson, from Singapore; sailed, Dec. 9, Wo-kee (str.), Orkney, for Singapore.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.—SINGAPORE, Jan. 8.—H.M. sloop Vigilant lost her keel on 6th December, 1863, on a rock situated in lat. 13 52 N., long. 118 36 E. from Greenwich. This danger is on the route between Manila and Saigon. Two hours before striking, the Vigilant had good sights for the latitude, and the Greenwich time was given by four good chronometers, so that the position assigned to the rock ought to be accurate.

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4 in. „ better ivory	13 0	10 0	4 6
3½ in. „ white	15 0	12 6	6 0
4 in. strong „	20 0	15 0	7 0
4 in. „ „	25 0	18 0	9 0
4 in. full strength	34 0	24 0	10 6
Round handle, silver ferrules ...	40 0	30 0	13 0
Electro-plated handles, any pattn.	26 0	22 0	8 6

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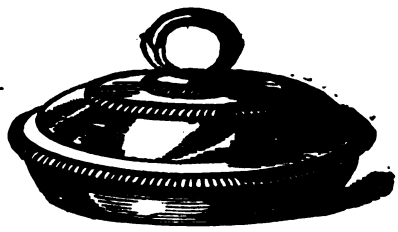

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12 Table Forks	1 7 0	2 14 0	2 16 0	2 14 0
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12 Dessert Forks	1 1 0	2 2 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
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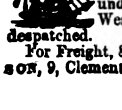
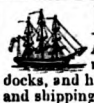


COLOMBO direct.—The beautiful clipper ISABELLA, A 1 9 years, built under special survey, is now loading in the West India Docks, and will be promptly despatched.

For Freight, &c., apply to the owners, SUART and SIMPSON, 9, Clement's-lane, E.C.



FOR NAGASAKI (Japan) direct, the splendid British-built, clipper ship ALICE, A 1, 473 tons register, will be immediately despatched from the East India docks, and having nearly the whole of her cargo engaged and shipping, will be found the most desirable opportunity for shippers desirous of despatch.

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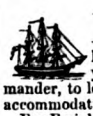

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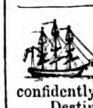

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Singapore	Moneta ...	W.I.D.	With des.
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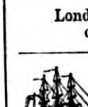

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H. Kong & Whampoa	Canadian ...	E.I.D.	With des.
Singapore	Blue Jacket.	W.I.D.	Feb. 29.
Singapore	Maggie ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Bangkok	Helen Baird .	S K.D.	With des.

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Bombay ...	Mary Stenhouse .	1,243	H. Finlay	With des.
Calcutta ...	SirJohn Lawrence	1,090	J. Sinclair	April 20
Shanghai ...	Beemah	887	T.Johnson	With des.
H.Kong and Whampoa	Lord Raglan	753	D. Pope	With des.

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Robert Lees ...	1199	A 1 12 yrs.	A. Douglas .	May 20
Alumbagh	1137	A 1 13 yrs.	W. J. Dale .	June 20
Bayard (new) ...	1315	A 1 12 yrs.	——	July 20
Lloyd Rayner ...	1004	A 1 12 yrs.	J. Pollock ...	Aug. 20
Hougoumont ...	962	A 1 13 yrs.	J. Flamank .	Sept. 20
Salamanca	861	A 1 13 yrs.	G.N.Livesay	Oct. 20
Cornwallis	1214	A 1 12 yrs.	J. Leeman .	Nov. 20
Bolingbroke ...	1260	A 1 12 yrs.	H. Ross ...	Dec. 20

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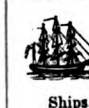

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aractacus do.	778	A 1 13years	Shanghai ...	„

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE FIFTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 28th December, 1863. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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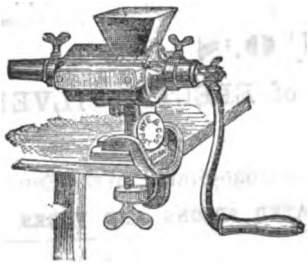

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CONCENTRATED EAU DE COLOGNE for the toilet.
LAIT PROPHYLATIC to remove freckles and improve the appearance of the skin.
COLD CREAM, AU LOTUS DE LYBIE, to soften and refresh the skin.
NIGRITINE VEGETALE, an incomparable dye for the hair and beard, not staining the skin.

SPECIAL PERFUMERY WITH A BASIS OF GLYCERINE.

SOAP, TOOTH-PASTE, POMMADE, CREAM FOR THE COMPLEXION, EAU DE TOILETTE.
To be obtained of all the principal Perfumers and Hairdressers in Europe and other parts of the world

BOYVEAU LAFFECTEUR'S ROB.

The only one authorised and adopted in France, Belgium, Austria and Russia.

THIS Vegetable Syrup, prepared and guaranteed genuine by the signature of Dr. GRANDEAU DE ST. GERVAIS, is very superior to the purifying syrups. It effects a radical cure, without mercury, of all affections of the skin, scurf, scrofula, &c., and symptoms arising from the acrid state of the humours. The Rob is especially valuable in diseases which have resisted the effect of mercury or iodide of potash. The general entrepot is 12, RUE RICHET, PARIS.

Sold Retail.—London: Jozeau, Hannay. New York: Fougera, Gaudelet, Milhans. Gibraltar: Patron and Danilowich. Malta: Dr. Pirotti, A. Bugeja, Magri, and A. Rolandi, Esperanza. Alexandria: Bellamore, Galette, Perini. Bombay: Franjee Nesewanjee and Co. Singapore: Martin and Little. Batavia: L. Platon and Co. Macao: J. De Preita.

VICHY.
SUMMER RESORT OF HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.

THE HOT WELLS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ALL THE YEAR ROUND.

Salts for making baths, each stone bottle containing the proper quantity for one bath.

These Salts are extracted from the mineral waters under the superintendence and **Control of the Government** and the use of the baths, drinking at the same time the water of the GRAND-GRILLE OR CELESTINS spring, may take the place of a course of treatment at Vichy itself.

PARIS, 22, BOULEVARD MONTMARTRE.
LONDON, 27, MARGARET-STREET, REGENT-STREET.
MARSEILLES, 9, RUE PARADIS.

PAYNE'S
INDIAN CURRY POWDER

IS unequalled for its delicious flavourn d a stimulating qualities.

In Bottles, 3s. 6d., 2s. 3d., and 1s. 6d. each.

Curry and Mulligatawny Paste, jars, 3s. 6d. and 2s. 3d. each.

Royal Combination Pickle, bottles, 2s. each.

N.B.—This pickle is highly approved, and as a zest for cold meat, &c., will be found unrivalled.

LIST OF CONDIMENTS, &c.,
repared by PAYNE and CO. at the Belatee Bungalow, Calcutta.

	Bottles.
Pindaree Chutnee	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Bengal Club, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s
Green Mango, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s
Cashmere, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Lucknow (sweet), do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Curry Sauce	1s. 6d.
Tap, do.	1s. 6d.
Pickled Limes...	1s. 6d.
Pickled Mangoes	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Essence of Chillies...	1s. 9d.
Tamarind Fish	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Balachow...	1s. 6d.
Genuine Cayenne	1s. and 2s.
Nepaul Pepper	1s. and 2s.
Guava Jelly	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Preserved Mangoes	2s. and 3s. 6d
Do. Jamaica Ginger	from 3s. 6d.
Do. Chinese Ginger	...jars, 5s. and 10s.

Genuine Arrowroot, 1 lb. tins, 2s.; 7 lb. tins, 10s. 6d each.

PAYNE and CO.
FOREIGN WAREHOUSEMEN, WINE MERCHANTS AND IMPORTERS OF INDIAN DELICACIES.
328, REGENT-STREET, & 46, MORTIMER-STREET, W.
OPPOSITE THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

THE HONG KONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY.

AN ASSOCIATION, called the "HONG KONG and WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY," having purchased Messrs. J. C. Couper and Co.'s extensive DOCKS, with Engineer Factory and Foundry, at Whampoa, are prepared to execute all kinds of work with prompt despatch.

The Dock is built of Granite, and is 550 feet over all with 520 feet on the blocks, and a breadth of 80 feet at the entrance. It can be used as either one or two Docks, being fitted with two Caissons. It is also furnished with Steam Pumps.

Depth of Water at Spring Tides, 16½ to 17 feet.
Do. Neap do. 13½ to 15 „

Attached to the Docks is a Pair of Shears, fitted with two capstans and three winches, and capable of lifting fifty tons, with a depth of water under the Shears, alongside the Jetty, enough for any vessels at all times of Tides.

The Engine-house on the Establishment contains Lathes of all sizes, and capable of taking any sized Shaft; one Self-acting Planing Machine, Screwing Machine, with Taps and Dies complete, Large and Small Drilling Machines, Punching and Cutting Machines, Rolling Machines, powerful Steam Hammer (3 tons), &c., &c.

Also, one Wood Dock, capable of taking a Vessel of 240 feet on the keel, on a Draft of 14 feet at Spring Tides, and 11 at Neap Tides. This Dock is also fitted with a Caisson, and is pumped out by steam.

The above are the only Docks in Whampoa fitted with Caissons.

There are also Two Mud Docks, one capable of taking in Vessels of 164 feet on the keel, with a Draft of 12 feet 6 inches at Spring Tides, and 9 feet 6 inches at Neap Tides. The other, Vessels of 120 feet 6 inches at Spring Tides, and 7 feet 6 inches at Neap do.

The Blacksmith's Shop contains 1 Large Boilermaker's Furnace and 12 Smiths' Forges, fitted with Steam Blowers.

The Iron Foundry contains a Furnace capable of melting 5 tons, and Brass Furnace for melting half a ton.

Attached to the premises is a Circular Sawmill driven by Steam, capable of cutting logs or planks of any length.

The whole under the Superintendence of experienced European Foremen.

All Tools and Materials connected with Machinery kept always on hand.

Copper and Yellow Metal Sheathing, Felt, Pitch, Tar Oakum, Paints, Oils, &c., &c., supplied at market rates.

For Dock Charges, or further particulars, apply to Mr. D. LAPRAIK, Hong Kong; to G. N. MINTO, Manager, Whampoa; or to Messrs. JAMES MORRISON and Co., 1 Crown-court, Philpot-lane, London.

JAMES HENDERSON,
COMMISSION MERCHANT, TIEN-TSIN, CHINA.
AGENT FOR THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS."

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA. Incorporated by Royal Charter. Paid-up capital £500,000. Reserve Fund, £100,000.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts, payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Kandy, Singapore, Galle, Penang, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Mauritius, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the overland route terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office, in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 2.

Notice to Passengers.
KELWAY'S ORIENTAL HOTEL, SOUTHAMPTON.
(Adjoining the Docks and Railway.)
Hot and Cold Baths, and Moderate Charges,

THE Proprietor, having been many years in the employ of the P. and O. Company, can give every information respecting the arrival and departure of the steamers.

R. KELWAY, Proprietor.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, and JAPAN (Limited).
16, CORNHILL, LONDON.
Capital, Two Millions.

BANKERS.
Bank of England, The Alliance Bank of London and Liverpool.
Branches at Bombay, Calcutta, Hong Kong, and Shanghae.

Deposits received at 10 days' notice, on the usual terms, and for fixed periods, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued, and bills negotiated, payable in India, China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government Loan Notes effected, so that the interest may be paid in England.

Every other description of banking and agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

CHANGE of SURNAME.—Take Notice, that I, Frederick Cornes, late of Macclesfield, in the county of Chester, but now temporarily residing in London, and about to proceed to Yokohama, in Japan, merchant, having duly executed under my hand and seal, a deed poll dated the 19th day of February instant, which is intended to be forthwith enrolled in Her Majesty's High Court of Chancery, by which I have declared that from and after the date thereof, I have determined to revert to the method of writing and spelling the surname formerly adopted in our family, and of writing and spelling the same in all deeds, documents, letters, and other writings Cornes instead of Corns, as I have hitherto done, and of USING the SURNAME CORNES for all purposes instead of that of Corns, by which I have been hitherto known.—Dated this 20th day of February, 1864.

FREDERICK CORNES.

JOHN GOSNELL AND CO.'S
PERFUMERY, PATRONISED BY HER MAJESTY AND THE ROYAL FAMILY.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s COURT PERFUMES.—Queen Victoria's Bouquet, The Bride's Bouquet, Jockey Club, Guard's Own, Ess Bouquet, Military, Royal Yacht Club, New Perfume—Extract of Flowers, Eugenie, Napoleon II., Frangipanni, Wood Violet, Opera Bouquet, &c.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s FOUNTAIN PERFUMES for the BALL-ROOM.—A most elegant and useful invention, which cannot fail to be appreciated by the Ladies.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s REAL OLD BROWN WINDSOR SOAP.—A Toilet Soap of the finest quality and very superior fragrance. It differs so widely in composition from the ordinary Alkaline Soaps, that its frequent use is highly beneficial in removing all harshness and redness of the skin.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s CHERRY TOOTH PASTE gives the Teeth a pearl-like whiteness, protects the enamel from decay and imparts a pleasing fragrance to the breath.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s INSTANTANEOUS HAIR DYE.—The only Hair Dye which produces a good natural colour with perfect certainty, and with the least possible trouble.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s PATENT TRICHOSARON is adapted for universal use, and the most serviceable and convenient Hair Brush ever invented. Letters Patent Granted Nov. 6, 1852.

Merchants and Shippers supplied on liberal terms.
12, THREE KINGS COURT, LOMBARD-STREET LONDON.

NOTHING IMPOSSIBLE.—The Greatest and most Useful Invention of the day, AGUA AMARELLA.—Messrs. JOHN GOSNELL and CO., Three King-court, Lombard-street, Perfumers to Her Majesty, respectfully offer to the public this truly marvellous fluid, which gradually restores the human hair to its pristine hue—no matter at what age. The Agua Amarella has none of the properties of dyes; it on the contrary, is beneficial to the system, and when the hair is once restored one application per month will keep it in perfect colour. Price One Guinea per bottle; half bottles, 10s. 6d. Testimonials from artists of the highest order, and from individuals of undoubted respectability may be inspected. Messrs. JNO. GOSNELL and Co. have been appointed Perfumers to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales.

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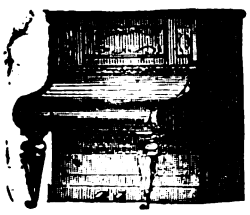
MESSRS. RAND AND BECKLEY
(SUCCESSORS TO LAURIE, BEDFORD, AND RAND)
SADDLERS AND HARNESS MANUFACTURERS,
INVENTORS OF THE PATENT ELASTIC SADDLE.

MESSRS. R & B. have a large assortment of well-seasoned Saddlery and Harness suitable for India and the Colonies, always on hand.

297, OXFORD STREET, LONDON (oppposite Stratford Place).

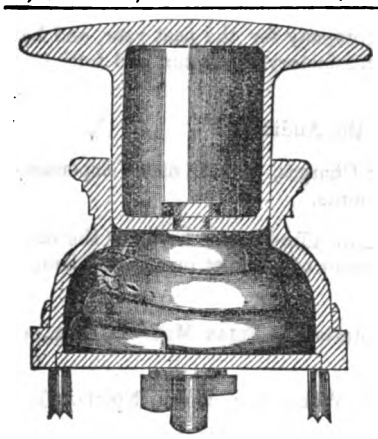
TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND INDIA.



JACKSON & PAINE,
(EIGHTEEN YEARS WITH COLLARD AND COLLARD)
PATENT PIANOFORTE MAKERS.
PIANOFORTES, WITH ALL THE LATEST IMPROVEMENTS, EXPRESSLY FOR EXPORTATION.
13, STORE-STREET, TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD, W
FACTORY, LITTLE STORE-STREET.
ILLUSTRATED LISTS FORWARDED FREE ON APPLICATION.

GARDNERS'
£2 2s. DINNER SERVICES.

CUT WINES, 3s. 6d. per dozen; CUT QUART DECANTERS, 7s. 6d. per pair
Regimental Messes supplied at the lowest possible prices. Engravings free by post.
INDIAN LAMPS ON AN IMPROVED PRINCIPLE.
MAKERS OF THE
PATENT ENAMEL GREAT CLOCK DIALS AT THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT
BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY. ESTABLISHED 109 YEARS.
453, STRAND, CHARING-CROSS; AND 5 AND 6, DUNCANNON-STREET, ADJOINING.



THOMAS TURTON & SONS,
MANUFACTURERS OF
CAST STEEL for Punches, Taps, and Dies Turning Tools, Chisels, &c.
CAST STEEL Piston Rods, Crank Pins, Connecting Rods, Straight and Crank Axles, Shafts, and Forgings of every description.
DOUBLE SHEER STEEL, BLISTER STEEL, SPRING STEEL, GERMAN STEEL. FILES MARKED T. TURTON. EDGED TOOLS MARKED WM. GREAVES & SONS.
LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE, RAILWAY CARRIAGE AND WAGGON SPRINGS AND BUFFERS.
SHEAF WORKS & SPRING WORKS SHEFFIELD.
London Warehouse: 35, Queen-street, City
WHERE THE LARGEST STOCK OF STEEL, FILES, TOOLS, &c., &c., IN THE WORLD, MAY BE SELECTED FROM

RIMMEL'S CHOICE PERFUMERY,
AND NOVELTIES FOR THE SEASON.
RIMMEL'S VIOLET WATER for the Toilet, in elegant Parian bottles, 3s. 6d.
RIMMEL'S TOILET VINEGAR, of world-wide celebrity, 1s., 2s. 6d., and 5s.
The ALEXANDRA, PRINCE OF WALES, and ROYAL BRIDAL BOUQUET, 2s. 6d. per bottle, or the three in an elegant box, with photographs of the illustrious pair, 7s. 6d.
RIMMEL'S PELLUCID GLYCERINE SOAP, warranted to contain 30 per cent. of Glycerine—the best Soap ever produced for the Skin—1s., extra scented 2s.
The ALEXANDRA CREAM, a transparent Pommade, for fixing the Hair, and making it glossy, without greasing it. Price 1s. 6d.
ROYAL DENTIFRICE for the TEETH, one shilling.
RIMMEL'S PERFUME FOUNTAIN, as used in the Princess of Wales' Brid Boudoir, an elegant adjunct to the Drawing Room, Ball Room, Dinner Table, & Price from £1. 10s. Lent on Hire for Bazaars and Parties.
The TURKISH SCENTED CHARM, a pretty ornament for the Watch Chain, price 1s.; sent by post for 13 stamps. Made also in real gold, enamelled, at £1. 1s.
RIMMEL'S PERFUME VAPORIZER, for Purifying and Perfuming the air in Apartments, Ball Rooms, Clubs, Theatres, &c. Price, from 6s.
96, Strand, and 24, Cornhill, London; and 17, Boulevard des Italiens, Paris.
Sold by all Perfumery Dealers throughout the United Kingdom.

PROTECTION FROM FIRE!
Important to Buyers of Matches, Wax Vestas, &c.
OBSERVE TRADE MARK. OBSERVE TRADE MARK.
BRYANT AND MAY'S
PATENT SPECIAL SAFETY MATCHES, WAX VESTAS, & CIGAR LIGHTS,
IGNITE ONLY ON THE BOX.
Safety Matches in Slide Boxes—One Dozen Packets. Safety Vestas in Slide and Japan Tin Boxes of various sizes.
THE above contain no Phosphorus, are not Poisonous, Light only on the Box, and are especially adapted for the Foreign and Colonial markets.
BRYANT and MAY, manufacturers of WAX VESTAS in Round Plaid Card-boxes, and in Japaned Tin-boxes of 50, 100, 150, 250, 500, and 1,000, warranted for all climates.
Sole Importers of "Jonkoping's Tändstickor."
All Orders made payable in London will receive immediate attention.
WHITECHAPEL ROAD, LONDON, E.

THE FRIEND OF CHINA.
THIS Paper is now published at Shanghai, and contains full details of all the important Taiping movements; Mercantile and Shipping intelligence, Political and General Information from the ports in Japan Peking, the Yang-tse, &c. Published Bi-Weekly.
Subscriptions received at 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, London.

ROBERT ADAMS, Contractor for, and Wholesale Manufacturer of, every description of Fire Arms and Appurtenances. Patentee of the Revolver and Breech-loading Gun. Prize Medal awarded for Improved ments in Breech-loading Arms, International Exhibition, 1862. Merchants and the trade supplied on the most liberal terms.—R. ADAMS, 76, King William-street, London, E.C.

NOTICE.
DELFINO, NORONHA, PRINTER, OSWALD'S-TERRACE, VICTORIA, HONG KONG (Established 1847), begs to inform the community that being amply provided with printing materials of all kinds from the best London tradesmen, he can undertake every variety of job-printing, and execute the same with neatness and despatch, upon moderate terms.
Overland prices current, embracing tabular work, executed on the shortest notice.

TUPPER AND COMPANY
MANUFACTURERS OF PATENT GALVANISED IRON, in Sheets, Tiles, Iron Roofs, Sheds, Cisterns, Pails, Gutters, Wire for Fencing, &c.
WORKS AT BIRMINGHAM AND LONDON.
OFFICES: 61A, MOORGATE STREET, LONDON.
Merchants' orders executed with despatch.

COWASJEE DINSHAW,
Close to the Landing Place. Depot of
EUROPEAN, CHINA, AND INDIAN WORK.
WINE, BEER, CHAMPAGNE, and SPIRITS of the best quality. Bombay-made Soda Water and Lemonade. Perfumery, Confectionery, Oil man's Stores, and Stationery of every description. Sola Topees and Canvas Shoes, &c., &c., &c.
STEAMER POINT, ADEN.
Drawing and Reading-room free to Passengers.
THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS" ON SALE.

Bottled Ales and Wines, &c.
"NO BUYERS for the BEST BRANDS, unless RE-PACKED," in consequence of repeated BREAKAGE.—Melbourne Journal of Commerce, Nov. 16. Heating and Breakage entirely prevented, and 15 per cent. saved in Freight of Cases by using SEYMER'S BOTTLE PACKINGS AND COOLERS
Price 7½d. per doz. Bottlers contracting for large quantities effect so great a saving in labour, &c., that they can supply them at one-fourth less in price to Shippers, who will find it most profitable to order their goods to be so packed in future. In use by all the leading London houses.—T. WHITEHEAD, 37, EASTCHEAP E.C., Sole Manufacturer.

UMBRELLAS and SUNSHADES suitable for all Foreign Markets and the Colonies are supplied to Shippers on the most favourable terms by JOHN MORLAND and SONS, Wholesale Manufacturers 50, Eastcheap, London-bridge, City. Silk, Alpaca, Gingham Steel Frames, Canes, Fittings and all kinds of Materials or the Trade. Oiled and japanned silks and cambrics.

F. BLACKHEAD & CO.
AUCTIONEERS, SHIP CHANDLERS, AND COMMISSION AGENTS,
HONG KONG.

Dr. Curtis on Marriage, Nervous Debility, Spermatorrhœa &c, with Plates. Post free by the Author,
12 stamps; sealed ends, 20.
MANHOOD: the CAUSE and CURE of PREMATURE DECLINE IN MAN, with plain directions for perfect restoration to health and vigour; being a Medical Essay on the treatment of Nervous and Generative Debility, Impotency, and those peculiar disqualifications to marriage which originate in youthful errors and excess: the cure of Infectious Diseases without Mercury, and their Prevention by the Author's Prescription of his Infallible Lotion, the result of Twenty, five Years' successful practice. By Dr. J. L. CURTIS, 15, Albermarle-street, Piccadilly, London.
REVIEWS OF THE WORK.
"We feel no hesitation in saying, that there is no member of society by whom the book will not be found useful—whether such person hold the relation of a Parent, Preceptor, or Clergyman."—Sun, Evening Paper.
"Curtis on Manhood should be in the hands of young and old. It is an ably-written medical treatise on diseases of error and effects of climate."—Sunday Times, March 23, 1856.
"Dr. Curtis has conferred a great boon by publishing this little work, in which is described the source of those diseases which produce decline in youth, or more frequently premature old age."—Daily Telegraph, March 27, 1858.
N.B.—Agents in India—Von Lintzgy, Loll Bazaar, Calcutta; Athenæum office, Madras; Hinnam, Queen's-road, Hong Kong, China; Observer office, Colombo, Ceylon; Esperance, Bombay; Times office, Malta, price half a dollar or one rupee. Patients in India and the Colonies can be successfully treated by letter, by enclosing the consultation fee of £1, and medicines forwarded with secrecy and despatch. Consultations daily from 10 to 3 and 6 to 8.
London Agents:—J. Allen, 20, Warwick-lane, Paternoster-row; Mann, 39, Cornhill, London; and the booksellers in town and country.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.—PAINLESS CURES.—Sores, wounds, ulcerations, and other diseases affecting the skin are amendable by this cooling and healing unguent. It has called forth the loudest praises from persons who had suffered for years from bad legs, abscesses, and chronic ulcers after every hope of cure had long passed away. None but those who have experienced the soothing effect of this ointment can form an idea of the comfort it bestows by restraining inflammation and allaying pain. Whenever this Ointment has been once used it has established its own worth, and has again been eagerly sought for as the easiest and safest remedy for all ulcerous complaints. In neuralgia, rheumatism, and gout, the same application, properly used, gives wonderful relief.

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THE

ORIENTAL AND GENERAL MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1861.

Directors.

ELIAS MOCATTA, Esq.
C. F. PICARD, Esq.
Mr. Sheriff CAVE.
MOSES MOSES, Esq.
THOMAS B. YULE, Esq.
JOHN ROGERSON, Esq.

Underwriter.

PHILIP SECRETAN, Esq.

REPORT of the DIRECTORS for PRESENTATION to the SECOND ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS, to be held at the London Tavern, on THURSDAY, the 25th day of February, 1864.

The Directors submit to the Shareholders the Accounts and Balance Sheet of the Company for the past year, and have much pleasure in being able to report that the business has been of a most improving and satisfactory character, and fully equal to their expectations.

The Accounts are annexed to the Report, and have been duly examined and verified by the Auditors.

They show, that after having paid all Claims for Losses, Averages, and Returns, Office Charges, and all other Expenses to 31st December last, there remains a balance of £67,274. 16s. on Insurance and Interest accounts.

The two years over which the Company's operations have extended, not being sufficient to afford a safe basis for the calculation of profits, the Directors therefore recommend that £3,339. 5s. only be applied in payment of Interest on Capital, being at the rate of £5 per cent., and the remainder, £63,935. 11s. carried forward in usual course.

In accordance with the Deed of Settlement, the two following Directors retire by rotation :—Elias Mocatta, Esq., and Moses Moses, Esq. These gentlemen, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

By Deed of Settlement, also, the Auditors require to be appointed annually, and J. H. Wood, Esq., and J. Notman, Esq., being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The Directors have also much pleasure in reporting that, in addition to their several Agencies abroad—where Losses and Claims on Policies issued by the Company are made payable—they have appointed Messrs. Bainbridge, Byard, Gair and Co. to be their Agents at Madras.

The following is now the completed List :—

BOMBAY	... ... Ritchie, Steuart, and Co.	HONG KONG	... ... Johnson and Co.
CALCUTTA	... ... Grant, Smith, and Co.	SHANGHAI	... ... Johnson and Co.
SINGAPORE	... ... Cumming, Beaver, and Co.	MADRAS	... ... Bainbridge, Byard, Gair, and Co.

By Order,

JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

ORIENTAL AND GENERAL MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Balance Sheet, 31st December, 1863.

Dr.	£.	s.	d.
To Amount of Capital paid up	66,785	0	0
„ Balance of Insurance and Interest Accounts ..	67,274	16	0
	£134,059	16	0

Cr.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
By Premises in Finch-lane, etc. ..	7,467	13	6			
Less 5 per cent. ..	373	7	8			
				7,094	5	10
„ Government and other Securities				101,919	10	9
„ Interest due on the same				3,815	4	4
„ Debtors for Outstanding Premiums				15,610	4	6
„ Stamps and Petty Cash on hand				106	2	3
„ Salvages				1,129	3	9
„ Cash at Bankers				4,385	4	7
				£134,059	16	0

Insurance and Interest Account, 31st December, 1863.

Dr.	£.	s.	d.
To Balance	71,233	18	6
„ Interest on Investments, Transfer Fees, &c. ..	8,219	8	2
	£79,453	6	8

Cr.	£.	s.	d.
By Interest paid in 1862 at 5 per cent	3,339	5	0
„ Rent, Office Charges, and Incidental Expenses ..	2,199	17	4
„ Salaries, Directors' Fees, Underwriter, Secretary, etc.	6,211	7	8
„ Law Expenses	54	13	0
„ Reduction of Premises in Finch-lane, etc.	373	7	8
„ Balance	67,274	16	0
	£79,453	6	8

Having duly examined the Books from which the above Statement of Account was compiled, we certify that it is correct; we have also satisfied ourselves of the existence of the Securities, and hereby certify that the same are correct.

London, 8th February, 1864.

J. NOTMAN, J. H. WOOD, } Auditors.

Printed for the Proprietors by Woodfall and Kinder, Angel-court, Skinner-street, London, and published by John Ellison, at the Office of the "London and China Express," 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, London, E.C., in the parish of St. Edmund the King.—Saturday, February 27, 1864.

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WITH SUPPLEMENT.]

The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 130.] LONDON, MONDAY, MARCH 7, 1864. [Sub. 30s. per ann., and 12s. to Supplement. Single copy of either 9d.

STATISTICS OF TRADE.

With this number we issue, in a Supplement, "TABULAR STATEMENTS OF THE CHINA TRADE" for the past Five Years.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Kanagawa			Jan. 1
Nagasaki			„ 16
Hakodadi			
CHINA—			
Peking			
Tien-tsin			
Hankow			Jan. 12
Shanghai	Nov. 17	Jan. 7	„ 21
Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 11
Amoy			„ 11
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Dec. 10	Jan. 25	26
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Nov. 17		„ 7
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Touron			
Saigon			„ 20
SIAM—			
Bankok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			„ 20
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 15
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Dec. 26	Jan. —	Feb. 3
Penang	„ 10	„ 13	Jan. 24

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

By next mail, per P. and O. steamer Ripon, March 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. G. Williams, R.N, Mr. J. Gittings, Commander J. W. Webb, R.N.—To Singapore: Mr. Wyon. From Gibraltar.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. Manuel Pereira and Edward Pereira. From Marseilles, March 12.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Schwabe, infant, and two children.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. T. M. Drysdale, H. Marshall, Jas. Deacon, E. Cobbett, Edward Mellish, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wright, Mr. Fearon.—To Shanghai: Mr. L. S. Dunlop. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Grobien.

Per P. and O. steamer, March 12, from Southampton.—To Shanghai, via Bombay: Messrs. Nimmo and Stevenson. From Suez.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mr. Cornes.

Per P. and O. steamer Baroda, March 20, from Southampton.—To Shanghai: Mr. Daniel McAllister, Mr. Walter Walter. To Hong Kong: Mr. Henry Parke, Mr. Scholefield, Mr. and Mrs. Odell, Mr. G. H. Wilson. To Singapore: Mr. A. Gentle, Mr. Faulkner, From Marseilles, March 28.—To Penang: Messrs. W. C. S. Padday, and P. C. Padday. From Suez.—To Singapore: Mr. Dunlop.

Summary of News from the Far East.

—o—

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

The dates by the French mail are to the 1st Jan., and were brought by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Granada*, which made a long passage, not arriving at Shanghai till the 12th.

It was understood that the Tycoon was to leave Yedo for Miako about the middle of January. It is said that the great Daimios who have been urging upon the Mikado a liberal foreign policy consider that their purpose is effected, and await the coming only of the Tycoon for the final conclusion of that important determination.

The new Embassy to Europe has been finally determined on. The *Commercial News* says:—"Bearing in mind their avowed policy of exclusion from this port—if not from Japan altogether—it is not to be wondered at that they should attempt to effect in their own way what they failed to do by ordinary diplomacy. Their faith in diplomacy, however, is not exhausted; and concessions which they have been peremptorily refused by foreign representatives they believe will be granted by foreign Sovereigns, as in the case of Osaca, &c.; and so they have resolved to carry their request to the fountain heads at the Courts of Europe and America, by sending another Embassy, which, we heard of late, is to consist of Okubo Bungo, no Kami, late Governor of Nagasaki, Ikida Tzekugo-no- Kami and Awa-to Hantaro, Omet'ske, with the usual staff of attendants. Their departure has, we hear, been postponed to about the 12th February next. Monsieur Degron leaves by the mail of the 1st of January for Shanghai in order to make arrangements for the Japanese Embassy in the French mail steamer, by which line they mean to proceed to Europe at their own expense."

The destruction by fire of the Tycoon's Palace at Yedo, which we have already heard of *via* San Francisco and New York, is confirmed by these advices. Our contemporary last quoted reports:—"The palace, or rather palaces, of the Tycoon—all within the great moat, which the Japanese call, by way of pre-eminence, the Gohonmaroo—have been destroyed by fire; but a conflagration in Japan is a very ordinary incident, and one which, on an average, falls to the lot of a Tycoon as often as to that of a peasant. It is said that the palaces were blown up and fired by gunpowder, and that Hitohs' bashi is the author of this last attempt on the life of the Tycoon. For various reasons, which we need not detail at present, we think this very likely; still, we can give it only as a report." The fire, however, took place on the 22nd December, and not on Christmas-day, as stated in the American account.

On the same day, the new residence of Messrs. Louis Kniffler and Co., situated in the centre of the main street of Yokohama, was totally destroyed by fire. The alarm brought to the spot all the aid of the settlement and of the ships in harbour; but the day was windy, and it was impossible to save the building. Great sympathy and goodwill were displayed by his Excellency Okoobo Kiye-no Kami, Governor of Kanagawa, who, with his staff, hastened to the scene of the fire, planting his fire brigade standard close by, and which, it was evident, some hundreds of his countrymen were prepared to follow, if their assistance was acceptable. We witnessed the whole matter from beginning to end (says the *Herald*), and we saw that members of the Japanese fire-brigade, hearing the alarm, rushed from their sundry employments in all directions, ran to their lodge or rendezvous, and seizing their implements and ladders, hastened towards the fire.

The United States frigate *Jamestown* left on the 25th December, under special orders; of course, the surmise was that she would keep a look out for the *Alabama*.

Trade has shown a downward tendency; but this (observes the *Commercial News*) we anticipated; for, notwithstanding the unusual influx of silk, tea, and cotton to this market a few weeks ago, we had previously known and stated that there was a certain accumulated stock at Yedo destined for this market, and that when this stock should be exhausted a decided slackness would follow. This is proving to be true; for during the last ten or fifteen days no silk has come to market; and with the exception of raw cotton, the supply of export commodities is comparatively small. In fact, it is confined entirely to raw cotton. Owing to the rumoured troublesome times in the interior, imports have been neglected, camlets alone receiving attention at a decline from former quo-

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tations. Until greater safety is vouchsafed merchants by the Japanese Government in their dealings with foreigners, we fear a cessation on trade will necessarily ensue. To this we may add, as a matter of record, that native chops at Yokohama continue to close. The detrimental influence has extended even to provisioners and poultry dealers; and in a stroll through the native town one cannot help observing the altered condition of things. Upon inquiry as to what this state of things is owing, the cause is generally assigned to the action of the "ronins," who are said to be unusually numerous and troublesome in and about Yedo at present. One is tempted, however, to question this explanation, and to assign the real cause to the policy of the Government. They have of late repeatedly expressed their intention to suspend, or close altogether, the business of this port; and the manner in which trade has alternately advanced and receded of late leaves no doubt that it is wholly in the leading strings of the Government, who guide it as they please.

The *Herald* corroborates the above. It states:—"In Japanese affairs there is little worth notice, excepting, indeed, the closing of sundry shops in the native town. Some say that this is the result of the intimidation and murderous assaults which have been a good deal practised of late upon persons known to be trading with foreigners. We have been credibly informed that at Yedo alone, 38 persons, including even females, have been recently murdered for having traded with foreigners; and the Gorojio state, truly, we presume, that Yedo is so infested with bands of Ronins at present, as to render it highly dangerous for foreigners to visit that city. Some of the Tycoon's ministers visited Yokohama and called on the Foreign representatives during the week. We hear they mean to come again soon after Christmas, but the object of their visit is not yet known."

Dates have been received from Nagasaki to the 16th January. Everything was quiet, and trade moderately active.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

DEFALCATION—ORIENTAL BANK, SHANGHAI.

We hesitated to publish the following in our last issue:—

"Considerable sensation has been created here by the defalcation and disappearance of the compradore of the branch of the Oriental Bank; some five native bankers were the principal sufferers; every step was immediately taken by the manager for the apprehension of the delinquent. Reports have been numerous and conflicting, and the exact amount abstracted and the actual circumstances of the case are known but to a few. It is believed, however, that the Oriental Bank will hold the sufferers harmless, and in the meantime we look with confidence to the apprehension and punishment of the defaulter. There can be little doubt that, as a general rule, this class of Chinamen possess far too much the confidence of their employers, which, when worth their while, they but too frequently abuse. The compradore has been placed in custody, whilst the bank holds the native bankers' sycee in trust pending the judicial inquiry."

The following letter appeared in the daily papers:—

"Threadneedle-street, Feb. 27.

"Sir,—By the China papers received this morning it is reported that our native shroff at Shanghai was a defaulter, and that the corporation will be a loser thereby to the extent of 125,000 taels, or about £40,000.

"I am happy to say that the amount of probable loss is greatly exaggerated, as by our agent's advices we have reason to believe that the ultimate loss, if any, will be inconsiderable.

"Your insertion of this will oblige, Sir, your most obedient servant,

"CHARLES J. F. STUART,
Chief Manager."

By the mail delivered this morning, with dates to the 21st January, we have the following additional particulars:—

"We are glad to be able to announce that the Oriental Bank have paid over in dollars to the Chinese bankers the amount for the Syce disputed, with the exception of three boxes and a half, say between 8,000 and 10,000 taels, which the bank refuse to pay. The Chinese we believe have instituted proceedings against the bank for this balance."

The following letter has just been received:—

Oriental Bank Corporation, London, March 7, 1864.

The Chief Manager of the Oriental Bank Corporation presents his compliments to the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph*, and in reply to his note of to-day begs to inform him that some of the Corporation's letters from China has not come forward by the French mail, but the chief manager have reason to believe the information correct that the Sycee, or its equivalent in dollars, has been returned to the native bankers at Shanghai.

Several robberies with violence had taken place by bands of armed Canton men in the Settlement. In one case the ruffians were dressed up as foreigners (unless, indeed, they really were foreign rowdies).

Small-pox was prevalent, and had extended to the floating hospital, *Berwick Walls*.

With reference to the remarks made in the *North China Herald* of the 2nd Jan. as to the facilities offered by the Wharf Companies to steamers requiring to coal quickly, we (*Daily Shipping*) have been informed that many of the mercantile houses in Shanghai owe to the Shanghai Wharf Company their being able to catch the mail for England. The *Chanticleer* took in one hundred tons of coal in five hours, and, although it was late on Sunday night before her requirements were made known to the manager of the wharf, she discharged her inward cargo, took in outward, and was ready to start by 2 P.M. on Monday. The *Feiloong* also took in 40 tons of coal in two hours. These facts are sufficient to establish the value of the Companies, and we therefore trust to find them enjoying a large share of public patronage.

The obstruction caused to the navigation of the entrance to the river and the river itself by the accumulating number of wrecks has caused much dissatisfaction amongst those most deeply interested in shipping matters, and as it appears that there exists no organised means and authority for removing such without considerable delay and circumlocution, we have mooted in the columns of our daily paper, the necessity which exists for the formation of a river and harbour trust, such as has lately been introduced in Calcutta and founded upon that which has worked so well for many years in the Clyde; the right might easily be purchased or farmed from the Chinese Government, and would, we are convinced, after paying all expenses, leave a very pretty margin for the shareholders. We hope to see this question taken up by the Chamber of Commerce, and our hint, if it be worth anything, worked out for the general good of the settlement by wiser and more practical heads than ours.

The Masonic Brethren of Shanghai gave a most successful ball, which was graced by the unprecedented number of nearly fifty ladies, many wearing the scarfs and jewels of their husbands' orders. It was a red-letter evening in the annals of gaiety in Shanghai, and its repetition will be anxiously hailed by all.

A case of considerable interest was heard before the American Consul a short time ago, involving an important question as to the responsibility of employers for the acts of their *employes*. The following letter from "A Merchant" gives the facts and bearing of the point in litigation and of the decision:—

"Mr. David Reid bought (through a broker) from Messrs. Leighton and Co. 8,000 piculs of rice, and in due time paid to their compradore the full amount, receiving in return three godown orders written on the defendants' printed forms, bearing numbers which showed them to belong to a series, and signed for the firm by a clerk who had been in their employ for more than a year, and who is so still. But the delivery was refused on the plea that the defendants were not responsible for godown orders issued by a clerk. This is the real and the only point at issue, for, putting aside the satisfactory explanation given by the pursuer, it is evident that forfeiture could not follow failure to take delivery on the 16th of July without formal notice being first given. It seems then that any American merchant who chooses to repudiate the godown orders of his firm when not signed by himself will be supported by his Consul in so doing. This is a very serious thing for us all, not excepting American merchants, for it is notoriously the universal custom of the port to have godown orders signed by the clerks only. This was fully established by the evidence of the pursuer, who produced other godown orders (those of Messrs. Dent and Co. amongst the number) all signed by clerks only, and for whom the following gentlemen gave evidence to the same effect:—Mr. H. H. Wiggins, manager of the Commercial Bank of India (in which bank an advance had been made on security of the very godown orders in dispute), Mr. G. F. Heard, Mr. C. Thorne, Mr. H. D. Stewart (of Messrs. Turner and Co.), and Mr. A. A. Hayes (of Messrs. Olyphant and Co.). From this judgment there is, it seems, no appeal, so that it cannot be overruled; but for our safety in pending transactions it is desirable that it should be authoritatively pronounced against."

The *Daily Paper* says:—"We learn from a Chinese source that the Imperialists have experienced a severe defeat in the neighbourhood of Chin-keang. They attacked some rebel stockades in force, but were repulsed with great loss, and pursued for some distance by their adversaries. It is evident that the rebel troops retain their old superiority over the Imperialists, when the latter are not aided by foreign discipline and counsel. If the Futai ever indulged the hope that now that Soochow has fallen he could afford to dispense with the services of the disciplined force, the events of the last fortnight will probably have disabused him of the impression. He has been defeated at Chang-chao, with the loss of his best general, and his troops have now experienced an equally severe reverse in another part of the province. It will be unsatisfactory to his Excellency to have to report failure in two minor under-

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takings, after the glowing accounts of his own prowess which he sent to Peking after the fall of Soochow. But probably his Excellency's command of language will enable him so to represent his defeats as that they shall appear victories."

Her Majesty's Order in Council of the 12th September last, prohibiting the return to China of British subjects sent away from thence by Her Majesty's Consuls, after having been convicted of offences, is republished in the *North China Herald* of the 16th January.

Dissatisfaction is expressed at a new breach of faith on the part of the Futai, by which he seeks to levy half a million of taels, after having agreed in June last that twenty per cent. being then levied on rentals, there should be no further increase or addition made to existing taxes. It appears, however, that "the present demand is not a tax, but simply a request addressed by the Government to its subjects that out of their superfluity they will present it with a certain sum to meet its requirements." The *North China Herald* contends that "the Chinese Mandarins are not entitled to levy taxes on the Chinese residents in the foreign settlements." It appears, however, that Sir Frederick Bruce ruled on a former occasion that the Chinese had a right to tax their own subjects.

The annual meeting of the subscribers to the Shanghai Library was held on the 11th January. The total number of subscribers for the year is 153, of whom 120 are annual, 7 half-yearly, and 26 quarterly. The treasurer's account shows an available balance of taels 198.71.

The week endsng the 16th Jan. has been signalised by the commission of three murders by Chinese on Europeans, and of one by Europeans on a Chinese. A soldier named Bonham, servant of Lieut. Cardew, went out on Sunday afternoon, accompanied by a China boy, to shoot in the neighbourhood of Sikaway. When at a village called Mei-ka-wong, he shot a Chinaman's dog, and was immediately set upon by the villagers, and murdered by blows from their rakes. The boy was bound hand and foot, and carried off; but he, also, was subsequently murdered. Colonel Hough heard of the affair on the night of its occurrence, rode to the spot, and ordered his men to dig in the bed of a small water-course at a place which was pointed out to him as that in which Bonham had been buried. Darkness came on before he had reached the body, but not before he had discovered, in clods of earth saturated by blood, sufficient evidence that his information was correct. He was obliged to desist, but returned the next morning, accompanied by H.B.M. Consul, and renewed the search. The body, however, had been removed during the night, and the neighbouring villages were deserted. The next day, Lieutenant Cardew set out for the neighbourhood, accompanied by a detachment of his disciplined Chinese, and was successful in discovering the body of the murdered man, which had been removed to a spot about a mile distant from that at which it was previously interred. The body of the boy was found in the same grave. Five men have been arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the murder, and there appears little doubt that their guilt will be brought home to them.

The second case was that of two men named Baker and Horgan, who were coming down from Quinsan with a considerable sum of money, said to amount to between $4,000 and $5,000, in the boat. A few evenings ago Horgan's boy arrived in the settlement on foot, stating that his master and Baker had been murdered by men speaking the Canton dialect, who had carried off all the property. Neither the culprits nor the bodies of the murdered men have yet been discovered.

The third case was that of a Chinaman, whose boat was impressed by two rowdies. They replied to the boatman's solicitation for payment by kicking him in the stomach, thereby injuring his spleen so as to cause death. The two men are in custody in the English Consular Jail.

A meeting of the Shanghai volunteer corps has been held, at which the treasurer stated that a balance of tls. 937 stood to the credit of the corps at the close of the year 1863. The corps purposes to erect a gymnasium, but the arrangements have not yet been perfected.

From Soochow we learn that the Futai's brother has marched, with the troops under his command, to besiege Chang-Chow, an important city on the grand canal beyond Woosih. This mandarin has yet only succeeded in getting defeated on every occasion on which he has been entrusted with important command; and as he is likely to find at Chang-chao the most formidable resistance he has yet encountered, it is probable that a similar result will again occur. Fortune has not yet smiled upon the expedition. The celebrated Chinese General Ching was shot through the heart when leading on an attacking party. This will be a serious blow to the prospects of the Imperialists in the province.

The "ever victorious force" has been enjoying quite a round of gaiety whilst resting on their laurels at Quinsan. First, came a dinner given to Major Gordon—then one given to the officers of the garrison; then three in succession, by the officers of the 1st, 2nd and 4th Regiments; and lastly a grand ovation by Admiral Lee Adong on his promotion. The Rhenish band was in attendance, and we hear that the festivities passed off with great *eclat*.

In our last issue we noticed a new Tug and Lighter Company, &c., and we have now to add the Shanghai Steam Washing Company, the proprietors of which are Messrs. Legrand and Co. These gentleman have erected commodious premises, and in addition to celerity and cheapness in turning out our linen, undertake to accomplish necessary repairs, and all at the moderate price of $2.50 per 100, or half a dollar less than the present Dhobee trashing system.

Bulkley, the murderer of McKinnon, had been brought to Shanghai in H.M.S. *Encounter*, and his trial was to come off in a few days. In order to give him every legitimate chance of putting his case in a favourable light, the United States Consul General has permitted him to engage the services of a lawyer.

Commenting on the cases of "Reid v. Leighton," and of the claim of several Chinese bankers against the Oriental Bank Corporation, the *Daily Shipping Paper* remarks "that it is high time for the merchants and bankers of Shanghai to emancipate themselves from their compradors. It is natural that there should be a reluctance to break through an established system which worked smoothly and saved much trouble; but such losses as those experienced by Mr. Reid and by the Oriental Bank are a high price to pay for the convenience. A clear understanding should be come to that the compradore is not authorised to effect any transaction in his own person, and no bargain should be closed with him unless he produce the written assent of his principal to the transaction. A very similar office to that of compradore exists in India, namely, that of banian. But though his functions are similar, a banian's powers are much more limited. A European firm would not conclude a transaction with him without the sanction of his principal's name; nor would a bank entrust its cash to him so implicitly that he could employ it largely for his own purposes."

HONG KONG.

The dates of the present mail are down to Jan. 26. The English mail of Nov. 26 arrived out on Jan. 20, and Dec. 10 on the 25th. We regret to report another piracy similar to the *Parana*.

The Danish brig *Chico*, with a crew of nine European seamen and two Chinese, was towed out by a steamer, and the weather being very rough they came to anchor. At about eleven o'clock P.M. on the day of starting (Jan. 20) two large and two small piratical boats came alongside, boarded, and immediately the decks were covered with pirates, who attacked the ship's company, killing the captain and three Europeans; four of the crew got below, when stinkpots were thrown down; after ransacking the vessel they left. The five Europeans and two Chinese jumped into a small boat and made for the shore and landed; they were followed on shore by the pirates.

The steamer *Bahama* is announced for sale, freight or charter by Messrs. Johnson and Co.

The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Medical Missionary Society was held at Canton on the 15th January. From the annual report of the hospital in that city, it appeared that the number of patients attended to during the year was 14,628 at Canton, 5,445 at Fuh-shan, and that a new dispensary had been commenced in connection with the Rhenish Missionary Society at Shik-lung, a large town forty miles east of Canton, where 1,730 patients had been prescribed for. The number of children vaccinated was 1,494. The number of in-patients received was 452, and about 600 surgical operations had been performed. Pecuniary assistance to the amount of $75.55 had been given to some of the most destitute in-patients and to some of the out-patients. The amount of money paid out on account of the hospital and dispensaries was $1,376.34, from which is to be deducted a balance from last year of $129.62, and the sum of $87.34 received for medicines and trusses sold, leaving the sum of $1,159.38 expended for rent, hire of assistants, medicines, aid to poor patients, &c. Religious services

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have been conducted by the Rev. C. F. Preston, assisted in Fuh-shan by the Rev. J. M. Condit. The Rev. Mr. Graves' report of the dispensary at Shau-king (Shiu-hing) was also read. The number of patients prescribed for was 1,685, a number of minor surgical operations had been performed, and some important cases had been sent to the hospital in Canton.

The Treasurer's report stated that receipts of the society, from subscriptions and interest, were $2,132, and the amount paid out was $100. It was stated, however, that the sum of 1,260 for the current expenses of the hospital and dispensary had been paid since the account was rendered. Deducting this sum, there remained $4,247 in the treasury to the credit of the society. A circular was laid on the table to which subscriptions for the enlargement of the hospital had been obtained to the amount of $2,550, and a Chinese subscription book which contained the sum of $445. It was resolved that a new hospital was desirable, and that a committee should be appointed to devise the best means of accomplishing the object. Dr. Colledge, M.D., F.R.S., at present in England, was chosen president for the ensuing year.

A most atrocious murder has been perpetrated in a house in Taipingshan. Mossajee Dawodjee Satty and his wife (a Chinese female) were found by the neighbours dead in their own house, whither the former were attracted by the cries of a little girl of three years, daughter of the pair. It appears that the man had amassed a sum of money amounting to $2,300, and that he was about to return to Bombay with his savings. The circumstance was well known in the neighbourhood, and it is supposed that the murderers wished to possess themselves of the cash. This they did not manage to do, as $1,100 was found in a belt round the waist of the deceased, and he is known to have placed $1,000 in the hands of a native firm here. The bulk of his money is therefore satisfactorily accounted for. The unfortunate victims had been gagged and pinioned before the crime was committed. A coolie who slept in the same building, and who had absconded, has since been taken up on suspicion.

The steamer *Rajah* was advertised for sale by Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co.

The following paragraphs are from the *Peking Gazette*:—

The "filchers" of Nganhwiu province are reported to have invaded the district of Chung-tsiang in Honan, under the lead of Ching-ta and Lau-kan, dividing into parties and spreading over Teh-ngan and Ying-shan. The Imperialists met them in as many detachments, and defeated them at Tapei-tien, and near the Lui-ku or Thundering Drum Hill in Sui Chan, and other contiguous places, on successive days, taking prisoners and executing them. Another detachment of them passed this to the south towards Lang-kiun Bridge in Ying-ching district, where they met a body of Imperialists, and were attacked in several places. The slaughter was very great, including several of their high officers of various ranks left on the field.

The insurgents in various parts of Tsi-nan-fu and of Tung-chang-fu, lying in Shantung, having yielded, and Sankolinsin having made a clearance of their bands, the whole force has gradually been destroyed, except their leader Sung, who has escaped. The Governor of the Province has accordingly repeatedly received orders to disperse the remaining bands, and restore the country to its peaceful condition. But he (the Governor Yen King-ming) has made false reports of a few partial successes over them to assure us that the whole province is quiet, and there is no occasion for more operations. He has accordingly trumped up a statement, and planned a scheme out of these reports to relieve himself of further care, by requesting that he may be relieved of his office. His application to resign on account of family mourning is therefore refused.

The Governor of Kansuh, Ngan-lin, the Mohamedans of Hochan in that province and the Chinese of Tih-tau Chau, since the end of last year have been at strife, and the two parties have repeatedly stirred up the populations there, and had fights among themselves. The Governor Ngan-lin has already issued orders to prefects and magistrates of those districts to exert themselves to allay these feuds, and bring the two parties together so as to remove their suspicions, and quiet the regions This has been done, and the troubles are removed, so that the Governor has requested that the local officers be rewarded for their efforts.

PHILIPPINES.

MANILA.

The following is the statement of exports from Manila for 1863:—

	Piculs.		Piculs.
SUGAR—To G. Britain, ..	430,173	HEMP—To G. Britain ..	183,660
,, United States,	54,758	,, U. States ..	221,804
,, Continent ..	13,098	,, Continent ..	4,325
,, Pacific ..	76,582	,, Pacific ...	11,520
,, Australia ..	246,782	,, Australia ..	950
COFFEE—To G. Britain ..	2,772	CIGARS—To G. Britain ..	17,781
,, Continent ..	5,324	,, U. States ..	1,633
,, Pacific ..	6,320	,, Continent ..	579
,, Australia ..	481	,, Pacific ..	1,758
SAPANWOOD—To G. Brit.	4,212	,, Australia ..	3,490
,, U. States..	1,515	MOTHER-O'-PEARL SHELLS—	
,, Continent,	1,641	To Great Britain	1,028
,, Pacific ..	460	,, U. States ..	121
		,, Continent ..	442

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

The *Straits Times* pays the following well deserved compliment to Captain Reed, of H.M.S. *Rifleman*. The qualities exhibited on a service so essential to the safety of commerce and life, often far transcends in courage, endurance and patience those called forth an actual warfare:—"We are very sorry to learn that Captain Reed of the *Rifleman* has not benefited in his health by his trip to China, and that it is positively necessary that he should proceed to Europe with the least possible delay. Captain Reed has now been altogether ten years connected with the survey of the waters in our immediate vicinity. He was second in command of the *Saracen*, and shared in the work of all the important and well known surveys made in that vessel—including those of the Gulf of Siam and the Straits of Banka. The surveys which have been conducted by him during the last two years in the *Rifleman* are too well known by our readers to require more than attention to be drawn to them, for they have appeared at length in these columns. Captain Reed has wisely and determinedly directed his attention to the clearance of the main routes to China, a work the importance of which can be best understood by a reference to the enormous value of property that is yearly conveyed through them. In his task he has progressed with singular success and rapidity, and it is to be regretted by us—as it probably is by himself—that he cannot remain to complete the valuable work which he has inaugurated and so assiduously carried on for nearly two years.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

ANGIER—On the 4th March, at Forest-hill, the wife of F. J. Angier, Manager "London and China Telegraph" and "Cape and Natal News," of a son.

ANTROBUS—On the 2nd March, at 12, Sutherland-place, Eccleston-square, S.W., the wife of the Rev. George Antrobus, M.A., of a son.

FREEMAN—On the 3rd Jan., at Amoy, China, the wife of Robert Freeman, Esq., of a daughter.

FARR—On the 15th Feb., at Gravesend, the wife of Mr. F. Farr, of Shanghai, of a son.

OZORIO—On the 20th Jan., at Hong Kong, the wife of C. A. Ozorio, jun., of a son.

SCHEIBLER—On the 26th Feb., at Grove-park, Camberwell, the wife of H. Scheibler, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

THOMSON—MACHELL.—On the 12th Jan., at Shanghai, by the Rev. R. Hamilton, Harvey Thomson, to Eliza, second daughter of the late Thomas Machell, Surgeon, London.

DEATHS.

MARKHAM—On the 14th Jan., at Shanghai, John Arthur, infant son of John Markham, Esq., H.B.M. Consul.

REED—On the 21st Jan., at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, John Reed, Private H.M. 99th Regt., aged 25 years.

SANDILANDS—On the 28th Feb., at Rathangan Lodge, county Kildare, Ireland, Edwin W. P. Sandilands, B.C.L., late Fellow of St. John's College, Oxford, youngest son of the late Rev. Percival Sandilands, aged 34.

SANDILANDS—On the 29th Feb., suddenly, at Croydon Rectory, Cambs., the Rev. Richard S. B. Sandilands, M.A., of Ch. Ch., Oxford, rector of Croydon, aged 73.

VAN ESSEN—On the 19th Jan., at the Civil Hospital, William Van Essen, Maste Mariner.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1863-64.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1863	1535526	45078650	38608454	1930668	11466242	98679240	83431
Corresponding period last season	1153284	34228554	32805250	836208	17558846	33110901	55017

SHIPMENTS IN DECEMBER.

Ship.	From	lbs.
Star Queen	Shanghai	1,066,773
Balmacara	Amoy	495,300
Chalmers	Shanghai	761,600
Maria Wilhelmine	Amoy	247,674
Standard	Foo-chow	491,700
Mary Ann Wilson	Canton	1,026,496
Heroes of Alma	Shanghai	714,200
Princess of Wales	Do.	528,478
Isabella Ridley	Foo-chow	638,400
Bankside	Do.	638,000
Island Queen	Foo-chow	534,054

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TO UNITED STATES.

		Piculs.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1863	13932106	468
Corresponding period last season	13366629	1086

SHIPMENTS IN DECEMBER.

Ship.	From	lbs.
J. H. Nicholson	Foo-chow	787,500
Louis Kohn	Amoy	408,007
Queen of the Sea	Foo-chow	559,362
Apollo	Shanghai	514,590
Confucius	Amoy	333,291
Elizabeth	Shanghai	507,046
Guiding Star	Do.	493,322
Peep-o'-Day	Foo-chow	526,200
Anne Wood	Shanghai	575,871
Capella	Do.	533,619
Alhambra	Foo-chow	307,709

TO THE CONTINENT.

		Bales.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1863	1289007	3271
Corresponding period last season	1124764	6533

SHIPMENTS IN DECEMBER.

Ship.	From	lbs.
Taffarette	Canton	139,420

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

		Packages
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1863	19,731	...
Corresponding period last season	29154	...

TO AUSTRALIA.

		Total lbs
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1863	8343027	...
Corresponding period last season	6299113	...

SHIPMENTS IN DECEMBER.

Ship.	From	lbs.
Mary Miller	Hong Kong	2,142
Greyhound	Foo chow	225,700
Golden Fleece	Do.	359,000
Eliza and Mary	Do.	125,500
Elizabeth	Do.	511,600

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844.....	51,022,600	..
„ 1845 to 1846.....	57,334,200	18,604
„ 1850 to 1851.....	63,972,300	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854.....	77,327,800	61,980
„ 1855 to 1856.....	92,240,300	50,480
„ 1857 to 1858.....	76,990,255	68,311
„ 1858 to 1859.....	65,789,792	83,136
„ 1859 to 1860.....	85,560,452	64,163
„ 1860 to 1861.....	90,066,160	72,644
„ 1861 to 1862.....	109,854,040	70,199
„ 1862 to 1863.....	121,273,580	...

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1863 ...	263000	...	8857	4375	274	1446

SHIPMENTS IN DECEMBER.

Ship.	From	Piculs.
Glenhuntley	Shanghai	4 508
Light of the Age	Hong Kong	4,408
Falcon	Do.	3 394
It-amboul	Do.	6 098
Fow Tsum	Shanghai	8,590
Princess Royal	Do.	7 480
Loodianah	Do	4,256
Lord Lyndhurst	Hong Kong	11,644
Zingara	Shanghai	2,635
Chryseis	Do.	2 150
Young England	Do.	5,384
Nonpareil	Do.	6,500
Offor	Hong Kong	1,618
Amazone	Do.	2,658
Royal George	Shanghai	3 407
General Putnam	Do.	8,106
Esmeralda	Hong Kong	3,500
Solway	Shanghai	7,173
London	Do.	6 272
Montgomery	Do.	4,260
Lammermuir	Do. (lost)	6,630

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1863 ...	3059	...	...	350	100	...

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1863 ...	32130	12502	1349	1350	...	336

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1863 ...	706	2534	85248	7427	4740	151640

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1863 ...	6	2737	2737	2318	23400	...

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	7s. 0d. to 7s. 2d.	...
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6 ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	5s. 0d. to 5s. 0¼d.	...
At Singapore	6 ditto	4s. 11d. to 4s. 11½d.	5s. 0d. to 5s. 1d.
At Manila	6 ditto	4s. 8d.	4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.

FREIGHTS.—At Shanghai to London, £4. 10s. to £5; at Foo-chow, £5; at Hong Kong, £4. 5s. to £4. 10s.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Jan. 10, Victory. From Liverpool: Jan. 9, Blackburn and Express. From Sunderland: Jan. 9, Mercator. From Cardiff: Jan. 10, Thomas and Rebecca; 12, Berlie. From Boston: Jan. 5, Madge.

At HONG KONG.—From London: Jan. 21, Queen's Own. From Shields: Jan. 16, Vanguard. From Newcastle: Jan. 15, Hydra. From Hamburg: Jan. 21, Johann Anton. From Boston: Jan. 14, Avon. From New York: Jan. 23, Albers.

At SINGAPORE.—From Liverpool: Jan. 26, Agra. From Cherbourg: 21, H.I.M.'s steamer L'Sarthe.

DEPARTURES.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Jan. 10, Victory; 9, Sappho; 11, Sir Harry Parkes; 12, Lansdowne; 13, Egmont; 18, Fairleader; 19, Bithona. For Liverpool: Jan. 18, Spirit of the Times, Veloz. For New York: Jan. 12, Thetis; 14, Kate Carney. For Montreal: 12, Asia; 13, Tycoon.

From FOO CHOW.—For London: Jan. 5, Albrecht, Oswald.

From HONG KONG.—For Liverpool: Jan. 15, Koh-i-Noor; 19 Cornelia Hendrika.

LOADING.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Aurora, Australia, Stornaway, Thomas Dryden, Wagoola. For Liverpool: Antelope, Blackburn, Polmaise, Ralston, Thomas Royden. For New York: Lettice, Catharine, Lord Collingwood, Silvercraig.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Weymouth, Stuart Wortley, Herald, Pakwan. For New York: Santon.

At HONG KONG.—For London: Alchymist. For Liverpool: Annie Duthie, Bella, Constantia, Dolfyn, Isabella Hercus, J. L. Dimmock, Nancy Brysson, Norwood. For New York: Resolute.

At MACAO.—For Havana: Carrington and Sarah Chase (American).

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Early Dawn, Eliza Thornton. For New York: Rudolph. For Boston: Pearl.

CASUALTIES.

The ship Vanguard, sailed from Shields on September 12, 1863, wishes the following report inserted:—"Was detained in Channel by strong westerly gales to the 25th; after which had very light winds; crossed the equator October 22, long. 30 W. From November 9 to 29 experienced some heavy gales with a high sea. Split several sales, lost bulwarks and other damage. Dec. 27 entered the North Pacific *via* Ombay and Gellolo; encountered very light winds, calms, and 204 miles contrary current to January 8, when strong gales commenced, and at 9 A.M., lat. 10 N., long. 130, 20 E., a heavy sea struck the starboard bow, which did considerable damage. From the above date and position to the 12th, when we reached the north end of Luzon, we had very heavy weather, with high confused sea, and the wind very scant. Fine weather succeeded, and we reached this port last night."

Report of the British barque Queen's Own, from London to Hong Kong. Left the Downs July 7th; experienced light winds to the Cape of Good Hope, when had heavy gales and contrary winds to Anjer, Nov. 4th; and since then has had a continuation of gales, having been 78 days from Anjer to Hong Kong. Nov. 3rd, in Straits of Sunda, spoke the Edinburg, from Shanghai 68 days out; the Queen of the Age, from Shanghai 75 days out; Altona, from Shanghai, 70 days out. Nov. 18th, in the Straits of Banca, spoke the Broadwater, from Yokohama to London, and the Minden, from Manilla to London, Nov. 7th.

HONG KONG.

The schooner Pearl, Captain Harrison, from Hong Kong, bound to Ningpo, put back disabled. She fell in with a heavy gale off S. end of

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Formosa, when the sea carried away the rudder; starting a leak under the counter; hove in the starboard boat, causing considerable other damage. Put back to Tungao Roads, steering with a water cask over the stern, when managed to rig a temporary rudder, and arrived in Hong Kong, 19th.

SHANGHAI.

The British barque Glendover, from Sunderland. May 10th, left Sunderland; first part of passage had very fine weather; July 12th off the Cape; touched at Anjer Aug. 26th; Sept. 20th experienced a very severe typhoon near Paracels; 28th cargo shifted, compelled to cut away main and mizen masts; 8th Oct. arrived at Hong Kong—foremast badly sprung, refitted, and left 8th Dec.; experienced heavy N.W. gales the whole passage; arrived at Wusung 11th Jan.

Victory, from London, when off Luconia, picked up twelve Chinese from a sinking junk that had been robbed and set on fire. Passengers: Dr. Tennent, wife, and child, and Mr. Middelton.

COMMERCIAL POSTCRIPT.

Sales of bar silver at 61¼d.; Mexican dollars 64½d.

According to the *Telegraphic Journal*, intelligence has been received, dated Mussendar, Feb. 9, of the successful submergence of 359 miles of cable in the Persian Gulf, and also of the safe arrival of the *Assaye* and *Tweed*. The cable was in perfect working order.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—March 1, off Dungeness, from Sourabaya, Batavia; from Batavia, Jacoba Cornelia; 2, Tagal, Jan Daniel; 4, at Plymouth, from Batavia, L. A. Bang; 5, at Deal, from Shanghai, Jas. Vinicombe; in Channel, from Batavia, Burgermeester v. Middelburg; off Cape Clear, from Borneo, Zambesi; Jan. 19, at Buenos Ayres, from Hong Kong, Banda; March 6, at Deal, from Singapore, Latona; 7, from Shanghai, Edinburgh; 5, from Shanghai, Spirit of the Deep; 7, off Liverpool, from China, Isabella Ridley; 6, at Deal, from Hong Kong, Ocean Bride.

DEPARTURES.—March 4, from Shields, for Shanghai, Cœur de Lion, Crusader; Jan. 18, from Monte Video, for Batavia, Johann Heinrich. From New York, Feb. 9, Kiu-kiang (str.), for Shanghai, and Leopoldum Bauer (Aust.), for Shanghai.

At ST. VINCENT, C.V.—Jan 30, Tun Sin (str.), Rowe, from London, and left Feb. 2 for China.

SPOKEN.—Niphon, Shanghai to Liverpool, Dec. 27, 32 S., 48 E.; Corea, London to China, Feb. 16, 46 N., 12 W.; Electric, Singapore to Liverpool, Jan. 8, 35 S., 17 E.

LAID ON.—At London, for Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: Rubicon.

LISBON, MARCH 1.—The Wild Deer, Cobb, from Liverpool for Shanghai, which put in here Feb. 27, with considerable damage to masts, spars, sails, &c., will have to unship her foremast (an iron one, and the head thereof being much damaged) for examination, and to repair it if possible in order to make it efficient, otherwise it must be replaced by a wooden one.

The J. C. Munro, from Japan to London, was totally lost, Nov. 1, on Trabas Shoal.

THE ANGLO-CHINESE FLEET.

CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING THE FITTING OUT, DESPATCHING TO CHINA, AND ULTIMATE WITHDRAWAL OF THE ANGLO-CHINESE FLEET UNDER THE COMMAND OF CAPTAIN SHERARD OSBORN, C.B.; AND THE DISMISSAL OF MR. H. N. LAY, C.B.

SUCH is the title of a Parliamentary paper just published. To some extent the contents have been already given in our issue of the 19th Jan., taken from *The Times*. The total number of despatches is twenty-six. From No. 1 to No. 6 the letters are confined to the request of Mr. LAY that the flag to be adopted by the force shall be described in the *London Gazette*, and recognised by Her MAJESTY'S Government at home and abroad. Mr. LAY addressed Earl RUSSELL, and his lordship handed on the same to the Admiralty, who, it appears, shirked the announcement in the *Gazette*, but said the flag had been duly recorded. No. 7, dated 2nd Sept., 1862, is from Earl RUSSELL to Mr. BRUCE, forwarding the QUEEN'S order in Council authorising Captain OSBORN and Mr. LAY to equip the vessels. No. 8, of 10th Sept., is from Earl RUSSELL, asking Mr. LAY to produce written authority from the Chinese Government. Considering that prior to this the order in Council was passed, it is pretty clear that this important point had been overlooked. No. 9 encloses copy of No. 8 to Sir F. BRUCE. No. 10 is the reply of Mr. LAY, as follows:—

With reference to Earl Russell's desire that I should obtain a written authority from the Chinese Government for the steps I am taking to provide it with naval assistance, I have the honour to state that I hold such written authority, dated the 14th March, 1862, from my *locum tenens*, Mr. Hart, to purchase and equip a steam fleet, in accordance with instructions from the Imperial Government. I have since received regular remittances from the foreign Customs for that purpose, by direction of Prince Kung. I may add, for his lordship's information, that on the 28th June last, I received, through Mr. Hart, a despatch from the Chinese Foreign-office relative to the proposed fleet. This despatch prays the Inspector-General of Customs in earnest terms to use the utmost despatch in procuring the vessels. It repeats the instructions issued to the Governors of various provinces as to the amounts to be contributed by them towards the cost of the fleet; refers to the Emperor's anxiety that no time should be lost; and closes with a second earnest appeal to the Inspector-General for these reasons "not to lose a day." With respect to the flag for the fleet, I have written for precise authority. As soon as I receive it, I will not fail to apprise Earl Russell of the fact.—I have, &c.,

(Signed) H. N. LAY.

It will be observed that this authority is rather slight an second-hand, considering the importance of the matter in hand. Our Government must have put entire confidence in Capt. OSBORN using the war vessels discreetly. Nos. 11 to 14 again discuss the flag question; No. 15, from Capt. OSBORN to Earl RUSSELL, encloses the correspondence which we gave in our issue of the 19th Jan., and which number in all eleven despatches, and concludes with the address of Capt. OSBORN to his officers and their reply, which is not included in the Parliamentary papers. No. 16 is from the Foreign-office to the Admiralty, requesting their superintendence of the sale of the vessels on arrival in England, with a view to prevent them falling into the hands of the Confederates or other belligerents; No. 17 is from Earl RUSSELL to Sir F. BRUCE, enclosing copy of above. No. 18 is from the Admiralty to the Foreign-office, enclosing copy of a letter from Capt. OSBORN, announcing that the fleet would leave China for India and England. No. 19 is from Mr. LAY to Earl RUSSELL, in which he tells his own story as follows:—

Peking, November 10, 1863.

MY LORD,—The present mail conveys to your Lordship the papers having reference to the dissolution of the naval force which Captain Osborn and myself were empowered by Her Majesty's Order in Council to organise for the Emperor of China. And I gladly avail myself of the privilege your Lordship kindly accorded me, to submit to you some account of my proceedings in this country in regard thereto.

On my arrival in Peking, on the 1st of June last, I placed the agreements which I had entered into, under his letter of instructions of the 20th October, 1862, into the hands of the Prince of Kung.

These consisted of:—

1. The agreement between myself, as agent for the Emperor of China, and the officers and crews of the vessels, to which were appended certain regulations for the discipline of the force organised.

2. The agreement between Captain Osborn and myself, which embodied the principles we had laid down for the government of our conduct in this country.

This was framed so as to insure Captain Osborn a proper position; and to provide against his being placed upon a footing with the filibusters in the employ of the Chinese local authorities.

We were careful to guard against the possible mis-employment of the force by the Emperor, by my engaging to be the medium of all instructions to Captain Osborn; and to prevent orders being at any time issued to him at variance with treaties or international obligations, I promised (as is the case in my own department) to refuse to convey instructions of the reasonableness of which I was not satisfied.

Pains were taken to make this agreement stringent in its terms, for my experience made me mindful of the defect in the Chinese character, falsity and bad faith; and I felt that unless the Emperor were securely bound by conditions of the above nature, which he would have to ratify before the flotilla could be called upon to act, any obligations that might be entered into on his behalf would share the fate of all Chinese engagements, whenever it becomes convenient or safe to repudiate them.

The serious responsibilities which I incurred in entering upon the undertaking at all made it incumbent on me, in the exercise of common prudence, to adopt every precaution against the possible misbehaviour in time to come of the Chinese Government. And upon no other conditions than those laid down would I have consented for one moment to become instrumental in procuring force of a formidable character for an Asiatic Power, knowing well that, unrestricted by any conditions, it would sooner or later be tempted to direct that force against our own interests or the interests of other European Powers, leading to complications in which Captain Osborn and I would certainly be sacrificed.

When I presented the agreements for formal ratification, the "Foreign Board" (Prince Kung, it seems, has ceased for a year past to occupy himself with the details of foreign affairs) suggested modification of the terms of my agreement with Captain Osborn. I referred to the Prince's letter of authority to me, which, I observed, had been written upon a draft sent out from England by me for his signature; in that letter he had given me explicit authority to arrange on his behalf the terms of all agreements; under it I had arranged the only terms upon which I could obtain the sanction, in the first place, of my own Government, and in the second the services of officers of proper standing; and by it the Prince must be held bound.

I may mention to your Lordship, that before I acted upon that letter, I took the precaution to fortify myself with a legal opinion, which pronounced it sufficient to warrant my entering into all terms and conditions.

The Board said the Prince would ratify the agreements if I would consent to Captain Osborn's being placed under the orders of the local authorities. I answered that this could not be entertained. Captain Osborn had permission to serve the Emperor of China only, and could receive orders only from Peking.

Thus the matter stood until Captain Osborn's arrival in September. Satisfactory financial arrangements for the maintenance of the force were made in the meantime, the Board taking it for granted that the money question would be the only one which would be considered of real importance by us.

When Captain Osborn arrived, we lost no time in explaining jointly that the proposal to place him under the orders of the local Mandarins was inadmissible. The Board tried hard to persuade us to yield the point, but finding us firm, declared at length that the Prince would in that case decline to ratify the agreements.

I asked repeatedly that this decision might be communicated in writing, but in vain. The Prince had skilfully ignored his letter of instructions throughout, and had left the letter, in which I had drawn his attention to the important clauses of the agreement, unacknowledged.

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We informed the Foreign Board that if the Prince refused to ratify, the force must be disbanded.

The matter was then placed, with all the correspondence connected with it, in the hands of Sir F. Bruce, from whom, as your Lordship will receive a report of the subsequent proceedings, I forbear trespassing upon your time by referring to them here.

I think that the motives which have influenced Prince Kung to repudiate the agreements entered into under his written authority may be easily explained. When he ordered the steam flotilla the Government had not yet recovered the effects of our last expedition. A vague feeling of alarm as to the future prevailed; the recent progress of the rebels had been rapid; no less than four of the open ports, Canton, Foochow, Ningpo, and Shanghai, were in danger of capture; the Government was beset with appeals from the foreign Ministers for action, and was, in short, told that if it did not make an effort we should have to treat with the rebels.

The Prince was therefore ready to do anything, and while in this mood signed the letter of instructions to me.

In the meantime, however, under the auspices of Admiral Hope and General Staveley, the Government obtained, through the local authorities, all the aid that it needed. Officers were lent; guns and ammunition supplied; and before my return Ningpo was recovered, the other ports secured against attack, and the rebels driven back within the walls of Soochow.

The Chinese Government found itself relieved of its embarrassments in a manner most acceptable to it; the local Mandarins obtained the services of as many officers and men as were necessary, upon the simple terms of so many dollars a month, without guarantees or agreements of any kind; the Government was not required to give a single pledge or to incur any responsibilities.

When, therefore, the terms upon which the naval force had been organized were submitted for ratification, it was not strange that they should be pronounced unacceptable. The Chinese Government naturally prefers unconditional aid, to aid fettered by restrictions. My aim has been to make reform and progress the condition of aid. It is only thus, I believe, that aid can lead to any good in China, or that we are justified in affording it.

The military assistance, as at present rendered at Shanghai, is under the irresponsible control of the local Mandarins, and will, I apprehend, be found attended with troublesome, if not serious consequences. My observation, after five months' residence in Peking, leads me to doubt altogether the sincerity of Prince Kung's friendly professions, and my belief is that the anti-foreign party is gaining strength daily.

In Sir F. Bruce's despatches, advocating the formation of this naval force, he coupled the reformed administration of the Customs with the promised re-organisation of the executive forces of the empire. To have passed the naval force into the hands of the local authorities would have been to destroy all hope of improvement in any direction. As soon as it had served its purpose of slaughter, it would have been thrown aside.

With Sir F. Bruce, I had hoped that Her Majesty's Government would have been relieved, by means of this flotilla, of the expense of maintaining order at the open ports; and that the Chinese Customs' establishment would have been furnished with the necessary support to enable it to contend against the hostility of European evil-doers, and to render it independent of the local authorities, whose interest it is to restore the former corrupt state of things.

Disappointing as the dissolution of the force must be to all concerned, I feel that no one has greater cause than I of complaint against Prince Kung. Obliged to return to England by ill-health, induced by wounds and years of toil in the Chinese service, I sacrificed my leisure while in England to his service. My proposals on his behalf were well received in England, and met with the kindest support of Her Majesty's Government. On my arrival here, the Prince treated the whole matter with assumed indifference, and fancying that we had gone too far to withdraw, and that from the number of Europeans in Chinese employ ready to serve upon his terms he was independent of Captain Osborn, he attempted to impose his own conditions.

Although our hopes have not been realized, I have at any rate the consolation of feeling that we have not broken a single pledge made in England, and that the refusal of the force placed at the disposal of the Chinese Government, through the generosity of Her Majesty's Government, is an act for which Prince Kung and his colleagues are alone responsible.—I have, &c., (Signed) H. N. LAY.

No. 20 acknowledges the above. No. 21 is from Sir F. Bruce to Earl Russell, and briefly announces that Prince Kung refused to ratify the agreement which Mr. Lay made with Capt. Osborn. No. 22 acknowledges receipt of this. No. 23 is from Sir F. Bruce to Earl Russell, as follows :—

Peking, Nov. 19, 1863.

MY LORD,—I have the honour to enclose copies of various documents, forwarded to me by Captain Osborn, on the refusal of the Chinese Government to agree to the conditions on which alone he had consented to organise a steam flotilla for the service of the Emperor of China.

Also, of my correspondence with the Chinese Government and with Captain Osborn on the disposal of these war-vessels, and on the arrangement, ultimately agreed on, for sending them and the officers and men to England.

In order to understand clearly what has taken place, it must be borne in mind that though the flotilla sailed in winter from England to China, it was not until Mr. Lay arrived here in the spring that the Chinese Government had any intimation of the composition of the force, of the cost of its maintenance, or of the contents and scope of the undertaking entered into by Mr. Lay with Captain Osborn; I must call your lordship's attention to the latter document, as the refusal of the Chinese to ratify it has proved fatal to the success of the scheme.

Mr. Lay proceeded at once to urge on this Government the necessity of conferring upon himself and Captain Osborn the authority he had engaged in his undertaking to procure. His recent arrival from Europe, the honours conferred upon him by Her Majesty, and his acquaintance with men of influence and standing, enabled him to assume, in dealing with the Chinese Government, rather the dictatorial tone of an independent authority than the language of persuasion appropriate to the agent of the Government he was addressing. His hopes of success were strengthened by the reserved attitude of the Ministers of the Treaty Powers, all of whom, on different grounds, had reason to be dissatisfied with the dilatory proceedings of this Government, in granting redress for illegal acts committed by the local authorities. The Prince and his advisers were thus led to infer that a scheme which had promised to strengthen the hands of the central Government, as against provincial influences, could not fail to be acceptable to foreign Ministers, as being a step towards that policy of centralisation which they had always advocated, and that a feeling existed in their minds that the difficulties encountered by Mr. Lay were attributable to retrograde views.

So far, therefore, as foreign influences were concerned, Mr. Lay was more favoured by events than he could have reasonably expected, considering the exclusive composition of the force and the jealousies which, in this respect, it was fitted to awaken. I can state positively that nothing fell from the foreign Ministers calculated to thwart him in his attempts to obtain the ratification of these agreements, and that his failure is due to the spontaneous resolution of the Chinese themselves; their motives being the opposition of the provincial authorities; the reluctance of the Chinese Government to assume the responsibility of directing the force instead of leaving it to be directed by local governors; and, above all, the alarm and suspicion engendered in their minds by the proposals contained in the understanding entered into by Mr. Lay and Captain Osborn, by which they considered that the exclusive control of the operations would be vested in Mr. Lay, who would thus be enabled, indirectly, to compel them to act in all matters in subservience to his will.

Mr. Lay injudiciously, in my opinion, held language and advanced pretensions which tended to increase their apprehensions in this respect. He proposed that they should give him a "Foo" to reside in, that is to say, one of the palaces conferred by the Emperor on princes of the blood, such as those inhabited by the Ministers of England and France; a class of building which the highest officers of the Chinese Government are not permitted to inhabit. He acted as if he held the independent position of head of a great revenue department, which put him on an equality with Wensiang and the superior members of the foreign board, and as, therefore, only accountable to the Prince of Kung, the Vice-Regent of the empire. The members of the foreign board could obtain from him no specific statement, or account, of the sums expended by him, or anything beyond vague assurances that the money had been rightly spent, and would be accounted for in due time, and he insisted on the dismissal of the two Chinese superintendents, placed by this Government at the head of the Customs department, and the appointment of himself as sole director and recipient of the foreign Customs revenue, amounting already to about £3,000,000 sterling, with a fair, prospect of increase. In fact, it is impossible to doubt that Mr. Lay, full of large schemes of progress and commercial development in China, desirous of arriving at immediate results, and conscious that the course of improvement will be both uncertain and slow if depending solely on the influence which events and persuasion combined may gradually exercise in the Chinese mind, aimed at solving the difficulty by obtaining the sole command of the most certain source of the Imperial revenue, and of the most efficient branch of its executive. Armed with this power he hoped by threats of suspending the action of the flotilla, and of withholding the funds, that the Chinese Government would be compelled to adopt such measures as he should propose. He was to dictate the policy to be pursued; it was to be promulgated to the Empire by Imperial decree; and to be executed by the flotilla and such land forces as might be required, the expenses of which were to be provided for out of the Customs revenues.

I believe I am correct in assuming that an article in *Blackwood's Magazine* of January, 1863, entitled "Progress in China," contains a statement of the results anticipated by those who promote this course of policy, and I concur with Mr. Lay in thinking that nothing short of a dictatorship, lodged in European hands, and so supported by foreign influence as to render the Chinese powerless to defeat or thwart it by intrigue or opposition, would enable its supporters to realise the promises it holds out. Even thus, looking to the reluctance of the Chinese Government, and the determined hostility of provincial authorities, this scheme could not have been successfully carried out.

The Chinese Government, however, comprehended at once the scope and bearing of this scheme, and look upon it as an insidious attempt to take the administration out of their hands. They were unacquainted with Mr. Lay, and employed him as their agent for the purchase of ships and hiring of men at Mr. Hart's suggestion, who recommended him as a person on whom they might rely, and who, being in England, could carry out their wishes in a satisfactory and economical manner. They had no such special confidence in him as would have induced them to put themselves in his hands. They do not look upon the Inspector-General as anything more than a subordinate officer in their employ, to whom a general superintendence is given over the foreigners engaged to aid in the collection of the Customs revenue on foreign trade, but on whom no control is bestowed over the application of the receipts. They do not consider him as a political officer at all, nor do they consult him as of right even in questions affecting foreign trade. It was only at my invitation, and contrary to the intentions of the Chinese Government, that Mr. Hart was able, two years ago, to come up to Peking, and it was only by his tact, good sense, and modesty that he obtained access to the Prince of Kung, and turned to useful account the favourable impression he made upon his Imperial Highness and his advisers. It is a significant mark of the light in which they view Mr. Lay's pretensions that he was never admitted to the Prince's presence during these months of discussion. Indeed, he would not have seen him at all had I not requested an interview with the Prince, which he anticipated would be of a disagreeable character. To forestal any remark I might make on his not having seen Mr. Lay, he sent for him in the morning, and had a few minutes' conversation with him on indifferent matters.

If the hope, therefore, was entertained in any quarter that Mr. Lay enjoyed, either on account of his personal merits, or in virtue of his office, any such influence over the Chinese Government as would enable him to carry out the views he entertained with their concurrence and assent, it

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was founded on an entire misapprehension of his position, and of their feelings towards their foreign *employés*. They looked upon him as an agent for a special purpose, whose authority was limited to a purchase of ships and to the engaging of men to bring them out. They certainly did not contemplate conferring upon him any authority to tie up their hands for years as to the manning of these vessels, still less that he should take upon himself to determine, at his will, how the operations of the ships were to be directed, and under whose immediate orders they were to be placed; and they were totally indisposed to alter the character of the office he bears, to give to him, or to any foreigner, a leading part in the administration of the Government, or to invest him with any control over the Customs revenues, except in so far as was required to meet the expenditure of the foreign part of the establishment. They are profoundly irritated, not only because of the embarrassments in which they are involved by his having exceeded his authority, but on account of the position he thus sought to create for himself. They attribute his conduct to personal motives, and their confidence in the good faith of foreign agents has been most seriously shaken.

After much discussion the enclosed paper was drawn up by the Chinese Government, and in order to mark that they could go no further, it was invested with the form of an Imperial decree, the form they adopt when discussion is closed. Whether, as they assert, they understood Mr. Lay to acquiesce in this arrangement or not I am unable to determine, and it is of little consequence, as it remained with Captain Osborn to decide how far he would consent to the modification of his understanding with Mr. Lay.

That officer shortly afterwards reached Peking. During his voyage up the coast incidents were not wanting to show him that his position would be one of more difficulty than he had been led to expect. He found that he would have to encounter the bitter opposition of a large section of the foreign communities, and the active hostility of the provincial authorities. Agents were employed at Shanghai to go on board his ships and to seduce his men, by offers of higher pay, if they would enter the service of the Governor of Keangsoo. He was obliged, in consequence, to discharge some of his men who became dissatisfied with the rates of pay assigned to them, and to remove his vessels up to Chefoo to prevent the disorganisation of his force. He felt that the efficiency of his squadron required not only that he should be freed from the control and interference of the provincial officers, but, further, that effectual steps should be taken to prevent them from offering employment to his men, otherwise his ships might be disabled at any moment. In addition to these difficulties in the provinces, he found, on his arrival at Peking, that the Chinese Government looked upon the flotilla as part of a scheme to place them in a position inconsistent with their dignity and independence of action, and therefore doubly indisposed to antagonise the provincial authorities in its behalf. He accordingly decided, after mature reflection, to abide by the terms of his understanding with Mr. Lay, and to call on the Chinese Government to declare whether they would ratify the agreement or not. On receiving a verbal refusal through Mr. Lay (no written communication having been addressed to him during the period of delay granted in his letter), Captain Osborn enclosed to me the documents with the accompanying letter. It was essential that a decision should be come to at once, as he held no commission, and his authority to enforce discipline among his men was liable to be called in question.

Thus far I had taken no part in the discussions between Mr. Lay and the Chinese Government. Indeed, I studiously avoided expressing any opinion on the proposals made to them, for I felt much embarrassment as to the answer I should be compelled to give if the Chinese Government put the question to me, Are we bound to ratify this agreement against our convictions? I foresaw, also, that if I were to attempt to extort their assent against their will, the question would become a political one, for the Chinese would certainly have consulted the other foreign Ministers, and, in spite of their wish to act with me in a friendly and large spirit, I could not expect their support in any attempt to impose this scheme upon them by menace. I therefore resolved to leave the matter to be arranged, if possible, by the Chinese themselves with their agent and Captain Osborn, and to protract, in the interest of the scheme, the suspense in which they were held as to my opinion and intentions.

During this period I had two interviews with the foreign board. In neither did they allude to the flotilla, and I imitated their reserve. Our conversation turned on the dangers arising from the employment of foreign adventurers by the local governors, and on the impossibility of foreign officers of character being induced to serve the Chinese by land or sea, unless they held formal commissions from the central Government, and unless they were secured against the caprice and jealousy of the provincial authorities. In fact, this was the line of observation most likely to induce the Government to accede to Captain Osborn's terms; for if they and the provincial governors had felt convinced that they would be deprived of the foreign element which has gained for them all their late successes near Shanghai, and would have to rely on purely Chinese resources, they would have had a strong inducement to agree for the moment to the conditions proposed.

So long as Governors can obtain on their own terms foreign officers and steamers officered by foreigners sufficient to repel the insurgents, it is idle to expect that the Government at Peking will undertake the organisation of an Imperial force either on land or on the sea, and thereby relieve local governors from the responsibility of maintaining tranquillity in their provinces, which is the established principle of Chinese administration. Of their reluctance to make this change in their system, we have abundant proof in the abandonment of foreign drill at Tien-tsin, in their refusal to engage, under contract, French drill instructors, or to accept the gratuitous services of officers whom the Russian Government offered to lend them for that purpose.

It was now, however, incumbent on me to interfere directly, and the first step I took was to inform the Chinese Government that I could not consent to hand over the ships to them without instructions from Her Majesty's Government. My reasons for taking the step were, that the ships were held as security by Captain Osborn for fulfilment of the terms agreed on by the men; that the latter were entitled to be sent home, and that it was not quite clear whether they were to be paid up to the time of their arrival in England or up to the 30th of August next. Moreover, these ships are not of a kind that the Chinese could manage, or that it would be safe to put in the hands of the class of foreigners who are on board the small steamers bought by the Governor of Kiangsoo (about ten in number), and which have proved so efficient in the operations near Soochow. On the other hand, it would not be safe to sell them on the coast, as they might fall into the hands of hostile Daimios in Japan, or be bought for employment as Confederate cruisers in these seas. The enclosed copy of a despatch from the Minister of the United States will show that he was alive to this danger; and I may add that M. Berthemy was equally of opinion that the flotilla should not be given up, as there was no means of guaranteeing to what purposes the ships might be turned. It struck me, also, that if the Chinese found that they could not have the ships without ratifying the agreements, they might, perhaps, be induced to reconsider their decision; and in order to throw away no chance of inducing them to accept the flotilla, and to put myself in as good a position as possible to deal with the pecuniary difficulties that would ensue from its rejection, I took advantage of the Prince's reluctance to face an unpleasant discussion, and declined the interview proposed by Wensiang unless the Prince were present.

Having sent me the inclosed despatch, they sought an interview with the Minister of the United States, Mr. Burlingame, upon whose friendly desire to arrange matters satisfactorily I could thoroughly rely. Before entering into the subject, he required them to state, distinctly, whether they had definitively resolved not to ratify the agreements entered into with Captain Osborn. They replied in the affirmative, adding that it was impossible for them, in the face of opinion in China, to take the direction of the flotilla out of the hands of the local authorities, or to ratify conditions which, to use their own phrase, would deliver them over, bound hand and foot, to Mr. Lay.

Mr. Burlingame, in three protracted interviews, argued the question at great length, in order to ascertain whether any feasible scheme could be hit upon which would meet their objections and enable the flotilla to act; but finding that the points on which they differed with Captain Osborn were such as to render a compromise impracticable, Mr. Burlingame advised them to state their reasons fully for not ratifying the agreement, to thank Her Majesty's Government and Captain Osborn for what had been done in their behalf, and to request me to have the vessels returned to England under Captain Osborn, to be there sold, the proceeds, after discharging all liabilities, to be remitted to the Chinese Government. This advice was followed to the letter, as your lordship will see by the enclosed despatch; and the Chinese, of their own accord, and without a suggestion from anyone, added that they wished Captain Osborn to accept 10,000 taels (£3,300) in consideration of the labour entailed upon him by this flotilla. To this letter I returned the reply of which copy is enclosed.

I think the arrangement proposed, in consequence of which the vessels are to leave China at once, is more advantageous to all parties than the one I originally suggested, for expense is thereby avoided, and the danger obviated of keeping a large number of men on the coast in a state of idleness, and subject to no sufficient authority, during the period that must have elapsed before instructions from England could have been received. Captain Osborn takes two vessels to India in the hopes of disposing of them there, and the rest will sail for England as soon as the necessary arrangements are made.

I cannot express too strongly my sense of the friendly and valuable assistance rendered by Mr. Burlingame in bringing about an arrangement which provided satisfactorily for all the interests concerned, and in such a manner as not to compromise those friendly relations which I am so anxious to maintain with this Government; and I think this incident illustrates the importance of adhering, in China, strictly to a just and fair line of policy. The belief that I, as British Minister, would respect the rights of the Chinese, and that I would not force the flotilla upon them from selfish political considerations, induced my colleagues to abstain from interfering while the question was under discussion, and thereby secured for the flotilla a deliberate and unfettered consideration on the part of the Chinese Government; and I am certain that this course was more favourable to the success of the scheme, had success been possible, than any other that could have been adopted. It appeared to me, also, that I should not have been justified in taking a more active part, for I had reason to believe that your lordship had no cognizance of the undertaking of so novel a character entered into by Mr. Lay with Captain Osborn; and the absence of instructions was to me a significant proof that Her Majesty's Government had no intention of being a party to, or responsible for, the arrangements under which the operations of the flotilla were to be conducted. Had the Chinese voluntarily accepted the squadron, the onus of the difficulties it would have encountered would have rested on the Chinese Government; but the burden would have been thrown on Her Majesty's Government by the Chinese, and with justice, had it appeared that this flotilla, exclusively British in its character, directed by British officers and agents, and imposed by British pressure, was acting under a Chinese flag, which the Chinese Government, contrary to its wishes, had been compelled to hoist on board the ships.

Moreover, the Chinese Government has latterly shown its inability or indisposition to carry out the various suggestions I made for strengthening the central power, of which the flotilla is only one, and it was evident that there was no disposition on the part of the Chinese to incorporate it into their system, so as to subserve the general purposes of police and revenue; but that, if forced to accept it, they would have directed it against Nanking, and would then have left it to be disorganised by the illwill and intrigues of the provincial authorities. Putting aside the consideration that Her Majesty's Government would not have assisted in the formation of the force had this been the only object contemplated, I must observe that such a course would have been full of danger to our trade.

In fact, this flotilla ought to have been designed to carry out the revenue laws, and to assist in suppressing piracy. Less formidable and expensive vessels would have been sufficient for these purposes, and they would have been at the same time, though in a subordinate degree, of much use in assisting military operations. Whereas, a purely war squadron was provided, with officers who looked to *actions d'eclat*, and not to the disagreeable and prosaic task of stopping smugglers and robber-junks. And further, if it was considered necessary that the flotilla should be taken out of the hands

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of the Government who paid for it, and the exclusive control over its operations vested in its foreign commander and the foreign agent employed in procuring it, these conditions, of so singular a nature, ought to have been submitted and agreed to before the vessels were allowed to sail for China.

I owe it to Captain Osborn to state that he has shown great sagacity in appreciating the situation, and the most honourable spirit in the course he has pursued. In spite of the great pecuniary advantages secured to him he would not consent to any compromise which might hereafter place him in a false position, or involve his country in embarrassment.

I have only to request your lordship's indulgent consideration amid so many difficulties, and to beg that Her Majesty's Government will enable me to redeem my pledge to the Chinese Government, and that every assistance may be given in the disposal of the ships and their armament, in order that the loss entailed upon them may be as light as possible.

(Signed) F. W. A. BRUCE.

In this letter are the following inclosures :—

THE PRINCE OF KUNG TO SIR F. BRUCE.

(Translation.)

Peking, Oct. 25, 1863.

The Prince has to acknowledge the receipt of the British Minister's despatch of the 20th instant, on the subject of the purchase of a steam flotilla and armament by the Chinese Government.

Inasmuch as the Chinese Government, of its own motion, authorised the Acting Inspector-General Hart to purchase (vessels), the Prince therefore did not trouble the British Minister with any particulars in regard to the matter; but as the Prince is now in a receipt of a letter from the British Minister on the subject, it becomes His Highness's duty to put his Excellency in possession of the full particulars of the matter.

In the memorandum which Mr. Hart submitted in person to the members of the Foreign Board, last year, as to the officers, gunners, and crews of the steamers (it was proposed to purchase), he mentioned that it would be necessary to appoint a Chinese high officer to act with Captain Osborn in all matters connected with the control and management (of the fleet); he also mentioned that there should be selected 200 Chinese (Hoonan men), to serve as gunners; 200 Shantung men, as sailors; 100 Manchoos, as marines, and 50 Manchoos, to act as powder-monkeys. It appeared to the members of the Foreign Board, upon examination of his proposition, that it would be of advantage, and not injurious to China. It was not proposed that the people to be engaged for the steamers should consist wholly of foreigners, nor was there any intention of depriving the Chinese Government of the military authority. The Foreign Board, therefore, memorialised the throne, and received His Majesty's sanction and permission to carry out the proposal, and the Prince issued official instructions to Mr. Hart to proceed with the purchases, &c., in accordance with that sanction, stating clearly, moreover, in his letter, that it must rest with the Governors-General and Governors to appoint officers to the fleet.

Mr. Hart subsequently informed (the members of the Foreign Board) that, with reference to the purchase of vessels and guns, he had officially addressed the Inspector-General Lay, who was at that time in England, and had placed the whole matter in his hands, and that, therefore, it would be necessary for the Prince to issue to Mr. Lay a letter of authority to enable him to act.

The Foreign Board considering that it had Mr. Hart's memorandum before it, expected that, no matter who might be entrusted with the management of the affair by Mr. Hart, under the authority of the Chinese Government, he would still act in accordance with that memorandum. Mr. Hart afterwards informed the Board that his memorandum was only a general idea of the probable arrangement, and had reference only to the number of Chinese soldiers (to be employed); but that foreign officers, gunners, and crews, &c., would have to be engaged for service on board the vessels by Mr. Lay, to whom it would have likewise to be left to arrange the various agreements for the amounts of salaries, wages, &c., at the time of their engagement by him. The Foreign Board, considering that as the matter to be arranged remained the same, Mr. Hart having first been entrusted to proceed in the matter, and Mr. Lay afterwards having succeeded to the management, the mode of proceeding would, as a matter of course, not differ from Mr. Hart's original memorandum, accordingly prepared the letter of instructions to Mr. Lay, as Mr. Hart had suggested. Comparing that document with the letter which Mr. Lay, on his arrival in Peking, addressed to the Prince, inclosing an agreement in thirteen articles, it was found to differ very materially from Mr. Hart's memorandum. For instance, he proposed that all orders (to Captain Osborn) from His Majesty must pass through him (Mr. Lay), and that if conveyed through any other channel they could not be obeyed. As China would thus have spent several millions of revenue without obtaining an atom of power, his arguments (in support of the agreement) were rebutted, and in the place of it five other articles were drawn up, every sentence of which was discussed and settled in personal interviews with Mr. Lay and Mr. Hart, and without the slightest word to the contrary on their part. The money clauses for monthly expenditure were also one by one discussed and settled; and that being done the arrangements determined by the five articles and the money clauses were embodied in a memorial, and respectfully submitted to, and approved of, by His Majesty. Since that time all the moneys for monthly expenditure, and for purchase and equipment, have been regularly paid over according to agreement.

The regulations have been ratified, and large monthly payments made, it was expected that as soon as the vessels arrived they would accomplish their work, and that there would be no further discussion.

But now the Inspector-General, all at once turning his back on the Imperial decree, disobeys the five articles which had been discussed and settled in personal interviews, and had received the sanction of His Majesty, and brings up afresh the thirteen clauses which it was settled face to face should not be put in force, and insists upon their adoption. This agreement, in thirteen articles, is not only at variance with Mr. Hart's memorandum appended, but is different from the Prince's letters addressed to Mr. Lay and Mr. Hart, and is not in accordance with the intentions of his Highness when he gave his authority to Mr. Lay to enter into the various agreements, and hence the Foreign Board did not accede to the agreement in question.

Moreover, when it had been distinctly settled at the time in a personal interview that the five articles should be the rules of action, and when the Inspector-General had received a despatch announcing that these articles had been ratified by His Majesty, and when in accordance with these five articles he has already been paid over the money to cover expenses for, several months, how it is that he presumes to disobey an Imperial decree looking upon it as mere child's play?

The British Minister and Mr. Wade have on former occasions urged that Chinese military authority ought not to be delegated to foreigners. The principle for China and foreign countries is in this matter identical. And the Prince is still rejoiced to think of the surpassing discernment of the British Minister and Mr. Wade, of the justice and fairness of their remarks, and that they do not share the wish of the Inspector-General, who would insist upon imposing restrictions on the Chinese Government.

As the British Minister has addressed a despatch to the Prince on this subject, his Highness has not been able to avoid entering thus fully into particulars in his reply. If the British Minister will but weigh the matter impartially he will, without doubt, perceive plainly (the real state of the case, or, that the Chinese Government is in the right).

Inclosed are copies of Mr. Hart's memorandum of the letter of instructions to Mr. Hart, of the two letters to Mr. Lay, of Mr. Lay's letter to the Prince, inclosing the agreement, and a copy of the five articles discussed and agreed to in personal interviews with Mr. Lay; all which the Prince requests the British Minister carefully to peruse.

A necessary communication addressed to his Excellency Sir F. Bruce K.C.B., &c.

Tung-Chih, 2nd year, 9th month, 13th day (October 25th, 1863).

REGULATIONS PROPOSED BY MR. HART IN REGARD TO THE (CHINESE) OFFICERS, GUNNERS, SAILORS, &C., TO BE APPOINTED TO THE SEVEN STEAM-VESSELS.

1. An officer of high rank must be appointed to act with Sherard Osborn in all matters connected with the control and management of the fleet.

Seven additional officers (should) be appointed, the number to be added to hereafter as occasion may require.

These officers should not exceed thirty years of age.

2. Two hundred Hoonan men should be selected to serve as gunners. To be had at Hankow, as soon as the vessels arrive.

3. Two hundred Shantung men, to serve as sailors. To be had at Tung Chow as soon as the vessels arrive.

4. One hundred Manchoos as marines, and fifty Manchoo boys, to serve as powder-monkeys. To be had at Tientsin as soon as the vessels arrive.

The gunners, sailors, and marines must be selected between the ages of eighteen and thirty; the boys between the ages of fourteen and eighteen.

Several cooks will also be required on board each ship.

Of the seven vessels, it is probable that four will be large, and three small. Each large ship ought to have on board about forty gunners, forty sailors, twenty marines, and ten boys. Each small ship ought to have about ten gunners, ten sailors, ten marines, and three or four boys.

It is absolutely necessary that all the men appointed to serve on board the vessels should be strong and healthy.

The above is only a general idea of the probable arrangement. What the actual arrangement will be can only be known when the vessels arrive.

INSTRUCTIONS FROM CHINESE FOREIGN BOARD TO MR. HART.

(Translation.)

Peking, February 1, 1862.

The Foreign Board gives urgent instructions to Acting-Inspector-General Hart.

Mr. Hart stated, in a despatch received some time ago by this Board, that, after his arrival at Shanghai, he had had an interview with his Excellency Sieh (then Governor of Kiangsoo) on the subject of the purchase of foreign ships and guns, who had said that, if no more than 800,000 taels were wanted, the getting of the money would be a matter of no difficulty; and that if the Foreign Board in Peking would give an order on the subject, the Shanghai Customs could, within a period of four months, easily provide at least 200,000 taels.

Mr. Hart himself suggested that it would be sufficient if the Shanghai and the Canton Customs were each required to provide 200,000 taels: Foo-chow, 100,000 taels: and Amoy and Ningpo each 50,000 taels.

The Foreign Board thereupon wrote to his Excellency Sieh, to arrange the matter as proposed. This is all on record. But as there is at present a most urgent need for the guns and arms, on account of the recent loss in succession of Ningpo and Hangchow, in the Province of Che-Kiang, this Board has obtained from His Majesty a decree, commanding the Governor of Kiang-Soo, in conjunction with the Superintendents of Customs at Canton and Foochow, to provide funds immediately for the line of foreign steamers, and to commission officers to proceed with these, when procured, to the port of Ningpo, to cut off the escape of the rebels; and also commanding the Governors-General and Governors of Kwan-tung and Fu-kien to hire steamers for the same purpose. This Board has now to instruct Mr. Hart to lose no time in consulting with his Excellency Sieh on the immediate carrying out of these projects. Let there be no further delay when the steamers have been procured and equipped with arms, either of their Excellencies Sieh or Tseng (Governor-General of the Two Keang) will appoint officers to proceed in the vessels, first to Ningpo to oppose and exterminate the rebels, and after that place has been recovered to clear the river and go right at Nanking. With such steamers as these will be we may hope in a given time to see that little plague extinguished. As it is feared that the land-route is not at present quite free and open, a duplicate copy of this despatch is being sent by steamer.

Tung Chih, 1st year, 1st month, 2nd day (February 1st, 1862).

MR. LAY TO THE PRINCE OF KUNG.

(Translation.)

June 29, 1863.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt, on the 15th of January, 1863, of the letter of instructions furnished to me by your Imperial Highness, and to report that, in conformity therewith, I engaged in England Captain Sherard Osborn to act as Commander-in-Chief of the naval force there organised; and that in accordance with your instructions

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in which you drew my attention to the three important matters, namely, the purchase of vessels, guns, powder, coal, &c., the engagement of officers and crews, together with the drawing up of every description of agreement, and the setting apart a guarantee fund in order to meet the claims for salaries, wages, &c., I entered into an agreement, in thirteen articles, with Captain Osborn. The important provisions of this agreement are :—

First. That Captain Osborn is an officer under the orders of the Foreign Board, from which he must receive all orders and instructions, so that he may act in concert with the Governors-General and Governors.

Second. That he must have authority and control over all steamers the property of native guilds as long as they are in the employment of the Emperor of China. This is necessary because the men in charge of these vessels are all foreigners, who, under pretext of being in Government employment, claim exemption from all supervision, and then furnish supplies to the rebels, to the very serious detriment of the public service. Moreover, it is a fact that steamers owned by Chinese subjects do, under cover of a foreign flag with which they stealthily provide themselves, engage in smuggling and every kind of illegal practice.

Third. Captain Osborn and myself agreed that there must be provided beforehand, and deposited in a foreign bank, a sum of money about sufficient to cover the pay and maintenance of the force for four years, so as to satisfy Captain Osborn and the officers and men that their pay would be punctually paid, it being apprehended that the pay would not be forthcoming, which might lead to refusal to work on the part of the crews; therefore this arrangement was made. In the meantime we agreed that, until the arrival of the men in China, the vessels and their equipment would be the security for the claims of the force.

I have the honour to submit to your Imperial Highness a copy of the agreement in thirteen articles translated from the original English.—I have, &c., (Signed) H. N. LAY.

THE PRINCE OF KUNG TO SIR F. BRUCE.

(Translation.) Peking, November 2, 1863.

The Prince of Kung makes a further communication in reply on the subject of the purchase of the steamers by the Chinese Government.

As Captain Osborn purposes disbanding the entire force which he has under his command, it is the duty of the Prince of Kung to set forth (beforehand), clearly and in precise terms, the reasons why the Chinese Government has not been able to accede to the agreement in thirteen articles entered into between Mr. Lay and Captain Osborn.

1. Article 4 of that agreement runs as follows :—"Captain Osborn undertakes to act upon all orders of the Emperor which may be conveyed direct to Mr. Lay, and Captain Osborn engages not to attend to any order conveyed through any other channel."

Now, as Captain Osborn is not a subordinate of Mr. Lay's, why should it rest with Mr. Lay to transmit the orders which Captain Osborn can alone obey? The Prince's letter of instructions to Mr. Lay only stated that when the purchase and equipment of the vessels should be completed they must proceed to Shanghai, there to await orders for their distribution. There was no such language in it as that the commander of the vessels should receive his orders from Lay, and through no other channel. If that were the case then China would be placed completely in his (Mr. Lay's) hands. The Prince's letter of instructions had no such intention as this. For these reasons (the 4th Article) cannot be acceded to.

2. Article 5 runs as follows :—"Lay, upon his part, engages to refuse to be the medium of any orders of the reasonableness (or practicability) of which he is not satisfied." Now, in regard to orders that could not be carried out, Captain Osborne could well have consulted with the Chinese high officers (on the spot); but if it were as (this article) proposes, then the Chinese high officers could hold no communication with Captain Osborn, and thus important operations would be seriously impeded. Therefore, this article could certainly not be agreed to.

3. Article 10 provides that "Mr. Lay must, in addition, procure a sum of money sufficient to cover salaries, wages, and other expenses for four years. For the present, while in England, the vessels and their equipments must stand as security (for all claims)."

Now this article shows that Mr. Lay cannot trust the members of the Foreign Board, how, however, can the Prince so far trust Mr. Lay as to hand over to him, a single individual, such a large sum of money? Moreover, China has never followed such a rule as to pay four years' salary beforehand. (This article) for these reasons cannot be agreed to.

The above three articles are not only disadvantageous to China, but do not accord with the (Prince's) original letter of instructions. As for the less important objectionable points (in the agreement) it is unnecessary to point them out one by one.

The Prince and the members of the Foreign Board have seen that the said agreement in thirteen articles contains provisions very much at variance with the object which the Chinese Government had in view in the purchase of the vessels; and now that Captain Osborn is about to take home and disband the force which he has brought out, the Prince has to express his sincerest thanks to the British Government for its friendly intentions in allowing the equipment of the vessels, and in granting special permission to officers to come to China. His Highness must also thank Captain Osborn for all the trouble to which he has been put in procuring the fleet and in bringing it out to China. The Chinese Government will, as a matter of course, pay to Captain Osborn and to all his officers and men their salaries, wages, &c., and all their miscellaneous expenses up to the day of their arrival in England; and, in addition, will present 10,000 taels to Captain Osborn as a recompense for the (additional) trouble (to which he will be put). All these moneys to be given out of the sum that will be realized by the sale of the vessels.

The Prince would also request the British Minister to be so good as to suggest an effectual method by which the money spent in the original purchase of the vessels, guns, and equipments may be refunded to the Imperial Treasury of China.

As these vessels are not to be in the service of the Chinese Government, the Prince has also to request the British Minister to withdraw and cancel the Chinese flag at present used by them.

As the British Minister has already read the Prince's original letter of instructions to Mr. Lay, his Highness encloses herewith, for his Excellency's perusal, a more particular and clear explanation of the important points in that letter.

A necessary communication addressed to Sir Frederick Bruce, K.C.B., &c.

Tung-Chih, 2nd year, 9th month, 21st day (Nov. 2nd, 1863).

SIR F. BRUCE TO THE PRINCE OF KUNG.

Peking, Nov. 6, 1863.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Imperial Highness's despatches of Oct. 25th and Nov. 2nd, enclosing papers connected with the steam flotilla, and stating the reasons which have weighed with your Imperial Highness in declining to ratify the proposed agreement.

Your Imperial Highness will have observed that I have maintained the strictest reserve while this question was under discussion. It was for China and China alone to decide for herself on a matter so intimately connected with her internal administration, and I should have acted contrary to the spirit in which I am instructed to conduct the relations of Great Britain with China, had I endeavoured to press its acceptance against the convictions of your Royal Highness, after the long and full discussion the subject has undergone. The British Government, in the belief that this scheme had met with your Imperial Highness's approval, had placed ships, officers, and men at your disposal; but it certainly did not intend to force them on your acceptance, in the event of your deciding that the conditions on which alone this force could act were such as you could not agree to. I shall not therefore discuss the arguments advanced in your Imperial Highness's despatch, on which it is not my province to pronounce any opinion, and I shall confine myself to expressing my sincere regret that the details of this scheme were not communicated to your Imperial Highness before the expedition left England, as much expense and embarrassment would have been thereby avoided.

My duty in this matter is to assist your Imperial Highness as far as possible in finding a way out of these difficulties, and I have much pleasure in acknowledging the just and liberal spirit in which your Imperial Highness is disposed to treat the claims of the officers and men engaged to serve in these vessels. A question may arise on the contracts entered into with these men as to the date up to which they are entitled to be paid, viz., whether up to the 30th of August of next year, or only up to the time of their arrival in England. This question I have no power to decide; but as I am anxious that the Chinese Government should be put to no unnecessary expense, I have instructed Captain Osborn that he is to take the opinion of a competent legal authority on the point, and to be guided by it. He is also to dispose of the vessels on the most advantageous terms, and remit the balance, after payment of expenses, to the Chinese Government. I can assure your Imperial Highness that you may have full confidence in him, and that after the handsome manner in which he has been treated by your Imperial Highness, no effort on his part will be wanting to justify it.

As there may be some difficulty in providing the funds necessary for the winding-up of this affair, I will instruct the Consuls to advance what may be required out of the forthcoming payments on account of the indemnity, the sum thus advanced to form a lien on the ships, and to be repaid out of the proceeds of the sale. I feel assured that Her Majesty's Government will appreciate the considerate spirit in which your Imperial Highness has acted, and will willingly assist Captain Osborn in carrying out his instructions.—I have, &c.,

(Signed) F. W. A. BRUCE.

MR. BURLINGAME TO SIR. F. BRUCE.

Peking, November 7, 1863.

Sir.—When the Chinese Government refused the doings of its agent, Mr. Lay, and there was nothing left for Captain Osborn but to dissolve the force of the flotilla—the question was, how could it be done with safety. I feared that the ships might fall into the hands of the Confederates, who are supposed to have agents in China, and then there was the common apprehension from lawless men on the coast in the interest of the Taipings as well as from pirates, and the desire of the Daimios in Japan to procure steamers at any price.

It was clear that the Chinese could do nothing of themselves with the steamers, and that unless something were done by you, they would certainly fall a prey to one of these several dangers. In my solicitude, on account of the rebels in my own country, I made an earnest protest against the delivery of the ships to the Chinese. You responded in that spirit of comity which has ever distinguished our relations, that the ships should be taken back to England, and that no effort on your part should be spared to prevent them from taking a direction against the interests of my country.

Though subsequent events made it necessary for the ships to take the direction indicated by the desire of the Chinese themselves, still I should be wanting in appreciation of your conduct did I not mark it with my most heartfelt thanks, and at as early a period as possible bring it to the attention of my Government.—I have, &c.,

(Signed) A. BURLINGAME.

No. 24 is from the Foreign-office to Capt. OSBORN, acknowledging his letter; No. 25 is from Sir F. BRUCE to Earl RUSSELL, as follows :—

Peking, November 27, 1863.

My Lord,—As I anticipated from the language of the Chinese Government, the failure of the flotilla scheme has led to their dismissal of Mr. Lay. This step is in accordance with their system, for they hold an *employé* responsible for the management of any business confided to him, and reward or degrade him according to the event.

At the same time they have acted fairly by him. They have allowed him 3,000 taels (£1,000) a-month for the expenses of his establishment during his residence at Peking; they allowed him salary at the rate of £8,000 a-year from the 1st of May, 1863, to the month of March next, by which time his accounts are to be made up, and they present him with 6,000 taels (£2,000) as a gratification on leaving their service. I do not think that more could have been demanded, as the high salaries given to the Custom-house *employés* were fixed on the ground of the uncertainty

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of the duration of the employment, and it is impossible, in my opinion, to maintain that Mr. Lay's dismissal is a capricious act on the part of the Chinese, or that they had not fair ground to complain of his conduct, as the cause of the pecuniary loss which this Government has suffered, and of the censure to which the members of the Foreign Board are thereby exposed. I do not admit that a man who serves the Chinese as an agent is entitled to exceed his authority, and if he does exceed it he must do so at his own risk, and take the consequences.

Mr. Hart is appointed in his place, and I trust that the change will make the Custom-house work more smoothly. He will reside on the coast, coming here when sent for on business, an arrangement which was found to work satisfactorily during Mr. Lay's absence in England. It is very desirable, with a view to the maintenance of the Custom-house administration, that the head of it should not be permanently at Peking, for if he is he is supposed to act as the adviser of the Chinese in matters not appertaining to his office, and thereby incurs the odium of the errors they commit.—I have, &c., (Signed)

FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

There are inclosures from Prince KUNG dismissing Mr. LAY, which will be found in our issue of the 27th of January. In addition to this is a despatch from Mr. LAY to Prince KUNG as follows :—

(Translation.)

Nov. 20, 1863.

The sum of £251,960. 2s. 1d. was transmitted to me in England, in bills at six months (I will calculate with Mr. Hart whether this sum in Chinese money corresponds with the amount of the bills he transmitted). I will give Mr. Hart minute accounts as to how this money was expended, and also a statement of the loss suffered in consequence of my having to cash the bills before they came due.

2. When I came to Shanghai I drew on the Shanghai Customs for 120,000 taels, but as the Customs had no money in hand, I made arrangements for a loan to that amount on their account, the terms being that the sum should be repaid with interest by the Shanghai Customs within twelve months. Afterwards, as the Amoy Customs sent up an extra sum of 20,000 taels, I diminished the amount of the loan to 100,000 taels.

(The reason why this money was required was as follows:) When I was in England I received frequent letters from Mr. Hart, at Shanghai, urging me to hurry out the ships, and accordingly (with a view to save time), I bought on credit in England the stores and equipments that were still required, together with the store ship and despatch boat, stipulating that the prices should be paid as soon as they reached Shanghai. My first intention was to use (for this purpose) the Customs Guarantee Fund of 120,000 taels deposited at Shanghai, but as I feared that this sum might have to be carried to the fund set apart for the purchase of the steamers (Mr. Hart having told me that there was still a considerable debt under that head), I was compelled to ask permission to borrow 120,000 taels; I found, however, afterwards, that it would be some time before the stores, &c., would arrive, and that I could apply [the Guarantee Fund] as proposed. For this reason the 120,000 taels were never drawn, though I still retained in my hands the authority to do so, in order to be prepared to meet any other expenditure which Captain Osborn might have to incur. I diminished the sum to be borrowed, however, by 20,000 taels, inasmuch as the Fukhien Customs sent in to the steamer fund an extra sum to that amount. I shall ascertain, in conjunction with Mr. Hart, how much the Shanghai Customs has already paid (to the loan account). As this sum of 100,000 taels has not been drawn or made use of, I shall return to the Foreign Board the documents connected with the transaction.

3. Previous to my departure from England, when I was not aware that certain sums or money had been sent from China, I gave a bond for £50,000 to the Oriental Bank, in order that Captain Osborn might have a sum to draw upon. Afterwards, on my arrival in China, I found on inquiry that Mr. Hart did not know how much money had been sent home, the reason of his not knowing being that M. Meritens (Commissioner of Customs at Foo-chow) had not reported the amount borrowed (and sent home) by him; accordingly, after my arrival in Peking, I requested authority to draw from the Customs the sum of 150,000 taels. (After I left England) Captain Osborn received the money sent home from China (to wit, the sum borrowed and forwarded by M. Meritens), and did not draw upon the £50,000 for which I gave the bond. The 150,000 taels has been apportioned between the different Customs, and paid up in the following manner:—

	Taels.		Taels.
Canton, to pay ..	30,000	has paid	30,000
Swatow „ ..	20,000	„	20,000
Foo-chow „ ..	30,000	„	10,000
Amoy „ ..	20,000	„	10,000
Shanghai „ ..	20,000	„	20,000
Kiu-kiang „ ..	30,000	„	..
Total ..	150,000		90,000

These are all the sums of the payment of which I have been informed up to yesterday, Nov. 19th, 1863, for any other sums that may have already been paid in by the Customs, and of which information has not reached me, I shall account separately.

4. The allowance for the maintenance of the flotilla, at the rate of 75,000 taels per month, will amount, for the three months commencing Aug. 1 and ending Oct. 31, 1863, to 225,000 taels. This sum has been apportioned and paid up in the following manner:—

	Taels.		Taels.
Canton, to pay ..	30,000 ..	has already paid	10,000
Swatow „ ..	15,000 ..	„	5,000
Amoy „ ..	18,000 ..	„	6,000
Foochow „ ..	102,000 ..	„	34,000
Kiu-kiang „ ..	30,000 ..	„	10,000
Shanghai „ ..	30,000 ..		—
Total ..	225,000	Total paid ..	65,000

The amounts received for the first of the three months have already been reported (as above) and sent in, but I have not received the second or third months' allowances. If any further sums have been paid over on this head, I shall account separately for the sums so paid with Mr. Hart.

5. There is deposited at Shanghai a (Customs) guarantee fund of 120,000 taels. This sum was deposited in the Oriental Bank, from April 1861, the date of my departure for England, to April 1863, and 12,000 taels interest at five per cent. per annum has accumulated thereon. Prior to April 1861, owing to the unsettled state of affairs, the sum was only temporarily lodged, and did not produce any interest; this sum, principal and interest, I shall return immediately to the Chinese Government.

6. The cost of the vessels, guns, and warlike stores, and all salaries, wages, and expenses incurred up to the arrival of the flotilla in China, will be paid out of the item of 1,070,000 taels.

7. The entire cost of maintaining the flotilla after its arrival in China will be charged against the monthly sum of 75,000 taels, provided by the Customs, beginning at August 1st and ending October 31st 1863.

This sum of 75,000 taels was originally intended to cover all expenses for salaries and wages, for ammunition, &c., for stores and coal, for rewards and compensations for wounds, and for every kind of unforeseen expenditure. As, however, the flotilla has never come into action, there must be a large balance of this allowance for the three months to be returned to the Chinese Government.

8. Of the 375,000 taels allowed for taking the flotilla home, Mr. Hart and myself will account for 162,000 taels (being the estimate for salaries and wages), according to the accounts rendered by Captain Osborn; Sir F. Bruce and Captain Osborn will account for the remaining 213,000 taels, being the sum estimated to cover miscellaneous expenses.

No. 26, the last, is from Earl RUSSELL to Sir F. BRUCE, stating the approval of Her MAJESTY'S Government of his conduct of this affair.

We think it will be admitted that the following conclusions are evident :—

1st. That Mr. LAY has most completely mistaken his position and authority. 2nd. That the Chinese Government have acted consistently throughout, and have behaved with more than Oriental liberality, considering the loss they will sustain, which may be roughly estimated at £100,000. 3rd. That Capt. OSBORN was entirely misled by Mr. LAY in the first place. That finding the Chinese Government wished to make a mere tool of him to execute their cruel policy through the Governors of provinces, he saved our Government and our countrymen from such disgrace (similar to Soo-chow) by a bold and honest line of conduct in which his officers nobly seconded him. 4th. It is discernible in Mr. BRUCE'S despatches that he did not at all relish the idea of having the Inspector-General resident at Peking with equal or perhaps superior advantages to himself. 5th. Mr. LAY and Capt. OSBORN retire from the Chinese service with handsome accumulations.

CAPTAIN OSBORN'S DEFENCE OF MR. LAY.

(To the Editor of *The Times*.)

Sir,—I can dispose of that part of the charge brought against Mr. Lay by Prince Kung, to which you allude in your leading article of to-day.

I was present at a conference of the Foreign Board in Peking, when, in reply to a charge that Mr. Lay wished to arrogate too much authority, Mr. Lay distinctly told Wur-seang, the Prime Minister, that if the clauses Nos. 4 and 5 of our agreement were considered objectionable, they could be erased, but that, of course, some responsible European must be nominated, who could translate Imperial edicts, and vouch for my acts being in accordance with the Emperor's wishes, and consonant with European ideas of humanity and justice.

I believe the real charge against Mr. Lay, though not expressed, is that he was not artful enough to take advantage of our long friendship and my faith in him to induce me to enter upon such an undertaking without any pledges whatever. He would then have put me into exactly the same false position as Colonel Gordon has been thrust by his friends. I could not have retired. I must have acted under the Foutai, and fulfilled the prophecies of wise men who fancied I and my companions were merely hired as Imperial executioners.

I have just now quite as much in hand as one man can well do, and Mr. Lay is well able to show his own case; all I ask is, reserve your judgment until he arrives in April.

For my own part, I do not question the right of the Emperor to refuse to ratify the engagements of his agent. But I maintain that the agent, a man tried by ten years' arduous service, acted in perfect good faith, and in the best interests of China and of England, and not with any petty views of self-aggrandisement; and that for what he did he had a good authority, which lies within a nutshell. I enclose it, it bears the seal of Prince Kung's office, and it is a Chinese translation of clauses in English, drawn up by one of our own lawyers :—

"I therefore address this despatch to the Inspector-General, and transfer the management of the affair into his hands.

"There are three important points:—

"1. The purchase of the vessels, guns, gunpowder, coal, and the miscellaneous articles for the use of the vessels.

"2. The engagement of officers, gunners, and seamen, and others for services in the vessels; and the arranging the terms and conditions of every description of agreement.

"3. The retention, as proposed, of a sum of money to meet the salaries and wages that may be settled by the agreements, and also to provide for the payment of compensations and other items in time to come.

"The above three points we leave the Inspector-General to dispose of as, in his discretion, he may see fit."

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Upon less authority than this I have reason to believe that even treaties have been concluded with the Emperor of China.—Yours faithfully,

London, March 5. SHERARD OSBORN, Captain.

THE ORDER IN COUNCIL REVOKED.

The *London Gazette* contains an Order in Council revoking the order made on the 30th of August, 1862, permitting Horatio Nelson Lay and Captain Sherard Osborn, R.N., to enter into the service of the Emperor of China, and to engage and enlist British subjects in the same service, &c.; and also revoking the order made on the 9th of January, 1863, permitting all military officers in Her Majesty's service to enter the service of the Emperor of China. The revocation is to take effect, so far as relates to acts to be done in Great Britain or Ireland, as from the 1st of March, 1864, and so far as relates to acts to be done in China or elsewhere than in the United Kingdom as from the expiration of three calendar months after that date.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Feb. 22	Texel	Batavia	Nicolaas Witzen	Portengen.
— 12	New York	Hong Kong	Agincourt	Custance.
— 25	Off Cape Clear	China	Beautiful Star	Catto.
— 23	Queenstown	Shanghai	Spirit of the Sea	Maguire.
— 29	Falmouth	Batavia	Fantasie	Forbeck.
— 23	Off Scilly	Do.	Zes Gezusters	Rottgers.
— 27	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Melbrek	Tuggart.
— 25	Texel	Batavia	Azia	Molenaar.
— 29	Plymouth	Macao	Venezuela	Piersdorff.
— 29	Channel	Batavia	Bergomeister (?)	
— 29	Liverpool	China	Palmyra	Richards.
— 15	New York	Foo-chow-Foo	Vesta	Hennings.
Mar. 1	Deal	Kanagawa	Ravensbourne	Cooper.
— 1	Do.	Do.	Esperanza	Murrell.
— 1	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Langdale	Browne.
— 1	Do.	Do.	Mimoso	Johnson.
— 1	Do.	Shanghai	Julia	Bird.
— —	Cadiz	Manila	Guadelupe	
Jan. 17	Callao	Macao	Westward Ho!	Arancon.
Mar. 2	London	Shanghai	Mirage	Roberts.
— 2	Do	Kanagawa	Broadwater	Sargent.
— 1	Deal	Shanghai	Reindeer	M'Clelland.
— 1	Do.	Amoy	Rubicon	Hoseason.
— 1	Do.	Shanghai	Rock City	Whitehill.
— 1	Do.	Do	Ospray	Andrews.
— 2	Do.	Do.	Fairlight	Bush.
— 2	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Bosworth	Nicholls.
— 2	Do.	Singapore	Arthur	Wiren.
— 2	Liverpool	Shanghai	Lady Elizabeth	Hutton.
— 2	Do.	Hong Kong	Eleanor	Deuchar.
— 3	Deal	Penang	John Masterman	Westgarth.
— 1	Dover	Macao	Siwa	Brorsen.
Feb. 29	Off the Start	Banjoewangie	Macassar	Coulon.
Mar. 3	Off Dover	Foo-chow-Foo	Wm. Mellmish	Duff.
— 4	London	Shanghai	India	Funch.
— 4	Off Penzance	Do.	Lord Macaulay	Cave.
— 4	Off the Start	Do.	Palmerston	Peters.
— 4	Off Dover	Singapore	Peter Symons	Ockman.
— 1	Off Folke-tone	Sourabaya	Etha	Buschmann.
Mar. 2	Off Sandgate	Batavia	Johannes Christiaan	
— 2	Off the Wight	Do.	Susanna & Elizabeth	Ouwehand.
— 2	Do	Java	Alida Maria	
— 2	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Java	Dehle.
— 4	Marseilles	Alexandria	Moeris (str.)	
— 5	Deal	Foo chow-Foo	Alfred the Great	
— 4	Falmouth	Moulmain	Impulse	

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Feb. 23	Cardiff	Manila	St. Fillan	Ferguson.
— 24	Do.	Hong Kong	Ocean	Radvan.
— 24	Hull	Singapore	Honigby	Valk.
— 24	Lamlash	Do.	Falcon	Watson.
— 27	London	Do.	Panic	Bell.
— 25	Leith	Antwerp & Manila	Earl of Mar & Kellie	Steel.
— 26	Newport	Shanghai	Stanley	Doughty.
— 28	Do.	Do.	Tiptree	
Mar. 1	Deal	Japan	Nummer 1	V. Duyn.
— 3	London	Nagasaki	Alice	Anderson.
— 2	Shields	Singapore	Ousuri	
— 4	London	Batavia & Sourabaya	Copernicus	Algra.
— 4	Do.	Shanghai	Queen of Nations	Mitchell.
— 2	Sunderland	Singapore	Wye	Houston.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa: Satzuma, Medina. For Shanghai: Canadian, Celestial, Solent, Delhi, Finzel, Beemah. For Hong Kong and Canton: Cambalu, Southern Belle, Lord Raglan, Prince Alfred, Sydney Eggers. For Hong Kong: Dilkhoosh, Gauntlet, Jubilee. For Manila: Conchita, Elisa. For Singapore: Maggie, Prince Alfred, Blue Jacket, Moncta, William Simpson. For Penang: Marengo. For Bankok: Helen Baird.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Anglia, Patna, Alice, Recife, Truro, Jane Leech. For Hong Kong and Canton: Veronica. For Hong Kong: Milton. For Singapore: Glendower, Euphrates, Bogota, Lorton, William Cundall, Spirit of the Sea. For Manila: Olano, Ercilla. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Cherokee, str.

At GLASGOW.—For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Hermelin. For Singapore and Penang: Hoang-Ho. For Batavia and Singapore: British Queen. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Thomas Mitchell.

SPOKEN.

VOLTA, Manila to Havre, Dec. 22.
MARGARETHA, Batavia to Amsterdam, Dec. 31, 32 S., 14 W.
BELISIMA, Macao to London, Jan. 1, lat. 35, lon. 20.
CAROBEL, Bristol to Singapore, Nov. 7, 10 N., 25 W.
ORIENTAL, Cardiff to Shanghai, Nov. 22, 15 S., 29 W.
ZAMBESI, Borneo to Hull, Jan. 11, 9 S., 13 W.
ASSYRIAN (barq.), London to Shanghai, Feb. 19, 39 N., 6 W.
NIPHON, Shanghai to Liverpool, Dec. 28.
JACOBA CORNELIA (Dutch barq.), Batavia to Rotrdm., Feb. 28, 50 N., 11 W.
BATAVIA, Batavia to Amsterdam, Feb. 22, 49 N., 11 W.
TAGAL, Batavia to Dordt, Feb. 22, 49 N., 11 W.
WINDAU (?), Manila to London, out 86 days, Jan. 11, 17 S., 4 W.
AGRA, Liverpool to Singapore, Dec. 27, 8 S., lon. 92.
JOHANNA, Batavia to Amsterdam, 30 S., 41 E.
COURRIER DE LA SONDE, Bordeaux to Singapore, off St. Paul and Amsm.
JAMES PABON (ship), London to Singapore, Feb. 16, 49 N., 13 W.
MEXICANA, brig., Amoy to London, Jan. 12, 10 S., 12 W.
SEA WAVE, Clyde to Singapore, Jan. 22, 6 N., 21 W.
LAGA (?), Foo-chow-Foo to London, Feb. 10, 34 N., 38 W.
LITTLE EDITH, Cardiff to Shanghai, Jan. 21, 1 N., 22 W.
ANNA (Dut. barq.), Shanghai to New York, Jan. 15, 6 S., 16 W.
St. FILLAN, Cardiff to Manila, Feb. 28, 50 N., 8 W.
NOTRE DAME DES VICTOIRES, (F. b.), Manila to Dunk., Nov. 30, 27 S.
CALEDONIA (ship), Hong Kong to London, Dec. 17, 34 S.
HOLLANDSTROUW (Dut. barq.), Shields to Sourabaya, Jan. 17, 8 N., 27 W.
HEILIGE LIDUINA (Dut. barq.), Java to Schiedam, Jan. 23, 6 N., 21 W.
COULNA KYLE, London to China, Jan. 20, 25 N., 20 W.
PEERLESS (barque), Singapore to Liverpool, Dec. 1, 11 S., 85 E.
JAMES VINNICOMBE, Shanghai to London, Dec. 11, 24 S., 58 E.
FERRIS (barq.), Cardiff to Singapore, Nov. 27.
THOMAS S. STOWE, from Shanghai, Jan. 1.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Cambridge, J. C. Munro, Confiance, Dolphin, Europe, Scawfell. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, M. Theresa, William Eggerts. At NEW YORK: Sarah (*via* Shanghai), Maggie Atkinson.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Monarch, Belle, Mexican, Melrose, James Vinnicombe, Spirit of the Deep, J. H. Ransom, Hawthorne, Daisy, Spirit of Trade, Sophie, Philip I., Maiden Queen, Portland, Edinburgh, Ocean Queen, Siam, Havelock, Ocean Bride, Clarendon, Theodore and Julie, Ironside, Bellissima, Laurel, Magnus, Renown, Nelly, Star Queen, Chalmers, Balmacarra, H.M.'s Scout, Heroes of Alma, Princess of Wales, Marie Wilhelmina, Standard, Isabella Ridley, Mary Ann Wilson, Agra, Island Queen, Strathallan, Marquis of Argyle, Amaranth, Glaramaza, Bankside, Nonpareil, H.M.S. Centaur, Ballarat. At LIVERPOOL: Alfred Kay, Joshua Bates, Iron Crown, Forfarshire, Our Queen, Sarah and Emma, Cordova, Alliance, Abdul Medjid, Regina, Ranee, Victoria, Star of the North, Montgomery, Niphon, James Gibson, Macduff, Nile, Glenhuntly, Fow Tsun, Princess Royal, Loodianah, Chryseis, Amazone, Agincourt, Light of the Age, Falcon, Lord Lyndhurst, Istamboul, Young England, Nonpareil, Royal George, General Putnam, Solway, Merrie England, Offor, Zingra, Virginia, Junapore. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama. At HAMBURG: Selina Jane, Ophelia. At NEW YORK: Anna, Sarah, Wilhelmina, Graf Eulenburg, Creole, Helen Nicholson, Apollo, Elizabeth, Louise Kohn, Hermine, Kahlamba, Confucius, St. Paul, Guiding Star, Queen of the Seas, Peep O'Day. Anne Wood, Capella. At Montreal: H. E. Sassaune.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Pelicano, Minden, Flora, Der Preusse. At FALMOUTH: Agricola, Maggie Lauder. At LIVERPOOL: Elias, Alaric, Conference, Belvidere. At Falmouth: Helverton. At DENMARK: Emma. At ROTTERDAM: Zanzibar. At NEW YORK: Bavaria, Helvetia, Castilian,

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Avalanche, Maid of the Tyne, Halton Castle, Latona, Oscar, Pilgrim, Tre Brodre, Confiance. At LIVERPOOL: Oasis, Alfred Roy, Crusador, Spanker. At QUEENSTOWN: Agricola. At FALMOUTH: For orders, Helene (Dan.). At BORDEAUX: Frehel (Fr.), Salazes (Fr.), Orixa (Fr.), Hoogly, Saint Mitchell. At NEW YORK: Caroline.

From BATAVIA.—At FALMOUTH: Frederika. At CHANNEL: Ceres Richard.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Nipisiquit, Rockliff, Teesdale. A FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

There has been but little doing lately in shipping; high rates are asked for British vessels, consequent upon the risk incurred by the employment of American, Danish, or German bottoms; very high rates of insurance being demanded for these latter vessels. Outward freights continue very quiet, there being little activity in exports, and low rates are readily accepted.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 55s. weight, 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: 65s. To Hankow: 65s. weight, 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 42s. 6d. meast. To Shanghai: 50s. weight, 27s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £38 to £39, and £1. 17s. 6d. For Shanghai: £48 to £52, and £2. 5s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £25 to £26, and £1. 6s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

The Jubilee has been accepted by the Admiralty for the conveyance of Government stores to Hong Kong.

At ASCENSION.—Jan. 8, Tasmania, Jonker, from Batavia, for Amsterdam; 14, Mexicana, Collins, from Amoy. Off Ascension—Jan. 12, Ravensbourne, from Japan for London; 13, Edinburgh from Shanghai,

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for London; 24, G. D. L. J., from Shanghai for Liverpool; 26, Sarah, and Emma, from Shanghai, for Liverpool.

At ST. HELENA.—Jan. 11, Palmerston, Peters, from Shanghai, and sailed from London; 13, Robertus Hendricus, Mulder, from Batavia, and sailed 14 for Amsterdam; 14, Luconia, Admiraal, from Probolingo, and sailed for Amsterdam; 15, Theodora Machtilda, Wyck, from Patjitan, and sailed 16 for Amsterdam.

Off ST. HELENA.—Jan. 12, Melbrek, from Hong Kong.

At TABLE BAY.—Jan. 7, Mary, Silversparre, from Batavia, and sailed 11, for Falmouth; Camoes, Marques, from Macao, and sailed, 9, for Havana; 18, Jane and Isabella, Cole, sailed for Singapore; 15, Leila, Rapson, for Singapore.

At ALGOA BAY.—Jan. 16, Melrose, Huson, from Amoy, and sailed, 17 for Boston.

CASUALTIES.

Teneriffe, Feb. 12. The Jane E. Williams, Young, of and from Liverpool for Shanghai, which took fire Feb. 4th, ninety-three miles from this island, and was abandoned next day, was afterwards taken in tow by an inland vessel, but went down within sight of the port of Orotava.

The Fantasie, Forbeck, from Batavia to Falmouth, which put into St. Helena Dec. 30, was leaky. Having been trimmed by the head, and the leak found and stopped, she proceeded on the 1st Jan., and arrived at Falmouth Feb. 29.

The Amberwitch steamer, from London to Bombay, with fittings for the Persian Gulf cable fleet, arrived in Table Bay on the December 26. On the 27th, during a strong south-east gale in Table Bay, she parted both cables, and before she could be brought up had run foul of the barque Hastings, carrying away her jibboon, &c.

The Wild Deer, Cobb, from Liverpool for Shanghai, put into Lisbon, Feb. 27, with foremast head damaged, and loss of foretopmast, foreyards, sails, &c., and with main top mast and jibboom sprung.

Intelligence has been received from Batavia, under date Jan. 27, of the total loss on Sandalwood Island, Nov. 11, of the barque Edith Pepper, from Liverpool to China, with coals. Six of the crew drowned. Also that the Glaramara (barque), from Foo-chow-Foo to London, with tea, grounded on some rock in Sunda Straits, and had put in there to repair. She had been surveyed and would have to discharge and be docked.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

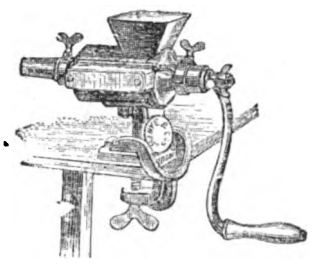
Subscribed Capital, 2,000,000 taels, in 400 Shares of 5,000 taels each.
Paid up Capital, 200,000 taels.

DIRECTORS.

F. B. Johnson, Esq. (Messrs. Johnson and Co.).
H. H. Wiggins, Esq., Manager Commercial Bank of India, Chairman.
H. D. Stewart, Esq. (Messrs. Turner and Co.).
F. Porter, Esq. (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston, and Co.).
J. Thorne, Esq. (Messrs. Thorne Brothers and Co.).
David Reid, Esq.

Agencies are about to be established at the several ports in China and Japan.

L. JOSEPHS, Secretary.



S. NYE AND CO.'S
PATENT MACHINES,

OF various sizes, for MINCING MEAT, VEGETABLES, &c., &c., for making Sausages, Mince Meat, Potted Meats, and various Dishes. Price £1. 1s., £1, 10s., £2. 2s., £3. 3s., £5. 5s., and £7. 7s.

"It is extremely clever."—*Times.*

A small MINCER or MASTICATOR, to assist digestion. Price £1. 10s.

"Very suitable for invalids and for persons with decayed teeth."—*The Lancet.*

IMPROVED MILLS for COFFEE, PEPPER, SPICE, MALT, &c., the best and most convenient made. Price 6s., 8s., 10s., 14s., 15s., and 21s.

"The best and most convenient Mill in use."—*Family Herald.*

ROTARY KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES of SUPERIOR QUALITY from £2 and upwards.

79, WARDOUR STREET, LONDON.

BOYVEAU LAFFECTEUR'S ROB.

The only one authorised and adopted in France, Belgium, Austria and Russia.

THIS Vegetable Syrup, prepared and guaranteed genuine by the signature of Dr. GRANDEAU DE ST. GERVAIS, is very superior to the purifying syrups. It effects a radical cure, without mercury, of all affections of the skin, scurf, scrofula, &c., and symptoms arising from the acrid state of the humours. The Rob is especially valuable in diseases which have resisted the effect of mercury or iodide of potash. The general entrepot is 12, RUE RICHET, PARIS.

Sold Retail.—London: Jozeau, Hannay. New York: Fougera, Gaudelet, Milhans. Gibraltar: Patron and Danilowich. Malta: Dr. Pirotti, A. Bugeja, Magri, and A. Rolandi, Esperanza. Alexandri: Bellamore, Galette, Perini. Bombay: Franjee Nessewanjee and Co. Singapore: Martin and Little. Batavia: L. Platon and Co. Macao: J. De Preita.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, and JAPAN (Limited).
16, CORNHILL, LONDON.
Capital, Two Millions.

BANKERS.

Bank of England, The Alliance Bank of London and Liverpool.

Branches at Bombay, Calcutta, Hong Kong, and Shanghae.

Deposits received at 10 days' notice, on the usual terms, and for fixed periods, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued, and bills negotiated, payable in India, China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government Loan Notes effected, so that the interest may be paid in England.

Every other description of banking and agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA. Incorporated by Royal Charter. Paid-up capital £500,000. Reserve Fund, £100,000.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts, payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Kandy, Singapore, Galle, Penang, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Mauritius, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the overland route terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office, in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 2.

NOTICE.
PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishmen s at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caisson Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864.

VICHY.
THE PROPERTY OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

NATURAL MINERAL WATER, a sovereign remedy for diseases of the liver contracted in hot climates.

GRAND-GRILLE or CELESTINS spring.

Sold in cases of 30 or 50 pints.

PARIS, 22, BOULEVARD MONTMARTRE.
LONDON, 37, MARGARET-STREET, REGENT-STREET.
MARSEILLES, 9, RUE PARADIS.

Notice to Passengers.
KELWAY'S ORIENTAL HOTEL,
SOUTHAMPTON.
(Adjoining the Docks and Railway.)

Hot and Cold Baths, and Moderate Charges.

THE Proprietor, having been many years in the employ of the P. and O. Company, can give every information respecting the arrival and departure of the steamers.

R. KELWAY, Proprietor.

THE HONG KONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY.

AN ASSOCIATION, called the "HONG KONG and WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY," having purchased Messrs. J. C. Couper and Co.'s extensive DOCKS, with Engineer Factory and Foundry, at Whampoa, are prepared to execute all kinds of work with prompt despatch.

The Dock is built of Granite, and is 550 feet over all with 520 feet on the blocks, and a breadth of 80 feet at the entrance. It can be used as either one or two Docks, being fitted with two Caissons. It is also furnished with Steam Pumps.

Depth of Water at Spring Tides, 16½ to 17 feet.
Do. Neap do. 13½ to 15 „

Attached to the Docks is a Pair of Shears, fitted with two capstans and three winches, and capable of lifting fifty tons, with a depth of water under the Shears, alongside the Jetty, enough for any vessels at all times of Tides.

The Engine-house on the Establishment contains Lathes of all sizes, and capable of taking any sized Shaft; one Self-acting Planing Machine, Screwing Machine, with Taps and Dies complete, Large and Small Drilling Machines, Punching and Cutting Machines, Rolling Machines, powerful Steam Hammer (3 tons), &c., &c.

Also, one Wood Dock, capable of taking a Vessel of 240 feet on the keel, on a Draft of 14 feet at Spring Tides, and 11 at Neap Tides. This Dock is also fitted with a Caisson, and is pumped out by steam.

The above are the only Docks in Whampoa fitted with Caissons.

There are also Two Mud Docks, one capable of taking in Vessels of 164 feet on the keel, with a Draft of 12 feet 6 inches at Spring Tides, and 9 feet 6 inches at Neap Tides. The other, Vessels of 120 feet 6 inches at Spring Tides, and 7 feet 6 inches at Neap do.

The Blacksmith's Shop contains 1 Large Boilermaker's Furnace and 12 Smiths' Forges, fitted with Steam Blowers.

The Iron Foundry contains a Furnace capable of melting 5 tons, and Brass Furnace for melting half a ton.

Attached to the premises is a Circular Sawmill driven by Steam, capable of cutting logs or planks of any length.

The whole under the Superintendence of experienced European Foremen.

All Tools and Materials connected with Machinery kept always on hand.

Copper and Yellow Metal Sheathing, Felt, Pitch, Tar Oakum, Paints, Oils, &c., &c., supplied at market rates.

For Dock Charges, or further particulars, apply to Mr. D. LAPRAIK, Hong Kong; to G. N. MINTO, Manager, Whampoa; or to Messrs. JAMES MORRISON and Co., 1, Crown-court, Philpot-lane, London.

PAYNE'S
INDIAN CURRY POWDER

IS unequalled for its delicious flavourn d a stimulating qualities.

In Bottles, 3s. 6d., 2s. 3d., and 1s. 6d. each.

Curry and Mulligatawny Paste, jars, 3s. 6d. and 2s. 3d. each.

Royal Combination Pickle, bottles, 2s. each.

N.B.—This pickle is highly approved, and as a zest for cold meat, &c., will be found unrivalled.

LIST OF CONDIMENTS, &c.,
repared by PAYNE and CO. at the Belatee Bungalow, Calcutta.

	Bottles.
Pindaree Chutnee	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Bengal Club, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Green Mango, do.	1s 6d. and 3s.
Cashmere, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Lucknow (sweet), do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Curry Sauce	1s. 6d.
Tap, do.	1s. 6d.
Pickled Limes...	1s. 6d.
Pickled Mangoes	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Essence of Chillies...	1s. 9d.
Tamarind Fish	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Balachow...	1s. 6d.
Genuine Cayenne	1s. and 2s.
Nepaul Pepper	1s. and 2s.
Guava Jelly	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Preserved Mangoes	2s. and 3s. 6d
Do. Jamaica Ginger	from 3s. 6d.
Do. Chinese Ginger	jars, 5s. and 10s.

Genuine Arrowroot, 1 lb. tins, 2s.; 7 lb. tins, 10s. 6d each.

PAYNE and CO.
FOREIGN WAREHOUSEMEN, WINE MERCHANTS AND IMPORTERS OF INDIAN DELICACIES.
328, REGENT-STREET, & 46, MORTIMER-STREET, W.
OPPOSITE THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

JAMES HENDERSON,
COMMISSION MERCHANT, TIEN-TSIN, CHINA.
AGENT FOR THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS."

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THE

ORIENTAL AND GENERAL MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1861.

Directors.

ELIAS MOCATTA, Esq.
C. F. PICARD, Esq.
Mr. Sheriff CAVE.
MOSES MOSES, Esq.
THOMAS B. YULE, Esq.
JOHN ROGERSON, Esq.

Underwriter.

PHILIP SECRETAN, Esq.

REPORT of the DIRECTORS for PRESENTATION to the SECOND ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS, to be held at the LONDON TAVERN, on THURSDAY, the 25th day of February, 1864.

The Directors submit to the Shareholders the Accounts and Balance Sheet of the Company for the past year, and have much pleasure in being able to report that the business has been of a most improving and satisfactory character, and fully equal to their expectations.

The Accounts are annexed to the Report, and have been duly examined and verified by the Auditors.

They show, that after having paid all Claims for Losses, Averages, and Returns, Office Charges, and all other Expenses to 31st December last, there remains a balance of £67,274. 16s. on Insurance and Interest accounts.

The two years over which the Company's operations have extended, not being sufficient to afford a safe basis for the calculation of profits, the Directors therefore recommend that £3,339. 5s. only be applied in payment of Interest on Capital, being at the rate of £5 per cent., and the remainder, £63,935. 11s. carried forward in usual course.

In accordance with the Deed of Settlement, the two following Directors retire by rotation :—ELIAS MOCATTA, Esq., and MOSES MOSES, Esq. These gentlemen, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

By Deed of Settlement, also, the Auditors require to be appointed annually, and J. H. WOOD, Esq., and J. NOTMAN, Esq., being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The Directors have also much pleasure in reporting that, in addition to their several Agencies abroad—where Losses and Claims on Policies issued by the Company are made payable—they have appointed Messrs. BAINBRIDGE, BYARD, GAIR and Co. to be their Agents at Madras.

The following is now the completed List :—

CALCUTTA	GRANT, SMITH, and Co.	SINGAPORE	CUMMING, BEAVER, and Co.
BOMBAY	RITCHIE, STEUART, and Co.	HONG KONG	JOHNSON and Co.
MADRAS	BAINBRIDGE, BYARD, GAIR, and Co.	SHANGHAI	JOHNSON and Co.

By Order,

JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

ORIENTAL AND GENERAL MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

BALANCE SHEET, 31ST DECEMBER, 1863.

Dr.	£.	s.	d.
To Amount of Capital paid up	66,785	0	0
„ Balance of Insurance and Interest Accounts ..	67,274	16	0
	£134,059	16	0

Cr.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
By Premises in Finch-lane, etc. ..	7,467	13	6			
Less 5 per cent. ..	373	7	8			
				7,094	5	10
„ Government and other Securities				101,919	10	9
„ Interest due on the same				3,815	4	4
„ Debtors for Outstanding Premiums				15,610	4	6
„ Stamps and Petty Cash on hand				106	2	3
„ Salvages				1,129	3	9
„ Cash at Bankers				4,385	4	7
				£134,059	16	0

INSURANCE AND INTEREST ACCOUNT, 31ST DECEMBER, 1863.

Dr.	£.	s.	d.
To Balance	71,233	18	6
„ Interest on Investments, Transfer Fees, &c. ..	8,219	8	2
	£79,453	6	8

Cr.	£.	s.	d.
By Interest paid in 1862 at 5 per cent	3,339	5	0
„ Rent, Office Charges, and Incidental Expenses ..	2,199	17	4
„ Salaries, Directors' Fees, Underwriter, Secretary, etc.	6,211	7	8
„ Law Expenses	54	13	0
„ Reduction of Premises in Finch-lane, etc.	373	7	8
„ Balance	67,274	16	0
	£79,453	6	8

Having duly examined the Books from which the above Statement of Account was compiled, we certify that it is correct; we have also satisfied ourselves of the existence of the Securities, and hereby certify that the same are correct.

London, 8th February, 1864.

J. NOTMAN,
J. H. WOOD, } Auditors.

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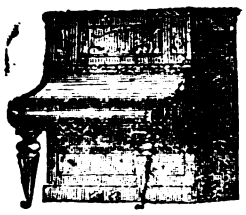
MESSRS. RAND AND BECKLEY
(SUCCESSORS TO LAURIE, BEDFORD, AND RAND)
SADDLERS AND HARNESS MANUFACTURERS,
INVENTORS OF THE PATENT ELASTIC SADDLE.

MESSRS. R & B. have a large assortment of well-seasoned Saddlery and Harness suitable for India and the Colonies, always on hand.
297, OXFORD STREET, LONDON (oppposite Stratford Place).

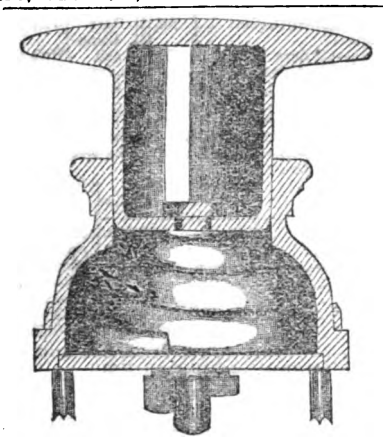
TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND INDIA.



JACKSON & PAINE,
(EIGHTEEN YEARS WITH COLLARD AND COLLARD)
PATENT PIANOFORTE MAKERS.
PIANOFORTES, WITH ALL THE LATEST IMPROVEMENTS, EXPRESSLY FOR EXPORTATION.
13, STORE-STREET, TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD, W
FACTORY, LITTLE STORE-STREET.
ILLUSTRATED LISTS FORWARDED FREE ON APPLICATION.

GARDNERS'
£2 2s. DINNER SERVICES.

CUT WINES, 3s. 6d. per dozen; CUT QUART DECANTERS, 7s. 6d. per pair
Regimental Messes supplied at the lowest possible prices. Engravings free by post.
INDIAN LAMPS ON AN IMPROVED PRINCIPLE.
MAKERS OF THE
PATENT ENAMEL GREAT CLOCK DIALS AT THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT
BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY. ESTABLISHED 109 YEARS.
453, STRAND, CHARING-CROSS: AND 5 AND 6, DUNCANNON-STREET, ADJOINING.



THOMAS TURTON & SONS,
MANUFACTURERS OF
CAST STEEL for Punches, Taps, and Dies Turning Tools, Chisels, &c.
CAST STEEL Piston Rods, Crank Pins, Connecting Rods, Straight and Crank Axles, Shafts, and Forgings of every description.

DOUBLE SHEER STEEL,	FILES MARKED
BLISTER STEEL,	T. TURTON.
SPRING STEEL,	EDGED TOOLS MARKED
GERMAN STEEL.	WM. GREAVES & SONS.

LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE, RAILWAY CARRIAGE AND WAGGON SPRINGS AND BUFFERS.

SHEAF WORKS & SPRING WORKS
SHEFFIELD.
London Warehouse: 35, Queen-street, City
WHERE THE LARGEST STOCK OF STEEL, FILES, TOOLS, &c., &c., IN THE WORLD, MAY BE SELECTED FROM

RIMMEL'S CHOICE PERFUMERY,
AND NOVELTIES FOR THE SEASON.
RIMMEL'S VIOLET WATER for the Toilet, in elegant Parian bottles, 3s. 6d.
RIMMEL'S TOILET VINEGAR, of world-wide celebrity, 1s., 2s. 6d., and 5s.
The ALEXANDRA, PRINCE OF WALES, and ROYAL BRIDAL BOUQUET, 2s. 6d. per bottle, or the three in an elegant box, with photographs of the illustrious pair, 7s. 6d.
RIMMEL'S PELLUCID GLYCERINE SOAP, warranted to contain 30 per cent. of Glycerine—the best Soap ever produced for the Skin—1s., extra scented 2s.
The ALEXANDRA CREAM, a transparent Pommade, for fixing the Hair, and making it glossy, without greasing it. Price 1s. 6d.
ROYAL DENTIFRICE for the TEETH, one shilling.
RIMMEL'S PERFUME FOUNTAIN, as used in the Princess of Wales' Bridal Boudoir, an elegant adjunct to the Drawing Room, Ball Room, Dinner Table, &c. Price from £1 10s. Lent on Hire for Bazaars and Parties.
The TURKISH SCENTED CHARM, a pretty ornament for the Watch Chain, price 1s.; sent by post for 13 stamps. Made also in real gold, enamelled, at £1. 1s.
RIMMEL'S PERFUME VAPORIZER, for Purifying and Perfuming the air in Apartments, Ball Rooms, Clubs, Theatres, &c. Price, from 6s.
96, Strand, and 24, Cornhill, London; and 17, Boulevard des Italiens, Paris.
Sold by all Perfumery Dealers throughout the United Kingdom.

PROTECTION FROM FIRE!
Important to Buyers of Matches, Wax Vestas, &c.
OBSERVE TRADE MARK. OBSERVE TRADE MARK.

BRYANT AND MAY'S
PATENT SPECIAL SAFETY MATCHES, WAX VESTAS, & CIGAR LIGHTS,
IGNITE ONLY ON THE BOX.
Safety Matches in Slide Boxes—One Dozen Packets. Safety Vestas in Slide and Japan Tin Boxes of various sizes.
THE above contain no Phosphorus, are not Poisonous, Light only on the Box, and are especially adapted for the Foreign and Colonial markets.
BRYANT and MAY, manufacturers of WAX VESTAS in Round Plaid Card-boxes, and in Japaned Tin-boxes of 50, 100, 150, 250, 500, and 1,000, warranted for all climates.
Sole Importers of "Jonkoping's Tändstickor."
All Orders made payable in London will receive immediate attention.
WHITECHAPEL ROAD, LONDON, E.

THE FRIEND OF CHINA.
THIS Paper is now published at Shanghai, and contains full details of all the important Taiping movements; Mercantile and Shipping intelligence, Political and General Information from the ports in Japan Peking, the Yang-tse, &c. Published Bi-Weekly.
Subscriptions received at 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, London.

ROBERT ADAMS, Contractor for, and Wholesale Manufacturer of, every description of Fire Arms and Appurtenances. Patentee of the Revolver and Breech-loading Gun. Prize Medal awarded for Improvements in Breech-loading Arms, International Exhibition, 1862. Merchants and the trade supplied on the most liberal terms.—R. ADAMS, 76, King William-street, London, E.C.

NOTICE.
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"We feel no hesitation in saying, that there is no member of society by whom the book will not be found useful—whether such person hold the relation of a Parent, Preceptor, or Clergyman."—Sun, Evening Paper.
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N.B—Agents in India—Von Lintzgy, Loll Bazaar, Calcutta; Athenæum office, Madras; Hunnam, Queen's-road, Hong Kong, China; Observer office, Colombo, Ceylon; Esperance, Bombay; Times office, Malta, price half a dollar or one rupee. Patients in India and the Colonies can be successfully treated by letter, by enclosing the consultation fee of £1, and medicines forwarded with secrecy and despatch. Consultations daily from 10 to 3 and 6 to 8.
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Blades secured to Handles. Best Quality only.	Table Knives.	Cheese Knives.	Carvers.
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in. balance ivory, per dozen ...	11 0	9 0	3 6
¼ in. „ better ivory	13 0	10 0	4 6
2¼ in. „ white	15 0	12 6	6 0
4 n. strong „	20 0	15 0	7 0
¼ in. „ „	25 0	18 0	9 0
4 in. full strength	34 0	24 0	10 6
Round handle, silver ferrules ...	40 0	30 0	13 0
Electro-plated handles, any pattu.	26 0	23 0	8 6

Smaller quantities can be had at the above rate of prices which are the same as at the manufactory, Royal Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

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12 Table Forks	1 7 0	2 14 0	2 16 0	2 14 0
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12 Dessert Forks	1 1 0	2 2 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
12 Dessert Spoons... ...	1 1 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
12 Tea Spoons...	0 10 6	1 4 0	1 4 0	1 8 0

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For Passage, Freight, and general information, apply to B. W. and H. HORNE, 4, Moorgate-street, London; G. H. FLETCHER and Co., 11, Covent-garden, Liverpool; and at No. 28, Rue Notre Dame des Victoires, Paris; 7, Place des Terreaux, Lyons; 1, Place Royale, Marseilles; 36, Quai de Bacalan, Bordeaux; or to Messrs. SMITH and Co., Rotterdam.

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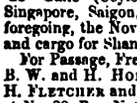

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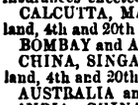

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HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the very fast-sailing clipper ship LORD RAGLAN, A 1 13 years, 753 tons register This ship, so well known for her rapid passages and sound delivery of cargo, is confidently recommended to shippers of fine goods.

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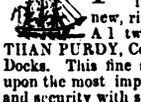
For Freight or Passage apply to the owners, SUART and SIMPSON, 9, Clement's-lane, E.C.



FOR HONG KONG direct, with immediate despatch, the magnificent, new, river-built, clipper ship DILKHOOSH, A 1 twelve years, 795 tons register, JONATHAN PURDY, Commander; loading in the East India Docks. This fine ship has just been built in the river upon the most improved principles, to combine strength and security with speed, and is expected to make a rapid passage. Shippers are requested to inspect her.

For Freight apply to GEORGE DUNCAN and Co., 2, East India-avenue, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

SINGAPORE Direct, to follow the Prince Alfred, the splendid clipper ship WM. SIMPSON, A 1 13 years, 396 tons register; now loading in the St. Katharine Docks, has a large portion of her cargo engaged and shipping, and will meet with quick despatch.

For Freight or Passage apply to the owners, Messrs. THORNTON and WEST, Old Swan-wharf; or to DOUGLAS and MILLS, 23, Billiter-street.

SHANGHAI Direct.—Last shipping day 16th March, the magnificent new clipper ship DELHI, A 1 13 years, 675 tons register, W. SANDERSON, Commander; lying in the West India Docks. This beautiful vessel requires only to be seen to secure a preference from shippers and passengers.

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DIRECT FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the splendid Clyde-built clipper ship SYDNEY EGGERS, classed A 1, 20 years, in the Liverpool Underwriters book; 870 tons register; H. W. CAMPBELL, Commander; loading in the East India Docks. This magnificent vessel, built on the Clyde in 1859, made her last passage to Bombay in seventy-nine days, is noted for her great speed and sound delivery of cargo, and will be found an excellent opportunity to shippers of fine goods.

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GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL will despatch the undermentioned high-classed SHIPS to CALCUTTA, from the East India Docks, punctually on the dates named. These vessels, built principally for the Calcutta trade, offer the best opportunities to passengers and shippers of fine goods. These ships will carry experienced surgeons:—

LINE OF SHIPS for 1864.

Ships' Names.	Ton. Reg.	Class.	Commander	To Sail.
SirJohn Lawrence	1090	A 1 13 yrs.	J. Sinclair...	April 20
Robert Lees ...	1199	A 1 12 yrs.	A. Douglas .	May 20
Alumbagh	1137	A 1 13 yrs.	W. J. Dale .	June 20
Bayard (new) ...	1315	A 1 12 yrs.	——	July 20
Lloyd Rayner ...	1004	A 1 12 yrs.	J. Pollock ...	Aug. 20
Hougoumont ...	962	A 1 13 yrs.	J. Flamank .	Sept. 20
Salamanca	861	A 1 13 yrs.	G.N.Livesay	Oct. 20
Cornwallis	1214	A 1 12 yrs.	J. Leeman .	Nov. 20
Bolingbroke ...	1260	A 1 12 yrs.	H. Ross ...	Dec. 20

For freight or passage apply to ESCOMBE, BROTHERS, and Co., Cross-street, Manchester; to LISTON, YOUNG, and Co., 36, Cannon-street, E.C.; or to GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL, 27, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL will despatch the undermentioned SHIPS, from the East India Docks, as under:—

Destination	Ship's Name.	Reg. Tons.	Commanders.	To Sail.
Bombay ...	John Melhuish ...	650	J. Watts	With des.
Bombay ...	Mary Stenhouse .	1,243	H. Finlay	With des.
Calcutta ...	SirJohn Lawrence	1,090	J. Sinclair	April 20
Shanghai ...	Beemah	887	T. Johnson	With des.
H.Kong and Whampoa	Lord Raglan	753	D. Pope	With des.
H.Kong and Whampoa	Sydney Eggers ...	870	H. Campbell	With des.

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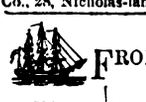
CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, and BANGKOK.—The following splendid first-class Clipper Ships will be despatched as under:—

Port.	Ships.	Docks.	Last Shipping Day.
Shanghai	Finzel ...	E.I.D.	March 12.
Shanghai	Canadian ...	E.I.D.	April 12.
Amoy and Foo-chow .	Rubicon ...	L.D.	With des.
Kanagawa	Medina ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Singapore	Blue Jacket..	W.I.D.	March 4.
Singapore	Maggie ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Bangkok	Helen Baird .	S.K.D.	With des.

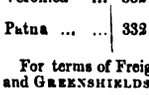
For Freight or Passage, apply to KILLICK, MARTIN, and Co., 28, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, E.C.



FROM LIVERPOOL for CHINA.

Ships.	Tons	Class.	Destination.	To Sail.
Veronica ...	332	A 1 ...	Hong Kong and Whampoa	With immediate despatch.
Patna	332	—	Shanghai ...	

For terms of Freight or Passage apply to MCDIARMID and GREENSHIELDS, Liverpool.



ROBERTSON and CO. will despatch the following first-class VESSELS to their respective destinations. They are well adapted for their several trades, and are confidently recommended to their friends:—

Destination.	Ships.	Docks.	To Sail.
Shanghai	Celestial ...	W.I.D.	With des.
H. Kong & Whampoa.	Gauntlet ...	W.I.D.	March 10.
H. Kong & Whampoa.	Maidn.Queen	W.I.D.	With des.
Manila	Conchita ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Singapore	Moneta ...	W.I.D.	March 28.
Calcutta	Jas. Livesey .	E.I.D.	With des.
Penang	Marengo ...	W.I.D.	March 12
Kanagawa	Satzuma ...	W.I.D.	March 12.

London, 5, Newman's-court, Cornhill; or York-chambers, 55, King-street, Manchester.

THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE FIFTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 28th December, 1863. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

Subscriptions and Advertisements received abroad by the following Agents:—

Anjer—Straits of Sunda G. SCHUIT, Anjer Hotel.
Manila ..... PHILLIPS, MOORE, AND CO.
Hong Kong, Canton, Macao, & Swatow, } JAMES GARDINER, Hong Kong.
Amoy ..... BOYD AND CO.
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Nagasaki—Japan . PIGNATEL AND CO.
Kanagawa .... A. W. HANSARD.

OFFICE, 12, GEORGE-YARD, LOMBARD-STREET LONDON, E.C.

Printed for the Proprietors by WOODFALL and KINDER Angel-court, Skinner-street, London, and published by JOHN ELLISON, at the office of the "LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH," No. 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, London, in the parish of St. Edmund the King, Monday, March 7, 1864.

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N A,

OUR TRADE HE SILK TRADE.—The export of silks from China to

WE publish with our pres Britain have been as follows :—

returns, showing the cour

during the last five years, in

which we published in 185

accompanying observations,

highly useful for reference

others interested in Eastern

wished that the full official f

cessible, but they are usually

The advance of the import t

markable, the value having

years. The imports of tea

	Bales.
1858-59	83,136
1859-60	64,163
1860-61	79,644
1861-62	73,552
1862-63	83,264

e total export of silk from Shanghai during the year
to Dec.) 1862 was 84,983 bales, against 70,459
g the preceding year ; but of this increase 8,330
were Japanese silk re-exported, so that the increase
hinese produce was only 6,194. A portion of this,
may fairly be assumed to have been diverted from

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 131.] LONDON, MONDAY, MARCH 14, 1864. [Sub. 30s. per ann., and 12s. to Supplement. Single copy of either 9d.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Kanagawa			Jan. 16
Nagasaki			„ 16
Hakodadi			
CHINA—			
Peking			Dec. 19
Tien-tsin			
Hankow			Jan. 15
Shanghai	Nov. 17	Jan. 7	„ 26
Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 24
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Dec. 17	Jan. 30	Feb. 1
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Nov. 17		Jan. 28
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Touron			
Saigon			„ 30
SIAM—			
Bankok			„ 25
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawuk			„ 29
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 31
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Dec. 26	Jan. 30	Feb. 7
Penang	„ 11	„ 28	24 „ 10

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles per Massilia, arrived March 12.—From Yokohama: Mr. Baldwin. From Shanghai: Mr. Connel and child. From Hong Kong: Mr. Bols and servant, Messrs Delprat, Gardyne and Solzyman.

To Southampton, per Pera, expected to arrive March 17.—From Hong Kong: Mr. Gadber, Com. Poole, R.N., Capt. Laing. From Singapore: Mrs. Cavanagh, child, and servant, Com. and Mrs. Reed. To Gibraltar.—From Hong Kong: Messrs. Ambulodi and Caisinava.

By last Bombay mail to Marseilles, per Valetta, arrived March 6.—From Hong Kong: Capt. H. D. Brown and native male servant, Mrs. Brown. To Southampton, Ellora, arrived March 11.—From Hong Kong: Capt. Millbanke.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

By last mail, per P. and O. steamer Ripon, March 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. G. Williams, R.N., Mr. J. Gittinds, Commander J. W. Webb, R.N., and seven second-class passengers. To Shanghai: Two second-class passengers. To Singapore: Mr. Wyon. To Calcutta: Major Kent, Mr. W. E. Trotman, Miss Hobb, Mr. R. M. Adams, Cornet J. R. Bennet, Lieut. Twyford, Mr. Garthen, Ensign Woods, Capts. Brereton and Sir W. Barlow, Mrs. Ryves, Messrs. J. F. Beattie, J. Barry, C. A. Atkins, and W. P. Smith, Lieut. Graves, Mr. John Span, Lients. Clayton and H. A. Graves, and twelve second-class passengers. To Madras: Mr. and Mrs. H. Magrath, Staff Assist.-Surgeon, W. Ashbon, Mr. W. Wall, Messrs. R. H. Bolton, P. P. Lyons, C. Haines and F. Dick, and five second-class passengers. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Pollock, and Mr. and Mrs. Curgenven, Miss Smedley, and four second-class passengers. To Alexandria: Mr. and Mrs. Warrington, and two second-class passengers. From Gibraltar.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. Manuel Pereira and Edward Pereira.

From Marseilles, per Euxine, to leave March 12.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Schwabe, infant, and two children.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. T. M. Drysdale, H. Marshall, Jas. Deacon, E. Cobbett, Edward Mellish, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wright, Mr. Fearon, Commander J. Ward, R.N.—To Shanghai: Mr. L. S. Dunlop, T. C. T. Klein.—To Calcutta: Messrs. T. W. Syme and G. Ross, Mr. J. C. Pughe and nephew, Mr. and Mrs. Allen, infant, child, and ayah, Lieut. W. F. J. Wallace.—To Ceylon: Messrs Crowe, R. Crowe, and W. Allen.—To Alexandria: Rev. A. P. Black. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Grobien.

Per P. and O. steamer, Syria, March 12, from Southampton.—To Shanghai, via Bombay: Messrs. Nimmo and Stevenson. From Marseilles, March 20.—To Singapore, via Bombay: Mr. W. Steel. From Suez.—To Shanghai, via Bombay: Mr. Cornes.

Per Queen of Nations, for Shanghai.—Capt. Bridgeman, Chas. Keley, and T. Andoe.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

The Japanese Government have again raised the question of closing the port of Yokohama to foreign trade. On the 4th January, an interview took place between some officials deputed by the Tycoon and the British Charge d'Affaires, which it is to be hoped will have the effect of thoroughly convincing the authorities that the treaties they have solemnly entered into must be carried into effect in their entirety. As we hear still more of the Embassy, and of preparations for its departure, we may further hope that the impressions they will carry back from London and Paris will bear the same unswerving determination to resist all impediments thrown in the way of the extension of European commerce.

The meeting in question was by appointment with the Japanese Ministers, but at the hour named (reports the *Japan Herald*) two Vice Ministers, Tachibana Idzumono no Kami and Inaba Hiobuzeno, came accompanied by three Governors. They commenced by stating that they had sought the appointment to inform the Charge d'Affaires of the intention of their Government to send an Embassy to Europe; thus having stated their object they would leave the Governors to explain the resons of the intended going forward of the Embassy. His Excellency consented to hear what the Governors wished to say, but gave the Ministers clearly to understand that what was said by the Governors in their presonce would be taken as coming from themselves.

The Governors then referred to the commencement of intercourse with foreigners under treaties, dating from the time of Commodore Perry, and stated that at that time they were only consented to as an experiment, and that if that experiment was not satisfactory, it could be changed. Colonel Neale wished to know if they desired him to understand that there was any formal compact entered into to that effect? to which they replied "No, but it was so verbally understood." To which again Colonel Neale answered, that at least there was nothing of that sort so far as the British treaty was concerned.

The Governors then commenced to speak much of the (presumed) hostility of the people of Japan towards foreigners, a position, however, which was immediately combated by Colonel Neale, who admitted that there might be some feeling of hostility on the part of some of the two-sworded people, and even of some of the Daimios, but that that feeling was general on the part of the people of Japan he believed not to be the fact. The cue once adopted, the Governors were not, however, inclined to drop reference to it. They reiterated the statement, and said that owing to this hostility of the people to foreigners, and consequently to the Tycoon's Government, the greatest difficulties were created, and complicated by assaults and deeds of violence, which were only to be met by the shutting of the port of Yokohama, and the leaving open to trade only the two ports of Nagasaki and Hakodadi. That the Government had therefore determined upon this, and as the British *Charge d'Affaires* and the Ministers of other countries were not empowered to settle this important question, the Government had resolved to send the Embassy to Europe.

Colonel Neale observed that all nations were entitled to send forward embassies whenever they chose to do so, but reminded the Ministers that in the interim it would be his duty, and was certainly his intention, to see to the performance of all the treaty obligations. Colonel Neale then took occasion to refer to the recent obstructions to the free commerce between the Japanese merchants and foreigners, and alluded to the fact of some eighteen large merchants' houses having been lately closed, and also to the fact of the restriction to the supplies of silk coming down to Yokohama. This the Governors attempted to make out was because of the native merchants losing so much money by their trade, and because of their fear of lawless characters, Loonins, and others. This position was also denied by Colonel

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Neale, who knew full well that, on the contrary, the merchants rapidly made wealth by their trade with foreigners, and as to the other alleged reason, the interference was stated to be not by lawless characters, but by the officials themselves.

After much and prolonged conversation on these points, Colonel Neale gave the Ministers clearly to understand, in unmistakable language, that, from whatever cause arising, the Government had better see to it that these matters of complaint cease to exist, "for," said he (or in words to that effect) "if you stop our trade we will stop yours; if you stop our supplies we will stop yours." He desired particularly that this determination on his part should be explicitly represented to the Tycoon's Government, for on this much of great importance might arise. This seems rather to have awakened their serious attention, for they quickly asked—"By stopping our trade, do you mean our import trade with foreigners?" Colonel Neale soon relieved their minds of this understanding, by making them comprehend that what he meant by stopping their trade was by the use of the forces at his command to stop their own internal commerce, and the transit from place to place of those interchanges of commodities which were necessary for the people; and in respect to the stoppage of supplies, if such measure was taken, we should have ourselves to obtain them in the manner most efficient through their own country.

Our contemporary observes on the above—"The whole interview, as it seems to us, was nothing more than another scene of the old drama of Japanese procrastination—a new move in the old direction, in the hope that some chapter of accidents might turn up by which an advantage—not defined even in their own ideas—might be evolved. From each of these interviews, however, which they so pertinaciously seek, they have to retire with a more settled conviction that the time has now passed when shifting and quibbling laments of the effete character of their own Government will answer any purpose, and that they have only afforded another opportunity for the British Chargè d'Affaires to assure them of the unswerving determination with which the rights of the great nation he represents will be maintained by him. We do not pretend that the above is a full account of all that took place at this conference, which lasted, we believe, upwards of four hours, but, so far as it extends, we believe it to be a correct precis, in general terms, of what took place."

Meanwhile the Japanese are availing themselves of the benefit of foreign intercourse to purchase steamers—and much is hinted of this being done with a view to military purposes. But it is forgotten that Japan is altogether an island empire,—that the residences of the territorial grandees are on the shores of the ocean inlets that indent the coast; and that one cause of quarrel between Satsuma and the Tycoon was that the latter insisted on his powerful vassal travelling by land, even though he was master of a commodious steamer that would take him to his castle in as many days as the land journey would take weeks. The Tycoon, however, has joined the innovators, for he has purchased the *Yangtze* steamer for $145,000, for the special purpose of conveying him to Kioto. In addition to the above, the *Ayrshire Lass* has been sold by Messrs. Glover and Co., at Nagasaki, to Satsuma for $30,000; and the *Shunli*, a British steamer of 650 tons, to the Governor of Nagasaki for $100,000.

An exchange has been effected between the Tycoon and Matzdaira Yamato-no-Kami, by which the Tycoon acquires the newly erected castle of Yamato, at Kawagoi, situated about 10 ri from Yedo, approachable by the Yedo-gawa, and the Prince receives the Tycoon's new castle at Maibashi.

Intelligence had been received at Yokohama of a large fire at Ossacca. It is described as of so extensive a character as to have been raging for three days and nights. Further particulars were not yet to hand. We have nothing more by the present arrival of the fire at Yedo, except that a doubt is created whether the Tycoon's palace was included in the conflagration, which, it will be recollected, was insinuated to have been an act of political incendiarism. The *Herald* says, on the contrary, that the fire was in a quarter called Echingo-yah, in the vicinity of the Niphon bashi, inhabited principally by the first-class merchants, of whose houses a great number (we have heard upwards of 200) have fallen sacrifice to the flames.

At a meeting of the British Episcopal Church Society on the 29th December, Mr. Consul Winchester, who was in the chair, handed in a plan of the new church as furnished by Captain Brine, R.E., and a plan with photograph of the building; and intimated that he considered the report so satisfactory as to authorise him to inform the Government that the church was finished in a satisfactory and workmanlike manner. It now only remained for the community to come forward with half the sum which the building had cost, viz., $1,500, and secure, in terms of Earl Russell's despatch of May 5 (which was read), the contribution of the other moiety from Her Majesty's Government. A resolution was passed empowering the treasurer to collect subscriptions for that purpose.

A meeting of the Yokohama Volunteer Corps had been called to consider the question of a change of uniform, which, it would be proposed, should in future be similar to that of the Shanghai volunteers, with a view to the convenience and saving of expense to those changing their residence to Shanghai, or *vice versa*. It was intended also to form a Volunteer Fire Brigade.

The *Gazelle*, Prussian frigate, has been absent for some days, and with her Mr. de Rohfues, Prussian Councillor of Legation of the King of Prussia, on an extraordinary mission in Japan; Mr. J. de Radowiz, Secretary of Legation; and Mr. de Brandt, the Prussian Consul. There was little doubt she had proceeded to Yedo, and that the purpose of her visit was the ratification of the Prussian Treaty. On the 5th January Mr. Hansard sold at public auction, by order of the Prussian Consul, the hull of the Prussian barque *Oriental*, as she now lies wrecked on Saratoga Spit. She brought $1,050.

Much of the intelligence brought by British mail steamer on this occasion was published in the *London and China Telegraph* of the 7th inst., on the arrival of the French mail steamer.

The following letter on the Exchange operations carried on by H.M. Consuls has been published:—

It may be classed among "things not generally known" (in England), that every foreign Consul at each of the open ports in Japan is allowed by the Japanese Government to exchange, for the use of the Consulate, foreign coin to the amount of one thousand dollars per month, for Japanese money, at the Custom-house. Japanese money, I should observe, is of rectangular form, and the most general coin is the "itziboo," the value of which is about the third part of a dollar. Now, I feel persuaded that it cannot be "generally known" that a very large part of the itziboos thus obtained by Consuls are afterwards sold by them (not always openly) to foreign merchants who are in want of native coin for the purpose of trade; and according as the demand is great or little, so do the Consuls rate the value of this native money given to the merchants in exchange for dollars. This rate of exchange is usually between two and two-and-a-half itziboos to the dollar; and thus a Consul may quietly pocket twenty-five per cent., more or less, by this simple business transaction.

It may also be assumed as a thing "not generally known" (in England), that a clause in each of the existing treaties with Japan provides, or rather stipulates, that all foreign coin shall pass in Japan weight for weight with Japanese money. And this is one of the principal, I may say the chief obstacle to foreign trade in the country, that foreign coin does not find its value; and, consequently, dollars, which are the ordinary currency among foreign merchants in China and the neighbouring countries, are in Japan at a discount.

Besides Consuls and higher officers of the diplomatic service, ships of war draw exchange, according to the numbers of their crews, at so much per head per diem, and most of this finds its way into the hands of foreign or native merchants somehow or another. The trade in itziboos has now come to such a pass that at one port in Japan, where the number of foreign residents is comparatively small, and ships of war are few and far between, the Consuls actually rule the money market; the value of the dollar—to the disadvantage of the merchants—being directly controlled by their (the Consuls) trading itziboos for dollars. We can hardly blame an American "commercial agent," whose salary exist only in consular fees; and we may fairly excuse a representative of France who receives no salary while the port is unfrequented by French vessels, because, in order to live, he is forced to sell his exchange; although this does not exonerate his Government for making an appointment on such conditions. But for a British Consul, with pay of about one thousand pounds annually, to trade with the exchange allowed ostensibly for defraying the expenses of the consulate, would appear somewhat *infra dig.* I might go farther. I could prove that ministers, chargés d'affaires, and consuls-general, are not beyond the influence of the "almighty" itziboo.

The cargo per *Louis Kniffler*, for London, cleared by Aspinall, Cornes, and Co., is as follows:—Silk, 210 bales; do., floss, 15 do.; tea, 380 packages; cotton, 1,212 bales; sundries, 3 packages.

The exports of tea and silk from Yokohama for the six months ending Dec. 31, 1863, are as follows:—

	To Europe.	To America.	To Hong Kong and Shanghai.
Tea, lbs. ..	1,419,122	698,426	1,236,128
Silk, bales ..	6,674	55	5,074

CHINA.

CHEFOO.

Dates from this port are down to the 9th of January. The following statement of imports and exports for 1863 shows a very firm business for this new port:—

IMPORTS.—Opium, 653 chests; on board ship not cleared, about 140 chests; grey shirtings, 68,845 pieces; white, shirtings, 5,750 chests; T-cloth, 6,650 chests; spotted and brocades, 19,620 chests; damasks, 1,332 chests; Chintzes, 7,572 chests; drills and jeans, 1,596 chests; dyed, figured, and plain cottons, 16,194 chests; velvets and velveteens,

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153 chests; handkerchiefs—cotton, 9,600 chests; wool and cotton mixtures, 2,064 chests; bombazettes, 105 chests; lustres, 592 changs; Spanish stripes, 860 changs; long ells, 2,464 changs; camlets, 300 changs; Iron—bar, nail, rod and hoop, 3,140 piculs; steel 154 do.; ironwire, 125 do.; lead, 5,927 do.; window glass, 25,500 ft.; matches, 1,080 gross; cotton umbrellas, 620 pieces; betel nuts, 1,098; piculs; black pepper, 7,750 do.; white pepper, 71 do.; rattans, 1,396 do.; cloves, 222 do.; sandalwood, 512 do.; sapanwood, 50,257 do.; ginger, 1,786 do.; isinglass, 539 do.; nutgalls, 1,086 do.; orange peels, 1,404 do.; shark fins, 201 do.; seaweed, 8,513 do.; tea, 1,791 do.; alum, 1,909 do.; Japan copper, 210 do.; galangal, 756 do.; white lead, 5,927 do.; red lead, 304 do.; poles, 38,143 pieces; planks, 90,600 do.; cardamoms, 657 piculs; capia buds and twigs, 652 do.; gum olibanum, 401 do.; hemp bags, 273,000 pieces; prepared tobacco, 356 piculs; indigo, 708 do.; paper, 59,381 do.; and sugar, 105,122 do.

EXPORTS.—Beancakes, 596,906 piculs; peas, 574,756; wheat and Indian corn, 16,002; black dates, 17,552; red do., 10,024; liquorice, 7,473; lilly flower, 2,742; peas oil, 3,460; ponjees, 59; tobacco, 446; vermicelli, 19,023; strawbraid, 307; and cotton, 2,466.

SHIPPING.—CLEARED IN.—British, 138 vessels, 44,408 tons; American, 20 vessels, 8,564 tons; sundries, 190 vessels, 54,483 tons;—348 vessels, 107,445 tons

CLEARED OUT.—326 vessels, 101,139 tons.

SHANGHAI.

A report from Soochow that Ching had fallen at an attack on Chang-chow has been authoritatively denied. Within Soochow itself all remains quiet, yamuns are being rapidly established in different quarters of the city, and the inhabitants have returned to their ordinary avocations, while the old residents are rapidly crowding in from the surrounding villages. The reports prevalent in the settlements as to the death of Dolle, late captain of the *Cricket*, and the other men seized on board the *Firefly*, are without foundation. Mr. Seward, the U.S.A. Consul-General, during his recent visit to Soochow, made arrangements which will secure the early return both of Dolle and his companions.

The intelligence from Nanking is very adverse to the Taipings. Tsing-kwo-fan was pressing the siege with vigour, and although he meets with severe repulses, and sustains heavy losses, still he perseveres, and as ammunition and provisions are becoming scarce in the insurgent camp, the Imperial cause was day by day displaying ascendency. The insurgents occupying the smaller outposts have become alarmed and disheartened, and are in some instances either disbanding or submitting to the Mandarins. The impression amongst those who are well informed and who are favourably disposed towards the Taipings is, that unless they make a dash and obtain a great victory their cause is hopeless.

In our last issue on the 7th inst. we gave the particulars of several outrages in the settlement. It would appear, from the following comments of a contemporary, that foreigners are largely implicated, and the fault lies at the system of allowing our soldiers and sailors to enter the Chinese ranks:—

An alarming increase in crime of every description has become noticeable in and around Shanghai. The Cantonese who have been compelled to leave Soochow are now hovering about the road and creeks, reinforced by a few desperate Europeans. The presence of the latter may be accounted for by the fact that, with very questionable judgment, Major-General Brown granted discharges to a considerable number of the men of the 31st Regt., when that regiment was upon the point of leaving for England. These men were allowed to join Gordon's bodyguard, but no arrangement was made with the Chinese authorities as to sending them home, should their services be dispensed with. The consequence was that when Gordon's bodyguard was disbanded, the country became flooded with foreigners of the very worst character. There is now little doubt that some of these fellows were implicated in the murder of Baker and Horgan. Travelling around Shanghai has, therefore, become so dangerous that we have been assured by men whose duties compel them to go backwards and forwards between Shanghai and Soochow, that at night they hardly think of sleeping, lest when least suspecting danger they might find themselves surrounded by foes. Within the English settlement, also, we have had unequivocal demonstrations of rowdyism. On Monday, between the hours of 7 and 8 P.M., a gang, consisting of ten Cantonese and two foreigners, made a forcible entrance into a large Chinese store, and succeeded in carrying off a number of clocks and watches, together with $500. They then attacked the shop of a small banker, and robbed him of $40 and five shoes of sycee.

The minutes of the Municipal Council, held on the 13th Jan., contain a scheme for the formation of a Land Office. The changes proposed to be introduced in the present system are as follows

1. The abolition of the Sub-Register system, and the issue of Title deeds in every case.
2. The cancelling of old and complicated title deeds, and issue of new documents.
3. A regular issue of classified land lists.
4. The preservation and registry of uniform plans of land.

It was proposed that the land fee be raised from the land noted in the semi-annual list of Renters. Any Consulate in which a land office shall be established would thus be in a position to levy its revenue on the amount of business transacted.

MEETING OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

On the 21st January a meeting of the Chamber was held: Present: Messrs. Whitlow, Kahn, Keswick, Antrobus, Thorburn, Ezekiel, Marston, Cull, Owerweg, Gilfillan, Forbes, Tyson, H. Innes, Gracie, J. A. Maitland, C. Thorne, Cordier, J. P. Lynill, W. H. Carter, Tyers, Porter, Dow, Leeman, R. Reid, Baker, Westall, J. Cock, D. Reid, Stewart, Probst, and King; R. C. Antrobus, Chairman.

Resolution I.—Mr. Kahn proposed Messrs. Reid and Co. as members of the Chamber. Their name being seconded by Mr. Reid, and the motion put to the vote, Messrs. Reid and Co. were unanimously elected.

Resolution II.—Proposed by Mr. Webster and seconded by Mr. Keswick:—That in consideration of the numerous disputes arising from the arbitrary valuations placed upon different dollars of the Mexican currency by the native shroffs, the members of this Chamber agree that, on and after this date, all undefaced Mexican dollars of standard purity and weight shall be considered clean dollars, and be accepted by foreign firms in discharge of engagements in that currency.—Carried unanimously.

Resolution III.—Proposed by Mr. Porter and seconded by Mr. Khan: "That in the event of a mint being established at Hong Kong and the Government issuing a silver coin of equal standard and purity to the Mexican dollar, such coin shall be accepted in discharge of all engagements as a clean Mexican dollar." Mr. Reid suggested that the resolution was premature, and Mr. Lynill also opposed it for the same reason. Mr. Kahn thought the resolution might have influence with the Hong Kong Government in their decision on the question of establishing a mint in the colony, and recommended its adoption on that ground. The resolution on being put to the meeting was lost by a considerable majority. Mr. Keswick then proposed and Mr. Reid seconded the following resolution:—

Resolution IV.—Inasmuch as it has been the practice of the port for godown orders to be signed by the clerk in charge of that department of the business, this Chamber is of opinion that such orders are considered binding upon the firm in whose name they are issued; but, considering the great extension of the trade carried on here, it would be desirable to make godown orders in future not transferable, without the countersignature of the firm by whom they were issued. Mr. Kahn proposed as an amendment:—That in future all godown orders issued by members of this Chamber shall be signed by a member of the firm which issues them, or by a person duly authorised by that firm; and that all such orders shall have the words "not transferable" plainly marked upon them. The amendment was seconded by Mr. Tyers, but on being put to the vote was lost, and the original resolution was then put and carried by a considerable majority. The following resolution was then passed on the proposition of Mr. Thorne, seconded by Mr. Dow:—

Resolution V.—That whereas great difficulty has been heretofore experienced in arriving at a correct account of the settlements of tea during the fortnight between each mail, also in obtaining stocks, it is desirable that an uniform system be adopted; for which purpose a committee be formed consisting of one public tea inspector, and two tea inspectors in mercantile houses, that each firm hand into the committee two days before the departure of each mail, a full account as per schedule now before the meeting, that when the summary is completed, a copy be sent to the Chamber of Commerce, in order that it may be exhibited publicly for the benefit or those who are interested therein. Proposed by Mr. Dow and seconded by Mr. Kahn:—

Resolution VI.—That Messrs. Mercer, J. Forster and Co., and Ringer, form the committee appointed by resolution No. 5.

The return which we *(North China Herald)* published of the quantity of silk exported from Shanghai during the past year is far from satisfactory; only 39,245 bls. passed through the Custom-house in 1863, against 84,983 bls. during the previous year. And the falling off of more than one-half in this important article of commerce is, we believe, susceptible of no other explanation than of a decrease in production, owing to the civil strife now raging in the two provinces in which the principal silk districts are situated. The eyes of the up-country producers, also, appear to be opening to the great demand which exists for silk for exportation to foreign countries, and the prices demanded by them last year were so high that, in most cases, the cost of the silk when it left this port was in excess of the price quoted in the home markets. The English market, however, has also been singularly dull during the past year, and prices have generally been below the average; so that in England as well as China, circumstances were adverse to the trade. It is estimated that not more than 6,000 or 7,000 bales are still held by foreign and Chinese merchants in Shanghai, principally by the latter, who have held out in the hope of obtaining a better price. This hope, however, appears now to be abandoning them, and, partly in despair of an improvement in the market, partly under pressure of requirements for money to meet their new year engagements, many are offering to sell at a de-

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cline of tls. 30 per picul. Even at this rate, however, foreign buyers do not come readily forward, as the high rate of exchange renders remittance to England a more advantageous method of investment than the shipment of silk appears likely to be. The supplies of silk from Japan, too, have been far less than were expected. It was estimated that from 15,000 to 20,000 bales would be derived from this source, whereas the Customs returns shows that only 6,857 have arrived in Shanghai.

A farewell dinner was given by the corps of Mounted Rangers to their late captain, Panmure Gordon, Esq., at the Astor House. The Rhenish band was in attendance; the room was most tastefully decorated with flags; the dinner was excellent, and the whole affair went off admirably.

The case of defalcation by the Compradore of the Oriental Bank, and the case of Reid *v.* Leighton, continue to be commented on, but no new facts have come to hand beyond those given in our issue of the 7th inst., per French mail. *The Times'* correspondent in noticing them says:—

The most desirable form of Government for Shanghai presents a difficult problem, on account of the three different interests which are represented. It would, probably, be impossible to establish one court of judicature to which English, American, and French would agree to submit their cases indiscriminately. But a law officer might advantageously be appointed by each country to try cases in which his own countrymen were concerned; and an arrangement might be made that whenever a British subject sued an American, or *vice versa*, the American and English legal officers should sit on one bench and decide it—a similar course being pursued where French and English, or French and Americans were concerned. The other foreigners may well be left to their own Consuls. They are not numerous, nor are their cases important.

HANKOW.

The correspondent of the *Shanghai Market Report* writes:—The approach of marauding bands has been so often positively announced by the native authorities at this port, that such rumours are now daily losing their effect in disturbing the tranquility even of the Chinese residents. A report, which, as usual, proved to be totally without foundation, had been circulated amongst the native merchants a few days before the date of our correspondent's letter, but as it did not produce any tender of pecuniary assistance to the mandarins, it had died out. Trade is excessively dull; in fact, no important operations whatsoever have been reported. The foreign residents are becoming painfully alive to the increase of rowdyism on the banks of the Yang-tsze. Our correspondent informs us that a Chinaman was wantonly shot by a foreigner in Hanyang on the 15th inst. The culprit has not as yet been discovered, but both foreign and native authorities are using every exertion to effect his capture. The defence ditch is progressing rapidly. About four thousand men are kept continually at work upon it. These fellows hoot and jeer at any foreigners who approach the works, and seem determined to permit no interference whatsoever with their mode of operation. There had been considerable speculation in cotton, but late advices from Shanghai checked intending purchasers. The river continues very low.

NINGPO.

A correspondent, writing under date of the 14th of January, says that on the 12th the Franco-Chinese force succeeded in taking eight stone forts and one stockade close to Hangchow. The loss on the side of the rebels is estimated at 500 killed, besides a large number of wounded which were carried away in safety. The attacking party lost two officers killed, three wounded, and 50 soldiers killed and wounded. The 25th of January had been fixed upon for the final assault on the city itself.

FOOCHOW.

A serious disturbance took place at the American Baptist Chapel. The rioters broke into the place on the Sabbath, and demolished all they could. The *Hong Kong Daily Press* has a full account of the matter.

HONG KONG.

There is nothing new reported since our digest of news up to the 26th January. The dates are now up to the morning of 1st February. The French mail of 17th December arrived on 30th January.

CANTON.

Matters at Canton are proceeding very unsatisfactorily. The Governor-General, finding himself no longer safe, lately sent for one thousand Hunan soldiers to act as a bodyguard. These ruffians have already created great disturbances in the city, wounding a number of citizens. A number of shops have been closed—these are ordered to be reopened under threat of fine and imprisonment.]

JAVA.

BATAVIA.

The news of the *Edith Pepper*, given under casualties in our last issue, and the accident to the *Glaramara*, are both confirmed by to-day's mail.

On the volcanic eruptions we find the following in the *Straits Times*:—"The eruptions of the Merapi and the Kloet were felt at most parts of the island, and the several residencies between the Treanger Regenues to Probolingo, west and east of the two volcanoes, were covered with ashes on the day of the eruption. The loss of life and cattle is said to be enormous, and it is feared that several thousand acres of rich land have been rendered unfit for future cultivation. In some places, however, heavy rains followed, and the boiling mud and ashes were washed away, leaving hopes of some benefit accruing to the surrounding fields and pasture lands. The quantity of ash and sand thrown into the residency of Madioen alone, is computed at no less than 1,744,522,416 cubic feet. The private letters from those parts are heartrending to read."

There has been an inundation at Samarang, but the water had subsided again when the last telegram arrived. At Kedirie, also, several little towns have suffered from inundation, which was mostly of mud, no doubt from the neighbourhood of the volcanoes.

Amongst the resolutions passed by the Government lately, there is one by which the delivery to Government *only* of all coffee grown on Sumatra, is prescribed. A translation of the particulars is given in the *Java Times*.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are down to the 7th February. The English mail of 26th December, arrived on the 31st January, having been delayed *en route* by an accident to the P. and O. steamer *Candia* between Suez and Galle.

The last fortnight has been barren of political interest. The transfer commission, it is understood, sends home its report by the present mail; at all events, Sir Hercules Robinson, the president, proceeded to Hong Kong on the 1st February, to resume the reigs of Government.

The fortifications appear to have come in for their fair share of attention. Fort Fullerton, a most effective little fort mounting nine large guns, but right in the centre of the sea frontage of the town, has been doomed to be dismantled, and the process has already been commenced. Fort Canning, it is believed, will, before long, be dismantled of its heavy guns, and be kept only as a sort of citadel to which the European residents might resort in case of any outbreak among the natives—(a very improbable event, however). The guns taken from these forts are to be mounted some on Mount Palmer, some on Mount Faber, and some, it is believed, are to be placed in position at Tanjong Katong, the eastern limit of the harbour. The reason of these changes is this, that both Fort Canning and Fort Fullerton are so placed as to draw an enemy's fire right into the centre of the town, and that doubtless before they could be silenced a great part of it would be laid in ashes.

Tigers appear to be rapidly on the increase in the island. Deaths by them are of almost daily occurrence and their foot (?) prints may frequently be traced now on the suburban roads. About ten days ago a cub fell into a pit which had been dug purposely to entrap them, and for three days the mother tigress kept watch over it before she was shot. The pit was surrounded by jungle in which the tigress would lie concealed, till some of the party in chase of her would gather round the pit, and then she would spring out among them, leaping to right and left of them, and rendering any attempt to shoot her next to impossible. One man, a police peon, was killed by a random shot on one of these occasions. On the third day, however, the tigress was killed, and the cub being brought into town alive, where it still lives.

To-day, the 6th February, is the anniversary of the settlement of Singapore, and a holiday in the Government offices, but owing to the near despatch of the home mail it is not observed by the mercantile community. Monday the 8th is also a public holiday, being the Chinese New Year, and the banks are closed; but the mail also interferes with the enjoyment of this by

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the merchants, and they have decided to observe the day following as a holiday.

Two Chinese had been carried away by tigers near the thirteenth milestone on Thomson's-road, whilst working on gambier plantations, within half a mile of each other. One body had both legs eaten off, and the other was found headless and armless.

The *Pinang Gazette* understands that the Public Works Department, as a quasi-independent branch of the local service under a chief engineer and high salaried executive engineers, is to be abolished from the end of April next. Captain Mayne will return from Calcutta for the purpose only of closing the accounts of the department. Major Hilliard and Captain McNair will also leave. At this station the public works will be superintended by Mr. Magaelhens in Province Wellesley, and by Mr. Bennett in Pinang, under direct responsibility to the resident councillor. The appointments of executive engineer in Pinang, Singapore, and Malacca are to be abolished.

Nineteen Chinese had been arrested at Singapore, caught in the act of initiating and admitting members into the Hoey or Secret Society. They were all Macao men. In front of the joss was found a bag containing banners of all descriptions, and the bye-laws of the society. They were committed to take their trial at the next quarter session on a charge of unlawful assembly.

Whether or not the Gas Company will be enabled to illuminate the streets by the beginning of April, says the *Straits Times*, the manager is certainly proceeding with great energy and with very little noise towards the laying of the pipes. As far as we can judge, one-half of the main pipes are already in the ground, and with very little apparent damage to the roads.

The Court of Inquiry into the loss of the *Lammermuir* had given it as their opinion that Captain Joass was not to blame in any way for the loss of that ship, he having taken every precaution to ensure the safe passage of his vessel through the Macclesfield channel. With regard to the loss of the British barque *Surat*, on the Sunda Straits, the court censured Captain Black for not having had proper set lookouts while running among so many islands, more especially as he was a stranger to that channel; and also for not having laid his position at noon every day on the chart, and stated it in his log-book; but in consideration of his long services and testimonials, they returned him his certificate.

The Sarawak steamer *Rainbow*, Captain Hewat, from Sarawak with dates to the 28th Jan., has arrived, but brings no news of importance.

PENANG.

Our Penang files have not come to hand for several mails. The following is from Messrs. Sandiland, Buttery, and Co.'s report:—

Since date of our last report, the *Gitana*, from Liverpool; the *Roslin Castle*, from Clyde; and the *Frederica*, from London, have arrived. The *Gitana* imports only phospho guano (sold at $65 per ton), and the *Frederica* and *Roslin Castle*, a small amount of Manchester staples, the greater portion of which was sold some time ago to arrive, at much higher rates than could now be obtained. Late depressing advices from the Indian markets, with lower prices in China and Singapore, have acted most unfavourably on our market, our dealers have taken the alarm and refuse to purchase, and until we receive more cheering advices from India, and the Chinese New Year holidays are over, we can expect no improvement. During the last fortnight transactions have been confined chiefly to a few sales by needy Chinese for cash, at very reduced rates. The Straits traders have also been importing from Singapore, and selling for cash at much lower rates than are current in that market. The clearances have been the *Edinburgh Castle*, for London, *Etoile* and *Hooghly* for Bordeaux, the cargo of these vessels being as follows:—The *Edinburgh Castle*, for London: Sugar, 5,906 piculs; black pepper, 471; white, 205; tin, 3,227; rattans, 759; hides, 242; gum benjamin, 75; India-rubber, 235; gutta-percha, 454; isinglass, 5; tapioca, 3,213; nutmegs, 325; mace, 9; cloves, 25; rum, 11,765 gals. Per *Etoile*, for Bordeaux, 5,880 piculs black pepper, 815 tin. Per *Hooghly*, for Bordeaux: Black pepper, 2,161 piculs; tin, 112; tapioca, 218.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

FRY—On the 7th inst., at Mitcham, the wife of Walter J. Fry, Esq., of a son.

HYDE—On the 12th March, at Blandford House, Kensington-park, W., the wife of John G. Hyde, Esq., of a son.

VROOMAN—On the 13th Jan., at Canton, the wife of the Rev. D. Vrooman, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

LOFTUS—THULBOURNE.—On the 30th Jan., at St. Andrew's Church, Singapore, by the Rev. C. J. Waterhouse, Chaplain, Capt. Alfred John Loftus, to Miss Charlotte Maria Thulborne, of Walthamstow, Essex.

MILLER—RIXON.—On the 10th March, at St. Pancras Church, by the Rev. W. W. Champneys, the vicar, Richard Smith Miller, Esq., many years resident in China, only son of the late Francis Miller, Esq., of Barbadoes, to Gertrude, fourth daughter of William Rixon, Esq., 33, Gordon-square. No cards.

DEATHS.

CUNNINGHAM—On the 1st Feb., at Singapore, Mrs. D. Cunningham, of Dublin, aged 63.

EDAN—On the 23nd Jan., at Shanghai, Mr. V. Edan, aged 63.

IRWIN—On the 26th Jan., at Hong Kong, Emma Maria, the beloved wife of the Rev John J. Irwin, D.D., Colonial Chaplain, and elder daughter of Alfred Chandler, Esq. formerly of the Wandsworth-road.

KING—On the 27th Jan., at Hong Kong, Maria, the wife of William King, Ordnance Department, aged 32 years.

KEUN—On the 29th Jan., at Singapore, P. J. Keun, aged 40.

MASON—On the 23rd Jan., Alexander Charles, youngest child of Alexander and Jane Mason, aged 9 months.

RUSSELL—On the 30th Jan., at his residence, Sandy Point, Singapore, Mr. Donald Russell, ship carpenter, aged 38.

SCHILLING—On the 24th Jan., at Canton, Catharine L. Schilling, wife of Rev. J. G. Schilling, of Maryland, U.S.A.

TOMLINS—On the 7th Dec., 1863, suddenly, at sea, on his voyage to China, aged 39, Harold J. G. Tomlins, Commander of the barque Esk, and of Walthamstow, Essex, fifth son of the late Harold Nuttall Tomlins, Esq., of the Hotwells, Clifton, near Bristol. Friends will please accept this intimation.

VAN ESSEN.—On the 19th Jan., at the Civil Hospital, William Van Essen, Master Mariner.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—Canton: The advance in exchange, the unfavourable advices from England, and the extreme firmness of the teamen, have combined to keep buyers of Congou out of the market, and consequently the business of the fortnight has been very restricted indeed, without showing any reduction in rates. In other descriptions the settlements have been trifling, exhibiting no feature worthy of remark. The stock of country greens is held at an advance of 5 to 6 taels on the offers submitted of 41 to 43 taels. The following are the settlements of the fortnight:—Congous: 1 chop Honchow, blk. lf. on pek. fivr., at 29½ taels; 2 do. Oopacks, blk. lf., at 35 taels; and 300 hf. ch. Tyshaan, at 20 taels. Scented Caper: 700 boxes fair at 17½ taels. The stock on the market is thus reported:—Country Congous, 43 chops; Tyshaan, do., 1,800 hf. ch.; Country Greens, 1,150 hf. ch.; Canton teas, uncertain.

AMOY.—During the early part of the fortnight there was a fair inquiry for teas suitable for the New York market. Rates tended down, although supplies had ceased and stocks very low. This demand almost swept the market, reducing the stock to a trifle, and virtually ending the season. The settlements are reported as under. Oolongs, 9,500 hf-ch. at $15 to $23. Ankois, 335 do. at $10 to $14½ for low and common, and $18½ for fine. Congou, 900 hf.-ch, at $12 to $18 for low ordinary to but middling. The stock remaining is stated at 550 hf.-ch. Congou, and 1,550 do. Oolong.

FOO-CHOW-FOO.—About the end of the year, in the face of the reduced stock and a good demand, prices advanced fully one tael on all teas above common, the lower kinds tending up rather than advancing. The stock being thus further reduced, holders became very firm, and notwithstanding the advance in freight and exchange, prices have been fully maintained. The following are the settlements of the month: Congous, 20,200 chests, 9,800 hf-ch., and 1,200 boxes at 8 to 15½ taels for ord. brkn. lf., 15 to 20½ taels for good common to flavoury, and 20 to 23 taels for good flavoury. Souchong, 2,700 chests at 16 to 27½ taels for common to fair. Oolong, 6,000 hf.-ch. at 16 to 20 taels for inferior to fair cargo. Scented Teas, 1,700 boxes at 23 to 23½ taels for fair. The following is a comparative statement of the supplies of teas this season to date, placed in juxtaposition with corresponding supplies, same period last season.

SUPPLIES FOR SEASON TO DATE.

	PRESENT SEASON.	LAST SEASON.
Congou	533,200 chests ..	564,009 chests.
Souchong	63,100 „ ..	32,500 „
Oolong	164,000 hf.ch. ..	217,900 hf-do.
Flowery Pekoe ..	9,100 chests ..	11,900 chests.
Scented Tea	81,000 boxes ..	123,200 boxes.

The present unsold stock on the market is thus stated:—Congou, 20,000 chests (against 48,000 same period last season). Souchong, 2,800 chests (against 700 same period last season). Oolong, 3,900 half-chests (against 40,700 same period last season). Flowery Pekoe, 400 chests (against 1,300 same period last season). Scented Teas, 4,200 boxes (against 14,400 same period last season).

SHANGHAI.—Black: The settlements of the fortnight amount to 10 chops, about 4,700 chests congou, making the total settlements for the season 378,000 chests against 266,000 chests same period last season. The state of the money market has had the natural effect, but still the advance in exchange more than counteracts the fall. The rates quoted are almost nominal. The stock on the market is stated at 11,000 chests congou, and 500 chests flowery Pekoe. Green: Only one full chop has been settled during the fortnight, and that being a forced sale, showed a decline of 4½ taels. Holders are firm, but the following quotations should be deemed nominal:—

	Fychow and Moyune.	Pingsuey.
Young Hyson ..	28 to 30 Tls. ..	27 to 46 Tls.
Hyson	36 to 60 „ ..	33 to 36 „
Twankay	20 to 32 „ ..	22 to 25 „
Gunpowder ..	34 to 65 „ ..	43 to 62 „

The stock on the market (which is nearly all in foreign hands) is stated at 21,300 hf. ch. Fychow and Moyune, 6,500 do.; Pingsuey, 1,600 do. Hoochow, and 700 do. Japan. The total settlements of the season are reported at 232,000 hf. ch., against 227,000 hf. ch. same period last season.

HANKOW.—The settlements of the fortnight are reported at 3 chops only, at a slight reduction, but not sufficient to represent the advance in exchange and freight. The supplies of the season amount to 667 chops, against 473 chops same period last season. The stock now on the market consists of 12 chops only, and few if any more are expected from the country. The quotations are as follow:—Oopacks, Cheongsowkyes, Leylings, and Ningchows, 20 to 25½ taels; Oonam, 14 to 17½ do.

KEWKIANG.—Green: During the early part of the fortnight there was a good demand; but little business was done, however, owing to the extreme firmness of the teamen. Advices arriving from Shanghai of the money crisis which existed there, exporters withdrew and business came to a stand. The settlements of the fortnight are reported as follows—8,500 hf.-ch. Moyunes at 33½ to 41 taels, and 500 hf.-ch. fair mixed at 29 to 31 taels. The stock on hand is about 30,000 hf.-ch. As the teamen are

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very firm it is hardly likely that any more business will be done until the pressure for money at Shanghai shall be over over—that is to say until after China new year. Black: Nothing done on the market. Some shipments to Shanghai have taken place.

YOKOHAMA.—We have again to report a small business in this article, only about 500 piculs settled since last report at nearly previous rates.

RAW SILK.—Shanghai: There has been literally nothing doing, the further advanced rate of exchange, having prevented operations. The approach of China New Year, added to a most severely tight money market, have caused the dealers to be more anxious to realise, and some of the more needy have been willing to submit to a decline of taels 20 to 30 per picul for cash payment. There have been, however, so few transactions that quotations are almost nominal. The arrivals from Japan have been about 350 bales and by latest advices the receipts at Yokohama were very trifling, but a large stock was reported to be detained at Yedo by the interference of the authorities, and this had caused a remonstrance from the British. The transactions of the fortnight are estimated at 600 bales only, against 3,000 bales corresponding fortnight of last season, and 3,500 the season before. The stock unsold is computed at 5,000 bales, against 4,000 bales same time last year, and 9,000 the season before. With the exception of a trifling quantity on board the mail steamer, there is no silk afloat. The following are the latest quotations:—Tsatlees, No. 1 chops, — tls. per picul; 2, 410 to 450; 3, 420 to 430; Market, 3, 405 to 415; 4, 390 to 400; 5 and com., 380 to 385; Taysaams, No. 1 and 2, 380 to 420; 3 and inferior, 330 to 370; Yuenfa, No. 1 and 2, 400 to 425; 3 and inferior, 370 to 390; Hainings, 370 to 420.

CANTON.—The season is over. MACAO.—There are no sales to report; there are some 20 piculs Cumchook offering at $400, at which there are no buyers.

YOKOHAMA.—During the past week we have no improvement to notice in the position of the silk market, holders continuing very firm in their demands, which, coupled with the high rate of exchange ruling, has considerably restricted operations. Receipts have been insignificant; the unsold stock is estimated at about 200 piculs. Ida: Best, none; medium, 540 to 555; inferior, 500 to 520. Mybash: Best parcels, 550 to 560; medium, 530 to 455; inferior, 520 to 525. Cosbu: Best parcels, 495 to 510; medium, 470 to 485; inferior, 455 to 465. Hatchogee, 410 to 420; superior, 380 to 385. Oshio: Best parcels, 535 to 545; medium, 490 to 510; inferior, 445 to 470. Meshta: None. Æchesan: None. Sodi: Fair to good, 480 to 490.

DRUGS, &c.—Cassia Lignea: Sales 1,500 piculs at $15.50; stock 2,800 piculs. Cassia Buds: None. Cassia Oil: Sales 15 piculs at $214 to 215; stock, 7 piculs. Aniseed Oil: No sales; stock, 30 piculs offering at $115 to 152. Star Aniseed: Sales 200 piculs at $18.40 to 18.50; stock, 500 piculs of inferior quality offering at $17 to 17.50. Galangal Root: Sales 300 piculs at $2.80 to 3; stock, 500 piculs. Gall Nuts: No sales; stock, 20 piculs held at $13. China Galls: No sales; a few piculs offering at $13.50. Ginger Preserves: $2.90 for best. Vermilion: Sales at $39.50 for India. Camphor: In no demand. Some 350 piculs have been sold since the issue of last report, at prices varying from $17.70 per picul unpacked to $19 packed. The principal holders of the article ask $20 per picul packed, which may be considered the market price. Stocks about 1,500 piculs.

COTTON.

HONG KONG.—The prevailing causes have operated directly on this article. The Chinese hold considerable stocks, and are eager sellers. The home advices are not of a nature to promote speculation, and foreigners, unwilling to realise at a loss, are shipping their stocks to England. The sales of the fortnight are reported at 5,000 bags Ningpo, at $29 to 31½, and 3,000 bags Shanghai, at $27 to 31, according to quality. Since the arrival of the French mail more anxiety to realise is evinced, and quotations have declined from one to two dollars.

CANTON.—The trade is reduced to a bagatelle, the only sale of the fortnight reported being 100 bags Shanghai, at 21 to 22 taels. The stock is only 500 bags Shanghai and 200 bags Ningpo.

SHANGHAI.—Very little business has been done, owing to the continued scarcity of money and high rates of exchange, which, since the departure of last mail, have so advanced as to very seriously depress all business operations. The supplies coming forward are now very insignificant; the stocks on hand are not large, and those on the market principally in the hands of natives. Holders generally, viewing the certainty of this season's crop being exhausted, or nearly so, are becoming very firm. Native holders have determined to wait until after the New Year, pawning their cotton in the meantime. Hence we may consider that as the supplies begin to fail, prices may advance for the old crop. Operations, of course, will be but small until the money market is easier and freights are lower; but it is not being too sanguine to suppose that by the next mail we may have to report sales at something near the highest rates quoted in December last. As the stocks on hand become shipped and supplies shortened, the present high rates of freight will not be maintained. The long spell of extremely fine weather which we have had, however, must have greatly favoured the new crop, and from the demand which has existed for the present crop, and the remunerative rates paid up-country, we may anticipate a large increase on the previous crop. The cotton hitherto sent in is seedy, and the Chinese are guilty of an immense amount of false packing; but as the extent of the crop increases, this latter defect will be remedied. Closing rates for No. 1 Shanghai, 16 to 18 taels; Country (nominal), 20 taels.

NINGPO.—The quotation is $30 per bale of 118 to 120 catties, but the supply is short and the demand slack.

AMOY.—Shanghai staple is quoted $32 to $33 per picul. The only sales reported are a few bales damaged.

HANKOW.—The market has declined about 3 taels per picul, and still tends down, buyers having all withdrawn. The nominal quotation is 20 taels per picul.

YOKOHAMA.—In active demand and scarce at $33 to $34 per picul. The Japanese merchants admit that the rate ruling gives an enormous profit, and it is certain that large supplies would come forward but for the obstructions put in the way by Government. One of the principal native dealers has been assassinated, and it is feared that the supplies, which fall off daily, will soon be entirely stopped.

TEA SHIPMENTS FOR JANUARY TO GREAT BRITAIN.

In our last issue we gave the exports up to the 31st December, we now append the exports for January:—

Ship.	From	Quantity. lbs.
Amaranth	Amoy	326,424
Glaramara	Foo-chow	573,200
L. Kniffier	Japan	25,000
Marquis of Argyle	Foo-chow	730,703
Governor van Sweitin	Japan	161,740
Albrecht Oswald	Foo-chow	736,000
Sappho	Shanghai	510,080
Sir Harry Parkes	do.	1,085,763
Egmont	do.	845,280
Herald	Foo-chow	640,600
Stuart Wortley	do.	1,196,600
Fairleader	Shanghai	656,590
Weymouth	Foo-chow	1,125,000
Rio	Canton	194,800

TO UNITED STATES.

		lbs.
Johanna	Shanghai	191,725
Hermine	„	330,416
Thetis	„	553,697
Kate Carnie	„	707,428
Santon	Foo-chow	543,000

COTTON TO GREAT BRITAIN IN JANUARY.

		Piculs.
Inamhore	Hong Kong	4,252
Strathallan	Shanghai	4,123
Langdowne	„	4,577
Koh-i-noor	Hong Kong	7,958
Oliver Cromwell	Shanghai	3,300
Oithena	„	5,479
Spirit of the Times	„	5,840
Veloz	„	4,072
Dolfijir	Hong Kong	2,670
Cornelia Hendrika	„	3,456
Wagoola	Shanghai	4,232
Ralston	„	3,841
Thomas Dryden	„	3,185
Devonshire	Hong Kong	9,368
Vampyr	Yokohama	300

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—The transactions reported during the past fortnigh are confined to a sale of 50 bales Nos. 16-24 placed in this colony, while in Canton nothing has been done.

GREY SHIRTINGS.—The sales of these goods amount to 2,300 pieces placed in Hong Kong at prices which show some decline upon the quotations previously current, and as the dealers are now commencing to prepare for the Chinese new year, it is not expected that any inquiry will exist for goods until after the holidays.

WHITE SHIRTINGS have met with buyers during the fortnight to the extent of 1,700 pieces, and prices are rather easier.

T-CLOTHS.—These goods have not been in any demand amongst the native dealers for some time past, and the quotations must in the absence of transactions be regarded as in a great degree nominal. In Canton the quotations given for all the above goods remain much as before, with the exception of Yarn, the prices of the lower numbers of which have advanced about $6 per picul, medium and higher qualities having experienced a decline to nearly a similar extent.

WHITE SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured, are without change to quote in value, and without sales to advise. Damasks: There are not any sales of these goods to report. Raw Cotton: Has again declined materially during the fortnight, but the business transacted has been somewhat larger than was reported under date of 14th instant; the purchases effected by Chinese amounting to about 4,500 bales, while some 2,500 bales have been taken on foreign account.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: There is not any change to notice in the value of these goods, neither are there any sales to report as having been effected during the past fortnight. Long Ells: Have met with a moderate amount of inquiry, and Assorted Colours are now becoming rather dear, the settlements effected amount to 540 pieces. Camlets: Sales of these goods to the extent of 300 pieces are reported, prices not showing any change. Lastings: There have not been any settlements of Lastings effected since the date of last circular, and prices remain as then quoted. Blankets: 100 pairs have changed hands during the fortnight.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c: In this colony all descriptions of iron have continued without enquiry, and with the exception of a small sale of hoop iron amounting to 200 piculs no transactions are reported. In Canton, however, a better demand has existed at, in some instances, improved prices, and the settlements effected during the fortnight amount to 1,700 piculs of Nail Rod, 1,200 piculs of Hoop, and 500 piculs of Iron Wire. Lead: The price of lead continues to droop: the sales reported in this colony being put at 480 piculs while in Canton 3,000 piculs have changed hands at a reduction of about 5 to 10 cents on the quotations of the previous fortnight. Tin: The sales since the 14th inst. are reported at 45 slabs in Hong Kong.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6	months sight.	7s. 3d. to 7s. 4d.	7s 5d. to 7s. 6d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 11d.	5s. 0d. to 5s. 1d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 11d. to 4s. 11½d.	5s. 0d. to 5s. 1d.
At Manila	6	ditto	4s. 7½d.	4s. 8d. to 4s.

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The Exchange on India at Shanghai was Rs per 100 taels. At Hong Kong Rs 226 to 227 per $100. Bar silver at Shanghai per $100. At Hong Kong 5 per cent prem. The quotation at Shanghai for Mexican dollars 76, and exchange on Hong Kong, 32 to 34 discount.

HONG KONG REPORT ON GOLD.—The amounts received during the fortnight have been three lakhs; and the value exported during the same period, inclusive of those by the *China* on the 15th January, and exclusive of those by the *Behar* to leave on 1st Feb., are equal to five lakhs of dollars' worth.

SILVER.—Half a lakh may be put down as covering the shipments inwards and outwards of this bullion for the two weeks past; and owing to the scarcity at present, the quotations must be considered nominal.

DOLLAR CURRENCY.—We have received six lakhs and a half of dollars, of which five lakhs and three quarters have been sent away, almost entirely to Shanghai. The few parcels of clean coin have been bought up for shipment to Singapore and Saigon.

DISCOUNT AND MORTGAGES.—A few days since money was in much demand, and 18 per cent. was paid in some instances upon the produce advances for short periods. Mortgages have been negotiated at 11 and 12 per cent.; but at the moment, the above may be considered outside rates.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN.—None.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Jan. 20, Dunkeld; 21, Lauderdale. From Liverpool: 21, Vauda; 22, Kirk Connel. From Cardiff: 15, Simoda; 21, Oscar, Bessie Stanton; 22, Mosquito; 24, Matador. From Newport: 13, Providence. From Swansea: 18, Zoe. From Newcastle: 20, Abbotsford. From New York: 24, Cap Singmoon.

At HONG KONG.—From Liverpool: Jan. 28, Carlotta. From England: Wookee (str.)

At MANILA.—None.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: Jan. 17, Constantine. From Liverpool: Thomas Blyth. From Cardiff: Henrietta; 5, Anna Decatur; 11, Alardus; 28, P. Clonde, R. Surcouf. From Glasgow: Jan. 8, Roslin Castle; 6, Frederika; 19, Scotland. From Sunderland: 11, Silver Cloud. From Jersey: 12, South Western (str.) From Bordeaux: Feb. 1, Minerva. From Rotterdam: Jan. 1, Marie Godard; 3, J. C. Simony; 15, F. Hendrik. From Scheidam: Feb. 1, A. Reyling. From Hamburg: Feb. 25, Dunnivrite.

At PENANG.—From Liverpool: Jan. 21, Gitano.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—For London: Jan. 3, Louis Kniffler.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Jan. 13, Amelia, Oliver Cromwell, 20, Wagoola; 21, Ralston; 22, Thomas Dryden.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: Jan. 14, Herald; 15, Weymouth, Stuart Wortley. For New York: Santon.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Jan. 25, Rio. For Liverpool: 25, Devonshire; 29, Dolphyn.

From MACAO.—For Hamburg: Jan. 26, Gravina, Orion.

From MANILA.—For Liverpool: Teide. For Cowes: Manila.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Feb. 1, Early Dawn; 2, Chili. For England: Feb. 24, H.M.S. Centaur. For Copenhagen: Jan. 26, Emma. For New York: Feb. 2, Rudolph.

From PENANG.—For London: Jan. 25, Edinburgh Castle.

From BANGKOK.—For London: Jan. 16, Bankok.

VESSELS LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Alexandria, Forerunner, Nelly, Cymbeline, Mary Shepherd, Cissy.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Annie Archbell, Aurora Australis, Stornaway. For Liverpool: Alice Tainter, Antelope, Blackburn, Thos. Roydon, Polmaise. For New York: Heversham, Lettice Catherine, Lord Collingwood, Macassar, Silvercraig. For Montreal: Alt Mecklenburg, Madura, Romeo.

At FOO-CHOW.—For London: Pakwan.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Vanguard, Tamerlane. For Liverpool: Alchymist, Annie Duthie, Constantia, Isabella Hercas, J. L. Dimmock, Nancy Brysson, Norwood, Patrician. For New York: Hamilla Mitchell, Resolute.

At MACAO.—For Channel: Regnel.

At MANILA.—For London: Tyburnia. For Liverpool: Jalawar, and J.A.U.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Eliza Thornton. For Boston: Pearl.

At PENANG.—For London: Claymore.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

JAPAN.—To London, cotton and tea, £5; silk, £6.

SHANGHAI.—The prospects remain good, and are expected to continue so, unless large arrivals take place. The rates are as follows:—To Liverpool and London, cotton and tea, £4. 10s. to £5.

FOO-CHOW.—To London, £5, with an upward tendency.

HONG KONG.—Tonnage has been in active demand. The following will show the rates:—For Liverpool, Dolfyn (260 tons), £4. 5s. per ton; Constancia (437 tons), £4. 10s.; Isabella Hercus (600 tons), £4; Nancy Brysson (390 tons), £4; and Patrician (1,139 tons), £4. 10s. To New York, Neuhof (Dan.), (381 tons), €5. To Bangkok and back, 60 to 65 cents per picul. To Rangoon and back, 85 to 95 cents per picul.

MANILA.—To London, £3. 15s. for dry sugar, £5. 15s. to £6 per ton of 20 cwt. hemp, and £5 per ton of 50 feet measurement.

At BANGKOK.—To Ningpo and on Shanghai: Charters have taken place, varying from 70 to 90 cents per picul to Ningpo and on Shanghai. To Hong Kong: 50 to 60 cents per picul.

PENANG.—To London, £3. 10s. dead weight, £4 light freight, and £4. 5s. measurement. Tonnage is required for the rice ports and for China.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—Jan. 9, Florence Adelaide, from Cardiff to Singapore; 11, Minerva, from Bordeaux to Singapore; 16, Willem and Carel, Newcastle to Batavia; 16, Hortensia, Cardiff to Singapore; 18, Albuera, London to Shanghai; 19, Akinda, Newcastle to Japan; 21, Joan M. Kemper, Amsterdam to Batavia; 23, Courier de la Sonde, Bordeaux to Singapore; 26, Avonale, London to Singapore.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—Jan. 26, Beverley, Boston to Batavia.

From CHINA &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—Jan. 6, General Putnam, Shanghai to Liverpool; 11, Virginia, Hong Kong to Liverpool; Trende Brodre, Singapore to London; Amaranth, Amoy to London; 15, Itsamboul, Nagasaki to London; Margareta, Manila to Cadiz; 16, Montmorency, Shanghai to Liverpool; 17, Tafferette, Canton to Havre; 20, Crusador, Singapore to Liverpool; 21, Saint Michel, Shanghai to Bordeaux; 22, Glaramara, Foochow to London; Albrecht Oswald, Foochow to London; Herman de Ruyter, Batavia to Amsterdam; 24, Spanker, Singapore to Liverpool; 27, H.M.S. Centaur, Singapore to England.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—Jan. 6, Elizabeth, Shanghai to New York; 11, Kahlamba, Foochow to New York; Guiding Star, Shanghai to New York; 15, Johanna, Shanghai to New York; 21, Capella, Shanghai to New York.

CASUALTIES.

HONG KONG.

The schr. Doris reports the loss of the British brigantine Nankin, which vessel left Sual, bound for Hong Kong, on the 24th of December, and at five o'clock on the morning of the 26th foundered at sea. The vessel sank so rapidly from the time the leak was discovered that there was scarcely time to cut away the boats before she went down, head foremost, capsizing one boat and nearly drawing them both down with her. She was in lat. 17 16' north and long. 119 22' east, about sixty miles from the land, for which the captain, with his wife and nine of the crew, and the mate, with six of the crew, at once made, neither boat having food or water. Both boats arrived in Sual on the evening of the 30th. The Doris brings a part of the crew to Hong Kong, the What Cheer having taken the remainder.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

According to the Circular of Mr. F. M. Page, bill and bullion broker, the export of Mexican dollars to China from 1st January to 3rd February has been £68,108, and bar silver £28,440, to Singapore and Penang, £1,036 in gold, £2,860 in Mexican dollars, and £3,480 in bar silver.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—March 8, at London, from Calcutta and Akyab, Britannia; at Falmouth, from Maulmain, Elizabeth; 5, at Texel, from Batavia, Tasmania; at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Cheribon, Neilige Liduina; from Macassar, Macassar; 8, at Waterford, from Hong Kong and Singapore, Alfred Ray; 9, at Texel, from Batavia, Frans and Elise; at Havre, from Manila, Volta; at Cuxhaven, from Hong Kong, Johanne; 12, at Liverpool, from Hong Kong, Eliza Stewart; 14, from Shanghai, Niphon, Macduff; from Hong Kong, Glenese, Gemini.

DEPARTURES.—March 8, from Shields for Shanghai, Queen of the Ocean, for Hong Kong, Carisbrook; 9, from London for Shanghai, Solent; for Singapore, Prince Alfred; from Liverpool for Singapore, William Cundell; 8, from Cardiff for Batavia, Johanna Maria; from Sunderland for Shanghai, Queen of the East, Carrizal; for Hong Kong, Aboyne; 11, from London for Singapore, Blue Jacket; 9, from Sunderland for Hong Kong, Harkaway; 12, from Liverpool for Hong Kong, Milton; from London for Hong Kong and Canton, Southern Belle; 10, from Shields for Singapore, Eddystone; from Sunderland for Shanghai, Margaret Wilkie; 14, from Liverpool for Shanghai, Recife; for Singapore, Euphrates.

The Hamburg (barq.), Jacatia (Spring), from Hamburg for Batavia, with coals, was totally destroyed by fire, Jan. 3, in lat. 40 S., lon. 64 E.; crew saved and landed at Batavia.

SPOKEN.—Dunnikier (barque), Clyde to Singapore, Feb. 25, 50 N., 17 W.; Surat, Shanghai to London, Dec. 22; Baron van Heemstra, for Batavia, Nov. 20, 10 S., 32 W.; Melbourne, Manila to New York, Dec. 29, 35 S., 31 E.; Hurry Puddemsey, London to Singapore, Jan. 22, 1 N., 22 W.; Bacalan, Bordeaux to Hong Kong, Jan. 10, 4 S., 33 W.; Lady McNaghten, London to Shanghai, Jan. 27, 12 N., 28 W.; Stanley, for Shanghai, standing S.W., in a gale from W.S.W., March 4, 48 N. 12 W.,; Mary Hale (?), Batavia to Amsterdam, 56 days out, Jan. 4, 31 S. 12 E.; Kykduin, Tilatjap to Amsterdam, Feb. 1, 7 N., 29 W.; India, Banjoewangie to Rotterdam, Jan. 15, 12 S., 11 W.; Margaretha, Batavia to Amsterdam, Jan. 19, 6 S., 16 W.; Mary and Hillegonda, Batavia to Rotterdam, Jan. 13, 2 N., 21 W.

At Santa Cruz, Teneriffe, Feb. 28: Yeun Tze, Fee, st., Stocks, from Port Glasgow, for Shanghai.

Laid on at Liverpool for Shanghai: Morning Star, Diligentia.

SOOCHOW, BY THE BISHOP OF VICTORIA.—The Bishop of Victoria in a paper contributed to the current number of *Christian Work*, says:—"The recent perfidy and cruelty of the Imperialist authorities in the recapture of the city of Soochow from the Taipings, and their following up victories obtained by British help with all the horrible barbarities of pagan warfare, are a sad blot, at the present time, on the history of our international intercourse." But the Bishop draws another picture, as pleasing as this is sad. He contrasts Canton as he found it on a recent visit with the Canton of nineteen years since. Then foreigners were hooted and abused on their approach to the gates, and actual entry was only effected at the peril of life. The Mandarins proscribed them, and the mob pelted them. Now, the officers of State delight to show them honour, the crowds not only leave them unmolested, but are well pleased to see them mingling with them and increasing their trade, while a dozen Protestant missionaries, American and English, are quietly but successfully engaged in teaching the Christian religion to the thronging population. "All this change," he says, "has of course been the result of political causes, and the severe lessons received during the bombardment and capture of the city." As at the South so at the North. Since we unmis-

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takably asserted our superior force and our determination to keep the Chinese to their engagements, our plenipotentiary and our missionaries reside without difficulty at Peking, and they have been treated by the Government not merely with civility, but with cordiality. The preachers of Christianity travel to and fro without fear, and are everywhere well received by the people, though formerly they dared not penetrate the country from fear of being murdered. The Rev. Joseph Edkins has just taken a journey from Peking to one of the principal cities on the frontier of Tartary, and has met with nothing but good-will and an anxiety to obtain gifts of books from high and low upon his journey. Mr. Edkins's fear about the Lay and Osborn affair is that it may interfere with the good understanding which has lately subsisted between the Chinese and English authorities.

MR. MOSSMAN AND COLONEL SYKES.—(To the Editor of *The Times*.)—Sir,—Colonel Sykes, in commenting on "China affairs" in the House of Commons, selected the *North China Herald* as the object of his special vituperation, calling it "a paper which has always been the uncompromising advocate of the Tartar Government in all its proceedings," and "the unscrupulous supporter, hitherto the organ and diplomatic agent, of Her Majesty's Ministers in China." Allow me, through your columns, as the editor of that journal during the most troublous times at Shanghai, to express my indignation at the unjustifiable assertion I have marked in italics, and to state that while surrounded by the contending interests of foreign traders and native factions, I pursued a straightforward and impartial course in the cause of humanity, irrespective of Tartar or Taiping. I was the "uncompromising advocate" of the industrious inhabitants whom the latter had plundered and enslaved; and when I supported the former it was in the suppression of anarchy, so that the suffering people might resume their labours, while I advocated the policy of Her Majesty's representatives—diplomatic, military, and naval—from a conviction that it was the best means of saving Shanghai from wreck and ruin, and for the protection of legitimate trade under the terms of the Elgin treaty of Tientsin.—Faithfully yours, SAMUEL MOSSMAN.

WILL OF THE LATE FREDK. HUTH.—The will of the late Frederick Huth, Esq., of Harley-street, a merchant of the City of London, was proved by his three sons, who are appointed executors. The personalty was sworn under £500,000. The will, dated 1859, after stating that he had five daughters and three sons, and that he had made settlements in his lifetime of considerable sums in favour of his daughters, proceeds to make a further provision for them and their families, leaving the residue of his property amongst his three sons. There are liberal legacies and annuities to servants and dependants, free of legacy duty. Amongst some specific bequests are presentations which had been made to the testator, one of which is a gold snuffbox, with diamonds and a portrait of the Queen Mother Maria Christina of Spain, which Her Majesty, then Queen Regent, presented to him in 1840. This, with some other presentations, he leaves to his eldest son, Charles Frederick, to be held as heirlooms. Other mementos and gifts of esteem and affection which had been presented to him he has distributed amongst his family.

SALE OF LORD LYNDHURST'S HOUSES.—The valuable freehold estate of the late Lord Lyndhurst, Nos. 25 and 26, George-street, Hanover-square, has been disposed of by Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods. The property was divided into two lots. The first included the spacious freehold mansion No. 25, George-street, situated on the east side, close to Hanover-square, the property, and for many years the residence, of the noble lord; all the fixtures included in the purchase. This lot was adjudged to Mr. Duddell at the price of £13,000. The second lot, the family residence, No. 26, George-street, Hanover-square, adjoining the mansion of his lordship, let by the year to Dr. Hawkesley, was knocked down to the same gentleman at the price of £5,000. Total produce of the freehold estate, £18,000.

COMMODORE MCCLUNY.—Commodore Wm. J. McCluny, United States Navy, died at his residence in Brooklyn. At the time of his death he had been in the service fifty-two years. He entered the navy in 1812, and was an acting lieutenant in the fight between the *Wasp* and *Frolic*. He was attached to the Japan expedition under Commodore Perry. From 1858 to 1860 he commanded the Home squadron. He had seen over twenty-one years' sea service, and spent considerable of his time on shore and other duty. He was universally beloved and respected, and his loss will be severely felt among a large circle of friends.

THE "ALABAMA" AGAIN.—There is a story going the rounds of the American papers, on the authority of a letter from Messrs. Walsh, Hull, and Co., of Kanagawa, addressed to Messrs. Macondray and Co., of San Francisco, under date Jan. 7, that "the *Alabama* was in dock at Amoy on Jan. 2, with the *Wyoming* standing sentry over her." This intelligence is accompanied in the same newspapers, by the intelligence that Hakodadi was burned by incendiary fires on Oct. 31. Our readers will be aware from our last number that these statements are incorrect.

M. CHAMPANHET, of Shanghai, has been appointed by the French Government Postmaster-general of China.

MR. T. F. WADE, Chinese Secretary, was presented at the late levee by Earl Russell.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, March 9.

The sittings of the Second Chamber of the States-General take place now as usual; but the debates have been exclusively confined to home subjects. Among the Bills laid before that Assembly for their confirmation is the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation concluded between Holland and the Kingdom of Italy. One of the stipulations it contains is that the produce or manufactures of Holland and of the Dutch colonies, from whatever country imported, shall be placed with regard to import duties upon the same footing as the same articles of the most favoured nations, whilst reciprocity of the same nature is granted to all goods the produce of the soil or of the industry of Italy, in Holland and her East India colonies and possessions.

At the last monthly meeting of the Indian Association, held last week, the principal subject of discussion was the question of personal servitude in Java. From the tenor of the debates it appears to be the general wish of the members to see it abolished, not only as being highly oppressive on the natives, but rather that the system gives rise to innumerable abuses. The meeting expressed its unanimous wish to see Article 57 of the regulations for the Government of India more strictly executed, so that the time may soon arrive when it will be possible to abolish altogether the personal service as far as the State is concerned, and then to deprive by degrees the native chiefs of it, who, however, ought to receive an adequate remuneration—in both cases subject to the levying of a tax on the inhabitants as an equivalent, if so required.

Two of the Japanese officers that have been studying for more than a year in this country, are gone to the head-quarters of the allied armies in Schleswig to gain a practical insight into the European mode of warfare. They are accompanied by a Dutch naval officer as interpreter, though they require his services in that capacity but little, as they have a great natural aptitude for learning languages, and speak with considerable fluency German, Dutch, and English. On their arrival at Gravenstein they were kindly received by Field-Marshal von Wrangel and the Prussian Princes, and have been several times to the outposts to get as near a view as possible of the celebrated entrenchments of the Danes at Duppel. They appeared much struck with the pontoon bridge at Eckensund over the mouth of the inlet called Nubel Noer, and examined its construction very closely. They are now gone northward to the Austrian head-quarters at Hadersleben, but it is understood they will return to witness siege operations which are about to be commenced against that formidable position. As they wear their own national costume, their appearance excited considerable curiosity, and probably they were equally struck with the diversity of uniforms they met with at every step, which are much increased by a number of officers of almost every army in Europe collected at the seat of war to witness as *amateurs* the military operations now going on.

It will be remembered that some time ago the newspapers of Netherlands India contained a sharp polemical dispute concerning the cultivation of the chinchona tree in Java, and that a bulky quantity of papers, reports and documents on the subject were laid on the table of the Second Chamber. In the report of the sitting of the Imperial Academy of Sciences, held at Vienna on the 14th of last month, we learn that a paper was read by Mr. de Vry, an officer of the East India Civil Service, now in Europe on leave of absence. That gentleman on his way home from Java visited British India for the purpose of examining the mode of cultivating the chinchona as pursued in the latter country. He states that the difference in the cultivation is that in Java they always plant the trees in thickets and let them grow up in the shade of other timber, whilst in British India they are planted at a distance from any other trees, and are thus fully exposed to the direct influence of the sun's rays, in consequence of which system it is found that the chinchona produces much more quinine and at an earlier period than that obtained in Java.

The number of vessels that arrived in this country from Netherlands India during the course of February was twenty-two, against thirty-one in January. Of these, fifteen brought cargoes for the company, and seven for the private trade. Fifteen came from Batavia, three from Samarang, two from Sourabaya, one from Pecalongan, and one from Tjilatjap. Twelve discharged their cargoes at Amsterdam, eight at Rotterdam, one at Middelburg, and one at Dordrecht. Among other produce they brought 83,230 bags of coffee, 35,242 kranjangs of sugar, and 1,705 chests of Java tea.

Great interest was felt here for the fate of the Bremen barque *Java*, Capt. Dehle, from Lossarang to Rotterdam, with a cargo of 10,328 bags of rice and 7,672 bundles of rattans as dunnage. On her arrival in the channel she was warned by a steamer chartered for that purpose by the shipowners and underwriters of Hamburg and Bremen, that a Danish steam-frigate, the *Niels Juel*, was cruising in the channel to intercept and capture homeward-bound German merchantmen, and was thus enabled to put into Plymouth. While she was lying there in safety, as she could not be captured in a neutral port, the *Niels Juel* came in for coal and water, and then stood out to sea in a S.W. direction. The *Java* then went out, but kept a sharp look-out, suspecting that the frigate would alter her course and give chase. And so it proved; but the *Java* perceived it in time to put back again into Plymouth Sound, and waited a few days, when the frigate received orders to return home, and the *Java* has now arrived at Brouwershaven without any more adventures.

H.N.M. screw steam-corvette *Soestdyk*, of 10 guns, Lieut. R. A. Houck in command, left Helvoetsluys on the 25th ult. for Surinam, from whence she will eventually proceed to reinforce the squadron in the Eastern Archipelago.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

Per *Jannetje*, Capt. Lubcke, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia: Lieut. A. J. Cosser, R.N., Lieut. C. Schuytenberg-Versteeg, R.N., four young gentlemen, four non-commissioned officers, and twenty-seven privates.

Per *Loovenstein*, Capt. Hulsthof, at Brouwershaven, from Java; Lieut.

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J. L. Inckel, R.N., Captain and Quartermaster J. H. van Boven, Mr. J. J. Ruys.

Per *Ida Elisabeth*, Capt. Dooren, at Brouwershaven, from Java: Mr. and Mrs. Graafland and family, Mr. Lammerts van Toorenburg and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Meysenheim-Knipschaar and family.

Per *Nicolas Witsen*, Capt. Portengen, at Amsterdam, from Batavia: Mr. Schmidt van Loffelt, Miss Linnen.

Per *Nedeland and Orange*, Capt. Brouwmeester, at Dordrecht, from Batavia: Mr. van Velzen, naval engineer, and ten passported soldiers.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Thare is but little alteration to report since last mail. Favourite numbers out of last sale, such as Nos. 18, 22, and 23, sell easily at 45 cents, but inferior qualities, such as Nos. 25 and 26, are not so saleable. The only sales by importers were 2,500 bags of Java, ex *Johannes Lodowyk*, to one house, at 42 to 47, according to quality, and 900 bags do., ex *Zwaan*, also to one single house at secret prices. Good Java, of clean taste, continues in demand at 45½, and for bright 47½ is paid. The company's first spring sale is announced for the 16th inst. in this city, and the quantity to be brought forward is only 79,900 bags; all Java, except 2,400 bags of Padang.

SUGAR.—The raw market is calm, but prices are not so firm as they were. Though the quotations are still nominally 1 to 1½ fl. above November sale prices, it is very doubtful if buyers could be found at those rates. The stock of raw sugar in Holland is 20,854,395 kilogr., against 26,869,056 k. last year. The company's March sale will be held on the 22nd inst., also in this city, when 71,500 kranjangs and mats of Java will pass the hammer. At the March sale last year the quantity offered was 62,300 kranjangs. Refined goods inactive; the present prices of raw, as compared with refined sugars, are such as to hold out no inducement to refiners to enter into contracts for later delivery.

RICE.—Some sales of rough grain have been made at very high prices, chiefly for shipment. Cleaned sorts go off quietly at full values.

SPICES.—On the whole the market is in a feeble condition, and though the dealings were far from extensive, previous prices could with difficulty be maintained. Cloves are quite neglected. Pepper is rather more in favour.

METALS.—Company's copper is 2 fl. lower, and can be had at 58 fl. Banca tin remains steady at 70 fl., at which figure the small transactions of the fortnight have been done. 4,000 blocks of Billiton are expected to arrive in a short time.

INDIGO.—There has been a good demand for Java, and 290 chests have changed hands at former values. Some private trade parcels have come to hand, and will be shortly in the market.

GUTTA-PERCHA.—Some lots that were bought in at the last sale have been since disposed of by private contract.

RATTANS.—This article commands an easy sale at full prices. Among the transactions were 900 bundles (200 piculs) ex *Knight*, 800 bundles (130 pic) ex *Wave*, and 3,321 bundles ex *Zwaan*.

TOBACCO.—Market firm; in prices no alteration. There have been no sales by auction since last mail, but several parcels have been sold by tender, amongst which were 1,502 bales of Java, mark NICOT, and 518 bales of do., mark CUBA.

FRANCE.

The *Moniteur* says:—"The transport *Europeen*, commanded by a captain in the Imperial navy, sailed from Suez on the 3rd of November last, and arrived at Saigon, in Cochin China, on the 3rd of January. She had on board 1,161 men, passengers and crew, of whom eighty-five were marines, received on board at Pondicherry. The *Europeen*, which is to be replaced on the Cochin China station by the *Sarthe*, is shortly expected at Saigon, having left Singapore on the 20th of January. The *Europeen*, which requires repairs in her machinery and masts, is to return to France.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CHINA AFFAIRS.

(March 4th.) Colonel SYKES rose to call attention to the following resolution, passed unanimously at a meeting of the Consuls representing European nations at Shanghai, on the 16th day of December, 1863, at the British Consulate, moved by Mr. Markham, the British Acting-Consul, and seconded by Mr. Keswick, Danish Consul:—"That this meeting, as representing the whole foreign community, views with unqualified disapprobation the late proceedings of the Futai at Soochow as an act of extreme treachery, abhorrent to human nature, calculated to withdraw from the Imperial cause the sympathies of Western nations, and the aid of the gallant officers who have hitherto assisted them,"—and to ask the First Lord of the Treasury whether, with this renewed instance of perfidy in Imperial officials, it is intended by Her Majesty's Government to pass unnoticed further violation of the instructions of the Foreign-office to British authorities in China, to be strictly neutral in the civil war which has so long raged in China. He said that in November last he received from Soochow a statement to the effect that a force consisting of 200 men of the 67th Regiment, 100 men of the Royal Artillery, and 100 men of the 22nd Native Infantry had left, under the command of Captain Murray, R.A., for Taitsang; that 200 Belochees, under command of Captain Hogg, had also been thrown into Quinsan; that the garrisoning of these two cities by the British would enable Major Gordon to advance with almost his entire force to Soochow, and would ensure his retreat in the unexpected event of a reverse; and that it was believed that as the capture of Soochow was considered essential to the tranquillity of Shanghai, Sir Frederick Bruce looked favourably on the conjoint action of native and foreign troops if such should be found necessary. From Hong Kong by the same mail he received a communication to the same effect—viz., that British troops had been sent by Major-General Brown to places beyond the 30-mile radius to enable Major Gordon to advance upon Soochow. Now, the House had been informed more than once by the Prime Minister, the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and the Secretary of the Admiralty, that the Government had issued instructions to the effect that strict neutrality would be maintained in China beyond the 30-mile limit from the treaty ports, which it was thought advisable to secure from the effects of the contest between the rebels and the Tartar Government. The moment he received that communication from China, knowing the orders which had been issued from the Foreign-office, and recollecting the statements which had been made on the part of the Government, he addressed a letter to Earl Russell, stating the facts he had mentioned, and intimating at the same time that he should consider it his duty to bring the violation of the orders of the Foreign-office by Major-General Brown to the notice of the House of Commons. On the next day—the 23rd of November—Earl Russell acknowledged the receipt of his letter, and his object now was to redeem the pledge he had given to the noble lord. The first remark he had to make was that the meeting of the representatives of European nations at Shanghai was caused by a horrid butchery perpetrated at Soochow. Probably the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, who had always been the champion of the Tartar Government, would tell the House that the occurrences at Soochow had been exaggerated, and that he had been told so by Major Gordon. But the fact was that Major Gordon did not witness the butchery. Indeed, he had not an opportunity of witnessing it, for he was next to a prisoner when it took place, and he had no means of preventing it, having sent his troops back from Soochow to his head-quarters. Great events sometimes sprung from trivial causes, and so it had been on this occasion in China. Had not Major-General Brown violated his orders by garrisoning two cities far beyond the thirty-mile radius, Major Gordon could not have withdrawn the whole of his troops from those places, nor could he have made that impression upon Soochow which led to the surrender of the town by treachery—an enterprise in which he was sorry to say Major Gordon himself took part. From a report of the meeting of the Consuls at Shanghai he observed that Major-General Brown was the chief denouncer of the butchery at Soochow. At that meeting the resolution included in his notice was carried unanimously.

The unanimity of the Consuls he found explained in the *North China Herald*, a paper which had always been an uncompromising advocate of the Tartar Government in all its preceedings. Under date the 12th of December, 1863, it contained a memorandum communicated by Major Gordon himself, stating that on the 28th of November, on the morning after La-wang and other leaders had opened negotiations with the Futai for the coming over of the troops, the Tartar General brought to him the heads of the traitors, who said he thought the garrison were willing to give the city up to the Imperial Government on condition that their lives and property should be guaranteed. Major Gordon added that he conversed with La-wang, who seemed to have some doubts, from past experience of Tartar perfidy, and told him that would be an exceedingly acceptable thing to bring together the conflicting parties in China; and, moreover, that the Imperialists were not the people they had been in former days, thus leading the unfortunate wretch to believe that any arrangement made with the Futai would be carried out under the guarantee of Major Gordon himself. Major Gordon then had a communication with the Tartar General, who said it would be very acceptable if the place surrendered, for a great number of men would be lost in attacks on the gates, which were well fortified. But the Governor was a man of high distinction and much respected by Major Gordon himself, and the bargain made with the Imperial General was that the Governor should be handed over to him a prisoner. The strength of the position was such that great loss was anticipated in attacking it. The proposal to evacuate the city was therefore eagerly entertained by Major Gordon and the Imperialists. Then Gordon had scarcely returned to his quarters before Soochow, when General Ching sent him over two Frenchmen who had just come into the lines, and they said that at two P.M. on the 4th of September all the chiefs had been assembled in Mowang's Palace, and after a dinner they had offered up prayers (to the Christians' God, it should be remarked), that they then adjourned to the great Court, where they put on their robes, crowns, &c.; that the Governor mounted his throne and began an address, in which he stated their difficulties. The other Wangs answered him, and the disscussion grew higher and higher, till Kung-wang drew a dagger and stabbed Mo-wang in the neck, and the other wangs seized him and decapitated him, his head being afterwards sent to the Imperialist General.

On the night of the 4th, Ching's men having taken possession of the gate, the rebels within the city shaved their heads—(a laugh). The House was aware that when the Tartars conquered China they required the population at large to shave their heads and wear the *queue* in token of their submission. Major Gordon went to the Futai, and represented to him the danger of keeping the disciplined Chinese in a state of inactivity, also requesting that in recognition of their services a gratuity of two months' pay might be given to each inferior officer and man. The Futai refused, but after much wrangling Gordon induced the men to accept one month's pay as a present. This was given to them as the result of Gordon's negotiation in lieu of their alleged right to go in and plunder the city. The troops were then ordered back to Quinsan. On the 5th Ching announced that the Futai had written to Peking stating that he had extended mercy to the rebels. The morning after the troops left Gordon started for the city, sending the two steamers to meet him, as from information he obtained in Mo-wang's house he expected to have recaptured the *Firefly*, which had been taken from him. He saw the chief conspirator riding in the city to the Deputy-Viceroy's camp to make his submission, and he then endeavoured to while away the time till the steamers arrived. From the top of one of the gates he noticed a large crowd near the Imperial General's stockade, where the Deputy-Viceroy was staying, but thought the Imperialist soldiers were merely gratifying their curiosity by a glimpse of the rebel chiefs doing obeisance to the Futai. In a few minutes more a large body of men came up, and, passing the gate, rushed cheering into the city, firing their muskets in the air, and yelling. At that moment the decapitation of the princes was taking place in the crowd before his eyes. After much equivocation on Ching's part, Gordon at length became uneasy about La-wang (the chief conspirator), and went to his palace. He arrived there after dark, and found it completely ransacked. He entered the house of the prince, who had been butchered, and remained all night, defending him-

(*Continued in page* 148.)

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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LONDON, MONDAY, MARCH 14, 1864.

THE DEBATE ON COLONEL SYKES'S INTERPELLATION.

WE wish we could believe that the course of the discussion on Friday evening last, inaugurated by the gallant Member for Aberdeen, could be accepted as an indication that Parliament is beginning to feel that what are called "substantive motions" are out of place upon a question so important as our precise duties in China. Five years ago the arch-champion of the Taipings would have brought forward some pithily-worded motion, which the Opposition, whether accepting it in all its entirety or not, would have seized as a *cheval de bataille*, and we should have had a definite expression by the House of their feeling as to the employment of English mercenaries by the Chinese Government. China has already unseated one Ministry, and that whose chief was identical with the head of the present Cabinet. What are we to infer from the altered tone of the Taiping advocates in 1864? What from the taunt levelled at the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who entered public life as a follower of Lord DERBY, and is known to be much the most Conservative in his view of the present Ministry, that he has always been the champion of the Tartar Government? What from the absolute silence of even the underlings of the Opposition, even when Mr. KINNAIRD had what we must consider the hardihood gravely to maintain, by implication at least if not in express words, "that the policy of Her MAJESTY'S "Government had been limited to the protection of the Treaty "ports?" We own we are glad to find the House in such an acquiescent mood, and are inclined to ascribe it to other causes than the explicit declaration of Lord PALMERSTON that the Orders in Council had been revoked which authorised, first, the Anglo-Chinese expedition, and, secondly, the acceptance of service under the Chinese Government by such British subjects as chose to avail themselves of the permission.

There is visible in the veteran Premier's remarks a constraint, when he ventures to allude, even in the most cautious manner, to our future relations with China, which shows that even he feels that an irresistible destiny is hurrying on this country into a certain definite policy, which all true statesmen must regret, but which they are powerless to escape from. His Lordship, without actually committing himself to a final declaration of opinion as to the possibility of the rebels succeeding in establishing a Government, states that our only policy henceforth must be "to re-establish peace and order, as it is very im-"portant for the commercial interests of this country connected "with China" that "such commerce should be permitted to revive and expand freely." Here was a splendid opportunity for any gentlemen to make a little political capital, by following up Colonel SYKES's vague generalisations, and insisting on "the sacred right of rebellion." But the oracles were dumb, so we may conclude that the House tacitly agrees with Lord PALMERSTON, that the best thing we can do is—to protect our rapidly increasing commerce. In truth, we do not see what other conclusion they could come to; but why cannot honourable members go a little farther, and inquire how that desirable object is to be carried into effect? It would, perhaps, be asking too much of a man in his eightieth year to forecast the details of a policy, to anticipate twenty or thirty years of a history, that is evolving itself with a startling rapidity to which only the United States can furnish a parallel. But we suspect his Lordship, as he casts his eye over the maps of the Far East, must shake his head sadly as he contemplates that vast Empire which extends from the shores of the Aral to the Pacific, conterminous with the northern frontier of our Indian Empire, and mutter to himself the prophetic phrase, "*Après moi le déluge!*"

For however peaceable these his words may sound, there has always been found lurking in them the seeds of those troubles and convulsions that make what the mass of mankind call history. The defence of the privileges of a chartered company led to the acquisition of our Eastern Empire, and that by a succession of acts which still bring a blush of shame to an honest man's face. Must we repeat these errors of policy and shabby subterfuges on a yet more extensive field, or shall we not rather boldly grapple with the well-established political axiom, that the protection of a great commerce against the encroachments of the Government of the country with which we are trading, is neither more nor less than a declaration of war—and a war that must be internecine, since it implies that two leading principles are *struggling* for the mastery? Lord PALMERSTON was so emphatic on "the two faults that must be matter of re-"proach to the Chinese, perfidy and cruelty," that it is evidently a foregone conclusion in his own mind that, supposing either Taiping or Imperialist were entirely successful to-morrow, we should still have "to protect our commerce." Against whom? Against that "horribly corrupt officialism," as it has been well termed, which in the insolence of success would at once turn its attention to intermeddling with the detested FAN-KWEI, and attempt to drive him out of the country, in order that oppression, and extortion, and devilish cruelty might again stalk through the land. Whatever be the faults of the British pioneers of trade, they have never, at any period of history, been found to lend themselves to be the tools of others in oppressing the people. Their hand has been heavy on their own behalf—judged by results; their little finger has been thicker than the loins of the most truculent despot, or the most merciless race of conquerors that ever lived or ruled. But this is simply because the principle they represent is one form of moral force, which here, as elsewhere, overcomes brute force with its own weapons, ere it proceeds to organise anew the conquests it has made. As a general principle, then, a policy of protecting our Chinese commerce will inevitably lead us into annexation and absorption more or less gradual.

But this view is greatly strengthened if we only consider what "protection to commerce" means in the midst of such a rebellion as is now devastating China. We leave out of view all speculations as to the humanity of sternly using our power to restore order, upon the same principle that NAPOLEON never fired blank shot first. We simply note the fact that we are thus bound to act impartially against both parties; and the natural result is that as we are known to be strong enough to compel submission to our will from both parties even, if invited, we must acquire fourfold the *prestige* we otherwise should, if we had nothing but a faction to coerce instead of a united people. It is this very *prestige* which we wish to avoid increasing, if there be any meaning in Colonel SYKES's question and Lord PALMERSTON's reply; yet we adopt the very means,—viz., a strict neutrality between the two belligerents, both about equally ignorant of these subtleties of political fastidiousness by which our power and fame must increase, best calculated to extend it with an irresistible impulse, and attract to ourselves the entire commerce, and therefore the real destinies, of this overgrown empire. It is much to be regretted that there is no member of either House honest and outspoken enough to enunciate these plain and wholesome, though unpalatable truths. We smile contemptuously at the fractious patient who refuses the means of restoring health to the exhausted frame, because it implies the endurance of pain and discomfort; but in what is our policy on this important subject superior to such a childish display? Nothing is easier than for well-meaning gentlemen to sit on a comfortable bench, and listen to platitudes about neutrality, and the propriety of maintaining the peace, leaving "men and brethren" to hew each other to pieces. Scripture and the hard lessons of worldly policy are alike against such worldly-wise policy; and we may remind those gentlemen that they would be the very first to cry out were the sudden success of either combatant to find "the protection of our commerce," entrusted to the small force that is alone requisite to enforce the observance of our rights as neutrals.

Meanwhile, Lord PALMERSTON was enabled to ride off with

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a certain reputation for exercising a wise caution in dealing with the issues raised by Colonel SYKES, by reminding the House that we had not yet learned what had been the result of our Minister's representations of the conduct of the Fu-Tai. We may look, therefore, for a renewal of the debate on some future evening, when we trust—but, we confess, with but the slenderest expectation that our hopes will be gratified—that some member will approach the subject with a proper grasp of the momentous issues involved in it to the next generation if not the whole human race.

THE MEETING OF THE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

THE pressure upon our columns must be our apology for so briefly adverting, as we are compelled to do, to one very imporannt recommendation, adopted after much discussion at the recent meeting in London of the United Chambers of Commerce. We allude to the changes recommended in the distribution of the duties of the Consular body, who, the Chambers seem to think, could best discharge their important duties by confining themselves entirely to the transaction of mercantile business, and being placed under the control of the Board of Trade. We need not say that we cordially concur in the latter recommendation, and only differ as to the former on a matter of detail. It is absolutely necessary in countries where we have no regular envoy that some diplomatic authority should be present to represent the Majesty of England. For this duty we would recommend the retention of Consuls-General and Consuls under the control, as at present, of the Foreign Office, and communicating with them exclusively upon diplomatic matters, while the Vice-Consuls might be handed over to the Board of Trade, and report exclusively to that department, referring all other matters that came before them each to his immediate chief. As soon as the report is in our hands we shall recur to this subject. as we believe its recommendations will be found to contribute very materially to the efficiency of a valuable body of public servants.

DEPARTURE OF THE STEAMER "KIU-KIANG" FOR CHINA.

The fine steamer *Kiu-Kiang*, under the command of Captain S. N. Taylor, sailed from New York for Shanghai, via Cape de Verde, Cape of Good Hope, Singapore, and Hong Kong on the 9th Feb.

The *Kiu-Kiang* was built at New York by Mr. Inglis, for Messrs. Olyphant and Son, and is intended to run on the Yang-tze river. She is a paddle-wheel steamer of eleven hundred tons register, with a beam-engine, having a cylinder of fifty-eight inches in diameter and twelve feet stroke, which was built at the Allaire Works.

The following passengers went out in her:—Captain Walsh and wife, Captain Preston, Mrs. Bridgeman, Dr. Abbe, Messrs. F. R. Talbot, G. S. Dabney, Mr. Reed, and five Chinese in the steerage.

Naval and Military.

The *London Gazette* announces the appointment of Rear-Admiral Augustus Leopold Kuper, C. B., with the temporary rank as Vice-Admiral, while Commander-in-Chief on the East Indian and China station. to be an Ordinary Member of the Military Division of the Second Class, or Knights Commanders, of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

The Adventure, screw troopship, Capt. Waddilove, is under orders to embark supernumeraries for China about the 15th inst.

Captain Lord John Hay, C.B. (1854), who was recently in command of the Odin, on the China station, has been selected as the future captain of the iron-plated ship Achilles. This vessel will be ready for her tria cruise in May or June.

The announcement was made at Chatham of the appointment of Lieut.-Col. A. P. S. Green to the command of the 1st division of the Depot Brigade Royal Artillery, in succession to Lieut.-Col. R. Talbot, who has been placed under orders to embark for the Cape of Good Hope, to take the command of two batteries of the 2nd Brigade Royal Artillery.

The iron-cased screw steam frigate Prince Consort, 35, Capt. Willis, left Plymouth Sound for a trial cruise in the channel. She will rendezvous at Portland until the arrival of the squadron from Lisbon. After her voyage to Dublin, in which she encountered very heavy weather, very large sums were named as the probable cost of her repairs. Including several expensive improvements unconnected with that trip, the entire charge will not be much beyond £10,000.

The battle of Cape St. Vincent, where Nelson so greatly distinguished himself, was fought on the 15th of February, 1797, sixty-seven years ago, and only four officers are now surviving who were present in that action. There are several officers living who were present at Lord Howe's victory on the 1st of June, 1794, some of them hale and hearty, and able to attend their club at the anniversary day of that great battle.

The Royal Sovereign converted cupola ship was successfully floated out of dock at Portsmouth, in the presence of Vice-Admiral Sir M. Seymour. There was no mishap, and the long-expected event was attended with every success. The tide was very high, and our only turret ship was taken alongside the sheer jetty in capital order. It will be remembered that the Royal Sovereign was a new three-decker; but has been cut down and converted into a cupola ship, with three turrets, on Captain Coles's principle. She is a powerful vessel, and will be most valuable for coast defence. She floats much lighter than was expected, and draws 18 feet forward and 24 feet aft. She is a great success as far as her conversion goes.

THE COLONY OF SINGAPORE.

(EXAMINER.)

The colony of Singapore, about to be transferred from the Indian to the Colonial department of administration, is the first and most successful example in British history of the beneficial effects of freedom of trade. Singapore has an area of about 200 square miles, or is about one-third larger than the Isle of Wight; but even of this small area but a few square miles are as yet cleared of a forest, the trees of which would for size and frequency do honour to the region of the Amazons. This forest harbours royal tigers, which yearly destroy more human beings than cattle, but only because of the two the human herd is more numerous. The island lies but eighty miles from the equator and is hot, yet being well ventilated by monsoons and land and sea winds, it is eminently healthy. Its main advantage consists in its position, for it lies on one of the two great highways through the Malayan Archipelago which connect the Eastern with the Western world, while it has a roadstead and a harbour safe and accessible at every season.

Singapore became a British possession in the month of February 1819, and is consequently as a British colony just forty-five years old. It was ceded to us by a very poor chief, the head of a band of Malay fishermen, not indisposed to piracy when opportunity offered. The grandson of that chieftain is a well-educated man, a proprietor of land, and in the enjoyment of a yearly income of £30,000, a fact which tells well for the prosperity of the colony and the justice and liberality of those who have administered it. He is probably the wealthiest Malay that ever lived, and he could certainly buy and sell all the Malay princes of the Archipelago.

Singapore has been a free port in the most comprehensive sense from its first establishment, for no duties are levied on ship or cargoes, and this without reference to nationality. The result is striking and exemplary. The population of some 200 beggarly and barbarous fishermen has risen to an industrious community of 100,000. Of these the European inhabitants of all nationalities, but the majority English, do not exceed a few hundreds. About three-fourths of the population are Chinese, a few of them Creoles, but the great number emigrants from China, including without the last year or two a few females. The bulk of the rest of the inhabitants consists of various nations of the Malay Archipelago and of various nations of Hindu origin, to which may be added some Arabs, Persians, Armenians, and Jews.

And now for the commerce, which has brought together this miscellaneous population. We have before us the returns for the official year 1862-3. The imports amounted in value to £6,461,720, and the exports to £5,555,573, the first exceeding those of the previous year by £889,200, and the last by £594,020. The number of square-rigged vessels which entered was 1,279, of 471,440 tons burthen, and the departures 1,241, of 396,599 tons, but this is exclusive of native craft of many descriptions. Full one-half of this shipping is British, the rest sailing under no fewer than twenty different national flags, of which the most considerable are the American, the Dutch, the French, the Hamburg, the Bremen, and the Siamese. The great majority of the shopkeepers and brokers are Chinese, but among these are also found wealthy merchants and shipowners, with correspondents in London, Liverpool, and Glasgow. Englishmen and foreign Europeans are the chief merchants and bankers. Next to Bombay and Calcutta Singapore is the greatest commercial emporium of British India, and this is the result of freedom and a happy geographical position.

But how fares it with financial matters? Surpassingly well. The revenue, a net one, amounted in the year quoted to £125,210, and the expenditure, civil and military, £105,555, giving a clear surplus of £19,855. This, however, is not the real state of the account, for the local revenue is charged with the maintenance of all the convicts of British India, amounting in number to some 3,000. This is exactly as if the revenues of the colony of Western Australia were to bear the charge of all the felony sent to it from England. The amount of this charge is £11,900 and adding to it the surplus already stated, we find the income to exceed the expenditure by better than £30,000. When, therefore, Singapore comes under the direct administration of the Crown, a consummation devoutly desired by the inhabitants, it will be the only colony out of forty that, while conferring great advantages upon the nation, will be no burden on the mother country. The colony, it is almost superfluous to add, has an abundance of skilled artificers, with wet-docks capable of accommodating vessels of large burthen with a cheap supply of good timber for their construction.

THE ANGLO-CHINESE FLEET AND THE DEBATE ON CHINA.

(THE TIMES.)

The discussion upon the massacre at Soochow, the failure of the Osborn expedition, and the repeal of the Orders in Council leaves the whole question as to the responsibility of the failure still resting upon the papers just laid before Parliament. The other speakers added nothing to what appears in these papers, and Lord Palmerston volunteered no decision upon the points they raise. Chinese statesmen are seldom at a loss to make out a specious case. Even Yeh was a sage and a moralist when he was not slicing off rebel heads by the hundred or cutting women into morsels upon wooden crosses. He went far to convince some Englishmen that Sir Michael Seymour and Lord Elgin were men of violence and unreason; yet there was no doubt about the history of the "execution ground" or the horrors of the Canton prisons. So in the despatches which Sir Frederick Bruce has recently transmitted from Peking, and which were discussed in the House of Commons, the "Foreign Board" make out a triumphant case, and put Mr. Lay completely in the wrong. Yet no one disputed that the Futai who exercised over Major Gordon the command attempted to be imposed over Captain Osborn, did, as Colonel Sykes recounted, break faith with Gordon and massacre the people and

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the prisoners whom Gordon had admitted to mercy. The Chinese are a people who have no difficulty in being always in the right, for they have no difficulty in inventing the facts from which it would follow, as a matter of reasoning, that they must be in the right. We will not assume, therefore, because the Chinese statesmen are indignant with Mr. Lay, nor even because Sir Frederick Bruce seems to justify their indignation, that therefore all the right is on one side, and all the wrong is on the other.

Still, however, the Chinese do appear to be at least technically right in their controversy with Mr. Lay. But, right as the Chinese are, there can be no doubt on any mind that if Captain Osborn had allowed himself to be put under a Chinese admiral, as was proposed, and had permitted his squadron to be dispersed under the orders of the Futais and Taoutais of the provinces, England would be ringing at this moment with execrations at the atrocities of which these ships had been made the agents; the world would have been scandalised that prudish England should have been made the executioner of a Chinaman's vengeance, and Lord Palmerston would have had a much more difficult speech to make than that which satisfied the House. Sir Frederick Bruce felt this, even while he was holding that the Chinamen were right in resisting the pretensions of Mr. Lay. If he had not felt it, he would have allowed them to officer their fleet themselves, as they might readily have done, with desperadoes at the open ports. The other foreign Ministers felt this, or they would not have interfered to fortify Sir Frederick in his resolution not to allow this powerful force to pass over to Chinese commanders. Sir Frederick Bruce, indeed, seems to have held a tacit opinion hostile to the expedition altogether, if it be true, as the Chinese say, that "the British Minister and Mr. Wade have on former occasions urged that Chinese military authority ought not to be delegated to foreigners." Sir Frederick, however, never suggests any desire to see Captain Osborn take command under a Chinese admiral; but, on the contrary, repeatedly in his despatches applauds that officer's conduct throughout the matter. Sir Frederick Bruce admits that he did not give Mr. Lay or Captain Osborn any active assistance in their demands, and the Chinese extol "the surpassing discernment of the British Minister" that he does not share the wish of Mr. Lay, who would insist on imposing restrictions on the Chinese Government. Under the circumstances, we agree with Lord Russell that Sir F. Bruce pursued the proper policy. This expedition had got into a false position, and Sir F. Bruce would have done no good if he had attempted to lift it by orce into a bettergroove.

On the other hand, we cannot agree with those who see in this affair another instance of the bad faith and ingratitude of the Chinese Government. There might have been, and we think there was, great folly in the conduct of the Court of Peking in thus rejecting this force, which would have certainly accomplished the object expressed in the instructions of the Foreign Board, "to clear the river, and go right at Nankin;" and we believe that Captain Osborn would have given peace to the middle provinces of China and would have offered to the decaying monarchy another chance of salvation. The Chinese, however, thought otherwise. They allowed themselves to be befooled by their own notions of the unalterable nature of Chinese traditions. They became, while in this frame of mind, the dupes of foreigners who were hostile to this expedition from various and even contradictory motives. Some saw in the force the initiation of a permanent British supremacy in China. Others beheld in it the end of that system of confusion which gives opportunity for irregular profits. But, however mistaken the policy of the Foreign Board of Peking, the course they had adopted was one they had a perfect rtght to pursue so far as Captain Osborn and Mr. Lay were concerned. Mr. Lay had exceeded his instructions, which extended no further than to obtain ships, stores, sailors, and officers; and it was a capital mistake that the expedition ever left England without commissions and instructions under the seal of the Chinese Emperor.

We cannot see how this is to be answered. Of course, we by no means admit the conclusion the Chinese seem to have drawn, that because Mr. Lay had omitted to obtain the proper authority for such conditions as any British officer in Captain Osborn's position must require, he was therefore to do their bidding as a mercenary without any securities as to the nature of the work he was to perform. But there being no conditions fixed, they certainly had full right to reject the very inadmissible conditions which Mr. Lay had taken upon himself to lay down. Under the circumstances, when they volunteered to pay all expenses up to the arrival of the expedition in England, and made moderate complimentary grants to Captain Osborn and Mr. Lay for the pains they had bestowed upon the ships and their equipment, the Chinese Government behaved with a liberality and sense of propriety not often to be found in their transactions with Europeans. At the bottom of it all there was, no doubt, a desire to use this force after their own fashion, and to accomplish that "extermination" of which they speak in one of their papers of instruction; and this mingled largely with that "profound irritation" against Mr. Lay on account of the position he had assumed of which Sir Frederick Bruce speaks. If they had gained their point with Captain Osborn, the consequences could not have been other than those we have already indicated; but in rejecting the demands they were in their right, and they have used their right with a remarkable moderation. However great the disappointment to the commander and officers of this expedition, they must, as reasonable men, see that if they have any grievance it is not against the Chinese.

PARLIAMENT—(*Continued from page* 145.)

self. His troops were gone. He tried next day to make his way back to his garrison; he was intercepted and detained as a prisoner; he was then allowed to go away, and from that moment he saw nothing of what took place in Soochow. The House ought to know what did take place. He had in his hand the account of a European eye-witness of the governor's assassination at Soochow. This person's narrative stated that after the rebel commander-in-chief left Soochow the Europeans all lived together in the Mo-wang's palace and were well treated; that on the 4th of December the Mo-wang had invited half-a-dozen of the other wangs to a large dinner, over which it was understood they were to discuss what was to be done; that the Mo-wang had no idea of the treachery which was in store; that he was standing up saying something loud when all at once a man belonging to the Liu-wang went behind him, and with a long knife which he had concealed up to that time stabbed the Mo-wang in the body; that the Liu-wang immediately jumped towards the body and cut the head off.

He had also a statement from one of Major Gordon's own officers. The writer said that having been at Soochow on the day that "the viceroy, the type of all that is detestable and infernal, glutted his vengeance on the unfortunate inhabitants, men and women, who had surrendered on terms that should have been held sacred," he felt it his duty to write his regrets at the treachery which had taken place, "dishonouring as it was to the cause for which so many brave and honourable men"—generally Englishmen mixed with other foreigners—"had shed their blood." Here was Major Gordon's defence. It was dated December 14. It stated that the withdrawal of the troops from Soochow totally disabled Major Gordon from preventing what had occurred, and which (as he could show the House) continued to occur for twenty successive days. The defence was that Major Gordon wanted to bring the parties together, and that in so doing he had led the chief conspirator to believe that he might safely trust the Imperialist authorities. The *North China Herald*, speaking of the horrors of Soochow, said, "During the campaign of the last two years against the rebels of this province the Imperialists have availed themselves of every opportunity of gratifying their taste for indiscriminate slaughter which was ever found among uncivilised nations." This came from the unscrupulous supporter, hitherto the organ and diplomatic agent of Her Majesty's Ministers in China. The account then went on to mention the facts as they had occurred. It ended with saying "We believe, however, that the recent events in Soochow have cast an indelible stain on the Chinese as a nation, and this was the more to be regretted because up to the time of their occurrence an English officer was in command." Again, it was stated guns and ammunition were freely supplied. "In a word, everything that could be done by one nation for another was done by the English and French for the Chinese." What! After the declarations of neutrality and in spite of the instructions from the Foreign-office? Yet all ended in "indiscriminate slaughter." Nor was this account exaggerated. Here was another eye-witness. The hon. and gallant member then read an account of a visit to Major Gordon's camp.

The artillery were in position. They promised to preserve the city from being looted, and that persons and property would be respected. They were to receive one month's pay in lieu of loot. The writer visited the Mo-wang's palace. On the stone steps of the reception-hall lay the body of the truly brave and noble-minded Mo-wang; his head was outside the city in the hands of Ching. On raising the cloak that covered his body a stab was seen in his stomach and nine in his back. Sad as was the fate in store for the other Wangs, one can but think it was a just retribution for this cowardly assassination of one who had gained the respect and admiration of his enemies. This was from one of Major Gordon's officers. With respect to the supposed ignorance and brutality of the rebels the same officer said, "We visited several other places. Everything seemed undisturbed; houses and narrow streets looking dull from the former being closed; the palaces all looking bright from fresh decorations, some not finished." The same officer described how "Ching's brave celestials ran to do their cowardly work of slaughtering unarmed men. Those who came down the street to leave the city were stopped by the guards and looted. If resistance was offered there was work for the knife and sword. May the Futai have a miserable end for being the author of that cowardly act!" Several fires were then raging. That was on the 5th of December. There was the account of another visitor to Soochow on the 26th of December, 21 days later:—"We mounted the great tower, one of the finest in China, and we saw in many places the flames and smoke ascending from numerous burning houses." So that, in fact, the burnings had gone on from the 5th to the 26th.

Another account, dated Shanghai, January 2, said, "The country is generally untenanted, but the crops raised by the Taipings were in a flourishing condition, and, of course, very acceptable to the Imperialists." This officer had an interview with the secretary of Tchoong-wong. He found the house had not only been looted, but the valuable furniture it contained had been literally smashed to atoms by the Imperialist soldiery. On the walls he found a series of pictures representing the sad journey of Jesus from the house of Pilate to his place of execution. On the 20th of December he went to the Padicho gate, where he saw the heavy artillery outside. "We looked," he said, "with regret upon those splendid 'peacemakers,' that they should have been loaned to the butcher of Soochow, being the property of the British Government." He had given an account of the treachery and butchery practised by the Chinese authorities, which had excited the indignation of the representatives of foreign nations. He had also shown how those horrors had been brought about by the violation of his instructions by General Brown, who by garrisoning two other places enabled Gordon to attack Soochow, and the Futai would not have had opportunity of perpetrating his butchery. One account stated that up to the 22nd of January no less than 30,000 men, women, and children had been slaughtered in consequence of the treachery at Soochow. The House might perhaps think that this was only an accidental occurrence, but he assured them that it was not so, but that such proceedings had ever characterised the Tartar rule in China. The Jesuit Martigny, who was in China at the time of the Tartar conquest, stated that after the capture of Canton 100,000 persons were put to death. When we more recently took Canton we found in the execution ground a cross, to which criminals were fastened and then hacked into pieces. That cross was of course removed, and while we remained in possession of the city executions were conducted in a less horrible manner. When, however, we ceased to exercise control in Canton the cross was restored, and all the former atrocities were renewed. The House had no doubt a painful recollection of the treachery which led to the murder of Brabazon, Bowlby, and their companions on their way to Peking. Neither would they forget the seven prisoners who were fastened to stakes, left exposed all day to the sun, and in the evening hacked to pieces within a short distance of the British camp.

A gentleman of credit, recently arrived from Amoy, mentioned the case of an old man and his wife who were accused of robbing a man to whom they had given a lodging. In spite of their denials they were condemned and executed, the old man being nailed to a cross and left to die, the narrator adding that he saw the poor creature alive on the

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fourth day. The woman was put to death under circumstances too horrible to be detailed. The editor of the *North China Mail* described his visit to a prison in Shanghai, where he found in the yard the body of a man fastened to a stake, where he had been left to die. All these examples proved that the treachery at Soochow was not an accidental occurrence, but of a piece with the ordinary habits of the Tartar Government; and yet that was the Government which this country had been supporting with her blood and treasure, and on behalf of which we had imperilled our national honour. What must be the effect of such proceedings upon our unfortunate countrymen who were serving such a Government? In the five regiments under Major Gordon there were perhaps 180 Europeans. The effect of witnessing such horrors committed by the Government they were serving must necessarily be to brutalise them and to destroy all humane and Christian feeling among them. In conclusion, he would ask the noble lord at the head of the Government whether, with this renewed instance of perfidy in Imperial officials, it was intended by Her Majesty's Government to pass unnoticed further violations of the instructions of the Foreign-office to British authorities in China to be strictly neutral in the civil war which has so long raged in China?

Lord PALMERSTON: Upon the general question I cannot entirely concur with my hon. and gallant friend, because my opinion is that it is for our interest that the rebellion should cease, and that the authority of the Imperial Government should be maintained and re-established in China. It cannot be for the advantage of those who trade with China that the country should be in a state of war. If there were any possibility that the rebels would succeed in overthrowing the Imperial authority and in establishing some other Government in lieu thereof, then there might be a choice between the two Governments, and persons, according to the views they took, might think it desirable or not that the present dynasty should be maintained or the rebel authority established in its place. But there is no chance of that. The rebellion has not within itself any elements of success or organisation, and therefore I think it is very important for the commercial interests of this country connected with China that order and peace should be re-established there, that commerce may revive and be carried on without impediment. It was with that object that permission was given to Captain Osborn and Mr. Lay to organise a naval force for the purpose of co-operating with the Imperial troops. With that view, an Order in Council was passed permitting British subjects generally to enter into the service of the Emperor of China. Unfortunately, neither of those arrangements have answered its purpose. The expedition under Captain Osborn is returning to this country; that gallant officer, having had a difference with the Imperial Government, had felt it to be his duty to retire from the service of that Government. One Order in Council was passed to authorize that expedition; the other Order in Council, authorizing generally British subjects to enter the service of the Chinese Government, has been taken advantage of only by Major Gordon and one or two other persons. The expedition under Captain Osborn having entirely failed, that Order in Council was revoked, and as the conduct of the Chinese officials has been so disgraceful, as stated by my hon. and gallant friend, the other Order in Council has also been revoked, leaving it, of course, to the discretion of the Crown, according to its standing prerogative, to grant, if it should think fit, permission to individuals to enter into the service of the Emperor of China, upon application duly made in each case by the individual. Nothing can be more deserving of condemnation than the conduct of the Futai at Soochow. I am afraid we must admit that all nations have their faults, and there are two faults which must be matter of reproach to the Chinese—one is cruelty and the other is perfidy. They certainly have shown on this occasion most lamentable instances of both. We do not know what was done in consequence of that barbarous act of treachery. Colonel Gordon, according to our accounts, was only waiting to know what course the Imperial Government would take. He had made a representation to Sir Frederick Bruce, who, no doubt, would truly represent to Prince Kung the abominable conduct of the Futai. The result of this representation is still unknown, but we hope, for the honour of humanity, that adequate punishment will be inflicted upon the Futai for his barbarity upon that occasion—an act which we are entitled to resent, because Colonel Gordon was made the unwilling instrument to lure these people into the power of the Futai, and was, of course, so far, an instrument in their barbarous execution. Not only shall we endeavour to prevent any further acts of the sort, but we shall make strong representations with regard to that particular act of treachery. At the same time I can only repeat that Her Majesty's Government deeply lament and indignantly condemn the conduct of the Futai, but that we do not know as yet what the Chinese Government have done. There are some papers relating to the subject which will be ready, I believe, in the course of a few days, and it is far better, as the Government are in possession of information, that that information should be laid before the House. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. WHITE said that the announcement just made was very satisfactory as far as it went. He presumed that if permission were given in future to British subjects to enter the Chinese service it would be only for the purpose of training Chinamen to a knowledge of military tactics, and not of taking personally any part in the war. (Hear, hear.) The policy of Her Majesty's Government in reference to the civil war had excited the astonishment of those who were acquainted with the Chinese, and these persons declared that the Government had not adopted in China the principle of non-intervention which they took so much credit for upholding on this side of the Cape. (Hear.) He did not gather from the noble lord's observations whether the Government meant to adhere to that principle, or whether the troops at Shanghai were to be sent beyond the 30-mile radius. But he was satisfied that if it had not been for the action taken by the Government that portion of the Chinese empire to which we had access would now be in a state of prosperity. The Taiping rebellion was successful until it came into contact with British power. The wish of the rebel leaders was to be on friendly terms with us, and not to injure British interests. When they sent to tell us that they meant on a certain day to take Shanghai, asking the British authorities there to adopt the necessary measures for the safety of Europeans, no fighting would have taken place but for our troops, for the Imperialists would have withdrawn and the British forces would have protected the British settlement. The rebels, however, were driven back by our troops; yet, to show their friendly feeling towards us, no violence was offered to the many English merchants who were at that time within the rebel lines' carrying on their trade and having large sums of money in their possession, and although the rebels had been repulsed from before Shanghai with shot and shell, not one of these merchants was harmed and not one penny of their property was touched. (Hear, hear.) He thought it evident that the policy of the Government in China had hitherto been strikingly detrimental to British interests; and his belief was that, but for our injudicious interference, that part of the country to which our trade was chiefly confined, instead of being in a state of anarchy, would be by this time prosperous and peaceful. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. KINNAIRD said the policy of Her Majesty's Government had been the protection of the ports, and where would our great trade with China have been but for that policy? He deprecated the reflections which had been cast upon Captain Dew, than whom he believed there was not a finer officer in the service. (Hear, hear.)

CHINA.

(7th.) Mr. LIDDELL asked the noble lord at the head of the Government whether he would be disposed to grant any facility for the discussion of the important correspondence relative to China.—Lord PALMERSTON replied that it was too early in the Session for the Government to give a day for the discussion of the papers, as other opportunities before the end of the Session would present themselves for any debate that might be desired on the subject.

Monetary and Commercial.

The biddings for 40,00,000 rupees (£400,000) in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were: To Calcutta, 22,00,000 rupees; to Bombay, 16,00,000 rupees; and to Madras, 2,00,000 rupees. The *minimum* price was as before, viz., 1s. 11½d. per rupee on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11¾d. on Bombay. The applications within the limits amounted to 237 lacs (£2,370,000). Tenders on Calcutta at 1s. 11¾d. will receive about 11 per cent.; on Bombay, at 2s. 0⅛d., about 16 per cent.; on Madras, at 2s., about 44 per cent.; and all above these prices in full.

The ordinary general meeting of the Oriental and General Marine Insurance Company was held on Feb. 25 at the London Tavern; Mr. Mocatta in the chair. A dividend at the rate of 5 per cent., free of income-tax, was declared, the chairman intimating that they were in a position to divide a larger sum, but they deemed it prudent not to do so. A much larger dividend might be expected for the next year. The report will be found in another page.

A meeting of gentlemen friendly to the equalisation of the sugar duties was held at the London Tavern; Mr. Crawford, M.P., presiding. A resolution was moved by Mr. Gregson, M.P., to the effect that the existing differential duties were contrary to the principles of free trade, and injurious to the consumers.

A call of £5 is to be paid on the 10,000 new shares of the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited) by the 30th inst.

The trade and navigation accounts for the month of January in the present year have made their appearance. The Export returns present the following results in regard to the countries eastward of India:—

CHINA.—Cotton Yarn: The export for the month of January was only 1000 lbs., against 130,000 lbs. in the same month last year, and 680,000 lbs. in 1862. The value was £180, compared with £12,198, and £34,781 in the corresponding month of 1863 and 1862. Cotton Manufactures: Export for the month, 2,153,981 yards, against 1,356,838 yards in 1863, and 8,441,260 yards in 1862. The value for the month in the three years, beginning with 1864, was £63,251, £32,481, and £120,965. Woollen and Worsted Manufactures: For the month, 78,293 yards, against 93,491 yards in 1863, and 106,800 yards in 1862. The value for the month, beginning with the present year, is £16,947, £19,024, and £13,350. Worsted Stuffs: For the month, 743,014 yards, against 462,990 yards in 1863, and 345,460 yards in 1862. The value for January in each year, beginning with the present, is £53,865, £31,263, and £16,723. Lead: For the month, 506 tons, against 568 tons in the same month last year; the value this year being £10,810, against £12,202 in 1863.

SINGAPORE.—Cotton Yarn: No export during January. Last year the export for the month was 53,800 lbs., of the value of £6,550. Cotton Manufactures: For the month, 660,508 yards, against 1,263,009 yards in 1863, and 6,104,972 yards in 1862. The value for January, 1864, is £15,818, against £31,679 in 1863, and £106,331 in the year preceding.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—Cotton Manufactures: For the month, 2,213,905 yards, against *nil* in 1863, and 3,389,185 yards in 1862. The value is £61,003, against £64,190 in January, 1862.

JAVA.—Cotton Manufactures: For the month, 361,415 yards, against 813,876 yards in 1863, and 2,102,744 yards in 1862. The value for the month, beginning with the present year, is £11,125, £19,757, and £37,392.

Under the section of imports, and class "Articles subject to Duty," we find that of "unrefined Sugar, third quality (not equal to brown clayed)," 8,325 cwts. were entered from Java and the Philippine Islands in January, against 57,351 cwts. in 1863, and 22,614 in 1862. The import of sugar from the same quarter for the last three years was in value as follows:—

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	1861. £.	1862. £.	1863. £.
Second quality, equal to brown clayed ..	101,429	49,736	4,577
Third quality, not equal to brown clayed..	570,069	352,262	841,216

The value of the Hemp imported from the Philippine Islands for the years 1861, 1862, and 1863 respectively, was £233,264, £225,414, and £421,004.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Ripon*, from Southampton on the 4th inst., was, in gold to Alexandria, £20,300; to Madras, £2,343; to Hong Kong, £5,000. In silver: to Galle, £25,250; to Madras, £1,555; to Calcutta, £79,400; to Penang, £760; to Singapore, £23,680; to Hong Kong, £74,400; to Foo-chow-Foo, £1,930; to Shanghai, £7,580. Total in gold, £27,643; in silver, £214,555.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Business done.
100	Agra and United Service, Limited	50	118 to 122xd	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	42 to 44	...
20	Do. New	10	...	...
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	69 to 71	...
50	London Joint Stock	10	40 to 41	...
100	London and Westminster	20	79 to 81	...
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	61 to 63	...
50	Union of London	13	45¼ to 46¼	...
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	6 to 6½ pm.	...
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	7½	2½ to 3 pm.	...
20	Do. New	7½	...	...
25	Bank of Egypt	All	26 to 27	...
100	Bank of London	50	164 to 166	...
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	2	1 to 1½ pm.	...
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3¾ to 4¼	...
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	79 to 81	
50	Do. New	30	19 to 21 pm.	
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	...	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	...	...
2	Telegreph to India Company	2	¾ to ¼ dis.	...
5	Bombay Gas	4	¼ to ¾ pm.	...
10	E. I. and London Shipping B.	All	3 to 6	...
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	5	1½ to 1 dis.	...
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	...	...
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	1	1 to 2 pm.	...
1	Oriental Gas	All	1¼ to 1½	...
1	Do. New	¾	¼ to ½ pm.	...
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2¾ to 3¼	...
100	West India Steam Company	60	88 to 90	...
20	Ceylon Company	7	3 to 4 pm.	...
20	International Finance Society	5	6¾ to 7 pm.	...
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	3¾ to 4 pm.	...
50	London Financial Association	15	10 to 10¼ pm.	...
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	2	2¼ to 2½ pm.	...
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	18 to 18¼	...
20	British Indian Tea	5	¼ to ½ pm.	...
10	Upper Assam Tea	1½	1½ to 2 pm.	...
10	Do.	All	14 to 17	...

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Our market during the past fortnight has been very quiet. The continued arrivals of tea on a large scale have added to our already heavy stock, whilst the trade still only purchase for immediate wants, thus sales have been very difficult to make, and prices have ruled in favour of buyers for medium kinds of Congou, of which the supplies offering are very large. Low and dusty kinds of Congou have been in demand, and the sales both at public auction and privately have been large, and latterly prices have recovered the decline of ½d. per lb. last quoted. Fair to good common with leaf have been inquired for, and the latter may now be quoted 1s. to 1s. 0½d. per lb. Flowery kinds, from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 8d., have been greatly in excess of the demand, and the few sales made have been at a decline of 1d. per lb. Good Kaisow kinds, from 1s. 10d. to 2s., have been wanted. Common to fair blackish-leaf kinds have sold at the last public sales at an advance of ½d. per lb. The better descriptions of second class have been saleable to a moderate extent at a shade under previous prices. In fine to finest business has been small, but prices are firmly supported. Fine to finest Kaisows show no alteration. Tayshan kinds remain as before. In Oolongs purchases have been made in common to fair kinds from 1s. to 1s. 2d. per lb.; fine have been inquired for, but medium kinds difficult of sale. Souchongs are selling in small parcels at previous prices. Flowery Pekoes remain neglected. Common to fair Scented Capers have sold at former prices; in good qualities a large business has been done at full rates. Scented Orange Pekoes, both Canton and Foochow make, show no change. Uncoloured Japans have been in demand for common to fair qualities at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 3½d.; for other qualities buyers are not inclined to pay prices asked by importers. The public sales of Indian teas have sold steadily at full prices. Green teas continue firmly supported, the supplies being still moderate, and the demand for export is still considerable, so that all the supplies coming to hand are eagerly purchased at extreme prices. Canton-made kinds of good to fine quality continue in request at fully former rates. The sales of Indian tea took place on the 26th ult. and 9th inst., when 2,351 packages were brought forward, and nearly the whole found buyers. 40,909 packages of China tea were brought forward on the 1st inst., of which 23,711 packages found buyers, 21,311 packages being without reserve. Further sales are declared for the 15th inst. The stock in the United Kingdom was estimated on the 29th ult. at 96,900,000 lbs., against 92,200,000 lbs. last year, and the quantity afloat at 33,779,860 lbs., against 30,500,000 lbs.

SILK.—There is no improvement in the Silk Market; if anything, business is duller than ever, and prices of all descriptions are very weak. The strengthening nature of the recent advices from China and Japan seem to have no effect, and the trade will only buy from hand to mouth. Coarse Silk is wanted, but unfortunately there is more. Deliveries from 1st to 8th inclusive.—China, 970 bales; Japan, 509; total, 1,479 bales.

	Ordinary, s. d.	s. d.	Superior. s. d.	s. d.
Tsatlee, No. 1 and 2	22 0 to	23 6		
„ No. 3 and 4	19 0	20 6	20 6	21 0
„ No. 5	17 6	18 6		
Ditto, Hang-Chow	18 0	19 0	19 6	
Yuenfa	10 0	20 0	20 6	22 0
Taysaam	15 6	18 6	19 6	20 0
Ditto, skeins	16 0	16 6		
Ditto, long reel	16 6	17 6	18 0	18 6
Canton	11 0	16 6	17 0	17 6
Chinese Thrown	15 0	19 0	21 0	22 0
Maibash, dyepot Japan	19 6	21 0	21 6	23 0
Ida, bricks	18 6	20 0	23 0	26 6
Sodai „	19 0	20 6	21 6	22 0
Oshu, re-reeled	17 6	19 6	20 6	21 6
Koshu, Selé	19 0	20 0	20 6	21 6
Aechezan, slips	15 0	18 6	19 0	20 0
Mashtah „	17 0	18 0	19 0	20 0
Hatchojee, Tussah	18 0	18 6	19 0	

SUGAR.—The market has been rising, and bears still a firm appearance. 320 tons Penang realised 39s. 6d. to 42s., and 42s. 6d. to 46s. 6d., according to quality. Of clayed Manila, 3,700 tons went at 40s. 6d. to 42s., besides 400 tons to arrive at 28s., as also 1,150 tons Muscovado, for London, at 23s., landing weights. There is now some deficiency as compared with the general stock of last year.

COFFEE.—Mocha: Of 184 bales at auction, two-thirds sold at 98s. per cwt. for very good yellow long berry, and 87s. 6d. to 88s. 6d. middling greenish short berry, being very full value. Ceylon: Market very firm, with limited trade in both descriptions; Plantation at very firm prices to 1s. per cwt. advance; and native at fully the previous value.

COTTON.—The course of prices has been decidedly downwards since our last. China has been more freely offered, and in prospect of large supplies prices have given way ¼d. to ⅜d. per lb. For cotton to arrive the business transacted has been quite inconsiderable. China is worth from 18d. to 18½d. for November and December. Quotations for China, middling fair, 18½d.; fair, 19d.; good, 19½d. to 20½d. The quantity of cotton reported to have been shipped (and now at sea) for Liverpool from India, China, and Japan is 480,161 bales; ditto for London, 86,841; making a total at sea of 567,000 bales. The prospect of these arrivals is probably somewhat affecting this market.

RICE.—This market has been tolerably active, with very fair business on the spot and for arrival, without material alteration in currency; but of late it has become flat, and former terms not nearly obtainable. Not any business of interest doing in Java. Quotation, 9s. to 19s. per cwt.

CAMPHOR.—Auctions have comprised 100 tubs and 43 cases Japan, sold at £5. 12s. 6d. to £6 per cwt.; and 317 cases China, two-thirds sold at £5. 10s. to £5. 15s., with discoloured at £5. 7s. 6d. to £5. 12s. 6d. Considerable business also done in China, mainly at £5. 15s.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Quiet, with moderate trade upon former terms, 84s. to 92s. per cwt. Buds: Retail transactions only within our quotations, £14 to £16 per cwt.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Very flat; quotation, £4. 10s. to £5 per cwt. Dragon's Blood and Galangal Root: Both these drugs remain very dull, with little of any business doing in either. Rhubarb: Has been the subject of unusual interest and excitement, absolute present and probable future scarcity inducing the expectation of much higher rates. Sales have been very numerous, several hundred chests changing hands, and prices rapidly advancing 1s. 6d. per lb., but subsequently receding 6d., and leaving the market more quiet. Only 67 chests at auction, three-fourths sold at 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d., including flat, and 4s. to 4s. 3d. fair round.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Siam scarce and dearer; 1st and 2nd Sumatra also wanted; the lower sorts of Sumatra again rather cheaper; 4 cases Siam sold at auction at £22 to £24. 10s. per cwt. for 3rd quality, and £14. 15s. to £17 dark block. Of 52 cases Sumatra, three-fourths sold at £5 to £6. 2s. 6d. for middling to fair 3rd. Damer: Steady; 72 cases sold at auction at 43s. to 43s. 6d. per cwt. for fair picked. Gamboge: Firm; 26 cases at auction sold at £8. 5s. per cwt. for fair picked, and £4. 15s. to £5s. 5s. ordinary and chips.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Quiet; and of 10 tons at auction, a small portion only quitted at 1s. 8d. per lb. for middling genuine. India Rubber: Meets with a little more demand. 32 baskets Singapore, at auction, chiefly sold at 1s. 5s. per lb. for fine, and of 58 packages Assam, half sold at 10½d. for very good.

HEMP (Manila).—Very firm, with large operations on the spot, and for arrival. No auctions. Quotation, £32 to £36.

HORNS.—Steady; auctions confided to 24 tons Calcutta, and 3 tons Madras Buffalo Horns, sold at 28s. to 29s. per cwt. for 2 lb. average, and 23s. 1½ lb.

JAPAN WAX.—873 boxes all sold; good, 63s. 6d. to 65s. 6d.; inferior, 60s. to 61s.; saucer, 67s. to 67s. 6d.

OILS.—Anniseed: Since our last a large stroke of business has been accomplished, commencing at 6s. 3d., and rapidly advancing to 6s. 9d. per lb. The market remains firm at our quotations, but with sellers. For arrival 6s. 10d. realised. Cassia: Subsequently to our last 15 cases were brought to auction, and two-thirds sold at 9s. per lb.; prices then speedily rose to 9s. 6d., at which several cases were sold, and at which the market is now steady. Mace and Nutmegs: Nothing doing; of 12 cases Nutmeg Paste at auction two sold at the previous low price of 1d. per oz.

SAGO.—Firm, with moderate business privately; 450 boxes at auction all retired. Flour: Moderate transactions here also upon former terms; and 1,135 bags at auction all retired.

SPICES.—Cloves: No auctions; moderate sales of Zanzibar effected privately at the recent advance. Mace: Fine pale realises higher prices; red and reddish without change; 30 cases Penang and 9 cases Singapore at auction nearly all sold at 3s. 4d. per lb. for very good pale; 1s. 4d. to 2s. 5d. good bright reddish to fair palish; and 10d. to 11d. low dull red, wormy. Nutmegs: Quiet, and of 74 cases Penang at auction only half sold, maintaining with difficulty the former terms, at 3s. 2d. to 3s. 7d. per lb. for fair to good bold, and 11d. to 2s. 2d. ordinary small to fine medium. Pepper: Black, very quiet and rather lower. 1,582 bags Penang at

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auction sold at 3¼d. to 3⅜d. per lb.; private trade very moderate. White has gone back ¼d. per lb.; 30 bags Singapore at auction sold at 5¾d. per lb. for fair; and 44 bags Penang sold at 5⅝d. for middling.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: 1s. 6d. per cwt. dearer, and in much request. 934 packages at auction, mostly sold at 26s. to 26s. 6d. per cwt. for good Pegue. Fair business done privately on similar terms, as well for arrival as on the spot, and the market remains very firm. Gambier: Remains very firm; and of 637 bales at auction, three-fourths sold at 22s. to 22s. 3d. per cwt. for fair block, and 24s. 6d. cubes: fair business done privately at corresponding prices on the spot; and for arrival at 22s.

TIN.—Market most inactive and heavy; prices £1 to £2 per ton lower and bus ness very trifling.

TOBACCO.—Manila leaf: None here, but supplies expected; several parcels offering afloat, but the prices demanded too high to tempt buyers. On the 18th December in Manila only one lot of 500 quintals of tobacco was sold, and a further quantity, 15,000 quintals, was to be submitted to auction on 20th January. Manila Cheroots: No alteration in prices, and a good demand exists. Java: All desirable parcels eagerly taken, and the market begins to assume a more circumscribed position as regards fine and medium qualities, whilst of inferior there is more than sufficient. It is reported that injury has been sustained by the crop through volcanic eruptions. Japan: Continued to hold its position as a desirable substitute, and supplies much wanted of eligible sorts. Quotations: Manila cheroots and cigars, 7s. 3d. to 7s. 9d. Japan, 4d. to 8d; Java, 6d. to 1s. 1d.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Black Lead: In increased demand; and of 259 barrels at auction, one-third sold at 22s. at 25s. 6d. per cwt. for fine lump, and 9s. dust. Galls: All kinds—Bussorah, China, and Japan—very scarce and much wanted. We quote Japan and China, 60s. to 90s. per cwt., the higher price having been recently obtained. Rattans: Continue very firm; and 3,291 bundles Penang, and 4,124 bundles Singapore at auction, all sold at 4s. 7d, to 8s. 2d. per 100. Sapan Wood: Quiet; 18 tons Manila at auction, retired; and of 6 tons Siam, half sold at £11. 17s. 6d. per ton. Mother-o'-Pearl Shells: Both Singapore and Manilla scarce and very firm. Elephants' teeth: £34 to £51 for sound Siam. Tortoise-shell: Of four cases Singapore at auction only one sold at 11s. 6d. per lb., being its previous value, and two cases Manila retired. Turmeric: No China here: moderate transactions in Java upon previous terms. Vermilion: Continues to creep up; very little to be got at present prices, 2s. 8d. to 2s. 10d.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £8. 10s. to £9; nail rod £9. 10s. to £10; hoops, £11; sheets, single, £12; Staffordshire bars, £10. 10s.; rails, £8.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £110 per ton; yellow metal, 9¾d. per lb.

TIN.—116s. for block; 117s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 31s. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English Pig, £21. 7s. 6d. to £21. 15s.; W.B., £22. 10s.; shot, patent, £24; sheet, £22; spelter, £23; zinc, English sheet, £27; quicksilver, £8. 10s. to £8s. 15s.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—A moderate business has been transacted during the past month, but prices generally have been easier, and owing to the failure of a metal dealer in Birmingham, who speculated largely in metals, the market generally is depressed. Iron is not in such great demand as in January and preceding months, but the best makers both of Welsh and Staffordshire are firm; some second class brands may be bought rather lower. Pig iron has declined considerably, and is to-day about 57s. 6d. cash, 59s. three months, open. Copper: The transactions in copper during the month were very trifling, and principally under official quotations; this has induced the smelters to drop the price £5 per ton; this reduction was declared 1st inst. The price of ores has also fallen to about 19s. per unit. Tin: English is dull. Foreign very quiet. The quotation for Straits is 116s. cash, 117s. three months. Banca 118s., but very little doing. Tin Plates: The demand not quite so active, prices unchanged. The shipments last month were about 64,000 boxes, against 70,000 boxes in February, 1863, and 80,000 boxes in 1862. Lead is in great demand, principally for America, and the quotations have improved from 5s. to 10s. during the past month. Spelter steadily advanced all February, and is now quoted about £23, spot, £23. 5s. for delivery in a month. The stock here is 8,220 tons, against 4,607 tons, same date last year. Quicksilver continues scarce, price about £8. 10s. per bottle.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£72,670
Foo-chow-Foo	—	4,180
Hong Kong	£5,000	116,778
Amoy	—	—
Singapore	£3,750	29,115
Penang	—	41,195

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£20,240
Hong Kong	£31,568	—
Singapore	—	840
Penang	—	3,272
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 8½
Silver in Bars	0 5 1½
Mexican Dollars	0 5 4½

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

Mr. Mendel's Circular states that there is no animation in the market, and prices are weaker all round, with more desire to make sales. Grey Shirtings, 7lbs., 17s. 0d. to 17s. 6d.; 9lbs., 23s. 6d. Cotton Yarns, 16-24, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 7d.; 28-32, 2s. 8d. to 2s. 9d. Maddapollams, 7s. 6d. Long Cloths, 19s. 6d. T-Cloths, 13s. White Spot Shirtings, 21s. 6d.; White Brocade do., 22s. 0d. White damasks, 37s. 6d.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Feb. 22	Texel	Batavia	Nicolaas Witzen	Portengen.
— 13	New York	Hong Kong	Agincourt	Custance.
— 25	Off Cape Clear	China	Beautiful Star	Catto.
— 23	Queenstown	Shanghai	Spirit of the Sea	Maguire.
— 29	Falmouth	Batavia	Fantasie	Forbeck.
— 23	Off Scilly	Do.	Zes Gezusters	Rottgers.
— 27	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Melbrek	Tuigart.
— 25	Texel	Batavia	Azia	Molenaar.
— 29	Plymouth	Macao	Venezuela	Piersdorff.
— 29	Liverpool	China	Palmyra	Richards.
— 15	New York	Foo-chow-Foo	Vesta	Hennings.
Mar. 1	Deal	Kanagawa	Ravensbourne	Cooper.
— 1	Do.	Do.	Esperanza	Murrell.
— 1	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Langdale	Browne.
— 1	Do.	Do.	Mimosa	Johnson.
— 1	Do.	Shanghai	Julia	Bird.
— —	Cadiz	Manila	Guadelupe	
Jan. 17	Callao	Macao	Westward Ho!	Arancos.
Mar. 2	London	Shanghai	Mirage	Roberts.
— 2	Do.	Kanagawa	Broadwater	Sargent.
— 1	Deal	Shanghai	Reindeer	M'Clelland.
— 1	Do.	Amoy	Rubicon	Hoseason.
— 1	Do.	Shanghai	Rock City	Whitehill.
— 1	Do.	Do.	Ospray	Andrews.
— 2	Do.	Do.	Fairlight	Bush.
— 2	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Bosworth	Nicholls.
— 2	Do.	Singapore	Arthur	Wiren.
— 2	Liverpool	Shanghai	Lady Elizabeth	Hutton.
— 2	Do.	Hong Kong	Eleanor	Deuchar.
— 3	Deal	Penang	John Masterman	Westgarth.
— 1	Dover	Macao	Siwa	Brorsen.
Feb. 29	Off the Start	Banjoewangie	Macassar	Coulon.
Mar. 3	Off Dover	Foo-chow-Foo	Wm. Melhuish	Duff.
— 4	London	Shanghai	India	Funch.
— 4	Off Penzance	Do.	Lord Macaulay	Cave.
— 4	Off the Start	Do.	Palmerston	Peters.
— 4	Off Dover	Singapore	Peter Symons	Jckman.
— 1	Off Folkestone	Sourabaya	Etha	Buschmann.
— 2	Off Sandgate	Batavia	Johannes Christiaan	
— 2	Off the Wight	Do.	Susanna & Elizabeth	Ouwehand.
— 2	Do.	Java	Alida Maria	
— 2	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Java	Dehle.
— 4	Marseilles	Alexandria	Moeris (str.)	
— 5	Deal	Foo chow-Foo	Alfred the Great	Louttit.
— 4	Falmouth	Moulmain	Impulse	
— 1	Off Dungeness	Sourabaya	Batavia	Prange.
— 1	Do.	Batavia	Jacoba Cornelia	Ets.
— 2	Do.	Do.	Tagal	Gobel.
— 2	Do.	Do.	Jan Daniel	Zweede.
— 4	Plymouth	Do.	L. A. Bang	Fallenius.
— 5	Deal	Shanghai	James Vincombe	Bowell.
—	Channel	Batavia	Burgster. Middelburg	Hoek.
— 3	Crookhaven	Borneo	Zambezi	Reid.
Jan. 19	Buenos Ayres	Hong Kong	Banda	Morris.
Mar. 6	Deal	Singapore	Latona	Sedgwick.
— 7	Do.	Shanghai	Edinburgh	Watt.
— 6	Do.	Do.	Spirit of the Deep	Hewitt.
— 6	Do.	Hong Kong	Ocean Bride	Payne.
— 7	Queenstown	Maulmain	Chevalier	
— 8	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Portland	Thomas.
— 7	Deal	Zebu	Henry Darling	Reid.
— 5	Plymouth	Batavia	Catharina Maria	Amerongen.
— 3	Off the Wight	Do.	Cortgene	
— 2	Off the Lizard	Padang	Brouwershaven	Huizen.
— 1	Off Portland	Batavia	Klazina	
— 2	Bremen	Do.	Richard	Hettmey
— 8	London	Shanghai	Ironsides	Vaux.
— 8	Deal	Do.	Siam	
— 8	Falmouth	Samarang	Bravo	Soderlund.
— 7	Liverpool	Shanghai	Victoria	Harrison.
— 9	London	Amoy	Mexicana	
— 9	Deal	Manila	Minden	Murch.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Feb. 22	Cardiff	Manila	St. Fillan	Ferguson.
— 24	Do.	Hong Kong	Ocean	Radvan.
— 24	Hull	Singapore	Honigby	Vaik.
— 24	Lamlash	Do.	Falcon	Watson.
— 27	London	Do.	Panic	Bell.
— 25	Leith	Antwerp & Manila	Earl of Mar & Kellie	Steel.
— 26	Newport	Shanghai	Stanley	Doughty.
— 28	Do.	Do.	Tiptree	
Mar. 1	Deal	Japan	Nummer 1	V. Duyn.
— 3	London	Nagasaki	Alice	Anderson.
— 2	Shields	Singapore	Ousuri	
— 4	London	Batavia & Sourabaya	Copernicus	Algra.
— 4	Do.	Shanghai	Queen of Nations	Mitchell.
— 2	Sunderland	Singapore	Wye	Houston.
— 4	Shields	Shanghai	Cour de Lion	
— 4	Do.	Do.	Crusader	
Jan. 18	Monte Video	Batavia	Johann Heinrich	Siefen.
Feb. 9	New York	Shanghai	Kiu-Kiang, str.	
— 9	Do.	Do.	LeopoldumBauer(Aus)	
Mar. 3	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Beatrice	Thomas.
Feb. 17	New York	Do.	Ottilie (Ham.)	Schawn.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

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LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa: Satzuma, Medina. For Shanghai: Canadian, Celestial, Solent, Delhi, Finzel, Beemah. For Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: Rubicon. For Hong Kong and Canton: Cambalu, Southern Belle, Lord Raglan, Prince Alfred, Gauntlet, Jubilee, Sydney Eggers. For Hong Kong: Dilkhoosh. For Manila: Conchita, Elisa. For Singapore: Maggie, Prince Alfred, Blue Jacket, Moncta, William Simpson. For Penang: Marengo. For Bankok: Helen Baird.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Anglia, Patna, Alice, Recife, Truro, Jane Leech. For Hong Kong and Canton: Veronica. For Hong Kong: Milton. For Singapore: Glendower, Euphrates, Bogota, Lorton, William Cundall, Spirit of the Sea. For Manila: Olano, Ercilla. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Cherokee, str.

At GLASGOW.—For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Hermelin. For Singapore and Penang: Hoang-Ho. For Batavia and Singapore: British Queen. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Thomas Mitchell.

SPOKEN.

AGRA, Liverpool to Singapore, Dec. 27, 8 S., lon. 92.
JOHANNA, Batavia to Amsterdam, 30 S., 41 E.
COURRIER DE LA SONDE, Bordeaux to Singapore, off St. Paul and Amsm.
JAMES PATON (ship), London to Singapore, Feb. 16, 49 N., 13 W.
SEA WAVE, Clyde to Singapore, Jan. 22, 6 N., 21 W.
LAGA (?), Foo-chow-Foo to London, Feb. 10, 34 N., 38 W.
LITTLE EDITH, Cardiff to Shanghai, Jan. 21, 1 N., 22 W.
ANNA (Dut. barq.), Shanghai to New York, Jan. 15, 6 S., 16 W.
St. FILLAN, Cardiff to Manila, Feb. 28, 50 N., 8 W.
NOTRE DAME DES VICTOIRES, (F. b.), Manila to Dunk., Nov. 30, 27 S.
CALEDONIA (ship), Hong Kong to London, Dec. 17, 34 S.
HOLLANDSTROUW (Dut. barq.), Shields to Sourabaya, Jan. 17, 8N., 27W.
HEILIGE LIDUINA (Dut. barq.), Java to Schiedam, Jan. 23, 6 N., 21W.
COULNA-KYLE, London to China, Jan. 20, 25 N., 20 W.
PEERLESS (barque), Singapore to Liverpool, Dec. 1, 11 S., 85 E.
FERRIS (barq.), Cardiff to Singapore, Nov. 27.
THOMAS S. STOWE, from Shanghai, Jan. 1.
COREA, London to China, Feb. 16, 46 N., 12 W.
ELECTRIC, Singapore to Liverpool, Jan. 8, 35 S., 17 E.
LUCONIA (Dutch barq.), Batavia to Amsterdam, Dec. 31, 35 S., 20 E.
HEREFORD (barq.), Hong Kong to Liverpool, Feb. 2, 19 N., 37 W.
MARGARETHA (Dutch barq.), Batavia to Amstdm, Jan. 19, 6 S., 16 W.
ALFRED RAY, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Feb. 1, 10 N., 32 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

(*Exclusive of this day's Advices.*)

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Cambridge, J. C. Munro, Confiance, Dolphin, Europe, Scawfell. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, M. Theresa, William Eggerts. At NEW YORK: Sarah (*via* Shanghai), Maggie Atkinson.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Monarch, Belle, Melrose, J. H. Ransom, Hawthorne, Daisy, Spirit of Trade, Sophie, Philip I., Maiden Queen, Ocean Queen, Havelock, Clarendon, Theodore and Julie, Bellissima, Laurel, Magnus, Renown, Nelly, Star Queen, Chalmers, Balmacarra, H.M.'s Scout, Heroes of Alma, Princess of Wales, Marie Wilhelmina, Standard, Mary Ann Wilson, Agra, Island Queen, Strathallan, Marquis of Argyle, Amaranth, Glaramara, Bankside, Nonpareil, H.M.S. Centaur, Ballarat, Sappho, Sir Harry Parkes, Lansdowne, Egmont, Fairleader, Oithona, Albrecht Oswald. At LIVERPOOL: Joshua Bates, Iron Crown, Forfarshire, Our, Queen, Sarah and Emma, Cordova, Alliance, Abdul Medjid, Regina Ranee, Victoria, Star of the North, Montgomery, Niphon, James Gibson, Macduff, Nile, Glenhuntly, Fow Tsun, Princess Royal, Loodianah, Chryseis, Amazone, Agincourt, Light of the Age, Falcon, Lord Lyndhurst, Istamboul, Young England, Royal George, General Putnam, Solway, Merrie England, Offor, Zingra, Virginia, Juanpore, Spirit of the Times, Velox, Koh-i-noor, Cornelia Hendrika. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama. At HAMBURG: Selina Jane, Ophelia. At NEW YORK: Anna, Sarah, Wilhelmina, Graf Eulenburg, Creole, Helen Nicholson, Apollo, Elizabeth, Louise Kohn, Hermine, Kahlamba, Confucius, St. Paul, Guiding Star, Queen of the Seas, Peep O'Day, Anne Wood, Capella, Thetis, Kate Carney. At Montreal: H. E. Sassaune, Asia, Tycoon.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Pelicano, Flora, Der Preusse. At FALMOUTH: Maggie Lauder. At LIVERPOOL: Elias, Alaric, Conference, Belvidere. At Falmouth: Helverton. At DENMARK: Emma. At ROTTERDAM: Zanzibar. At NEW YORK: Bavaria, Helvetia, Castilian.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Avalanche, Maid of the Tyne, Halton Castle, Oscar, Pilgrim, Tre Brodre, Confiance. At LIVERPOOL: Oasis, Crusader, Spanker. At FALMOUTH: For orders, Helene (Dan.). At BORDEAUX: Frehel (Fr.), Salazes (Fr.), Orixa (Fr.), Hoogly, Saint Michel. At NEW YORK: Caroline.

From BATAVIA.—At FALMOUTH: Frederika. At CHANNEL: Ceres.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Nipisiquit, Rockliff, Teesdale. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

There has been but little doing lately in shipping; high rates are asked for British vessels, consequent upon the risk incurred by the employment of American, Danish, or German bottoms; very high rates of insurance being demanded for these latter vessels. Outward freights continue very quiet, there being little activity in exports, and low rates are readily accepted.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 55s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £38 to £39, and £1. 17s. 6d. For Shanghai: £48 to £52, and £2. 5s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £25 to £26, and £1. 6s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

The Jubilee has been accepted by the Admiralty for the conveyance of Government stores to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The J. C. Monro, from Japan, has been reported at Lloyd's lost on the Pratas, but since contradicted.

At MAURITIUS.—Jan. 14, Olympia, Jopp, from Singapore; 27, Helene, Boysen, from Singapore for Falmouth, with damage; Feb. 2, Dom Fernando, de Senna, from Macao; 6, Malta, Duncan, sailed for Singapore.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN (Limited).

NOTICE of CALL of £5 per Share on 10,000 NEW SHARES.

Notice is hereby given that the Directors have This Day made a Call of £5 per Share on the 10,000 New Shares in this Company, payable on the 30th day of March instant, at the Banking premises of the Company, 16, Cornhill, London.

By order,
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

16, Cornhill, London, March 7th, 1864.

THE AGRA AND UNITED SERVICE BANK (Limited).

ESTABLISHED IN INDIA, 1833. PAID-UP CAPITAL £1,000,000 (One Million Sterling). SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, £2,000,000 (Two Millions Sterling), in 20,000 Shares of £100 each. RESERVE FUND, £225,000.

HEAD OFFICE, 27, Cannon-street, London, E.C.

BRANCHES in Edinburgh, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee, Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong, and Sydney.

CURRENT Accounts of Firms and individuals are kept at the Head Office, on the terms customary with London Bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received at ten days' notice of withdrawal, at rates fluctuating with those of the Bank of England; and for longer periods at fixed rates, particulars of which may be obtained upon application.

Every other description of banking business and money agency, British and Indian, transacted.

Letters of Credit and Circular Notes issued, payable at the chief cities of Europe and Asia, and also at Cairo and Alexandria.

MACKINTOSH BALFOUR, General Manager.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

Subscribed Capital, 2,000,000 taels, in 400 Shares of 5,000 taels each.
Paid up Capital, 200,000 taels.

DIRECTORS.

H. H. Wiggins, Esq., Manager Commercial Bank of India, Chairman.
F. B. Johnson, Esq. (Messrs. Johnson and Co.).
H. D. Stewart, Esq. (Messrs. Turner and Co.).
F. Porter, Esq. (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston, and Co.).
J. Thorne, Esq. Messrs. Thorne Brothers and Co.).
David Reid, Esq.

Agencies are about to be established at the several ports in China and Japan.

L. JOSEPHS, Secretary.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA. Incorporated by Royal Charter. Paid-up capital £500,000. Reserve Fund, £100,000.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts, payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Kandy, Singapore, Galle, Penang, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Mauritius, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the overland route terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office, in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 2.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

16, CORNHILL, LONDON.

Capital, Two Millions.

BANKERS.

Bank of England, The Alliance Bank of London and Liverpool.

Branches at Bombay, Calcutta, Hong Kong, and Shanghae.

Deposits received at 10 days' notice, on the usual terms, and for fixed periods, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued, and bills negotiated, payable in India, China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government Loan Notes effected, so that the interest may be paid in England.

Every other description of banking and agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. QUSELEY, General Manager.

JOHN GOSNELL AND CO.'S PERFUMERY, PATRONISED BY HER MAJESTY AND THE ROYAL FAMILY.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s COURT PERFUMES.—Queen Victoria's Bouquet, The Bride's Bouquet, Jockey Club, Guard's Own, Ess Bouquet, Military, Royal Yacht Club, New Perfume—Extract of Flowers, Eugenie, Napoleon II., Frangipanni, Wood Violet, Opera Bouquet, &c.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s FOUNTAIN PERFUMES for the BALL-ROOM.—A most elegant and useful invention, which cannot fail to be appreciated by the Ladies.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s REAL OLD BROWN WINDSOR SOAP.—A Toilet Soap of the finest quality and very superior fragrance. It differs so widely in composition from the ordinary Alkaline Soaps, that its frequent use is highly beneficial in removing all harshness and redness of the skin.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s CHERRY TOOTH PASTE gives the Teeth a pearl-like whiteness, protects the enamel from decay and imparts a pleasing fragrance to the breath.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s INSTANTANEOUS HAIR DYE.—The only Hair Dye which produces a good natural colour with perfect certainty, and with the least possible trouble.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s PATENT TRICHOSARON is adapted for universal use, and the most serviceable and convenient Hair Brush ever invented. Letters Patent Granted Nov. 6, 1852.

Merchants and Shippers supplied on liberal terms.

12, THREE KINGS COURT, LOMBARD-STREET LONDON.

NOTHING IMPOSSIBLE.—The Greatest and most Useful Invention of the day, AGUA AMARELLA.—Messrs. JOHN GOSNELL and CO., Three King-court, Lombard-street, Perfumers to Her Majesty, respectfully offer to the public this truly marvellous fluid, which gradually restores the human hair to its pristine hue—no matter at what age. The Agua Amarella has none of the properties of dyes; it on the contrary, is beneficial to the system, and when the hair is once restored one application per month will keep it in perfect colour. Price One Guinea per bottle; half bottles, 10s. 6d. Testimonials from artists of the highest order, and from individuals of undoubted respectability may be inspected. Messrs. JNO. GOSNELL and Co. have been appointed Perfumers to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales.

H. PEAT,

SADDLER AND HARNESS MAKER 14, Old Bond-street. Removed from 167, Piccadilly, London.

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THE

ORIENTAL AND GENERAL MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1861.

Directors.

ELIAS MOCATTA, Esq.
C. F. PICARD, Esq.
Mr. Sheriff CAVE.
MOSES MOSES, Esq.
THOMAS B. YULE, Esq.
JOHN ROGERSON, Esq.

Underwriter.

PHILIP SECRETAN, Esq.

REPORT of the DIRECTORS for PRESENTATION to the SECOND ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS, to be held at the LONDON TAVERN, on THURSDAY, the 25th day of February, 1864.

The Directors submit to the Shareholders the Accounts and Balance Sheet of the Company for the past year, and have much pleasure in being able to report that the business has been of a most improving and satisfactory character, and fully equal to their expectations.

The Accounts are annexed to the Report, and have been duly examined and verified by the Auditors.

They show, that after having paid all Claims for Losses, Averages, and Returns, Office Charges, and all other Expenses to 31st December last, there remains a balance of £67,274. 16s. on Insurance and Interest accounts.

The two years over which the Company's operations have extended, not being sufficient to afford a safe basis for the calculation of profits, the Directors therefore recommend that £3,339. 5s. only be applied in payment of Interest on Capital, being at the rate of £5 per cent., and the remainder, £63,935. 11s. carried forward in usual course.

In accordance with the Deed of Settlement, the two following Directors retire by rotation :—ELIAS MOCATTA, Esq., and MOSES MOSES, Esq. These gentlemen, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

By Deed of Settlement, also, the Auditors require to be appointed annually, and J. H. WOOD, Esq., and J. NOTMAN, Esq., being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The Directors have also much pleasure in reporting that, in addition to their several Agencies abroad—where Losses and Claims on Policies issued by the Company are made payable—they have appointed Messrs. BAINBRIDGE, BYARD, GAIR and Co. to be their Agents at Madras.

The following is now the completed List :—

CALCUTTA	GRANT, SMITH, and Co.	SINGAPORE	CUMMING, BEAVER, and Co.
BOMBAY	RITCHIE, STEUART, and Co.	HONG KONG	JOHNSON and Co.
MADRAS	BAINBRIDGE, BYARD, GAIR, and Co.	SHANGHAI	JOHNSON and Co.

By Order,

JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

ORIENTAL AND GENERAL MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

BALANCE SHEET, 31ST DECEMBER, 1863.

Dr.	£.	s.	d.
To Amount of Capital paid up	66,785	0	0
„ Balance of Insurance and Interest Accounts ..	67,274	16	0
	£134,059	16	0

Cr.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
By Premises in Finch-lane, etc. ..	7,467	13	6			
Less 5 per cent. ..	373	7	8			
				7,094	5	10
„ Government and other Securities				101,919	10	9
„ Interest due on the same				3,815	4	4
„ Debtors for Outstanding Premiums				15,610	4	6
„ Stamps and Petty Cash on hand				106	2	3
„ Salvages				1,129	3	9
„ Cash at Bankers				4,385	4	7
				£134,059	16	0

INSURANCE AND INTEREST ACCOUNT, 31ST DECEMBER, 1863.

Dr.	£.	s.	d.
To Balance	71,233	18	6
„ Interest on Investments, Transfer Fees, &c. ..	8,219	8	2
	£79,453	6	8

Cr.	£.	s.	d.
By Interest paid in 1862 at 5 per cent	3,339	5	0
„ Rent, Office Charges, and Incidental Expenses ..	2,199	17	4
„ Salaries, Directors' Fees, Underwriter, Secretary, etc.	6,211	7	8
„ Law Expenses	54	13	0
„ Reduction of Premises in Finch-lane, etc.	373	7	8
„ Balance	67,274	16	0
	£79,453	6	8

Having duly examined the Books from which the above Statement of Account was compiled, we certify that it is correct; we have also satisfied ourselves of the existence of the Securities, and hereby certify that the same are correct.

London, 8th February, 1864.

J. NOTMAN, } Auditors.
J. H. WOOD, }

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GELLE FRERES' PERFUMERY.

CHIEF ESTABLISHMENT, 35, RUE DES VIEUX AUGUSTINS, 35, à PARIS.

THE house of GELLE AINE and CO., celebrated for the superiority of its Perfumery, addresses itself to the fashionable world as much for its essentially hygeianic, refreshing, and tonic preparations as for its delicate and distingué perfumes.

STEAM WORKS AT NEUILLY SUR SEINE

1st Class Paris Exhibition. Medal.

DEPOT: BLUMBERG & CO 55, CANNON-STREET WEST, LONDRES.

DEPOT: H. BRULE, 23, RUE DE L'HOPITAL, BRUXELLES.

1st Class London Exhibition. Medal.

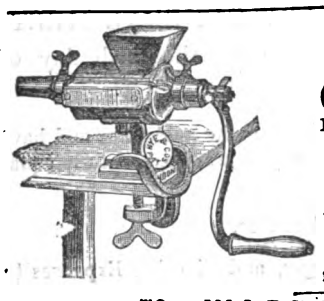
Commission. Articles specially Recommended. Exportation

REGENERATEUR, a superior pomade.
EAU D'ALBION for the toilet,
CARBOQUINA ROSE toothpowder.
CUCUMBER SOAP for softening the skin.
VIOLET ESSENCE and VIOLET WATER for the handkerchief.
CONCENTRATED EAU DE COLOGNE for the toilet.
LAIT PROPHYLATIC to remove freckles and improve the appearance of the skin.
COLD CREAM, AU LOTUS DE LYBIE, to soften and refresh the skin.
NIGRITINE VEGETALE, an incomparable dye for the hair and beard, not staining the skin.

SPECIAL PERFUMERY WITH A BASIS OF GLYCERINE

SOAP, TOOTH-PASTE, POMMADE, CREAM FOR THE COMPLEXION, EAU DE TOILETTE.

To be obtained of all the principal Perfumers and Hairdressers in Europe and other parts of the world.



S. NYE AND CO.'S

PATENT MACHINES.

OF various sizes, for MINCING MEAT, VEGETABLES, &c., &c.; for making Sausages, Mince Meat, Potted Meats, and various Dishes. Price £1. 1s, £1. 10s., £2s. 2s., £3. 3s., £5. 5s., and £7. 7s.

"It is extremely clever."—*Times.*

A small MINCER or MASTICATOR, to assist digestion. Price £1. 10., "Very suitable for invalids and for persons with decayed teeth."—*The Lancet*

IMPROVED MILLS for COFFEE, PEPPER, SPICE, MALT, &c., the best and most convenient made. Price 6s., 8s., 10s., 14s., 15s., and 20s.

"The best and most convenient Mill in use."—*Family Herald.*

ROTARY KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES of SUPERIOR QUALITY from £2 and upwards.

79, WARDOUR-STREET, LONDON.

J. C. and J. FIELD,

ORIGINAL MANUFACTURERS (IN ENGLAND) OF

PARAFFINE CANDLES,

TO WHOM THE PRIZE MEDAL (1862) HAS BEEN AWARDED.

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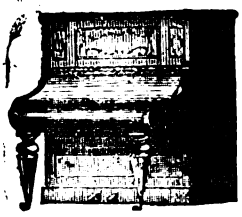

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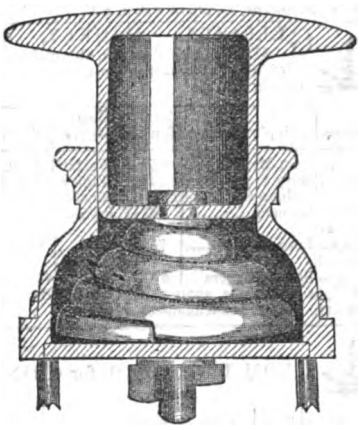

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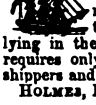

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FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the well-known clipper ship JUBILEE, A 1 fourteen years, 764 tons register, J. A. GRANT, Commander, lying in the East India Docks. Has superior accommodation for passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to PHILLIPS, SHAW, and LOWTHER, 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, E.C.

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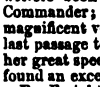

DIRECT FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the splendid Clyde-built clipper ship SYDNEY EGGERS, classed A 1, 20 years, in the Liverpool Underwriters book; 870 tons register; H. W. CAMPBELL, Commander; loading in the East India Docks. This magnificent vessel, built on the Clyde in 1859, made her last passage to Bombay in seventy-nine days, is noted for her great speed and sound delivery of cargo, and will be found an excellent opportunity to shippers of fine goods.

For Freight or Passage apply to GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL, 27, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

NOTICE to SHIPPERS to COLOMBO and TRINCOMALEE.—The fast-sailing clipper ISABELLA, A 1 9 years, is now completing her loading in the West India Docks. Last shipping day, Wednesday, 16th March.

For Freight or Passage apply to the owners, STUART and SIMPSON, 9, Clement's-lane, E.C.

GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL will despatch the undermentioned high-classed SHIPS to CALCUTTA, from the East India Docks, punctually on the dates named. These vessels, built principally for the Calcutta trade, offer the best opportunities to passengers and shippers of fine goods. These ships will carry experienced surgeons:—

LINE OF SHIPS for 1864.

Ships' Names.	Ton. Reg.	Class.	Commander	To Sail.
SirJohn Lawrence	1090	A 1 13 yrs.	J. Sinclair...	April 20
Robert Lees ...	1199	A 1 12 yrs.	A. Douglas .	May 20
Alumbagh	1137	A 1 13 yrs.	W. J. Dale .	June 20
Bayard (new) ...	1315	A 1 12 yrs.	——	July 20
Lloyd Rayner ...	1004	A 1 12 yrs.	J. Pollock ...	Aug. 20
Hougoumont ...	962	A 1 13 yrs.	J. Flamank .	Sept. 20
Salamanca	861	A 1 13 yrs.	G.N.Livesay	Oct. 20
Cornwallis	1214	A 1 12 yrs.	J. Leeman .	Nov. 20
Bolingbroke ...	1260	A 1 12 yrs.	H. Ross ...	Dec. 20

For freight or passage apply to ESCOMBE, BROTHERS, and Co., Cross-street, Manchester; to LISTON, YOUNG, and Co., 36, Cannon-street, E.C.; or to GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL, 27, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, and BANGKOK.—The following splendid first-class Clipper Ships will be despatched as under:—

Port.	Ships.	Docks.	Last Shipping Day.
Shanghai	Canadian ...	E.I.D.	April 12.
Amoy & Foo-chow-Foo	Rubicon ...	L.D.	With des.
Kanagawa, Japan ...	Medina ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Singapore	Maggie ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Bangkok	Helen Baird .	S.K.D.	With des.

For Freight or Passage, apply to KILLICK, MARTIN, and Co., 28, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, E.C.

GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL will despatch the undermentioned SHIPS, from the East India Docks, as under:—

Destination	Ship's Name.	Reg. Tons.	Commanders.	To Sail.
Bombay ...	John Melhuish ...	650	J. Watts	22nd.
Bombay ...	Mary Stenhouse .	1,243	H. Finlay	With des.
Calcutta ...	SirJohn Lawrence	1,090	J. Sinclair	April 20
Shanghai ...	Beemah	887	T. Johnson	With des.
H.Kong and Whampoa	Lord Raglan	753	D. Pope	18th
H.Kong and Whampoa	Sydney Eggers ...	870	H. Campbell	With des.

For Freight or Passage, apply to GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL, No. 27, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

FROM LIVERPOOL for CHINA.

Ships.	Tons	Class.	Destination.	To Sail.
Patna	332	—	Shanghai ...	In few days.
Veronica ...	332	A 1 ...	Hong Kong and Whampoa	With des.
Jane Leech ...	871	A 1 ...	Shanghai ...	With des.

For terms of Freight or Passage apply to McDIARMID and GREENSHIELDS, Liverpool.

ROBERTSON and CO. will despatch the following first-class VESSELS to their respective destinations. They are well adapted for their several trades, and are confidently recommended to their friends:—

Destination.	Ships.	Docks.	To Sail.
Shanghai	Celestial ...	W.I.D.	With des.
H. Kong & Whampoa.	Maidn.Queen	W.I.D.	With des.
Manila	Conchita ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Singapore	Moneta ...	W.I.D.	March 31.
Calcutta	Jas. Livesey .	E.I.D.	With des.
Penang	Marengo ...	W.I.D.	March 17
Kanagawa	Satzuma ...	W.I.D.	March 14.
Bombay	Tiverton ...	E.I.D.	April —

London, 5, Newman's-court, Cornhill; or York-chambers, 55, King-street, Manchester.

THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE FIFTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 28th December, 1863. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

Subscriptions and Advertisements received abroad by the following Agents:—

Penang	SANDILANDS, BUTTERY AND CO.
Bangkok	RÉMI SCHMIDT AND CO.
Batavia	HUNTER, HOUGHTON, AND CO.
Anjer—Straits of Sunda	G. SCHUIT, Anjer Hotel.
Manila	PHILLIPS, MOORE, AND CO.
Hong Kong, Canton, Macao, & Swatow,	JAMES GARDINER, Hong Kong.
Amoy	BOYD AND CO.
Foo-Chow-Foo	HEDGE AND CO.
Shanghai	H. FOGG AND CO.
Tien-Tsin	JAMES HENDERSON.
Nagasaki—Japan .	PIGNATEL AND CO.
Kanagawa	A. W. HANSARD.

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The London and China Telegraph.

新聞紙

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 132.] LONDON, MONDAY, MARCH 28, 1864. [Sub. 30s. per ann., and 12s. to Supplement. Single copy of either 9d.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Kanagawa			Feb. 8
Nagasaki			Jan. 16
Hakodadi			
CHINA—			
Peking			„ 20
Tien-tsin			
Hankow			Feb. 4
Shanghai	Dec. 10	Jan. 31	„ 9
Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 10
Amoy			„ 9
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Dec. 26	Feb. 11	„ 15
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Dec. 10	Feb. 1	„ 8
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Touron			
Saigon			„ 15
SIAM—			
Bankok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 13
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Jan. 10		„ 23
Penang	„ 10		„ 24

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per Euxine, arrived March 26.—From Yokohama: Mr. Bell. From Shanghai: Messrs. Shanks and Gordon. From Hong Kong: Mrs. Reid and servant. From Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Bogault and child, Mr. Young, Mrs. Gill, Capt. Hirtz, Mr. Mayo, Mr. and Mrs. Lowe.

To Southampton, per Ripon, expected to arrive April 2.—From Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Cobb, Capt. Hansen, and Capt. Baxter. From Hong Kong: Capt Moore, Lieut. Wells, Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair, two infants and servant, Capt. Hardy, Mr. Pilbrow, Mr. Fleetword, and Mr. Mitchell, and two second-class passengers. To Egypt: Mr. Lipscombe, and Mr. Scriveycour.

By last Bombay mail to Marseilles, per Veetis, arrived March 20.—From Hong Kong: Mr. Hancock.—By last mail to Suez, per Nubia, Mr. and Mrs. Laye infant and servant.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

By last mail per P. and O. steamer Baroda, from Southampton, March 20.—To Singapore: Mr. A. Gentle, Mr. Faulkner, Miss Jeffries, and four second-class passengers. To Hong Kong: Mr. Scholefield, Mr. Henry Parke and one second-class passenger. To Shanghai: Mr. Daniel McAllister, Mr. G. H. Wilson, Mr. Walter Walter, Mr. W. Davison, Mr. H. Batchelor. To Calcutta: Mr. Keatley, Lieut. Pratt, Messrs. G. Fearon, C. J. Weir, F. Howard, Bunting, G. Jameson, W. B. Macrone, and Monro, Lieuts. H. E. Dolphin, and F. G. Sutton, Lieut.-Col. Thomas, Cornet Banister, Mr. Flemington, Mrs. Shallow, Mrs. Jameson, Capt. and Mrs. Kingscote, and thirteen second-class passengers. To Madras: Ensign R. Patch. Mr. and Mrs. Brooks, infant, and two daughters, Messrs. E. H. Conden and J. Barker, Capt. J. B. Knocker, Mr. Fellowes, Ensign H. R. Lindesay, and one second-class passenger. To Ceylon: Mr. W. Mathen, Miss Innes, Mr. Jno. Grant, and two second-class passengers. To Alexandria: Mr. J. H. Fry (and back), Mr. J. R. Davison, Mrs. Haselwood, and three second-class passengers.

From Marseilles, per Massilia, to leave March 28.—To Penang: Messrs. W. C. S Padday and P. C. Padday. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Odell, Mr. Chs. Elzinga, Mr. G. Lethbridge, and two second-class passengers. To Shanghai: Mr. W. R. Matson, Mr. Geo. Smith, Mr. Coutts. To Singapore: Mr. Soames. To Calcutta: Lieuts. Garbon and A. Bruce, Messrs. Meakin, Hogarth, H. Richardson, and M. Ross, Col. Bundall, Lieut. Collen, and two second-class passengers. To Ceylon: Messrs. J. M. Misteon, G. Ross, and Sabonadiere, Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Dyer.

Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, from Southampton, April 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Holberton, Rev. J. Wilson, R.N. To Shanghai: Mr. Sharp, Mrs. Mackellar and child. To Singapore: Mr. Maxwell. From Marseilles, April 12.—To Shanghai: Mr. Thos. Francis Wade, Bishop Boone. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. F. Grossmann.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, from Southampton, April 20.—To Hong Kong: Mr. F. H. Lane. To Shanghai: Mr. H. Morrison. From Marseilles, April 28.—To Shanghai: Mr. W. Arets.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Our last advices informed us that some members of the Prussian Legation were at Yedo for the purpose of obtaining the ratification of the Treaty between Japan and their Sovereign. On arriving at Yedo they took up their quarters at the French Legation temple-residence, Saikaid'i, much to the bewilderment of the Japanese authorities, for on the 13th January the Gorogio sent Takimot and another Minister down, to beg the advice of the French Minister as to how they could best induce the former to leave their residence on shore, or, if they insisted on not returning to Yokohama, at least to go on board their ship. The Gorogio expressed their readiness to give the ratification of the Prussian Treaty in ten days, but in the interval expressed great concern upon the continued residence of the Minister and Consul ashore. The French Minister declined the discourteous task of asking his guest to turn out, and gave the ministers the only advice he could give them, viz., to avoid all trouble by hastening the ratification of the treaty, which, as they intended to give in ten days, they might just as well give in as many hours, when doubtless the Prussian Minister would, as the other foreign Ministers have done, abstain from present residence at Yedo, except when called thither on business. The delay of ten days appears, however, to have been an insurmountable necessity. It was not till the 22nd that the Prussian war-steamer *Gazelle* returned to Yokohama, bringing with it the desired ratifications, which were exchanged the day before. On the 21st the Vice-Ministers Suwa Inaba-no-Kami and Tatsibana, Idsumi-no-Kami went on board about one o'clock to receive the letter of the King of Prussia, being furnished with full power to receive the same in the name of the Tycoon. The ratifications were exchanged by Tamura Higo-no-Kami. The Minister Kawadsi Idsu-no-Kami, who is about to proceed as one of the Envoys to Europe, was also present. The letter of the King being handed over, a salute of twenty-one guns was fired, and this important ceremony concluded. The Ministers, and their friends and suites, were then, at their request, shown over the frigate, and, after the enjoyment of an elegant repast, left, with every demonstration and expression of friendship and goodwill. The members of the Legation who officiated on the occasion were M. de Rehfues, the Minister; M. Radowitch, Secretary of Legation; and M. von Brandt, the Consul. The *Japan Herald* observes in reference to the event:—"The successful issue of the negotiations at this eventful period, when the great aim of the Japanese would appear to be to circumscribe and hamper foreign relations, was more than could have been reasonably confidently anticipated, and it is to be hoped that these circumstances will be well considered, and a due importance attached to them, when an approving Sovereign shall mete out to these his energetic servants that honour and reward which doubtless will convey his sense of this important service."

The new Embassy is now on its way to Europe. It was arranged with the French admiral, at a conference held on board the *Semiramis* on the 28th January, that the Japanese Embassy (three Ambassadors and suites) would embark officially on board His Imperial Majesty's steamer *Monge* on the 2nd February, at three o'clock. A salute of seventeen guns was to be fired by the frigate, and acknowledged by the Kanagawa forts. The Embassy would be conveyed to Shanghai on board the *Monge* (which would take her departure about the 5th or 6th), and proceed by the French mail line to Marseilles, passages having been arranged for at Shanghai

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Some important reductions have been made in the import duties on certain descriptions of foreign merchandise. A conference was held on the 26th January between the French Minister and some of the Japanese authorities, whereat it was agreed that in future the duties on wines and spirits should be reduced to 5 per cent., and on Parisian articles to 6 per cent.

One of the principal grievances foreigners present at or trading with Yokohama port have had to submit to, has been the enormous rates of duty payable upon imports both for foreign use and for sale to the Japanese. The duty upon wines and spirits was 35 per cent., and the general duty (save upon a few excepted articles) 20 per cent. When the former Japanese Embassy was in London and Paris in 1862, one of the conditions upon which the English and French Governments consented to the postponement of the opening of Yedo, Ossacca, &c., was the revision of these duties, and in compliance with this arrangement the ambassadors were, on their return, appointed commissioners to treat with the ministers, who received power on behalf of their respective Governments as to the time and nature of these reductions delay as usual has taken place, but the necessity arising to the Japanese to send another embassy home, they see also the necessity to go with clean hands as to the performance of the promise made by the former embassy. They are quite shrewd enough to propitiate the favourable reception of their new mission by obtaining, even at the last moment, the credit of having performed their former contract. Accordingly, on the 26th the two same Ministers had an interview with Mons. du Bellecourt, and having told the French Minister they had come upon this subject and referred to their promises made in Paris, began treating with him as to the amount of reduction and the articles upon which it should be made. 15 per cent., then 10 per cent. were proposed, and ultimately the duties above stated, 5 per cent. on wines and spirits, and 6 per cent. upon all articles coming under the denomination "articles de Paris"—watches, clocks, mirrors, furniture, &c.—were agreed to. They have since waited upon the British Charge d'Affaires and communicated to him in like manner this their tardy compliance with the obligations made in 1862.

A Convention has also been concluded by the Japanese with General Pruyn, the United States' Minister, with the similar object of reducing duties. This document is couched in the following terms:—

For the purpose of encouraging and facilitating the commerce of citizens of the United States in Japan, and after due deliberation, His Excellency, Robert H. Pruyn, Minister Resident of the United States in Japan, and His Excellency Sabata Sadataro, Governor of Foreign Affairs, both having full powers from their respective Governments, have agreed on the following articles, viz.:—

Article I.—The following articles used in the preparation of packing of teas shall be free of duty:—Sheet-lead, solder, matting, rattan, oil for painting, indigo, gipsum, firing-pans, baskets.

Article II.—The following articles shall be admitted at the reduced duty of 5 per cent. Machines and machinery, drugs and medicines.* Iron, in pigs or bars, sheet iron and iron-wire, tin-plates, white sugar, in loaves or crushed, glass and glass-ware, clocks and watches, watch-chains, wines, malted and spirituous liquors.

Article III.—The citizens of the United States importing or exporting goods shall always pay the duty fixed thereon, whether such goods are intended for their own use or not.

Article IV.—This convention having been agreed upon a year ago, and its signature delayed through unavoidable circumstances, it is hereby agreed that the same shall go into effect at Kanagawa on the 8th February next, corresponding to the first day of the first month of the fourth Japanese year of Bunkiu-Ne, and at Nagasaki and Hakodadi, on the 9th day of March next, corresponding to the first day of the second month of the fourth year of Bunkiu-Ne.

Done in quadruplicate, each copy being written in the English, Japanese, and Dutch languages, all the versions having the same meaning, but the Dutch version shall be considered as the original. In witness whereof, the above-named Plenipotentiaries have hereunto set their hands and seals at the City of Yedo, the 28th day of January, of the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-eighth corresponding to the twentieth day of the twelfth month of the third year of Bunkiu-Ne of the Japanese era. ROBT. H. PRUYN, SIBATA SADATARO.

During the last week (states the *Japan Herald* of the 16th January) the Japanese in our neighbourhood have suffered severely from the occurrence of fires. On Sunday last a very extensive one raged for some hour or more at Kanagawa, and must have committed great havoc. On Thursday another, also of very serious character, occurred at Kanagawa-dzi Koyas (the spot, or close to it, where poor Richardson was murdered); and several conflagrations of a slighter character are reported; but all sink into insignificance by the side of the reports of the destruction of so large a portion of the city of Ossacca, that the ruins are said to be scarcely comprised within a belt of five miles in circumference.

The first annual statutory meeting of the British Episcopal Church Society for the year 1864, had been held at the British Consulate. Mr. S. Maine, the treasurer, brought up his accounts for the year, which were of the most satisfactory character, and were received and adopted by the meeting *nem. con.* A list of the subscribers towards the erection of the church, showing the collection of the sum $1,500, having been handed in; it was moved by Mr. Macpherson, seconded by Mr. Marshall, "That the Consul be requested to apply to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, for the equivalent sum of $1,500 to make up the $3,000 originally advanced for the erection of the church." This having been unanimously aodpted, thanks were voted to the late treasurer and trustees, Mr. Bourne was requested to act as treasurer, and Messrs. W. Marshall and M. Bourne were requested to act as trustees for the ensuing year. Votes of thanks were then unanimously passed to various donors to the church, viz.:—To the visitors at Yokohama, for the gift of the harmonium; to Captain Vyse, for the church stove; to Mr. Eusden, for the font; and to Mr. Flowers, for the lectern. A short discussion arose on the question of obtaining further fittings and embellishments; but it appeared to be the general opinion that the public having subscribed so frequently and so liberally of late to matters in connection with the church, some time should be allowed before further calls should be made upon them. The chairman himself took this view, and in the course of his remarks dropped the observation, that "he considered there had been a disposition towards too many emblems of late." This remark was met by general expressions of concurrence; and it having been moved by Mr. Macpherson and seconded by Mr. Wilgoss:—"That all designs for the adornment and embellishment of the church shall be submitted to the Committee, and shall be approved by them; and that all gifts offered to the church shall be sanctioned by the Committee previously to being placed in the fabric, the end being the preservation of that unanimity so desirable in Church matters," the resolution was carried unanimously. A resolution having been passed that the chaplain should confer with the committee upon the form and manner of all notifications of services, &c., the meeting adjourned.

Lewis Martin, a Portuguese steward of the British ship *Forerunner*, was charged at the Consular Court on the 15th January with the commission of an assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm upon George Caerns, the chief mate of that vessel. It appeared that the prosecutor was taking a doze upon one of the cabin seats, when the prisoner stealthily entered and struck him a tremendous blow over the face with a small axe, missing, as it seems, the blow with the head of the axe, but still inflicting a contusion of a most severe character. It also appeared that the prisoner had made use of threatening language to others as to his intention at some opportunity to "cook the goose" of the prosecutor. The prisoner was ably defended by Mr. Crutchley. The Court found the charge fully proved, and sentenced the prisoner to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

A correspondent of the *Herald* complains of the serious difficulties thrown in the way of trade by the Japanese authorities. He writes:—

Suddenly merchants in Yokohama disappear, and on inquiry we are probably told that one has been threatened by a writing, and another by a visit of a Loonin. Next comes down the dwelling or shop, and we find that he and all his house have departed to a place where there is more safety, if not so many opportunities of amassing wealth. Beyond this, trade is stopped in a still more effectual manner. One morning we heard that nine men, some merchants, and some officers of the Boat-house, had been murdered in Yedo, and for two days trade was stopped. On inquiry we are answered with a single word "Loonin." We are told by the native merchants here that no imports are allowed to go to Yedo—still "Loonin" as the reason. Loonins there may be, it is true, but they are Government Loonins, who live in the Guard-houses in the streets of Yedo, and receive bribes to permit traffic and commerce. The two last-named causes appear to have succeeded better to gratify the aims of the Tycoon's Government than any before adopted. Two-thirds of the merchants' houses are closed, and trade is rapidly coming to the point which the Government so ardently desire, namely, to have only two or three native traders (and those perhaps Government men) in the post. What price shall we then have to pay for our exports, and what may we expect for our imports? A hard "Mexican" presents many attractions to a Japanese, but they are more than counterbalanced by the fear of losing his head. The Japanese Government know this, and take their measures accordingly.

While writing the foregoing, I hear that three Japanese merchants, by name Eraziah, Euraziah, and Izmaiah, have been arrested and sent to gaol for the crime of bringing silk to this market, and I have been told that a servant of a gentleman here has been informed by some unknown

* The prohibition of the importation of opium, according to the existing treaty, remains in full force.

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visitors that the house he occupies is by far too good for one in his station of life.

LATEST.—The steamer *Fokkein* arrived at Hong Kong on the 14th Feb. from Yokohama, bringing dates to the 8th Feb. The Japanese steam fleet left Yedo on the 5th inst., conveying, as it was said, the Tycoon to Miaco. The Ambassadors composing the new mission embarked on the 6th on board H.I.M.'s ship *Monge* for Shanghai, whence they will proceed, per Messageries Imperiales line, for Marseilles.

CHINA.

PEKING.

From the capital there is no news of importance. The river is frozen, and the winter is a severe one. Sir Frederick Bruce, it is rumoured, leaves shortly for England, on leave of absence. It is not yet known who will act as *locum tenens* to his Excellency.

The relations existing between the foreign Ministers and the Chinese authorities remain upon the most friendly footing. We understand that the local militia in the province of Chih-li has been transferred to the command of the provincial magistrates, and no longer remains in the hands of private individuals. Our countrymen in the capital have vindicated their claim to the English name by initiating races. We publish below an account of the proceedings:—

The first amateur races which have ever taken place at Peking were held on Thursday, the 17th December last, at the Anting plain, to the northward of the city. They were got up by the Student-Interpreters of H.B.M.'s Legation and of the Imperial Chinese Maritime Customs, and consisted of pony races for various distances, varying from half a mile to two hundred yards. A dense crowd of Chinese, Mongolians, and Thibetans soon assembled near the winning post, and appeared to derive unlimited satisfaction from the riding and speed of the ponies, and to enter heartily into the spirit of the race.

The course was attended by the Ministers of the different foreign Legations at Peking, and the gentlemen of their suites.

As a guarantee that the want of liberal feeling usually attributed to the missionary body has no place among the learned and hardworking gentlemen who have chosen Peking as their field of labour, we may mention that we observed at least one reverend gentleman on the course lending his countenance to this thoroughly English amusement.

The races were as under:—

I. Distance, half a mile. Mr. Hobson's "Rev. Mr. Mitchell," Mr. Brett's "D.I.O."

1, "Rev. Mr. Mitchell." 2. "D.I.O."

II. Distance quarter of a mile. Mr. Denny's "Pistol," Mr. Solbes "Excommunicated."

1, "Excommunicated," 2 "Pistol," who when close upon the winning post and two good lengths in front, lost the race by bolting outside the course.

III. Distance, quarter of a mile. Mr. Allen's Gulf Arab "Giles Scroggins," Mr. Bismark's Western Mongolian pony "Ironsides."

1, "Ironsides."

IV. Distance 200 yards. Mr. Denny's "Pistol," Mr. Brett's "D.I.O." "Pistol," ten yards start.

1, "Pistol."

V. Distance quarter of a mile. Mr. Murray's "Devil," Mr. Walker's "Revolver," Mr. Dennys' "Slowcoach."

1, "Devil," 2, "Slowcoach."

VI. Handicap.—Distance, half a mile. Mr. Denny's "Pistol," Mr. Denny's "Slowcoach."

SHANGHAI.

The dates are down to the morning of the 9th February. The English Mail of 26th November and 10th December had arrived. The French Mail of 17th December, which arrived at Hong Kong on the 30th January, does not appear to have reached Shanghai. The Chinese new year holidays had checked business as usual. The prevalence of outrages in the settlement is of serious consequence.

The *Recorder* gives about eight columns of the trial of J. D. Buckley for the murder of Capt. McKinnon. The sentence was as follows:—

COURT OF UNITED STATES CONSULATE GENERAL.

Shanghai, Feb. 4, 1864.

In re United States *versus* John D. Buckley.

JUDGMENT.—The Court finds the prisoner guilty of murder, and assesses upon him the punishment of death by hanging.

G. F. SEWARD,
Consul-General Acting Judicially.

Assented to
HENRY C. ENDICOTT.
ALBERT L. FREEMAN.
THOS. W. STILLMAN.
JOHN M. NIXON.
Associates.

We take from the same journal a notice of the land regulations:—

We understand that the arrangements proposed to be entered into for the purpose of extending the efficiency of the Land Office in the British Consulate are now completed, and that the vote passed at the last meeting of the land renters will be carried out by the levy of a small fee, to be collected on the value of registered land. This is computed at a minimum of 8,000,000 taels, a scarcely perceptible percentage on which will yield an income of several thousand taels per annum. This will, it is believed, be amply sufficient for the purpose of organising a land department in the British Consulate, which will meet the requirements of the leaseholders and the community generally, as well as the expenditure requisite in executing an accurate and reliable plan of the settlement, which has so long been urgently required.

Suggestions for Proposed Land Office.

I. The establishment of the proposed office will enable several useful changes to be introduced, and the current business to be conducted with increased despatch and efficiency. Among the proposed changes are:—

1. Abolition of Sub-Register system, and issue of title deeds on all occasions.
2. Cancelling of old and complicated title deeds, and issue of new deeds.
3. Regular issue of classified land lists.
4. Preservation and registry of uniform plans of land.

II. Land fee to be raised from the land exhibited in the semi-annual of the renters. By this means any Consulate in which an organised land office may be required, will be able to levy its revenue on the amount of business actually transacted.

III.—Estimate of Expenditure.

Compensation of land officer, say £250	$1,200
Pay of 1 European clerk	1,800
„ Chinese do.	400
Annual stationery	250
Annual expenditure	$3,650

N.B.—In justice to the clerks employed by the Chinese authorities, some compensation should be allotted to them for the increase of work likely to accrue.

ESTIMATED REVENUE.

Land in British settlement estimated at	$8,000,000
Land outside do. do.	1,500,000
	$9,500,000

At $50 per $1,000, say $1,500.

An Imperial Proclamation has been issued by the Futai, declaring all title to land in Soochow purchased by Europeans invalid. Copies of the proclamation have been posted on the walls of the city and about the settlement. We believe several parties became purchasers of land, some at low rates, and others at fair rates, prior to the evacuation of Soochow by the rebels, considering that the title would be valid enough, and that such purchases would be remunerative when peace was restored and trade in action. Such purchasers seem likely to be doomed to disappointment, as by this proclamation they cannot hold the land they have bought. It may be imagined that such purchasers will be able to re-sell to Chinamen. This we believe cannot be done, as the Chinese executive will not recognise any transfer of land from Europeans, under the pretence that they are not landowners.

The *Fennella* and *Louisa* have been chartered by the Chinese Government to convey back to Nghui the refugees who had been driven from their homes during the civil war which has been raging through that part of the country. Large numbers arrive daily here from the country awaiting a passage; among them is a large number of "Braves," who return to Hu-nan.

The necessity of an efficient river police is demanded. It appears that the present water police themselves are among the worst thieves; and that the police, taken altogether, of Shanghai, are a myth. Little by little, Government matters here are drifting into a crisis which, we hope, will work out a remedy not worse than the disease.

We hear from Ningpo that the Siamese steamer, *Viscount Canning*, Captain Shanning, when anchoring off the White Dogs, on her way from Hong Kong, had the misfortune to break her shaft, so causing her passage up to be twenty days in duration. The vessel's destination is Shanghai, though it will not be possible for her to leave Ningpo for a fortnight.

A soldier of the 67th regiment was attacked on the Yang-king-pang Creek, on what is called the French road from Sicka-wei, by a Chinaman armed with a knife. The soldier was quite unarmed, and succeeded in preventing the Chinaman from wounding him, but observing two or three men coming to the assistance of the man who commenced the attack, he took to his heels, and immediately met two gentlemen on horseback. The Chinaman escaped into a sampan, and the Europeans, reflecting that they were unarmed, did not pursue them. No doubt the object of the assault was to plunder the soldier of his medals, or whatever he might have about him.

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The native and foreign rowdies who have during the past month taken such care to distinguish themselves in Shanghai gave on last Thursday evening a further proof of their activity. At about half past six o'clock the shop of a poor fellow who lives in Market Lane, a small street running from Church-street to Barrier Road, was entered by a gang of Cantonese armed with knives, who searched the house, seizing everything of value contained in it, and getting away safely with booty amounting to about three hundred dollars. Where the police were on the occasion is a mystery which we do not attempt to fathom. In Shanghai we have no areas, and no confiding "servant gals." The police might therefore be expected to do something sometimes—to be at least in at the death, and, if not able to prevent an outrage, to manage to report it.

We extract from the *Friend of China* as follows :—

(To the *Friend of China*.)

Messrs. Editors, — I met with an incident this morning which I think merits a public rebuke. Riding past the Prussian Consulate with a gentleman and lady companion, I observed that a large number of stones had been removed from my land, which fronts upon that site, and I immediately made inquiries of the French keeper of a gate near by, and was told that the stones had been taken and carried away by the soldiers of the quarters near there. I immediately went to the quarters and expressed a wish to see the officer in command. A young man kindly offered to call the colonel. A man soon made his appearance; who he was I know not. His conduct was that of a blackguard. Before I could state my complaint I was told to "clear out," "go away." I immediately rejoined that he had better behave in a gentlemanly manner, and hear what I had to say. He again, in a coarse, brutal manner, repeated the order to "go away," adding that I had no land about there, and if I didn't go off, he would have me arrested at once! I replied that he had better "try it." He finding I persisted in my purpose, *i.e.*, the making of my complaint, and was not to be intimidated by his violent threats and outrageous conduct, immediately turned and went away, stating "I could stay there as long as I liked."

Now, if he expects to stifle my complaints, and screen villainous depredations committed upon my property apparently with his sanction, he'll find himself mistaken, if there is any justice and virtue in the powers that be.

If we are to submit to these armed depredations, it is well for the public to know it. FREDERICK G. WARD.

[The above was handed to us by the father of the late General Ward.]

A statement of this kind from so respectable a quarter merits the attention of the public who have property in that direction, *i.e.*, near the Beloochee Barracks. No doubt Mr. Ward's property has been abstracted in a moment of necessity, when stone was needed for the outer defences. At the same time we must consider his treatment by the officer in command as very ungentlemanly, unless that individual entirely disclaims the intention of insulting a gentleman of Mr. Ward's standing. This is not the first time we have heard complaints of that officer.

Civilians here are accustomed to receive the highest courtesy from our brave defenders, and it is with pain we learn of Mr. Ward's having been so grossly insulted. We will still hope that the commander of the Ningpo Joss house troops was under a false impression when he went so far as to threaten to arrest Mr. Ward.

Military men ought to understand that they are the servants of the public, and *not* their master; and that as their code is carried out to the very *ideal* of honor and fairness, they should not only prevent the robbery of private property, but also show their respect to civilians who are gentlemen, and their superiors perhaps in some things, and certainly their equals, when it is a question of right and wrong.

No doubt the gentleman in command of the Ningpo Joss house force will extricate himself from the charges of Mr. Ward. If he does not we shall regret that some of our military are wanting in politeness, to say nothing of principle, which are positions untenable by those who represent such a respectable body as our defenders certainly are in China.—ED.]

NOTICE.—Communications for this journal should be distinctly addressed to the Editor, or to J. T. DOYEN, who this day assumes editorial responsibility. W. TARRANT.

Friend of China Office, Shanghai, 23rd Jan., 1864.

We learn from Hankow that the mercantile credit system is to be modified, a step, we think, in the right direction. It causes us some surprise that there are some "timid folk" there who "dodged" the question, on the ground of reference to the Shanghai houses. The Chinese perfectly understand the benefit of a cash system of trade, and they are cunning enough to band together to force foreign traders to *their* terms. As Europeans are shamefully deficient in having an *esprit du corps*, it works well to the advantage of the Chinese trader. We sincerely hope that the Chinese will continue to enjoy their advantage over foreign merchants, till the latter meet them on their own ground. It is nothing but right that the cleverest trader should laugh in his sleeve, provided the merchant that overreaches himself knows what he is about, and perfectly understands the "position."

The defence ditch seems to progress, 4,000 men being employed on it. The lowness of the river is complained of, especially above Kiukiang. Chun-Kwo Fan is still at Nanking (capital of Anghui), waiting, like Mr. Micawber, for "something to turn up." Le Futai is in the midst of marriage festivities, to say nothing of China New Year. Chung Wang has opened up communication with Nanking, and so matters remain. What next?

Major Gordon's Anglo-Chinese forces remain inactive pending answers from Peking relative to the cruel treachery of the mandarins at Soo-chow.

We extract from the *North China Herald*:—Amongst the other incidents which have occurred during the past fortnight, we regret to have to announce the wreck of the *Fire Cracker*, long known as one of the most successful river steamers. The S.S.N. Co's steamer *Kiangsi* arrived in Shanghai on last Saturday afternoon, and reported the steamer *Fire Cracker* badly on shore about sixty miles above Kiukiang. The water in the river is now so low that captains are obliged in various places to seek for channels. We understand that it was while groping for a channel that the *Fire Cracker* struck on a rock previously unknown. The S.S.N. Co's steamer *Shansi* left yesterday with a lorcha in tow, in order, if possible, to save some part of the cargo.

We have had a large fire in the neighbourhood of the settlement, which at one time seemed likely to lead to the most serious results. It originated amongst a quantity of coals stored in a Chinaman's compound, in the immediate neighbourhood of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co.'s silk factory. A large body of municipal police, accompanied by Mr. Gould, secretary of the municipal council, brought up the Paon-shun engine, and the Kwang-lung engine was also quickly on the spot. A party of the 67th Regiment and a body of seamen, besides some Indian troops, were marched up, and proved most indefatigable in pulling down the surrounding houses. Fortunately the wind was westerly, else the silk factory would in all probability have been destroyed.

Two seamen belonging to H.M.'s gunboat *Starling* got intoxicated on shore, and while in that state took a sampan in order to return to the ship. When in the act of going up the side they missed their footing and fell into the water. Lieutenant Campbell, of the *Hardy*, succeeded in saving one of them, but the other never rose to the surface. We understand that this is the second occasion upon which Lieutenant Campbell has saved the life of a drowning man.

SOOCHOW.—We understand that the Futai of this province has engaged to convey back to their homes the rebel soldiery who came over at the time of the fall of Soochow. Most of these men are natives of the country around Anking. The *Fenella* and the *Louisa* have accordingly been chartered up the river. Shanghai has been made the depot, and large numbers are now every day pouring in to wait their turn for embarkation.

From Quinsan we have received information to the effect that Kia-shing has tendered its allegiance, but that the Ping Wang has refused to accept Ching's guarantee for his safety, and will not come over unless a civil mandarin named Sieh, pledges himself for the safety of the garrison. It is said that Sieh has been sent to inquire into the matter.

The *Firefly* was seized by the Imperial troops near Changchow-fu, on the 22nd of January. It is said that after her recovery she was blown up by the mandarin Ko-ta-jen, but as to this no accurate reports have been received. As to the capture, however, there is no doubt.

HANKOW.

We learn that a meeting of foreign property holders was held at Hankow on the 18th January, on which occasion a matter

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of great importance to all those connected with the Hankow trade was brought forward. It appears that the credit system has been for some time gaining strength, so that, although formerly the time allowed for payment did not exceed a fortnight or three weeks, now a merchant, in order to effect a sale, is compelled to give from a month to six weeks' credit, and is even considered fortunate if he receives payment at the end of that time. This evil has grown so rapidly, that it now assumes a shape really dangerous to the safe and satisfactory conclusion of business arrangements. It was therefore put to the meeting, as representing the body of merchants, whether they would agree not to do business, except for cash on delivery within twenty one days, or forfeiture of five per cent. bargain money, to be paid at the time of sale. The sense of the meeting was decidedly in favour of the measure, but some of the representatives of Shanghai firms declined to announce their decision until after consultation with the heads of their respective houses. An amateur theatrical company has been formed at Hankow. The first performance, which was given on the 25th of January, proved highly successful, and was attended by all the ladies resident in the settlement.

HONG KONG.

The English mail of 26th Dec. arrived on the 11th Feb. The dates are down to the 15th. The Chinese New Year and the Races appear to have monopolised attention, but did not prevent the Colonial Treasurer issuing his report, from which it appears that the revenue for 1863 was $572,968, and expenditure $448,669.

JAVA.

The weather has been still very unfavourable. Samarang, Solo, Madioen, Sourabaya, and Panaroekan have all been either wholly or partially inundated.

The British brig *Isabella*, Captain Heath, from Otago, had arrived at Batavia, and we regret to say that an unhappy accident deprived some of the passengers of their lives on the 8th February. On that day a *tambangan*, in which were the captain, a gentleman passenger, his wife, four children, and a Chinese nurse, was capsized on the bar. Three of the children, the nurse, and one boatman were drowned. The lady and surviving child were brought on shore almost lifeless, but were fortunately restored. Captain Heath was mainly instrumental in saving the life of the gentleman and his wife, having succeeded in swimming to a boat near at hand, and returning with it to their rescue.

The British ship *Florence Adelaide*, Captain Hiltz, from Table Bay to Singapore, grounded on a shoal not marked in her charts, shortly after passing through the Caramatta passage, and filled so suddenly that the crew had scarcely time to lower their boats to save themselves. All had arrived at Batavia from Indramayoe, to which port they were taken by the Dutch ship *Lammina Elisabeth*, and would proceed to Singapore.

The Hamburg ship *Jacatra*, 1,500 tons, Spring master, from Hamburg to Batavia with coals, caught fire off St. Paul's and Amsterdam, and was burnt to the water's edge. The captain and crew were picked up by the Spanish three-masted schooner *Trafalgar*, and brought on to Batavia. There being no Spanish Consul at that port, the captain, Biscot by name, after giving all he had on board to supply the men he saved, could get nobody to assist him with funds to purchase fresh supplies, and lost several days before he could procure the needful.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

The dates from this port are to the 22nd of February; but we regret to say that our files of papers have not come to hand.

The *Courrier de Saigon* having in its second number, published on the 10th January, boasted of the flourishing and unrestricted trade prevailing there under French rule, much in the terms used by the papers in France, the *Straits Times* comments on the article referred to as follows:—

"Our own records in the Import and Export Office give a very different impression of the condition of Cochin China ten years ago. It may be true that few of the junks then engaged in the trade with our ports were vessels were counted by hundreds, and not as yet the number of these pean traders are now. During the rice season there were units, as the Europassed over that did not see four or five of these junks arrive in a week pore alone, while at the same time a large trade was carried on with many of the surrounding native States. The commercial prosperity, under French administration, for which this ancient state of affairs has been exchanged, can be better understood by the world at large by a reference to the shipping statistics of Saigon, than from the generalities of any writer in the *Government Gazette* of that settlement. During the administration of Admiral Charner from 1860-1861, exactly fifteen ships, o the average of 350 tons, loaded rice at Saigon. During the time of Admiral Bonard, from 1861-1862, some twelve vessels of a similar size loaded, and since the accession of Admiral de la Grandiere, from 1862 to the end of 1863, only about five ships have taken cargoes. Certainly, this progression seems of the wrong nature. One vessel, which was chartered from this last year to bring down rice, had to load up with the very mat bags which the people had prepared for their own rice, but were unable to fill. As for junks, there is not now one to be seen; and yet this is the state of affairs with which it is intended to disparage the active native trade of ten years ago. But the writer we have quoted is particular to mention, as a sort of reason for the scarcity of shipping in the old time, the heavy restrictions that were placed upon trade, and instances the present freedom from these. We are afraid he has not been more fortunate in this allusion than he was in the one we have just discussed. The vaunted freedom of the port of Saigon consists—first, in a tonnage due of 50 cents per register ton of all vessels casting anchor there except French ships and Spanish ships; second, in a charge of $1 per ton for landing or taking on board ballast; third, in a light due of four cents per ton; and, lastly, in a pilotage, ranging from five to ten cents per ton, according to size. What would the merchants of Singapore say to port freedom of this sort? No; a charge such as this upon shipping would damage the best trade in the world. It is wrong that the French should congratulate themselves upon a progress in trade that is wholly illusory, for it will still further retard the attainment of that position of commercial prosperity into which we should wish to see their East Indian colony grow up.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

LEWES—On the 9th Jan., at Hong Kong, the wife of Capt. W. F. Lewes, of a daughter

WILSON—On the 11th March, at 2, Buckland Villas, Belsize-park, Hampstead, Mrs John C. Wilson, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

COLLINS—BORTON.—On the 2nd Feb., at St. John's Cathedral, by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, Colonial Chaplain, Charles Collins, second Clerk Police Magistrates Court, to Mary, third daughter of James Borton, Hong Kong.

CRIBB—GRAVE.—On the 12th March, at St. Paul's, Covent-garden, by the Rev. Charles E. Oakeley, M.A., B.C.L., assisted by the Rev. G. A. Crookshank, M.A., and the Rev. A. D. Graham, B.A., the Rev. Arthur William Cribb, C.M.S. Missionary to Fuhchau, China, eldest son of Mr. Arthur Cribb, of Soho-square, to Josephine, fifth daughter of Mr. Lewis Grave, of Henrietta-street, Covent-garden. No Cards.

DEATHS.

BATT—On the 22nd March, John Batt, Esq., of 8, Highbury-grove, and 39, Old Broad-street, London, aged 61. Friends will kindly receive this intimation.

GRAY—On the 8th Feb., at Salemba, Henry Alfred Gray, aged 19 years, youngest son of the late J. B. Gray, Esq.

HILL—On the 31st Jan., at the Civil Hospital, James Hill, destitute seaman.

MOORE—On the 12th March, at Southampton, Richard Henry, eldest son of the Rev. R. G Moore, vicar of Horkstow, Lincolnshire, and fourth officer of the Peninsular and Oriental Co.'s S.S. Baroda.

PATTON—On the 15th March, at his chambers, 20, Cockspur-street, Admiral Hugh Patton, aged 73.

SAVAGE—On the 14th March, at Southampton, suddenly, Francis James Saumarez Savage, Esq., youngest son of the late Major-General Sir John Boscawen Savage, K.C.B., K.C.H., aged 65.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—There is still some stock left at all the ports. The general feature of the market is the extreme firmness of the teamen, notwithstanding the universal disinclination of exporters to operate on the present scale of rates, which render it impossible to lay down teas at the prices ruling in London at date of last advices. Black teas can hardly be quoted lower, but greens are one or two taels below the extreme rates which they had attained. The export to Great Britain still exhibits an unprecedented total as compared with previous seasons, but it is considered yet doubtful whether the total export to all places will exceed that of last year.

CANTON.—Owing to the customary suspension of business at China new year time, and to the great firmness of the holders of Congous, the transactions of the fortnight have been trivial, and are thus reported:—Ankoi Souchong: 50 chests at 25¼ taels. Canton Greens: 4,000 boxes Gunpowder, low to common at 12¼ to 14½ taels. Country Greens: 260 half-chests Hyson finest 62 taels good cargo 42 taels. Stocks remain as last stated, the quantity of Congou being 42 chops and of Country Greens, 7,900 half-chests.

AMOY.—The settlements of the month consists of a few hundred packages to fill up the Neuhoff. There have been no arrivals, and the remaining stock is very trifling. The settlements reported consist of 127 half-chests. Oolong common to good common, cargo at $17½ to 19. Ankois, 60 half-chests common at 8. Congous, 362 half-chests ordinary to but middling, at 13¼ to 18¼. The remaining stock is comprised of 146 half-chests. Congou, 1,272 half-chests Oolong and Ankoi, and 458 boxes Caper.

FOO-CHOW.—The settlements, since the date of last report (24th ult.) have been on a very restricted scale, the teamen evincing no disposition to realise, and exporters no wish to purchase at the present scale of rates. The supplies from the country have ceased for the present, and it is not likely that there are many more teas to arrive; stocks however are slightly increased by Foo-chow packed teas. The settlements above referred to comprise only 500 ch. Congou at 15 to 17 taels short. The total arrivals to date are—Congou and Souchong, 601,800 ch., against 600,200 do. last season; Oolong, 172,900 hf.-ch. against 210,400 last season. The stock on the market is thus estimated—Congou, 24,000 ch., against 35,200 last season; Souchong, 2,400 ch., against 300 last season; Pekoe, 630 ch., against 1,500 last season; Oolong, 1,600 hf.-ch., against 20,000 last season; Scented, 4,000 boxes, against 8,000 last season.

SHANGHAI.—Black: We have again to report no settlements during the past week, the same causes we mentioned in our last having checked all business. There is, however, to-day rather more inquiry, as

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the sudden decline in exchange is tempting merchants to make offers. Without any arrivals from Hankow and Kewkiang, our stock remains unaltered. Settlements on the market, none. Reshipment on owners' account, 4 chops. 2,314 chests Oopacks, Oonahms, Ningchows, and Hohows—say—2,314 chests, making total settlements and reshipments to date 581,114 chests. Stock, waiting shipment, 7 chops, and for resale 15 chops—22 chops. We quote second and third crop Oopacks and Ningchows, 25 to 29 tls., nominal; second and third crop Oonahms, 19 to 25 tls., nominal; second and third crop Hohow, 17 to 21 tls., nominal. Green: During the latter part of the fortnight there has been rather more inquiry for Green Teas, but as holders generally are very firm, only a small business has been done. Purchases can now be made at a decline of 2 tls. on our previous quotations. One chop of common Shanghai packed has been taken at 26 tls. Reshipment and settlements, 9,591 half-chests Fychow, &c., 1,337 chests Pingsuey, 1,335 half-chests chests Japan—12,263 half-chests, making total to date 232,835 half-chests. Stock of Green Tea is estimated at 10,715 half-chests Fychow, &c., 1,100 half-chests Shanghai packed Japan, 6,956 chests Pingsuey—17,871 half-chests.

HANKOW.—There have been no settlements during the past fortnight, and quotations remain unaltered. The total settlements for the season amount to 655 chops, leaving a stock on the market of 12 chops. There may be a little still to arrive, but certainly not much. The teamen have not pressed sales, and appear to prefer holding until after the holidays, as they have hitherto dictated their own terms.

KEWKIANG, Jan. 30th.—There is not a transaction to report. The stock is stated 34,000 hf.-ch. green, including some parcels of Kewkiang packed. The shipments to Shanghai since last report, say from 18th to 29th January, amount to 1,542 chests black and 2,900 hf. do. green, making the total for the present season to date 106,500 ch. black and 170,900 hf.-ch. green, against 51,500 ch. black and 183,500 hf.-ch. green, corresponding period last season.

YOKOHAMA.—(For the week ending 20th January.)—We have but little to remark on this article for the past week. The settlements have been but moderate, and prices have ruled at full rates. Some 600 to 700 piculs changed hands at rates ranging from $24.50 to 29.50 per picul; but with this exception, little else has been settled. (For the week ending 27th January.) We have to report another week of great dulness in this staple. The arrivals have been unimportant, and most buyers have been waiting for European advices. It is hardly to be believed that the Government have no hand in the present suspension of supplies, as the rates now current would bring large quantities down unless the merchants were prevented by some underhand conduct on the part of the officials.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—Since last report there has scarcely been a single transaction in China silk, the demands of the dealers having shown no decline, and 10th December advices from Europe holding out no encouragement for profitable investment. During the fortnight there have been no receipts from the interior, and from the most reliable native sources, it is affirmed that there is little silk to be brought down. It is impossible to give quotations in the absence of settlements, and the very material fall in the rate of Exchange has caused the dealers to hope that they may obtain an advance on their late demands. The supply from Japan has been about 600 bales, and it appears probable that shipments will continue moderate for the remainder of the season from that quarter. Since last mail the only transactions have been the re-shipment of Japan, say 584 bales; the transactions of corresponding fortnight of last year were 1,800 bales, and of the year before 1,500 do. The present unsold stock is computed at 5,000 bales, against 3,500 do. same period last year, and 9,000 do. season before.

YOKOHAMA.—(For the week ending 20th January.)—This staple has been much neglected during the past week, partly from there being literally no supply of the article, and partly from the high rates demanded by the sellers for the few lots on offer. (For the week ending 27th January.)—Hardly a transaction has taken place in this article during the past week; supplies have been on the smallest possible scale, nor can any alteration be expected on this side of the New Year's holidays; prices nominally unchanged; with regard to the future, native merchants speak of large supplies to arrive shortly, but little or no reliance can be placed on such information. The following are the latest quotations:—Ida: Best, none; medium, $530 to 550; inferior, 510 to 520; Mybush and Sinobus, best, 550 to 560; medium, 530 to 540; inferior, 515 to 525. Cohios: Best, 425 to 505; medium, 460 to 485; inferior, 440 to 460. Oshios: Best, 530 to 550; medium, 420 to 520; inferior, 440 to 480. Hatchogee: 510 to 520.

DRUGS.—Cassia Lignea: No sales, quotation $16.50 to 17, stock 100 pls. Cassia Oil: Neither sales nor stock—nominal quotation, 215. Cassia Buds: No sales—quotation, 55 to 57½, stock about 100 pls. Star Anniseed: Neither sales nor stock—nominal quotation, 22½ to 25. Anniseed Oil: Neither sales nor stock—the value is 140 to 150. Rhubarb: The market is bare, and there is no inquiry. China Root: No sales—quotation, 3.25 to 3.75, stock 300 pls. Galangal: No sales—quotation, 3.50 to 4, stock 250 pls. Galls: No sales—quotation, 14.50, stock very trifling. Vermilion, 45 to 46 per box.

CAMPHOR.—HONG KONG.—In no demand and no sales reported since the issue of last report. The stock on hand amounts to some 1,500 to 1,600 piculs for which $20 per picul is asked but this price is quite nominal and $18 per picul would be accepted by some native Hongs, holders of small lots.

COTTON.—HONG KONG.—Before the arrival of the English mail on the 11th instant there was no animation in the market as the Chinese holders, with very few exceptions, were unwilling to place at the low rates then nominally quoted. Since then a good demand has sprung up in consequence of a rise in price in England by late telegrams. During the interval about 6,000 bales of Shanghai were sold at $29 to 32; 5,000 bales Ningpo, 28 to 34; and 2,000 bales Japan, 33.50 to 36. The principal foreign holders [illegible] now shipping instead of selling, as before. Import from North has amounted to about 10,000 bales, and [illegible] ease in the money market in Shanghai, with the re[illegible]ption of business by the Chinese, will again tend to the [illegible] to 32; Ningpo, 32 to 34; and Japan, 35 to 36. Stock of all kinds is about 40,000 bales.

CANTON.—The business done in this market has become so insignificant as to be only worthy of record, lest it might be supposed that they had been omitted to be noticed. Throughout the fortnight no sale whatever is reported, and rates remain nominally as last quoted. The entire stock is comprised in 500 bags Shanghai, and 200 do. Ningpo.

AMOY.—There have been no sales from foreign hands, stock being 1,300 bags held by Chinese. The present quotation is $31 to 32 for Shanghai, with a drooping market.

SHANGHAI.—For some days subsequent to the date of last advices the market, influenced by the high rate of Exchange and the advance in freights, continued dull and tended down; and upon those causes being removed, and the rates of Exchange materially declining, an active inquiry set in for good quality, which proving scarce, soon commanded 21 to 23 taels. The supplies from the country continue scant, and the bulk of the stock is in the hands of foreigners, who incline to hold for an advance, which it is very probable they will succeed in establishing—especially should Exchange keep down.

HANKOW.—There having been no demand for export, prices tend down. The only transaction reported for the fortnight is a sale of 200 bags at 18 to 18½ taels.

YOKOHAMA.—From a variety of causes this article has experienced a heavy and rapid fall—quotations being upwards of $10 lower. Supplies continue to arrive freely, but for the moment the decline appears checked. No doubt the next mail from China will have some marked influence, many anticipate an adverse one.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—There are not any sales of Yarn to report, and prices remain without change to notice. Grey Shirtings: The quotations for these goods remain without material alteration, and the sales effected during the fortnight are limited to 5,000 pieces. White Shirtings have found purchasers to the extent of 400 pieces, and prices remain as before quoted. T-Cloths: The sales of the past fortnight are reported at 2,000 pieces, and there is no material alteration observable in the value of these goods. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, Whites and Coloured: Some 500 pieces of coloured brocades have found purchasers at $5.90 per piece. In the other descriptions enumerated there has not been any business done. Damasks have also been bought to the extent of 500 pieces, and prices remain unchanged.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: Remain without alteration to notice in value, and the only sale reported is one of 140 pieces of Spanish stripes. Long Ells: These goods have remained without enquiry during the fortnight, and the only transaction to notice is the sale of 220 pieces of damaged sold by auction. Camlets: There have not been any sales of these goods effected since the date of last circular, and prices remain as they were then quoted. Lastings: There have not been any transactions. Blankets have been taken to the extent of 400 pairs at about former rates.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c., remain without inquiry in Hong Kong, and there have not been any sales reported during the fortnight. In Canton, where prices at the date of last circular showed some slight improvement as compared with previous advices, settlements are comprised in 1,600 piculs of Nail Rod, and 850 piculs of Bar, sold by public auction—130 piculs of Iron Wire have also changed hands. Lead remains in this colony as last quoted, and about 520 piculs have changed hands, while in Canton an advance of about 5 cents per picul has been established, with sales of 2,500 piculs reported. Tin: A fair amount of business has been transacted in Tin during the fortnight, and sales of 1,200 piculs are reported. Tin Plates: Nothing doing either here or in Canton. Steel: There are not any sales to notice.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1863-64.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1864	1814547	4247601	49884104	2257090	11721042	108152801	40385
Corresponding period last season	1733439	3827521	35385450	336208	1813100	86861318	67402
TO UNITED STATES.							
From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	17188061	Piculs. 468
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	16541360	1086
TO THE CONTINENT.							
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1863	...	...	...	...	...	1289007	Bales. 3271
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	1124764	4532
TO SAN FRANCISCO.							
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1863	...	...	...	...	...	Packages 19572	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	29154	...
TO GREAT BRITAIN.							
From 1843 to 1844	...	...	...	...	51,022,600		18,604
,, 1845 to 1846	...	...	...	...	57,334,200		22,143
,, 1850 to 1851	...	...	...	...	77,327,800		61,980
,, 1853 to 1854	...	...	...	...	92,240,300		50,960
,, 1855 to 1856	...	...	...	...	76,990,855		68,311
,, 1857 to 1858	...	...	...	...	65,789,792		83,136
,, 1858 to 1859	...	...	...	...	85,560,452		64,163
,, 1859 to 1861	...	...	...	...	90,066,160		79,844
,, 1861 to 1863	...	...	...	...	109,854,040		98,899
,, 1862 to 1863	...	...	...	...	131,378,580		...

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EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1863 ...	263000	...	8857	4375	274	1446

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1863 ...	3059	...	...	350	100	...

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1863 ..	81180	12502	1340	1350	...	336

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1863 ...	706	2534	85248	7427	4740	151640

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1863 ...	6	2737	2737	2318	23400	...

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents and is divideduto decimal parts of ten.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Privat.
At Shanghaf (per Tael.)	6 months sight.		6s. 6d. to 7s. 1d.	6s 8d. to 7s. 3d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 11d.	5s. 0d. to 5s. 1d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 11d. to 4s. 11½d.	5s. 0d. to 5s. 1d.
At Manila	6	ditto		

At Shanghai: Bills on India, Rs. 303 to 304 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong: Rs. 229 to 230 per $100. Bar silver at Shanghai, 110. Hong Kong, 5 prem. Mexican Dollars at Shanghai, 74; and exchange on Hong Kong, 25 discount.

GOLD.—We have received since last accounts three lakhs and a half of dollars worth, principally from San Francisco. The amount exported, including that by the *Behar* on the 1st Feb., and excluding that to leave by the *Ottawa* on the 15th, is only equal to one and a half lakh. The facilities which Hong Kong possesses for the disposal of this bullion is proved by the advance in value in face of such considerable receipts.

SILVER.—Half a lakh of bar silver has been imported, and we are at present without any records of its re-shipment. Some sales have been made at 5½ per cent., but it might be difficult at present to obtain as much.

DOLLAR CURRENCY.—Over five lakhs have been imported, and three and a-half have been sent away during the fortnight. The demand for clean coin is not active at the moment. An amount of new small coin has been received by the Government, but as the absorption of this currency will be slow it has not been taken into account.

DISCOUNTS AND MORTGAGES.—Banks' own acceptances, which a fortnight since commanded twelve per cent., have been done pretty largely at 9 per cent. Mortgages of house property may still be obtained at from ten to twelve per cent.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN.—From London: Jan. 20, Etheldrida. From Holland: Fagel.

At SHANGHAI.—From Liverpool: Feb. 3, Sea Nymph. From Cardiff: Jan. 30, Theodore and Lulo; Feb. 2, Egean. From Sunderland: 3, La Serena, Cambodia. From Newcastle: 4, Netherley. From Newport: 5, Child of the Ocean.

At HONG KONG.—From London: Feb. 5. John Banfield; 12, Isabella, Falcon. From Liverpool: 12, Sarica. From Cardiff: 4, Edith; 11, Antonia. From Newcastle: 5, B by Benmore. From Hamburg: 11, Canton. From New York: 1, Benefactress.

At MANILA.—From Glasgow: Jan. 28, Perfecta.

At SINGAPORE.—From Glasgow: Feb. 12, Warsata. From Cardiff: 7, A. Norwood, Harzburg. From Sunderland: 7, Freida. From Bordeaux: 1, Minerva. From Amsterdam: 6, Almelo. From Hamburg: 14, Amphitrite,

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—For London: Jan. 20, Forerunner, and Alexandra.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Feb. 1, Aurora Australis; 6, Annie Archbell. For Liverpool: 2, Thomas Royden. For New York: Jan. 30, Alt Mecklenburg; Feb. 4, Silvercraig. For Montreal: Feb. 1, Romeo.

From FOOCHOW.—None.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Feb. 9, Alchymist; 11, Tamerlane. For Liverpool: 1, Bella; 11, Constantia. For New York: 6, Hamilla Mitchell.

From MACAO.—For Falmouth: Feb. 6, La Plata.

From MANILA.—For London: Jan. 30, Tetuan. For New York: 30, Caduceus. For Boston: Feb. 6, Troas.

From SINGAPORE.—For Boston: Feb. 12, Pearl.

LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Anglo Indian, Auld Reckie, Cissy, Mary Shepherd. For New York: Osborne.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Samuel, Spirit of the North, Thomas and Rebecca, Berdinkha. For Liverpool: Blackburn, Bentick, Bertie, Fort William, M. M. Peter, Victory, Polmaise, Macassar, Antelope. For New York: Heversham and Lord Collingwood.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Daybreak. For New York: Dorette.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Vanguard, Queen's Own, Coniston.

For LIVERPOOL.—Black Prince, Berwickshire, Nancy Brysson, Patrician, J. L. Dimmock. For New York: Resolute.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Kalahome, Polly, Eliza Thornton.

At BATAVIA.—For London, West, For Channel for orders: Annie Forster.

For AMSTERDAM.—Zeenymph, Maria Agnes, Java Packet, Vriesland, Maria Eliza. For Rotterdam: Hendrika, Francina Williamina. For Holland: Leading Star, Friesland.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

JAPAN.—To London, for cotton and silk, £6; and £5 to £6 for tea.

SHANGHAI.—Tonnage continues in active demand, both for home and for coasting ports. The rates are as follows:—To London, £4 to £4. 5s. To Liverpool, £4 to £4. 10s. To London and Liverpool (*via* Yokohama), £5. 5s. to £5. 10s.

FOO-CHOW.—To London, £5.

HONG KONG.—The demand is good, and is expected to continue so, although there are plenty of unemployed tonnage in the harbour. The rates for Europe continue firm, which are:—For London, £5, and Liverpool, £4. 10s. per ton. To Saigon and back, 50 to 55 cents per picul. To Bangkok and back, 55 to 60 cents per picul.

MANILA.—Freights have advanced, which are as follows:—For Liverpool: For Clayed Sugar, £4. 15s., Unclayed £5, and £6 to £6. 5s. for Hemp.

SINGAPORE.—There is an active demand for the rice ports, and some inquiry for home. To London: £3. 10s. per ton; Gambier, Sugar, and Sago Flour, £4. 10s. for light cargo. To Rangoon and back; 50 cents per picul. To Hong Kong: 70 cents, and to Shanghai, $1 per picul. Rangoon to Hong Kong: $1 per picul.

BATAVIA.—To London: £4. 16s.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—Jan. 9, Florence Adelaide, Cardiff to Singapore; 11, Minerva, Bordeaux to Singapore, 16, Hortensia, Cardiff to Singapore; Willem and Carel, Newcastle to Batavia; 18, Albuerra, London to Shanghai, 19, Akinda, Newcastle to Japan; 21, Joan M. Kemper, Amsterdam to Batavia, 31st, Otto, Newcastle to Hong Kong, Feb. 4, Emily and Hall, Cardiff to Singapore, Wilhelmina, Newcastle, (for orders Anjer); 6, Canton, Hamburg to Singapore.

From UNITED STATES, &c.—None.

From China, &c., to England and Continent.—Jan. 8, General Putnam, Shanghai to Liverpool; 11, Virginia, Hong Kong to Liverpool; Ivendre Brodre, Singapore to London; Amaranth, Amoy to London; Itsamboul, Japan to London; 16, Montmorency, Shanghai to Liverpool; 17, Tafferette, Canton to Havre; 20, Crusader, Singapore to Liverpool; Saint Michel, Shanghai to Bordeaux; 22, Glaramara, Foochow to London; Abrecht Oswald, Foochow to London; 30, Koh-i-noor, Hong Kong to Liverpool; Emma, Singapore to Copenhagen; Feb. 6, Ocean Bride, Hong Kong to London; Orithona, Shanghai to London; Oliver Cromwell, Shanghai to London; Fair Leader, Shanghai to London; Devonshire, Rio, Hong Kong to London; Orion, Macao to Falmouth; 7, Thomas Dryden, Shanghai to London; 8, Veloz, Shanghai to Liverpool; 8, Chili, Singapore to London; 10, Alice Tainter, Shanghai to Liverpool.

From CHINA, &c., to NEW YORK.—Jan. 6, Elizabeth, Shanghai to New York; 11, Kahlamba, Foo-chow to New York; Guiding Star, Shanghai to New York; Johanna, Shanghai to New York; 21, Capella, Shanghai to New York; 29, Hermine, Shanghai to New York; 31, Thetis, Shanghai to New York; Feb. 6, Santon, Foo-chow to New York; 8, Hamilla Mitchell, Canton to New York; Jan. 31, Don Eli Susanne, Shanghai to Montreal.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

The following is from the circular of Mr. Page, bullion broker:—Mexican Dollars: Notwithstanding the large arrivals per Louisiane, Bolivar, and La Plata, amounting to over a million of dollars, no great decline has taken place in price. On and since the 16th inst. about £150,000 have been settled here for China at 5s. 3½d., and some £50,000 (in time for the M. Impl. Steamer of 19th inst) were settled at Marseilles at 5s. 3⅞d. At the present time, with no opportunity for despatch before 4th proximo, and with a further arrival to be expected per W. L. Packet,

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due on 28th inst. there appears to be no inquiry, and no quotation can be given. Probably a limited amount could still be obtained within the next few days, at the last price of 5s. 3½d.

SILK.—We have had more activity in China and Japan silk, and the market has assumed a somewhat firmer tone. Since receipt of the China telegram announcing a considerable increase in the unsold stock at Shanghai, there has been less disposition to do business, but it is generally considered that this news requires confirmation, and the China letters due on Monday are consequently awaited with considerable interest. Deliveries from 1st or 23rd inclusive:—China, 2,416 bales; Japan, 1,207 do.; total, 3,623 do. The quotations are:—Tsatlee, No. 1, 22s. 6d. to 23s.; 2, 21s. 6d. to 22s.; 3, 20s. 6d. to 21s.; Taysaam, No. 1, 20s. to 20s. 6d.; 2, 19s. to 19s. 6d.; 3, 18s. to 18s. 6d.; Mibash, No. 1, 22s. 6d. to 23s. nominal; 2, 21s. 6d. to 22s.; 3, 20s. 6d. to 21s.

The decline in the Cotton Market is confirmed. The price of China is ¼d. per lb. lower than last week.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—March 23, at Portsmouth, from Batavia, Zephir; 18, off Scilly, from Batavia, Graafstroom; 21, off Belle Isle, from Batavia, J. J. Granville; from Sourabaya, Chaptal (supposed); 24, at Mount's Bay, from Hong Kong, A. O. Anderson; at Queenstown, from Moulmain, Alice Thompson; 17, off Scilly, from Manila, Preusse; from Kanagawa, Cambridge. Off Folkestone, from Batavia, Tuisco; March 24, at Plymouth, from Patjitan, Theodora Machtilda; 22, off Plymouth, from Batavia, Luconia. Off the Eddystone, from Japan, Maria Theresa; 18, at Cadiz, from Maulmain, Astrea.

DEPARTURES.—March 5, from Santa Cruz (Teneriffe), for the Cape, Singapore, and China, Yuen-tze-Fee (str.); 24, from London, for Hong Kong, Langdale; for Hong Kong and Canton, Lord Raglan; 26, from Glasgow, for Singapore and Penang, Hoang-Ho; March 23, from Cardiff, for Singapore, Alblasserdam; 26, from London, for Cardiff and Hong Kong, Cavour.

SPOKEN.—A Dutch barque, showing 3rd d.p., No. 6,970 (Atacama), Sourabaya to Middelburg, Feb. 22, 31 N., 37 W.; A. R. Falck (barq.), Sourabaya to Amsterdam, Feb. 27; Marmion, Canton to New York, Jan. 8, 24 S., 67 E.; Nederwaard, Penang to Rotterdom, Feb. 22, 5 N., 28 W.; Guurtje and Maria, Falmouth to Batavia, Feb. 14, 3 S., 28 W.; Thusnelda, Brem. barque, Newport to Singapore, Jan. 21, lat. 33, lon. 30.; Bernard and Agnes, Amsterdam to Singapore, Jan. 22, 1 N.; Amazone, Hamb. barque, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Dec. 31, in the Straits of Sunda; Canopus, American ship, Sumatra to Pernambuco, Jan. 12, off Madagascar; Indiaman, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Jan. 30, 2 S., 134 E.; Conflict, London to Hong Kong, Jan. 12, Straits of Manila; Esmeralda, Newcastle to Shanghai, Jan. 22, 40 N., 132 E.

CASUALTIES.—Amsterdam, March 24.—The Vertrouwen (ship), de Vos, hence to Sourabaya, has put back to-day with considerable damage, and must go into dry dock to repair, having been in collision.

The Alexander, of New York, from Liverpool to Singapore, struck on the Frederick Rock, Straits of Rhio, Feb. 5, and was beached same night in a sinking state on East Island.

LAID ON.—At Glasgow, for Shanghai, Glenclune; at London, for Singapore, Coromandel.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the supply of 6,000 tons of Welsh coal, to be delivered at Shanghai. Ships are in request also for coals to Singapore and Hong Kong.

MANCHESTER MARKETS.—Mr. Mendel's Circular states that prices are weaker, with a limited demand. Grey Shirtings, 7lbs., 17s. to 17s. 6d.; 9lbs., 23s. 6d. Cotton Yarns, 16-24, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 7d.; 28-32, 2s. 8d. to 2s. 9d. Maddapollams, 7s. 3d. Long Cloths, 19s. 6d. T-Cloths, 13s. White Spot Shirtings, 21s. 6d.; White Brocade do., 22s. White Damasks, 37s. 6d.

THE P. AND O. COMPANY.

The P. and O. Company will reduce their fares on the 1st June, as follows:—

Penang	£95
Singapore	£100
Hong Kong	£120
Shanghai	£130

We hear, also, that arrangements are in progress to give the passengers' cargo, &c., to and from the ports East of India, a special steamer from Suez, instead of as at present being transferred into the boat from Calcutta at Galle.

THE "ADVENTURE" FOR CHINA.—Under our Naval and Military will be found a notice of this vessel. The following is the latest posting in reference to her departure:—The *Adventure*, screw troopship, Capt. C. L. Waddilove, remains at anchor at Spithead, the present orders being that she is to remain there until about the 12th proximo. If no fresh case of small-pox appears there among her crew she will proceed to Dover, and embark there a battery of garrison artillery, and a detachment of the 2nd battalion of the 20th Regiment. From Dover she will proceed to Plymouth and there take on board the troops and naval supernumeraries conveyed to that port from Portsmouth in the *Himalaya*. She will then start on her China voyage. Statements have been made in connection with this ship, regarding the prevalence of small-pox at Portsmouth, which are gross exaggerations. Small-pox is prevalent to a certain extent in some of the most crowded portions at Portsmouth and its suburbs, as it is just now in many other towns, but there is no foundation for the statement that there are crowds of people waiting at the doors of medical men for vaccination, &c. The disease made its appearance on board the *Adventure* and as a simple matter of precaution her vogage to China has been delayed the cases having in the meantime been removed to hospital, a number of her crew vaccinated, and the ship thoroughly fumigated and cleansed.

Captain Townsend, Ensigns Wayman, Francklen, and Hincks, with a small detachment of the 60th Regiment, go out to China in Her Majesty's ship *Adventure*, to join the head-quarters.

ANOTHER NEW GUN.—The Mersey Steel and Iron Works Company have just completed a new description of gun for Mr. Mackay and some experiments have taken place on the Crosby shore near Liverpool. The weapon is a large wrought iron gun; for the purpose of throwing cylindrical shot, and its peculiarity consists in giving the shot a sufficient rotatory power without allowing the missile to enter the rifling. The trials were of a preliminary nature, intended to ascertain the general capabilities of the gun, and to test the velocity of cylindrical shot of various weights with graduated charges of powder. The initial velocity was taken by the apparatus designed by Mr. Newman, of the Electric Telegraph Company, being somewhat similar to that used at Shoeburyness. With a projectile weighing 100lbs., and a charge of 20lbs. of powder, the initial velocity attained was 1,508 feet per second, although the wind blew in fitful gusts of half a gale across the range. Several shots went through the targets which were placed at a distance of 1,000 yards and 1,500 yards. The weight of the gun is about nine tons, and the bore is 8.12 inches diameter.

SALE OF THE EFFECTS OF THE LATE MR. W. M. THACKERAY.—There was a large gathering of literary men, artists, and others, who were the personal friends of the late Mr. W. M. Thackeray, in the house which was built, some time ago, under his superintendence, on Kensington Palace-green, to witness the sale of his library, furniture, and other effects, which were disposed of by auction. The greatest attention appeared to be paid in the first instance to the library, and particularly to those books which Mr. Thackeray had made the chief object of his study. Among these were the old English novelists and poets, with Euripides, Sophocles, Homer, Horace, Virgil, and other classical writers. The pictures were not numerous, but they had evidently been selected with great care and judgment. Amongst the articles sold were beautiful old Italian, French, and English decorative furniture and ornamental objects, with some valuable specimens of porcelain. The appointments of the house generally were much admired. The various articles secured good prices. The sale will be continued. It was announced by the auctioneers that the lease of the mansion will be sold by private contract. It is held direct from the Crown, for about 80 years, at a ground-rent.

THE ATTACK ON KAGOSIMA.—The *Spectator* does not from the following appear to be satisfied with the despatch of Colonel Neale. The analogy is a very strained one. "The Government has received a despatch from Colonel Neale explaining the disaster of Kagosima, which the official journals consider very triumphant. It would be, if it had anything to do with the accusation. Colonel Neale says the town holds 40,000 people instead of 180,000—a figure we took from the local accounts—that they all had orders to leave the town before the attack began, and that by Japanese confession, the fire blazed so high because there was nobody left to put it out. That is pleasant reading to people who dislike useless slaughter; but how much of all that did the Colonel know *before* the bombardment began? The charge is one of carelessness about people's lives, and Colonel Neale replies by showing that his acts did not take so many as they naturally ought to have done. Suppose Smith fires into a crowd of children, and everybody ducks. Is Smith innocent?"

AMERICAN INTERESTS IN THE FAR EAST.—Senator Morgan presented to the Senate a memorial from the American Geographical and Statistical Society in favour of Surgeon Macgowan's proposed economic mission to Eastern Asia, that portion of the project which contemplates the negotiation of commercial treaties with Cochin China and other States east of the Cape of Good Hope being, in the opinion of that Society, a matter of pressing and immediate importance.

THE COAL EXPORTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.—The coal exports from the various ports of the United Kingdom during the month of February amounted to 575,933 tons, an increase of 90,320 tons compared with February, 1863. The total exports during January and February, 1864, were 1,107,637 tons, an increase of 227,643 tons as compared with January and February, 1863. During February, 1864, the total imports of sea-borne coal into London were 228,233 tons, a decrease of 37,646 tons as compared with February, 1863. From the 1st January to the 28th February, 1864, there were 1,538 ships containing 576,830 tons of coal, being a decrease of 201 ships and 22,468 tons of coal as compared with the first two months of 1863. By railways and canals the imports were 132,354, being an increase over 1863 of 92,313 tons. The actual increase of imports in February, 1864, was 54,667 tons, and from January 1 to February 29, 1864, as compared with 1863, 96,597 tons.

JAMAICA AND THE LATE EARL OF ELGIN.—A resolution of the House of Assembly, Jamaica, thus records the sense in which that House regards the loss of the late Governor-General of India:—"That, lamenting deeply the death of the late Earl of Elgin and Kincardine (once the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of this island), the Assembly of Jamaica gratefully record their high sense of the skill with which he administered its government, and the conciliatory and social spirit he displayed towards all its classes; and appreciating highly the worth of rulers so gifted to govern people of different interests and origin, the Assembly sorrowfully express their sympathy with their Sovereign, who has lost such a servant, and with the people of the Indian Empire, who have been deprived of such a ruler—so well calculated to develop among them the career of conciliatory policy and wisdom he commenced in this island, where all honour his name and memory, and deplore their country's loss.—WM. KEMBLE, Clerk to the Assembly."

GUANO.—The imports of guano last year seem to have been on a larger scale than in any previous twelve months since 1858. Thus, the computed value of the guano imported in 1863 was £2,658,856, against £1,635,322 in 1862, £2,022,283 in 1861, £1,557,895 in 1860, £769,333 in 1859, £4,084,170 in 1858, £3,613,074 in 1857, £2,136,431 in 1856, £3,137,160 in 1855, and £2,530,272 in 1854. The quantities received in the ten years were:—233,574 tons in 1863, 141,636 tons in 1862, 178,423 tons in 1861, 141,435 tons in 1860, 84,122 tons in 1859, 353,541 tons in 1858, 288,362 tons in 1857, 191,501 tons in 1856, 305,061 tons in 1855, and 235,111 tons in 1854. The imports, as a whole, do not seem to be making any progress, notwithstanding the considerable deliveries in 1863.

DR. BOWRING has presented to the British Museum his very fine collection of insects made during his long residence in the East. The Bowringian collection, as it is called, consists of 84,200 specimens, arranged in three cabinets of sixty drawers each, and fourteen cabinets of twenty drawers [illegible]

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COCHIN-CHINA.—The *Moniteur de la Flotte* publishes an interesting letter from a correspondent at Saigon, the capital of the new French colony in Cochin-China, dated the 30th of January. The colony is said to enjoy perfect tranquillity, and the rivers were never so safe, thanks to the energetic measures adopted against the pirates who infested them. The last harvest was most abundant, which, perhaps is one of the causes of the tranquillity that prevails. In consequence of the great number of merchant vessels which have arrived at Saigon the price of rice is well maintained, a fact which will dispose the natives to remain at peace. At the date of the letter there were 20 foreign merchant ships loading rice at Saigon. A great number of Annamites are demanding grants of land from the French authorities, others are seeking employment. Europeans are beginning to establish themselves outside of Saigon, and they are treated with great kindness by the natives. The land is cultivated in every direction, fresh gardens are planted, and the Saigon market is well supplied with vegetables. Although the population of the town has tripled within 12 months the price of provisions has diminished, and it is expected to fall lower. The Annamites are delighted to find that the French authorities render justice gratis, and the custom of giving presents to the native magistrates is gradually losing ground. It is the intention of Admiral de la Grandiére to build a gunboat at Saigon; hitherto the largest vessel completed was a whale boat. A naval arsenal has likewise been commenced, and several workshops covered with thatch are already occupied. The Annamites are industrious workmen, and excel in imitating the work of others. The Annamite seamen likewise continue to render good service. The Admiral Governor is about to send several boys to France, as he expects that on their return they may be useful as interpreters. The *Forbin* has taken three; the *Europeen* will take as many, and great numbers offer themselves for a similar voyage.

THE ANGLO-CHINESE FLEET.—The *Army and Navy Gazette* says:—Whether Sir F. Bruce be right or not in his very severe strictures upon Mr. Lay, no one can doubt that Captain Sherard Osborn has acted in the crisis which led to the dissolution of the Anglo-Chinese squadron with the utmost chivalry and good faith. Sir F. Bruce accuses Mr. Lay of using language and advancing pretensions tending to increase the apprehensions otherwise generated by his proceedings, that he was about to act the "Imperator," and become a Mayor of the Palace. To them he was an agent who wished to become the "*Se qui facit per alium*," and they resolved in self-defence to decapitate the "*se*" and the "*alium*" together. Captain Osborn acted with the most perfect good faith, and with the self-respect which should be, and is, the characteristic of an officer of Her Majesty's Navy in such positions. It is strange to hear Sir F. Bruce declaring to Lord Russell that the Chinese Government knew nothing of Mr. Lay, and that he was merely recommended to them by Mr. Hart, whom Mr. Lay describes as his *locum tenens*. Indeed, Sir F. Bruce throws much mud in the name of Prince Kung on Mr. Lay, and holds him up to the Foreign Office as a Custom-house agent who tried to make himself a dictator. "They do not consider him a political officer at all, and they do not consult him, as of right, even in matters affecting foreign trade." Prince Kung declares Mr. Lay assented to the conditions which he finally repudiated. All honour to Captain Osborn and his officers for their conduct. It was what might have been expected from British officers who find themselves in a false position.

THE CHINESE JUGGLERS.—The Parisians don't consider Sam-Ung and Arr-Hee to be barbarians, I assure you. "Who are they?" you ask. *Entre nous*, they are two Chinese jugglers, who have been vindicating their rights to be considered responsible members of society by having a law-suit. The Tribunal of Commerce was the scene of action, to which the venue had been changed from the Circue Napoleon. Arr-Hee engaged Sam-Ung, for 50 francs a week and his board and lodging, to stand up against another board while said Arr-Hee darted knives at him, and set him, as it were, in a frame of sharp steel. Ill-feeling having arisen between these two artists, the dartee naturally objected to conclude his engagement, urging very truly that a man with an ill feeling towards you might possibly dart into instead of round you. Imagine a man with a spite pelting one with sharp carving knives! The darter pleaded that art was above passion, and that his knife could and would "*effleurer*" his living target as delicately as ever. Nevertheless, he was condemned with costs. In the interest alike of dramatic art, humanity, the amusement of delicate women and sweet children, it is to be hoped that such a foolish, trifling quarrel as this will not be allowed to interfere with so truly interesting and dramatic a performance.

THE RACE CUP FOR SHANGHAI.—Mr. Hancock, of Bruton-street, had the honour of an interview with their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, to submit for inspection a very fine silver group, manufactured by him for "The Shanghai Races," subject, "The Battle of the Standard:" King David defending the body of his son at the battle of Northallerton:—

"The Scotts they fled, but stille the King,
With hys brave sonne feught fulle welle,
Till o'er the moore an arrowe y flewe,
And brave Prynce Henrye felle."

THE *Illustrated News* of the 19th inst. has an engraving of "The Governor of Kanagawa going to a Fire," and another of Japanese warriors.

THE "ALABAMA."

(From the *New York Herald* of March 1.)

Two English mercantile houses, that have lost largely by the depredations of the *Alabama* are, it is said, about to send out a fast and powerful ship to assist in her capture. Naturally enough, it has been suspected that this is only another rebel dodge intended to increase the number of the rebel cruisers now afloat. Since the Emperor of China and the Bey of Tunis have proved to be fellows of no account, it is not improbable that and thus carry a cruiser to sea on that tide of popular sentiment which is the Southern agents in England may be ready to avail themselves of the virtuous indignation that John Bull now begins to feel against that awful *Alabama*, now rising in our favour. Once before a ship was fitted out in England, under the most favourable auspices, to cruise against pirates. Her commander was a New Yorker, named Captain Kidd, and when he got to sea he proved to be the worst pirate of all. Probably we may have a repetition of that history in the present case. But we suppose our interests are quite safe; for it can hardly be possible that Mr. Adams will fail to scrutinize very closely the whole history of this ship. If she is not all right he can stop her, as he has stopped others; if she is all right he will merely sit still, and we suppose there will be no affidavits. The British Government, as we all know, has no power in the absence of affidavits. Affidavits are the power behind the throne, and in front of the throne; and all around the throne. Without affidavits the custom house officers will be as lifeless as lampposts, the cannon of the British men-of-war will be the merest Quakers, and the cruiser will go to sea and catch the *Alabama*—of course.

The Panama correspondent of the *Herald* writes:—

"I am in expectation daily of hearing that Semmes and the *Alabama* are in the Pacific Ocean, burning and destroying as usual. His having been among the East India Islands is known all over India and China, and his business there will soon be over in consequence. His next point will be in this vicinity. The commerce of the Pacific Ocean has heretofore been undisturbed by rebel cruisers. Hence, Rip Van Winkle Welles and his cunning little Fox thinks there is no necessity of increasing the number or class of vessels of our squadron in these waters. This pair of worthies, now given to ship-racing, will find, as usual, when too late, that the Pacific Ocean can be visited by Semmes, as well as any other part of the world, and that the finest field now open to him will be sure to be taken advantage of by this active man. He made a mistake in capturing the *Ariel*, and may attempt to redeem the error by getting possession of one of the steamers from San Francisco. He must be in want of funds, and a million and a half in gold would supply his wants for a long time, and buy coal wherever he can find it. Some such disaster I am looking for; that it has not occurred before is the only matter for surprise. When it comes what a row there will be, and how the question of "who's to blame?" will go the rounds of all the public journals. This question can be answered by the two words, "Navy Department," the establishment that has now in the Pacific Ocean the following squadron to guard the commerce and the interests of the United States:—Steam sloop, *Lancaster*, twenty-two guns (flagship), at Acapulco; steam sloop, *Narragansett*, seven guns, in the North Pacific; steamer *Saginaw*, three guns, on the coast of Mexico; steam frigate, *Saranac*, ten guns, undergoing repairs at Mare Island; sloop of war (sailing), twenty-two guns, South Pacific, and sloop-of-war, *Cyane*, twenty guns, in Panama harbour. The *Alabama* can run away from the *Lancaster*, *Narragansett*, and *Saranac*; she can whip or run away from the *Saginaw*, and the sailing vessels she cares nothing for in any manner, unless she should by accident find herself directly under their broadsides. The merchants, underwriters, and others of New York and other places had better examine this list of our squadron in the Pacific Ocean, and its armament and class of vessels. Once having a knowledge of it, they must not wonder if the *Alabama* or other rebel cruisers should make their appearance here and use up the little commerce we have left. It will require three months to get other vessels here, even if Rip Van Winkle and Renard can be aroused to the necessity. In that time the mischief may all have been done; but the force needs increasing anyhow. So let additional vessels of the proper kind be sent at the earliest possible moment—the *Eutaw* among the number.

THE NEW PROBLEM IN MARITIME LAW.

(THE TIMES.)

While the legality of building ships in the country for the Confederate service is still under discussion a question of equal nicety, respecting the legal character of Confederate prizes afterwards converted into "tenders," has been causing much anxiety to the Government of the Cape. The curious history of the *Tuscaloosa* is already known in part to the public, but a series of papers just laid before Parliament enables us to present it for the first time in a complete form. On the 19th of August last, Sir Baldwin Walker, the Admiral of the Cape station, and Sir P. E. Wodehouse, Governor of the Cape colony, acquainted the Admiralty and the Colonial-office respectively, with the difficulty that had arisen about this vessel. She had first made her appearance in Table-bay, about a fortnight before, in company with the *Alabama*, whose "tender" she was represented to be. On her arrival in Simon's-bay Sir Baldwin's suspicions were at once aroused as to the lawfulness of recognising in this capacity a ship which he had reason to believe was neither more nor less than an uncondemned prize, and, as such, liable to restoration whenever she should come within British jurisdiction. Accordingly he communicated with Sir P. Wodehouse, and received from him the copy of an opinion on the subject from the Attorney-General of Capetown. This opinion, which purported to be founded on *Wheaton's International Law*, affirmed the principle that the employment of a ship in the military service of a belligerent, under the authority of the commander of a squadron, was *prima facie* evidence of her being entitled to the privileges of a public vessel. Sir Baldwin demurred a little to the application of this principle where, as in the case of the *Tuscaloosa*, the prize thus clothed with an immunity from seizure has not been refitted for warlike purposes, and even retains her original cargo on board. He also pointed out the abuses or evasions of our neutrality which must inevitably arise from the adoption of such a rule. His misgivings, however, were overruled by the same Attorney-General's opinion that as there were two guns on board the *Tuscaloosa* (transhipped from the *Alabama*), and a Confederate officer in command, she belonged to the Confederate navy. She was, therefore, allowed to complete her necessary repairs, and leave the port freely.

In the meantime, of course, the Consul of the United States was remonstrating and protesting in the most emphatic terms against the concession of belligerent rights to a vessel captured on the high seas, nominally commissioned by Captain Semmes, without being condemned by a prize court, or even brought *infra præsidia*, but still remaining a merchantman in all essential respects. Relying on the terms of Her Majesty's Proclamation, he contended that the *Tuscaloosa*, as soon as she entered a British port, was forfeited by the captors and reverted to her original owners. When the despatch of the Duke of Newcastle arrived it was

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found that the legal advisers of the Crown agreed more nearly with the doctrine of the Consul than with that of the Governor. Their opinion was that the mere shipment of two small guns and the presence of ten men and an officer belonging to the *Alabama* would not divest her of her former character as a prize, or justify her admission to British waters. Upon receipt of this despatch, in December last, Sir P. Wodehouse not unnaturally applied for more precise instructions as to the course which he should pursue in future. Before the end of December, however, the *Tuscaloosa* returned to her anchorage in Simon's-bay, "from cruising off the coast of Brazil." The Admiral had now to act to the best of his judgment upon the principles laid down in the last despatches from England. In concert with Sir P. Wodehouse, he resolved to detain her, having first elicited from her commander, Lieut. Low, that she carried no other credentials than the commissions of her officers, and had never been taken before any regular court. Lieut. Low lodged a solemn protest against the seizure, founded, not so much on any independent arguments as on the inconsistency in the conduct of the colonial authorities. The *Tuscaloosa* had been permitted before to remain in Simon's Bay for seven days as a ship of war, and no intimation had been given, either then or subsequently, of any exception to her assumed quality. How, then, could she be treated differently on putting back thither without a manifest breach of faith? It must have been a somewhat unpalatable duty to Sir P. Wodehouse, whose own view of the matter was contrary to that of the Home Government, to turn a deaf ear to Lieut. Low's appeal. However, he considered he had no option but to carry out his orders, which seem to have had the hearty approval of Sir B. Walker. As the Consul for the United States declared his inability to take charge of the ship on account of the owners, she was consigned provisionally to the Admiral's custody, while the Consul received a timely hint that like measures would probably be dealt out to a Federal prize commissioned at sea in a similar manner. This hint had special reference to the *Alabama* herself, which the captain of the *Vanderbilt* was counting upon converting—as soon as he could catch her—into a Federal cruiser.

This time Sir P. Wodehouse had a fair right to hope that his treatment of the *Tuscaloosa* would satisfy his superior. He had sacrificed his own feelings and judgment to the Duke of Newcastle's peremptory direction, and incurred something like an official censure before the United States' Consul. His perplexities, however, were not ended, for the next mail took out a short note from the Duke, dated March 4, ordering the restoration of the vessel to Lieutenant Low, or some other Confederate officer, and promising further explanations in a few days. These are contained in the last despatch of this correspondence, dated March 10, and when they reach Capetown, qualified as they are by expressions calculated to soothe the Governor's mind, cannot but impress him afresh with the difficulty of acting as agent to a principal some thousands of miles off. They confirm the order for the release of the *Tuscaloosa*, not as required by any rule of international law, but on the very grounds alleged by Lieutenant Low. At the same time the Duke transmits, on the part of the Government, a warning to Captain Semmes against any future transgression of the same kind. Thus the affair ends for the present, and we are left to lament the fatality which prevents questions of the utmost importance to our maritime rights and obligations from being settle on their real merits. The *Alabama* escaped by a trick, whiledall the lawyers were disputing over the legality of her equipment. The *Alexandra* was seized, indeed, and has been made to run the gauntlet of the Courts; but it seems highly probable that the discovery of a technical and preliminary objection may thwart the attempt to get a final decision. The case of the *Tuscaloosa* illustrates a new problem in the law of maritime capture, but "special circumstances" have intervened to spoil the solution of it, and deprive us of a valuable precedent. From one point of view, perhaps, we ought not to regret that a difficulty has thus been staved off, but in the interests of jurisprudence and of peace in the long run we cannot but wish that the issue had been fairly tried out. How far has a belligerent cruiser the right to burn her prize at sea, and, granting that she may lawfully do this, subject to the consequences of mistaking neutral for enemy's property, how far may she commute this right for that of commissioning them then and there? Such questions might not have become practical but for the peculiar position of the Confederate States. The possession of a naval force without the possession of a single port as a basis of operations is a novel fact in warfare, and, as the fact itself has been recognised by ourselves and France, it is desirable to face and determine the new conflicts of right which necessarily arise out of it.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE NAVAL GUNS.—KAGOSIMA.

(March 10th). Lord C. PAGET stated, in reply to questions put by Sir J. Elphinstone, and in answer to Mr. Berkeley, that that gentleman was mistaken in supposing that while the Americans had shell-guns in their ships, we had only the old round shot; our ships had shell-guns, and the Admiralty was intent upon providing the navy with the most effective armament. He honestly believed, he said, that in respect to guns we were more advanced than the French. In reference to the 110-pounder, the following statement was made by the same speaker:—I said that the Admiralty was not satisfied with the 110-pounder Armstrong; but while I said that I did not say that we disapproved it. I frankly say that we do not like it; but I do not wish the hon. member to think that we condemn it entirely. This gun was used during the action at Kagosima. They had one on board the flag-ship, and the report of its performance was this: that the vent pieces blew out, and that in one case the vent piece did a great deal worse than blowing out—it jammed. The consequence was that the gun was *hors de combat* for some time—about half an hour. But it is stated that its precision and range were extraordinary, and likewise that the precision in the bursting of its shells was something marvellous. That was the report from the flag-ship. On board the other ships they did not give so good a report. They said that the gun did not show very great precision. In fact, they condemned the 110 pounder Armstrong. On reading these reports I am disposed to admit that there are great defects in this gun, but, at the same time, I think it has considerable advantages in respect of its extent of range. Still, we have not been satisfied, and consequently the Duke of Somerset, within the last two years, communicated to the War-office—and he did so before the death of Lord Herbert—his earnest desire that there should be a good, wholesome smooth-bore gun for the navy.

BOMBARDMENT OF KAGOSIMA.

(14th.) Mr. LAYARD asked the indulgence of the House in making a statement in vindication of the character of two very meritorious and excellent public servants, Lieutenant-Colonel Neale and Admiral Kuper. (Hear, hear.) When information reached them of the sensation which had arisen in this country concerning the events which had taken place in Japan, these gallant officers naturally felt very deeply pained. He had this morning received a despatch from Colonel Neale, relating the exact circumstances of the case, which he trusted the House would permit him to read, as due to the gallant officer and Admiral Kuper. The despatch would, of course, be immediately printed and circulated, but he was anxious to bring it before the House at the earliest moment. (Hear, hear.) Colonel Neale wrote as follows:—

"Yokohama, Jan. 16.

"My Lord,—The misconceptions which appear to have influenced the remarks of some of the public journals in England in respect to the proceedings at Kagosima, as published in the London *Gazette*, I venture to conceive, render it proper that I should place upon record a series of facts, the official recital of which did not seem to me at the time to be of urgent necessity. The statements of the Prince of Satsuma's agents, herewith enclosed, were made in free and friendly conversation with the members of this Legation, while the indemnity money was in course of counting and reception. I deem it desirable to add that the population of Kagosima at no period exceeded 40,000 inhabitants, far less 180,000, as has been strangely imagined, to serve as a more striking text for comments; and, further, that those 40,000 souls, men, women, and children, withdrew while their huts and paper houses incurred the risks attendant upon stray shot and shell from a British squadron, audaciously fired upon by numerous batteries because it had signalled its intention to obtain redress for a barbarous murder and outrage committed upon British subjects, for which all redress had been evaded. Subsequent events, the voluntary payment of the indemnity demanded, the formal obligation entered into to execute the murderers of Mr. Richardson when arrested, the professions of friendship cheerfully expressed by Satsuma's envoys on behalf of their chief, their desire to cultivate friendly and social intercourse with the British nation, and their good humour and graceful offerings (of fruit) to the crew of the flagship of the British admiral after the facts of Kagosima, would all imply that the agents of Her Majesty displayed a degree of caution and moderation duly appreciated by those most deeply interested. "I have, &c.,

"EDWARD ST. JOHN NEALE."

The second paper contained the purport of the conversation and statements of the agents of Prince Satsuma on the occasion of the payment of the indemnity money at Her Majesty's Legation, on the 11th of December, 1863, and was as follows:—

"The agents for the payment of the indemnity stated that they had taken advantage of a coming typhoon at Kagosima to fire on the squadron, but that the typhoon had been the cause of the extent of the conflagration, and in consequence of there being no people in the town to put it out; that the number of soldiers collected in and about the batteries was 6,000; that immediately upon the appearance of the squadron, and even previously, as they had heard through Nagasaki it was coming, the Prince of Satsuma had ordered the inhabitants to retire into the villages, and that, therefore, no harm had happened to the people; that if we returned to Kagosima we should find the town nearly restored to its original state; that reserves of soldiers were kept outside the batteries, but that it was difficult to get them to go into them to supply the place of those who were killed; that, immediately upon our taking the steamers, a horseman had been despatched at full speed to ask the Prince of Satsuma what should be done, when he directed that the batteries should immediately open fire upon the squadron.

"ABEL A. J. GOWER. "LACKLAND FLETCHER.
"JOHN MACDONALD. "A. VON SIEFOLD."

(Hear, hear.)

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, March 22.

The great parliamentary event of the day is the passing of the new Ministerial Bill for the improvement of the colonial system of finances, on which great stress is laid in this country. After a smart debate in the Second Chamber of the States-General, the general principle of the Bill (the settlement of the Colonial Budget by a special enactment) was passed by thirty-nine to fourteen votes, and thus the Bill was virtually carried. The ninety-nine clauses of the Bill were thengone into *seriatim*, but more as a matter of form, for but little or no opposition was offered to them separately. The whole Bill was then read and triumphantly passed by fifty-eight votes to twelve, one member being unavoidably absent from illness, and one seat being vacant by a late death, which thus accounts for the seventy-two members of the Second Chamber.

Lieutenant-General J. van Swieten, formerly Commander-in-Chief of the land forces in Netherlands India, and now member of the Council of State, is appointed Government Commissioner to the Netherlands India Railroad Company in this country, with an *ex-officio* seat at the board.

The following twenty-eight first-class vessels have been

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chartered by the Netherlands Trading Company to load cargoes of produce in Java for the undermentioned ports :—

Provincie Drenthe, Capt. Boer; *Mathilde*, Captain Fekkes; *Batavia*, Capt. von Dolder; *India Packet*, Capt. Diepering; *Johanna Maria Christina*, Capt. Gorter; *Nederland and Orange*, Captain Rosier; *Petronella*, Capt. Strootman; *Koophandel*, Capt. Mooi; *Amsterdam*, Capt. Dooksen; *Maria Veronica*, Capt. Schol; *Wilhelmina Maria*, Capt. Postma; *Vertrouwen*, Capt. de Voss; and *Kandanghauer*, Capt. Zeelt—all for Amsterdam. *Bastian Pot*, Capt. van der Hoog; *Lichtstraal*, Capt. Wierix; *General de Stuers*, Capt. Viersma; *Jannetje*, Capt. Meyerhoff; *Julia*, Capt. van Tas; *Petronella*, Capt. Leicher; *Frederik Hendrik*, Capt. Glazener; *Zes Gezusters*, Capt. Rutgers; and *Ottolina*, Capt. Eleman—all for Rotterdam. *Gertruida Maria*, Capt. de Ligny; and *Wall van Puttershoeck*, Capt. Lammerts—both for Dordrecht. *Louis Meyer*, Capt. Holtgreve; and *Salatiga*, Capt. Kettler, both for Middelburg. *Jacobus Martinus*, Capt. Meppelder; and *Baron Pallandt van Roosendaal*, Capt. Hoogenstraaten, both for Schiedam.

The two Japanese Daimios, Enomotto and Akamats, who have been to the seat of war in Denmark, have now returned to this country to resume their studies. After paying a visit to the Prussian headquarters at Gravenstein, and going to the outposts to take as close a view as possible of the Danish entrenchments at Duppel, they went back through Kiel and Lubeck, at which latter port they embarked for Copenhagen, and thence to Alsen, to see the Danish side of the Duppel entrenchments. After that they re-embarked for Lubeck, and returned to this country, passing through Hamburg, Hanover, and Cologne.

A little work has just been published by the firm of Vanden Heuvill and Van Santen, at Leyden, under the title of "The Report of Mr. Stieltjes on Improved Means of Transport in Java, with Notes by an Officer of Engineers of the East India Army." The report in question bears date November 6, 1862, and was originally printed for private distribution among the members of the States-General, but subsequently made accessible to the public, and caused a deep sensation, especially those passages that were left out when presented to the Second Chamber, but now replaced, so that the whole report is now published. The report is of great importance, and enables the reader to gain a clear insight into the present state of the roads in Java, the necessity of an improvement, the means by which this can be achieved, and the author's opinions on railroads and water communication. Not the least important part of the work is the preface and the notes, not only on account of their scientific and theoretical contents, but most especially in a practical point of view. They are evidently from the pen of an officer of experience and tact, too independent to be led away by prejudice or party spirit. He judges very impartially, praises many parts of Mr. Stieltjes' conduct, but condemns his opposition to the Governor-General and the Colonial Minister. I may add that he totally disapproves of the policy of granting piecemeal concessions for different lines of railroad.

H.N.M. steam corvette *Princess Amalie*, of 19 guns, Capt.-Lieut. J. J. Wichers, which sailed from this country on the 18th of December last for the East India station, arrived at Paramaribo on the 6th of February, and was to proceed on her voyage on the 22nd of the same month. All well on board.

The King has given orders that the number of men originally fixed for the military contingent to reinforce the army in Netherlands India this year (1,400 men) be increased by 600 more, thus making a total of 2,000 men.

The *Staats-Courant* contains an invitation to young and unmarried teachers, who may feel inclined to accept situations in the Government schools in Java, to send in their names to the Minister of the Interior for communication to the Colonial Department, accompanied by certificates of good conduct, verified by the Burgomaster of their place of residence, with special mention of the religion to which they belong.

The King has granted a pension of 1,805 florins per annum to Younker P. T. van der Maesen de Sombreff, late Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The following officers of the E. I. Army, now in this country on leave of absence, have been permitted, at their own request, to retire from the service with a pension for life :—Capt. G. A. F. Boer, of the Artillery, Capt. J. J. Keyzer, of the Infantry, and Mr. F. A. Rothe, medical officer of the second class.

Mr. F. E. P. van den Bossche, secretary for the affairs of the natives at Macassar, has been appointed Knight of the Military Order of Willem, as a reward for his brilliant military achievements when Civil Governor of Lamatang Oeloe, near Palembang, during the military expedition to Sumatra in the years 1858 and 1859.

The Rev. Dr. S. A. Buddingh, pensioned clergyman of the Reformed Church at Batavia, lately entrusted with the office of Inspector-General of the Protestant Religion and the schools in Netherlands India, has received the royal license to accept and wear the gold medal for arts and sciences, conferred on him by His Highness the Duke of Nassau.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

Per *Jacoba Cornelia*, Captain Etts, at Brouwershaven from Batavia: Mr. B. Jocklige.

Per *Johan Christian*, Capt. van Heemstede Obelt, at Amsterdam from Batavia: Captain van Byleveldt, of the East India army, and family, Mr. Mande, Mr. Mande, jun., Mr. Giling, Sergeant Vriese and family, Sergeants de Roo and Riese.

Per *Franz and Elise*, Capt. Niedfeld, at the Texel from Batavia: Mr. C. H. Schoenmaker.

Per *Macassar*, Capt. V. Coulon, at Brouwershaven from Macassar: Mr. H Holtz, Controller of the First Class, with two servants.

Per *Brouwershaven*, Capt. Huyzer, at Zieriksee from Padang: Capt. Roels, of the E.I. infantry, with children, and Mr. Voorthuyzen.

Per *Cortyene*, Capt. Rusman, at Rotterdam from Batavia: Mr. Th. Schuurman.

Per *Jacoba*, Capt. Schaap, at Helvoetsluys from Padang: Major Fritzen, E.I. Army, family, and five passported soldiers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per *Nederland and Orange*, Capt. Rosier, from Rotterdam to Batavia: Messrs. J. Enderle and G. W. Vogelpoet.

Per *Amsterdam*, Capt. Dookzen, from Amsterdam to Batavia: Mr. and Mrs. Nederburg, Mr. and Mrs. Visscher, Mrs. Prins, Messrs. Fontein, Wittenrood, Bernard, and De Rochemont.

Per *Vriendschap*, Capt. Jansen, from Brouwershaven to Batavia: Messrs. Andeweg and Cremer.

Per *Kandanghauer*, Capt. Zeelt, from Amsterdam to Batavia: Mr. and Mrs. Boskes, Mrs. Bonnett, Messrs. de Bruyn, Verkerk, and Neys.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—It is scarcely to be wondered at that the company's sale on the 16th inst. should have gone off so well, considering the small quantity offered for competition, the still fewer lots of clean-tasted and favourite qualities, and the large number of dealers whose stocks are exhausted and must be renewed at any price. Some few lots went off very considerably higher than the brokers' valuations. Thus of the parcels in warehouse at Amsterdam, No. 26 yellow Havanna-like was valued by them at 48, and fetched 53½ cents; No. 27, yellow, rather mottled, was valued at 46, and sold for 49¼ cents; No. 41, bright coloured, valued at 47, realised 49 cents, and the same with the following parcels lying at Rotterdam: No. 1, yellow, valued at 47, fetched 49, cents, and No. 4, large yellow berries, but rather damaged, valued at 47½, sold at 49½, cents. But the greater part realised ½ to 1½ cents above the brokers' valuations, and every bag was sold. That the quantity offered by the company was far from adequate to the requirements of the trade is clear from the demand for private trade coffee, of which several thousand bags have been sold at 45½ to 46 cents for good ordinary Java, amongst which may be specified 1,700 bags ex *Jamsetje*, and 1,000 bags ex *Tasmania*.

SUGAR.—The raw market is in a tranquil state. During the last few days about 1,000 kranjangs of Java, No. 14 to 15, have been sold for arrival at ½ fl. above the November sale; but the higher qualities are not to be had at that rate. Low brown descriptions under Standard No. 12 fetch readily 1 fl. above November sale prices. Refined goods continue in favour, especially loaves in paper, and prices are well supported. Of crushed, 200 tons of the new Rotterdam refinery have changed hands at 39½ florins.

RICE.—In clean descriptions the dealings have not been extensive, and the market is by no means in an animated condition. Of rough the only sale reported since last mail was 2,400 bags of Sourabaya, ex *Jason*, at 7½ florins.

SPICES.—Java Cinnamon, No. 3, is in some demand at 90 cents; cloves neglected. For nutmegs, No. 1, 73 cents has been paid for small parcels, and 63 cents for No. 2.

HIDES.—Java ox in great request, both for export and home consumption. At public sale on the 18th inst. buffalo sold at very high prices. Arrived, per *Merchantman*, from Surabaya, 750 ox and 400 buffalo.

TIN.—Banca meets no improvement. A few lots have been sold at 68½ to 69 fl.

COPPER lower, and may now be bought at 55 fl.

INDIGO is very lively, 400 chests of Java having found purchasers at very stiff prices. The demand still continues, but holders are not disposed to sell unless at an advance.

GUTTA PERCHA.—At public auction 2,800 kilogr. imported per *Susanna*, from Padang, were all sold at prices ranging from 40 to 141 cents, according to quality.

RATTANS.—Prices well supported, but business rather slack. Among the few sales were 829 bundles (16 piculs) ex *Amphitrate*.

JAVA TOBACCO.—Market quiet but firm. Stock, 8,224 bales. There have been some public sales at Rotterdam, which went off as follows :—

298	bales	Lemadjang, P Q R, average paid ..	27⅓ cents.
262	„	(V in a triangle)	29⅔ „
126	„	(L in a triangle)	29½ „
169	„	Wonosari	33 „
835	„	T Not sold.	

FRANCE.

The Port-admiral of Brest has received instructions to despatch 600 officers and seamen of all ranks to Toulon, who are to be embarked on the 25th on board the steam-frigate *Labrador* for Alexandria, whence they are to proceed to reinforce the naval stations in China and Cochinchina.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A REGISTER is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the FAR EAST and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, *and other parts of the* FAR EAST, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special Notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, MARCH 28, 1864.

FURTHER JAPANESE COMMERCIAL TREATIES.

"CAPTAIN PEN" is again adding to the laurels he has already acquired in the Far East by proving himself, as before, the able coadjutor of "Captain PLUME." The Japanese, indeed, have; begun to manifest a confirmed preference for encountering the former rather than the latter gallant official. Possibly they have discovered themselves to be more equally matched with Europeans in a contest of "conventions" than in one of cannon. Having determined on forwarding another Embassy to Europe, —which, in fact, may be expected at Marseilles next month— like experienced diplomatists as they are, they concluded it would be a point in their favour, towards further negotiations, to show that they had scrupulously carried out their former stipulations. To that feeling must be ascribed the fresh conventions with France and the United States for the reduction of duties on imports. The same sentiment probably prevented any further delay in the exchange of ratifications with Prussia; and has smoothed the way for a treaty between Switzerland and Japan, which our private information leads us to believe was signed at Yedo on the 3rd of February. All this, there can be no doubt, has been done deliberately, and after consultation with the notables of the State. A great council of Daimios was, according to the advices just received, being held at Osaca, at which the TYCOON would be present before it separated. The difficulties between Europe and Japan are to be referred to a keen encounter of wits, in which Oriental subtlety hopes to come off the victor, and to wrest certain desired modifications from the sluggish perception of the Westerns. We feel every confidence that Colonel NEALE will have put the Foreign-office at home in possession of whatever information it can require on the points likely to be urged by the Japanese Envoys. Whether the TYCOON is really in earnest in wishing to close Yokohama to foreign trade, or whether that is the object aimed at by the Daimios, with the purpose of opening other ports, and of so distributing the benefit of the accruing wealth more equally over the country, it is hard to say in the present state of our information. The new treaties entered into with European nations, and the conventions reducing the import duties, cannot be looked on as emanations from a policy opposed to and dreading intercourse with foreigners. Yet, for some reason not apparent on the surface, it is clear that every possible impediment and difficulty is thrown in the way of commerce at Yokohama, and that such is the drift of the TYCOON'S policy alone. One thing is needful above all at the present juncture—and that is for England and France, and the other Governments really interested, to agree fully and firmly beforehand on all the matters that can possibly be raised for discussion by the Ambassadors about to arrive; so that the boasted immobility and hatred to change of the East may, on this occasion, be compelled to give way before a mighty and resistless concentration of European progressiveness.

OUR PROSPECTS IN JAPAN.

THAT the recent policy of the British Government with regard to Japan has been a right policy, is proved beyond all question by the transactions of the last few months. The turn of events is so striking and so favourable to the interests of Great Britain, that those who were most disposed to cavil at the firm and resolute attitude assumed by our Government, are compelled to own that it has at least been partially successful. Last year it seemed as if all our efforts to hold peaceable intercourse with Japan were destined to be frustrated. We believed that if we maintained our position in the country it must be by force of arms. Some people, indeed, asserted that the bellicose movements which have attended our commercial prosperity in China would be enacted once again on Japanese soil. "Trade," they said, "can never be established "by the sword: to knock your man down first is scarcely the "way to give him a kindly feeling towards you;" and they urged upon us the duty either of withdrawing from the empire, or of trying—as if, forsooth, we had not tried often enough— the effects of conciliation. Most of our readers will remember that in a celebrated poem the same advice is gently tendered to a butcher who is trying to drive a refractory sheep into his yard; whereupon he immediately seizes the unfortunate animal—

> "And hugs and lugs and tugs him neck and crop,
> Just *nolens volens* through the open shop,"

exclaiming, when he had done it, "There, I've conciliated him!" There is a moral in this story with regard to British policy in the Far East. Honest TOM, the butcher, was resolute, but he was not cruel. He used a summary process, but it was brief, and eminently satisfactory. He laid hold of his wether with vigour, and consigned him to the inevitable bourn, but he did it in a good English fashion, without any unnecessary words or blows.

Now it is certain that a firm, not a stern policy, is absolutely needful in our intercourse with Japan. The statement has been reiterated *ad nauseam*, but it has never been confuted, that concessions only increase our difficulties in that strange country, and that Japanese statesmen, like all Eastern politicians, are incapable of understanding the motives which sometimes induce the British Government to waive a just claim, or to renounce a treaty right. Our action, therefore, with regard to the RICHARDSON murder has taught them a new and important lesson. No longer can they suppose, as one of their Daimios once asserted, that all foreign nations, excepting Russia, could be insulted with impunity, and neither the GOROGIO, nor the independent Daimios, will now venture to treat us with disrespect. The despatch read by Mr. LAYARD in the House of Commons on the 14th inst. with reference to the bombardment of Kagosima, contains a satisfactory reply to the objections of the many writers and speakers who in their ignorance of the circumstances have so bitterly denounced that action. The course adopted by Admiral KUPER, instead of being so horrible that the imagination, to quote an agent of the Peace Society, "reels and staggers" before it, is now proved to have been alike judicious and humane; the "awful destruction of human life," on which members of Parliament recently enlarged with such unction, turns out to be a myth, and the agents of SATSUMA have declared that they appreciated the moderation displayed by Her MAJESTY'S ships. Our comparative ignorance of Japanese home politics prevents us from altogether understanding the somewhat contradictory news which has reached us from that island empire. The proposition to close the port of Kanagawa, the letter of expulsion issued by ONGASSAWARA, the rumour, if it were nothing more, that orders had been given for the destruction of three-fourths of the silk-cocoons; together with the proposed erection of batteries near Yokohama, and the internal troubles of the Empire, might seem to imply that intercourse with foreigners is still repudiated and detested by the rulers of the land. But, on the other hand, we learn that many of the great feudal chieftains have themselves been encouraging and urging upon the MIKADO a liberal foreign policy; our demands upon one of them have been fully complied with; the Americans, who, on account of the attack on the *Pembroke*, also claimed an indemnity, have received 100,000 dollars; a new impulse, despite a temporary stagnation, has been given to trade; SATSUMA, who it was once thought was our arch-enemy, has proved a liberal-minded ally, and proposes to send a number of young men for education to this country; and, finally, it has been resolved to despatch a new Embassy to Europe—a proof, even

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if it stood alone, that the warlike counsels which prevailed in the summer of last year are no longer in the ascendant. But this Embassy, although it may be regarded as a token of peace, will be despatched, it is said, for the purpose of effecting a compromise. The party in the country opposed to foreign trade is, we believe, becoming smaller every day. But it is nevertheless a strong party, and what it cannot secure by force it will strive to gain by negotiation. Of this, however, we have had enough in times past. The concessions by which we tried to ingratiate ourselves with the Japanese, and the mild expostulations which followed their foul misdeeds, were perhaps honourable to the heart, if not to the head, of a British statesman. For the future, it behoves us to assume a temperate but decided attitude; first to assure ourselves that we are acting with a fitting regard to public morality and justice, and then to steer right on—yielding not a jot to the representations of the GOROGIO, unless convinced that it is judicious and expedient so to do.

The great authority which has been delegated to Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK will, we would fain hope, be used to the advantage of his countrymen in Japan. Important changes have occurred since he left his onerous post at Yedo. Sir RUTHERFORD knows better, perhaps, than any man what those changes portend. Long ago he was convinced that if we did not withdraw altogether from the country our policy should be one of undeviating and consistent firmness; long ago he was convinced that every point we yielded to the Japanese, merely for the sake of conciliating them, was yielded with certain detriment to our own interests. Doubtless, towards the Government of the TYCOON, Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK will act as becomes a British Consul-General. We wish we could feel as certain that his conduct towards his own countrymen will be marked by urbanity and good feeling. The view entertained by Her MAJESTY'S Minister of his own merits is such as does not misbecome a gentleman who has risen in life by the sheer force of his ability and perseverance. We wish for the sake of Englishmen in the Far East, that Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK'S opinion of their good qualities were at all equal to that which he has conceived for his own.

TO PEKING *VIA* SIBERIA

WE have received from the Rev. A. WYLIE a few notes of his journey through from London to Peking and Shanghai *via* Siberia. This route, as the railway advances across Siberia, will become, both from its novelty and the varied regions it traverses, a favourite trip with the more adventurous traveller. Indeed, it is possible that as the railway may be slow in stretching its iron arms along so vast a space, the practicability and safety of the present existing land journey, as proved by Mr. WYLIE'S narrative and other notices that have already appeared in this journal, will be sufficient to tempt those who are wearied of the monotony of the sea voyage, to try the Russian overland route. To such the information furnished in Mr. WYLIE'S notes will be valuable. We shall take up the narrative with his departure from St. Petersburg:—

From the 8th to the 18th August (1863) I remained in the capital, during which time, through the kindness of our ambassador, Lord Napier, I obtained from the Minister of the Interior letters of introduction to all the Governors on the route from Nijni Novgorod to Irkutsk, besides a special open order for assistance, to be shown to any officials throughout the empire, if necessary. These were of great assistance, and, with an introduction to the Governor-General of Eastern Siberia, from General Ignatieff, the head of the Asiatic department, did much to facilitate my progress. I had also a passport from the Governor-General of St. Petersburg, made out for St. Petersburg to Peking. On arriving at Kiachta, the frontier town, I found it was very important that Peking had been named, and any one proposing to make the same journey should be careful when at St. Petersburg to get the name "Peking" inserted; else he may be detained an indefinite time on the frontier of Russia and Mongolia. It is true that a passport is seldom if ever asked for after leaving Russia, but it is just possible it might be; and in such case the inconvenience would be serious. Mine was never demanded, but I sent it to be visèd by the Mandarin at the Great Wall, on entering China.

On the 18th, at noon, I left St. Petersburg for Moscow, and arrived there next morning by eight. The temptation to linger in Moscow is very great, but time is precious to the traveller, so I left at ten P.M. on the 21st., by rail, for Nijni Novgorod, and reached that town early the following day, the great fair being then just at its height. Here I remained till the 24th, and then took a steamer down the Volga for Kazan, where I arrived the day after at six P.M. Left again at five P.M. on the 27th, by steamer, for Perm on the river Kama, and landed there about two P.M. on the 31st. Beyond Perm the only method of travelling is by post horses. As far as Tumen the posting is in the hands of a company, which has a contract with the Government. Beyond there it is conducted directly by the Government. Up to one stage beyond Tumen the rate for horses is just double what it is from that point eastward. Having made the acquaintance of a gentleman on board the steamer who was travelling to Omsk, I arranged to accompany him as *compagnon de voyage*, and, provided with the various requisites for the journey, we started about midday of September 2, having hired a *tarantas* to Ekaterinburg. This is a kind of open carriage, covered in with an apron and fall, without springs, but balanced on long poles between the fore and hind wheels, which are placed far apart. The road is tolerably good and somewhat interesting, though hilly. Travelling day and night, we reached Ekaterinburg in the afternoon of the 4th, having in the morning passed the marble obelisk that marks the boundary between Europe and Asia, on the Ural Mountains. We had expected to hire a *tarantas* from Ekaterinburg to Tumen, but found there was none to be had, and so were obliged to perform this part of the journey in the common post *kibitkas*, which had to be changed at every stage. This occupied us from the evening of the 9th to the 11th, and we passed the night at Tumen. Road very good thus far; country flat and uninteresting. There I purchased a *tarantas*, in which we continued our journey on the morrow, and reached the town of Omsk on the 19th, having had to stop three nights on the way for want of horses. This was the most wretched part of the road, with the most miserable weather that I experienced throughout the journey. At Omsk I had to seek for a new travelling companion, and soon fell in with a gentleman who was going to Irkutsk to occupy a post in the Government service. So I willingly waited a few days for him, and we started for Tomsk on the 25th, and, without stopping on the way, reached that town about midnight of the 29th. Road very good, and fine weather most of the way, which went far to counterbalance the uninteresting character of the steppe country we were passing through. After a stoppage of two days at Tomsk, we got off again on the 1st of October, being the first day of snow I had seen in Siberia; but the fall was slight and partial, as the country indicated between that and Krasnoyarsk, where we arrived on the 4th, and passed the night there. Resuming our journey on the following day, the coachman, who had been somewhat too free in his potations, upset the carriage on a very dark night. Fortunately, there was no further damage than breaking a shaft, which detained us till the next morning, when we got it replaced. With some other slight mishaps, we reached Irkutsk on the 12th. The roads in the government of Yennissei are excellent, but for six stages between Nijni Udinsk and Irkutsk the way is really dreadful. The country becomes much more hilly and picturesque as we approach Irkutsk. From Irkutsk to Kiachta I travelled in company with a courier in the Imperial service. The passage across the Lake Baikal in a steamer forms an agreeable break in this part of the journey, and although we were detained a day till a storm on the Lake had passed over, the interesting character of the neighbourhood scarcely allowed the stoppage to be felt as tedious. Leaving Irkutsk at midnight of the 16th, we arrived at Kiachta in the afternoon of the 20th. There I found Mr. Grant, who has gone out to superintend the telegraph and courier communication between London and Peking.

There are two routes from Irkutsk to Kiachta. By the ordinary one the traveller is dependent on the steamer, which crosses the Baikal every Wednesday and Saturday, weather permitting, from March to October; but in winter, when the Lake is frozen, it is traversed by sledges, and the whole distance, about 500 versts, might be accomplished in a day and a-half, or less. The other route is round the southern end of the Lake, through a difficult mountainous country, the distance being about the same; but there are 150 versts of the road yet unmade, and the journey would probably occupy a little more time. From Kiachta to Kalgan, on the Great Wall of China, the time occupied by the present postal system is eleven days, but a line of couriers might easily accomplish it in half that time. Two days more would complete the communication to Peking.

Reaching Kiachta on the 20th, by the 29th I had made all preliminary arrangements, including passport, commissariat, &c., and commenced my journey across the desert in a camel cart, the most tedious part of the whole route. A Mongol *lama* agreed to take me through in twenty-five days, which he faithfully accomplished, reaching Kalgan on the 23rd of November. There I had to leave the cart which I purchased at Kiachta, as it is impossible for such a conveyance to cross the mountains between that and Peking. So, having engaged a mule palanquin, with extra mules for baggage, I took my departure the following day, and reached Peking on the 28th, just four months and a day after leaving London, eighty-six days out of which I had been actually on the journey.

A fortnight was very agreeably spent in Peking and the neighbourhood, and on the 14th Dec. I took my departure in a Chinese covered cart, reaching Tien-tsin on the 16th; the river there being already frozen over, and all communication with the sea thus cut off, my only resource was to make the journey overland, either to Che-foo or to the Yellow River. Being desirous of visiting the foreign settlements at Teng-chow and Che-foo, I chose the former route, and am now the seventh day on my journey, being nearly half way to the port where I hope to get a steamer for Shanghai. We are obliged to diverge considerably from the direct road, in consequence of the country being flooded by the waters from the Yellow River.

SHANGHAI, JAN. 20, 1864.—As there has been no opportunity of posting this letter yet, I add a few lines to say that I reached Tang-chow city on the morning of New Year's Day, having found it necessary to leave my cart about seven miles previously in consequence of the hilly nature of the road, and to proceed on a mule. I found the city gates shut, in consequence of a riot among the students who had come up for examination, above 4,000 in number. They had seized the magistrates of the district and prefecture on the previous day, and beaten and maltreated them. The gate was readily opened, however, on my application, and after spending half-a-day there, I continued my journey, arriving at the seaport of Che-foo the evening of the following day. There I was detained a week, and ultimately got away in the *Sir H. Parkes* steamer on the 10th, reaching this city on the 13th after a very favourable passage. My journey from London to Shanghai has thus occupied more than five months, but it will be observed that my stoppages have been many, and protracted. Where expedition is an object the same journey might be accomplished in half the time. I have found no difficulty in the way of travelling. The Russian officials proved most polite and obliging through out, with a very trifling exception, and I much prefer this route to the sea voyage.

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THE CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES.

The Estimates for the Civil Services for the year ending the 31st of March, 1865, have been laid on the table of the House of Commons. We extract the portions relating to China and Japan, and other parts of the Far East:—

CHINA.

The total amount is £76,081. 10s. 2d., against £61,328 for the year ending in this present March. The items are as follows:—

PEKING.—Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, and Chief Superintendent of Trade, £8,000; Secretary of Legation and Chinese Secretary, £1,200; Second Secretary, £500; do., £400; Assistant and Accountant, £500; Surgeon, £200; Assistant Chinese Secretary, £600; ten Student Interpreters, £2,200; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £250. Special Allowances to Colonial Officers at Hong Kong for services rendered to Superintendency, viz.:—The Attorney-general, £250; the Surveyor-general, £200; the Colonial Auditor, £500; Assistant, £300.

CANTON.—Consul, £1,600; Interpreter, £700; First Class Assistant, £400; Second Class Assistant, £350; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £180; Vice-Consul at Whampoa, £750; Consular Agent at Macao, £150.

SWATOW.—Consul, £800; Interpreter, £500; First Class Assistant, £400; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

AMOY.—Consul, £900; Interpreter, £500; First Class Assistant, £400; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £125.

FOO CHOW.—Consul, £900; Interpreter, £500; First Class Assistant, £400; Second Class Assistant, £300; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

NINGPO.—Consul, £800; Interpreter, £400; Second Class Assistant, £350; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

SHANGHAI.—Consul, £1,500; Vice-Consul, £750; Second Vice-Consul, £750; Interpreter, £700; First Class Assistant, £400; Second Class Assistant, £350; Third Class Assistant, £300; First Linguist, £300; Second Linguist, £300; Third Linguist, £200; Writers, £120.

TAIWAN.—Vice-Consul, £750; Interpreter, £400; Third Class Assistant, £300; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

CHIN-KIANG.—Consul, £900; Interpreter, 400; Third Class Assistant, 300; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

KIU-KIANG.—Vice-Consul, £750; Interpreter, £400; Third Class Assistant, £300; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

HANKOW.—Consul, £1,300; Interpreter, £400; Second Class Assistant, £350; Third Class Assistant, £300; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

TANG-CHOW.—Consul, £900; Third Class Assistant, £300; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

TIEN-TSIN.—Consul, £900; Vice-Consul at Taku, £500; Interpreter, £400; Third Class Assistant, £300; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

NEW-CHWANG.—Consul, £1,300; Third Class Assistant, £300; Chinese Writers or Linguists; £100.

Contingent expenses,* £15,000; Passages for Student Interpreters, £471; Purchase of House for Consulate at Swatow, £6,000; For Consular Buildings at Hankow, £4,000; Repairs to Consular Buildings at Shanghai, £1,500; Purchase and Enclosure of Cemetery at Peking, £700; to complete Repairs to Residence at Peking, £257. 5s. 2d.; Pay of Legation Guard and Escort at Peking, £857. 15s.; Passages for do., £1,020. 10s.; Temporary Allowances at Shanghai, £1,350.

The fees, fines and other casual receipts are now paid into the Exchequer. They were formerly retained, and applied in aid of the Contingent Expenses. The amount of these receipts in 1862 was £6,238. 8s. The gross receipts for the rent or from the sale of Government lands at the Consular ports are also now credited to the Exchequer.

One third of the net charge on account of the service in China is repaid to the Exchequer from Indian revenues.

Besides the above there is "an estimate of the sum proposed to be voted in the year ending the 31st of March, 1865, to defray expenses on account of the Treasury Chests," made up of two items.—For freight of specie, in aid of the treasury chests abroad, £8,000; to make good a net loss on the transactions of the Treasury Chests, during the year 1862-3, £29,550. Total, £37,550. The net loss referred to arises, it is stated, from transactions for the supply of the Treasury Chest in China, viz.:—

Discount on Bills drawn upon Her Majesty's Treasury, or upon the Indian Treasury		£32,775
Loss on Consignments of Specie from this country, arising from the difference between the rate at which they were purchased in England and the Army par, or legal rate at which they were brought to credit in China		5,236
Loss incurred on Chinese Prize Money, brought to credit at 4s. 2d. the dollar, and repaid in England, for the distribution to the captors, at 4s. 6½d. the dollar		1,598
Interest on Money raised in 1860-1 for Commissariat purposes in Japan		31
		£39,640
Deduct,—"Captured Cash" credited to this Account ..		15
Net loss on the transactions of the Chest in China ..		39,625
Gain on the transactions at other stations ..	£11,804	
Loss on ditto	1,729	
Net gain at other stations		10,075
Net loss provided for in this estimate		29,550

Under the head of "Payments made by Her Majesty's Paymaster-General on account of special missions, outfits, &c., between the 1st of February, 1863, and 31st January, 1864," we find these entries:—M. Lecomte, Inspector of French Banks, from Shanghai to Japan, on board he *Renard*, in March and April, 1862, £6; M. Richon, Attaché to French Legation, from Shanghai to the Peiho, on board the *Hesper*, in May, 1862, £19. 19s.

*The Contingent Expenses are:—1. Wages for Public Servants, such as Porters, Coolies, Watchmen, Gaolers, Boatmen, Police. 2. Printing, Stationery, Postage, Messengers. 3. Rent of Ground for Consular Buildings, Repairs and Insurance. 4. Office Expenses. 5. Chapels and Chaplains. 6. Outfit to Consuls and Vice-Consuls. 7. Journeys on Public Service. 8. Allowance to St. Paul's College, Hong Kong, with a view to promoting the study of the Chinese Language. 9. Petty and Miscellaneous Expenses.

JAPAN.

The sum required for the salaries and contingent expenses connected with the Consular service in Japan is £18,311. 5s., against £15,196. 10s. for the year ending in this present March. The separate items are as follows:—

YEDO.—Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary and Consul-General, £3,000; Secretary of Legation, £800; Interpreter and Japanese Secretary, £700; Assistant and Accountant, £472. 10s.; Assistant and Medical Officer, £500; Second Assistant, £350; Four Student Interpreters, at £200 a-year each, £800.

KANAGAWA.—Consul, £1,000; Vice-Consul, £500; Interpreter, £400; Second Assistant, £350; Assistant, £250.

NAGASAKI.—Consul, £1,000; Interpreter, £400; Second Assistant, £350; Third Assistant, £300.

HAKODADI.—Consul, £800; Interpreter, £500; Third Assistant, £300.

SUPERNUMERARY.—Interpreters, £300; on account of Extra Pay and Expenses of Legation Guard, £1,000; Grant towards Protestant Church at Nagasaki, £324. 15s.; Contingencies, £3,500; Attorney-General at Hong Kong, £100; Passages for Student Interpreters, at £157 each, £314.

There is an increase of £1,000 in the present year for the item "contingencies;" but that augmentation provides for the transfer of the fees and fines to the Exchequer.

To the account "Special Missions," &c., before mentioned, are placed the following:—Balance of expenses of entertaining the Japanese Ambassadors, £132. 7s. 5d.; Japanese Secretaries to the English and French Legations in Japan, on board the *Havoc*, £4. 4s.; the Japanese Embassy between Alexandria and Marseilles, on board the *Himalaya*, £254. 3s. 2d.

LABUAN.

The estimate for this dependency is £5,825, against £6,850 last year. The items are given thus:—Governor, £800; Treasurer and Police Magistrate, £500; Surgeon, £417; Chaplain, £350; Surveyor-General, £300; Harbour Master, £300; Gaoler, £175; Establishments of the foregoing Officers, £1,360; Contingent Expenses of Justice, Police, and Gaols, £1,432; Roads, Works, and Buildings, £1,525; Miscellaneous, £826; Loss by Exchange on the Bills drawn by the Governor upon the Paymaster-General between April, 1862, and September, 1863, £890; total, £8,375. Deduct Estimated Local Revenue and Balances in hand, £2,550:—5,825.

In the "Special Mission, &c.," estimate, Labuan makes its appearance twice:—Bishop of Labuan and Sir James Brooke, on board the *Leven*, in 1863, £12; Sir James Brooke, on board the *Coquette*, between Singapore and Sarawak, £9.

SIAM.

The estimate for salaries and contingent expenses connected with the Consulate established in Siam is £4.829, against £4,529 in the year ending this present March. This sum is composed of the following items:—Consul, £1,200; Interpreter, £500; First Assistant, £405; Second Assistant, £324; Two Student Interpreters, at £200 a-year each, £400; Medical Attendant, £400; Contingent Expenses, £1,200; Grant towards Protestant Church at Bankok, £400.

PARLIAMENTARY BLUE BOOK ON AFFAIRS IN CHINA.

A Blue-book of 199 pages has been published comprising a variety of subjects dating from September, 1862, to March, 1864. We give the list of contents, and beg to inform our readers that we have forwarded copies of the book to the following offices in China and Japan, and, on application, no doubt their friends will be allowed a perusal of the same:—*North China Herald*, Shanghai; *Friend of China*, Shanghai; *Recorder*, Shanghai; *Japan Herald*, Yokohama; *Commercial News*, Yokohama; *China Mail*, Hong Kong; *Daily Press*, Hong Kong.

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Literature.

Mexico, Ancient and Modern, by M. MICHEL CHEVALIER, Senator, and Member of the Institute, of France.—Messrs. Maxwell and Co., of Fleet-street, have certainly supplied the public with a couple of most opportune volumes, in putting forth a translation of M. Chevalier's work. The author had long been known as a writer on Mexico, for he was years since quoted in M'Culloch's "Geographical Dictionary" as the best authority on the country since the days of Humboldt; but the information there spoken of never, we believe, appeared in a collected form, and had to be sought for, by those interested in the subject, out of the various numbers of the *Journal des Débats* in which the letters originally appeared. Now that Mexico has become one of the chief topics of the day, M. Chevalier has brought his personal knowledge of the country and the people to aid in the production of a book which has the merit of being complete in itself. The work is divided into eight parts. The first two treat of the Aztec empire, and its conquest by Cortes; the third, of Mexico under the colonial rule of Spain; the fourth, of the war of emancipation; the fifth, of Mexico as an independent State; the sixth, of the resources and future of the country; the seventh, of the motives for a European intervention, or of an intervention by France alone, in the affairs of Mexico; the eighth and last, of the attempt to regenerate Mexico, viewed in connection with the present attitude of the Court of Rome towards modern civilisation. Most English readers have been made familiar with the first and second of the above divisions by Prescott's "Conquest of Mexico"—a delightful work, but too limited in its scope for the exigencies of the present crisis. Just at this juncture we want, as it were, a Handbook of Mexico, that shall tell us not only the history of the past, and bring it down to the present day, but also give us an insight into the capabilities and future prospects of that vast territory, furnished by one competent to judge both of the material resources of all kinds which it contains, and of the elements of progress to be found in the spirit of the people. This is the great merit of M. Chevalier's volumes. He lays the subject before us in its entirety; we rise from the perusal satisfied that we need no further reference. In this regard, the author does himself but scant justice in the Introduction he has prefixed to the English translation. Written at least a twelvemonth after the publication of the original, a feeling of astonishment is created as M. Chevalier enumerates the number of his predictions that have been fulfilled; and he does not extend the catalogue to the length he would have been justified in doing. The scientific expedition just commissioned to proceed to Mexico may fairly be claimed as the fruit of the suggestion made at p. 226, Vol. II.:—"A few years ago, when the expedition was organised that was to plant the flags of the two great Powers of Western Europe in the capital of the Celestial Empire, the great propriety of having science represented in it by a numerous and brilliant constellation was lost sight of. The useful work that would not fail to have been done by such a commission would have been a happy counterpoise to the burning of the Summer Palace. There was then neglected an excellent opportunity of augmenting our information, and probably of enriching our manufactures with new processes and agents.* Science, thus forgotten on the occasion of going to Peking, has a claim for reparation; and we have the chance of offering it now that we are going to Mexico. The Emperor Napoleon III. cannot be insensible to the glory of renewing in one of the richest and most curious regions of the Western World the exploration which the founder of his dynasty organised so admirably for one of the countries of the East."

The decided tone in which M. Chevalier expresses himself on the attitude of the Court of Rome in its antagonism to every attempt at progress in a liberal path will surprise many who fancy that plain speaking is utterly prohibited in France. "So long," he says, "as the policy of the Court of Rome shall not be completely changed in Europe, it is greatly to be feared that it will continue to favour the party of immobility in Spanish America, and especially in Mexico. So long as that party has such an auxiliary, it may be put to the rout on the battle-field—it may be hurled from power as often as it succeeds in climbing thither—but it will never be definitely vanquished. Irritated by the ever-reviving obstacles it will encounter, the Liberal party will continue to exhibit violence and ultraism. Good order will be impossible in the country, and anarchy will be perpetually raising its head. The French attempt at regeneration will be condemned to remediless miscarriage. So that we meet with the Roman Question again at Mexico, as difficult there as it is here." Despite this misgiving, which has been too unhappily verified, M. Chevalier has no doubt about the brilliant future that awaits Mexico the instant it is relieved from the wasting anarchy which has prostrated its energies for the last half century. The mineral wealth of the vast area still remaining to Mexico, despoiled, as it has been, of some of its richest provinces by the grasping encroachments of the United States, is not yet half explored. There is reason to believe that it still holds within its boundaries deposits of silver sufficient to restore that metal to its former relative abundance as compared with gold; while the agricultural products of the country present a diversity almost unknown in any other part of the globe, unless, indeed, we may except Japan in the Eastern and Natal in the African world; and even these last are deficient in that adaptability to the cultivation of cereals which is a remarkable characteristic of the Mexican table-land. To develop this now latent wealth, M. Chevalier recognises the necessity of a large immigration of industrious settlers, and he points to China as the quarter from which they might be most readily introduced with benefit to themselves and the country of their adoption. He observes:—

The Chinese in our day make their escape in every direction they see open, impelled as they are by the desire of flying from the arbitrary and tyrannical *régime* under which they groan in their own land, and attracted into countries where Western or Christian civilisation holds sway, by the relative mildness of its laws, and by the protection almost everywhere ensured there to the property and person of the industrious man. A civilising Government that desired to attract to Mexico a large quantity of this laborious population would succeed in it with very little effort. It would be sufficient, in fact, to make a display of justice towards them, and to guarantee them against the insults and hard usage wrongfully heaped on them by the Anglo-Saxon colonists of California and Australia. In both those countries the Chinese have been subjected to exactions and ill-treatment. Threats of expulsion are continually hanging over their heads, and yet they remain there in tolerable numbers. If the Chinese knew a region where they would be protected equally with the Whites there would be no need of going to any expense in looking for them; they would hasten thither of themselves in crowds. Few countries are situated so favourably as Mexico for becoming the goal of Chinese emigration. From their application to labour and their intelligence in commercial matters, they would be a valuable acquisition to the Mexican nation. Up to this day China has not been looked upon to the extent it ought to have been as an inexhaustible reservoir of population, whence might be drawn not only clever, sober, frugal, and indefatigable workers, but also traders of rare ability. Up to a certain epoch it was the fashion to apply to the inhospitable deserts of Scandinavia the pompous title of *officina gentium*. That appellation may, at a day not far off, belong to China, in the sense of a belief being permissible that the course of events will cause numerous and countless hordes to issue from thence, who will direct themselves to far distant countries. Thanks to the prompt and economical means of communication afforded by modern civilisation, large migrations are becoming easy. We have just seen that hundreds of thousands of persons were annually conveyed to the United States before they were desolated by civil war. It would not be more difficult to people Mexico with Chinese emigrants than the valley of the Missis-

* "I would not have it supposed that I am here forgetting the services rendered by a person well informed, and much to be commended for his zeal and courage, who accompanied the expedition to China. But what could one single person do? This sole representative of French science having fallen into the hands of the Chinese, his mission was from that cause barren of results. All danger of the kind would have been averted by a scientific commission of small number."

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sippi, or the upper basin of the St. Lawrence, with the sons of Ireland or the cultivators of the banks of the Rhine or the Oder. It is admitted on all hands that an industrious population is the foundation of wealth. Nothing more is needed than that the Governments of those States whither it would be easy to bring Chinese, should bestow pains on such immigration, and be willing to encourage it. The reason alleged in California and Australia by the abettors of proscription against the Chinese is, that they are too clever as workmen, that they labour too perseveringly, that they are too much inclined to live on a little, and that thence they are injurious competitors to the Whites. But the defects with which the Chinese are reproached are qualities to the taste of impartial men, and are what should make them sought for in such lands as Mexico, where the people too often present contrary dispositions.

We can dismiss these volumes with the recommendation that they are worthy a man of M. Chevalier's reputation. Every page bears testimony to the ample and varied knowledge stored up in the writer's mind, which enables him to satisfy his reader on every topic he touches, without extending his observations to tediousness or curtailing them to provoking brevity. The translation has been executed, under the author's superintendence, by a gentleman long connected with the metropolitan press, whose reputation is a guarantee for its fidelity. Messrs. Maxwell, the publishers, have added much to the value of the book, by including in its contents a Map of Mexico, a thing wanting in the French original, though almost indispensable to a clear appreciation of the author's historical narrative and the deductions he desires to enforce.

The Reference Shakspeare, compiled by JOHN B. MARSH.—The Tercentenary Year abounds in all kinds of publications intended to do honour to our great bard. The book just mentioned does great credit to Mr. Heywood, the Manchester publisher. In all that concerns paper, and print, and the commodious size of the volume, it beats out of the field every one of its competitors. And for those who want to *read* Shakspeare, and to have a book really for reference and study, it possesses the precious singularity in these days of being without "illustrations." Mr. Marsh boasts that by four years' labour he has drawn up an index, containing a list of 372 subjects, illustrated by 6,504 separate passages, connected by a total of 11,000 references. The latter are printed marginally, and the reader is referred from one reference to the other till he meets with the passage he is in search of. The system will require some patience and practice for its ready use, but the advantage is that you gain in one portable volume text and concordance too. We trust Mr. Marsh is proceeding with his labours, and that in a future edition the scheme will be so enlarged as to be almost complete. It is easy to see that the plan is capable of great development, and well deserves it.—Mr. Cassell brings out an *Illustrated Shakspeare*, of which the most that can be said in its praise is that it is exceedingly cheap.

The publishing season again shows activity. As regards Oriental matters, we have two volumes from Professor Eastwick, entitled *Journal of a Diplomate's Three Years in Persia*, full of amusing pictures of the life and manners of that interesting nation.—Mr. Christopher Cooke's *Journey Due East* is a work in one volume, containing the journal of a five months' trip to Lower Egypt, Palestine, and Turkey, in the winter of 1862-63, returning by Athens and Rome to London. The embellishments consist of illustrations and a map.—A most important addition to English Political Biography is made by *The Diary of Mary Countess Cowper*, the wife of Lord Chancellor Cowper, and Lady of the Bedchamber to the Princess of Wales from 1714 to 1720. The book is a selection from papers in the possession of the family, and is of rare value, illustrating, as it does, a period in the early times of the House of Brunswick not hitherto so openly unfolded to the public eye.—Mr. Forster's *Sir John Eliot, a Biography*, is a life of the great statesman and patriot of the times of James and Charles the First. The author published a work on the same subject very many years ago. The present, however, is not a reproduction under altered forms of materials already accessible, but an entirely new contribution to the knowledge of the period. The volumes each conclude with a copious index, and there are two fine steel portraits.—In Fiction, *Sir Victor's Choice*, in three volumes, by Miss Annie Thomas, will achieve a great success. No one that begins to read will lay it down till the last line is reached.—*The Town of the Cascades* is a novel in two volumes by an author whose name carries us back to the days of our youth. Michael Banim is the survivor of the brothers who wrote the "Tales of the O'Hara Family," and all who retain—and who that has once read them does not?—a recollection of those stirring narratives, will welcome the reappearance of the name in the publisher's list. The new story is full of clever dramatic illustrations of Irish life and character, and is one of the few tales about drink and drunkards where the reformation of the sot is worked out with a healthy and wise-hearted sympathy, free from the improbable or the sentimentally mawkish.—*Peculiar; a Tale of the Great Transition*, by Epes Sargent, is an American novel, that will delight such as have Northern proclivities, for it is clever and vigorous. All the virtues are placed to the credit of the Northerns, while those born south of Mason's and Dixon's line enjoy a monopoly of meanness, vulgarity, and rascality.—Though writing on a subject foreign to our columns, we must signalise the appearance in type of Viscount Amberley, the eldest son of Earl Russell, an essay by whom has been reprinted from the *North British Review*, under the title of *A Few Words on Clerical Subscription in the Church of England*.—A copy has been forwarded to us of *The Psalter; with the Canticles and Hymns of the Church Pointed for Chanting*. This very cheap publication, only *eightpence*, will be very serviceable for churches abroad where the congregation may incline to adopt the custom alluded to. The pointing is excellently done by Mr. Bentley, the Head Master of Cheetham College, Manchester.

Charles Auchester and Miss Jewsbury's *Sorrows of Gentility* are the volumes last added to Messrs. Smith and Son's Select Library. The tales are so well known that we need do no more than record the agreeable fact that they are now to be had in the convenient and neat form of the set of publications known under the title just mentioned, with its superior paper and letterpress and excessively moderate price.

Of Serials, we have before us the Brothers Dalziels' *Arabian Nights* and *Vicar of Wakefield*. The spirit of the illustrations to the former induces us almost to withdraw our former expression of dislike to the cartoon-like style of the engravings. As to the latter, we must reiterate our objection to over-illustration. The cheapness of each of the above is wonderful; but if they are intended for slender means, why such a waste of ornament?—The artistical portion of Mr. Cassell's *Illustrated Pilgrim's Progress* is beyond all praise, and no wonder can be felt at the work's obtaining the immense sale that has rewarded the enterprising publisher. The principle that presided over the conception of the *Popular Educator*, issued from the same warehouse, is, we confess, beyond us. It is true you have something of everything in each part at a very low price; but, if price be the object, why compel the purchaser to buy everything at once? The man who wants a page of French need not surely have his pocket mulcted in a page of Greek at the same time.

We have received a copy of *Memoires sur La Chine*, par LE COMPTE D'ESCAYRAC DE LAUTURE, which shall be noticed in our next.

Naval and Military.

CAPTAIN SHERARD OSBORN has been appointed to the command of the *Royal Sovereign* cupola ship.

The subjoined is notified by authority as the amended scale of allowances to officers of her Majesty's ships on the East India station, who may qualify themselves to act as interpreters in oriental languages sanctioned by the India-office:—Class 1. For Hindostanee or Persian, moonshee allowance, 180 rupees; interpreter's allowance per mensem, 50 rupees. Class 2. For Arabic, moonshee allowance, 180 rupees; interpreter's allowance per mensem, 100 rupees. Class 3. For Hindostanee, Arabic, and Persian (all three languages), moonshee allowance, 180 rupees; interpreter's allowance per mensem, 200 rupees. In appointing interpreters preference will be given to class 3 over class 2, and to class 2 over class 1.

Colonel K. D. Mackenzie, C.B., late of the 92nd Highlanders, who has rendered admirable service on the Staff in the Crimea, India, and China, will succeed to the post of Deputy Adjutant-General in Ireland, vacant by the appointment of Colonel Haines to a Brigade.

Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals C. A. Gordon, C.B., has published some remarks on sea transport for troops for India and China which cannot fail to add to his reputation as an excellent medical officer. He strongly advocates the establishment of a regular organised line of transports under naval agents, commanded by the senior officers on the station each ship to be commissioned for three or five years, and attached to victualling yards in India and China; the erection of a grand island sanatarium, a transport department in Egypt, a receiving vessel at Alexandria as at Hong-Kong, and other improvements on the present system which deserve the serious attention of the authorities, who must be desirous of mitigating the grave evils which at present exist, as Dr. Gordon points out.

A new reading of international law (says the *Army and Navy Gazette*) is about being given by our excellent consul, Colonel Neale, to the Japanese. He has laid down the doctrine of the eternal nature of treaties. The Japanese, under a a sort of duress, made a treaty with us which they find unpopular—they say so, and in such a matter we must take their words—threatening society with dissolution. They desire to repeal the treaty, as with due notice they have a right to do, as an independent nation. Colonel

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Neale says he will not admit such a right, and warns them that, if they do not send in silk, he will direct the fleet to destroy their home trade!

Her Majesty's steam storeship Industry sailed on the 18th inst., from Woolwich, laden with victualling stores and iron buoys for moorings in the South Atlantic stations. She also took a few head of oxen from the south of France for experimental breeding purposes in the Isle of Ascension.

An enormous cylinder, weighing 30 tons 16 cwt. 1 qr. 26lb., intended for Her Majesty,s iron ship Minotaur, in the Victoria Docks, was received at Woolwich from Messrs. John Penn and Son, having been conveyed by a team of 30 horses.

Orders were received at Portsmouth from the Admiralty to defer the embarkation of troops and naval supernumeraries for China on board the screw troopship Adventure, and to send the ship out to the Quarantine anchorage at the Motherbank to wait further orders. A case of smallpox having occurred on board is the cause of these measures having been taken. This disease is just now very rife in Portsmouth and its suburbs, as it is in many other parts.

The screw steamship Princess Royal, 73, Capt. Jones, flag of Rear-Admiral G. St. Vincent King, C.B., left Plymouth Sound on the 19th inst. for the Cape of Good Hope Station.

By the removal of Sir George Lambert to the reserved list, Vice-Admiral Sir Michael Seymour, G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth, has been advanced to the rank of Admiral, and hoisted his flag (blue) at the main as soon as he received official intimation of his promotion.

The freight ship Avon arrived at Spithead on the 12th inst. from Ceylon with the following officers and troops on board from various regiments:—Lieut. Macgregor, 50th Regiment, in military command; Lieut. Richmond, 50th Regiment; Assist.-Surg. Stewart, in medical charge; 63 invalids, 9 time-expired men, 5 women, and 3 children. Three men and six children have died since the embarkation of the troops at Ceylon on the 21st of November last.

By the latest advices from Nagasaki, we (*Army and Navy Gazette*) learn that Her Majesty's Ship Leopard was the only English man-of-war in harbour, and the Dutch corvette Medusa. There were a great number of merchant ships in harbour, but no cargoes for them; consequently, many were leaving in ballast for Shanghai, where freights were rising. We regret to learn that small-pox had broken out and had touched the shipping. Very many cases had made their appearance on board the Leopard; they were, however, immediately transferred to a temporary hospital on shore, and the utmost sanitary precautions taken. The large Dutch forces were expected daily to exact compensation for the attack on the Medusa in the inland sea last year. Again we hear complaints from officers who are so unfortunate as to be stationed at Nagasaki, in consequence of no regular mail touching there, as the steamer carrying the mail goes direct from Shanghai to Yokohama, and so returns, the result is that the officers and ships' companies of vessels lying in this harbour can only receive their letters, &c., when any of Her Majesty's ships are detached for service in this isolated part of the coast.

Monetary and Commercial.

The directors of the Agra and United Service Bank (Limited) have issued their report, in anticipation of the thirtieth annual meeting, convened for the 2nd proximo. We extract as follows:—

The directors have to submit to the shareholders the audited accounts or the year ended 31st December last, and to report that, after making ample provision for all bad and doubtful debts, the net profits of the bank for the year amount to £242,909. 12s. 6d. Out of this sum the directors have declared, free of income-tax, two half-yearly dividends at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum each, and have added to the last of these a bonus of £4 per share, thus making a return for the year of 18 per cent. on the paid-up capital of one million sterling. From the balance remaining the directors have refunded to reserve fund account the sum of £7,341. 2s. 4d. taken from it last year, and, in consideration of the greatly-extended business of the bank, have carried to credit a further sum of £25,000, thus raising that fund to £225,000. They have also passed the sum of £5,000 to superannuation fund, and £15,000 to building fund, carrying forward £10,568. 10s. 2d. to credit of profit and loss account for the current year. Since last annual meeting the directors have purchased desirable premises in Sydney, and have secured land at Shanghai, Kurrachee, and Madras, in view to the erection of suitable buildings for the branches of the bank at those ports.

A special meeting of the Singapore Gas Company is convened for the 4th of April, to authorise the directors to borrow £10,000, and to give preferential rights to 2,000 of the unissued shares.

A general meeting of the shareholders of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China is convened for the 13th of April.

At the General Court of Directors of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, the Governor announced that the net profits for the half-year ending 29th February last amounted to £756,143, making the rest on that date £3,772,770. After providing for a dividend of 5½ per cent. the rest would be £3,008,738. A dividend was accordingly declared of 5½ per per cent., without deduction for income tax. As this dividend exceeded the last, it was necessary to adjourn the court to confirm the same by ballot. The return was not so favourable as anticipated. The public deposits show a decrease of £292,653, the total representing £8,570,711, and the private deposits an increase of £670,825, the aggregate standing at £13,105,800. The private securities exhibited an increase of £159,853, the total being £20,657,580. The reserve of notes presents an increase of £275,790, the amount standing at £8,013,960.

On the late introduction of New Companies the *Daily News* has the following:—

One of the great consequences of free trade is the general disposition to profit by the openings it affords. Almost every individual in the kingdom is actuated by a desire to acquire sufficient capital to "begin business." The wealthy find profitable no less than safe investments. With a similar purpose the possessor of smaller means throws all his efforts into the scale. When he is in possession of some savings, even the artisan submits insensibly to the attraction of commercial ventures; and by the accumulation into one mass of a number of insignificant deposits, a great part of the trade of this country is rendered lucrative and safe.

Amongst the causes which have led to the great recent increase in the number of joint-stock companies is the continued development of commerce. Special circumstances, such as the large amount of unemployed capital afloat since the outbreak of the American war, the strength of the bullion reserve of the Bank, in consequence of the conservative policy pursued by its Board, the large profits realised in most trades during the past year, have afforded great facilities for the introduction of new associations to the public, and have greatly encouraged their formation; but the chief motive has been the general extension of commerce and of trade.

It would be difficult to say whether all the new companies are really required, or whether sufficient field is in all cases open for their operations. The state of the money market for a long time past has admitted of the realisation of unusual profits by the banking associations and firms, and, in consequence, we have an array of fresh combinations which ground their own hopes on the prosperity of the older institutions. Certainly the extension of the banking system is advantageous. While it was formerly necessary for every merchant or trader, even for every individual, to keep sufficient specie or notes at hand to meet his wants, all can now dispense with both; and, by means of cheques, the internal financial system of the mercantile community is regulated with the utmost ease. There may, however, be danger in the too great extension of facilities to credit. By the payment of a commission on his account, it is possible for a trader to commit the transaction of his business to a bank; and as the profits of the bank are great in proportion to the extent of the entries upon the passbook, there is some reason to fear that in competing for business the new banks may overstep the bounds of prudence in their advances, and incur loss.

With regard to the Credit Associations—whose operation in this country is altogether of recent date—there is no doubt ample opening for their exertions. It is true that the banks and great financial firms previously transacted the business for which they now compete. Nevertheless, the profits they have in the course of a few short months realised show that there was a work for them to do, and point out how they will facilitate great undertakings, and scatter on every side the advantages and profits that were formerly absorbed by a few individuals.

The companies introduced to public notice since our last issue are the following:—

Bonelli's Electric Telegraph Company is founded on the successful working of Bonelli's system on a line of telegraphic communication between Manchester and Liverpool. The directors therefore propose to extend their operations throughout the United Kingdom, and it is consequently intended to issue new shares, and thus increase the capital from £25,000—its present experimental amount—to £250,000. This fresh issue is to comprise 22,500 shares of £10 each. An uniform rate of 6d. per ordinary message of twenty words will be charged, so that the boon of telegraphic inter-communication will be placed within reach of all classes.

The North Australian Company is formed with a capital of £200,000, in 20,000 shares of £10 each, of which the first issue is to be 10,000 shares, and it is not intended to call up more than £5 per share. The opening of the "Northern Territory" annexed to the province of South Australia furnishes the opportunity for the establishment of this company, the more particularly as the South Australian Government now offer for sale the first portion of land in this "Northern Territory." Besides the purchasing of land, and leasing or re-selling it, the operations of the company will embrace other useful features. They will transact agency business, receive money in this country on deposit or debenture, and invest it in the colony at increased rates of interest, make advances on mortgage of real estates, &c., &c.

The British Columbia and Vancouver Island Investment Company is introduced by the General Credit Company, and has a capital of £500,000, of which the first issue is to be £250,000, in 10,000 shares of £25 each. The company will raise money on its debentures at the rates current in this country, and lend it on mortgage at the rates current in British Columbia and Vancouver Island, where 12 to 16 per cent. per per annum is easily obtainable.

The London Commercial Hotel Company is to have a capital of £150,000, in 15,000 shares of £10 each. The object proposed is the establishing an hotel in London with which business premises shall be combined, for the special accommodation of commercial travellers and of business men generally. The directors have agreed to take a valuable site adjoining Wood-street, Cheapside, upon which they propose to erect a commodious hotel, combining every requirement, and also a spacious commercial hall, or subscription-room, for the transaction of business, where merchants, manufacturers, and others may assemble.

The Fore-street Warehouse Company has been formed, for carrying on the business of Messrs. Morrison, Dillon, and Co., and has been received with an extraordinary degree of favour.

The Avonside Engine Company is established, with a capital of £150,000, in 15,000 shares of £10 each. The directors have entered into an agreement for the purchase, on favourable terms, of the freehold and leasehold land, premises, machinery, and business of the well-known locomotive manufacturing firm of Slaughter, Gruning, and Co., of Bristol, which will be transferred to the company in full working order. An immediate return on the capital invested will thus be secured. Mr.

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Slaughter, the late managing partner, has accepted a seat at the board as managing director.

The Cumberland Consolidated Lead and Copper Mining Company is to have a capital of £60, in 12,000 shares of £5 each. The object of the company is to work more extensively some very valuable mineral properties in Cumberland, the existing profits may be increased fivefold if greater facilities are provided. The amount to be paid for the leases, plant, &c., is £20,000, of which sum only £10,000 is to be paid in cash by instalments, the vendors taking the remainder in paid-up shares.

Messrs. Charles Cammell and Co.'s extensive Iron, Steel, and Armour-plate Works at Sheffield, known as the Cyclops Works, have been transferred, through Messrs. Chadwick, Adamson, and Co., to a joint-stock company, with a subscribed capital of £1,000,000, in shares of £100.

The Sabloniere Foreign Hotel Company has been announced, with a capital of £100,000, in shares of £20 each. The directors have made a provisional purchase of the present freehold of the Sabloniere Hotel, situated in Leicester-square, together with the lease, business, goodwill, and some freehold property adjoining, with the intention of reconstructing the establishment, and providing suitable accommodation for foreigners.

The Isle of Man Railway Company has been formed, for the construction of a railway from Douglass to Peel (passing through St. John's). The capital is to be £100,000 in shares of £10 each. The length will be about twelve miles, with a single line of rails.

A capital of £4,000,000, in 80,000 shares, one-half to comprise the first issue, and of which 20,000 have been already subscribed, is required for the conversion of the business of Messrs. Smith, Knight, and Co., contractors, into a joint-stock undertaking. The prospectus is introduced by the Mercantile Credit Association, in conjunction with the Contract Corporation, to which the present company is to act as an auxiliary, and also undertake the construction of railways and other public works. The business of the firm, with plant and existing contracts, including the Royal Sardinian Railway, is to be transferred.

The Messageries Impériales steamer *Said* left Marseilles on the 19th inst. with the mails, 51 passengers, 363 packages of merchandise, and £206,458 in specie for India and China, and 36 passengers, 1,293 packages, and specie value £90,720 for Alexandria.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Baroda*, from Southampton, on the 20th inst., was:—In gold, to Alexandria, £12,000; to Mauritius, £30,000; to Madras, £3,860. In silver, to Singapore, £9,260; to Hong Kong, £101,420; to Foo-chow-Foo, £1,000; to Shanghai, £17,930. Total in gold, £45,860; in silver, 129,610.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Business done.
100	Agra and United Service, Limited	50	122 to 124xd	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	45 to 46	...
20	Do. New	10	...	
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	69 to 71	...
50	London Joint Stock	10	40 to 41	...
100	London and Westminster	20	81 to 83	...
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	64 to 66	...
50	Union of London	13	45⅛ to 46⅛	...
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	8 to 9 pm.	...
100	Do. New	3	7 to 8 pm.	...
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	7½	3¼ to 4 pm.	...
20	Do. New	7½	...	...
25	Bank of Egypt	All	27⅛ to 28⅛	...
100	Bank of London	50	164 to 166	...
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	2	1 to 1½ pm.	...
	MISCELLANEOUS			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 4	...
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	81 to 83	
50	Do. New	30	21 to 23 pm.	
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	...	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	...	...
2	Telegraph to India Company	2	⅜ to ½ dis.	...
5	Bombay Gas	All	¼ to ⅜ pm.	...
10	E. I. and London Shipping B.	All	3 to 6	...
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	8	1⅛ to 1 dis.	...
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	...	...
0	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	21	...
1	Oriental Gas	All	1¼ to 1⅛	...
1	Do. New	¼	¼ to ⅜ pm.	...
10	O. Inland Steam	All	3 to 3½	...
100	West India Steam Company	60	88 to 90	...
20	Ceylon Company	7	3 to 4 pm.	...
20	International Finance Society	5	6⅜ to 7pm. xd.	...
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	4½ to 4⅝ pm.	...
50	London Financial Association	15	11 to 11½ pm	...
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	2	3⅛ to 3⅜ pm.	...
20	Société Financiére d'Egypte	6	1½ to ⅝ dis.	...
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	18⅞ to 19⅛	...
20	British Indian Tea	5	par to ¼ pm.	...
10	Upper Assam Tea	1¼	1½ to 2 pm.	...
10	Do.	All	14 to 17	...

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Since our last report there has been a good demand in the open market. For export, also, the demand has been good for some kinds, especially for Greens. Sales of Twankays have been effected at unusual prices. There has been a strong demand for uncoloured Japans for export to America, and prices for these kinds show a rise of fully 1d. per lb. Low and dusty kinds of Congou have sold at about previous prices, chiefly at public sale, as also the broken-leaf kinds. Fair to good common continues in request at 1s. to 1s. 0½d. There has also been some demand for red-leaf kinds, from 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per lb., the grades ranging from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 8d. remain very difficult of sale. Good Kaisow kinds from 1s. 10d. to 2s. have been inquired for, being rather scarce. Fine to finest Kaisows remain much as before. Finest Monings have become very scarce, and command fully previous prices. Oolongs have been in demand up to 1s. 2d. per lb. for export; the better kinds show no change. Souchongs have sold in small parcels at about previous prices. Flowery Pekoes are without change. Scented Capers show no alteration; business has been moderate. There has been a fair demand for Foo-chow kinds; Scented Orange Pekoes at previous prices; Canton kinds remain dull of sale. The supplies of Green teas have been moderate. For Young Hysons under 2s. per lb. there has been a good demand, at fully former rates. Some qualities, especially the finest grades of Ping-Suey Gunpowder, have not been so much in demand, and the very extreme rates obtainable a month back cannot now be realised. Hysons have been inquired for, for export. Canton-made Greens remain unchanged. The public sales have comprised 1,359 packages Indian tea, and 36,717 packages China tea, of which 21,650 packages found buyers, including 1,250 packages Indian tea, and 19,701 packages China tea, without reserve.

SUGAR.—The market has been dull, but sales have been at previous prices. At public auction 4,500 bags of Madras, chiefly jaggery, went at 33s. 6d. to 35s. 9d.; and low grey, at 37s. to 38s.

COFFEE.—This market has been firm and active, with good business, attended with an advance in plantation of 2s. to 3s. per cwt., and native, 1s. to 2s. Mocha has improved 2s. to 3s. per cwt. in value; 262 bales and half-bales sold at auction at 98s. 6d. to 100s. 6d. per cwt. for fine to very superior yellow long berry; 93s. 6d. middling to good, and 87s. to 88s. 6d. ordinary short berry.

COTTON.—A slow and declining market. For quotations, see under "Latest."

RICE.—The market has varied to some little extent, but prices are now much as at the last date. Not any business of interest doing in Java. Quotations 9s. 6d. to 19s.

CAMPHOR.—Sellers of China at £5. 10s., and Japan £5. 15s. per cwt., without any immediate demand at these prices. 100 tubs Japan at auction retired at £5. 15s. to £5. 17s. 6d.; and of 86 chests China (packages stained) half sold at £5. 2s. 6d. to £5. 5s.

CASSIA LIGNEA brings rather more money in retail sales, and 134 cases at auction mostly sold at 87s. to 89s. per cwt. for 3rd to 2nd pile. Buds: Steady, with limited business within our quotations of £14 to £16; 11 boxes at auction retired.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: In a little more demand, and rather dearer. Of 160 bags at auction three-fourths sold at 89s. to 96s. per cwt. for middling to fair; private sales also reported up to 97s. 6d. Dragon's Blood: Has sold irregularly, but mostly rather cheaper: 58 boxes at auction, mostly sold at £4. 15s. to £8. 7s. 6d. for middling to good lump. Galangal Root: Dull. Nothing doing. Rhubarb: Was quiet for some days subsequently to our last, a speculative demand then returned, and nearly 300 chests changed hands at very irregular prices, showing, however, a further average advance of 6d per lb. The market is now once more quiet.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Sumatra rather cheaper, and of 462 cases at auction, a small proportion only sold at £10. 2s. 6d. to £11. 12s. 6d. per cwt. for false packed 2nd quality: and £5. to £5. 17s. 6d. middling to fair 3rd: remainder, chiefly low 4th quality, retired. Nothing doing in Siam. Damer: Fine picked scarce, and wanted: other sorts neglected: of 345 cases at auction a few only sold at 34s. 6d. to 35s. per cwt. for middling sorts. Gamboge: Quiet; 16 cases at auction all retired.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Steady, and of 5 tons at auction, half sold at 2s. 1d. to 2s. 3d. per lb. for good to very good genuine. India Rubber: Very firm at the previous value, with a good deal of enquiry: 40 baskets Penang at auction retired; and of 523 packages Assam, a small portion sold at 8½d. to 8¾d. per lb. for middling.

HEMP.—The market remains firm, but without animation; 4,905 bales at auction all retired, and nothing of consequence done privately.

JAPAN WAX.—30 boxes (lump) bought in at 62s.

OILS.—Aniseed: Fair business accomplished privately, chiefly at the lower figure of 6s. 8d. 40 cases at auction, all retired. Cajaputa: Steady; 13 cases *via* Holland at auction, half sold at 2½d. per lb. for good. Cassia: Of 20 cases at auction, three-fourths sold at 9s. 3d. to 9s. 6d. per lb., and fair business done privately within these rates. Cinnamon: Quiet; 7 cases at auction, all retired. Mace and Nutmegs: Firm; 2 cases at auction sold at 2½d. per oz.; Nutmeg Paste very flat at 1d. per oz.; of 6 cases at auction, one only sold.

SAGO.—Firm, and the turn dearer; of 1,711 boxes at auction half sold at 24s. to 24s. 6d. per cwt. for good small, and 21s. 6d. to 22s. 6d. large and medium. Flour: Moderate transactions upon former terms; only 60 bags at auction, and those retired.

SPICES.—Cloves: Nothing doing in Penang; Zanzibar, ½d. per lb. dearer; of 308 bags at auction half sold at 3½d. to 3¾d. for ordinary dark to very good; good business also done privately upon corresponding terms. Ginger: Flat, and rather lower; and of 205 cases at auction half sold at 60s. to 65s. per cwt., ordinary small to middling wormy. Mace: Firm, especially good pale, but of 15 cases Penang at auction only one-fifth sold at 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. per lb. good palish, and 1s. 4d. good reddish. Nutmegs: Very flat, and 30 cases Penang at auction nearly all retired. Pepper (BLACK): In improved demand, and rather dearer; of 7,957 bags Singapore at auction half sold at 3¾d. to 3¾d. per lb.; 191 bags Penang retired; good business done privately at 3¾d. to 3¾d. Sumatra, and 3½d. Penang. White: Steady, but not active; of 481 bags Singapore at auction half sold at 5¾d. to 5¾d. per lb.; and of 914 bags Penang, one-fourth sold at 5¾d. to 5¾d. for fair.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Had advanced 1s. per cwt. with very active demand, but half the rise has been since lost; of 3,317 packages at auction, half sold at 27s. to 27s. 6d. for good Pegue: considerable quantities have changed hands privately. Gambier: 1s 3d. to 6d. per cwt. dearer, with moderate business on the spot, and large for arrival: only 561 bales at auction retired.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Blacklead: Flat; and of 501 barrels at auction, only one-fifth sold, at 5s. to 12s. 6d. per cwt. for very low to middling lump, and 10s. good dust. Galls: All kinds—Bussorah, China, and Japan—very scarce, and in urgent demand; no auctions, and very little done privately. We quote Japan and China 60s. to 90s. per cwt. Musk: Firm; a small arrival, 22 caddies, sold readily at auction at 25s. 6d. to 27s. 6d. per oz. for middling Tonquin, and 24s. to 25s. pickings. 7 tins

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Grain nearly all sold at 50s. for good. Rattans: Continue very firm; and 1,000 bundles Calcutta at auction sold at 4s. 6d. to 5s. 1d. per 100. Sapanwood: In more demand, and fair business done at full prices. 12 tons Siam and 17 tons Manila at auction all retired. Mother-o'-Pearl Shells (Singapore and Manila): Both descriptions remain scarce and firm. Tortoise-shell: Of 7 cases Singapore at auction, three sold at 12s. to 22s. 6d. per lb., being quite the previous value. Turmeric: No China here, and nothing of any importance doing in Java. Vermilion: Scarce, and firm, with an upward tendency.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £8. 10s. to £9; nail rod, £9. 10s. to £10; hoops, £11; sheets, single, £12; Staffordshire bars, £10. 10s.; rails, £8.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £110 per ton; yellow metal, 9¼d. to 9¾d. per lb.

TIN.—116s. for block; 117s. for bar. Tin plates, best charco C. 31s. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English Pig, £21. 12s. 6d. to £22; W.B. £22. 10s.; shot, patent, £24; sheet, £22; spelter, £22 to £22. 10s.; zinc, English sheet, £26. 10s.; quicksilver, £9 to £9. 5s.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith: The Iron Market shows signs of weakness. In Wales there is a disposition to yield a little in price. The Staffordshire masters are not so full of orders. Scotch pig fell to about 56s. cash, but has since rallied a little. Copper: A further fall was declared on the 9th instant; the market is now steadier. Tin: English has been very quiet. Straits has given way, and some large parcels have been sold as low as 109s. cash. The quotation to-day is 112s. cash, firm. Tin Plates steady in price, but inactive. Lead continues very firm, and in great demand. Spelter shows but little activity, but price continues steady. Quicksilver continues scarce.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£90,600
Foo-chow-Foo	—	5,180
Hong Kong	£5,000	220,198
Amoy	—	—
Singapore	£3,750	38,375
Penang	—	41,195

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£28,220
Hong Kong	£31,568	81,520
Singapore	—	18,920
Penang	—	3,272
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 3½
Silver in Bars	0 5 1
Mexican Dollars	0 5 3½

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Mar.15	Liverpool	Shanghai	Nonpareil	Smith.
— 15	Do.	Do.	Nile	Owen.
— 15	Do.	Do.	Thos. S. Stowe	Rice.
— 15	Do.	Manila	Alaric	Dan el.
— 14	Texel	Tjilatjap	Kykduin	Dekker.
— 17	Off Liverpool	Ningpo	Merrie England	Kemp.
— 17	Deal	Batavia	Cosmopolite	
— 14	Cuxhaven	Macao	Ophelia	Tonjes.
— 17	Queenstown	Akyab	Lochnagar	
— 16	Falmouth	Java	Mary	Silversparre.
— 14	Texel	Samarang	Bravo	Soderlund.
— 16	Off Folkestone	Batavia	Voorwaarts	Kerkstra.
— 15	Off Dungeness	Do.	Henriette	Dryver.
— 15	Off Plymouth	Do.	Kortenaar	Schuchard.
— 18	Falmouth	Macao	Bellissima	Whittle.
— 14	Off Mount's Bay	Batavia	Robertus Hendrikus	Muller.
— 17	Liverpool	Shanghai	Young England	Smith.
— 17	Do.	Singapore	Halton Castle	Scott.
— 17	Do.	Do.	Electric	Lee.
— 18	Falmouth	Shanghai	Spirit of Trade	Sampson.
Feb.23	Havana	Macao	Luisita	Nunez.
Mar.18	Off Falmouth	Shanghai	Anglo Saxon	Plummer.
— 19	Liverpool	Manila	Melbourne	Camerdon.
— 18	Falmouth	Shanghai	Hawthorne	Boulton.
— 19	Liverpool	Do.	James Gibson	Constable.
— 19	Off Falmouth	Do.	Surat	Fitzgerald.
— 19	Plymouth	Do.	Heroes of Alma	(96 days) Lass.
— 20	Falmouth	Maulmain	Garibaldi	Dahlstedt.
— 16	Off the Start	Shanghai	Phillip I.	Koch.
— 16	Off the Lizard	Singapore	Avalanche	Russell.
— 19	Off the Eddystone	Batavia	Cornwallis	Blick.
— 19	Liverpool	Shanghai	Our Queen	Eales.
— 18	Off the Lizard	Manila	Pelicano	Vaile.
— 20	Liverpool	Shanghai	Zingra	Gould.
— 17	Off the Wight	Batavia	Boni	
— 17	Off Penzance	Do.	President Byckevorsel	Rotgans.
— 17	Helvoet	Do.	Johanna	Verduin.
— 19	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Hugo Grotius	Vogelens
— 18	Off the Start	Nagasaki	Jeanne and Joseph	Croutze.
— 18	Scilly	Batavia	Mary and Hillegonda	Piccardt.
Feb.29	Havana	Macao	Camoens	Martiz.
Mar.20	Off Portland	Batavia	Zephir	Schley.
— 21	Plymouth	Java	Zeelandia	Blankbert.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Mar15	Shields	Shanghai	Fear Not	Cuthbert.
— 16	London	Kanagawa	Satzuma	Glover.
— 16	Do.	Shanghai	Finzel	Murray.
— 17	Do.	Penang	Marengo	Lilley.
— 17	Do.	H. Kong & Canton	Gauntlet	Hudson.
— 17	Do.	H.pool & Shanghai	Esperanza	Harrill.
— 11	Trieste	Singapore	Johanna Mathilde	Toosbuy.
— 19	Liverpool	Do.	Bogota	Bell.
— 19	Do.	Shanghai	Anglia	Wilson.
— 22	Do.	Manila	Olano	Longa.
— 19	Do.	Shanghai	Truro	Heseltine.
— 17	Off Dover	Batavia	Friendship	Johnson.
— 18	Off Portsmouth	Macassar	Otto	Evert.
— 18	Cardiff	Singapore	Henrietta Gerardina	Sissingh.
— 18	Liverpool	Do.	Glendower	Walshaw.
— 18	Brouwershaven	Samarang	Kosmopoliet	Koning.
— 22	London	Cardiff & Shanghai	Anna Helen	Morris.
— 19	Deal	Batavia	Maria Veronica	
—	Off Dungeness	Sourabaya	Julie	Brem.
— 20	Clyde	Batavia & Singapore	British Queen	Scorgie.
Feb.23	Rio Janeiro	Batavia	Rapidan	Gardner.
Mar. 3	New York	Shanghai	Mercurio (Aust.)	

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa: Medina. For Shanghai: Spirit of the Deep, Laurel, Canadian, Delhi, Beemah. For Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: Rubicon. For Hong Kong and Canton: Cambalu, Lord Raglan, Mary Mildred, Dilkhoosh, Prince Alfred, Jubilee, Sydney Eggers, For Hong Kong: Langdale, Maiden Queen. For Manila: Conchita. Elisa. For Singapore: Maggie, Xanthippe, Moneta, William Simpson. For Penang: Celestial. For Bankok: Helen Baird.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Morning Star, Alice, Mermaid, Elizabeth Morrow, Diligentia, Jane Leech. For Hong Kong and Canton: Veronica. For Singapore: Lorton, Spirit of the Sea. For Manila: Ercilla. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Cherokee, str.

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore and Penang: Hoang-Ho. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Thomas Mitchell.

SPOKEN.

LOUISA KOHN, Amoy to New York, Jan. 19, 26 S., 56 E.

VIER GEBROEDERS, Sourabaya to Rotterdam, Feb. 10, 9 S., 12 W.

LUCONIA (Dut. barq.), Batavia to Amsterdam, 126 days out.

BRIG, No. 9,501, 3rd d.p. Macao to Hamburg, Jan. 16, 32 S., 14 W.

CARN TUAL, Nagasaki to London, Feb. 13, 1 S., 20 W.

WILLEM HENDRIK, Newcastle to Batavia, Jan. 25, 23 S., 26 W.

PRINCESS ROYAL, Shanghai to London, Jan. 18, 26 S., 60 E.

RENOWN, Foo-chow-Foo to London, Feb. 2, 26 S., 4 E.

MONI, from Singapore, previous to Feb. 27, 27 N., 43 W.

MARIA (Dut. barq.), Cardiff to Batavia, Mar. 13, lat. 49, long. 7.

MARAVI, Liverpool to China, Feb. 16, 46 N., 8 W.

ORIENT, Hong Kong to New York, Nov. 29, 3 S., 107 E.

MARIA THERESA, Nagasaki to Amsterdam, Dec. 1, 6 S., 105 E.

WATERGEUS, Batavia to Amsterdam, Jan. 13, 35 S., 26 E.

JEANNETTE AND CORNELIE, Bali to Dordt, Jan. 27, 29 S., 11 E.

CHAPTAL, Batavia to Nantes, Feb. 18, 3 N., 29 W.

FIERY CROSS, Plymouth to Shanghai, 34 days out, Dec. 11, 40 S.

CLARENDON, Shanghai to Lond., Jan. 17, 36 S., 24 E., also on Jan. 24.

CREOLE, Canton to New York, Jan. 23, 32 S., 13 E.

FORFARSHIRE, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Jan. 28, 28 S., 8 E.

BLACK PRINCE, London to Hong Kong, Nov. 16, 16 S., 29 W.

STAR OF CHINA, London to Hong Kong, Feb. 13, on the line, 21 W.

OASIS, Singapore to Liverpool, Jan. 20, 35 S., 21 E.

ORIXA, Singapore to Bordeaux, Jan. 3, 7 S., 105 E.

INSULANEREN, Batavia to Amsterdam, Jan. 4, 7 S., 105 E.

ABDUL MEDJID, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Jan. 17, 35 S., 26 E.

CONNANZA (?), Shanghai to London, 108 days out, Jan. 21.

WHITE ADDER, London to Shanghai, Feb. 11, 2 S., 23 W.

WILHELMINE, Shanghai to New York, Feb. 9, 11 S., 12 W.

TEESDALE, from Penang, March 1, 15 N., 35 W.

No. 6,501, 3rd d.p., Shang. to Lvrpl., 120 d.o., March 8, 41 N., 27 W.

AMAZONE, Amsterdam to Samarang, Jan. 24, 4 N., 24 W.

JACOB BADGER (Amer. barq.), New Y. to Sngpre., Jan. 21, 25 S., 27 W.

NEDERWAARD (Dut. barq.), Padang to Rttdm., Feb. 7, 12 S., 10 W.

IRT (?), Hong Kong to Liverpool, Feb. 4, 17 S., 3 W.

ISABELLA RIDLEY (barq.), from Foo-chow-Foo } In the Java Sea.
GREYHOUND (brig), from Japan }

JOHANNA MARIA, Cardiff to Batavia, March 13, 49 N., 7 W.

RUDOLPH (Dut. barq.), Batavia to Amsterdam, Jan. 20, 35 S., 19 E.

JAN V. BRAKEL (do.), Amsterdam to Singapore, Feb. 16, 1 N., 25 W.

CATHERINA (Dut. barq.), Batavia to Amsterdam, Jan. 29, 24 W.

DUTCH BARQ. (No. 9,620), 3rd d.p., for Singapore.

SAN SALVADOR (Dut. brig), Brem. to Sourabaya, Feb. 12, 13 S., 35 W.

ALEXANDER II. (barq.), Chester to Amoor River, Feb. 4, 1 N., 24 W.

ANTONIO, Cardiff to Hong Kong, Dec. 2, 28 S., 23 W.

REINA DE LOS ANGELOS, Manila to Cadiz, Jan. 20, 30 S., 42 E.

RHINE, Sarawak to Liverpool, Feb. 7, 40 miles S.E. of St. Helena.

ANNA DIGNA (Dut. ship), Bat. to Amstm., Feb. 29, 18 N., 35 W.

HUYDECOPER (Dut. ship), Sourabaya to P. Maria, Mar. 14, 45 N., 17 W.

LUCERNE, from Canton, 16 S., long. 84.

NEW ENGLAND (?), Shanghai to Liverpool, Mar. 10, 42 N., 23 W.

STAD LEYDEN (Dut. ship), Amstm. to Bat. Jan. 29, 6 N., 26 W.

SEA WAVE, of Greenock, Clyde to Singapore, Jan. 25, 3 N., 20 W.

IRON CROWN, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Jan. 20.

MAORI, Singapore to London, Jan. 21, 35 S., 20 E.

COUNTESS OF YARBOROUGH (barque), for Shanghai, Feb. 13, 9 S., 33 W.

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REMEDIO (?), Dut. barq., Batavia for Schiedam, Feb. 21, 16 N., 39 W.
EMPIRE, from China, homeward bound, near the Equator.
GRAF EULENBERG, Canton to New York, Dec. 1, off Java Head.
RUNNYMEDE (?), Dut. barq., Batavia to Rotterdam, Jan. 9, 34 S., 25 E.
HELVETIA, Manila to New York, Jan. 17, 36 S., 21 E.
CANTON, Hamburg to Hong Kong, Nov. 3, 25 S., 27 W.
ELLINA, Rotterdam to Batavia, 5 N., 22 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

(Exclusive of this day's Advices.)

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Cambridge, J. C. Munro, Confiance, Carn Tual, Louis Kniffler, Dolphin, Europe, Scawfell. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, M. Theresa. At NEW YORK: Sarah *via* Shanghai.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Monarch, Belle, Melrose, J. H. Ransom, Daisy, Sophie, Ocean Queen, Clarendon, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Oliver Cromwell, Wagoola, Ralston, Thomas Dryden, Magnus, Renown, Nelly, Star Queen, Chalmers, Thalaba, Balmacarra, H.M.'s Scout, Princess of Wales, Marie Wilhelmina, Standard, Mary Ann Wilson, Agra, Island Queen, Josephine, Strathallan, Marquis of Argyle, Amaranth, Glaramara, Bankside, Ballarat, Sappho, Sir Harry Parkes, Lansdowne, Egmont, Fairleader, Oithona, Albrecht Oswald, Herald, Weymouth, Stuart Wortley, Rio. At LIVERPOOL: Joshua Bates, Iron Crown, Forfarshire, Cordova, Abduld, Medjid, Regina, Ranee, Victoria, Montgomery, Glenhuntly, Fow Tsun, Princess Royal, Loodianah, Chryseis, Light of the Age, Falcon, Lord Lyndhurst, Istamboul, Royal George, General Putnam, Solway, Offor, Virginia, Juanpore, Spirit of the Times, Veloz, Koh-i-noor, Cornelia Hendrika, Devonshire, Dolphyn. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama. At HAMBURG: Selina Jane, Gravina, Orion. At NEW YORK: Sarah, Wilhelmina, Graf Eulenburg, Creole, Helen Nicholson, Apollo, Elizabeth, Louise Kohn, Hermine, Kahlamba, Confucius, St. Paul, Guiding Star, Queen of the Seas, Peep O'Day, Anne Wood, Capella, Thetis, Kate Carney, Santon. At Montreal: H. E. Sassaune, Asia, Tycoon.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Flora, Der Preusse. At FALMOUTH: Maggie Lauder. At LIVERPOOL: Elias, Alaric, Teide, Conference. At FALMOUTH: Helverton. At COWES: Manila. At DENMARK: Emma. At ROTTERDAM: Zanzibar. At NEW YORK: Helvetia, Castilian.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Maid of the Tyne, Oscar, Pilgrim, Tre Brodre, Confiance, Early Dawn, Chili. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Centaur. At LIVERPOOL: Oasis, Crusader, Spanker. At FALMOUTH: For orders, Helene (Dan.). At BORDEAUX: Frehel (Fr.), Salazes (Fr.), Orixa (Fr.), Hooghly, Saint Michel. At NEW YORK: Caroline, Rudolf.

From BATAVIA.—At FALMOUTH: Frederika. At CHANNEL: Ceres.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Nipisiquit, Rockliff, Teesdale, Edinburgh Castle. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

From BANGKOK.—For London: Bankok.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

There is still an abundance of East India shipping in our home ports, and outward freights continue low, in consequence. Good charters, however, are easily obtained for the homeward voyage. Tonnage is wanted for teak from Maulmain, and small vessels are still required for the China trade, which now employs a greatly increased amount of tonnage, in consequence of cotton being largely exported from Hong Kong and Shanghai instead of being, as formerly, an article of import.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £40 to £41, and £1. 17s. 6d. For Shanghai: £52, and £2. 5s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £26, and £1. 6s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

The Emigration Commissioners have given notice that they are prepared to receive tenders for two vessels to convey Chinese coolies from Canton to British Guiana, to be ready to receive them on board on Oct. 15 and Nov. 30 next respectively.

CASUALTIES.

The Alaric, Daniel, which arrived at Liverpool March 15, from Manila, had lost her rudder Feb. 22 by a sea.

HAMBURG, March 15.—The Ophelia, Tonjes, which arrived at Cuxhaven yesterday from Macao, reports having been fired at twice by a ship of war when off Borkum. The wind being strong, the Ophelia was enabled to reach Cuxhaven without any damage or further molestation.

The Willem Hendrik, from Newcastle to Batavia, which was spoken Jan. 25, 23 S., 26 W., had had figure head washed away, and cutwater shaken, &c., in the gale of Dec. 3.

The British Queen, which sailed from Glasgow March 15 for Batavia and Singapore, got ashore in Kilchattan Bay, six miles from Rothesay. A steam tug took her off, and she arrived in Gourock Bay the next day. Advices have since been received of her having sailed again, March 20, for her destination.

The Crusader (barq.), of Shields, Reid, which sailed from Shields, March 4, for Shanghai, put into Cowes, March 17, with damage to upper works, foreyard carried away, &c., having been in collision the previous day. She has been surveyed, and will discharge part of her cargo.

The Euphrates, which sailed from Liverpool, March 14, for Singapore put back March 17, not having sufficient dead weight on board.

LISBON, March 12.—The steel mast (not iron, as before stated) of the Wild Deer, Cobb, from Liverpool for Shanghai, which put in here Feb. 27th, cannot be properly repaired, and is being replaced by a wooden one.

Intelligence has been received here that the Florence Adelaide, from Liverpool to Singapore, was wrecked in the Caramatta passage Jan. 20, on a shoal not marked in the ship's charts; crew saved.

At ST. HELENA.—Jan. 30, Preusse, Weso, from Manila, and sailed for London; James Gibson, Constable, from Shanghai, and sailed for London; 31, Carn Tual, Hill, from Nagasaki, and sailed Feb. 2 for London; Feb. 2, Avalanche, from Singapore; 3, Cambridge, from Kanagawa, and sailed, 5, for London; Sarah, from Shanghai; 4, Thalaba, McChannin, from Ningpo, and sailed, 5, for Liverpool; Cornwallis, White, from Batavia, and sailed, 4, for Rotterdam; 5, Daisy, McCulloch, from Shanghai; Ranee, Wainwright, from Shanghai; Maori, Ashby, from Singapore; Magnus, Morin, from Macao, for Bremen; Teesdale, Topping, from Penang; 2, Maria Theresa, Visser, from Nagasaki, and sailed, 1, for Amsterdam; Scheveningen, Annokee, from Batavia, and sailed for Rotterdam; 3, Nederwaard, Tergast, from Padang, and sailed, 4, for Rotterdam; 6, Josephine, from China; Forfarshire, from Hong Kong for Liverpool.

At ASCENSION.—Feb. 12, General Michiels, Vissaer, from Banjoewangie for Rotterdam.

LAUNCHES FOR THE CHINA TRADE.

On the 12th inst., a fine iron barque of 500 tons register, to be commanded by Captain A. W. Tonge, and intended for the China trade, was launched from the building-yard of Messrs. W. Patterson and Sons, Bristol. This vessel has been built under contract to Mr. John M. Gladstone, of Liverpool, and combines every improvement that has of late years been introduced into shipping. She was named the Ladye Love. Her length is 153 feet, breadth 25 feet, and depth 17 feet; classes 12 years A 1 at Lloyd's, and 20 years in the Liverpool Book of Registry. On the 16th inst. a most successful launch was made from the yard of Mr. Councillor John Ransom, at Northam, of a barque of 480 tons, named the Lady Hulse, built for the China trade, under the superintendence of Mr. Jenkins. Her dimensions from stem to stern post are 145 feet, and width 29 feet 6 inches.

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L. JOSEPHS, Secretary.

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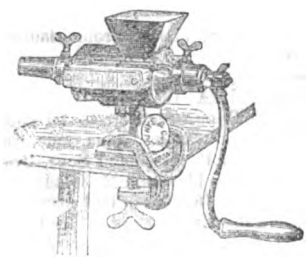

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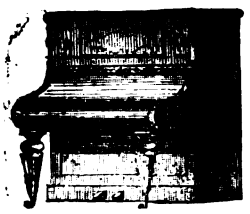

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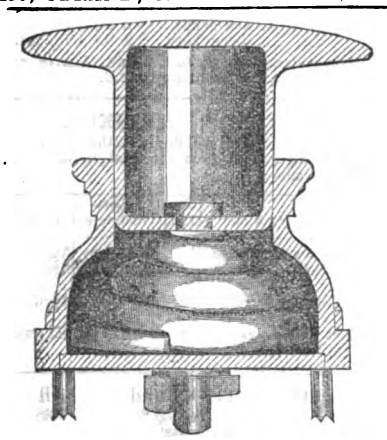

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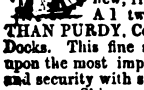

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Lloyd Rayner ...	1004	A 1 12 yrs.	J. Pollock ...	Aug. 20
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Manila	Conchita ...	W.I.D.	April 10.
Manila	Angela ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Singapore	Moneta ...	W.I.D.	April 5.
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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE FIFTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 28th December, 1863. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 133.] LONDON, MONDAY, APRIL 4, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 13s. extra.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Kanagawa			Feb. 8
	Nagasaki			Jan. 16
	Hakodadi			
CHINA—				
	Peking			„ 20
	Tien-tsin			
	Hankow			Feb. 12
	Shanghai	Dec. 17	Feb. 8	„ 21
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 10
	Amoy			„ 9
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	Jan. 11	Feb. 25	„ 26
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	Dec. 10	Feb. 1	„ 8
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Touron			
	Saigon			„ 20
SIAM—				
	Bankok			
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			
	Sarawak			
JAVA—				
	Batavia			„ 13
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	Jan. 26	March 2	March 4
	Penang	„ 26	Feb. 29	Feb. 24

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

By next Mail.—Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, from Southampton, April 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Holberton, Messrs. E. Eckersley, R.N., J. T. Page, R.N., W. Chase, R.N., E. Bennet, R.N., J. Pickles, R.N., A. McIntyre, R.N., J. Brown, R.N., G. F. Greaves, R.N., S. H. Trenham, R.N., J. Lewthwaite, R.N., R. Pattison, R.N., and W. T. Power, R.N. To Shanghai: Mr. Sharp, Mrs. Mackellar and child, Mr. Craven Wilson. To Singapore: Mr. Maxwell. From Marseilles, April 12.—To Shanghai: Mr. Thos. Francis Wade, Bishop Boone. To Singapore: Mr. J. C. Guy. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. F. Grossmann, Mr. E. C. Weghorst.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, from Southampton, April 20.—To Hong Kong: Rev. J. Wilson, R.N., Mr. H. D. Margesson, Mr. H. Hickling, Mr. F. H. Lane. To Shanghai: Mr. H. Morrison. From Marseilles, April 28.—To Shanghai: Mr. W. Aretz, Mr. Charles Don, Mr. W. Neuhoff.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

There is no later intelligence by this mail from Yokohama or Nagasaki.

CHINA.

TIENTSIN.

Dates are to the 20th of January. The weather since December has been extremely mild and pleasant. The Chinese seem to anticipate an early breaking up of the ice this year. The business done since the 20th of December has been decidedly better than at the same time last year, and if we take into consideration the disappearance of the rebels from the vicinity, we are justified in looking forward with some degree of confidence to a lucrative business during the ensuing spring season.

CHEFOO.

Dates are to the 9th of February. Business at this port is extremely dull, in consequence of the Chinese New Year. Prices quite nominal for every article, and no quotations can be given. The Custom-house has been closed for ten days.

SHANGHAI.

Dates are down to the morning of Feb. 21. We extract the following from the *Daily Shipping News*:—

"By recent advices from Quinsan we regret to learn that Major Gordon, yielding to the solicitations of the Futai, has determined again to take the field to assist the Imperialists in the siege of Chang-chow. We regret this step on Major Gordon's part, inasmuch as we fear it removes all probability of the Chinese Government yielding to Sir Frederick Bruce's remonstrance, and disavowing the breach of faith towards the rebel Wangs at Soochow. This result would only have been extorted from the fears of the Government lest they should lose the services of the foreign contingent; now that that fear is removed, the probability of their reprimanding their subordinate is, we fear, very remote. We are not aware what Major Gordon's motives may be for taking this step, but shall take occasion to remark further on the subject in the *North China Herald*. In the meantime, Major Gordon is anxious to remove an impression which he fears may have been given by an article that appeared in our paper on the 5th inst., that the time-expired men of H.M.'s 31st Regiment, who were given their discharge when that corps returned to England, were discharged at his request. We there said—

The discharge was in almost all cases granted with a view to supplying Major Gordon with a body guard.

Lest the responsibility of these men's shortcomings should be in any way supposed to rest on his shoulders, Major Gordon wishes it to be understood that he neither encouraged them to ask for their discharge nor ask that they might be allowed to leave. They were discharged at their own request, came to Quinsan and offered their services, which were accepted. We learn that the evil of rowdyism has spread even to Quinsan, where it has been found so vexatious that Major Gordon was lately issuing orders that no foreigner shall be admitted within the walls unless he be the bearer of a pass signed by himself.

The most valuable results may confidently be expected from the united action of the Consuls of the treaty powers. The minutes of each Consular meeting furnish us with discussions on subjects of general interest, which could not be satisfactorily treated of by any Consul acting in perfect independence of his colleagues. The Chinese authorities are thus led to understand that no purely selfish element enters into the claims made upon them; but that the rights demanded will, if granted, conduce to the general welfare of the foreign mercantile community, and will indirectly tend to the aggrandisement of the port, and to an increase in the importance of the local officials. At the last meeting, held on the 15th inst., the matters which came under consideration were of the greatest importance, and demanded perfect unanimity in the gentlemen who assembled to consult upon them. The subjects deliberated upon were—first, the cession to the municipal council of the right to exercise jurisdiction over unrepresented foreigners—secondly, the establishment of a court for the trial of Chinese suspected of having committed minor criminal offences within the settlements, and thirdly, the right of foreigners to purchase land at Soochow. With regard to the first of these subjects, the chairman announced that the native officials had granted to the Municipal Council the right of trying nationals of non-treaty powers who may bring themselves within the grasp of the law. This concession is a matter for congratulation, as the requirements of justice will thus be strictly enforced, while the possibility of Europeans being subjected to the inhuman tortures practised by the Chinese will be diminished. In order, however, to carry out this design in a satisfactory manner, it will be neces-

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sary to secure the services of a properly qualified police magistrate. Such an officer should be possessed of sufficient legal knowledge to guide him in delicate legal cases, while at the same time he ought to possess considerable experience in dealing with criminals of the class likely to be brought before him. An incompetent or inexperienced magistrate would, to a certainty, involve the Municipal Council in an inextricable maze of judicial confusion, and render the important step now taken utterly worthless. We are, as yet, in the dark as to the arrangements contemplated by the Consuls when handing over this right of trial to the Municipal Council. We know not over how large a district surrounding Shanghai the jurisdiction thus granted may extend. The despatch from the Consuls to the Futai does not specify with any distinctness whether subjects of non-treaty powers arrested in the interior while in the act of committing outrages are to be transmitted to the foreign authorities. It simply provides that such men arrested for crime in Shanghai, or found travelling without passports in the country at a distance of more than one hundred li from a recognised port, are to be given up to the Municipal Council. Foreigners do not generally, so far as we can discover, travel much in the interior. It might, therefore, be as well to demand that all subjects, whether of treaty or of non-treaty powers, found either travelling without passports, or in the act of committing outrages, should be transmitted to Shanghai for trial and punishment. We notice that the Futai provides that the honourable Consuls should transmit to the Municipal Council the power (on behalf of the Chinese Government) of holding jurisdiction on such persons; supervision being at the same time maintained by the Consular body.

The following market report is from the *Shanghai Recorder*:—

Since the China New Year but little has been done in imports. Money has not yet begun to circulate freely enough amongst the natives, but it is expected that business will be fairly resumed during the course of the next week. One or two sales of piece goods are reported, but they are insignificant, and cannot be taken as a criterion of the market. For 6½ catty 8¼ lbs. Grey Shirtings, the prices obtained were from taels 4.0.0 to taels 4.0.5 per piece. Importers, generally, are sanguine of a good demand, and high prices ruling for all kinds of cotton fabrics ere long, and are not anxious to press sales. Woollen Goods are also likely to improve in value. Taels 16 per piece for a private chop of good assortment of S. S. Camlets have been offered and refused. Lastings are being held for taels 14.50, and Spanish Stripes are quoted taels 0.6.4 to taels 1.0.0 per yard, according to quality.

RICE.—As yet there is no inquiry for foreign rice, but the feeling entertained by both foreigners and natives in favour of a large business and higher rates next month is very strong.

COTTON.—Had a drooping tendency prior to the arrival of the 26th December mail from England, received on Thursday. Since then a reaction has set in, and an advance of taels 2 per picul on previous rates has been obtained. Sellers are, however, firm, even at the advance. Fair Up-River or Chin-kiang district staple is now worth taels 22 per picul, with an upward tendency. Best descriptions of Up-River and Hankow cotton are held for taels 23 to 25 per picul.

SILK.—But little business has been done in this market during the week, and prices remain without alteration. The settlements during the week do not amount to more than 60 bales, at prices previously ruling. Rates still continue so high as to offer no temptations to foreigners to buy at present.

OPIUM.—Has been in fair request. Malwa being scarce has advanced to taels 535 to taels 540 per picul, with a good inquiry. Patna is not in so much request, and may be quoted at taels 395 for new, and taels 410 for old per chest.

EXCHANGE.—Rates may be quoted 6s. 4d. for Bank Bill, and 6s. 4¼d. for first class private, with a tendency to further decline. On Hong Kong for three days sight 24 per cent, and 25 per cent. for fifteen days' sight drafts.

A meeting of the Municipal Council was held on the 12th of February; present—H. W. Dent, chairman; R. Brand; J. Cock, Treasurer; G. F. Heard; D. Reid; R. F. Gould, Secretary. The minutes of the preceding meeting were confirmed.

POLICE.—The Chairman stated that the preservation of order in the settlement during the celebration of the Chinese new year had been much facilitated by the co-operation of the military patrols, which had been readily furnished by Colonel Hough, Commanding H.B.M.'s Forces. The expediency of forming a small force of mounted police, for the purpose of patrolling the entire extent of the Hongque settlement, was discussed, and directions given that the superintendent should make an early report as to the feasibility of the project.

ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT.—Two tenders for the survey of the English settlement were laid before the board, their final consideration being reserved until the next meeting.

GRANITE CHIPS.—The only tenders for the supply of this material, being higher than the price ordinarily paid, the advertisement was ordered to be continued.

DEFENCE CREEK BUND.—Mr. Oliver, on behalf of Mr. E. M. Smith, explained the advantages that would accrue to the public from the prolongation of the road along the line of the Defence Creek, from the western extremity of the Nankin-road to the Soochow Creek, and the board signified their approval of the measures proposed.

MISCELLANEOUS.—The following details of an attempted "squeeze" by certain Cantonese were afforded. A Chinaman named Way Sun petitioned unsuccessfully for 10 passes. On the 30th January, and on the 1st inst., a notification (A) was obtained from some Chinese who had been defrauded, and on the 3rd inst. 26 Chinese in house G 136, were arrested. It had been ascertained that in four days upwards of 143,000 cash had been collected. The prisoners had been sent into the city by order of H.B.M.'s Vice-Consul, where they still remain in custody.

CORRESPONDENCE.—From H.B.M.'s Consul, stating that his Excellency the Toutai had consented to increase the annual contribution paid in commutation of the wharfage dues chargeable to native traders from 4,000 to 8,000 dollars. From Mr. Loureiro, placing certain Chinese houses at the disposal of the Council rent free for the accommodation of a police detachment on the Broadway-road, and offering to fit up a stable if mounted men should be sent there. Secretary to thank Mr. Loureiro, and to inform him that his proposal should meet with due attention.

People from Soochow and other localities have resorted to this place. Among them are many who are in a state of great trepidation. Now it was announced that by the favour and authority of the high Chinese officials, and the Municipal Council in the English Concession, a board of watchmen had been established at G. 136.

The Municipal Council having established the board of watchmen, decided, after mature deliberation, that ten men with the watchmen's bamboo, gong, &c., should, without rest day or night, perambulate the streets within the concession for the purpose of keeping order; and that to meet the expenses of this board they should levy a monthly tax of Cash 300 on all two storied houses, 200 Cash on all one storied houses, and 400 Cash on all opium shops; this amount not to be increased or diminished.

Having been the recipients of your favour in the past, we are truly grateful. By continuing this in the future, trouble will be avoided. The above is no fiction.

Tung-chi, 2nd year, 12th moon, 15th day.

We have received a copy of the first annual report of the Shanghai Wharf Company, held at the offices of the agents on the 1st of February. The amount to credit of profit and loss, after deducting taels 745.74 for interest on loans, is taels 5,091.13, or equal to a little more than ten per cent. upon the original capital of taels 50,000.

We are glad to learn that Sir Frederick Bruce has not thought it desirable to listen to the appeal of the man Williams, who is now lying under sentence of death at the American Consulate, but who, after his trial by that court, claimed British protection. Mr. Burlingame has signified his assent to the sentence, and Williams will shortly be executed. This decision by Sir Frederick Bruce to ignore the claims of criminals who play fast and loose with their nationality, claiming to be British or American subjects as best suits their convenience, is a wise one. It will convince the Anglo-Saxon portion of the rowdy population that such subterfuges, at least, will not avail them.

By the *Nepaul* for Yokohama, we learn that Professor Risley embarks with all his *troupe*. The Professor's visit to Shanghai has not been attended with much benefit to his pocket, but the energy and labour he has bestowed in his efforts to cater for the public amusement will, we feel assured, stand him in good stead elsewhere. He has had so many difficulties to contend with, no Circus, no Theatre, bad weather at commencement, sickness, &c., &c., that we have been astonished at his perseverance.

The arrival of the *Fiery Cross* from London is thus reported:

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—The fine clipper ship *Fiery Cross* has again arrived in China waters from London, having made the fastest passage on record to Shanghai. She embarked the pilot on the 91st day from her date of departure, and arrived outside the marks at Woosung early on the 93rd day. After leaving London she encountered a succession of heavy westerly gales which compelled her to seek shelter in Plymouth sound—where she was detained seven days before putting to sea. The gale having abated, and the weather becoming settled, she made an excellent run of 20 days to the equator, which she crossed in 28 W., having run into the N.E. trades in 3 North, and rounded the meridian of the Cape on the 32nd day in 48·50 South, and encountered fine weather running down the eastings — coming the eastern route through Pitt's passage. She spoke the *Maury*, from New York to Shanghai, on the 16th January, 96 days out, and the *Unrivalled* on the 18th January, from London to Shanghai, 112 days out. The *Fiery Cross* made the last voyage to Hong Kong in 85 days, and beat up against the monsoon to Shanghai in 11 days, completing the voyage round to this port in 96 sailing days. It is just eight months and six days since she left Foochow with the new teas, and arrived in the port of London before any of the other tea clippers which sailed same time. During the time she was in London she was fitted with patent reefing top-sails and top-gallant-sails, which are improvements on the old patent. Her masts and yards are of steel. The *Fiery Cross* may be considered one of the finest specimens of naval architecture at present in the port of Shanghai.

HANKOW.

The following letter has been published in a Shanghai paper on the question of Custom-house holidays :—

"I believe the Custom-house at your port closed on the 7th 8th, and 9th inst. for the New-year holidays. At Kiu-kiang, the Custom-house is closed at 3 p.m. on Saturday the 6th, and no business is transacted for three days ; can you give me any reason why the authorities here should close on the 5th (Friday) and continue so until Wednesday the 10th instant, taking five days, while only three are thought necessary in Shanghai and other ports ? I am induced to write on this subject, as new rules and regulations are being made every day which greatly retard the despatch of steamers. When the Custom-house was first opened here, liberal rules were made which are fast vanishing ; for instance, coals for steamers' use were examined at your own jetty, and such small affairs as wood for lighting fires, oil and tallow for engine-room use, and rice for the crew were all allowed to be shipped without a permit, or at least with only a requisition in the shape of a note from the purser. All this is changing, and by all appearances we shall soon be trammelled in such a way as will cause immense delay in despatching steamers. The matter of shipment of coals is of very considerable importance. On the arrival of the last steamer to my consignment I applied for a permit in the usual form and expected a Custom-house officer would be sent down to my wharf as usual to examine the boats, but I was informed that henceforth all coal boats must go to the Custom-house jetty to be examined. If this rule is adhered to, it will in the summer months, when the tide is strong, often cause half a day's delay in getting a steamer away, and at times simply postpone the departure indefinitely, for there are occasions when it is absolutely impossible to take large boats, such as are used here for coals, against tide and wind.

"In the matter of ship's stores, the trouble about such small matters is really absurd, applications in Chinese and English are now required for such things as 10 piculs rice, 2 piculs tallow for engine-room, or 25 piculs fire wood for lighting fires.

"Wishing to give publicity to these grievances, which are growing ones, I hope you may find room in your paper for this letter."

NINGPO.

The Anglo-Chinese contingent remains at Ningpo, whence a small detachment is frequently sent to scour the country within the thirty mile radius round the port. Colonel Cooke has also sent one hundred men into the interior to various stations on the principal creeks, to check the squeezing, or more properly piracy on a small scale, which has for some time been carried on by foreign and Chinese vagabonds. He is also likely, we learn, to send a small detachment into the Campo, to be used in case of need against the rowdies, who are again becoming troublesome in that quarter and are too numerous for the limited force of Ningpo police to control. A review of the whole force was held the last week in January in honour of Captain Dew, who, it will be remembered, founded the force After various evolutions had been gone through, the troops piled arms and indulged in races, jumping in sacks and a variety of other amusements, the favourite, apparently, being a sort of exaggerated blind man's buff. The men tied their neighbours' turbans over their eyes, and the whole set to work to chase the bugler, who gave an occasional clue to his whereabouts by a blast on his instrument. The English and American Consuls were present, and, as well as Captain Dew, expressed themselves highly gratified with the appearance of the men as they marched past, before returning to quarters, at the close of the day's proceedings. As the *Encounter* was leaving, the English flag was hoisted ever the Salt Gate and saluted from the walls with twenty-one guns, which the *Encounter* returned. A salute of seven guns was also fired in honour of Captain Dew.

The following appeal has been made to the generosity of the foreign community :—"The people of this district (King-hwa interior from Ningpo) are suffering for the want of food ; and if they do not get help, multitudes must starve to death next spring. The rebels left them a year ago, this winter, without food. Last summer, the little rice that was planted, was almost all destroyed by drought, so that now many are living on grass that they dig in the barren fields. They, even the rich, have no money—very few have cattle to plough the fields, or rice to last more than a month longer. The people are literally staring famine in the face, and know no source to which to look for help.

If to save human life is a charity, then I know at present of no more charitable use that could be made of a thousand or more dollars than to expend it for cattle to plough fields, and another thousand or more to be expended in purchasing rice to feed the famishing cultivators of the soil and their families. "Can anything be done ?"

FOOCHOW.

A banquet has been given to M. de Meritens, Commissioner of Customs at Foochow, on the occasion of his birthday. The toast of the evening was proposed by Mr. Wright, who introduced it with the following remarks :—

"It has seldom fallen to my lot to have a more pleasing duty to discharge than that which now devolves upon me. An old English proverb tells us that we should 'write injuries in dust, but benefits in marble ;' and it is, I assure you, at once a duty and a pleasure to remember and record the thousand acts of kindness, of genial good-fellowship, of kind and friendly sympathy, which it has been my good fortune to receive at the hands of the gentleman whose health I am about to propose. Gentlemen, I need scarcely say that I rise to ask you to drink the health of the Baron de Meritens, and I trust that you will forgive me when I say that I consider myself as peculiarly well qualified to propose this toast. For some time it was my good fortune—the gift of my good genius—to reside at the same port, to dwell in the same house as our illustrious guest ; and I can, therefore, speak with more certainty and knowledge than most of us as to the noble qualities of heart and head, the intellect at once subtle and profound, the heart at once generous and just, the disposition at once fiery and persevering, which render him so worthy a representative of that noblest and most chivalrous among modern nations, 'La belle France.' As marriage is the consummation of love, and ripe manhood the perfection of youth, so are thanks the flowers of gratitude, and I should be unworthy, indeed, did I not, on an occasion like this, publicly tender my sincerest thanks to the Baron de Meritens for having enabled me to realise, in this practical every day world, the idea which I had previously formed as to the character of a French gentleman ; the nobility, the courtesy, and the courage, the critical accuracy, the profound scholarship and the polished manner, which from prehistoric and almost fabulous times until now have gained for his compatriots the first place in war and love, in art and in science, in the annals of conquest, and the history of civilisation. The talents which have gained for him his present position would, in any other sphere, have gained him an even greater name—a more extended reputation. But it is always so in life. The brightest and most brilliant successes which a man achieves are poisoned or alloyed like that robe of agonies which Deianira wove for Hercules. But let us not regret that a more extended sphere has not been the arena of the Baron de Meritens. Let us rather rejoice that we have so fair and bright a model by which to shape our own way. We have so much to harden us in life, so stern is the struggle for existence.

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so sadly do the morning dew drops and the early flowers fade and wither in the hot noon of life, that we are apt to forget the value of a bright example and to imagine those talents wasted or confined which are yet pointing out to us that the 'path of duty ever runs upward;' that, in the words of the greatest of modern poets, Tennyson, 'The path of duty is the way to glory.'

"From the career of the Baron de Meritens, we may learn that, even here in China, far removed as we may be from the fountain head of law and science, and civilisation, it is still wiser, safer, nobler far, to adopt the principle of right, rather than the excuse of expediency; and that if we wish to succeed, we must adhere to those eternal principles of right and truth, and justice, which exist everywhere alike, without growth, decay, or change—principles which it would be cowardly to compromise and unmanly to desert. Gentlemen, I am sure that you will all join with me in rejoicing rather than regretting, that we have among us so illustrious a compeer, so sound a scholar, and so perfect a gentleman as the Baron de Meritens—and in all sincerity and earnestness I propose his health, and wish him many happy returns of the day."

The toast was warmly drunk, and was briefly and appropriately acknowledged by M. de Meritens, who said he much regretted his limited acquaintance with the English language prevented him from expressing all he felt. He thanked Mr. Wright for the eulogistic terms in which he had proposed his health, and trusted that the friendship which had been formed at Foochow might continue, as it had hitherto been, one of the great pleasures and enjoyment of his life.

FOO-CHOW-FOO.

On the 27th January the Mandarins arrested some eight or ten men as having been engaged in the late riots at the missionary chapel. During that day the city was in great confusion and excitement; the shops in the principal streets were shut up twice during the day. In the evening, a large concourse of people assembled at the Prefect's Yamun and demanded the release of the prisoners, some of whom were asserted to be entirely innocent. The Prefect was intimidated, and they were released. It is believed that if a portion of the prisoners had been beheaded, according to rumour, that the mob, a large number of whom were secretly armed, would have tried to kill the officials in the city. It is well understood that a body of the gentry and the literati are banded together to resist the arrest and punishment of the guilty. The Viceroy takes a decided stand. On the 25th he took away the buttons of rank from the district magistrates, and it is reported that they will be immediately removed from their offices for their want of success in putting down the mob and settling the matter satisfactorily.

HONG KONG.

The English Mail of the 11th January arrived on the 25th Feb. The latest dates are down to the 26th. The *Evening Mail* notices the following items:—

The second of a series of musical concerts now being given here came off on the 15th Feb., and was highly successful.—The Criminal Sessions commence to-morrow.—A Subscription Cup was competed for by various gentlemen belonging to the Colony, most of them being members of the Volunteer Corps. The prize was won by Mr. Holmes, and the fact reflects credit upon the Volunteer Corps. The winner shot with one of the Volunteer Carbines; Mr. Kerr shot with a short Enfield Rifle. Mr. Holmes, it will be remembered, won the medal of the National Rifle Association, at Wong-nei chong last year. We hear that another Subscription Cup, value fifty guineas, will be shortly competed for by effective members of the Volunteer Corps.

The following is a statement of the Revenue and Expenditure:—

REVENUE.

		Amount.
Land revenue		$138,367.50
Rents, exclusive of lands		43,759.50
Licenses:—		
Spirit retailers	28,336.00	
Pawnbrokers	5,600.00	
Auctioneers	4,800.00	
Tenements for emigrants	27.50	
Emigration brokers	800.00	
Billiard-tables	750.00	
Bowling-alleys	225.00	
Opium monopoly	77,640.00	
Boarding-house keepers	577.00	
Marriages	35.00	
Chinese undertakers	60.00	
		118,850.50
Taxes:—		
Balance of police and lighting rates of 1862	6,798.81	
Amount collected on account of 1863	124,392.30	
		131,191.11
Postage		61,144.15
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of courts:—		
Fines	11,596.83	
Forfeitures	730.56	
Fees	3,226.31	
		15,553.70
Fees of office:—		
Cemetery burials	1,608.61	
Registration of boats	4,209.45	
Do. of cargo, boats, and crew	1,395.43	
Do. of hawkers	1,332.90	
Cargo boat certificates	209.00	
Official signatures and seal of the colony	51.00	
Registration of deeds	1,913.75	
Shipping seamen	8,703.00	
Examination of masters and mates	1,180.00	
Ship surveys	50.00	
Colonial registers	125.00	
Merchant Shipping Act	910.00	
Registration of chairs	225.50	
Do. of chair bearers	70.80	
		21,984.44
Sale of Government Property		121.00
Reimbursements		8,415.29
Miscellaneous Receipts		4,144.73
Interest		21,612.38
Special Receipts		—
Ordinance No. 12 of 1857		7,823.80
Total,		$572,968.10

EXPENDITURE.

Establishments:—	
The Governor	$25,223.00
Colonial Secretary	20,827.03
Colonial Treasurer	9,311.89
Auditor General	8,080.16
Clerk of Councils	990.00
Surveyor General	17,594.48
Postmaster General	18,394.89
Registrar General	7,166.02
Harbour Master	14,125.66
Police and Lighting Rate Collector	2,205 00
Chief Justice	29,334.75
Judge of Summary Jurisdiction Court	10,573.05
Ecclesiastical	4,516.08
Educational	6,071.07
Colonial Surgeon	6,876.60
Surgeon to Lock Hospital	1,764.00
Police magistrates	16,105.81
Captain Superintendent of Police	89,623.89
Gaols	11,605.91
Total establishments	$299,889.29
Pensions, retired allowances, and gratuities	183.32
Revenue services, exclusive of establishment	815.23
Administration of justice, exclusive of establishment	1,637.15
Charitable allowances	135.00
Civil hospital, exclusive of establishment	5,755.67
Lock hospital, exclusive of establishment	1,369.41
Police, exclusive of establishment	27,831.49
Gaols, exclusive of establishment	50,975.93
Rent	2,340.61
Transport	240.00
Conveyance of mails	2,820.77
Works and buildings	81,232.94
Roads, streets, and bridges	65,376.44
Miscellaneous services	—
Land and houses purchased	3,211.00
Special expenses	3,854.83
Total	$448,669.08

FREDK. FORTH, Colonial Treasurer.

With reference to the Government Notification No. 124 of 29th November, 1862, and to Post-office Notification of 15th August, 1863, the public are hereby informed that on and after the 16th of February next the use of the Hong Kong postage stamps on correspondence posted at the General Post-office here will no longer be optional, but compulsory.

2. The fifth clause, therefore, in the above-mentioned Government Notification will be annulled from 16th prox., except as to the agencies of the Hong Kong General Post-office at Canton, Macao, Swatow, Amoy, Foo-chow, Shanghai, Ningpo, Nagasaki, and Yedo.

3. The postage stamps are of the following value:—

Two Cents	or One Penny.
Four Cents	Twopence.
Six Cents	Threepence.
Eight Cents	Fourpence.
Twelve Cents	Sixpence.
Eighteen Cents	Ninepence.
Twenty-four Cents	Twelvepence.
Thirty Cents	Fifteenpence.
Forty-eight Cents	Two Shillings.
Ninety-six Cents	Four Shillings.

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4. As it will take time to make this regulation generally known, and it may consequently be expected that many letters will be posted insufficiently stamped, clause 7 of the Government Notification above referred to is also annulled, and for the future insufficiently stamped letters addressed to the United Kingdom will be forwarded, a fine of one shilling being charged in addition to the postage due upon all such letters.

The *China Mail* notices that the U.S.S. *Wyoming* still lies off Green Island; she has finished coaling and will start off on a cruise after the arrival of the English mail. A friend who has just been on board of her describes the *Wyoming* as well armed, with two eleven-inch Dalghren guns among her other ordnance. The crew are up to the full complement. The *Jamestown* is at Macao, we hear, having come down from Amoy to communicate with the *Wyoming*. We heard lately that the *Jamestown* had sent an armed boats-crew on board one of our coasting steamers at Amoy, as the latter, on entering the harbour, had occasion to back out again for a short distance, and the circumstance aroused the U.S. steamer's suspicions.

The Jury in the case of Diers v. Oxford and Co., after a short deliberation, returned a verdict for the plaintiff on the first count of the declaration, damages two thousand dollars. A verdict was entered for the defendants on the other counts of the declaration. The result will be that some question as to the costs is likely to arise on taxation; the Acting Chief Justice, foreseeing this, directed that the Bills should be sent to him for perusal before they were taxed.

The Oriental Hotels Company (Limited) are prepared to erect a first class hotel here, providing 2,000 shares are subscribed for in Hong Kong. Considering the very indifferent attention paid to the comforts of strangers at the Hong Kong Club, and the objectionable nature of such a residence on various grounds, we think that a good hotel would be an acquisition to this city. The Agra Bank are the company's bankers.

The Hong Kong Races came off on the 3rd February, and two following days, and were admitted by all who witnessed them to be the best ever seen in China. The Canton Cup, 100 guineas, for Arabs only, was won by Hadji, and the 99th (Lanarkshire) Cup, value 100 guineas, presented by the officers of the 99th Regt., for all horses, was won by Haddington, who was also the winner of the Barristers' Cup, of 100 guineas, for all horses. The Fakei Cup, value 700 dollars, presented by the American community of Canton and Hong Kong, for all horses, was won by Anecdote. The Challenge Cup, entrance $10 each, was borne off by North Pole, beating Haddington and Chieftain, who was again victorious over Haddington, in the race for the German Cup, value £200, presented by the German community. Haddington's mishaps were not yet ended, for he had to yield the Shanghai Cup, 100 guineas, presented by the Shanghai community, for all horses, to Chieftain. The Glenealy Cup, 100 guineas, for Arabs only, fell to Forrester; and the Foochow Cup, of 150 guineas, for all horses, English excepted, to Traveller, beating Pons Asinorum and Hadji.

We (says the *China Mail*) are not surprised to learn that the state of China is rather perplexing to diplomatists in Europe. It has always been our opinion that the Celestial Empire was not a subject upon which it was safe to dogmatise. English journalists and their China correspondents have not been at all successful in their attempts to represent the state of the empire. Even book-men have signally broken down in the same task; and the duty of clearly explaining the condition of the Chinese empire, both in its internal state and its foreign relations, is, we confidently assert, still unperformed. The Chinese are the most civilised people in Asia. Those who dispute this require to be argued with upon the meaning of the term civilisation; but supposing that it should be agreed to understand the word as meaning the art of living together in societies, there is every reason to hold up the Chinese as the most civilised people in the globe. People living in Hong Kong fancy that they know Chinamen tolerably well, and they are really not far wrong. At the same time, it is one thing to know the Chinese character as represented by individuals and to arrive at a just conclusion with regard to the past, present, and future progress of the empire itself. On that point it is necessary to speak with caution.

If we were to lay hold of the most prominent feature in the Chinese character, so far as their statements are concerned, we should say that skill in diplomacy is their leading qualification. From the very commencement of our acquaintance with the Chinese, we have known and acknowledged this; and our continued intimacy with the rulers of this wonderful empire has only strengthened the conviction originally formed with regard to their diplomatic abilities. At the same time it must be confessed that nine men out of ten insist upon remaining in wilful ignorance on the subject of China. And it will have to be admitted eventually that English diplomatists have not given the matter that consideration and care which it deserved. An empire containing over three hundred millions souls is of importance from its sheer bulk and weight in the world, and it is quite impossible to discuss its affairs in an off-hand manner. English statesmen, however, with their habitual flippancy, have repeatedly disposed of the subject, but never successfully. Such being the case, we naturally hesitate in offering a decided opinion; but we think it will be found that a policy of firmness is the only real mode of treating our celestial acquaintances.

The fleet business of which we spoke last week threatens to be more serious than was to be expected. From private information, we learn that Sir Frederick Bruce gave orders for the withdrawal of the flotilla, and we scarcely require to state that he only obeyed instructions in that respect. It will thus be seen that the English Government are closely mixed up with this miserable affair. As for Mr. Lay, he will come out of the affair better than we anticipated, seeing that he held instructions from Prince Kung, in the form of a letter dictated by himself while in England.

CANTON.

A correspondent of the *China Mail* writes:—"At Canton the throng and bustle attending the China New Year is at its height. Shopkeepers have been doing a large stroke of business in the sale of goods suitable for presents, much the same as is the case in England, and the city has swarmed with beggars, to whom coppers are always freely thown about this season. Executions have been more numerous than usual of late, scores of criminals having been taken to that small piece of ground which Yeh rendered so notorious. In the course of the past fortnight our correspondent saw thirteen men being carried in a basket, and heavily chained, to the execution ground; their cadaverous features and the clinking of their fetters made them pictures of misery. One of them who was better dressed than the others said he was a literary graduate who had been seized by mistake, and unjustly condemned. Another, who looked a thorough rascal, called out to those who stared at him and asked what what they saw to wonder at his being carried to death, informing them at the same time that he should return to the world and try his luck again. Our correspondent conversed with a common-sense Chinaman on the increase of crime in Canton, but got no satisfactory answer. He was told that, while petty crime is generally on the increase towards the end of the year, shop-breaking, highway robbery, and night attacks by gangs of men had lately become much more frequent than usual. He also said, with some meaning, that, in times gone by, the Chinese used to look upon those placed above them in authority as possessed of more than earthly power and influence, but that the advent to the country of foreigners and their doings during the past twenty years had broken the spell, by proving that the mandarins had little power and less patriotism. There was now, he added, no bond between rulers and ruled, and consequently no confidence. The Government, for example, had been for months past in pressing want of funds, but there had been no hearty response from the people; the trade guilds had been taxed, but, as a body of them had appealed, the tax was withdrawn, and now the 'screw' was being put upon different grades of wealthy dealers, who, to escape the levy, had gone into the country; so that business was dull.

SIAM.

BANGKOK.

The exports to Europe for 1863 have been as follows, including the cargo of the Bangkok, cleared for London on 16th January:—Benjamin, 79 piculs; cardamums, none; hides, 1,061; horns, 709; pepper, none; rice, 4,708 piculs; sapanwood, 1,995 piculs; sticlac, 1,447 piculs; sugar, none; teel seed, 5,377 piculs.

To CHINA.—Cardamums, 3,537 piculs; hides, 2,243; horns, 320 piculs; pepper, 20,237 piculs; rice, 1,411,147 piculs; sapanwood, 46,366 piculs; sticlac, 185 piculs; sugar, 39,063 piculs; teel seed, 12,142 piculs; paddy, 20,326 piculs.

To SINGAPORE, INDIA, and JAVA.—Benjamin, 22 piculs; cardamums, 17 piculs; hides, 1,537 piculs; horns, 505 piculs;

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pepper, 183 piculs; rice, 283,176 piculs; sapanwood, 4,839 piculs; sticlac, 14,256 piculs; sugar, 43,595 piculs; teel seed, 2,332 piculs; paddy, 306 piculs.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are down to the 4th of March. The English mail of the 26th of January arrived out on the 2nd of March. The French mail of the 17th of January was transferred to the P. and O. steamer *China*, at Galle, as the *Donnai* broke down and put back to Galle. There is nothing of any importance in the *Singapore Free Press* of March 3.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1863-64.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1864	1814547	42476016	49984104	2257090	11721042	108152801	40385
Corresponding period last season	1733439	38275215	35385450	336208	18131000	86861312	67402

SHIPMENTS IN JANUARY.

Ship	From	lbs. Tea.	Bales Silk.
Amaranth	Amoy	326,424	—
Glaramara	Foo-chow	573,200	—
Per Mail str.	Shanghai, &c.	—	1,175
Louis Kniffler	Kanagawa	25,000	210
Marquis of Argyle	Shanghai	730,703	102
Govr. Van Sweiten	Kanagawa	161,740	321
Albrecht Oswald	Foo-chow	736,000	—
Sappho	Shanghai	510,080	—
Sir Harry Parkes	"	1,085,763	53
Landsdowne	"	—	108
Egmont	"	845,280	134
Herald	Foo-chow	640,600	—
Stuart Wortley	"	1,196,600	—
Mail str.	Shanghai, &c.	—	364
Fair Leader	Shanghai	656,590	50
Weymouth	Foo-chow	1,196,600	—
Rio	Canton	194,800	—
French Mail str.	Shanghai	—	103
Forerunner	Kanagawa	16,952	53
Alexandra	"	75,529	377

TO UNITED STATES.

		Piculs.
From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1864	17183051	468
Corresponding period last season	16541360	1086

SHIPMENTS IN JANUARY.

Ship.	From	lbs.
Johanna	Shanghai	191,725
Hermine	"	330,416
Thetis	"	553,687
Kate Carnie	"	676,956
Santon	Foo-chow	543,000
Hamilla Mitchell	Canton	193,530
Alt Mecklenberg	Shanghai	603,480

TO MONTREAL.

SHIPMENTS IN JANUARY.

Ship.	From	lbs.
From 1st June to 31st Jan., 1864	—	2,655,745
H. E. Sassaune	Shanghai	407,152
Asia	"	431,763
Tycoon	"	433,602
Madura	"	338,800
Romeo	"	488,450

TO THE CONTINENT.

		Bales.
From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1864	1289007	3271
Corresponding period last season	1124764	6532

SHIPMENTS IN JANUARY.

None.

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Total lbs.	
From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1864	466175	...
Corresponding period last season	39782	...

SHIPMENTS IN JANUARY.

Ship	From	Tea, lbs.	Bales Silk.
Astrea	Foo-chow	246,500	—
Ida	Kanagawa	5,372	—
Boanerges	Hong Kong	2,020	24
Glencoe	Kanagawa	14,006	—
Henry Brigham	"	1,526	—
Sirius	Hong Kong	630	—
Pallas	"	400	5

TO AUSTRALIA.

From 1st June to 31st January, 1864	8,801,327
Corresponding period last year	8,618,459

SHIPMENTS IN JANUARY.

Ship.	From	Piculs.
Berengaria	Foo-chow	458,300

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	51,022,600	..
" 1845 to 1846	57,334,200	18,604
" 1850 to 1851	63,972,300	22,143
" 1853 to 1854	77,327,800	61,980
" 1855 to 1856	92,240,300	50,480
" 1857 to 1858	76,990,255	68,311
" 1858 to 1859	65,789,792	83,136
" 1859 to 1860	85,560,452	64,163
" 1860 to 1861	90,066,160	79,644
" 1861 to 1862	109,554,040	70,199
" 1862 to 1863	121,273,580	...

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1864	345946	24	9097	4575	281	1748

SHIPMENTS IN JANUARY.

Ship.	From	Piculs Wool.
Inamhore	Hong Kong	4,252
Strathallan	Shanghai	4,123
Langdowner	"	4,577
Koh-i-noor	Hong Kong	7,958
Oliver Cromwell	Shanghai	3,300
Orithona	"	5,479
Spirit of the Times	"	5,840
Veloz	"	4,072
Dolfyir	Hong Kong	2,670
Cornelia Hendrika	"	3,456
Wagoola	Shanghai	4,523
Ralston	"	3,841
Thos. Royden	"	5,892
Thos. Dryden	"	3,185
Devonshire	Hong Kong	9,368
Vampyr	Yokohama	300
Alice Tainter	Shanghai	4,343
Queensbury	"	4,638
Forerunner	Kanagawa	4,728
Alexandra	"	4,638

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1864	3059	...	...	350	100	...

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1864	34130	16855	2244	1350	24	336

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1864	706	4129	97074	7982	4840	187440

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1864	6	146	2076	2737	23400	...

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents, and is dividedinto decimal parts of ten.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

FOWLER—On the 22nd March, at Elie, Fifeshire, the wife of Captain David Fowler, late of the steamer Thunder, of a daughter.

GIFFORD—On the 11th February, at Shameen, Canton, Mrs. George Gifford, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

DENNE—MENZIES.—On the 31st March, at the parish church, Hampstead, by the Rev. G. A. Herklots, M.A., Thomas Denne, Esq., of Camberwell-grove, to Mary, daughter of the late William Menzies, Esq., of Kuripan, Java. No cards.

LANCA—COSTA.—On the 2nd February, Eugenio L. Lanca, to Filomena Albina da Costa, daughter of the late Major A. Fideles da Costa.

DEATHS.

BUDGE—On the 17th Jan. last, at Yokohama, Japan, Captain William Budge, of ship Mary Shepherd, aged 45.

BEADSLEY—On the 17th February, on board H.M.S. Melville, Hong Kong, John Beadsley, A. B. of H.M.S. Coromandel.

DAVIES—On the 1st April, very suddenly, at Grove-hill, Glebe, Camberwell, Eliza, widow of the late Rev. J. Davies, of Colombo, Ceylon.

DAILY—On the 15th February, at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, William Daley, Private H.M. 99th Regiment, aged 36 years.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Feb. 8, Mayflower and Fiery Cross. From Newport: Johana Maria. From Cardiff: 10, President Harbitz; 13, Welf; 15, St. Julian. From Newcastle: 10, Kirkland; 12, Energie. From Shields: 12, Esmeralda.

At HONG KONG.—From London: Feb. 19, Siloma. From Glasgow: 21, Lotus.

DEPARTURES.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Feb. 6, Anne Archbell; 11, Stornaway; 16, M. M. Peter. For Liverpool: 19, Cornelia. For New York: 10, Lettice Catherina.

From FOOCHOW.—For New York: 9, Dorette.

From AMOY.—For New York: 5, Neuhof.

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VESSELS LOADING.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Spirit of the North, Stornaway, Samuel, and Thos. and Rebecca. For Liverpool: Polmaise, Fort William, Blackburn, Berdinka, Antelope, and Bentinck. For New York: Heversham and Lord Collingwood.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Robert Henderson.

At HONG KONG.—For London: Corniston. For Liverpool: Patrician, Vanguard, Helena, J. L. Dimmock, Nancy Bryson, and Crest of the Wave.

THE AGRA BANK.

THE thirtieth annual meeting of this Bank was held at the offices in Cannon-street, on the 2nd inst., when the report, which we noticed in our last, was unanimously agreed on. The dividend on this occasion has been increased to £18 per cent. It is proposed to alter the name of the bank to the "Agra and London Bank," and it was announced that premises had been secured in a more central position—viz., at the corner of Lombard-street and Gracechurch-street. This has been found necessary owing to the large increase of the London business. The balance-sheet, &c., will be found in another column.

THE NEXT MAIL FROM CHINA.

We understand, from private telegrams, that the next incoming mail, with dates from Hong Kong to the 1st of March, had arrived at Suez.

THE ANGLO-CHINESE FLEET.

The gunboat *Peking* has arrived home from China. As before intimated, Captain SHERARD OSBORN, in conjunction with the Lords of the Admiralty, will negotiate the sale of these vessels, all of which may be expected home shortly.

MOVEMENT OF SPECIE.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Ceylon*, from Southampton, on the 4th inst., was:—In gold, to Alexandria, £6,500; to Aden, £1,000; to Galle, £1,104; to Madras, £3,661; to Calcutta, £1,920. In silver, to Madras, £70,932; to Calcutta, £55,000; to Penang, £10,500; to Singapore, £10,500; to Hong Kong, £16,073; to Foo-chow-Foo, £400; to Shanghai, £11,375. Total, in gold, £14,185; in silver, £174,780.

THE KAGOSIMA INDIGNATION.

(THE TIMES.)

The gentlemen whose indignation was kindled to red heat by the news of the reprisals upon the Prince of Satsuma ought to be glad to learn that there was no foundation whatever for the terrible tragedy they imagined. They will be able now, not very usefully perhaps, to retract the scandals upon our common country with which they feasted the greedy appetites of our friends and well-wishers upon the Continent. No densely packed Japanese city, containing 180,000 inhabitants, has ever been burnt to the ground. No panic-stricken crowds stood jammed in the narrow streets while shot and shell ploughed chasms in the mass. No women and children were trodden to death. No merciless British seamen were wilfully encircling these wretched multitudes with a zone of fire. There is no stillness of death and black plain of embers where Kagosima once stood. The highly wrought pictures which interested the House of Commons, the ambitious flights of talk which excited the British public, the boldly sketched narrative which scandalized the French press—all represented nothing but the dreams of gentlemen whose impatient imagination scorns the vulgar fetters of evidence, and the fervid fictions of professed humanitarians, who never are so swift to sympathize and so prompt to condemn inhumanity as when some vague rumour seems to place their own countrymen in fault, or when the conduct of our own officers serving in distant parts is challenged or misrepresented.

Perhaps we shall be thought rather impertinent now in turning back to the dishes of a banquet long since enjoyed, in offering a bill for a luxury of sympathetic feeling long since indulged, in testing the genuineness of a burst of generous indignation long since spent. There are some, however, to whom all this fine sentiment did not seem so generous; for, while it kindled so brightly as to exhibit in the highest post of honour the eloquent and indignant denouncers of the imaginary wrong, it had the effect of showing off our officers in a most unenviable light. Japan is, no doubt, a long way off, but it cannot be pleasant, even when dwelling at Japan, to find oneself made the villain of a popular fiction. If the fable of the massacre at Kagosima had been told a generation since, it is very probable that the Minister of the day would hardly have been rescued by posthumous history from the odium of having ordered that massacre, and the officers upon the spot would certainly have remained all their lives under the imputation of having been the agents of his cruelties. But even Japan has become within echoing distance of the walls of Westminster. Colonel Neale and Mr. Consul Winchester and Admiral Kuper have already had time to read the harsh things that have been said and written of them in England, and they have had time not only to read but to reply. In a tone of astonishment as well as deprecation they claim to substitute a statement of facts for the unfair inferences and gratuitous assumptions which have been raised against them in England, and their protests have been printed in a small Parliamentary paper. Of course the matter is very much out of date. To go back upon these facts is almost like picking up the cartridge cases when the field-day is over; but as these officers wish to be set right in the face of the world the public must bear with us while we endeavour to help them to their object.

It turns out, then, that the "massacre of Kagosima" was an immense "mare's nest." The city of 180,000 inhabitants never existed except in the imagination of those who, without caring to inform themselves, undertook to tell their countrymen all about it. There was, indeed, and there is, a town of Kagosima, which in its most prosperous and populous state contained about one-fifth part of that number of people; and this town consists of a congregation of "huts and paper houses," under the paternal protection of the Prince of Satsuma. Among and around these huts and paper houses at the time of "the massacre" were the Prince of Satsuma's batteries, manned by 6,000 soldiers and mounting a goodly number of guns. At some distance stood the Prince of Satsuma's Palace. It will be remembered that Admiral Kuper had received orders, not, as was ingenuously suggested, to invite this Prince "to deliver up his father to be hanged," but to obtain an indemnity in money for the outrage committed upon an unoffending riding party of Europeans, and to exact a promise of condign punishment of the actual murderers of our countryman, Mr. Richardson. For this purpose he was to seize the Prince's ships, and, if that was not sufficient, to put further stress upon him by first threatening to destroy, and, if necessary, ultimately destroying, his palace. The Prince had heard of all this through his friends, and, knowing that the squadron was approaching, he resolved upon resistance. As a preliminary measure, Satsuma ordered all the people of Kagosima to retire from the town into the surrounding villages. Of course they obeyed, and, when Admiral Kuper with his ships rounded the point, the soldiers and the batteries, the huts and the paper houses, were all he found opposite to his guns. The Admiral, having made a peace proposition in vain, proceeded, according to his instructions, to take possession of the Prince of Satsuma's steamers. When this was done a horseman was despatched to the palace by the Japanese to announce the fact. Satsuma sent directions that the batteries should immediately open fire upon the squadron. The Japanese Prince had underrated the resources of British seamanship. The ships not only returned the fire with effect, but, according to Japanese testimony now published, made the batteries so unsafe that the soldiers in reserve could not be induced to go into them to take the place of those who were killed. The ships, therefore, not only fired *at* the batteries, but fired *into* the batteries. It is clear from the Japanese statement of the difficulty of getting the soldiers to go into the batteries that the town was a place of comparative safety, and that the ships, therefore, were not intentionally or frequently dropping their shot among the huts. Necessarily, however, while the steamers were at the same time firing and striving with the hurricane which had set in, the artillery practice was not quite so accurate as the gunners had been accustomed to make on board the *Excellent* in smooth water. Some of the shells, no doubt many of the shells, burst among the huts and paper houses. The empty town was burnt, and the Japanese account is that "the typhoon was the cause of the extent of the conflagration, and in consequence of there being no people in the town to put it out." The batteries were silenced, the Japanese steamers burnt, the palace of the Prince was fired, and, in the absence of the inhabitants, the huts and paper houses of the city were incidentally destroyed. The result was that Satsuma immediately made his submission and promised all that was required of him, and when, early in last December, the agents of the Prince came to Yokahama to pay the £25,000, and give written assurance of their master's promise to punish the actual murderers of Mr. Richardson, they were able to boast that the huts and paper houses of Kagosima had arisen again, and that important city bore very much the same appearance which it presented before the bombardment. The whole difficulty ended in mutual civilities between the people and the seamen as well as between the diplomatists and officers, and the Prince of Satsuma has confessed that the murder of Englishmen has been proved to him to be too expensive a luxury even for a first-class Daimio.

This authentic account of a necessary warlike operation varies very little from the impression which any candid mind might have received from the early news. It varies, indeed, very little from the view we took of the affair when the clamour was at the highest. Of course, we could not have guessed the fact that Satsuma had cleared the town of its inhabitants in preparation for the fight he was resolved on, but it was easy to suggest, as we did at the time suggest, that a rhetorical account of this transaction, containing no word of allusion to the tempest, which was obviously the chief agent in the conflagration, could not be fair either to our officers or to our national reputation for humanity in the public opinion of Europe. The Japanese account of the transaction is conclusive. They have been more candid than our home critics, and would seem to be less anxious to tarnish our fame for humanity than some of our own countrymen. Perhaps it may be said that the Japanese scarcely understand the meaning of civilised restraint during moments of active hostility, and, when they boast of how little they have suffered, rather propose to themselves to detract from the exploit of our squadron than to testify to our moderation. But, however this may be, their facts are decisive. Kagosima was an empty town, and was accidentally burnt down because there was a high wind blowing when it was partly set on fire, and because there was no one to put the fire out. As to the Satsuma Palace, it was purposely destroyed as a punishment for harbouring and defending the murderers of our countrymen. With these facts fairly put before them, we hope our French censors may recover the tone of their nerves, and return to the serene contemplation of their Algerian campaigns, while our American moralists may indulge their sympathies by observing the peaceful security of the women and children inhabiting Charleston. It would be too much, we fear, to ask of our own peace party at home to pause on future occasions for certain tidings, though it is, we submit, very hard that we and the reasonable portion of the press and public must continually incur the odium of defending "massacres" while only contradicting these gentlemen's fancies. We protest that it is not fair they should enjoy all the honour and glory of indignant virtue while their fictions live, and find certain amnesty in the shortness of the public memory when their stories are at last exposed.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, APRIL 4, 1864.

INCREASE OF CRIME AND LAWLESSNESS IN SHANGHAI.

ACCOUNTS from Shanghai continue to report an increased state of lawlessness and prevalence of crime in and around that important foreign settlement on Chinese soil. It would appear that as the rebellion becomes subdued in its vicinity, the foreign adventurers and discontented natives who found profitable occupation in their intercourse with the Taipings, are now thrown adrift on society, preying upon the wealthy and industrious inhabitants, imbuing their hands with blood. This may be considered the necessary consequence of internecine wars in all countries during their transition state, before peace has restored person and property to their normal state of security. At the present time we have evidence of a similar condition of affairs in Italy since the war of independence, where brigandage of the worst character has prevailed; and, be it observed, Europeans have committed crimes upon unoffending victims surpassing in brutality the horrible tortures of the Chinese. It will readily be supposed that if there is a difficulty in suppressing lawless bands in Europe, where a strong and active Government exists, how much more so it must be in China under weak and sluggish rulers, and especially in Shanghai, where a heterogeneous foreign element exists in the body politic without a proper governing power. According to treaty, all Chinese criminals captured by the foreign police or troops are handed over to the native authorities for punishment, and foreign criminals to their respective Consuls. The former, if not actually destitute of means or friends, can easily purchase their freedom after conviction from the venal officials, while the latter rarely meet with punishment beyond a fine; so that, on the whole, the majority of criminals escape the pains and penalties of the law from the ineffectual administration of justice. In making these remarks we do not wish to reflect upon the *personnel* of any Consular establishment in Shanghai, but simply to point out the system as insufficient for the ends of justice and good government. As far as the British Consulate is concerned, it is a matter of impossibility for any Consul with his assistants to get through the multifarious and overwhelming business that comes to his office. We do not exaggerate when we assert that more cases are adjudicated in his court, criminal and civil, than at Hong Kong, where there is a chief justice and judicial establishment on an imperial scale. The fact is every day becoming more apparent, that it is time this consular system of judicature be superseded by a regular court of justice, with competent judges, having jurisdiction over every person, native and foreign, within the limits of Shanghai settlement. We have a striking example of the insufficiency of this red-tape system to meet the exigencies that arise in mixed communities on a foreign soil, at the present time in Alexandria, where the correspondent of *The Times* informs us that "the European Consulates are literally attracting and protecting bands of ruffians, who could not exist under a proper 'system of control." "Under this system it is unfortunately 'too true that evildoers, the refuse of Europe, who are unable "to live in their own countries, here revel in perfect lawlessness, the scourge and terror of all honest and peaceful men." In like manner Shanghai has become the receptacle of all the vagabondism, indigenous and exotic, in the Far East.

This growing evil in that flourishing settlement was foreseen and commented on by the local press during the influx of refugees and adventurers at the height of the rebellion, and the community seriously discussed the vital question of how to provide for the better government of the place. Various opinions and views were brought forward, among which was a suggestion for the formation of an "International Council" to deliberate upon general measures affecting the foreign community, which we are glad to observe has been adopted in principle by the Consuls of all the Treaty Powers assembling frequently and passing resolutions for the protection of peaceable residents and the conservation of equitable maritime and commercial laws. This is a step in the right direction, and may form the basis of a properly constituted Executive and Legislature. All that is necessary to come to an understanding on this point is the sanction of the several Governments who have accredited Ministers in China, to give it effect. Unfortunately the views of Sir FREDERICK BRUCE, Her MAJESTY'S Minister at Peking, were rather against than for granting an independent and central government at Shanghai, at the time of the abovementioned discussion, which checked the action of the Land Renters and the Defence Committee to form a council for general purposes, leaving the construction of public works, maintenance of roads, and police management, to the Municipal Council. It is to be hoped that the views of the British Minister are considerably modified and enlarged on this question, and that in unison with his colleagues at Peking, a consolidated administration may be formed with legislative powers. Now that Sir HARRY PARKES has returned to China as Consul-General for England, with his head-quarters at Shanghai, he will, we trust, prove an able exponent to the home Government and the Minister on this unsatisfactory state of affairs, and will doubtless remedy them with his usual ability.

That something ought to be done, and speedily, is agreed on all hands, the great difficulty is to know in what manner to proceed. Might it not be a judicious and effective movement on the part of the influential merchants and others in London to form a deputation on the subject to Earl RUSSELL, who might thereby be induced to lend his powerful aid in promoting the object in view; or, at all events, eliciting from him the opinion of Her MAJESTY'S Ministers on the point. The great drawback hitherto, among the representatives of foreign Powers at Shanghai, preventing united action, has been the limited powers transmitted to them by their several Governments, and the natural jealousy of one Consulate taking precedence of another. Happily all feeling on the latter head is gradually giving way to combination in the cause of law and order, in the Consuls having shown their appreciation of the urgency of affairs by holding deliberative meetings to discuss questions for the benefit of the community at large. It now remains with the higher powers to grant extended authority to that body so as to form a general tribunal, with an admixture of the native element and the foreign military and naval authorities for the time being to take cognizance of every case that may arise involving the rights and privileges of all subjects, native and foreign, within the jurisdiction of the settlement; together with a properly constituted court of justice for the punishment of criminals, without handing any over to the Chinese authorities. We feel confident that if England proposed a general basis for such a government, the other Powers would readily give in their adhesion. To say the least of it, the heterogeneous mode of Consular Government at the crowded and and wealthy port of Shanghai, with its external trade in imports and exports of nearly forty millions sterling per annum, is not creditable to the Treaty Powers, and calls for urgent improvement.

PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS ON JAPAN.

SOME further correspondence with the British Minister in Japan has been published in continuation of that published in our issue of the 12th Feb.:—

LIEUT.-COL. NEALE TO EARL RUSSELL.

Yokohama, Dec. 17, 1863.

My Lord.—By the mail which left this on the 2nd instant, I had the honour to acquaint your lordship that the Envoys of the Prince of Satsuma had failed to carry out the arrangements which had been agreed upon. It now affords me extreme satisfaction to state that the whole of the stipulations have been definitely settled and determined.

On the 9th inst. the Envoys returned from Yedo to Yokohama, and held an interview with me lasting several hours, at which endeavours were

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resorted to on their part to soften and smooth down the terms and circumstances under which the demands were originally preferred by me upon the Prince of Satsuma, in accordance with my instructions. They desired that the money which they were about to pay over to me should be considered in the light of a deposit, the absolute payment of which might take place hereafter, and that they accordingly only required a simple or temporary receipt. These obstacles and objections, pertinaciously urged during some hours, were utterly rejected by me, and as good-humouredly one by one abandoned by the Envoys. The indemnity money was brought to the Legation and the sum of $100,000 duly paid, that sum being the equivalent of £25,000 sterling at the current rate of exchange. It will, I trust, be obvious to your lordship that I could hardly have imposed other terms in respect to the value of the dollar.

While the money was in course of counting and shroffing, I received from the Envoys a written engagement in respect to the pursuit, and execution when arrested, of the principal perpetrators of the murder of Mr. Richardson. Your lordship will observe that this document, a copy of which I have the honour to inclose, is countersigned by two of the Tycoon's officers as attesting witnesses. The agents of Satsuma now expressed a desire that I should furnish them with a written promise to facilitate the purchase of a ship of war in England. I saw no material objection to this, if the terms in which such promise was conveyed were expressed with a view to all contingencies, and I accordingly furnished them with a memorandum, a copy of which I have the honour to inclose, and with which they expressed themselves entirely satisfied.

(Inclosure 1 in No. 1.)

THE AGENTS OF THE PRINCE OF SATSUMA TO LIEUT.-COL. NEALE.

(Translation.) Yokohama, Dec. 11, 1863.

The money demanded by the British Government having been paid by the officers of Shimadzu Awadzi no Kami, a branch of the family of Satsuma, we hereby promise as follows:—

The persons who last autumn, in the eighth month (14th September, 1862), killed and wounded your countrymen at Namamugi, on the tokaido, have escaped from that place, and although we have diligently searched for them their place of abode has not been found out.

And as also some time has passed, it is not possible to state with certainty whether they are still alive, but we will use every diligence in searching for them, and as soon as arrested punish the same with death, in the presence of your country's officers.

As a promise for the future we sign this.

(Signed) SIKENO KONOSHO,
Diplomatic Agent of the Prince of Satsuma.

IWASTA SADZIMON, Acting Minister of Satsuma.

Countersigned as witnesses to the above promise—

(Signed) UKAI TAITSI, Officer of Department for Foreign Affairs of the Tycoon's Government.
SAITO KINGO, Assistant Ometsky.

(Inclosure 2 in No. 1.)

(Memorandum.) British Legation in Japan, Dec. 11, 1863

The basis of goodwill and amity being established by the settlement of the demands preferred on the Prince of Satsuma and the agents of the Prince of Satsuma having preferred to the undersigned, Her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires, a request in presence of officers of the Tycoon, and as a token of friendly feeling re-established, that he would facilitate the desire of the Prince of Satsuma to purchase a ship of war in England, Her Britannic Majesty's Charge d'Affaires does hereby engage to represent such request when formally and specifically preferred to Her Majesty's Government, provided that at the period when such request is made or in course of execution the relations of the Tycoon's Government with Great Britain in general, and the proceedings and disposition of the Prince of Satsuma in particular, are not inimical or directed against the rights acquired by treaties now existing between the Tycoon of Japan, Great Britain, and other friendly States.

Given at Yokohama, this 11th day of December, 1863.

(Signed) EDWD. ST. JOHN NEALE,
Her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires.

The next Despatch, No. 2, is a letter from Colonel Neale to Earl Russell, enclosing copy of a despatch addressed to Admiral Kuper, in which he announces that the demands of Her Majesty's Government have been conceded.

Despatch No. 3 is from Colonel Neale to Earl Russell, dated 30th Dec., simply confirmatory of the previous Despatch No. 1. Despatch No. 4 is from Colonel Neale to Earl Russell, enclosing the report of Consul Winchester, as follows:—

CONSUL WINCHESTER TO LIEUTENANT-COLONEL NEALE.

British Consulate, Kanagawa, December 24, 1863.

Sir,—Since I had the honour to address you in my despatch of the 9th inst., respecting some interruption in the conveyance of cattle to the settlement, I have had no further complaint from any of the provisioners on that score.

There has been some deficiency in the supply and a consequent rise in the price of poultry, game, and other articles; but this is partly to be attributed to the large demand for such articles incidental to the festivities of the season at a port where there is so large a squadron of war vessels.

A number of curio-shops in the main street are shut up. Various causes are given as accounting for this. The principals of these establishments are said to have been either killed or threatened in the recent disturbances at Yedo, excited against Japanese engaged in foreign trade. Other statements refer to forbidden operations connected with the currency market here as the reason for the closure of these shops, while in one case it is believed that the disposal to a foreign merchant of gold cobangs stolen from the Tycoon's palace during the last fire has been the cause of trouble.

A system of terror, involving the lives of several Japanese merchants, has been unscrupulously instituted at Yedo; but to what extent the Tycoon's Government are implicated in these proceedings, either by direct order, secret instigation, or tacit sanction, it is impossible to say.

Reflection on the extraordinary rise in the value of silk and cotton, the articles so eagerly sought for by foreigners, is scarcely necessary to convince one that the extension of foreign trade is likely to create much discontent among large classes of Japanese, not deriving immediate and visible benefit from foreign trade. Raw cotton, so universally employed for the garments of the poorer classes, sold formerly at five to six dollars per picul all over Japan. Its value in the Yokohama market to-day is thirty-five dollars for the same weight.

One of the demands of the party inimical to foreign trade is stated to have been the distribution of large gratuities to the poorer classes of the capital.

Indeed, there is some reason to think, looking to the fact that there has been little or no interruption to the trade of the settlement, that the whole of these proceedings have been set on foot with no other intention than to extort a large share of the profits of the native dealers.

However this may be, there is no lack either of silk or cotton in the market; and I am informed that the stock of imports in foreign hands is almost quite exhausted. I have, &c.,

(Signed) CHARLES A. WINCHESTER.

Despatch No. 5 is from Colonel Neale to Earl Russell, and is the one read in the House of Commons by Mr. Layard, and published in our issue of the 28th March. Despatches No. 6 and 7 are from Earl Russell to Colonel Neale, approving of the steps taken, and occupy only eight lines.

"THE CHINESE QUESTION."

SUCH is the title affixed by the Count D'ESCAYRAC DE LAUTURE to the section which forms the main feature of that portion of his *Mémoires sur La Chine* which has just made its appearance. Our readers, like ourselves, will be at once eagerly curious to know what that "question" is which so immediately presses for a solution. All difficulties between China and Europe were, we thought, settled; and so evident is the determination of the Western Governments to give the Peking Cabinet every chance of administering its own affairs—including even the arduous duty of suppressing the rebellion—that we had hoped to be free, for some time, of any other anxiety regarding that quarter than the prospects of the Tea and Silk crop, and the rate of exchange. But the Count DE LAUTURE devotes himself not to the behaviour of China, but to the manner in which France should conduct herself towards her distant ally. If the title of the section be not very happily chosen, the contents at least are highly deserving of notice, as will be at once admitted when the reader is reminded that the Count D'ESCAYRAC DE LAUTURE was appointed to accompany the last French expedition to China as the scientific and statistical commissioner—was, in fact, that "sole representative of French science" whose mission M. CHEVALIER, in his "Mexico," laments as proving barren of results, from his "having fallen into the hands of the Chinese." The regret expressed is perhaps premature, as the Count gives us a programme of the *Mémoires*, of which we have before us the first hundred pages, that promises a fuller description of China than any we have yet had; purposing, as he says, to fill whatever blanks have been left by the *Lettres Edifiantes*, and other works of the Jesuit Missionaries, or by the *Chinese Repository;* to which last he awards the praise of being "often more substantial and more profound than the former." We are in presence, then, of a man who has every claim to be heard on the subject he is asking our attention to, and who certainly has not lessened that claim by this instalment of the great task he contemplates. What M. DE LAUTURE conceives to be the "Chinese Question" will best be seen by at once giving his concluding summary of what, according to his notion, should be the policy of France in the matter:—

We ought to develop our commerce and maintain our rank in the Far East; the independence and neutrality of the States of the Far East are of particular interest to us; the development of civilisation and public authority in those States being guarantees of peace and stability, we ought, as far as we can, to assist such legitimate progression; we ought to seek to conclude treaties and to take care that they are faithfully carried out, and if we should for that purpose be constrained to have recourse to any military manifestation, no permanent occupation should result thence—the imposition of a war compensation being sufficient to cover our expenses and also for the chastisement of the enemy; we ought not to compromise the Missions either by over-zealous protection or by claiming from them services easy to be obtained from other quarters, and, as far as possible, we ought to repudiate any interference in the religious or political affairs of the Far East; that such a moderate and honest policy is clearly that of the United States; that England and Russia are sufficiently enlightened, and prudent enough, to pursue the same course so long as no untoward example of an opposite policy excites that covetousness which in the Far East would have more powerful means of action at their service than at ours.

All these points are ably and strongly enforced by the Count. He complains that the commerce of France with the Far East is at the present but a seed of promise. Where one French vessel is seen in China, there are three German, four American,

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and ten English. France will probably purchase eight millions-worth of silk in the London market this very year; and this is not to be ascribed to English craft or foresight, but is the fault of the French alone. Trade and China are both neutral, and equally accessible to every European. The boldness and the industry of some are no outrage on the idleness and cowardice of others. The natural policy of France in China is one of conservative progress: China must be transmuted before she can be elevated. The necessity for reforms is felt there. Could Prince KUNG be induced to visit Europe, China would be regenerated. The visit of PETER the GREAT was sufficient to make Russia European. Europe has too much grandeur for ambassadors to dare to avow all that they have seen to a suspicious master, in the face of a malevolent Court and an incredulous people. The special need of China at the present moment is an increased revenue and a more effective army. The inhabitants of the large towns and the ports of commerce are ready to make any sacrifice provided they are governed and defended. An immediate sum might be procured by the sale of certain privileges and the temporary alienation of the salt and customs' revenues. A loan, too, might be obtained from the great European houses established in China, as a high rate of interest is perfectly normal in that country. A good army would be created with much greater facility than is supposed. The cowardice of the Chinese troops is one of those received fables that enter far too much into the composition of history. All that China wants is a settled discipline, a few simple manœuvres, a good artillery, and a militia sufficiently numerous and well drilled to defend their homes against the robbers whom success turns into rebels. There are, however, certain difficulties in the way of accomplishing this. Count DE LAUTURE observes here:—

Various defections, the appearance in China of doubtful characters, the occupation of Cochin-China, may have caused to the Chinese Government some degree of disquiet, and rendered its disposition towards us more unfavourable than might at first appear. There is room for belief that the credit of Prince Kung is not so great as it was; we are assured that the Supreme Council is now under the ascendancy of Tsen-kwo-fan, the Viceroy of Kiang-nan, who is an enemy to Europeans. Lastly, it is possible—it appears to me probable even—that a section of the men who possess the confidence of the Government, without being in league with the rebels, desire the continuation of disorder, which enables them to tax some arbitrarily and to plunder others, without even imposing on them the obligation of paying their troops. The misery of the public is the impure source whence they draw their wealth. It would require a vigorous hand to close that gulf, a severe inquiry and heavy punishments, to make the defenders of order understand that they themselves are not to be its disturbers.

But these great reforms cannot be accomplished without peace, while the finest provinces of China have for some years been a prey to brigands. The rebellion was at first mistaken for a religious movement, but that mask has now fallen. It lays waste towns and villages, leaving behind it only ruins and blood, and changes its locality without extending itself. Still, all that Europe can do is to offer good advice to the Chinese Government, and to keep the rebels at a distance from the great ports of trade. The only privilege Europeans require from China is to have their own magistrates, and to know no others; than which nothing can be more just or less dangerous to the independence of Asiatic States, who lose through it simply the chance of committing daily blunders, under the responsibility of which they would fall to the ground. It is greatly to be desired that the integrity of both China and Japan should be placed under the common protection of the Great Powers. The occupation of China by any European Power would be the signal for great disorder, but such a step can be feared from England and Russia alone. The latter, however, has so many Asiatic peoples within the limits of its empire as yet but half subjected, that its position is in some degree the same as that of China, and it is not likely, therefore, to set them all in a state of agitation. The people of England are satiated with conquests: they know what they cost, and what they return. They know that Shanghai, which costs them merely the maintenance of a Consul, does a trade with Europe, and principally with themselves, four, and, perhaps, five times more considerable than what France does with Algeria, which costs her so dear. Besides, though England preceded all Europe in China, to the general benefit, she has never put forward any pretence to remain there alone. Again, climate sets a boundary of its own on each side of the Equator, beyond which if the European settles, he vegetates, decreases, and finally disappears. The author continues:—

Thence spring a few rules which I should not lay down in London or in New York, but which I must do in Paris, where it appears not yet to be known that Algeria has neither the climate under which we can labour, nor that which produces spices; for we are calling for French hands for New Caledonia, perhaps, even, for Cochin-China, and we are sending our convicts to Guiana, without a suspicion that the climate of the country will not let them live long enough to reform themselves by industry.

In the pages devoted to this branch of his subject we find a note in which M. DE LAUTURE speaks out even more plainly, with a firmness and decision that, as in the case of some observations from M. CHEVALIER quoted in our last number, will surprise those who entertain the belief that freedom of opinion is forbidden or condemned to silence in France, especially in those who are in any way connected with the public service. Our author denounces the acquisition of Cochin-China in good set terms:—

The military *regime* is not the vice but the necessary condition of Algeria, peopled as it is by respectful, but not to be conciliated, Mussulmans, thrown into a ferment by all our wars, and, like India and the Caucasus, inspired from Mecca. That *regime* is the absence of life; the civil *regime* would be death. There was a necessity, perhaps, for taking Algiers, a nest of pirates, and for occupying it afterwards, so that others should not quarter themselves at our doors. Was it so with Cochin-China, that distant Algeria, that perpetual Mexico? I doubt not that Cochin-China offers all those elements of power and prosperity that have been so long pointed out to us in Algeria, and which appear to me to be nowhere wanting. The climate is doubtless as wholesome as that of a vast rice-field can be, at the mouths of a great river, and close to the Equator. It was at the mouths of the Ganges, 260 leagues further to the north, that the cholera had its birth; and at the mouths of the Mississippi, 400 leagues further north, was born the yellow fever. The population are said to be formidable; I sincerely hope they may not be; but our aggression menaces the whole Peninsula. The Christianity succoured is again compromised; some imprudent people may perhaps know of a legitimate pretender, ready to accept our support in order to insure the happiness of his subjects. In any case, our treaties appear deficient in solidity. We shall be obliged to extend ourselves, as in Algeria, or as the English in India, till all the land is under our feet. The sole guarantee we shall have, so far from our control, will be the prudence and moderation of agents whose advancement will depend on war, and their emoluments on the extension of our limits.

If it should be replied to this that France needs a naval station in the Eastern seas, Count DE LAUTURE would prefer a small island, and thinks the chances are, a quarrel with Japan will, before long, justify the occupation of some one of the insular fractions dependent on it; and the Americans, he says, have cast a longing eye on the little archipelago of Lew-Chew, neighbours to Japan and China both, and lying in the track between San Francisco and Shanghai.

Should the time ever come for European laws to flourish in China, our author hopes it will be through the medium of free cities, with republican institutions, and a flag of their own, indifferent to the quarrels of Europe, and open to the ships of all nations:—

Thus, Tyre, Carthage, Marseilles, Venice, would rise again, grander than ever, at the other extremity of our old world. It would, probably, be without war, without any European people suffering the slightest damage by it. I am not, however, of opinion that if such transformations are to be accomplished, it would be wise to hasten them for a moment. So long as led, if needful, by our counsels, enlightened by a reflection from our experience, the Asiatics know how to govern themselves, it would be more just and more prudent to remain their guests than to become their masters. The great European cities of China are already free and neutral; neither we nor they would gain much should Hong Kong cease to be English and Shanghai to be Chinese. Let us, on the contrary, be ardent conservatives. Let us restrain a too sudden and too precipitate invasion from Europe. Let us endeavour to hold it back till China has had time to recover herself a little, so that she be not overwhelmed, become not the theatre of a European struggle, or the prey of filibusters, ravaging the country and ruining our commerce, under the fallacious pretext of fighting each other.

Even as regards Catholic missionaries, the author is for great caution, and for care that none but men of great prudence should be sent out; and he holds that the Chinese authorities are perfectly indifferent to the religious tenets of the populace, and that where there has been persecution it has frequently arisen from Christianity being confounded with the secret societies. To the suggestion that missionaries would be useful as intelligencers, or even for the purpose of stirring up agitation, if at any time desirable, he replies "that if it was wanted to add to "the disorder of China by preparing it for invasion, it is not "the Christians but the Mussulmans, far more numerous, far "more warlike, and far more influential, that should be made "use of. To set them in insurrection would require but half a "score of scoundrels to be picked up at Mecca, and a few "Mussulman soldiers trained in the European mode." He adds that a capable agent, having a dozen chosen spahis for a guard of honour, might, if the population of Peking were in insurrection, rally every Mussulman therein to the defence of the French Legation. He absolves the Protestant missionaries from the charge alleged against them of being deeply political. As to the English Government, it neither tutors nor fosters them, and patronises missionaries no more than colonists or

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merchants: far from being the servants of its policy, missionaries are often its bitter opponents. He considers that increased powers should be given to European Consuls and Ministers to remove disorderly characters, and views with pleasure the authority conferred on Sir Rutherford Alcock for that end in Japan. The attention of those officials should also be specially directed to the operations carried on in the name of emigration, under which great abuses have been perpetrated; and he instances particularly—what was months since stigmatised in our own columns—the coolies carried off to Peru for working on the guano deposits. Lastly, he considers it as absolutely indispensable that the policy of the Government should be concentrated in one person, the Minister of France. "It would be strange that acts of armed "repression should take place, unless in a case of absolute "necessity, or that political negotiations should be entered "into, otherwise than under the order or with the instructions "of the accredited political representative of France."

It will be seen, therefore, that in the hands of the Count D'Escayrac de Lauture, "the Chinese Question" is something that belongs to the future rather than to the actual present. Looking, however, at the official position he once held in China, and the probability, from his devoting himself to the labour involved in the *brochure* before us—which is but the first part of a work that must run to a considerable length—that he looks for further employment in the Far East, the summary of his opinions above given will be read with great interest. He is evidently a man who thinks for himself, and has the boldness to proclaim the result, even though there may be much that may not be palatable to "departments." A remarkable specimen of trenchant thought, expressed with a freedom that will startle English notions of French liberty of the press, is the following extract from the preface, in which the author signalises the lessons that may be learnt from China:—

We shall see there a doctrine, philosophy, and literature; all official; fallacious honours rendered to subservient *literati*; competitions and examinations unknown in the country of Morse and Fulton, promising power to merit alone, and, as a result, imbecility triumphant and decay precipitated. We shall see equality in the education of the people, a level in an abyss; the poor man consoled for his own bastinado solely by the bastinado inflicted on the rich. We shall find the administration innumerable, present everywhere, in the way everywhere—a veritable national workshop, for the benefit of lazy and servile mediocrity. We shall find a Minister of Music and no musicians—as elsewhere, the first agriculture in the world without a Minister and without premiums. Thus, whether we look at the West or the East, the oracle always responds with the same lesson—"Nothing lives or is developed in the world but by liberty."

THE SWISS TREATY WITH JAPAN.

The following are the heads of the Swiss Treaty with Japan:—

The treaty of commerce with Switzerland is modelled altogether after the treaty with Prussia. Like the latter, it consists of twenty articles, which may be thus summarised:—

Art. 1 stipulates for perpetual peace and friendship between Japan and the Helvetic Confederation.

Art. 2 secures to the latter the right of maintaining a diplomatic agent at Yedo, as well as consular agents at the open ports of the country, who shall be at liberty to travel throughout Japan.

Art. 3 opens to Switzerland all ports open to the other Powers.

Art 4 permits free exercise of religion.

Arts 5 to 7 treat of the adjustment of disagreements.

Art. 8 secures the right of free sale and purchase.

Art 9 permits Swiss to take Japanese subjects into their service.

Art 10. stipulates that the mercantile code appended to the treaty shall form an integral part thereof, and be equally binding.

Art. 11 admits the right of the Japanese tribunals to take measures against fraud and smuggling.

Art. 12 permits the re-exportation, without further charge, of imported goods furnished with customs certificates.

Art. 13 permits the transport of such goods without further charge by Japanese subjects into the interior of the country.

Art. 14 secures currency according to its bullion value to all foreign money.

Art. 15 treats of customs arrangements.

Art. 16 grants the Swiss equal rights with all the subjects of other nations.

Art. 17 stipulates that after 12 months' previous notice the treaty may be revised from the 1st of February, 1872.

Art. 18 states that official communications may be made in the French language, provided they are accompanied by a Dutch translation, during the first five years the treaty is in force.

Art. 19 stipulates that the treaty shall be published in the French, Japanese, and Dutch languages.

Art. 20 arranges that the ratifications shall be exchanged within 18 months at Yedo. The treaty becomes valid immediately after signature

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Mar. 18	Off Scilly	Batavia	Graafstroom	de Boer.
— 21	Off Belle Isle	Do.	J. J. Granville	Robert.
— 24	Mount's Bay	Hong Kong	A. O. Anderson	Stromberg.
— 17	Off Scilly	Manila	Prousse	West.
— 17	Do.	Kanagawa	Cambridge	Dennison.
— 30	Bremen	Batavia	Tuisco	Decker.
— 24	Plymouth	Patjitan	Theodora Machtilda	Wyk.
— 22	Off Plymouth	Probolingo	Luconia	Admiraal.
— 22	Off the Eddystone	Nagasaki	Martha Theresia	Visser.
— 18	Cadiz	Maulmain	Astrea	Brunstrom.
— 24	Off the Start	Banjoewangie	Huydekoper	Blok.
— 3	Havana	Macao	Vasco de Gama	Silva.
— 28	Portsmouth	Batavia	Zeemanshoop	Pfaff (sick).
— 13	New York	Canton	Orient	Budelmann.
Feb. 28	Demerara	Do.	Zouave	Griffith.
Mar. 6	St. Thomas	Shanghai	Wilhelmina	Knaack.
— 15	New York	Foo chow-Foo	Helen Nicholson	Halliday.
— 18	Do.	Do.	Florence Nightingale	Beard.
— 30	Deal	Shanghai	Daisy	McCulloch.
Feb. 11	Texel	Sourabaya	Alma	Conn.
Mar. 29	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Nova Zembla	Mammes.
— 26	St. Nazaire	Java	L. A. Bang	Tollenius.
— 23	Off the Start	Batavia	A. R Falck	V. Duyvenbodeu
— 15	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Nile	Bristow.
— 30	Brouwershaven	Sourabaya	Cornwallis	Blick.
— 28	St. Nazaire	Samarang	Chaptal	Mocaer.
April 1	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Istamboul	Denchar.
— 2	Do.	Do.	Esmeralda	Pollock.
— 1	Falmouth	China	Pekin, str.	Burgoyne.
Mar 31	Off the Needles	Batavia	Scheveningen	
— 31	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Elizabeth	Harms.
April 2	Liverpool	Ningpo	Thalaba	Williams.
— 1	Zierikzee	Banjoewangie	Zeelandia	Blaakhert.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Mar. 5	Santa Cruz (Ten.)	Cape, Sing., & China	Yuen Tze-Fee (str.)	Storks.
— 24	London	Hong Kong	Langdale	Browne.
— 24	Do.	H. Kong & Canton	Lord Raglan	Pope.
— 28	Glasgow	Singapore & Penang	Hoang Ho	Carrington.
— 23	Cardiff	Singapore	Alblasserdam	Hoen.
— 26	London	Cardiff & H. Kong	Cavour	Yaxley.
— 24	Cardiff	Batavia	Joseph Willem	Bek.
— 24	Off Dungeness	Do.	Lewe v. Nyenstein	
— 26	Cardiff	Shanghai	Dover Court	Heigho.
— 27	Shields	Do.	Cleveland	Bannister.
— 30	London	Do.	Delhi	Sanderson.
— 31	Do.	Do.	Beemah	Johnson.
— 31	Do.	Cardiff & H. Kong	Lord Macaulay	Cave.
April 1	Liverpool	Shanghai	Mermaid	Gibson.
— 1	Do.	Do.	Diligentia	Porter.
Mar 28	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Palawan	Page.
— 31	Cardiff	Do.	Areta	Kerr

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At London.—For Kanagawa: Medina. For Shanghai: Isles of the South, Anglo Saxon, Heroes of Alma, Spirit of the Deep, Laurel, Canadian. For Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: Rubicon. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Havelock. For Hong Kong and Canton: Cambalu, Sovereign, Mary Mildred, Dilkhoosh, Prince Alfred, Jubilee, Sydney, Eggers. For Hong Kong: Maiden Queen. For Manila: Conchita. Elisa. For Singapore: Maggie, Xanthippe, Moneta, William Simpson, Coromandel, Henry Darling. For Penang: Celestial. For Bankok: Helen Baird.

At Liverpool.—For Shanghai: Morning Star, Alice, Agincourt, Elizabeth Morrow, Jane Leech. For Hong Kong and Canton: Veronica. For Singapore: Lorton, Spirit of the Sea, Arab, King of Trumps, Pladda. For Manila: Ercilla. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Cherokee steamer.

At Glasgow.—For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Thomas Mitchell. For Singapore and Penang: Osprey. For Shanghai: Glenclune.

SPOKEN.

Atacama (Dut. barq.), Sourabaya to Middelburg, Feb. 22, 31 N., 37 W.
Marmion, Canton to New York, Jan. 8, 24 S., 67 E.
Nederwaard, Penang to Rotterdam, Feb. 22, 5 N., 28 W.
Guurtje and Maria, Falmouth to Batavia, Feb. 14, 3 S., 28 W.
Thusnelda (Brem. barq.), Newport to Singapore, Jan. 21, lat. 33, lon. 30.
Bernard and Agnes, Amsterdam to Singapore, Jan. 22, 1 N.
Amazone (Ham. barq.), H. Kong to Liver., Dec. 31, in Straits of Sunda.
Canopus (Amer. ship), Sumatra to Pernambuco, Jan. 12, off Madagascar.
Indiaman, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Jan. 30, 2 S., 134 E.
Conflict, London to Hong Kong, Jan. 12, Straits of Manipa.
Esmeralda (schooner), Newcastle to Shanghai, Jan. 22, 2 N., 132 E.
Vigil, London to Shanghai, Feb. 20, 5 N., 23 W.
Fow Tsun, Shanghai to Liverpool, Dec. 19, in Gaspar Straits.
County of Lanark, Java to Amsterdam, Feb. 2, 24 S., 3 E.
Recruit, from Foo-chow-Foo, Dec. 15, in the Straits of Sunda.
Jacoba Christina (Dut. barq.), Batavia to Amst., Dec. 27, 11 S., 99 E.
Abdul Medjid, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Feb. 11, 8 S., 15 W.
Clarendon, Shanghai to London, Feb. 17, 1 S., 22 W.
Colonial Empire (Amer. ship), Macao to Lisbon, Feb. 20, 2 N., 22 W.
Gottland, from Hong Kong, 22 N., 117 E.
Burman, London to Shanghai, Jan. 16, 15 S., 118 E.
Bioplaia (?), Brem. brig, Hamburg to Hong Kong, Jan. 21, 1 N., 132 E.
Nossi Be (Fr. bark), Toulon to Saigon, Jan. 5, 4 S., 137 E.
Krimpenaarwaard (Dutch barque), for Amoy, Jan. 14, 1 S. 129 E.

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UNRIVALLED, London to Shanghai, Feb. 18, in the China Sea.
ORACLE (?), Shanghai to Liverpool, Feb. 26, 19 N., 45 W.
PRINS CARL, Batavia to Amsterdam, Jan. 15, 6 S., 87 E.
ALTONA, (Dan. barq.), Bordeaux to Hong Kong, March 10, 43 N., 12 W.
LORD RAGLAN (ship), London to Hong Kong, March 23, off Ushant.
TELEGRAF (Dut. barq.), Java to Holland, off Cape Recife.
GOEDE VERWECHTING, Java to Amstm., March 15, 47 N., 14 W.
CLARA ANN (?), London to Shanghai, Feb. 10, 33 N., 22 W.
EUGENIE, Tjilatjap to Amsterdam, Jan. 9, 33 S., 33 E.
RHINE, Shanghai to Liverpool, Dec. 26, off Java Head.
MELROSE (barq.), Amoy to London, Feb. 21, 2 N., 21 W.
SCHELDE (ship), Batavia to Amstm., Jan. 30.
COSMOPOLITE, Batavia to Schiedam, Jan. 30.
MAGGIE LAUDER, Manila to Cork, Feb. 4.
MCDUFF, Shanghai to Liverpool, Jan. 13, 35 S., 23 E.
FORFARSHIRE, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Jan. 29, 26 S., 6 E.
MARSEILLES, Sourabaya to Falmouth, Jan. 26, 34 S., 26 E.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: J. C. Munro, Confiance, Carn Tual, Louis Kniffler, Dolphin, Europe, Scawfell. At LIVERPOOL: Marion. At NEW YORK: Sarah *via* Shanghai.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Monarch, Belle, Melrose, J. H. Ransom, Anne Archbell, Stornaway, M. M. Peter, Sophie, Ocean Queen, Clarendon, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Oliver Cromwell, Wagoola, Ralston, Thomas Dryden, Magnus, Renown, Nelly, Star Queen, Chalmers, Thalaba, Balmacarra, H.M.'s Scout, Princess of Wales, Marie Wilhelmina, Standard, Mary Ann Wilson, Agra, Island Queen, Josephine, Strathallan, Marquis of Argyle, Amaranth, Glaramara, Bankside, Ballarat, Sappho, Sir Harry Parkes, Lansdowne, Egmont, Fairleader, Oithona, Albrecht Oswald, Herald, Weymouth, Stuart Wortley, Rio. At LIVERPOOL: Joshua Bates, Iron Crown, Forfarshire, Cornelia, Cordova, Abduld, Medjid, Regina, Ranee, Victoria, Montgomery, Glenhuntly, Fow Tsun, Princess Royal, Loodianah, Chryseis, Light of the Age, Falcon, Lord Lyndhurst, Royal George, General Putnam, Solway, Offor, Virginia, Juanpore, Spirit of the Times, Veloz, Koh-i-noor, Cornelia Hendrika, Devonshire, Dolphyn. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama. At HAMBURG: Selina Jane, Gravina, Orion. At NEW YORK; Letticer Catharina, Dorester, Neuhof, Sarah, Wilhelmina, Graf Eulenburg, Creole, Apollo, Elizabeth, Louise Kohn, Hermine, Kahlamba, Confucius, St Paul, Guiding Star, Queen of the Seas, Peep O'Day, Anne Wood, Capella, Thetis, Kate Carney, Santon. At Montreal: H. E. Sassaune, Asia, Tycoon.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Flora At FALMOUTH: Maggie Lauder. At LIVERPOOL: Elias, Teide, Conference. At FALMOUTH: Helverton. At COWES: Manila. At DENMARK: Emma. At ROTTERDAM: Zanzibar. At NEW YORK: Helvetia, Castilian.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Maid of the Tyne, Oscar, Pilgrim, Tre Brodre, Confiance, Early Dawn, Chili. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Centaur. At LIVERPOOL: Oasis, Crusader, Spanker. At FALMOUTH: For orders, Helene (Dan.). At BORDEAUX: Frehel (Fr.), Salazes (Fr.), Orixa (Fr.), Hooghly, Saint Michel. At NEW YORK: Caroline, Rudolf.

From BATAVIA.—At FALMOUTH: Frederika. At CHANNEL: Ceres.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Nipisiquit, Rockliff, Teesdale, Edinburgh Castle. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

From BANGKOK.—For London: Bankok.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Outward Freights are very low from London, the amount of tonnage on the berth being in excess of the present requirements of the trade. From the outports, however, good rates are being paid to China. Homeward charters are more difficult to obtain from the East, except for teak from Maulmain.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s.* to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £41, and £1. 17s. 6d. For Shanghai: £51 to £52, and £2. 5s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £30, and £1. 6s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the supply of 6,000 tons of Welsh coal, to be delivered at Shanghai. Ships are in request also for coals to Singapore and Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

AMSTERDAM, March 24.—The Vertrowen (ship), de Vos, hence to Sourabaya, has put back to-day with considerable damage, and must go into dry dock to repair, having been in collision.

The Alexander, of New York, from Liverpool to Singapore, struck on the Frederick Rock, Straits of Rhio, Feb. 5, and was beached same night in a sinking state on East Island.

The Eunice Nicholas, Simons, from Sunderland for Shanghai, arrived at Gravesend, March 27, with damage.

Advices from Batavia, dated Feb. 27, state that the Wilhelmina (brig) Wiersma, from Rotterdam to Maccassar, has been wrecked near the latter port; crew and part of cargo saved.

ST. THOMAS, March 13.—The Sarah, Van Name, from Shanghai to New York, put in here, March 2, leaky, and is discharging.

CALLAO, Feb. 28.—The Westward Ho! (national ship), which was fitted for a voyage to China, took fire in the anchorage in this bay on the night of Feb. 26, and was burned to the water's edge.

ST. HELENA, Feb. 8.—The Childe Harold, Gunnion, from Shanghai to Liverpool, arrived here to-day, making nine inches water per hour, having struck some unknown object floating on the water, Jan. 23, in lat. 30 S., lon. 35 E.

The Tustan, from Hamburg for Singapore, arrived at Rio Janeiro, Feb. 27, with damage, partly dismasted.

At ST. HELENA.—Feb. 4, Helvetia, Menk, from Manila, and sailed, 5, for New York; Rudolf, Meisma, from Batavia, and sailed, 5, for Rotterdam; Graf Eulenberg, Meyer, from Canton, and sailed, 5, for New York; 5, Magnus, Noring, from Macao, and sailed for Bremen; 6, Forfarshire, Kemp, from Hong Kong; Maggie Lauder, Henry, from Manila, and sailed, 8, for Cork or Falmouth for orders; Cordova, M'Kenzie, from Shanghai, and sailed, 8, for Liverpool; 7, Bulgersteyn, Geerling, from Banjoewangie, and sailed, 8, for Rotterdam; 8, Iron Crown, Rogers, from Hong Kong, and sailed, 9, for Liverpool; Casas, Pardo, from Manila, and sailed, 9, for Cadiz; Childe Harold, Gunnion, from Shanghai, and sailed, 9, for Liverpool; 6, Merry England, Kemp, from Ningpo, and sailed for Liverpool; 8, Santa Maria, Madrid, from Manila, and sailed, 9, for Alicante; 9, Maria Adolfina, Blom, from Batavia, and sailed, 10, for Amsterdam; Sophie (brig), Martin, from Shanghai, and sailed, 10, for London; Europe, from Japan; 11, Bankok, from Bankok; 13, Nipisiquit, from Penang; H.M.'s ship Scout, from China and Cape; 15, Tieu Tsin (str.), from Shanghai and Cape; 16, Balmacarra, from Shanghai; Queen of the Seas, from Foo-chow-Foo, to New York; 19, Glen Huntley, from Shanghai; 20, Dolphin, from Japan; 25, Dygden, from Java; 29, Lodore, from Shanghai.

At TABLE BAY.—Jan. 23, Watergens, from Batavia, for Amsterdam; 29, Scawfell, Guthrie, from Japan, and sailed 31, for London; Falcon, Sullivan, from Hong Kong, for Liverpool; Citadelle, Horman, from Hong Kong, for London; 30, Walcheren, from Batavia; Alfonzo de Albuquerque, from Macao, for Havana; 31, Maria da Gloria, from Macao, for Havana. Feb. 1, Ocean Gem, from London, for Hakodadi: 6, Vulcan (str.), from New York, and left 13, for China; 4, Prins Carl, from Batavia, and sailed 18, for Amsterdam.

AT SIMON'S BAY.—Jan. 29, China (str.), Osborne, from China, to England; 27, Pekin (str.), Cheefoo, to England; H.M.S. Scout, Capt. Corbett, from Hong Kong and Singapore, for England; Tientsin (gunboat), Nicholas, from China; 10, Ballarat, from Shanghai, for England; 12, H.M.S. Conqueror, from Plymouth, for Japan.

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Sold Retail.—London: Jozeau, Hannay. New York: Fougera, Gaudelet, Milhau. Gibraltar: Patron and Danilowich. Malta: Dr. Pirotti, A. Bugeja, Magri, and A. Rolando, Esperanza. Alexandria: Bellamore, Galette, Perinie, Bombay: Franjee Nesserwanjee and Co. Singapore: Martin and Little. Batavia: L. Platon and Co. Macao: J. D. Freita.

CHOLERA, DYSENTERY, DIARRHŒA, AGUE, FEVER, SPASMS, &c. The Safest and Best REMEDY is that marvellous remedy known as

CHLORODYNE,

which was discovered by Dr. J. Collis Brown, M.R.C.S.L. (ex-Army Medical Staff), and the SECRET OF ITS RECIPE CONFIDED ONLY to J. T. DAVENPORT, pharmaceutical chemist, 33, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury-square, who is the sole manufacturer. Medical testimony furnished by the highest authorities in military, naval, and civil practice, and numerous gratifying statements from the public generally, establishes this property as invaluable. It relives pain, soothes the system, inducing refreshing and soothing sleep without producing or having any unpleasant effects like opium, and may be taken at any time in a few drop doses. Extracts from the General Board of Health, London, as to its efficacy in Cholera:—"Third Stage, or Collapse—In all cases restoring the pulse. So strongly are we convinced of the immense value of this remedy, that we cannot too forcibly urge the necessity of adopting it in all cases." From Dr. Andrew Smith, Director-General Army Medical Department:—"I have seen it used, and apparently with much advantage." From W. Vesalius Pettigrew, M.D.:—"I have no hesitation in stating that I have never met with any medicine so efficacious as an anti-spasmodic and sedative. I have used it in Consumption, Asthma, Diarrhœa, and other diseases, and am perfectly satisfied with the results." From Dr. M. M'Millman, of New Galloway, Scotland:—"I consider it the most valuable medicine known." Dr. M'Grigor Croft, late Army Staff, says:—"It is a most invaluable medicine." Dr. Gibbon, Army Medical Staff, Calcutta:—"Two doses completely cured me of Diarrhœa." Dr. I. Baker, Bideford—"It is without doubt the most valuable and certain anodyne we have.

Sold in bottles, 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d., by the sole Agent and Manufacturer, T. DAVENPORT, 33, Great Russell, street, Bloomsbury-square, London; or sent carriage free on receipt of Stamps or Post-office Order, and with Professional Testimonials enclosed. None genuine without the words "Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne" engraved on the Government stamp on each bottle.

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DOCKS.

PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishmen's at the above Port afford every fac lity for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caissoon Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1861.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

Subscribed Capital, 2,000,000 taels, in 400 Shares of 5,000 taels each.

Pai up Capital, 200,000 taels.

DIRECTORS.

H. H. Wiggins, Esq., Manager Commercial Bank of India Chairman.
F. B. Johnson, Esq. (Messrs. Johnson and Co.).
H. D. Stewart, Esq. (Messrs. Turner and Co.).
F. Porter, Esq. (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston, and Co.).
J. Thorne, Esq. Messrs. Thorne Brothers and Co.).
David Reid, Esq.

Agencies are about to be established at the severa ports in China and Japan.

L. JOSEPHS, Secretary.

THE ORIENTAL AND GENERAL MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY,

8, Finch-lane, London, E.C.

LOSSES and CLAIMS upon POLICIES granted by this Company can be made PAYABLE at the following places in India and China through the Company's Agents, as under:—

Bombay—Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, and Co
Calcutta—Messrs. Grant, Smith, and Co.
Madras—Messrs. Bainbridge, Byard, Gair, and Co.
Singapore—Messrs. Cumming, Beaver, and Co.
Hong Kong—Messrs. Johnson and Co.
Shanghai—Messrs. Johnson and Co.

JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA. and JAPAN (Limited).

16, CORNHILL, LONDON.

Capital, Two Millions.

BANKERS.

Bank of Englan , The Alliance Bank of London and Liverpool.

Branches at Bombay, Calcutta, Hong Kong, and Shanghae.

Deposits received at 10 days' notice, on the usual terms, and for fixed periods, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued, and bills negotiated, payable in India, China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of ravellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government Loan Notes effected, so that the interest may be paid in England.

Every other description of banking and agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

SCINDE RAILWAY (INDUS STEAM FLOTILLA, PUNJAUB, and DELHI RAILWAYS) COMPANY.

At the NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the above Company, held at the LONDON TAVERN, Bishopsgate-street, in the City of London, on WEDNESDAY, the 30th March, 1864,

W. P. ANDREW, Esq., Chairman of the Company, presiding,

The following resolutions were carried unanimously:—

1. That this meeting receive and adopt the report and accounts of the directors.
2. That W. P. Andrew, Esq., be re-elected a director of this Company.
3. That Colonel Sir Frederick L. Arthur, Bart., be re-elected a director of this Company.
4. That George Gordon Macpherson, Esq., be re-elected auditor of this Company.
5. That the cordial thanks of this meeting are tendered to W. P. Andrew, Esq., for his courteous conduct in the chair this day.

W. P. ANDREW, Chairman.
S. H. R. PARRY, Acting Secretary.

Gresham House, Old Broad-street,
London, 30th March, 1864.

DINNEFORD'S PURE FLUID MAGNESIA

has been, during Twenty Five years, emphatically sanctioned by the Medical Profession and universally accepted by the public, as the best remedy for acidity of the stomach, heartburn, headache, gout, and indigestion, and as a mild aperient for delicate constitutions, more especially for ladies and children. When combined with the acidulated lemon syrup, it forms an agreeable effervescing draught, in which its aperient qualities are much increased. During hot seasons, and, above all, in hot climates, the "regular" use of this simple and elegant remedy has been found highly beneficial. It is prepared (in a state of perfect purity and of uniform strength) by DINNEFORD and Co., 172, New Bond-street, London, and sold by all respectable Chemists throughout the World.

THIRTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS of the AGRA and UNITED SERVICE BANK (Limited), held at the Bank, 27, Cannon-street, E.C., on SATURDAY, April 2, 1864.

GEORGE GORDON MACPHERSON, Esq., Chairman, in the chair.

The notice convening the meeting and the following report and statement of accounts were read:—

The Directors have to submit to the shareholders the audited accounts for the year ended 31st December last, and to report that, after making provision for all bad and doubtful debts, the net profits of the bank for the year amounted to £242,909. 12s. 6d.

Out of this sum the Directors have declared, free of income-tax, two half-yearly dividends at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum each, and have added to the last of these a bonus of £4 per share, thus making a return for the year of 18 per cent. on the paid-up capital of one million sterling.

From the balance remaining, the directors have refunded to reserved fund account the sum of £7,341. 2s. 4d. taken from it last year, and, in consideration of the greatly extended business of the bank, have carried to credit a further sum of £25,000, thus raising that fund to £225,000. They have also passed the sum of £5,000 to superannuation fund, and £15,000 to building fund, carrying forward £10,568. 10s. 2d. to credit of profit and loss account for the current year.

Since last annual meeting the directors have purchased desirable premises in Sydney, and have secured land at Shanghai, Kurrachee, and Madras, in view to the erection of suitable buildings for the branches of the bank at those ports.

The present auditors being eligible for re-election, in terms of the deed of settlement, offer themselves accordingly. By order of the Board,

MACKINTOSH BALFOUR, General Manager.

(No. 1.)—BALANCE-SHEET, DECEMBER 31, 1863.

LIABILITIES.

Dr.	£.	s.	d.
To paid-up capital	1,000,000	0	0
„ Reserved fund	192,658	17	8
„ Amount due by the bank for customers' balances, fixed deposits, acceptances, letters of credit, circular notes, &c.	8,952,830	13	11
„ Profit and loss	242,909	12	6
	£10,388,399	3	1

ASSETS.

Cr.	£.	s.	d.
By cash in hand and at call at head office and branches	941,863	4	1
„ Government securities	511,549	9	10
„ Other securities, including specie, bills purchased, discounts, loans, &c.	8,840,914	12	1
„ Freehold premises in London, Edinburgh, Calcutta, Bombay, Agra, Lahore, and Sydney, and leasehold property and building ground at the other branches	94,071	17	1
	£10,388.399	3	1

G. B. DALBY, Chief Accountant.

(No. 2.)—PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FROM JAN. 1 TO DEC. 31, 1863.

Dr.	£.	s.	d.
To payment of dividend on paid-up capital at 10 per cent. per annum) for half-year ended 30th June	£50,000	0	0
„ Ditto ditto for half-year ended 31st Dec.	50,000	0	0
„ Bonus of £4 per share	80,000	0	0
„ Amount transferred to reserved fund ...	32,341	2	4
„ Amount transferred to building fund ...	15,000	0	0
„ Amount transferred to superannuation fund...	5,000	0	0
„ Balance carried forward...	10,568	10	2
	£242,909	12	6

Cr.	£.	s.	d.
By gross profits at head offices and branches to Dec. 31, 1863, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts £496,652 6 0			
Less interest allowed on current and deposit accounts ... £167,505 14 0			
	£329,146	12	0
Total expenditure of head-office and branches, including rent, income-tax, taxes, stamps, salaries (with a gratuity of 10 per cent. thereon, to the officers of the establishments at home and abroad), miscellaneous charges, &c.	86,236	19	6
	242,909	12	6
	£242,909	12	6

G. B. DALBY, Chief Accountant.

(No. 3.)—RESERVED FUND ACCOUNT, DECEMBER 31, 1863.

Dr.	£.	s.	d.
To balance at credit of reserved fund ...	£225,000	0	0
	£225,000	0	0

Cr.	£.	s.	d.
By amount on 31st December, 1862 ..	£192,658	17	8
„ amount transferred from profit and loss account, as above...	32,341	2	4
	£225,000	0	0

G. B. DALBY, Chief Accountant.

We have examined the preceding statements (Nos. 1, 2, and 3), with the books, vouchers, and securities, at the head-office, in London, and with the detailed returns and balance-sheets signed by the auditors of the several branches, and we hereby certify to the correctness and satisfactory character thereof.

W. FARR,
J. HILL WILLIAMS, } Auditors.

London, March 16, 1864.

The following resolutions were duly moved, seconded, and carried unanimously:—

"1. That the Report and Statements which have been read to the meeting, and previously circulated to the shareholders in Europe, be adopted.

"2. That George Gordon Macpherson, Esq., Colonel Henry Doveton, James Sydney Stopford, Esq., and James Thomson, Esq., be re-elected directors.

"3. That John Hill Williams, Esq., and William Farr, Esq., D.C.L., F.R.S., be auditors for the present year.

"4. That the thanks of the Shareholders be given to the Board of Directors for their careful control of the Bank's affairs; to the General Manager, Mr. Mackintosh Balfour; to the London Manager, Mr. William Shipman; and to the Local Committees and Managers of the Branches, for the satisfactory manner in which they have conducted the business of the Bank for the past year; and to the Auditors, for their efficient supervision of the accounts.

"5. That the thanks of the Meeting be given to the Chairman for his able conduct in the chair."

G. G. MACPHERSON, Chairman.

THE AGRA and UNITED SERVICE BANK (Limited).

Established in India, 1833.
Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up capital, £1,000,000 (One Million Sterling).

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, £3,000,000 (TWO MILLIONS STERLING), in 20,000 SHARES of £100 EACH.

Number of Shareholders, 725.
Reserve Fund, £225,000.
Head Office, 27, Cannon-street, London, E.C.

DIRECTORS.

GEORGE GORDON MACPHERSON, Esq., Chairman.
JOHN CARRINGTON PALMER, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.

George Hay Donaldson, Esq.	Chas. Grenville Mansel, Esq.
Lieut.-Colonel Henry Doveton.	Major.-Gen. James Ramsay.
	Lieut.-Gen. Duncan Sim.
Ald. Thomas Quested Finnis.	James Sydney Stopford, Esq.
Colonel James Holland.	James Thomson, Esq.
Lieut.-Colonel James Horsburgh Macdonald.	William Hardinge Tyler, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER—Mackintosh Balfour, Esq.
LONDON MANAGER—William Shipman, Esq.

AUDITORS.

William Farr, Esq., D.C.L., F.R.S.
John Hill Williams, Esq.

SOLICITORS—Messrs. Upton, Johnson, and Upton, 90, Austinfriars.

INSPECTOR OF BRANCHES—Richard Barnes, Esq.

EDINBURGH BRANCH, 17, St. Andrew-square.

DIRECTORS IN EDINBURGH.

THOMAS RANKEN, Esq., 68, Queen-street, Chairman.
Daniel Ainslie, Esq., 48, Moray-place.
Benjamin Burt, M.D., 31, Charlotte-square.
George Moir, Esq., Advocate, Sheriff of Stirlingshire, 14, Charlotte-square.

MANAGER IN EDINBURGH—Robert Hunter, Esq.

Branches in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee, Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong, and Sydney.

Current Accounts of firms and individuals are kept at the head office, on the terms customary with London bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received at ten days' notice of withdrawal at rates fluctuating with those of the Bank of England; and for longer periods at fixed rates, particulars of which may be obtained upon application.

Every other description of banking business and money agency, British and Indian, transacted.

Letters of Credit and Circular Notes issued, payable at the chief cities of Europe and Asia, and also at Cairo and Alexandria.

MACKINTOSH BALFOUR, General Manager.

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EAU D'ALBION for the toilet,
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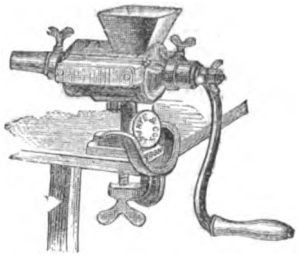
To be obtained of all the principal Perfumers and Hairdressers in Europe and other parts of the world.



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A small MINCER or MASTICATOR, to assist digestion. Price £1. 10s.

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IMPROVED MILLS for COFFEE, PEPPER, SPICE, MALT, &c., the best and most convenient made. Price 6s., 8s., 10s., 14s., 15s., and 20s.

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Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

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The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

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The Dock is built of Granite, and is 550 feet over all with 520 feet on the blocks, and a breadth of 80 feet at the entrance. It can be used as either one or two Docks, being fitted with two Caissons. It is also furnished with Steam Pumps.

Depth of Water at Spring Tides, 16½ to 17 feet.
Do. Neap do. 13½ to 15 "

Attached to the Docks is a Pair of Shears, fitted with two capstans and three winches, and capable of lifting fifty tons, with a depth of water under the Shears, alongside the Jetty, enough for any vessels at all times of Tides.

The Engine-house on the Establishment contains Lathes of all sizes, and capable of taking any sized Shaft; one Self-acting Planing Machine, Screwing Machine, with Taps and Dies complete, Large and Small Drilling Machines, Punching and Cutting Machines, Rolling Machines, powerful Steam Hammer (3 tons), &c., &c.

Also, one Wood Dock, capable of taking a Vessel of 240 feet on the keel, on a Draft of 14 feet at Spring Tides, and 11 at Neap Tides. This Dock is also fitted with a Caisson, and is pumped out by steam.

The above are the only Docks in Whampoa fitted with Caissons.

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Do Jamaica Ginger	from 3s. 6d.
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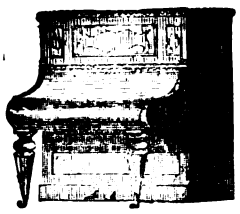

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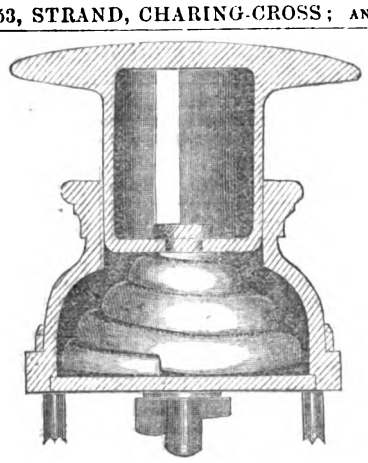

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in. balance ivory, per dozen ...	11 0	9 0	3 6
in. „ better ivory	13 0	10 0	4 6
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4 in. strong „	20 0	15 0	7 0
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4 in. full strength	34 0	24 0	10 6
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Electro-plated handles, any pattn.	26 0	22 0	8 6

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12 Dessert Forks	1 1 0	2 2 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
12 Dessert Spoons... ...	1 1 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
12 Tea Spoons...	0 10 6	1 4 0	1 4 0	1 8 0

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LINE OF SHIPS for 1864.

Ships' Names.	Ton. Reg.	Class.	Commander	To Sail.
SirJohn Lawrence	1090	A 1 13 yrs.	J. Sinclair...	April 20
Robert Lees ...	1199	A 1 12 yrs	A. Douglas .	May 20
Alumbagh	1137	A 1 13 yrs.	W. J. Dale .	June 20
Bayard (new) ...	1315	A 1 12 yrs.	———	July 20
Lloyd Rayner ...	1004	A 1 12 yrs.	J. Pollock ...	Aug. 20
Hougoumont ...	962	A 1 13 yrs.	J. Flamank .	Sept. 20
Salamanca	861	A 1 13 yrs.	G.N.Livesay	Oct. 20
Cornwallis	1214	A 1 12 yrs.	J. Leeman .	Nov. 20
Bolingbroke ...	1260	A 1 12 yrs.	H. Ross ...	Dec. 20

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Calcutta ...	SirJohn Lawrence	1,090	J. Sinclair	April 20
H. Kong & Whampoa	Sydney Eggers ...	870	H. Campbell	April 20

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Shanghai	Laurel ...	E.I.D.	May 2.
Shanghai	Isles of the South ...	E.I.D.	To follow.
Amoy & Foo-chow-Foo	Rubicon ...	L.D.	With des.
Kanagawa, Japan ...	Medina ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Singapore	Maggie ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Singapore	Xantheppe...	W.I.D.	To follow.
Bangkok	Helen Baird .	S.K.D.	With des.

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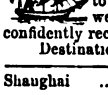

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Destination.	Ships.	Docks.	To Sail.
Shanghai	Spirt of the Deep ...	W.I.D.	April 10.
Shanghai	Heroes of Alma ...	W.I.D.	To follow.
H. Kong & Whampoa.	Maida.Queen	W.I.D.	With des.
Manila	Conchita ...	W.I.D.	April 10.
Manila	Angela ...	W.I.D.	To follow.
Singapore	Moneta ...	W.I.D.	April 10.
Calcutta	Jas. Livesey .	E.I.D.	With des.
Bombay	Tiverton ...	E.I.D.	April 25.
Penang	Celestial ...	W.I.D.	With des.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE FIFTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 28th December, 1863. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"

A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 134.] LONDON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 13s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Kanagawa			Feb. 8
Nagasaki			„ 1
Hakodadi			
CHINA—			
Peking			Jan. 20
Tien-tsin			
Hankow			Feb. 13
Shanghai	Dec. 26	Feb. 18	„ 24
Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 23
Amoy			„ 23
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Jan. 11	Feb. 25	March 1
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Dec. 26	Feb. 17	Feb. 23
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Touron			
Saigon			March 2
SIAM—			
Bankok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 1
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Jan. 26	March 2	„ 8
Penang	„ 26	Feb. 29	„ 10

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this Mail, to Marseilles, per Mussilia, arrived April 11.—From Shanghai: Mr. Simpson.—From Hong Kong: Messrs. Barston, Brush, Yung Wing, Bowyer, Macdougal, Franzo, and Novello, Capt. Howard.—From Singapore: Mr. Cadroniga, wife, two children, and servant, Don Pedriman and servant, Don Porras, Don Samie.—From Penang: Mr. Brown.

To Southampton, per Baroda, expected to arrive April 17.—From Hong Kong: Mrs. Stanford and infant, Mr. Wilkinson, Mrs. Murray, infant, and European female servant, Capts. Hogg and Hodgson, J. Oliveroo, and one Chinaman.—From Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Little and infant, two children, and European female servant, Messrs. Boster and May.—To Gibraltar.—From Hong Kong: Mr. J. Loureiro, J. H. Calderan.—From Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Aldon, child, and servant, Mr. Pasantandur, Don P. Beaumont and European male servant, Don Torres and European male servant, Don Garai and European male servant.

By last Bombay Mail, to Southampton, per Syria, arrived April 12.—From Hong Kong: Mr. S. J. Smale. From Singapore: Mr. J. Tayler and Son. To Suez, per Salsette, arrived March 28.—Bishop and Mrs. Smith.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

By this Mail.—Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, from Southampton, April 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Robertson, Messrs. F. D. Eckersley, R.N., J. T. Page, R.N., W. Chase, R.N., E. Bennett, R.N., J. Pickles, R.N., A. McIntyre, R.N., J. Brown, R.N., G. F. Graves, R.N., A. Trenham, R.N., J. Lewthwaite, R.N., R. Pattison, R.N., and W. Power, R.N. To Shanghai: Mr. Sharpe, Mrs. Mackellar and child, Mr. Craven Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Aitken. To Singapore: Mr. Maxwell. To Calcutta: Mrs. Dundas and native female servant, Ensig J. D. Serrell, Mr. H. Millett, Miss La Nauze, Surgeon W. Whylock, Mr. E. Barron, Mrs. Gilchrist and infant, Mr. G. Schar, Lieut. Ruxton, Mr. Frith, and three second-class passengers. To Madras: Capt. and Mrs. J. Geddes, infant, and native female servant, Capt. and Miss M. Williams, Major and Mrs. Ritherdon, Miss Rowland, Ensign R. W. Hill. To Ceylon: Mrs. Sampson Mr. C. Ravenhill, Mrs. Dyer's ayah and infant. To Alexandria: Maurice Gatrell. To Alexandria and back: Messrs. Hacker and Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Wotton.

From Marseilles, per Euxine, to leave April 12.—To Shanghai: Mr. Thos. Francis Wade, and European male servant, Bishop Boone. To Singapore: Mr. J. C. Guy. To Calcutta: Mr. C. H. Foster, Major G. and Mrs. Hutchinson, Messrs. H. C. M'Iver, W. Douglas, and J. D. Hutchinson. To Madras: Mr. Fane. To Ceylon: Mr. White, two Misses White, Mr. and Mrs. Dyer. To Alexandria: Messrs. J. Davidson, J. J. Cater, and E. M. Phillips. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. C. F. Grossmith, Mr. E. C. Weghorst.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

HAKODADI.

A correspondent's letter, of the date of the 24th January, gives an interesting account of the loss of the British barque *Egeria*, on her passage from Shanghai to Hakodadi. The conduct of the Japanese Prince of Matsumai on the occasion is another most convincing proof that many of the Daimios of rank and power desire to foster and protect the trade with foreigners by every means at their command.

Since my last communication (11th December) the only arrivals at the port have been the *Black River Packet* on Dec. 29th, *Theresa* on Jan. 1st, and the *Voltigeur* this day. On Dec. 14th the *Osborn*, which had left for Shanghai two days previously, in company with the *Dove*, put back with sails blown away and some of her crew frost-bitten. She had experienced very heavy and cold weather at the western entrance of the Strait of Tsugar. She subsequently put to sea again on the 18th. On the 22nd and 23rd Dec., a very heavy typhoon was experienced at Hakodadi, the gale commencing at S.E., and as usual here, hauling round by south to west. The foreign residents speak of never having felt a more severe huricane here. A considerable amount of damage was done by the drifting away of boats and junks, and several houses were unroofed. Luckily there was no foreign vessel in port at the time, or the holding power of her anchor would have been severely tried. Since the gale we have had regular cold winter weather.

I have now to record the loss of the British barque *Egeria*, Captain M'Kay, on her voyage from Shanghai hither on the night of the 31st Dec. The vessel was under charter by Messrs. Lindsay and Co. She was favoured by the weather, and had made a rapid passage from Shanghai till she was off the western entrance of the Straits of Tsugar on the afternoon of the 31st Dec. The captain's account of the affair is, that about four o'clock he obtained cross bearings of O-sima Island and Cape Greig, and then steered N.E. by E. to clear Cape Sirakani by four or five miles. A heavy snow-storm then came on. At five P.M. the ship struck a rock under water, and the lead being hove, there were ten feet on one side, and no bottom at over thirty fathoms on the other. In slipping off the rock and slewing, the rudder was carried away. The vessel was then worked entirely by the yards, and having struck again, the captain caused a blue-light to be burned and let go the anchor, but the vessel drove and ultimately went ashore stern foremost on the beach, about two miles S.E. of the town of Matsumai. At daylight, endeavours were made to run an anchor out, but in the attempt a boat was smashed. During the forenoon, the Bremen barque (but under British colours) *Teresa* passed, bound for Hakodadi. The captain of the *Egeria* believes that had this vessel come to his assistance at that time, his ship might have been hove off and towed into Hakodadi. The mate of the *Teresa* (her worthy Captain Staats was, unfortunately, not in her) states that no colours were flying in the *Egeria*, and he took her to be a Japanese vessel. Captain McKay, seeing that all his efforts to get his vessel off would be fruitless on account of a heavy sea setting in, which bilged the vessel against a rock on the starboard side, set to work to get everything that was possible out of the wreck on the beach. Japanese also came to his help, and, in accordance with orders from the Prince of Matsumai's officers, good shanties were erected, a guard stationed on the spot, and everything necessary for the comfort of the crew provided — rice, fowls, potatoes, firewood, charcoal, &c., and the captain was informed, by means of a vocabulary, that if he was in want of anything he need only apply for it; and more than this, all payment was positively refused. The Prince himself

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was at the time absent at Yedo, but his son, a boy, was in Matsumai. Shipwrecks would lose half their horrors if the unfortunates were always to be treated as in the territory of the Prince of Matsumai, and it is to be hoped that some token of gratitude, more substantial than the mere thanks of a Consul, will be presented to the Prince, either by the British Government, the owners of the vessel, or the insurance office. The presentation of a piece of plate, an Arab charger, or something appropriate, would certainly be the least that could be done, and would go farther to cement the friendship of the so-called treacherous Japanese with foreigners, than all the gunboats and frigates that could be mustered in the harbours of Japan.

It remains only to be mentioned that some of the foreign residents, as soon as they heard of a vessel ashore, proceeded to the spot; some by water, among whom was the British Consul, and some by land. By this latter route the distance is reckoned at 25 ri, something over 60 miles. The road first skirts the shore of the harbour and bay of Hakodadi, then follows a long valley into the mountains, which are crossed by a zig-zag bridle path. The sea shore of the straits is then reached, and one passes through several substantial villages, proceeding all the time to the southward and westward. After the road leaves the sea again, another high mountain has to be traversed, and thence you descend to the sea about three miles from Matsumai. The journey at no time can be made with any other conveyance than horses, and in winter, when the country is deeply covered with snow, it is in many parts of the mountains impossible to ride. The scenery well repays the labour of the journey, and the civility of the people at the villages and wayside inns, although beyond the 10 ri treaty limits, is such as you would not be apt to find in all parts of the world. Altogether, the behaviour of all classes in the dominions of the Prince of Matsumai, on this occasion, is an example to the world.

The *Egeria* was sold by public auction as she lay on the beach, for $2,100. The foreigners who went to the wreck were invited into the town of Matsumai, and entertained by the Prince's order at the best temple in the town, with a repast in first-class native style. Horses were even provided for the use of the foreigners. The captain and most of the crew arrived at Hakodadi in the ship's boats; and the stores, sails, &c., saved from the wreck will be sold by public auction to-morrow.

The existence of a rock in the position ascribed to it by Captain McKay, has not been known among ship captains frequenting this port; nor is it on the chart. It is the prevailing opinion here, that the unfortunate *Egeria* struck on the end of a reef running out from a point just westward of the town of Matsumai, but on account of the snow-storm, the land could not be seen. If this be the case, chart makers will be saved the trouble of investing "Egeria Rock."

Although it is usual for one or more Russian Government vessels to winter at this port, not one has been here for months, and it is believed most of them are at California.

There has been one death here from small-pox on board the *Teresa*. The disease was in the vessel when she left Shanghai. She will leave for Nagasaki in a day or two. The *Black River Packet* is intended to start to-morrow for Shanghai.

CHINA.

PEKING.

We take the following *curious* correspondence from the *Friend of China*. The *Friend* is always original in giving us a bit of fun :—

(To the Editor of the *Friend of China*.)

SHANGHAI, Feb. 16, 1864.

Dear Sir,— A friend of mine in the North sends me copies of some correspondence which has passed between the British Legation and an English curiosity dealer of the name of Andrews. This I hand to you, and hope you will see fit to publish it. The "private document" which Sir Frederick asks for, was a series of jottings picked up near the British Legation, from which it is supposed to have been blown. A portion of these I send also; and though my correspondent does not say by whom they were made, I think they must have come from Mr. Under-Secretary St. John's pen—that gentleman—like him of Pope's Essay, answering that invocation to Bolingbroke :—

"Awake — let's leave all meaner things
"To low ambition and the pride of kings"

—and daring to comment occasionally on the political acts of his chief. What a disclosure of the state of things in the Elgin and Kincardine Court!

Mr. Andrews, the party addressed by Sir F. Bruce, has now been over a year in or about the neighbourhood of the Court, seeking for curios, and is described as a quiet, inoffensive man. His dealings, however, interfered with the "curiosity" speculating proclivities of certain gentlemen, and so, when some Germans annoyed the Government by doing a little in drug, the complaint was availed of to stop—or "spoil his fun."

I am, dear Sir, yours, A SUBSCRIBER.

British Legation, Peking, Jan. 6th, 1864.

Sir,—I am desired by Sir F. Bruce to state that your motive in coming to Peking being contrary to treaty, he must request you to leave the capital as soon as possible.—Your obedient servant,

F. R. ST. JOHN, Second Secretary to H.M. Legation.

Mr. Andrews.

British Legation, Peking, Jan. 7th, 1864.

Sir,—I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter to Sir F. Bruce, dated to-day, and I have to state, in reply, that he regrets it is out of his power to grant you the permission you ask for.—Your obedient servant,

F. R. ST. JOHN, Second Secretary to H.M. Legation.

Mr. Andrews, Peking.

Peking, Jan. 9, 1864.

Sir,—Mr. St. John has nothing to do with my determination not to allow the treaty to be infringed at Peking.

I request you to state how you obtained access to the private document of which you purport to enclose me an extract.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, FREDERICK BRUCE.

Mr. Andrews.

Sir F. Bruce laid an embargo on the squadron, and subsequently decided to send it back to England for sale, the proceeds to defray voyage expenses and salaries, and the surplus remitted to the Chinese Government. What would any other people say to having their own property disposed of in this way?

Lay, who should have resigned voluntarily, has waited till he has got his dismissal, and now starts for home with a present of £8,000, which the Chinese willingly booked up to be rid of him. Osborn, who, with the rest of the officers and men, will receive pay to the 31st of August, 1864, has, besides, got cumshaws to the tune of £3,300, which, with his two years' salary at the same rate, brings it up to £10,000 that he will have made by a trip to Peking and back, without firing a shot.

I have at last succeeded in spoiling the fun of an Englishman who has for some time been hanging about Peking. The Government here had complained that foreigners, on pretence of visiting the capital, had been smuggling opium; and as we had reason to think that the said barbarian took back return cargoes, consisting of curios which he doubtless sold at great profit to the merchant princes on the coast, and that by such means he was interfering with our own speculations. Consequent on the freezing of the Gulf and the approach of the Chinese new year (when all have to raise the wind) we have desired the Consul to issue no more passports from Tien-tsin, except to those engaging themselves to observe the treaty regulations with regard to trading to the capital. I will never find fault with the passport system again.

SHANGHAI.

The French mail of Dec. 17 arrived out on Feb. 8, and the English mail of the 26th on the 18th. The dates by the present mail are down to the morning of Feb. 24, or three days later than given in our issue of the 4th inst., per French mail.

Crime continues, and our leading article in another column is by no means too early or too urgent for "something to be done" to stop this scandal committed under the eyes of the foreign merchants, missionaries, &c.

A junk anchored opposite Hong-Que was boarded by three Europeans armed with swords, who demanded money, and this not being given them, they savagely attacked one of the junk sailors, wounding him so severely as to render his recovery a matter of doubt. The supercargo was cut in the face, and all on board were forced below. The hatches were then closed while the junk was rifled. The following articles were taken:—13 balls opium, 110 Mexican dollars, 20,000 cash, one copper and one iron gun, four sheepskins, one coverlid. No clue has been obtained as to the whereabouts of the perpetrators of this outrage.

The Taotai Hwang, whose friendship to foreigners has never been marked, has tendered his resignation to the Futai, and it has been accepted. His Excellency has appointed Ying-Pao-Shih, late head of the Defence Committee, as acting Taotai, pending instructions from Peking. The appointment will, we anticipate, be very acceptable to foreigners, by whom Ying-Pao-Shih has long been known, and by whom he is much esteemed.

The following is from the *Daily Shipping List* of the 22nd February :—

A notification has been issued by the Futai, under date of the 7th day of this moon (14th Feb.), and has been posted up in the settlements. We have been unable to procure a copy, but the general sense of the document is to the following effect :—It states that from the time that Gordon took command of the "Ever Victorious Army," everything has gone well with it, and that no effort made by him has been unsuccessful. The friendly relations existing between him and the Governor were clouded by the events which followed the fall of Soochow, but are now for a second time friendly. Up to the day on which the city was surrendered, every movement and purpose of the one was known to the other, but the execution of the Wangs, the reason for which Gordon did not know, sowed

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the seeds of discord between them. Gordon considers that it was not right to execute the Wangs, and the Futai is of the same opinion. But the motives of each were the same, and the circumstances under which the slaughter took place were such as to justify the proceeding. The La Wang had not shaved his head, and when he and the others arrived in the presence of the Governor, one said he should be a commander-in chief, another insisted on obtaining a generalship, while others demanded that the soldiers who had congregated under their banners within the city should still remain exclusively their own. If such demands had been granted the consequences would have been most serious, whereas, if they had been refused, the course of events would have proved equally ruinous. A consultation with Gordon would have involved a delay which might have had fatal results. The execution of these princes was thus rendered necessary for the preservation of several myriads of the people, who would have been involved in certain destruction, had the requirements of the Wangs been either refused or granted. The means taken by the Government were misrepresented to Gordon and the foreign authorities, and hence the ill-feeling which arose. If, however, the rebels of Nan-buei or Chan-chou offer to surrender, no such steps will be taken. The circumstances of the case and the reasons for the seizure of the Wangs have been fully explained to the Tsung-li Yamên. Those of the people who presume to criticise the acts of the Futai, and to abuse him in public or in private, are forbidden to do so for the future. Such remarks are calculated to hurt the feelings of the soldiers, and to interfere with their future conduct in action.

The above is an abstract of the notification. We will, if possible, take an early oppotunity of publishing a translation in extenso.

On Major Gordon and trhe notification issued by the Futai, the *North China Herald* says :—The misunderstanding which arose between Gordon and the Futai relative to the slaughter of the Wangs has been "arranged," and the former officer is now making active preparations to leave Quinsan, and lead his troops to the attack of Yih-shinghsien, a town in the neighbourhood of Chang-Chow, south-west of the Tai-hu. This step on the part of Major Gordon has not given unmixed satisfaction to his friends in Shanghai. It is feared that whatever representations may have been made by Sir Frederick Bruce with respect to the massacre of the Wangs will be nullified by the renewed friendly relations between Gordon and the governor.

The New Year festivities have passed over, and trade is, in consequence, again becoming, to a certain extent, possible. Few important transactions have, however, been reported since last mail.

Messrs. Wainwright and Co. sold 140 bales of Hankow cotton, saved from the *Fire Cracker*. They weighed, originally, 150 catties to the bale, at 18.7.5 t s. per bale.

The weather has been extremely changeable, every variety of temperature between 60 degs. and 28 degs. Fahr. Theatrical entertainments have been given by an American company brought from California by a Mr. Faylor, but the attempt proved a decided failure. The character of the drama to which the company has directed its attention, and the atrocious acting were, when combined, sufficient to deter the most inveterate pleasure seekers from patronising the performances.

The arrival of the Japanese Ambassadors, reported in our last as having left Yokohama, is thus noticed :—The Japanese embassy, which is about to proceed to England to negotiate the closure of Kanagawa, and to explain the death of M. Camus, arrived here in H.I.M.S. *Monge*. The ambassadors are three in number, and are accompanied by thirteen minor officials, and a retinue of twenty-four attendants. They took up quarters at the Astor House, and walked freely about the settlement exciting an immense amount of attention from the Chinese. An evening or two after their arrival a policeman, of more than ordinary density, arrested one of the inferior officers, and led him in triumph to the station, on a charge of carrying arms in the settlement. Mr. Inspector Rumsbottom of course immediately ordered the prisoner to be released. It was fortunate that no serious disturbance was caused. The ambassadors embarked on board the *Hydaspe*, for Hong Kong and Suez, on the 21st Feb., and they have safely arrived in Paris.

We (*Recorder*) learn with surprise that Government has come to the determination of charging the officers of H.M.'s 67th Regiment for barrack accommodation, provided by their tender mercies in the China city, and that such charges are to be retrospective, making for a subaltern with his scanty pay and numerous requirements a lump sum of £60, which he is expected to shell out at once, or be put under stoppages as the very mildest mode of proceeding. This is really too bad, and we hope the respectful remonstrances in the form of a memorial, which we understand are either gone or going home, will have their due weight with the authorities, and cause them to at once withdraw so iniquitous a charge. In the early pages of this paper the present editor (then wholly unconnected with it), wrote a series of articles on the "Sanitory Condition of our Troops in China," which created considerable attention at the time, and caused various boards and inspections to take place, which resulted in some slight improvement in the quarters in questions, as well as those then occupied by H.M.'s 31st Regiment. The picture then given was a true one, and we do not hesitate to say that many a valuable life was sacrificed by a residence in the wretched outhouses, surrounded by stagnant green ponds, occupied in the city by our officers and men. Any attempt to make them pay for running an extra risk of death, or almost certain disease, is certainly most monstrous.

The following official notification appears :—From the 11th Feb. all communications referring to the jurisdiction of Prussian and German subjects, with the exception of those of the free Hanseatic towns, have to be addressed to the Secretary of the Prussian Legation, R. von Radowitz, who has been charged with the management of the affairs of the Consulate General. All business concerning the shipping will still be conducted by the Prussian Vice-Consulate.—PRUSSIAN CONSULATE GENERAL.

The Steam Washing Company (says the *Recorder*) has already found too many difficulties to contend with to carry out its promises and intentions. The Chinese workmen (as we are informed, to our sorrow) will not wash at all by the new system, and have struck. Anxious to be able to report favourably of its operations, we tried the experiment, and at the end of a fortnight had our clothes returned in soldierly parlance "as they were." This, to say the least, is unpleasant, and would have been more so in the hotter part of the year. We are sorry for the proprietors, who must have gone to considerable outlay, the return of which is now seriously jeopardised, but until they get affairs in proper working order they are bound to take no more articles.

We (*Recorder*) have frequently had occasion to notice the improvements made or being made in the shape of wharves, jetties, &c., on the river. Probably there is no public wharf where so many facilities for discharging and loading vessels and storage of goods can be obtained as at the Shanghai wharf. A short time since our esteemed contemporary in commenting on the facilities to be obtained, instanced the *Chanticleer's* having one hundred tons of coal shipped in five hours, and on the shortest possible time to prepare for her coming alongside. The *Feiloong* also took in forty tons in two hours ; and as high an average of discharge as 1,000 tons in five days has been attained. The *Fiery Cross* is now discharging, or rather has completed her discharge, of about 1,100 tons of cargo in about four days. Greater feats are possibly performed in the docks in Liverpool and London by the application of steam and hydraulic power ; but such rapid loading and discharge as above is rarely obtained elsewhere, and reflects credit alike to the company and their servants, as to the port. We have observed several vessels which arrived weeks before the *Fiery Cross*, still discharging, the ordinary appliances being so much slower in effect. We cannot doubt but that owners and captains of ships will find this wharf a great convenience.

HANKOW AND PORTS ON YANG-TSZE.

Latest advices are to the 4th February. Trade is reported to be at a standstill, trips into the country in search of game employing the greater part of the time of the merchants.

HONG KONG.

The dates are down to the 1st March, or four days later than per French mail, which arrived on the 4th instant. No later mail had arrived from England ; the French mail of 17th January, having, as noticed in our last, broken down near Galle.

The arrival of the *Falcon* from London is announced in 95 days.

The last of a series of three concerts given here by the various artistes at present in the city came off. On account of the weather the entertainment was thinly attended. These concerts have been by far the most excellent concerts ever given in Hong Kong. The leading feature of the programme

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was a fantasy on "Linda de Chamounix," beautifully arranged and composed for two pianos and an organ, which was played by Mr. R Sipp and two gentlemen amateurs; it was the only piece encored, and it must be very gratifying to Mr. Sipp to have called forth such vehement applause from so small an audience. We wish every success to the various musical artistes who have lately entertained us, and we deeply regret that various circumstances have prevented them from receiving the success which they deserved.

The *Evening Mail* of the 26th February says:—The Japanese Embassy, which arrived last night by the *Hydaspe*, consists of three Ministers, six First-class Officers, ten Second-class Officers, and sixteen servants—in all thirty-five. It is the intention of the Embassy, which is accompanied by Mr. Blakeman, of the French Legation, to visit Paris, London, and the various capitals of countries which have treaties with Japan, for the purpose of explaining the present state of affairs, and likewise to endeavour to arrive at some arrangement about foreigners quitting Yokohama (only). The entire expenses of the Embassy are borne by the Tycoon's Government. A rumour is current that they are men of low extraction put forward under false pretences. It can make very little difference who they are, so long as they are duly accredited to the various Courts they mean to visit; and it is to be hoped that advantage will be taken of their visit to Europe to impress upon the country they represent that the time has gone by for nations remaining in a state of isolation. As for the evacuation of Yokohama, it would be a grave mistake on the part of the English Government to concede so much. The time was when the concession might have been made, but it is too late now.

The following is the conclusion of an article which appeared in our last number, taken from the *China Mail*:—

"In these views we are borne out by the tone which the Chamber of Commerce adopted in the last half-yearly report. The ground which that body took was in our opinion good ground. They advised the English Government to adhere to the treaty in its letter and spirit, and they proved successfully that our authorities in China had permitted both to be openly violated in numerous particulars. For example, the system of confiscating English property by the award in a Chinese court, where the proceedings are conducted with closed doors, is not only opposed to the letter of the treaty, but is hostile to every received principle of law and justice. This and many other matters call for diplomatic interference, and we are not at all surprised that China merchants should have expressed an objection to the existing state of affairs; but we are somewhat astonished at the fact that the English Government, both at home and through its representative in China, should have been so negligent in watching how the articles of the treaty are carried out. The fact is that the Chinese have no sense of honour, or if they have they do not make much use of it with regard to foreigners. They are a magnificent people to trade with, and, so long as they see a *quid pro quo*, they are ready to deal with anybody and everybody. With the natural instinct of traders, however, they always like to drive the best bargain they can, and the consequence is that Englishmen, with their usual good-nature and generosity, have allowed themselves to be "chiselled" out of various privileges which they ought to have enjoyed by the treaty. Sir Frederick Bruce is a tolerably clever man, but we are greatly mistaken if his policy of conciliation towards the Chinese Government proves to be the best in the end. Recent events have shown that the rulers of this empire lose no opportunity of humiliating foreigners. Their contempt for us is feigned, which renders their treatment of foreigners all the worse. We, on the other hand, wishing to deal fairly by them, have hitherto been rather yielding in our behaviour. It is perhaps best that such should have been the case, and that we should have learned by simple experience what Chinamen were. That experience has, we think, been somewhat dearly bought, but it is now too late to complain. Mr. Lay has been sacrificed partly through his own fault, and partly owing to Chinese dislike of foreigners, and Captain Osborn has also been thrown overboard from similar causes.

"We attribute the growing assurance of the Chinese rulers to the fact that they have been lifted out of the mud lately by the action of Major Gordon; and we should be sorry, after what has passed, were the Major to remain in their employ. Gratitude is a quality totally unknown to Chinamen, and it is very seldom that a feeling of honour is evoked in their bosoms; they must, therefore, be dealt with on the principle of expediency, and everything we require of them must be insisted upon. By adopting this policy we shall be relieved, to a great extent, of the exercise of that cleverness which our fourth-class diplomatists out here pique themselves so much upon. We can easily deal with the Chinese by the rule of thumb, and that is the sort of treatment they are most able to appreciate. The Futai of Shanghai has, by his recent conduct towards Major Gordon, opened our eyes to the Chinese method of acting towards foreigners. In point of fact, that simple affair may be considered as a very good exponent of Chinese ideas of English assistance. It is necessary that those ideas should undergo some modification, and, if we are rightly informed, the process has already begun; in other words, the Futai has been making desperate attempts to pacify Gordon, having even gone the length of sending his pliable Scotch lieutenant, Dr. Macartney, to see whether matters could not be patched up. Our own opinion is, that Gordon will withdraw from the business altogether, and leave the Imperialists to manage their own affairs. From the beginning he has shown that pecuniary profit has had nothing to do with his actions, and it is likely that the Chinese have failed to understand what could have been his actual motives. With a view, therefore, of indoctrinating our celestial friends in the secret of English labour, courage, pluck, and all that sort of thing, it would be well to drop lending them any more martial assistance until they begin to appreciate it better. We think that affairs in China are very near a turning-point, and that, should matters be properly conducted, we ought to obtain a better footing in the empire than we have ever possessed before."

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Privat.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 4d. to 6s. 6d.	6s 5d. to 6s. 7d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6 ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 11d.	5s. 0d. to 5s. 1d.
At Singapore	6 ditto	4s. 11d. to 4s. 11½d.	5s. 0d. to 5s. 1d.
At Manila	6 ditto	4s. 7d. to 4s. 8d.	4s. 7d. to 4s. 9d.

At Shanghai: Bills on India, Rs. 303 to 304 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong: Rs. 230 to 233 per $100. Bar silver at Shanghai, 110.75. Hong Kong, 4 prem. Mexican Dollars at Shanghai, 75; and exchange on Hong Kong, 25 discount.

The Circular of Messrs. Sharp & Co. has the following items:—

GOLD.—One lakh of dollars worth has been imported during the fortnight; and the outward shipments, including those by the *Ottawa* on the 15th inst., and excluding those to leave by the *Emeu* to-morrow, amount to two and-a-half lakhs. Messrs. Russell and Sturgis state in their circular of the 20th inst., that "A Royal order having been received to the effect that no payments of coin are to be made from the Mint until each month's coinage is approved from Spain, it will require three or four months to realise gold sent to the Manila Mint."

SILVER.—But a few bars have been received, and the transactions carried through have been altogether unimportant.

DOLLAR CURRENCY.—The amounts received and exported during the last two weeks have been almost the same, and may be called a little over three lakhs on either side. The amount sent to Shanghai is in excess of that received in clean coin.

DISCOUNTS AND MORTGAGES.—A considerable business has been done in discount during the fortnight at rates ranging from 8 to 12 per cent. per annum, the former representing discounts of our own acceptances at short periods, and the latter of usual good paper for a longer time.

EXCHANGE.—Private bills have been unusually scarce, but remitters have been supplied freely with Bank paper at previous rates and purchases have been made for 15th March and even 1st April mails. On Calcutta no transaction has been made since the direct steamers for which the rate closed at 23½ for 15 sight.

SIAM.

The *Straits Times* of the 7th March reports that a great fire had taken place at Bankok, by which a large amount of property had been destroyed.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are to the 8th March. The Governor returned to Singapore on the 5th. His Honour has made the following appointments:—Mr. D. E. Thom, Chief Officer of the steamer *Pluto*, to be commander of the steamer *Mohr*; Mr. Horace Brown, to be engineer in charge of the steamer *Mohr*, with effect from the 5th March; Mr. William H. Goodman, to be chief officer of the steamer *Pluto* on probation; Assistant Surgeon A. Fergusson, M.D. Madras Establishment, to be Residency Assistant Surgeon at Singapore.

Mr. A. Conighi assumed charge of the Austrian Consulate at Singapore on the 1st March.

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Intelligence had been received from Saigon that the captain and crew of the British ship *Madras*, of Greenock, had arrived there, their vessel having been totally lost when on her passage from Bankok to Hong Kong, in north lat 8.17, and east lon. 113.54, or about forty miles west of the Palawan Investigator Shoal, and twenty miles north of the Ardasier breakers. The crew were in the boats six days before reaching Saigon.

There had also been made known the loss of the French ship *Flora*, from Europe, bound to Saigon, when within about forty miles S.W. of the latter port.

We hear of the loss at Boelocamba (south coast of Celebes), of the Dutch vessel *Wilhelmina*, from Rotterdam for Macassar, with a full cargo, on the 27th Jan. At Macassar were also landed the captain and crew of the Danish ship *Jupiter*, lost in the Straits of Sallayer, supposed to be bound for China from Bankok.

A letter from Akyab to private hands, dated Feb. 3, states that the *Alabama* had burnt off the Sumatra coast a large American ship, called the *Expounder*, bound for that port.

Captain de Bathe reports that on January 17, at 5 A.M., the barque *Douglas*, steering S.S.W. ½ W. ran over a bank in the China Sea; water having a milky and phosphoric appearance. Sounded and got no bottom; shortly afterwards got eight fathoms sandy ground, keeping the same water for 20 casts, then seven fathoms, then 6½ fathoms. Wore ship round to the N.N.W. when they slowly deepened their water, getting 8 fathoms for 10 casts, 9 fathoms for 12 casts, then 9½, then 10 fathoms for many casts. The position of the centre of the shoal from dead reckoning on the previous noon is longitude 111 deg. 20 min. east, latitude, 17 deg. 43 min. The position at 5 A.M. worked back by observation at 8 A.M. for longitude, and from noon for latitude, gave 111 deg. 18 min. 39" and latitude 17 deg. 41 min. 12" North.

HARBOUR LIGHT, SINGAPORE.—On and after the 1st of March, a new light will be exhibited from the flagstaff, Fort Canning. The light will be fixed at an elevation of 245 feet above the sea (high water mark), and it is calculated will be seen from a distance of fifteen miles. It will be visible through an arc of 90 degrees, extending from St. John's Island and Johore Shoal, at the northern entrance of the Old Straits.—J. O. MAYNE, Captain, R.E.

The failure of Messrs. G. H. Brown and Co., of Singapore, with liabilities for about half a million dollars, is announced. The estate is to be wound up under inspection, and is expected to realise 100 cents to the dollar.

The Chamber of Commerce here lately addressed the French Consul, soliciting his aid in having boxes for the reception of late letters placed on board the steamers of the *Messageries Imperiales*, under charge of the Mail Agents. M. Troplong has forwarded this letter to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and in the meantime suggests that the Post-office here might follow the course adopted by that at Hong Kong, which is, to send on board the steamers a clerk who receives letters up to the moment of sailing, and makes up an after-packet which he delivers to the Mail Agent. M. Troplong observes that there would be less difficulty in carrying this out here than at Hong Kong, as the clerk need not be stationed on board the steamers, but might receive the late letters and make up his after-packet either in the Telegraph-office or in some part of the extensive premises of the Borneo Company, both of which adjoin the wharf at which the steamers of the *Messageries Imperiales* lie when at Singapore.

We trust the Post-office will at once adopt M. Troplong's suggestion, as it will greatly conduce to the public convenience. Some of the Naval Agents on board the P. and O. Company's steamers carrying Her Majesty's mails, have lately shown a disposition to ignore the instructions given by the Admiralty in 1858, to allow the public to use the letter boxes on board the steamers for the reception of late letters, and we think it may be well therefore to republish the letter from the Secretary to the Admiralty on this subject. This letter, it will be observed, was in reply to one from the Singapore Chamber of Commerce, requesting that arrangements might be made for the reception of late letters on board the steamers up to the time of sailing:—

ADMIRALTY, 6th Nov., 1858.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 3rd of September last, urging on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce at Singapore the convenience that would result from a box for the reception of late letters being placed on board the steamers employed in the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you that previous to the receipt of your communication steps had been taken to place moveable letter boxes on board the packets employed in the Indian and China Seas.—I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant, W. G. ROMAIN.

The Penang Chamber of Commerce at a meeting lately held by them resolved to make further representations to the British Government on the subject of the proceedings of the Dutch on the East Coast of Sumatra. In connection with this movement the *Penang Gazette* publishes a detailed statement of the trade between Penang and the native ports of Sumatra for the last five years, proving the valuable nature of the trade which is now considered to be jeopardised. The imports into Penang from these ports consist of pepper, gutta-percha, india-rubber, betelnut, and other kinds of produce. The exports from Penang consist of piece goods, twist, yarn, opium, and other articles. The following is the sum total of the imports and exports from 1858-59 to 1862-3:—

	Imports.	Exports.
1858-59	£296,143 ..	£299,936
1859 60	252,031 ..	364,933
1860 61	385 886 ..	506,727
1861 62	343,666 ..	511,093
1862-63	944,097 ..	1,512,235

It will be seen from these figures that the trade between Penang and the native ports in Sumatra is rapidly increasing, and it will therefore be matter of regret if anything should be allowed to interfere with such a valuable branch of the commerce of the Straits Settlement. We have not the means at hand at the present moment of giving a comparative view of the trade between Singapore and Sumatra for the last five years, but we find that in 1860-61 the imports amounted in value to £144,297, and the exports to £93,015. The trade of Malacca with the same quarter must also be of considerable importance.

The *Penang Gazette* says:—The drought mentioned by us in our issue of the 30th of January still continues. With the exception of a few showers which fell on the first few days in February, we have had hot dry weather for the last five or six weeks. The heat is, in consequence, very oppressive, and the only places at all comfortable are the beach and the hill. The dust on some of the roads lies very thick, and the passage of carts and carriages stirs it up in clouds. For many years we have not had such a continuance of dry weather like the present, and if it lasts much longer it may cause serious injury to the various plantations. Coffee and young cocoanuts which were lately planted are already suffering much, and the grass has quite a brown and burnt-up appearance.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BAILEY—On Sunday, the 14th Feb., at the Parsonage, Yokohama, the wife of the Rev. M. Buckworth Bailey, H.B.M. Consular Chaplain, of a daughter.

FITTOCK—On the 28th March, at 21, Rokeby-road, New-cross, Mrs. Edwin Fittock, of a son.

FOWLER—On the 22nd March, at Elie, Fifeshire, the wife of Capt. David Fowler, late of the steamer Thunder, of a daughter.

MCMILLAN—On the 27th Feb., on board the Kalahome, the wife of Captain McMillan, of a daughter.

NASH—On the 29th March, at Tolpuddle Vicarage, Dorchester, the wife of the Rev. George L. Nash, of a daughter.

RANKINE—At the Johore Steam Saw Mills, Singapore, on the 29th Feb., Mrs. James Rankine, of a daughter.

TONNOCHY—On the 31st March, at Chanonry, Old Aberdeen, the wife of Captain V. Tonnochy, H.M.'s 81st Regt., of a daughter.

WILKINSON—On the 7th April, at 78, Inverness-terrace, Bayswater, the wife of Alfred Wilkinson, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BOLTON—DARE.—At St. Andrew's Church, Singapore, on the 23rd Feb., by the Rev. Charles J. Waterhouse, M.A., Chaplain, Charles James Bolton, Esq., Commander of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.'s steamer Reiver, to Louisa Caroline, second daughter of the late George Julius Dare, Esq.

DENNE—MENZIES.—On the 31st March, at the parish church, Hampstead, by the Rev. G. A. Herklots, M.A., Thomas Denne, Esq., of Camberwell-grove, to Mary, daughter of the late William Menzies, Esq., of Kor pan, Java. No cards.

MACLACHLAN—TOWSE.—On the 5th April, at St. Magnus the Martyr, London-bridge by the Rev. R. M. South, of East Peckham, Kent, assisted by the rector, the Rev. Alex. Israel McCaul, William Maclachlan, of the Stock Exchange, Esq., second son of Dr. Maclachlan, of Rothesay, Isle of Bute, to Adeline Annie, eldest daughter of William Beckwith Towse, of Fishmongers'-hall, Esq.

TARRANT—HONISS.—At the Episcopal Church, Honque, Shanghai, on the 20th Jan., 1864, by the Rev. Elliot Thompson, William Tarrant, to Marie Helene, only daughter of the late M. Vital Edouard Duprat, and relict of W. H Honiss, Esq., of Hastings, Sussex.

WHITNEY—CARPENTER.—On the 6th April, at the parish church, Dawlish, by the Rev. Thomas King, uncle of the bride, assisted by the Rev. F. H. Tucker, Silas Russell Whitney, Esq., of Whitney, and Fifth Avenue, New York, to Marina Charlotte, third daughter of the late Major-General Carpenter, of H.M.'s Indian Army.

DEATHS.

CAMPBELL—On the 30th March, at George-street, Portman-square, her Highness the Princess Victoria Gouramma, wife of Colonel John Campbell.

DOWNIE—On the 21st February, at Hong Kong, John Downie, Inspector of Machinery, R.N., aged 49.

GILMAN—On the 24th February, at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, Thomas Gilman, destitute seaman.

GREENFIELD—On the morning of the 10th April, at 15, Whitehall-place, Hume Greenfield, Esq., Assist.-Secretary Royal Geographical Society, in the 35th year of his age.

GREENWOOD—In Dec., 1863, drowned between Shanghai and Ningpo, Robert Joseph, second son of the late Mr. Greenwood, of Guernsey, aged 26.

JANTZEN—On the 21st February, at Hong Kong, Carl Jantzen, master of the Russian schooner Rusalka, aged 50 years.

KNEVITT—On the 28th March, Mrs. Hannah Parker Knevitt, widow of the late Thos. Knevitt, Esq., of Whitton, in the 42nd year of her age.

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MAPLES—On the 4th April, at his residence, Hornsey, Thomas Frederick Maples, Esq., of 6, Frederick's-place Old Jewry, aged 82.
MANNING—At Rangoon, on the 12th Feb., 1864. after a short illness, Captain William Manning, of the British barque Tien Sein of Singapore.
MILLER—On the 15th February, found drowned, George Miller, seamen of the British ship Her Majesty.
PICKERING—On the 21st February, at Hong Kong, on board H M.'s Melville, George Pickering, ordinary seaman H.M.'s Coquette.
ROBERTS—On the 28th February, at Hong Kong, Thomas Roberts, shipwright.
ROGERS—On the 24th February, at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, Samuel Rogers, destitute seaman.
ST. FRIENDS—On the 27th February, at the Seamen's Hospital, Hong Kong, James St. Friends, seaman ex ship Don Pedro II., small pox.
STEPHENSON—On the 8th inst., after a few days' illness, at 10, Rochester-square, Camdentown, deeply regretted by all who knew him, James Stephenson, Esq., late of Hong Kong, aged 48. Friends will please accept this intimation.
WILSON—On board the Ariel, on the 16th Feb., Mr. Thomas Wilson, aged 16 years.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.
1863-64.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1, to Jan 31, 1864	1814547	42476016	49884104	2257090	11721042	108152801	40385
Corresponding period last season	1733439	38375215	35385450	336208	18131000	86861312	67402

SHIPMENTS IN FEBRUARY.

Ship.	From.	lbs. Tea.	Bales Silk.
Behar Mail str.	Shanghai, &c.	—	351
Aurora Australis	"	630,010	—
Pakeah	Foo-chow	1,011,500	—
Tamberlane	Canton	991,831	—
Mary Shepherd	Japan	3,740	27
Cymbeline	"	338,906	44
Stornaway	Shanghai	550,253	—
Ottowa Mail str.	"	—	365

TO UNITED STATES.

From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	17183051	Piculs. 468
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	16541360	1086

SHIPMENTS IN FEBRUARY.

Ship	From	lbs. Tea.	Bales Silk.
Silvercraig	Shanghai	569,274	—
Neuhof	Amoy	395,861	—
Lettice Catherine	Shanghai	74,430	—
Doretie	Foo-chow	561,400	—
Lord Collingwood	Shanghai	485,325	—
Mercara	"	468,969	—

TO THE CONTINENT.

From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	1289007	Bales. 3271
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	1124764	6532

SHIPMENTS IN FEBRUARY.
None.

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	Total lbs. 466175	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	39782	...

SHIPMENTS IN FEBRUARY.

Ship.	From	Tea packages.
Julia Ann	Hong Kong	1,200

TO AUSTRALIA.

From 1st June to 31st January, 1864	8,801,327
Corresponding period last year	8,618,459

SHIPMENTS IN FEBRUARY.

Ship.	From	Tea, lbs.
Ettrick	Foo-chow	330,400
Jane	Hong Kong	217,523

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	...	...	...	51,022,600	..
" 1845 to 1846	...	...	...	57,334,200	18,604
" 1850 to 1851	...	...	...	63,972,300	22,143
" 1853 to 1854	...	...	...	77,327,800	61,980
" 1855 to 1856	...	...	...	92,240,300	50,480
" 1857 to 1858	...	...	...	76,990,255	68,311
" 1858 to 1859	...	...	...	65,789,792	83,136
" 1859 to 1860	...	...	...	85,560,452	64,163
" 1860 to 1861	...	...	...	90,066,160	79,644
" 1861 to 1862	...	...	...	109,854,040	70,199
" 1862 to 1863	...	...	...	121,273,580	...

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1864	345946	24	9097	4375	281	1748

SHIPMENTS IN FEBRUARY.

Ship.	From	Piculs Cotton.
Bella	Hong Kong	4,274
Norwood	"	4 000
Nelly	Yokohama	3,378
Annie Archbell	Shanghai	4,500
Alchymist	"	4,662
Isabella Hercus	"	3,480
Constantia	"	4,642
Nancy Bryssou	Hong Kong	4,302
M. M. Peter	Shanghai	2,704
Antelope	"	5,304
Geo. Ruxton	"	2,769
Bentinck	"	2,390

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents. and is dividediuto uecimal parts of ten.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.
CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—Canton: There has been very little change in the position of this market since the departure of last mail, the transactions reported being very restricted. The teamen continue very firm, but the tendency of rates for black teas is downward notwithstanding. Three more chops of country Congou have arrived. The following settlements comprise the business of the fortnight:—Congous, 1 chop good black leaf at 25½ taels, being a small decline on previous rates. Scented teas, no sale; Canton teas, 2,000 boxes Gunpowder, mid. to good, at 20 to 22 taels; Country Greens, 7,800 packages (for New York); Gunpowder at 41 to 58 taels; Imperial at 38 to 55 taels; Hyson at 37 to 63 taels; Young Hyson at 31 to 50 taels; Twankay at 23 to 30 taels. The stock of teas remaining on the market consists of Congou 45 chops; Scented Teas 20,000 boxes Caper and 5,000 boxes Orange Pekoe; Canton Greens uncertain; Country Greens, 2,950 pkgs.

FOOCHOW.—Operations were resumed after the holidays on the 15th Feb., and a considerable business has been done in Congous by a few buyers. Prices are about on a par with those ruling before the China new year, except that common Congous have been settled at a slight reduction. The sales since the holidays are reported as under. Congous 6,500 chests and 3,500 half-chests at 10½ to 14 taels for low and dusty, 14½ to 18½ taels for good common to flavoury, and 19 to 22½ taels for good flavoury. Souchongs, 240 chests at 18 taels for common. The comparative supplies to date are as under:—

	1863-64	1862-63
Congou ..	546,800 chests ..	563,100 chests
Souchong ..	59,100 " ..	33,000 "
Pekoe ..	7,700 " ..	11,900 "
Oolong ..	178,900 ½-chts. ..	214,100 ½-chts.
Green Tea ..	7,600 " ..	8,880 "
Scented Tea	73,400 boxes ..	135,200 boxes

The comparative sales and contracts:—

	1863-64.	1862-63.
Congou	530,400 chests ...	537,100 chests.
Souchong... ..	58,000 " ...	33,900 "
Pekoe	7,100 " ...	10,900 "
Oolong	174,100 ½-chts. ...	198.400 ½-chts.
Green tea	1,000 " ...	8,800 "
Scented tea ...	67,000 boxes ...	118,500 boxes.

And the comparative stocks:—

	1863-64.	1862-63.
Congou	16,400 chests ...	26,000 chests.
Souchong ...	1,100 " ...	Nil.
Pekoe	600 " ...	1,000 "
Oolong	4,800 ½ chts. ...	15,700 ½-chts.
Green tea ...	Nil. ...	Nil
Scented tea ...	6,400 boxes ...	6.700 boxes.

SHANGHAI.—Black: The transactions of the fortnight have been very limited. The holders are very firm, and evince a preference to shipping on their own account rather than sell at current rates. This has caused buyers to come up in their offers a trifle, but not to a sufficient extent to meet the ideas of holders. The transactions of the fortnight are thus reported. Settlements 200 ch. Ningchow at 24 taels. Transshipments 1,630 ch. Congou. The stock on the market is estimated at nearly 10,000 ch. Congou. Greens: Country packed have advanced a little to a good demand, whilst Shanghai packed have become a little easier and are dull. The settlements and transshipments of the fortnight amount to 7,750 hf.ch. Fychow, 750 as Pingsuey, and three chops of Shanghai packed. Making total settlements of the season to date 241 317 hf.ch. Stocks are much reduced, and no supplies have come forward from Kewkiang—they are estimated at 10,500 hf.ch. Fychow. 4.000 ditto Pingsuey, and 3.000 ditto Shanghai packed—total 17,000 hf.ch.

HANKOW.—Business has not been resumed since the holidays. The stock is limited to 8 chops.

KEWKIANG.—Business was resumed on the 12th or 13th Feb. The first purchases were for shipment to London, and after that the market became fairly opened. The settlements of the fortnight are reported as follows:—

5,000 hf.-ch.	Moyune	at 35 to 40	Tls.
1,000 "	Fychow (fine)	" 38 " 38½	"
500 "	do. (good)	" 31 " 33	"
1,250 "	Kewkiang (packed) ..	" 31 " 36	"

7,750 hf.-ch. in all.

These rates are fully equal to the quotations ruling before the holidays. Shippers have doubtless been encouraged by the fall in Exchange at Shanghai. The stock remaining on the market is estimated at nearly 35.000 hf.-ch. The total shipments of the season to date amount to 107.000 chests black and 172,500 hf.-ch. green, against 51,500 ch. black and 202,250 hf.-ch. green same period last season. Of black one chop remains on the market.

YOKOHAMA.—No business has been transacted during the fortnight, owing to the Japanese holidays. The stocks on the market are computed at 250 pls. ordinary, 300 pls. good ordinary, 200 pls. common, 200 pls. good common, 300 pls. medium, and 50 pls. fine; total, 1,200 pls. The quotations are—ordinary $1 to 3, good ord. 4 to 6, common 8 to 15, good common 16 to 19, medium 21 to 25, fine 26 to 29, finest (none) 32 upwards.

NAGASAKI.—There is a great falling off in the supply, and rates have advanced materially, good and medium being fully $2 above last quotations. There is no prospect of a reduction until supplies are more free. The total export this season to date amounts only to 2,500 pls. to all China, and 288,500 lb. to London.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—The rate of exchange having further declined, transactions to the extent of 460 bales have been concluded at a reduction of about tls. 5 to 5.10 per picul on Taatlees and Hainings. Taysaams, however, on account of their continued scarcity, have remained firm. The market closes rather firmer for all descriptions, but the rate of exchange having somewhat advanced, has already checked the desire to purchase. There have been no arrivals from the interior or Japan, so

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that the stock is further reduced. It is reported that Kashing has been retaken by the Imperialists, which, if held, will greatly assist the supply of Taysaams for next season. The transactions of this fortnight are reported at 460 bales, against 7,000 bales corresponding fortnight last season, and 2,000 bales the season before. The total settlements this season to date are 32,044 bales, against 60,000 bales corresponding period last season, 57,000 bales the season before, and 71,500 the season previous to that. The present unsold stock is 4,500 bales, against 3 000 do. same period last season, and 8,000 do. the season before. The following are the latest quotations:—Tsatlees, No. 2 chops, 430 to 440 taels per picul; 3, 415 to 425 do.; market, 3, 405 to 415; 4, 390 to 400; 5, and com., 375 to 385. Taysaams, No. 1 and 2, 390 to 420 taels per picul; 3 and inferior, 340 to 380. Yuenfa, No. 1 and 2, 405 to 425 taels per picul; 3 and inferior, 375 to 395. Hainings, 375 to 420 taels per picul.

YOKOHAMA.—Owing to the Japanese holidays and the continuance of the prevalence of the political causes explained in our prior market reports, business in this staple has been entirely at a stand during the past week. Stocks may be quoted at 50 bales. Quotations, nominal, as follows:—Ida, medium, $540 to $555; inferior, 490 to 510. Sodi, fair to good, 480 to 505; Mybash, best parcels, 550 to 560; medium, 530 to 545; inferior, 510 to 525. Oshio, best parcels, 535 to 545; medium, 495 to 515; inferior, 445 to 465. Coshu, best parcels, 495 to 510; medium, 475 to 490; inferior, 460 to 470. Hatchogee, 385 to 420.

NAGASAKI.—Expected supplies have not come to market, and as there is a good demand, first arrivals will command high rates.

DRUGS, &c.—MACAO.—Cassia Lignea: Sales 500 piculs at $14.80 to 15; stock 3,000 piculs. Cassia Buds: Sales 22 piculs at 58; no stock. Cassia Oil: Sales 10 piculs at 206 to 210; stock 15 piculs. Aniseed Oil: No sales; stock 80 piculs held at 148 to 150. Star Aniseed: Sales 800 piculs, mostly for the Northern markets, at 16.50 to 17.50; stock 600 piculs. Galangal Root: Sales 400 piculs at 2 80 to 2.90; stock 200 piculs held at 3. Gall Nuts: Sales 30 piculs at 11.50 to 12; no stock. China Galls: None, nominal price 12.50. Ginger Preserves: 2.90 for best. Vermilion: 40.

CAMPHOR.—HONG KONG.—Has considerably declined in value, and some lots have been sold as low as $16 per picul. With stocks far in excess of requirements, holders find it difficult to realise, and prices may further recede if supplies continue to arrive. Sales reported during the fortnight: 200 piculs at $16.50; 220, at 16.25; 80, at 16. Stock on hand about 1,800 piculs.

NAGASAKI.—There is a good supply in stock, but little has been placed on the market, as holders expect an advance. The nominal quotation is $20 to 21.

RAW COTTON.

CANTON.—The sales of the fortnight amount to 450 bags Shanghai, at 18 to 23 taels per picul, and 150 bags Ningo, at 23 to 25 taels per picul. The stock is limited to 450 bags Shanghai, and 200 bags Ningpo.

HONG KONG.—A good business has been transacted during the fortnight, both among Chinese and foreigners. This was stimulated by receipt of intelligence per 11th January mail, which caused an advance of $1 to 2 per picul. About 5,000 piculs Shanghai, and about 3,000 Ningpo have changed hands, the present quotations being—Shanghai, $31 to 32½; Country do. 33 to 34; Ningpo, 33½ to 35; Japan, 37. The stock is estimated at about 30,000 piculs of all kinds.

SHANGHAI.—The market was dull, and bore a drooping aspect prior to the receipt on the 18th inst. of the telegram from London, dated 2nd January. The news of an advance of 1d. per lb. on the article at home, coupled with an easier, and a declining exchange here, caused an immediate reaction, and prices rallied fully 2½ to 3 tls. per picul. The purchases have not been heavy, and buyers seem rather afraid to operate at these rates, but holders, conscious that the supply still to arrive from the country must be only trifling, are firm, and should the telegram be confirmed, a further advance will, in all probability, be established. The settlements since China New Year are estimated at 12,000 piculs. The quotations are:—Shanghai, 22 to 23 taels; Hankow, 23 taels. Stock small.

NINGPO.—Supplies are scant—quotations ranging from $31 to 34.

YOKOHAMA.—Since our last report no supplies have reached. Stocks on the spot are moderate, and holders are asking $25½ to 27, which is more than buyers feel disposed to pay. The exports of this staple for the season, since the 1st July, have been as follows:—Shanghai, 1,422 bales; Hong Kong, 16,819 bales; England, 18,920 bales; America, 342 bales—37,583 bales. Against same time last season, Shanghai, 817 bales; Hong Kong, 4,874 bales; England, 1,036 bales—6,227 bales.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—The sales effected of this article in Hong Kong since the date of last report amount to 250 bales, prices showing an advance upon the quotations then given of about three to five dollars in the value of low numbers of twist. Grey Shirtings: Have not met with much inquiry during the fortnight, settlements having been limited to about 5,600 pieces of sound goods, and 300 pieces of sea damaged cloths disposed of by public auction. Prices remain without material alteration. White Shirtings have been but in limited request, and sales of only 550 pieces are reported. T.-Cloths: The transactions of the fortnight have been confined to sales of about 3,500 pieces of damaged goods, which have been moved off by public sale. Quotations remain without alteration. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: A fair amount of business has been transacted in this class of goods since the date of last report, and the settlements effected amount to 3,000 pieces of the first-named, 1,500 pieces of Dyed Shirtings, and 250 pieces of Brocades; the value of Spotted Shirtings shows a slight improvement, Brocades, both white and coloured remaining as quoted under date of last advices. Damasks: There has not been any inquiry for these goods during the past fortnight. Chintzes have found buyers to the extent of 350 pieces. Handkerchiefs have recently met with some demand, and the sales of the fortnight amount to 4,650 dozens.

WOOLLENS, SPANISH STRIPES, MEDIUM CLOTHS, LADIES' AND HABIT CLOTHS.—There is no material alteration to notice in the prices of any of the above articles, but the sales of Spanish Stripes have been upon an unusually large scale, amounting to about 1,700 pieces. Of medium cloths 120 pieces have changed hands. Long Ells: Have also met with more than average demand during the fortnight which has elapsed since the date of last circular, and sales of 2,700 pieces are reported, at prices which show no alteration as compared with previous rates in the value of Scarlet, although assorted colours have fallen from 20 to 30 cents per piece. Camlets: In these goods also the business transacted has been upon a fair scale, prices remaining as before quoted; the sales of the past fortnight are put at 1,216 pieces. Lastings: 360 pieces have been purchased during the fortnight.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: The business done in Iron in this Colony has been upon a fair scale, and prices of the various descriptions imported remain as quoted under date of 13th Feb. Some 1,700 piculs of Nail Rod, 1,600 piculs of Square and Flat Bar, and 400 piculs of Hoop have changed hands. In Canton the sales of the fortnight are put at 1,600 piculs of Square and Round Bar taken at an advance in value of from 20 a 50 cents per picul. Other kinds remain as before quoted and without inquiry. Lead: Both here and in Canton the value of Lead remains without material change to notice, the sales reported amounting to about 1,100 piculs in this Colony, and 2,000 piculs placed in Canton. Tin: Has not met with the same amount of inquiry as was reported in last Circular, and sales during the fortnight do not exceed 350 slabs. Nothing has been done in Canton. Tin Plates: Have met with good demand during the fortnight, and the sales effected amount to 1,937 boxes, Steel: There are not any sales to notice.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN—From Newcastle: Jan. 23, Milbrook.

At SHANGHAI—From London: Feb. 18, Min. From Liverpool, 19th: Cornelia.

At FOO-CHOW—None.

At AMOY—From London: Feb. 12, Sea Belle.

At HONG KONG From London: Feb. 29, Flying Spur. From Liverpool: 14, Indiaman. From Newport: 14, A. H. Willie. From Cardiff 14, Anton Gunther; 16, E. V. Beaulieu; 29, Trio and Maria Bartleit. From Bremen, 14, Rio Plata.

At MANILA.—None.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: Feb 22, Avonvale; 28, Eleanor. From Liverpool: 26, Sharpshooter; 28, Nymph. From Newport: 23, Carabel. From Shields: 24, Maude. From Cardiff: March 3, Beuchleuch, Hortensia, and Anversois. From Hamburg: 4, Canton.

At PENANG.—From London: 14, Devonale. From Glasgow (*via* Singapore): Scotland.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—None.

From SHANGHAI.—For Europe: None. For New York: Feb. 18, Lord Collingwood.

From FOOCHOW.—None.

From HONG KONG.—None.

From MANILA.—For London: Feb. 18, Tyburnia. For Liverpool: 12, Jalawar.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Feb. 25, Polly; 28, Eliza Thornton; March 3, Kalahome.

From PENANG.—For London: Claymore, Sophie Georgette, and Scotland.

VESSELS LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Millbrook, Ann Adamson, Cissy, Anglo-Indian, Auld Reckie, Mary Shepherd For New York: Osborne.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Samuel and Spirit of the North. For Liverpool: Blackburn, Bentick, Berdinlik, George Ruxton, Glengairn, Mayflower, Semida, Dunkeld, Fort William, Polmaise. For New York: Heversham and Egean,

At FOOCHOW—For London: Daybreak.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Blackwatch, Queen's Own. For Liverpool: Vanguard, Black Prince, Berwickshire, Patrician. For New York: Resolute and Sophia.

At MANILA.—For London (calling at Cadiz: Cervantes. For Liverpool: Loyola.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Avonvale.

At PENANG: For London: Devonvale.

At NAGASAKI.—For London: Millbrook and Ann Adamson.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

SHANGHAI.—There are no home charters to report, and less inquiry exists for tonnage. The rates (which are nominal) are, to London and Liverpool, £3. 15s. to £4 per ton.

FOOCHOW.—To London: £5.

HONG HONG.—Freights are brisk, and the demand for suitable vessels is good; an increased demand also exists for the coast. The rates are as follows:—To London and Liverpool: £4. 10s. to £5. To Ningpo: 40 cents per picul, with upward tendency. To Saigon and back: 52½ cents per picul. To Singapore and back: 55 cents; or to Shanghai, 80 cents.

MANILA.—For London or Liverpool, £5. 7s. 6d. for clayed sugar, and £6. 10d. per ton for hemp.

SINGAPORE.—The demand for suitable craft continues good. The rates to London are:—£4. 10s. per ton for measurement goods, and dead weight £3. 10s.

PENANG.—For London: Light freight (scarce), £4. 5s. to £4. 10s. Dead weight, £4. 5s. per ton.

At NAGASAKI.—For London: £5. 5s. for general goods.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—February 20, Kosmos, from Hamburg, to Singapore.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—February 18, Norwood, Hong Kong to Liverpool, and Queensbury, Shanghai to Liverpool; 17, Annie Duthie, Hong Kong to Liverpool; 18, H.M.'s Pearl, Singapore to England; 20, La Plata, Macao to Falmouth.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES, &c.—February 17, Madura, Shanghai to Montreal.

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CASUALTIES.

JAPAN.

LOSS OF THE EGERIA.—Captain Ingram, of the Black River Packet, reports the loss of the British barque Egeria, on Matzumai point, during a violent gale, on or about the 12th of January. The passengers and crew arrived at Shanghai on February 21.

HONG KONG.

The China Overland Trade Report has the following:—At 1 P.M. the long boat of the barque Star of Peace came along side and reported the loss of the above barque upon Sunday morning about 4 A.M. January 31st, upon the Lady Inglis Rocks, five miles E.S.E. of Cape One Saki, from Nagasaki bound to Yokohama to load; all the crew saved with the exception of the master, who refused to leave the ship. The three-masted schooner Kung Mow, Thomas Wascott master, supplied the boat with provisions, and they proceeded to Yokohama, being then about 40 miles from that port.

The Malvina Vidal experienced a succession of gales from the 29th of January to the 12th of February, with an unusually heavy sea. On February 1 sprung the mizen-mast and rudder; lost fore topsail, foresail, spanker, and fore topmast staysail, and sustained much damage to the standing and running rigging. February 2, stranded fore shroud, and lost jibboom and martingale, and found the main topmast badly sprung. At four P.M. it fell a dead calm for some hours, and the ship rolled fearfully in the trough of the sea; the spare spars and guns broke adrift, and were washed about the deck, which was full of water, doing much injury.

SINGAPORE.

The British barque Sea Bird, of Singapore, arrived from Rangoon, and reports having been in collision off Pulo Pisang with the Hamburg schooner Soon Hoon. The Sea Bird has received considerable damage.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

The Admiralty have engaged freight in the Maiden Queen for Government stores from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

The Euphrates, which cleared from Liverpool 14th March with 500 tons of coal for Singapore, afterwards relanded her cargo and abandoned the voyage.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—April 8, at Falmouth, from Moulmain, Miriam; off Dartmouth, from Shanghai, Clarendon; 10, at Liverpool, from Shanghai, Solway; from Hong Kong, Falcon, Light of the Age; off Falmouth, from Batavia, Telegraph; at Liverpool, from Shanghai, Rhine; at Crookhaven, from Manila, Maggie Lauder; off Liverpool, from Shanghai, Princess Royal; 8, off Torbay, from Batavia, Marie Adolphine; off Scilly, from Sourabaya, Bulgersteyn; 11, at Queenstown, from Batavia, for Amsterdam, Insulaneren, with loss of mainyard; 9, at Scilly, from Shanghai, Sophie; off Cape Clear, from China, Cordova; 12, at Deal, from Foo-chow-Foo, Renown; 10, off Falmouth, from Macao, Mary Ann Wilson; 12, at London, from Singapore, Maid of the Tyne; 8, off Beer, from Java, for Rotterdam, General Michiels; off the Lizard, from China, Chamberlain (?), ship; from Batavia, Staatsraad (?); 12, at Queenstown, from Rangoon, Anniversary; 9, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Mary and Hillegonda; 13, off Salcombe, from Japan, Dolphin.

DEPARTURES.—April 9, from London for Cardiff and Shanghai, Pillen Helena; 8, from Newport for Singapore, Alfred; 7, from Cardiff for Shanghai, Hampton Court; from Sunderland for Shanghai, Beatrice; 11, from Liverpool for Hong Kong, Veronica; from London, for Cardiff and Shanghai, Spirit of Trade; 8, from off Torbay, for Batavia, Anthony; from Cardiff, for Shanghai, Pembrokeshire; 12, from London, for Cardiff, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai, Woizlava; 7, from Sunderland, for Hong Kong, James Vinicombe; 11, from Antwerp, for Manila, Earl of Mar and Kelly.

LAID ON.—At Liverpool, for Hong Kong, Tricolor, Amizone; for Singapore, Simoom.

SPOKEN.—British Queen, Clyde to Batavia, Feb. 25, 49 N., 19 W.; Aalborg, Copenhagen to Amoor River, Feb. 24, 1 S., 24 W.; North land, Sunderland to Hong Kong, Feb. 26, 1 N., 22 W.; Jacoba Helena, Batavia to Rotterdam, Jan. 24, 32 S., 34 E.; Viede, Batavia to Amsterdam, Jan. 21, 34 S., 28 E.; Melrose, Amoy to London, Feb. 13, 7 S., 17 W.; Robert Morrison, Manila (?) to London, 96 days out, 29 March; Melrose, Amoy to London, April 5, 49 N., 11 W.; Iron Crown, of and for Liverpool, from Hong Kong, March 16, 21 N., 45 W.; Oasis, of and for Liverpool, from Singapore, April 6, 49 N., 16 W.; Philomela and Corea, both from London to China, March 4, 2 N., 22 W.; Verwachting (Dut.) Batavia to Amsterdam, March 16, 31 N., 38 W.; Conference, Manila to Liverpool, March 21, 26 N., 39 W.; Lady Westmoreland (?), ship, Hong Kong to Liverpool, 86 days out, Jan. 22, 35 S., 17 E.; Wilhelmine (brig), Shanghai to New York, Feb. 6, 15 S., 7 W.; Johanna Christina, Bali to Rotterdam, Feb. 8, 12 S., 10 W.; Euphrosyne, Penang to Bordeaux, Feb. 17, on the line, 22 W.

CASUALTIES.—The Solway, which arrived at Liverpool April 10, from Shanghai, had been in collision on the evening of the 7th April off Holyhead, and had bows and head gear damaged, and lost jibboom.

The Hoang Ho, from the Clyde to Singapore, was towed into Liverpool, April 10, after having been on shore on the Saltees, whilst there she knocked away a portion of her keel and made water. In attempting to dock she grounded on Pluckingbon, but got off, and was placed on King's gridiron.

COTTON.—There was a good business at Liverpool on the 9th at rather dearer prices. The sales were 15,000 bales, including 8,000 for speculation and export. Among the list we note 7000 China at 16¾d. to 19¼d.

The arrivals of cotton from China during the past week have been: From Shanghai, the *Rhine*, with 2,300 piculs; the *Glenhuntly*, with 4,507; the *Princess Royal*, with 7,480; and the *Solway*, with 7,172. From Hong Kong: the *Falcon*, with 3,304 piculs, and *Light of the Age* with 4,108.

THE MISSIONARIES IN PEKING.

(To the Editor of the *Patriot*.)

PEKING, Jan. 5, 1864.

SIR,—We are enjoying the calm, cold, sunshiny weather of a Peking winter. The water in the streams is all ice, and the thermometer at night ranges between 18 deg. and zero, while by day it ascends to from 30 deg. to 45 deg. The cold, however, is not intensified by penetrating winds, and the sun, day after day, traverses a cloudless ether. The broad and lofty windows of the Pekingese houses are well fortified against the entrance of cold, by being papered with Corean paper, manufactured from the bark of a tree. If care is also taken to close up slits and crannies of doors and windows, water in houses is scarcely ever frozen, while outside all surface-water remains solid through the winter.

Last night, at our monthly meeting for conference and prayer, eight missionaries were present. The conductor of the meeting proposed that we should discuss the difficulties to be apprehended in the spread of the Gospel in Peking. One thought our danger was from the Catholics, who are numerous in Peking, are patronised by the French Government, and are assisted in their endowment and building schemes by French national money. Some fear was expressed that they may interfere with us by exerting an unfavourable influence in unexpected quarters. To others it appeared more likely that the Lama hierarchy would become alarmed if their system were publicly attacked, and books published speaking disrespectfully of Buddhism. To others it seemed most likely that the Government or the high Manchus will become extremely jealous, should they find conversions taking place among the resident Manchus. There are already indications that among the large Manchu population using the Chinese language, the teaching of Christianity will be favourably listened to by individuals. They are supported by State funds, and have much leisure time, without sufficient fondness for literary pursuits to advance themselves by the force of their own abilities.

The number of respectable Chinese and Manchu residents having leisure enough to give them the opportunity to study a new religion is very great, and much of our hope rests on them. But they are timid, and, like Nicodemus, prefer to come to us by night. A good scholar lately visited an American missionary, expressing his great pleasure in becoming acquainted with foreign men of learning. He would like much to meet them frequently, but he requested that his visits might not be returned. If a foreigner entered his house, Prince Kung himself might hear of it, and the sensation among all his neighbours would be immense.

I wished to ask some questions on Chinese ancient geography of some scholars attached to the office where the affairs of foreign nations are transacted. Dr. Martin, who has been promised liberal assistance by the Chinese Government in the preparation and publication of a translated treatise on international law, kindly undertook to introduce me. Four literary men at the office attend him there daily to aid in giving his translation the necessary native polish and finish in regard to style. These men told him that it would be needful for them to receive from him a written request, which must be shown to a Cabinet Minister. After this was done, if there were no objection, I could be introduced. The approval was given, and I went accordingly at an appointed hour, and conversed with these scholars pleasantly for an hour and a half on various literary subjects. They are well instructed and sharp-witted men. They gave me the names of the best recent works for the study of Chinese ancient geography, and some facts about the recent change in the course of the Yellow River. This river has broken out of its channel at three points, and its waters are now spreading themselves over many parts of the province of Shantung, sometimes covering fields which once smiled with the rich products of an industrious agriculture, and elsewhere contributing to swell small rivers into large ones, which rush with increased velocity and bulk of sediment into the already too shallow Gulf of Pechili. Meantime engineering must wait for the end of the rebellion.

I also asked them why at the imperial sacrifice to heaven a bullock is burnt whole, and not at any other of the Chinese sacrifices. One of them said it was in imitation of the ancient Emperor Shun, who, at the beginning of the national history, also burnt a bullock. Another said that at the sacrifices on the classical mountain Tai-shan, it not being convenient to ascend to the summit, the service was performed half-way up. The bullock used to be burnt in order that the smoke and flame might reach the top. I told them that I thought there was in this custom a vestige of the primitive patriarchal religion of the world, and that the idea of the burnt sacrifice was that of the remission of sin, this circumstance becoming lost in China through the lapse of time and the influence of a different culture. This they did not believe, they said. The burnt sacrifice could not be intended for the remission of sins. It would have been imprudent to engage with such persons, in such a place, in a theological controversy, and I referred them to Dr. Martin, who, during his frequent intercourse with them, might have opportunities of explaining this remarkable circumstance, that burnt sacrifices should have continued in China for four thousand years as a part of the imperial religion exclusively, without their object and meaning being properly understood.—I remain, Sir, yours very truly,

JOSEPH EDKINS.

THE PERSIAN GULF CABLE.

The following is from the *Times of India*:—

So far as the work has gone, it may be pronounced a complete success; communication between Bombay and the farthest end of the cable is

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uninterrupted, and much important business connected with the expedition is daily transacted through it. If things only go on as they have begun, less than three months will see messages passing, with almost electric speed, from London to Calcutta; we say, almost, for the recent disturbances among the Arabs in Mesopotamia, when they ill-used some Europeans connected with the work, will probably render it necessary, for a time, to employ messengers across part of that district, though there is every reason to hope that next year all difficulties, even in that wild region, may be got over by negotiation. When the Bombay Marine Steamer *Victoria* left, Colonel Stewart with his Staff, Sir Charles Bright, and Colonel Goldsmid, were just about making a hurried trip in the *Coromandel* to Bushire and Bussorah, to make arrangements for the stations to be established at those points, and facilitate the arrangements in Mesopotamia; by the time they return to Mussundem they will probably find the *Tweed* and *Assaye* with further sections of the cable awaiting them. If so, and the weather be even tolerably favourable, ten days would see the end of the cable in the Euphrates.

SEA WAGES.—THE "HEROES OF ALMA."

Captain Grove Price Lees, the master of the ship *Heroes of Alma*, from Shanghai, appeared before Mr. Paget to answer a claim for wages made by a seaman named Spers Feniga, who sued for a balance of £16. 13s. 5d.

Mr. Young appeared for the complainant, who had been imprisoned at Shanghai for six weeks, by order of the British Consul, for neglect of duty. A charge of £5. 8s. 6d. was made by the captain for the expenses he had incurred in respect to the imprisonment. It was contended by Mr. Young that the charge could not be sustained, because the particulars did not appear in the account of wages rendered, in accordance with the 171st sec. of the Merchant Shipping Act, also, the 251st section of the Merchant shipping Act enacted, "that whenever, in any proceeding relating to seamen's wages, it is shown that any seaman or apprentice has in the course of the voyage been convicted of any offence by any competent tribunal, and rightfully punished therefor by imprisonment or otherwise, the court hearing the case may direct a part of the wages due to such seaman, not exceeding £3, to be applied in reimbursing any costs incurred by the master in procuring such conviction and punishment." There was no conviction by a competent tribunal in this case. The British Consuls at foreign ports were not clothed with authority to send seamen to prison.

The defendant said the Consul at Hong Kong committed a seaman to prison for six months for some offence.

Mr. Young: Hong Kong is a British settlement, with a regular staff of English officials there.

The defendant said he had to pay for the maintenance of the complainant in prison.

Mr. Young said the complainant must have been maintained if he had been out of prison. He contended that the Consul had exceeded the powers entrusted to him by the 168th clause of the Merchant Shipping Act.

Mr. Paget said no Consul had any power to imprison any seaman in a foreign port; there had been no legal conviction. An action for false imprisonment might be maintained against the Consul, or captain, or both. The expenses could not be charged to the seaman under the 251st section. He ordered the whole of the wages, £16. 13s. 5d., to be paid, with one guinea costs.

THE AGRA BANK.

THE thirtieth annual meeting of this bank was held at the offices in Cannon-street, on the 2nd inst., when the report, which we noticed in our last, was unanimously agreed on. The dividend on this occasion has been increased to £18 per cent. It is proposed to alter the name of the bank to the "Agra and London Bank," and it was announced that premises had been secured in a more central position—viz., at the corner of Lombard-street and Gracechurch-street. This has been found necessary owing to the large increase of the London business. The balance-sheet, &c., will be found in another column. The Chairman, Mr. G. G. Macpherson, with his usual ability and candour, made the following statement of the affairs of the institution, from which it is quite apparent that the Board are determined to exercise prudence in the days of prosperity. In the days of adversity we are all cautious. We hope, however, the year is far distant that will show how wise this course is. If an institution of this sort divided every shilling of profits, it would certainly not be in a position to stand times of panic, such as occurred only a few months since in India, without heavy sacrifices.

The CHAIRMAN said before proceeding to move the adoption of the report, he would offer some observations with the view of affording information upon the matters referred to in that document, and of acquainting the proprietors with the views of the board as to the general conduct of the large and very important concern committed to their charge. In the first place he had to congratulate the proprietors—and did so in all sincerity—upon the great and marked progress that the Agra Bank had made, and was daily continuing to make, in public estimation, as evinced by the increase of its deposits and its current accounts, and by the large accession of excellent business that it had acquired both at home and abroad, resulting, after making ample provision for all bad and doubtful debts, in a gross profit of the large sum of £496.652, or very nearly one-half of the paid up capital of the bank, and, after deducting interest paid on the deposits and current accounts, and defraying expenses of every description, yielding a net profit or available surplus of no less a sum than £242,909 on the year's transactions—(hear, hear) - a result so unprecedented, and he might truly say so splendid, that it could not fail to be most satisfactory to the proprietors and to every friend and well-wisher of the Agra Bank upon this its thirtieth anniversary. (Hear, hear.) He need scarcely inform the meeting that such a result could not be attained without great attention, vigilance, and sound judgment on the part of the directors in the performance of their important and responsible duties; but he should fail in his duty, and in doing justice to others, if he did not avail himself of this opportunity of acknowledging how much was due to the untiring, unceasing, and most efficient labour of their excellent general and London managers—(cheers)—aided by the cordial co-operation of those abroad, and the well working of the whole establishment both at home and abroad. (Hear, hear.)

The directors, to mark the high sense they entertain of the value of such services, and as a stimulus for the future, had followed the example of other great similar institutions by specially recognising the services of the principal managers, and granting a gratuity of 10 per cent. on the salaries of all the *employes* of the bank, feeling confident that all the proprietors would highly approve of the course the board had adopted. (Cheers.) He now came to the application of their net profits, which amounted to something over 24 per cent. on the paid-up capital. From this there had been paid during the year in dividends and bonus the sum of £180,000, besides Income-tax—very nearly one-fifth of the capital. (Cheers.) There had been repaid to the reserve fund the amount taken from it last year—£7,341—and there had been added, moreover, to that fund the sum of £25,000, which now stood at £225,000. He had heard, he confessed with surprise, that some of their friends took exception to what they termed this large addition to the reserve fund, and maintained that they understood it was determined that the amount was to be limited to £200,000. He, however, could trace no record of any such understanding; on the contrary, his worthy predecessor in the chair, when the subject was mooted in 1860, stated, with his usual prudence and caution, that he himself was in favour of a larger sum, but for the present he was contented with £200,000. (Hear.) At that time, their liabilities, as shown by the balance-sheet, were under £3,000,000, but they were now over £10,000,000, consequently no prudent man at all conversant with banking business could for a moment doubt the propriety—nay, the absolute necessity—for the step the board had thus taken, both for their security and to deserve and maintain the confidence of the public. (Hear, hear.)

It must not be forgotten that the past year had been, notwithstanding the many new concerns that had sprung up, and consequent great competition, perhaps the most remunerative and prosperous ever known for banking. This had been exemplified in their own case; but they could not expect such good fortune always to attend them, nor to realise such large profits. On the contrary, they must expect to incur losses, and, like prudent and honourable men, they must be prepared to meet those losses without difficulty when they did occur. (Hear, hear.)

The next item which required remark was the amount set aside for building fund—viz., £15,000, which was quite indispensable, for the reasons stated in the report. They had staved off this expense longer, perhaps, than was consistent with the position of the bank, but it must now be incurred. They did not consider themselves justified in taking the amount from capital account, and it would be very unwise to trust to profits that had yet to be made. The last item requiring notice was the amount—£5,000—set aside to superannuation fund. Proprietors were aware that by clause 55 of the deed, the officers of the bank, after long and meritorious services, had a claim on the bank for a portion of their salaries—proprietors had already sanctioned annuities under this clause, and would it was probable be ere long called upon to sanction others. The directors, therefore, were bound to provide that this fund should be in a condition to meet all legitimate claims upon it, and this could only be done by adding to it such sums as could be spared in prosperous years.

The only change that had taken place in the establishments abroad was the closing of the Umritzur branch. They found that after the opening of the railroad between Lahore and Umritzur, the whole of the important business likely to be got in that part could be just as well transacted at Lahore, and therefore it was unnecessary to keep open the Umritzur branch. He had also to report that, in order to ensure complete supervision over their numerous branches, the directors had secured the services of a gentleman, who, from position and experience, was thoroughly qualified to perform the important duties of inspector. (Hear, hear.)

As regards home, the immense increase of the business of the bank had rendered it absolutely necessary for the directors to obtain more extensive and central premises, and the difficulty of finding anything suitable had caused the board considerable anxiety. He was glad, however, to be able to announce that satisfactory arrangements had been made with the Fishmongers' Company for a long lease of a site at the corner of Lombard-street and Gracechurch-street, which, for a bank, he need hardly say, was, from position, the most eligible in all London. He congratulated the shareholders upon this important acquisition. Costly as land was in that locality, he was glad to say that the extensive site which the directors had secured would enable them to make arrangements by which they would have suitable premises at a moderate rental. (Hear, hear.) The shareholders were aware that the freehold of the premises now occupied by the bank was purchased some time ago, and so great has been the rise of the value of property in the City, that the directors had no doubt of being able to re-sell at a considerable profit.

He now begged to announce that, having found that the words "United Service," attached to the name of this bank, misled the public in regard to the business transacted, and considering that for several years the bank had ceased to encourage such business, the directors were of opinion that the words should be dropped, and it was their intention shortly to call a special meeting for the purpose of submitting a resolution to change the name to that of the "Agra and London Bank." In conclusion, the only subject of regret he had to announce was that they had not yet been admitted to the privileges of the clearing-house, but he trusted that ere long those who from some short-sighted policy objected to their admission, would see that, in performing a simple act of justice towards the bank, they would conduce largely to their own convenience and that of the City banking community. (Hear, hear.)

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Mr. Alderman FINNIS, having referred in eulogistic terms to the zeal and ability of their worthy chairman, submitted a notice of motion to the effect that the salary of the chairman should be increased to £1,000. He said it was most important that constituents of the bank should always be able to communicate with the same gentleman, and the shareholders could not expect anyone to undertake the responsible duties of governor, and to attend daily at the bank, unless a fitting remuneration were attached to the office. (Hear, hear.)

Upon the proposition of Colonel MACGEORGE, seconded by Mr. EDMUND WILMOT, it was unanimously resolved:—"That the thanks of the shareholders be given to the board of directors for their careful control of the bank's affairs; to the general manager (Mr. Mackintosh Balfour), to the London manager (Mr. William Shipman), and to the local committees, and managers of the branches, for the satisfactory manner in which they have conducted the business of the bank for the past year; and to the auditors, for their efficient supervision of the accounts."

BREACH OF PROMISE.

(Before Mr. Justice WILLES and a Special Jury.)

ROWLINSON v. GORDON.

Mr. Temple, Q.C., and Mr. T. Jones were counsel for the plaintiff; the Hon. A. Liddell, Q.C., and Mr. John Henderson were for the defendant.

This, which was an action of breach of promise of marriage, created more than ordinary interest on account of the position of the parties and the largeness of the damages claimed. The plaintiff was Miss Eliza Blanche Rowlinson, the daughter of Mr. Richard Rowlinson, of Liverpool, a retired indigo broker; and the defendant was Mr. William Alexander Grant Gordon, the son of Captain Gordon, of Nairn, near Glasgow. The defendant is now 25 years old, and had formerly been a clerk in the firm of Lloyd, Matheson, and Co., of Liverpool, teabrokers, and in 1858 he had gone out to China, to be in the employment of Jardine, Matheson, and Co., at Shanghai, in which position he remained until June, 1861, when he left to go to Hankow, under an engagement with Mackellar and Co., a firm in which he ultimately became a partner. These employments proved of very considerable profit to him, and at the time of his engagement to the plaintiff he declared that he was in the receipt of £1,100 a year, and had saved a sum of £3,000, since his arrival in China. The plaintiff is 24 years old, and reported to be a very engaging young lady in appearance. It appeared that the plaintiff and defendant had been in the habit of meeting in their walks and from time to time in Liverpool, and had become intimate for some time previous to the defendant's departure for China, but the defendant did not appear to have become acquainted with the plaintiff's family beyond herself and her sisters, and Mr. Rowlinson admitted at the trial that he scarcely knew him and had never invited him to his house in his life. The defendant, however, met at Shanghai a married sister (Harriet) and a brother-in-law of the plaintiff's named Tate, and whether his thoughts were drawn to the remembrance of the plaintiff through the intimacy with her sister, who very much resembled her, or in what other way, the defendant, on the 20th of June, shortly after his removal from Shanghai to Hankow, wrote the following letter to Mr. Rowlinson:—

"Hankow, June, 20, 1861.

"My dear Mr. Rowlinson,—I have no doubt you will be rather surprised at receiving a letter from one who is a comparative stranger to you, especially written on a subject such as I am about to communicate to you. However, I trust that you will excuse the liberty I take, and I sincerely hope I may obtain your sanction to what I am going to propose. I dare say you already know that while I lived in Liverpool I had frequently the pleasure of seeing your daughters, and I have long been deeply attached to Blanche, although my circumstances and position in Liverpool prevented my making those proposals to her which I would willingly have done, had I felt that I had the means of placing her in the position she ought to hold. Knowing that I did not possess the means, I refrained from openly making my feelings known to her, especially as my position in China I felt would at first be a subordinate one. I have now left my former employers, and have obtained an excellent appointment, with every prospect of success, and my object in writing to you now is to ask your permission to pay my addresses to your daughter, without obtaining which I feel it would be wrong in me so to do. I will now mention to you my circumstances, &c., and I fervently hope you will not withhold your consent from me, although I am a poor man and without any expectations from my friends, as my father, an old soldier, has a large family and is by no means wealthy. I am, therefore, entirely dependent on my own endeavours, which, you may rest assured, should I obtain the hand of your daughter, would be redoubled in order to maintain her in the position she would deserve. My present income is equivalent to £1,100 a year, with the promise of a partnership in two years from this date in a business the prospects of which are very good and encouraging. In order to provide for your daughter in the event of my death, I would be very glad to insure my life for what amount you might consider advisable to be settled on her. Believe me, should you confide her to my care, her happiness would be my sole aim through life. With regard to my relations, they are all soldiers, my father being a very old one, and all my brothers being in the Indian armies. As to my own character, I hope your son-in-law in Shanghai, with whom I am very intimate, and who has promised to write to you on my behalf, may satisfy you, as also Mrs. Tate, to whom I have told my intentions. I inclose a letter for Blanche, which, should you give me your sanction, I would be very much obliged by your giving to her. Otherwise please to return it to me. I would now conclude, and sincerely and anxiously hoping for a favourable reply from you, believe me my dear Mr. Rowlinson, yours very sincerely, "W. G. GORDON."

To this letter Mr. Rowlinson wrote a reply stating his surprise at the communication it contained, but giving his assent to the match proposed for his daughter, and he handed to the latter the letter of the plaintiff to her, inclosed in that to himself, and which was as follows:—

Hankow, June 22, 1861.

"My dearest Blanche,—Will you be very much astonished at receiving a note from me? I think not, as I fancy you knew not how fond of you I was in Liverpool, although I dare not then, in the position I was in, say to you what I should much have liked to do, and which I am now going to do. Blanche, dearest, I have loved you long, very long, and have only waited until I was in a position to make you comfortable to declare my love for you. Can I hope that it is reciprocal? If so, I shall be the happiest man alive; for, believe me, my aim since I came to China has always been to be able to write to you as I am now doing. Blanche, darling, will you share my lot with me, will you be contented to come out to a wretched place like this, to put up with all sorts of discomforts, without even great wealth to induce you? If your love to me, dearest, is such as would lead you to do this, then we shall be truly happy; and I think where true love is many of the troubles that would otherwise exist turn out not so formidable after all, and riches are not essential to happiness by any means. Can I venture to hope, my Blanche, that you think as I do? If you do, I trust we shall soon, very soon, be happy as the day is long together, and you may be sure your happiness, dearest, will be my sole aim through life. Believe me, I shall count the days until I receive an answer from you, as I feel it will be better for me not to write to you, darling, until it arrives, much as I should like to do so. I have written to your papa, to whom I enclose this, asking him to give it to you, my Blanche, should he approve of me as a son-in-law; and I have also asked Mrs. Tate, as well as Tate, to write to him on my behalf, and I sincerely trust that I may obtain his sanction, and then, dearest, it will only be for me to obtain your love to make me happy. Did you never think, Blanche, that I was very fond of you in Liverpool? I can assure you I was, and often have I thought of those happy days since I came to China. I confessed all my secrets to Mrs. Tate before I left Shanghai a week ago, and I hope she will give you a good account of me, and tell you that I am not much changed from the Willie Gordon of Huskisson-street. Oh! Blanche, darling, you cannot fancy what anxiety I feel as to the result of your answer, but I live in hope. Every morning I see your happy, jolly little face smiling at me from a photograph Mrs. Tate gave me in Shanghai, and I frequently hope that, ere many months elapse, I may have the original to love and to keep me in order. Blanche, dearest, I am now in a miserable place, as it is only within the last few months that English people have come here, but by this time next year I have no doubt we shall have very fair houses, and then it is, darling, that I should like to see you here; and Tate has kindly said that he will be only too glad to have you with them for a short time, when I should go to Shanghai for you. I am now living in a regular Chinese house, with pigs, fowls, &c., all about me, but as it is only for a short time, I must not complain. There are already two ladies here, and I hope before you come out, dearest, as I trust you will, there will be several others to keep you company. With regard to my means, the wretched money, Blanche, dearest, although I have no fortune, still I have an income of £1,100 a-year, and very good prospects of future success, which is quite enough and ample to keep us comfortable if we are not too extravagant, which I do not think we are. I have written to your papa about these subjects, as I do not think, darling, if you truly love me, you will think much of these matters. Any other small things as to your coming out I can very easily arrange. I was so sorry leaving Shanghai, where your sister and old Tate were so kind to me. However, she has promised to write to me often, and when you come out, dear (you see I cannot help thinking of it), we shall have them up here to pay us a visit, and then we shall be so jolly together. I wish I could write to you by every mail, but Tate says it is better not, darling, until I hear from you, so I must try and refrain from doing so, and do, Blanche dear, answer this letter by the very first mail, as you know how I shall long for your reply. And now, my own darling, I must finish my letter, as the steamer is just about to leave; so with fondest and best love to you, and fervently hoping that the return mail may bring me good news from you, ever believe me, my dearest Blanche, yours very loving,

"WILLIE GORDON."

In answer to this the defendant received the kind of reply he desired in the following terms:—

"90, Crown-street, Sept. 7, 1861.

"My own darling Willie,—I must say I was a little surprised when I received your letter, for I really began to think you had forgotten your little Blanche. I used to flatter myself you cared a little for me in Liverpool, and I did really love you, my own; but when you went away I could not help thinking you would forget me, and I tried to persuade myself that you really never had cared for me at all. However, now all doubts are at an end, and I trust, my own darling, you may never have cause to repent your choice. Oh! what an age it will seem until I hear from you again, and what a long time until I see you. Please let me come soon, for I don't care what sort of a place it is; if it is good enough for you, my Willie, it is good enough for me. Of course, I shall be very sorry to leave dear papa and all my dear friends, but it will be just the same sooner as later. If I only had wings would not I fly in a minute to you, my own darling? But, as I have not, I must try and wait patiently until I hear from you again. I hope, darling, Harrie has told you what a very naughty child I am, for sometimes I am very naughty, and I don't wish you to be disappointed, so I must tell you myself; but I will try and be very good, for your sake, and you can help me, for I am sure you are very good, are you not, my own darling Willie? I am sure you will be tired of reading such a silly letter, but I am a very bad letter writer; I keep asking such foolish questions and bothering you so; but you must try and excuse me, won't you, darling? I wish I had your likeness. Tom promised to give me one, but I suppose he has forgotten. Please write and tell him he must give me one. I am sure the likeness Harrie has given you of me must be a fright, for I remember she had not got one good one of me. I make a horrid likeness, but I shall send you one I had taken the other day. I don't know anything about money, but £1,000 a-year seems to me an enormous quantity. However, I know I am not extravagant at all, whatever my other faults may be. You must be perfection from Harrie's and Joe's accounts. In fact, I used to feel quite jealous when Harrie used to tell me what nice walks you took together. You see what a silly little thing I am. Can you really love such a foolish child? Oh! Willie, my darling, my prayer night and morning is that I may make you as good a wife as you deserve. . . . I remember everything so well, how we used to walk round and round the Falkner gardens, and what scoldings I used to get for stopping out so late. Don't you remember how I used to bother you

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about a little face you used to have in a breastpin, and you used to say it was your niece's likeness, and how you used to teaze poor Mr. —— until his face was scarlet? Oh, dear! those were very happy days; but never mind, we shall have plenty more soon—shall not we, my darling boy? I wish I might come now, this very minute, to you—but not to keep you in order. I am sure you don't want that. Oh! I do hope you won't be disappointed when you see me, for it would break my heart if I thought you would be. Kind Willie, my pet, I am not nearly so pretty as dear Harrie, so don't you expect to see a pretty girl. I know Harrie has a trick of praising me up to people, and when they see me they are disappointed. Joe Tate hates letters crossed, and perhaps you do too, so perhaps I had better stop. Hoping this will find you quite well, I remain, my darling Willie, your own loving "BLANCHE.

"P.S.—They all send their best love to you. God bless you my Willie."

There was a very voluminous correspondence between the defendant and Miss Rowlinson for a long time couched in the same affectionate strain, which need not be given further. In the immediate answer to the letter of Miss Rowlinson just referred to, dated Hankow, 14th of November, 1861, the defendant commenced—"You do not know what joy I felt when last evening your loving and long, long-waited-for letter reached me, although I think you may fancy my happiness when I read it, and now I can call you my own darling wife," and proceeded to express his regret that as the steamer was on the point of leaving he could only write "three lines." If these had not been, as the learned counsel said, "lover's line's" we could have embodied them in our report, but they are too extended to give. They expressed, however, an intention to set about getting things ready at once, and to have his lover over the moment that he could, and his satisfaction at the consent of her father in the following words:—"I had such a nice letter from your dear old father, giving us all his sanction and best wishes. It is so nice to think that we have the consent of our parents." He also promised to send home his photograph to her, and hoped that she would not be disappointed when she "saw her Willie a great big-whiskered boy, in place of poor shy Willie of Huskisson-street," and declared with regard to her beauty that it was not her "sweet little phiz" he looked to, but her kind little heart and winning way that made him love her. He subsequently expressed a hope that she would be enabled to come out to an English settlement that was in contemplation to be established within a year, and that the following Christmas they might have a "jolly party" in their own house there, the one then at hand being the last of his bachelor Christmas-days. As soon as he got his own house built in the settlement she was to come and join him, and he hoped that, possibly, even by August things might be got sufficiently ready. Subsequently to that he mentioned the escort of a particular lady who was coming out in October as a very desirable opportunity, and that he was picking up furniture by degrees to start their housekeeping with. He told her that he had written to Mrs. Tate to send home a list of things to form Miss Rowlinson's outfit, and he hoped that it would include some black silk dresses which he mentioned as striking him as particularly becoming. He also wrote, "Here everyone knows I am going to be married, and I am chaffed on every occasion, which, however, I rather like, considering the little darling I am chaffed about." In a letter of the 12th of May, 1862, he wrote, "You will be very glad to hear that I have been most fortunate in China. I have laid by the nice little sum of £3,000 to settle on you, darling; besides which I shall be made a partner very soon, which will give us another addition to our income," and the postscript to that letter was, "Only fancy, six months more and we shall be married, I hope!"

THE CHANGE O'ER THE SPIRIT OF THE DREAM.

In the very next letter, however, which was only written eight days later on the 20th of the month, the defendant began thus:—"I do not know wha you will say when you read this letter, and find that you are not coming out in October. Well, dearest, there are several things that prevent it. First of all, my father and mother are in a dreadful state about my marriage, and will not hear of it. Well, this has first of all to be got over. Then, again, there are several other difficulties in the way, so that altogether it is, I think, better that we postpone the marriage a little, as I have quite made up my mind to take a run home as soon as I possibly can. Believe me, Blanche dearest, I am quite as grieved about it as you can be, but you know well that no good ever came of marriages made against the consent of our parents." He subsequently got rapidly briefer and less affectionate in his tone to the plaintiff, and eventually broke the match off in a letter to her father of the 15th of December, on the ground of the dissent of his parents, and of his discovering from the correspondence that there never could be that "congeniality of feeling between them which ought to exist between man and wife."

This was the case which Mr. Temple laid before the jury with great emphasis, and occasionally, when reading passages from the correspondence, with considerable emotion, as one, whether considering the loss and grief of the plaintiff, or the conduct or resources of the defendant, demanding large damages. In support of this claim he laid peculiar stress on the disgraceful excuse of want of consent on the part of his parents, when the defendant had expressly congratulated himself and the plaintiff on having the sanction of their parents to their match.

The only witness called was Mr. Rowlinson, the plaintiff's father, to produce the letters.

In cross-examination, by Mr. Liddell, he said that he was living in Crown-street, near Falkland-square, and that he had not himself gone out to parties since his wife's death, some years ago. His daughter had gone out to balls and into society in Liverpool after the defendant's departure from England, as she did before, and a gentleman had applied to him to be allowed to pay his addresses to her before the defendant's offer, but he found the acquaintance undesirable, and it was broken off by himself, the father, and not by his daughter. He had sent her to London and into society, as far as possible, since the letter of December of 1862, in order to divert her attention and afford her amusement, and he said that she now loathed the defendant, since he had cast aspersions on her character, and that he himself would rather see her in her grave than married to him. If he had his way, he would publish all the defendant's letters in China, and put him beyond the pale of respectable society.

Mr. Temple then again briefly addressed the jury with great force and continued emotion, and concluded by quoting, with reference to the suggested gaiety of Miss Rowlinson at Liverpool and elsewhere, the lines—

"From place to place they hurry me,
To banish my regret;
And when they win a smile from me,
They think that I forget."

Then Mr. Liddell, in rising to address the jury on behalf of the defendant, said that when he had recovered from the poetry and pathos of his learned friend, which made him, like Niobe, all tears, he would address himself, and very briefly, to the case before them. He admitted, of course, that the plaintiff must have a verdict, and what he, as counsel, had to do was to turn their attention dispassionately to the question of damages. The defendant was twenty-five only, and he had as much right to state it as his friend to state that he was twenty-seven, which he had not proved, and was not the fact, and the intercourse between him and the plaintiff took place in 1858, when he, therefore, was nineteen, and the young lady was eighteen. They were then, therefore, merely boy and girl, and the intercourse was between them as such only, and had been interrupted for several years, so that they never had had an opportunity of becoming acquainted with each other's principles and characters, and of monopolising each others sympathies and affections, about all of which his friend had been so eloquent. In 1858 the defendant had gone out to Hankow, "and a nice place that must be;" and what had the plaintiff lost in being disappointed in going out there and dwelling "among pigs and pigtails," or in her affections and hopes being interfered with by a lover who had been so far off for so long a time? "Oh, but," said his learned friend, in that beautifully tremulous voice which would almost lead one to suppose that he was making love himself, "the love professed and inspired by the defendant was of that kind, and it was made the subject of emphatic congratulation by the defendant that it was sanctioned 'by their parents.'"

Now, he would refer to the letters, and as his friend had picked out the tit-bits which suited his purpose, he would do the same with regard to some that suited his. With reference to this matter of the sanction of the parents, of which his friend had talked solemnly for half an hour, and to the general tenor of the correspondence and character of intercourse between them, the jury would find in the passage read by Mr. Temple so decorously that the defendant had introduced an "i" into parents, and the passage in the original letter stood, "I had such a nice letter from your dear old father giving us all his sanction and best wishes; it is so nice to think that we have the full sanction of our 'parients.'" In another letter, in order to show the real nature of the relationship between them, the defendant wrote:—"I was stopped in the middle of writing last night by Captain Poole, of the gunboat, coming in to pay me a visit. I think you will like him, Blanche dear, he is such an amusing fellow. He pulled me out with him to call for another man, who happened to be out; so we immediately got the bolsters and pillows from his bed, his great coat, inexpressibles, boots, hat, &c., and made a figure with them, and placed it in the armchair before the fire, and we waited the arrival of the owner of the diggings, as we say in China. He came in and really thought it was some fellow fallen asleep, and began tapping him on the hat with his stick, which having no effect, he took the hat off, much to our amusement, as we were hiding outside."

That was the letter of a boy, like the other correspondence, and that was the key to the real relationship of these two young people. They had never met each other in society, or even within Mr. Rowlinson's house, nor ever beyond walks in the Liverpool-square, and the defendant had not been in England since 1858 till last December, when he was served with the writ three weeks after setting his foot on shore. Their whole intercourse was that, therefore, of boy and girl, without the involvement of the principles and affections of which his friend had talked. Dismissing what he might call the "mercantile part" of this case with a very few words, what damages would the jury give for this boyish indiscretion? With the task of apportioning of damages to a lady's disappointment in losing a husband, the learned counsel said men very often found it very difficult to deal, and he often wished that they could transport some of the ladies who were accustomed to take their places on one side of the court into the jury box on the other, so that they might be enabled to have a sort of jury of half-and-half, selected *de medietate*, which would then be able to come to a thoroughly satisfactory conclusion in these matters. Their bias would probably be at first greatly against the defendant.

Here his Lordship interposed, and said, amid much laughter, that they would probably ask to see the defendant before giving way to their bias.

Mr. Liddell acknowledged that might be possible, but, he asked, what damages would a female jury give for the supposed outrage upon such juvenile affections as were disclosed here? What would the jury themselves give? The defendant cast no aspersions on the young lady whatever, and he had committed a youthful indiscretion, for which he must pay something. On the other hand, he had behaved perfectly honourably and delicately. He had returned all the letters and portraits, wishing them to be sacredly delivered to the plaintiff, and from him she had suffered no injury to her delicacy, and she might hope for another husband and a happy match at any time. He had, moreover, done the right and the only thing under the circumstances; and, finding he had committed a boyish error, and mistaken his own feelings, he wrote to tell the truth, and confess the uncongeniality on account of which he must break off the engagement. What would the jury make him pay for that? If one of their own boys, entering life in the army, or the law, or what not, fell in love with and promised to marry a young lady who turned out not congenial, and he came and confessed it to his father, would the father say, "You must go on with it; you must marry, happiness or no happiness, you must keep your promise, for if you don't you'll have to pay damages?" or would he say to him, "You have acted honourably to tell the truth and confess your real feeling, and come to me. I'll see you through it, and I don't believe there's a jury in the country will give heavy damages against you?"

This concluded the learned counsel's powerful and humorous speech, and his lordship then proceeding to sum up, and to applaud the manner in which the defendant's case had been conducted. The jury, after a short consultation, returned a verdict for the plaintiff, with £750 damages.

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INCREASE OF CRIME AND LAWLESSNESS IN SHANGHAI.

ACCOUNTS from Shanghai continue to report an increased state of lawlessness and prevalence of crime in and around that important foreign settlement on Chinese soil. It would appear that as the rebellion becomes subdued in its vicinity, the foreign adventurers and discontented natives who found profitable occupation in their intercourse with the Taipings, are now thrown adrift on society, preying upon the wealthy and industrious inhabitants, imbuing their hands with blood. This may be considered the necessary consequence of internecine wars in all countries during their transition state, before peace has restored person and property to their normal state of security. At the present time we have evidence of a similar condition of affairs in Italy since the war of independence, where brigandage of the worst character has prevailed; and, be it observed, Europeans have committed crimes upon unoffending victims surpassing in brutality the horrible tortures of the Chinese. It will readily be supposed that if there is a difficulty in suppressing lawless bands in Europe, where a strong and active Government exists, how much more so it must be in China under weak and sluggish rulers, and especially in Shanghai, where a heterogeneous foreign element exists in the body politic without a proper governing power. According to treaty, all Chinese criminals captured by the foreign police or troops are handed over to the native authorities for punishment, and foreign criminals to their respective Consuls. The former, if not actually destitute of means or friends, can easily purchase their freedom after conviction from the venal officials, while the latter rarely meet with punishment beyond a fine; so that, on the whole, the majority of criminals escape the pains and penalties of the law from the ineffectual administration of justice. In making these remarks we do not wish to reflect upon the *personnel* of any Consular establishment in Shanghai, but simply to point out the system as insufficient for the ends of justice and good government. As far as the British Consulate is concerned, it is a matter of impossibility for any Consul with his assistants to get through the multifarious and overwhelming business that comes to his office. We do not exaggerate when we assert that more cases are adjudicated in his court, criminal and civil, than at Hong Kong, where there is a Chief Justice and judicial establishment on an imperial scale. The fact is every day becoming more apparent, that it is time this consular system of judicature be superseded by a regular court of justice, with competent judges, having jurisdiction over every person, native and foreign, within the limits of Shanghai settlement. We have a striking example of the insufficiency of this red-tape system to meet the exigencies that arise in mixed communities on a foreign soil, at the present time in Alexandria, where the correspondent of *The Times* informs us that "the European Consulates are literally attracting and protecting bands of ruffians, who could not exist under a proper "system of control." "Under this system it is unfortunately "too true that evildoers, the refuse of Europe, who are unable "to live in their own countries, here revel in perfect lawlessness, the scourge and terror of all honest and peaceful men."

In like manner Shanghai has become the receptacle of all the vagabondism, indigenous and exotic, in the Far East.

This growing evil in that flourishing settlement was foreseen and commented on by the local press during the influx of refugees and adventurers at the height of the rebellion, and the community seriously discussed the vital question of how to provide for the better government of the place. Various opinions and views were brought forward, among which was a suggestion for the formation of an "International Council" to deliberate upon general measures affecting the foreign community, which we are glad to observe has been adopted in principle by the Consuls of all the Treaty Powers assembling frequently and passing resolutions for the protection of peaceable residents and the conservation of equitable maritime and commercial laws. This is a step in the right direction, and may form the basis of a properly constituted Executive and Legislature. All that is necessary to come to an understanding on this point is the sanction of the several Governments who have accredited Ministers in China, to give it effect. Unfortunately the views of Sir FREDERICK BRUCE, Her MAJESTY'S Minister at Peking, were rather against than for granting an independent and central government at Shanghai, at the time of the above-mentioned discussion, which checked the action of the Land renters and the Defence committee to form a council for general purposes, leaving the construction of public works, maintenance of roads, and police management, to the Municipal Council. It is to be hoped that the views of the British Minister are considerably modified and enlarged on this question, and that in unison with his colleagues at Peking, a consolidated administration may be formed with legislative powers. Now that Sir HARRY PARKES has returned to China as Consul-General for England, with his head-quarters at Shanghai, he will, we trust, prove an able exponent to the home Government and the Minister on this unsatisfactory state of affairs, he will doubtless remedy them with his usual tact.

That something ought to be done, and speedily, is agreed on all hands, the great difficulty is to know in what manner to proceed. Might it not be a judicious and effective movement on the part of the influential merchants and others in London to form a deputation on the subject to Earl RUSSELL, who might thereby be induced to lend his powerful aid in promoting the object in view; or, at all events, eliciting from him the opinion of Her MAJESTY'S Ministers on the point. The great drawback hitherto, among the representatives of foreign Powers at Shanghai, preventing united action, has been the limited powers transmitted to them by their several Governments, and the natural jealousy of one Consulate taking precedence of another. Happily all feeling on the latter head is gradually giving way to combination in the cause of law and order, in the Consuls having shown their appreciation of the urgency of affairs by holding deliberative meetings to discuss questions for the benefit of the community at large. It now remains with the higher powers to grant extended authority to that body so as to form a general tribunal, with an admixture of the native element and the foreign military and naval authorities for the time being to take cognizance of every case that may arise involving the rights and privileges of all subjects, native and foreign, within the jurisdiction of the settlement; together with a properly constituted court of justice for the punishment of criminals, without handing any over to the Chinese authorities. We feel confident that if England proposed a general basis for such a government, the other Powers would readily give in their adhesion. To say the least of it, the heterogeneous mode of Consular Government at the crowded and wealthy port of Shanghai, with its external trade in imports and exports of nearly forty millions sterling per annum, is not creditable to the Treaty Powers, and calls for immediate improvement.

SIR FREDERICK BRUCE'S CORRESPONDENCE.

THERE is this advantage in the often-censured delay of public offices in publishing official papers—that it admits of secondary, and, perhaps, calmer views being formed upon topics which, at the time of their first being broached, elicited heated criticisms, resulting in most prejudiced opinions being formed. Few will forget the storm of obloquy which broke upon Sir FREDERICK BRUCE'S head when it was supposed that it was owing to supineness, if not something worse, that every obstacle was thrown in the way of British gentlemen of standing and position availing themselves of the celebrated Order in Council, and leaving it optional to officers holding Her MAJESTY'S

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commission to accept service under the Celestial EMPEROR without forfeiting their rank. Another instalment of correspondence between Sir F. BRUCE and the Foreign-office, noticed in our last, throws light upon this hitherto misunderstood matter. Sir F. BRUCE, as a statesman, is bound to consider not merely the present, but the future. He foresees the anomalies and complications which are pretty sure to result as the numbers of adventurers increase, flocking to the dainty prey sketched out before them. He is, of course, too diplomatic to express in direct words his utter distrust of the Chinese authorities, and his conviction that, wherever possible, they will avail themselves of the evil diplomatic talent they possess to evade or nullify their engagements with all and sundry. He quite despairs of our ever being able—at least, for a generation or two—to teach them the humanities of civilised warfare, and we all know how signally these views have been verified by recent occurrences.

But, forming the continuous groundwork of the pattern, so to speak, is the true and most justifiable statesman-like dread of our being gradually committed to enterprises of which we have but a faint notion at present. He dare not, of course, in express terms, condemn the Council Minute, especially with Mr. LAY and Capt. OSBORN, for whose behoof it may be said to have been enacted, besieging him to have their Chinese commissions drawn out in form, and countersigned by the British Ambassador. But while not very sanguine as to the prospects of either of these gentlemen—spiced, it may be, with a slight *soupcon* of jealousy as to the very prominent position this agreement was to confer on Mr. LAY, he overlooks these minor matters, which were then only just approaching the ripening point, to give the Foreign-office a solemn warning of the danger they would incur in the future by permitting a too lax interpretation to be assigned to the policy of encouraging adventurers not by any means strenuously disclaimed by the Ministry. His half-whispered warnings have received an additional confirmation by the news just received. Major GORDON, whom he was very loth from the first to permit to assume the position he did without more positive guarantee, has gone through all the phases of the mercenary soldier's career. The mercenary leaders of the middle ages, when they first appeared, were gentlemen of tried probity and untarnished honour, as well as great military skill; and many an instance is recorded of their quitting in disgust the side they had espoused when any infraction of the laws of chivalry, or derogation from the strict canons of knightly faith, was proved against their allies, nor was the breach healed till ample restitution had been made. In what does this differ from the case of Major GORDON? He took suit and service with the Imperialists; he gained battles and took cities, and then, by a lying subterfuge, his allies wrested the power out of his hands, and indulged their own devilish cruelty. He resigned; his resignation was accepted; and now by this mail comes the news that he has been reinstated. The result must be sorely to hamper Sir F. BRUCE "in his endeavours to induce the Chinese Government to "disavow the breach of faith toward the rebel Wangs at "Soo-chow," as the Shanghai *Daily Shipping List*, very properly points out. The motive of the Imperialists is obvious. Promises have no doubt been lavished by the bushel on Major GORDON to induce him to continue in command of the foreign contingent, and that gentleman has nobody's permission to ask but his own.

Now, to what does all this point? We do not for a moment suppose that this great groundwork for all the grotesque patterns of Chinese political life to be worked into has not long since attracted the earnest attention of statesmen of all shades in this country. But here, in a dry collection of Blue-books, we find a sort of essence pervading every page, subtle, and indescribable, and which leaves on the mind of a casual reader the feeling that there is a something which he cannot even gaze upon. If he turn to the political map of Asia, he will observe two of the great leading Powers advancing parallel with each other, with thousands of miles of impassable steppe between, to keep them apart till they meet on the frontiers of China. In that country he will behold a society where even the slight tie of respect for official superiority—almost the sole bond of society in past years—has crumbled to the dust before the events of the past quarter of a century. How are the two leading Powers —how are England and Russia, representing, as they do, such widely different principles of civilisation—to harmonise with each other in the policy best qualified for the maintenance of a *quasi* Imperial Government, in the fast approaching moribund attitude of the Mantchu dynasty? Were the internal administration of China other than it is, there might be some hope for a gradual transition. Had the hereditary principle ever succeeded in establishing itself in this anomalous country, we might, as we have done before, leave time's "unwearied foot" to drag us along in his "accomplished flight," till we, too, sank exhausted in the race, and left our posterity to fashion their policy for themselves. Such has been our policy in India, where it should never be forgotten that the Company of Traders always had with them, at each of their three chief stations, a small body of trained European troops.

Such has not been our experience in China. Their trade is the sole interest that has a really tangible legal existence. All our wars have been but isolated campaigns carried out for a special purpose. The soldier has not yet made his appearance; the adventurer has, and the rewards of success are such as are likely ere long to attract mercenaries in crowds. These, as we have said, are, at the outset, men of stainless honour, careful of their country's name and fame. But those who would see how long this *beau ideal* of the friend of oppressed humanity is likely to remain the type of the hordes who will surely gather to the spoil, need but read the accounts of the free companies of the later middle ages. This is the danger which, perhaps all unconsciously, modifies everyone of these despatches, and it is one which this country should face boldly: DE TOCQUEVILLE said that all modern forms of Government, even that of England, are slowly tending in the direction of democracy; but that in our country, where there were properly marked grades of society, not much damage need be done. It is in the recklessness of teeming millions suddenly let loose, each with his own crude theories, that the real danger lies. Much the same as this last sentence may be predicated of China, if we substitute "animal necessities" for "crude theories." The celebrated Scotch motto "Thou shalt want ere I want," would be the cry in China, should society be suddenly dissolved, as there is no small prospect at present, and scenes would be enacted before which all the horrors of the Taipings, or the Footai, who wrested GORDON'S authority out of his hands, would be enacted on a scale comprising one-third of the human race. All these disasters may even yet be avoided. But they can only be so by the power of the sword, used in proper hands. The time has now arrived when Chinese trade must have a legitimate and recognised support, backed by the sword of civilisation, in a firm policy.

LAUNCHES, &c., FOR THE CHINA TRADE.

The paddle-wheel steamer which we have before noticed as building for Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. on the Clyde, was launched from the yard of Messrs. Denny and Co., on the 8th inst., and named the *Glengyle*. The *Dumbarton*, for Messrs. Gibb, Livingston and Co., leaves for Hong Kong on the 16th inst.

The China and Japan Steam Company's vessels *Vulcan* and *Teen Chang*, on their trial trip on the Clyde, attained a speed of about eleven knots. Their paddle-boxes have been unshipped, and other alterations made necessary for the voyage. They will be duly recorded in our shipping when they sail for China. We may mention that the agency of this company has been transferred from Messrs. W. R. Adamson and Co. to Messrs. Smith, Kennedy and Co., and Messrs. Gibb, Livingston, and Co.; and with such influential co-operation we may expect that a more prosperous career is before the company.

Messrs. A. Hall and Co. launched from their building-yard at Aberdeen a fine clipper-ship of about 700 tons register, named the *Goolwa*. This vessel is of the composite class, being framed with iron. She is the property of a London firm, and is intended for the China trade.

Messrs. Barclay, Curle, and Co. have just launched from their building-yard at Stobcross a handsome new iron sailing ship, for Messrs. George Smith and Sons. Her dimensions are 213 feet by 32½ feet by 21½ feet. Tonnage, about 1,020 tons registered. She was named the *City of Foochow*, and is intended as an addition to their fleet engaged in the East India trade.

THE ANGLO-CHINESE FLEET.

THE gunboats *Peking*, *Tien-tsin* and *China* have arrived from China. The Lords of the Admiralty will negotiate the sale of these vessels, all of which may be expected home shortly. We congratulate Captain SHERARD OSBORN on being relieved from this onerous duty. We understand that the applications for the purchase of the vessels have been very numerous, both for America and the Continent. On their realisation the Government will close the accounts with Prince KUNG.

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THE STRAITS TRANSFER QUESTION.

THE report of the Commissioners' drawn up at Singapore, and which we have already announced as entirely justifying the transfer, is now before the Treasury, and we hear, on good authority, that the measure will be carried out during the present session.

FRENCH MAIL SERVICE.

WE noticed in a late issue the intended reduction of the P. and O. Company's fares. We understand that it is the intention of the French Company, *Messageries Imperiales*, to make a corresponding reduction.

Naval and Military.

The Scout, 21, screw corvette, 400-horse power, Capt. John Corbett, arrived at Spithead on the 7th of April from China, the Cape, and St. Helena, sailing from Hong Kong on the 5th of December, 1863; Cape of Good Hope, Feb. 2, 1864, and St. Helena on the 17th of February. Her news has been anticipated. She has brought from China and the Cape Lieuts. Vicary and Clarke, R.N., and 70 naval and marine invalids. The departure of the Adventure for China is not yet fixed on, as fresh cases of small-pox have occurred.

The whole of the troops now in garrison at Chatham have been reviewed by his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge. The troops performed the various evolutions with great precision and rapidity, and at the close of the review his Royal Highness expressed to General Eyre the satisfaction he felt in witnessing this creditable display of the drill and discipline of the garrison.

The United States' gun-vessel *Kearsage* has discharged her powder—5 tons—at the powder-buoy off Woolwich Arsenal, in charge of the shipping agent, and proceeded to the Victoria docks, to make good certain damages sustained during the late gale in the channel. She will be thoroughly overhauled, will be supplied with a new topmast, and have her bottom cleaned. She is manned at all quarters with a most formidable armament of six powerful 11-inch guns, weighing 6 tons, to carry a 200lb. shot each, so as to maintain a steady fire from every part of the ship. The *Kearsage* is last from Dover, where she was an object of much attraction and was visited by a large number of persons.

A singular fraud on the Government, and one whose long impunity seems to discredit the viligance of the military authorities at Woolwich, has lately been discovered there. Sergeant Saunders was entrusted with the duty of attesting recruits before the magistrates there, for which his legal fee was 15s 6d. each. It now turns out that a great many of the attestation papers, on which he was paid, were forged, and this had been done so often that the amount out of which the Government has been defrauded is about £1,000. Saunders was placed under close arrest, but he managed to escape, and has not since been heard of. Another non-commissioned officer is under arrest for complicity with the fraud.

By the last mail from the Cape we have advices to the 20th Feb. that the following ships were in port. Narcissus, with the flag of Rear Admiral Sir Baldwin Walker, was in Simon's Bay, as was also the Rapid, 11, screw, Commander Jago. The last named was to leave in a few days for the Mozambique. Ariel, 9, screw, Commander Chapman; Valorous, 16, paddle, Captain Forsyth; Orestes, 21, screw, Captain Alan H. Gardner; and Penguin, 5, screw, Lieutenant Commanding, E. St. J. Garforth, were on the east coast. The latter was to bring the members of the Zambesi mission and exploring party to Capetown. Conqueror, 74, screw, Captain Luard, with marines for Japan, from Plymouth, Dec. 19, arrived in Simon's Bay, Feb. 13; and on the 15th, the Wasp, 13, screw, Captain Bowden, also from Plymouth, on the 19th December, for Trincomalee. The troops on board the Conqueror were all well, excepting First-Lieut. A. Donellan and Second-Lieut. E. T. Richards, Royal Marines, both of whom have been invalided. Lieutenant Fitzgibbon, of the 10th regiment, was drowned on the night of the 13th February, in crossing the Kieskamma Drift in a cart, the driver of which was also drowned. The body of Lieut. Fitzgibbon had been recovered and buried with military honours at King Williamstown.

Staff Surgeon John Stirling, M.D., late of Her Majesty's ship St. George, has proceeded to take up his appointment as staff surgeon and medical storekeeper at the naval hospital at the Cape of Good Hope.

The position of Her Majesty's gunboat Magpie has become very dangerous. On the 3rd inst. she was on her way to Galway with supplies for the Coastguard, steaming slowly along the coast of Clare, the stupendous cliffs of which are the admiration of tourists. The weather was very hazy, and while Captain Bell went below to look at the chart and reckoning, the vessel struck upon the rocks, where she remained fast. There was no wind, but, as oftens happens on that coast, the swell of the Atlantic caused the sea to roll high, and the waves were breaking over the masts. Exertions were being made to get her off the rock, but a mighty wave came and lifted her further inland, and left her stranded as the water receded, so that when tugs arrived it was impossible for them to get near enough to be of use. After 20 hours of fruitless efforts the waves continued to dash over the stranded boat, and her keel has been nearly stripped off. There are faint hopes that she may be saved when the spring tides set in.

ADMIRALTY.—APRIL 5.

Vice-Admiral of the Blue Michael Quin has been appointed to receive a pension of £150, a-year, as provided by Her Majesty's Order in Council of the 25th of June, 1851, vacant by the death of Admiral Sir Edward Tucker, G.C.B., and the name of Vice-Admiral Quin has been removed to the Reserved Half-pay List accordingly. In consequence of that removal the following promotions, dated the 28th ult., have been made:—

Rear-Admirals Brunswick Popham, Thomas Ogle, George Evans, and John Hackett, on the Reserved List, to be Vice-Admirals on the same list

Rear-Admiral of the Red Frederick Bullock to be Vice-Admiral of the Blue.

Rear-Admiral of the White Sir Edward Belcher, Knight, C.B., to be Rear-Admiral of the Red.

Rear-Admiral of the Blue George Henry Seymour, C.B., to be Rear-Admiral of the White.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

TROOPS IN JAPAN.

(April 7th.) Col. SYKES rose to call attention to a recent statement in *The Times* to the effect that the 20th Regiment on its arrival at Calcutta had immediately been transferred to other transports and despatched to Japan. It would be said that the motive of this transfer of troops—of the probable consequences of which he warned the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the strongest manner—was to insist upon the fulfilment of our treaty with Japan. To that he replied that we had no treaty with the Emperor of Japan. We had a treaty with one of the princes of the empire who was called the Tycoon of Jedo, though, in fact, there was no such person as the Tycoon. The name originated in this way. When Commodore Pellew went to Japan he had with him a Cantonese interpreter, who, not knowing how to describe this prince, called him the Tycoon, which was Cantonese for a great prince. His proper title was Ziogoon, meaning Generalissimo. A gentleman who seemed to possess good sources of information, in writing to the editor of the *Japan Herald*, expressed it to be his opinion that the Tycoon's Government was the cause of the serious difficulties with which we had to contend in that quarter, adding that the result of the relations which had been established with Japan was, that in the first instance two Russians fell victims, an event which was followed by the attack on a party, one of whom was killed while riding on the high road; while the principle was maintained that it was a good thing to kill foreigners. Now, that it appeared was the feeling in the immediate vicinity of Yokohama, whither we were sending a regiment of Europeans. And what, he would ask, were our prospects for the future when we got our regiment there? Why, in all probability, that some fine morning some of the officers would go out on a shooting excursion, that they would be seized, would endeavour to defend themselves, like Mr. Moss; that a struggle would ensue; that they would be put into the Black Hole, and ultimately, perhaps surrendered to our consuls. With a regiment at hand we should not submit to what we might deem an outrage, and should take the law into our own hands. We should, in short, be likely to get into a contest with all the princes of the empire in succession, all of whom were opposed to us, and thus we should have in Japan a renewal of our China policy, which, as the Chancellor of the Exchequer had informed the House, has cost us half a million and an enormous sacrifice of human life. That, he contended, was a result which was not likely to lead to a diminution or our expenditure, while another element of discord and consequent loss was to be found in the probability that attempts would be made to smuggle opium into the country; that it would be seized, and that then we should feel ourselves called upon to demand redress. Was it consistent with our professions of humanity to seek to hold our ground in Japan against a people who were inimical to us by means of force? Under all the circumstances of the case he hoped the House would look upon the question in a cautious and earnest spirit, so that we might be saved from falling into the same groove as in China. He begged, in conclusion, to ask the Under-Secretary for War whether he had made any provision for the charge of the 1st battalion 20th Regt., transferred in December from the Indian establishment for Service in China and Japan, and whether other regiments were under orders for service in those countries.—The Marquis of HARTINGTON, in his reply to Colonel Sykes, said he was labouring under some misapprehension on the subject of his question. The 1st battalion of the 20th Regiment was doing duty in India, and was, therefore, not provided for in the estimates. The 2nd battalion had been devoted for service in China and Japan, and was provided for in the estimates. Colonel Neale had applied to General Brown for a small number of troops to protect the settlers at Yokohama, which request had, in the first instance, been refused. Subsequently, a small detachment had been granted, but that would, in all probability, be soon withdrawn. The number of soldiers in Japan did not exceed 160.

JAPANESE VIEW OF THE ENGLISH.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

SIR,—The following, extracted from the work published as to the recent visit of the Japanese Ambassadors, may be interesting to your readers. It has been forwarded to me by a correspondent in Nagasaki.—Yours, &c., A JAPANESE MERCHANT.

(Copy.)

"They, the Western barbarians, who have lately destroyed our town, we visited. The men are red-faced and fond of eating, and the low men (we think) eat raw meat, of which lumps are exhibited, much to our disgust. These people are very expert in iron; copies of their works our artists have drawn. Their buyers and sellers (? merchants) are not allowed to do any other work, and, therefore, being somewhat ignorant, principally talk of business. The nobles (Daimios) buy their wives from the merchants who train (*sic*) their daughters for that purpose. We think them great barbarians! The women wear frames to keep away men during the summer, when they are amorous. Some are pretty, but their eyes are large and close together; their feet are large and clumsy, and they have big legs. These women sing loud and roll their eyes, keeping time with motions of their heads. When they meet the men in the evening they are but partly dressed. These people made us sick with eating and drinking. The carriages in the streets try to knock down the people on foot, especially the women, to amuse the drivers. Their Government house, where the Daimios meet to talk and sleep, is well-built, and equal to a first-class tea house; the women are kept there in a cage. These people looked at us much. The women are allowed to run about without keepers, playing with umbrellas (parasols). They are the greatest barbarians in the West."

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A CHINAMAN FROM REBELDOM.—A young man named John Fouenty, a native of Hong Kong, China, recently arrived in New York city, having made his escape from Savannah, Ga, where he was conscripted. John speaks but little English. His story, which is undoubtedly true, is somewhat interesting. He says his people are quite "well to do" in China, but owing to some arrangement he could never exactly understand, he found himself at seven years of age shipped as a coolie on board a vessel bound for Cuba. His term of "apprenticeship" being out at the expiration of his four years he was furnished with money to pay his passage home. He made an arrangement with the captain of a barque which was, as he was informed, to sail direct for China. He paid thirty dollars for his passage, and in four or five days afterwards was surprised to find himself in St. Augustine, Florida. The captain explained the matter by saying his passenger shipped under a mistake, and that his vessel was going no further. This was in 1862. Some kind gentlemen, residents of St. Augustine, hearing John's story, took him in charge, and sent him to school for a year, when he moved to Savannah. There he learned the cigar maker's trade, At the breaking out of the rebellion he was induced to join the rebel army, in which he served for a year. He was then mustered out, being under age. The last rebel Conscription Act brought John under the rule, and he was accordingly notified. Determined not to fight any more under the rebel flag, he seized the first favourable opportunity to make his escape to St. Augustine. The Provost Marshal of that place kindly furnished him with transportation to New York. John is now trying to get passage to China, hoping to see his people once more. His news is not of a very late date. He says that, before he left Savannah, Jeff. Davis came there and addressed the people. He was asked the question, "When will the war be ended?" Jeff. replied, "Don't, for Heaven's sake, ask me such a question."

Two magnificent swords, one of gold and the other of silver, intended as presents to the two Kings of Siam by the President of the United States, were brought to Southampton, consigned to the United States Consul at that port, who has to forward them on.

Monetary and Commercial.

The "Imperial Bank of China," which Mr. Montgomery Martin has been for some months engaged in forming, has been handed over to the "Credit Mobilier," who have completed the Board of Directors, a list of whom will be found in the prospectus in another column. The applications for shares are much in excess of the number to be allotted. The large increase of our trade in China since the Elgin treaty leaves little doubt as to the success of this institution. There is an ample field for its capital with the Government and Chinese traders, without encroaching on the Exchange business of existing banks in China. The shares are quoted on the Stock Exchange at 3 premium.

The prospectus of the Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East, for the purpose of taking over the business of the Commercial Bank of India, established in Bombay in 1845, will be found in our advertising columns. The capital is to be £1,000,000, in shares of £25 each, half of which will be apportioned to the shareholders of the existing bank in substitution of the shares now held by them. Of the remaining £500,000 the sum of £250,000 will be allotted to these shareholders at par, in consideration for the transfer of the business and the reserved fund, which amounts to about £50,000, while the balance of £250,000 is offered for subscription in London at £10 per share premium, such premium to form an addition to the reserve fund. The shares were last quoted from Bombay at a premium equal to £21. 5s. per share of £25. The shares are quoted at 4 premium over the 10 at which they are issued.

Mr. Page has published a very useful table of prices of bullion; rates of Exchange, &c., in London, Hong Kong, and Shanghai for 1863.

Messrs. Jones Lloyd and Company, the well-known bankers, have retired, and made over their business to the London and Westminster (Joint-Stock) Bank.

On the Budget, the following is from *The Times*:—

It cannot be said that the Budget was received in the City to-day with any especial favour. The advocates of a uniform duty on sugar maintain that none of their principles were controverted by the arguments of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and are disappointed at a result being delayed which they had hoped might be attained at once. The refiners and West India planters are at the same time dissatisfied, since they seem to apprehend that the discrimination under the new scale of duties will not be sufficiently wide to prevent the foreign producers of the better classes of sugar from entering into keen competition with them. The former party, it is said, intend to force the question to a division in the House, since they consider it to involve certain general points of the highest commercial importance, while the latter are already understood to be preparing to besiege the Government for a differential scale of a more decisive character. In connexion with the fire insurance question there is also some disappointment, and surprise is expressed that Mr. Gladstone should attempt to establish a distinction as to the class of property that is in the present stage of universal enterprise to be regarded as trading stock.

The biddings for £400,000 in bills on India took place at the Bank of England on the 6th inst. The proportions allotted were—to Calcutta, £222,400; to Bombay, £160,000; and to Madras, £17,600. The *minimum* price was, as before, 1s. 11½d. per rupee on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11⅝d. on Bombay. The applications within the limits amounted to £4,260,000. Tenders on Calcutta at 2s. will receive about 16 per cent., and above that price in full; on Bombay at 2s. 0⅛d., about 76 per cent., and on Madras at 2s. 0⅛d. in full. On the last occasion the applications within the limits reached only £2,300,000, so that a considerable increase in the demand for remittance to India is indicated.

The general meeting of shareholders of the Société Générale de Commerce et d'Industrie à Amsterdam was held in that city on the 29th March. The general meeting, in pursuance of the 36th article of the company's statutes, having heard the report of the directors, adopted the balance-sheet, and fixed the dividend at florins 14-05, or thirty francs per share, and authorised the chairman to sign the minutes accordingly.

The directors of the British and Californian Banking Company (Limited) have concluded an arrangement with the firm of Faulkner, Bell and Co., of San Francisco, for the acquisition of their banking and exchange business. Mr. James Bell, of that firm, will be a local director at San Francisco, and Mr. Henry D. Harrison, of the same house, will join the London board.

The certificates for the new shares of the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan, are now ready for delivery.

The following is from a report just issued by the Directors of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, and to be presented at general meeting on the April 13 (this day):—

The directors have now the pleasure to submit to the shareholders the general balance-sheet of the bank for the year ended December 31 last, showing a net profit of £101,193. 2s. 10d. To this has to be added the unappropriated balance of £4.368. 11s. 6d. from last year, making £105,561. 14s. 4d. The directors have to report that the increase of the bank's capital from £644,000 to £800,000 by the issue, at a premium of £10 per share, of 7,800 new shares of £20 each, is in course of being most satisfactorily carried out; and the premium received, viz.. £78,000, has been carried to the reserve fund. After deducting from the balance of £105,561. 14s. 4d. the sum of £32,200—the interim dividend paid to the shareholders in October last, at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum—there remains £73,361. 14s. 4d. now available for division. The directors recommend the shareholders to declare a dividend on the present occasion at the same rate of 10 per cent. per annum, and also a bonus of 10s. per share (free of income-tax), which together will amount to £48,300. They further recommend that £12,000 be added to the reserve fund, leaving a balance of £13,061. 14s. 4d. of undivided profits to be carried forward. The reserve fund, with the above two additions, will then stand at £105,000. The directors can continue to report favourably of the prospects of the bank; and they have to state that since the last annual meeting a new agency has been established at Batavia—now in full working order—and another more recently at Hankow, in China.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Busines done.
100	Agra and United Service, Limited	50	127 to 130	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	42 to 43	...
20	Do. New	10	19 to 20 pm.	
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	70 to 72	...
50	London Joint Stock	10	41 to 43	...
100	London and Westminster	20	89 to 91	...
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	65 to 67	...
50	Union of London	13	51 to 53	...
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	11 to 12 pm.	...
100	Do. New	8	11 to 12 pm.	...
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	7½	4 to 5 pm.	...
20	Do. New	7½	4½ to 4¾ pm	...
25	Bank of Egypt	All	29½ to 30½	...
100	Bank of London	50	168 to 172	...
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	2	2½ to 3 pm.	...
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 4	...
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	82 to 84	
50	Do. New	30	20 to 22 pm.	
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	...	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	...	...
2	Telegraph to India Company	2	⅜ to ½ dis.	...
5	Bombay Gas	All	¼ to ½ pm.	...
10	E. I. and London Shipping B.	All	3 to 6	...
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	8	1½ to 1 dis.	...
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	par to ¼ pm.	...
0	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	20½ to 21	...
1	Oriental Gas	All	1¼ to 1½	...
1	Do. New	¾	½ to ¾ pm.	...
10	O. Inland Steam	All	3 to 3½	...
100	West India Steam Company	60	89 to 91	...
20	Ceylon Company	7	3¼ to 4¼ pm.	...
20	International Finance Society	5	6¾ to 7 pm.	...
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	5¾ to 6¼ pm.	...
50	London Financial Association	15	12 to 12½ pm.	...
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	2	3¼ to 4½ pm.	...
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	6	1 to par xd.	...
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	19⅜ to 19¾	...
20	British Indian Tea	5	par to ¼ pm.	...
10	Upper Assam Tea	1¼	2 to 2½ pm.	...
10	Do.	All	14 to 17	...

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The failure of Messrs. G. I. and P. Watson, of London, who have been engaged in miscellaneous consignments to China, has been announced. The cause of failure is attributed to non-remittances for goods shipped; especially by Mr. Palmer, Auctioneer, of Shanghai, who it is stated has absconded.

At the meeting of the Oriental Bank Corporation, to be held on April 21, the directors propose to declare a dividend of £3 a share, making, with £1. 15s. already paid, a distribution of 19 per cent. for 1863.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Ceylon*, from Southampton, on the 4th inst., was:—In gold, to Alexandria, £6,500; to Aden, £1,000; to Galle, £1,104; to Madras, £3,661; to Calcutta, £1,920. In silver, to Madras, £70,932; to Calcutta, £55,000; to Penang, £10,500; to Singapore, £10,500; to Hong Kong, £16,073; to Foo-chow-Foo, £400; to Shanghai, £11,375. Total, in gold, £14,185; in silver, £174,780.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—It is satisfactory to notice the very large scale on which the deliveries are going on; those for export for the first three months amounting to 7,900,000 lbs., against 4,700,000 lbs. last year, whilst the home consumption deliveries show a further increase even upon the advanced scale since the reduction of duty last year, and this must, ere long, tell upon our stocks, and give some relief to holders. Low and dusty kinds of Congou continue to support former prices, those with leaf have also been saleable to a fair extent, but prices have ruled a shade easier. Good common have been scarce at 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 1d. per lb. Fair to good Sinchune Kais, and Fair Kaisow kinds, from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 7d., have met with only a limited inquiry. Good Kaisow kinds have been scarce and in request; fine to finest maintain former value. Common to fair blackish-leaf kinds show no alteration. Good second class Monings and Wopaks have been fairly saleable; fine to finest remain much as before. Tayshans have been scarce, the new make from Canton have sold at previous prices. Oolongs under 1s. 3d per lb. have been in demand for export, other sorts remain unchanged. Souchongs show no material alterations. Flowery Pekoes continue to sell at public sale at low prices. In Scented Teas business has been moderate, the sales made have been at about previous prices. Uncolored Japans continue in demand at fully former prices. Indian Teas have sold steadily at public sale at full prices. The arrivals of Green Tea have been considerable, and these have been freely offered, and the result has been large sales both for export and home consumption. Moyune kinds have sold readily at very high prices, but Ping-Suey kinds have been less saleable and prices have ruled lower. Good to fine Canton-make Gunpowders have sold at very full prices. Young Hysons show now alteration. The only public sale commenced on the 5th inst., comprising 60,650 packages, of which 32,428 packages were printed without reserve. Of these 40,523 packages have passed auction and 20,719 packages have been sold, including 18,881 packages without reserve. The sales will conclude next week, when further sales of Indian Tea will also take place.

SILK.—We have had more business in China and Japan silk during the past month, and the tone of the market has experienced some improvement. Importers show less disposition to sell, and prices are, consequently, a shade dearer. The deliveries for the month, 2,800 bales of China, and 1,567 bales of Japan, show that the consumption of Asiatic silk is still on a small scale. The China letters recently delivered report an almost total absence of business in silk; some 500 bales had arrived from Japan, but the settlements of China silk for the whole month would not amount to 100 bales. Unsold stock on the market was estimated at 5,000 bales. Exchange at Shanghai, which at one moment in the month was quoted 7s. 3d., had again declined to 6s. 6d.

	1861. £. Ordinary, s. d.	s. d.	1862. £. Ordinary, s. d.	s. d.	1863. £. Superior. s. d.	s. d.
Tsatlee, No. 1 and 2	22 0 to	23 6				
„ No. 3 and 4	19 6	20 6	21 0		21 6	
„ No. 5	18 0	18 6				
Ditto, Hang-Chow	18 6	19 0	19 6			
Yuenfa	10 0	20 0	20 6		22 0	
Taysaam	15 6	18 6	19 0		20 6	
Ditto, skeins	16 0	16 6				
Ditto, long reel	16 6	17 6	18 0		18 6	
Canton	11 0	16 6	17 0		17 6	
Chinese Thrown	15 0	19 0	21 0		22 0	
Maibash, dyepot Japan	19 6	21 6	22 0		23 0	
Ida, bricks	18 6	20 6	23 0		26 0	
Sodai „	19 0	20 6	21 6		22 0	
Oshu, re-reeled	17 6	19 6	20 6		21 6	
Koshu, Selé	19 0	20 0	20 6		21 0	
Aechezan, slips	15 0	18 6	19 0		20 0	
Mashtah „	17 0	18 0	19 0		20 0	
Hatchojee, Tussah	18 0	18 6	19 0			

SUGAR.—There has been a gradual revival of speculation since our last report, and prices advanced fully 6d. per cwt. The home trade, however, continued to act sparingly. The reduction of duty proposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Thursday night imparted increased animation to the Raw market, and business of some extent was done next day at an advance of 1s. to 2s. per cwt. on the rates of the previous Friday, viz., 4,000 bags common Madras jaggery at 37s.; 1,400 bags Native at 40s.; and 200 tons clayed Manila, to arrive, at 30s. Before the announcement regarding the duty, we have to note sales by private treaty of 43,000 bags clayed Manila at 41s. 6d. to 42s., 5,000 bags unclayed at 38s. 6d., and a floating cargo of 670 tons for the United Kingdom, at 24s. The ollowing is the new scale of duties proposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his Budget, those on Raw to take effect on the 16th inst., that on refined to be postponed for a month, viz.:—

	Dutch, Nos. Refined. 12s. 10d.	Do., Nos. 15 to 18. 11s. 8d.	D., Nos. 11 to 14. 10s. 6d.	Nos. 7 to 10. 9s 4d.	No. 6 and under. (New rate) 8s. 2d.	Melado, 6s. 7d.
Present Duties	18s. 4d.	16s.	13s. 10d.	12s. 8d.	12s. 8d.	10s. 4d.

The drawback to be allowed on the export of refined by centrifugal process, on and after the 5th May, will be 12s. 4d., and on unstoved, crushed, &c., not inferior to No. 1 standard, 11s. 9d.; on and after the 21st April the drawback on loaves equal to standard No. 1. will be 12s. 4d., that on bastards, unstoved, and broken, not inferior to standard No. 3. to be 10s. 10d., and bastards, &c., inferior to No. 2, 8s. 2d. per cwt.

COFFEE.—Plantation has given way 1s. to 2s. per cwt., the better sorts experiencing the greatest reduction, but a fair quantity has been sold, Native has been in steady demand at quite the previous value. For Mocha the market is quiet, and 72 bales at auction were all retired.

RICE.—Market quiet; 538 bags of Java retired at auction, at 13s. per cwt. for middling.

COTTON.—A languid tone has continued to prevail in the market, and only small sales have occurred, at prices generally ¼d. to ⅜d. per lb. lower—viz., 2,800 bales on the spot; middling fair to good fair Western Madras, 19d. to 19⅞d.; good fair Tinnevelli, 19¼d.; and fair to good China, 17d. to 17¾d. Sales for arrival:—50 bales Tinnevelly, 19¼d., December shipment, for guaranteed good fair; 100 bales Western, 18¾d., July and August delivery, for guaranteed fair; 1,500 bales China, 16¾d., June and July delivery, for guaranteed fair; 200 bales Japan, 18¼d., January shipment, for guaranteed fair—total, 1,850 bales.

CAMPHOR.—Good business has been done privately at £5. 10s. per cwt. for China; 200 chests at auction, retired.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—1s. per cwt. higher, and 548 cases at auction sold at 86s. to 93s. per cwt. for 3rd to 1st pile. Buds: Limited business privately, at about the previous value. 10 cases at auction, retired.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Quiet; 184 bags at auction, retired. Dragon's Blood: Flat; 18 boxes at auction, retired. Galangal Root: Cheaper; of 389 bags at auction, three-fourths sold at 20s. to 21s. 6d. per cwt. for good. Rhubarb: Quiet, with very limited business, but no relaxation in terms. Auctions unimportant.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Siam scarce, wanted, and dearer: 7 cases sold at £33 to £38 per cwt. for 2nd to 1st tear partly block; £18. 5s. to £20. 5s. good to fine 3rd block, and £12 dust in block. Sumatra steady, and of 426 cases three-fourths sold at £5. 17s. 6d. to £6 middling 3rd, and 25s. to 27s. 6d. low fourth. Damer: Steady, and of 227 cases at auction, half sold at 44s. 6d. to 45s. per cwt. for good picked, and 36s. to 37s. fair sorts. Gamboge:—Little offering; 2 cases sold at auction at £9. 7s. 6d. per cwt. for good pipe, being dearer.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Quiet; 28 tons at auction all retired. India Rubber: Some inquiry, but very little actual business doing, and no change in value; 8 cases Assam at auction sold at 7¼d. to 7¾d. per lb. for ordinary ball.

HEMP.—Manila is quoted £35 to £36. 10s. for roping qualities.

JAPAN WAX.—Quiet; 230 boxes at auction all retired.

OILS.—Anniseed: Was very quiet till quite recently, when sales to some extent were effected at the quotation of 6s. 8d. Cassia: Very moderate business at the higher figure of 9s. 6d. 5 cases at auction retired thereat. Cinnamon: Quiet, 2 cases at auction, all retired. Mace and Nutmegs: Nothing doing: Nutmeg Paste very flat at 1d. per oz.: of 3 cases at auction, one only sold.

SAGO.—Steady, 281 boxes sold at auction at 22s. per cwt. for fair large. Flour: Quiet, and without business of any importance. Tapioca: Of 729 bags Penang only a small part of the sound was realized, good middling and good white 2⅞d. to 3d.

SPICES.—Cloves: Nothing doing in Penang; Zanzibar again the turn dearer, with moderate business for the supply of actual requirements. Mace: Firm, with little offering. Nutmegs: Quiet, and 15 cases Penang at auction sold at 3s. 4d. per lb. for fair bold, and 1s. 2d. to 1s. 11d., middling small to fair medium. Pepper: Black has been in extraordinary demand, and prices have advanced ⅛d. per lb.; extremely large quantities have changed hands at 3⅞d. to 4d. for Singapore, and 3½d. to 3¾d. Penang. 4,455 bags Singapore and 5,992 bags Penang at auction all placed at and after the sales. White: Moderate business done privately in Penang at 5⅞d. per lb. for fair, being rather dearer; 349 bags Singapore at auction held for advanced rates, and retired.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Has been very quiet, with most limited business, but without any abatement in rates. 828 bags at auction all retired. Gambier: Is again 3d. to 6d. per cwt. dearer, and very large business has been accomplished, both on the spot and for arrival, up to 23s. 6d. per cwt. 838 bales sold at auction at 25s. 6d. to 26s. 3d. good cubes.

TOBACCO.—Manila Leaf: There have been several inquiries for the different lots to arrive, but in this market no business transpired. Manila Cheroots and Segars: Rather weaker in price. Java: Is in good demand, and prices well maintained for good and fine qualities. Japan: Desirable descriptions wanted. Quotations: Manila Cheroots and Segars, 7s. to 7s. 6d.; Java, 6d. to 1s. 1d.; Japan, 4d. to 8d.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls: All kinds—Bussorah, China, and Japan—very scarce, and much wanted. 8 cases China and 25 cases Japan at auction all retired. We quote Japan and China 70s. to 100s. per cwt. Blacklead: Lower, and of 173 barrels at auction two-thirds sold at 20s. 6d. to 23s. per cwt. for very good lump, and 9s. 6d. good dust. Musk: Is 1s. to 2s. per oz. dearer, and in active demand; 62 caddies sold at auction at 24s. to 34s. 6d. per oz. for middling rough to very good Tonquin, and 7 tins grain 50s. 6d. to 51s. 6d. Rattans: Continue very firm; and 7,263 bundles Penang, and 1,908 bundles Singapore at auction, sold at 4s. 6d. to 9s. 2d. per 100. Sapanwood: Firm, with quotations on former terms. Mother o'Pearl Shells: A recent importation, 84 cases, sold at auction at 90s. to 95s. per cwt. for good Manila, being very firm. Soy: being more scarce, and in some demand for the supply of actual requirements, has realised as much as 3s. per gallon for a few hogsheads of fine. Star Anniseeds: A few cases at auction retired at £9 per cwt., the advanced rate of £8 having been bid. Sticklac, Siam: Firm: and 280 cases at auction, all sold at 55s. to 59s. per cwt. for good to very good; 53s. small, and 46s. to 52s. block. Tortoiseshell: Of 8 cases Singapore at auction, three fourths sold at 15s. per lb., being the previous value; and one case Manila at 18s. Turmeric: No China here; Java steady; and of 459 bags at anction, a few sold at 21s. per cwt. for good. Vermilion: Scarce and wanted; no auctions.

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ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £8. 10s. to £9; nail rod, £9. 10s. to £10. 5s.; hoops, £11 to £11. 5s.; sheets, single £12 to £12. 5s.; Staffordshire bars, £10. 5s.; rails, £7. 10s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £110 per ton; yellow metal, 9d. to 9¼d. per lb.

TIN.—112s. for block; 113s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 31s. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £21. 12s. 6d. to £22; W.B. £22. 15s.; shot, patent, £24; sheet, £22; spelter, £21. 5s. to £21. 10s.; zinc, English sheet, £26. 10s.: quicksilver, £9 to £9. 5s.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£101,975
Foo-chow-Foo	—	5,580
Hong Kong	£5,000	236,271
Amoy	—	—
Singapore	£3,750	48,875
Penang	—	51,695

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£32,220
Hong Kong	£31,568	81,520
Singapore	—	18,920
Penang	—	3,272
Foo-chow-Foo	—	1,000

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0	to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 3½	
Silver in Bars	0 5 1½	
Mexican Dollars	0 5 3½	

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Mar. 18	Off Scilly	Batavia	Graafstroom	de Boer.
— 21	Off Belle Isle	Do.	J. J. Granville	Robert.
— 24	Mount's Bay	Hong Kong	A. O. Anderson	Stromberg.
— 17	Off Scilly	Manila	Der Preusse	West.
— 17	Do.	Kanagawa	Cambridge	Dennison.
— 30	Bremen	Batavia	Tuisco	Decker.
— 24	Plymouth	Tjilatjap	Theodora Machtilda	Wyk.
— 22	Off Plymouth	Probolingo	Luconia	Admiraal.
— 22	Off the Eddystone	Nagasaki	Martha Thresia	Visser.
— 18	Cadiz	Maulmain	Astrea	Brunstrom.
— 24	Off the Start	Banjoewangie	Huydekoper	Blok.
— 3	Havana	Macao	Vasco de Gama	Silva.
— 28	Portsmouth	Samarang	Zeemanshoop	Pfaff (sick).
— 13	New York	Canton	Orient	Budelmann.
Feb. 28	Demerara	Do.	Zouave	Griffith.
Mar. 6	St. Thomas	Shanghai	Wilhelmina	Knaack.
— 15	New York	Foo chow-Foo	Helen Nicholson	Halliday.
— 18	Do.	Do.	Florence Nightingale	Beard.
— 30	Deal	Shanghai	Daisy	McCulloch.
Feb. 11	Texel	Sourabaya	Alma	Conn.
Mar. 29	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Nova Zembla	Mammes.
— 26	St. Nazaire	Java	L. A. Bang	Tollenius.
— 23	Off the Start	Banjoewangie	A. R. Falck	V. Duyvenboden
— 15	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Nile	Bristow.
— 30	Brouwershaven	Sourabaya	Cornwallis	Blick.
— 28	St. Nazaire	Samarang	Chaptal	Mocner.
April 1	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Istamboul	Deuchar.
— 2	Do.	Do.	Esmeralda	Pollock.
— 1	Falmouth	China	Pekin, str.	Burgoyne.
Mar. 31	Off the Needles	Batavia	Scheveningen	Annokkee.
— 31	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Elizabeth	Harms.
April 2	Liverpool	Ningpo	Thalaba	Williams.
— 1	Zierikzee	Banjoewanjie	Zeelandia	Blaakhert.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Apr. 4	London	Singapore	Henry Darling	Reid.
— 4	Do.	Cardiff & Shanghai	Sabine	Woodward.
Mar. 30	Off Dungeness	Singapore	Bantam	
Apr. 2	Cardiff	Shanghai	Quick	Verdet.
— 3	Shields	Do	Wm. Mitchell	Bryce.
— 4	West Hartlepool	Singapore	Ravensbourne	Cooper.
— 6	Liverpool	Shanghai	Morning Star	Johnston.
— 5	Lisbon	Do.	Wild Deer	Cobb.
Feb. 11	Maranham	Do.	Raven	Bush.
Apr. 7	London	H. Kong & Canton	Jubilee	Grant.
— 9	Glasgow	Bat., Samg., & Soub.	Thomas Mitchell	M'Kechnie.
— 7	Cowes	Shanghai	Crusader	Reid.
— 9	Liverpool	Do.	Agincourt	Winchester.
— 9	Do.	Do.	Elizabeth Morrow	Scarpe.
Mar. 22	New York	Hong Kong	White Eagle	Williams.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa: Medina. For Shanghai: Isles of the South, Anglo Saxon, Heroes of Alma, Spirit of the Deep, Laurel, Canadian. For Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: Rubicon. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Havelock. For Hong Kong and Canton: Cambalu, Sovereign of India, Mary Mildred, Dilkhoosh, Prince Alfred, Sydney Eggers. For Hong Kong: Maiden Queen. For Manila: Conchita, Elisa. For Singapore: Maggie, Xanthippe, Moneta, William Simpson, Coromandel. For Penang: Celestial. For Bankok: Helen Baird.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Alice, Jane Leech. For Hong Kong and Canton: Veronica. For Singapore: Lorton, Spirit of the Sea, King of Trumps, Pladda. For Manila: Ercilla. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Cherokee (steamer).

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore and Penang: Osprey. For Shanghai: Genelune.

SPOKEN.

ATACAMA (Dut. barq.), Sourabaya to Middelburg, Feb. 22, 31 N., 37 W.
MARMION, Canton to New York, Jan. 8, 24 S., 67 E.
GUURTJE and MARIA, Falmouth to Batavia, Feb. 14, 3 S., 28 W.
THUSNELDA (Brem. barq.), Newport to Singapore, Jan. 21, lat. 33, lon. 30.
BERNARD and AGNES, Amsterdam to Singapore, Jan. 22, 1 N.
CANOPUS (Amer. ship), Sumatra to Pernambuco, Jan. 12, off Madagascar.
INDIAMAN, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Jan. 30, 2 S., 134 E.
CONFLICT, London to Hong Kong, Jan. 12, Straits of Manipa.
ESMERALDA (schooner), Newcastle to Shanghai, Jan. 22, 2 N., 132 E.
VIGIL, London to Shanghai, Feb. 22, 1 N., 22 W.
COUNTY OF LANARK, Java to Amsterdam, Feb. 2, 24 S., 3 E.
RECRUIT, from Foo-chow-Foo, Dec. 15, in the Straits of Sunda.
JACOBA CHRISTINA (Dut. barq.), Batavia to Amst., Dec. 27, 11 S., 99 E.
CLARENDON, Shanghai to London, Feb. 17, 1 S., 22 W.
COLONIAL EMPIRE (Amer. ship), Macao to Lisbon, Feb. 20, 2 N., 22 W.
GOTTLAND, from Hong Kong, 22 N., 117 E.
BURMAN, London to Shanghai, Jan. 16, 15 S., 118 E.
BIOPLAIA (?), Brem. brig, Hamburg to Hong Kong, Jan. 21, 1 N., 132 E.
NOSSI BE (Fr. bark), Toulon to Saigon, Jan. 5, 4 S., 137 E.
KRIMPENERWAARD (Dutch barque), for Amoy, Jan. 14, 1 S. 129 E.
UNRIVALLED, London to Shang., 112 days out, Jan. 18, in the China Sea.
ORACLE (?), Shanghai to Liverpool, Feb. 26, 19 N., 45 W.
PRINS CARL, Batavia to Amsterdam, Jan. 15, 6 S., 87 E.
ALTONA, (Dan. barq.), Bordeaux to Hong Kong, March 10, 43 N., 12 W.
LORD RAGLAN (ship), London to Hong Kong, March 23, off Ushant.
GOEDE VERWACHTUNG, Java to Amstm., March 15, 47 N., 14 W.
CLARA ANN (?), London to Shanghai, Feb. 10, 33 N., 22 W.
EUGENIE, Tjilatjap to Amsterdam, Jan. 9, 33 S., 33 E.
RHINE, Shanghai to Liverpool, Dec. 26, off Java Head.
MELROSE (barq.), Amoy to London, Feb. 21, 2 N., 21 W.
SCHELDE (ship), Batavia to Amstm., Jan. 30.
COSMOPOLITE, Batavia to Schiedam, Jan. 30.
MAGGIE LAUDER, Manila to Cork, Feb. 4.
McDUFF, Shanghai to Liverpool, Jan. 13, 35 S., 23 E.
FORFARSHIRE, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Jan. 29, 26 S., 6 E.
MARSEILLES, Sourabaya to Falmouth, Jan. 26, 34 S., 26 E.
GERMANICA (Russ. ship), GEBROEDERS (Dut. brig), } Java to Amsterdam, Jan. 21.
STANNARD, Foo-chow-Foo to London, Jan. 29, 34 S., 30 E.
JUANPORE, Hong Kong to London, Feb. 28, 19 S., 3 W.
MAURY, New York to Shanghai, Jan. 16, 96 d.o., in the China Sea.
FINZEL (barque), London to Shanghai, March 25, 46 N., 11 W.
MARIE, Rotterdam to Sourabaya, Jan. 31, 18 S., 30 W.
VAN BUMROW (?) (Pruss. barq.), Canton to New York, Nov. 30.
SALES, Liverpool to Manila, Nov. 27, 43 N., 16 W.
JOSEPHINA BERNADINA, Amsterdam to Batavia, Jan. 13., 29 S., 20 W.
ARISTIDES, Boston to Singapore, Jan. 29, 39 S., 18 E.
OASIS, Singapore to Liverpool, Jan. 30, 25 S., 5 E.
BULGERSTEYN, Sourabaya to Rotterdam, March 27, 44 N., 33 W.
MASDEU, Rotterdam to Batavia, Jan. 7, 3 N., lon. 25.
MELDON, Samarang to Rotterdam, Dec. 28, 32 S., 40 E.
SHIP, No. 8634, 3rd d.p. Shanghai to Liverpool, March 30, 47 N. 28 W.
LOUISE KOHN, Amoy to New York, Jan. 21, 29 S., 47 E.
TELEGRAAF, Dutch, Batavia to Amsterdam, March 29, 45 N., 27 W.
BREMEN (?) Foo-chow-Foo to New York, 95 days out, March 4, N., 33 W.
LORD LYNDHURST, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Feb. 26, 15 S., 7 W.
LOODIANAH, Shanghai to Liverpool, March 10, 5 N., 28 W.
GENERAL MICHIELS, Banjoewangie to Rotterdam, Jan. 24, 34 S., 16 E.
JEANNETTE AND CORNELIA, Banjoewangie to Dordt, Feb. 6, 14 S., 7 W.
DAGARAAD, Rotterdam to Batavia, March 21, 48 N., 10 W.
FO-KE-LIN, London to Shanghai, Jan. 28, 41 S., 26 E.
CADUCEUS, Manila to New York, Feb. 29, 22 S., 67 E.
SHIP, 3rd d.p., No. 9711, L'pl. to Shang., 42 days out, Jan. 6, 39 S., 15 W.
CARN TUAL, Japan to London, March 2, 18 N., 35 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

(Exclusive of this day's Advices.)

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Governor Van Swisten, Confiance, Carn Tual, Louis Kniffler, Europe, Scawfell. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, Forerunner, Alexandra, Vampyre. At NEW YORK: Sarah *via* Shangha.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Monarch, Belle, Melrose, J. H. Ransom, Annie Archbell, Stornway, M. M. Peter, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Oliver Cromwell, Wagoola, Ralston, Thomas Dryden, Magnus, Nelly, Balmacarra, Marie Wilhelmina, Standard, Agra, Island Queen, Josephine, Marquis of Argyle, Amaranth, Glaramara, Bankside, Ballarat, Sappho, Sir Harry Parkes, Lansdowne, Egmont, Fairleader, Oithona, Albrecht Oswald, Herald, Weymouth, Stuart Wortley, Rio. At LIVERPOOL: Joshua Bates, Iron Crown, Forfarshire, Cornelia, Inamhore, Strathallan, Oliver Cromwell, Thomas Royden, Alice Painter, Queensbury, Regina, Ranee, Victoria, Montgomery, Princess Royal, Loodianah, Chryseis, Lord Lyndhurst, Royal George, Offor, Virginia, Jusnpore, Spirit of the Times, Veloz, Koh-i-noor, Cornelia Hendrika, Devonshire, Dolphyn. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama. At HAMBURG: Johanna, Hamilla Mitchell, Alt Mecklenburg, Gravina, Orion. At NEW YORK: Lettice Catharina, Dorester, Neuhof, Sarah. Wilhelmina, Graf Eulenburg, Creole, Apollo, Elizabeth, Louise Kohn, Hermine, Kahlamba, Confucius, St. Paul, Guiding Star, Queen of the Seas, Peep O'Day, Anne Wood, Capella, Thetis, Kate Carney, Santon. At MONTREAL: H. E. Sassaune, Asia, Tycoon, Madura, Romeo.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Flora. At FALMOUTH: Maggie Lauder. At LIVERPOOL: Elias, Teide, Conference. At FALMOUTH: Helverton. At COWES: Manila. At DENMARK: Emma. At ROTTERDAM: Zanzibar. At NEW YORK: Helvetia, Castilian.

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From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Oscar, Pilgrim, Tre Brodre Confiance, Early Dawn, Chili. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Centaur. At LIVERPOOL: Oasis, Crusader, Spanker. At FALMOUTH: For orders, Helene (Dan.). At BORDEAUX: Salazes (Fr.), Orixa (Fr.), Hooghly, Saint Michel. At NEW YORK: Caroline, Rudolf.

From BATAVIA.—At FALMOUTH: Frederika. At CHANNEL: Ceres.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Nipisiquit, Rockliff, Teesdale, Edinburgh Castle. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

There is still an excess of East India shipping in our home ports, and outward freights continue very low in consequence. Fair rates are offering for coals from the outports to Singapore and China. Homeward freights remain firm. £5 is still offered for teak from Maulmain, and small British ships are required for the China trade, with the usual time options.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight. 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: 40 to £41, and £1. 18s. For Shanghai: £51 to £52, and £2. 3s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore; £26 and £1. 6s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the supply of 6,000 tons of Welsh coal, to be delivered at Shanghai, also for the conveyance of 227 tons Government naval stores (46 heavy, 181 light), from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

AMSTERDAM, March 24.—The Vertrouwen (ship), de Vos, hence to Sourabaya, has put back to day with considerable damage, and must go into dry dock to repair, having been in collision.

The Alexander, of New York, from Liverpool to Singapore, struck on the Frederick Rock, Straits of Rhio, Feb. 5, and was beached same night in a sinking state on East Island.

The Eunice Nicholas, Simons, from Sunderland for Shanghai, arrived at Gravesend, March 27, with damage.

Advices from Batavia, dated Feb. 27, state that the Wilhelmina (brig), Wiersma, from Rotterdam to Macassar, has been wrecked near the latter port; crew and part of cargo saved.

ST. THOMAS, March 19.—The Sarah, Van Name, from Shanghai to New York, put in here, March 2, leaky, and is discharging.

CALLAO, Feb. 28.—The Westward-Ho (national ship), which was fitted for a voyage to China, took fire in the anchorage in this bay on the night of Feb. 26, and was burnt to the water's edge.

ST. HELENA, Feb. 8.—The Childe Harold, Gunnion, from Shanghai to Liverpool, arrived here to day, making nine inches water per hour, having struck some unknown object floating on the water, Jan. 23, in lat. 30 S., lon. 35 E.

The Tustan, from Hamburg for Singapore, arrived at Rio Janeiro, Feb. 27, with damage, partly dismasted.

CAPETOWN, Feb. 20.—The Watergeus (Dutch barque), from Batavia for Amsterdam, which arrived here Jan. 23, put in for repairs; part of her cargo (800 bags coffee) has been sold.

The Eastern Queen, Short, from Sunderland to Shanghai, was spoken 20th May, in lat. 49 N., lon. 9 W., and has not since been heard of.

AMSTERDAM, April 4.—The Anna Digna, Ouman, from Batavia, which arrived in the Texel April 2, struck in coming in, lost an anchor and chain, and became leaky.

The Scheveningen, Annokkee, from Batavia for Rotterdam, which arrived at Brouwershaven April 2, had lost boats, bulwarks, water casks, &c., having been struck by a sea, and the cargo, it is feared, has also sustained damage.

The Maori, Ashby, which arrived off Plymouth, April 7, from Singapore, had experienced most severe weather on the 17th (supposed March 17), and had decks swept and lost everything movable.

At ST. HELENA.—Feb. 4, Helvetia, Menk, from Manila, and sailed, 5, for New York; Rudolf, Meisma, from Batavia, and sailed, 5, for Rotterdam; Graf Eulenberg, Meyer, from Canton, and sailed, 5, for New York; 5, Magnus, Moring, from Macao, and sailed for Bremen; 6, Forfarshire, Kemp, from Hong Kong, and sailed, 10, for Liverpool; Maggie Lauder, Henry, from Manila, and sailed, 8, for Cork or Falmouth for orders; Cordova, M'Kenzie, from Shanghai, and sailed, 8, for Liverpool; Merry England, Kemp, from Ningpo, and sailed for Liverpool; 7, Bulgersteyn, Geerling, from Banjoewangie, and sailed for Rotterdam; 8, Iron Crown, Rogers, from Hong Kong, and sailed, 10, for Liverpool; Casas, Pardo, from Manila, and sailed, 9, for Cadiz; Childe Harold, Gunnion, from Shanghai, and sailed, 10, for Liverpool; Santa Maria, Madrid, from Manila, and sailed, 9, for Alicante; 9, Maria Adolfina, Blom, from Batavia, and sailed, 10, for Amsterdam; Sophie (brig), Martin, from Shanghai, and sailed, 10, for London; Europe, Boutes, from Nagasaki, and sailed, 11, for London; 10, Reina de los Angelos Vildo Sola, from Manila, and sailed, 12, for Cadiz; 11, Bankok, Duval, from Bankok, and sailed for London; Schelde, Hoffman, from Batavia, and sailed, 12, for Middelburg; 12, Aldebaran, Meyboom, from Banjowangie, and sailed, 13, for Amsterdam; 13, Nipisiquit, from Penang, and sailed, 16, for London; 14, Koerier, Karso, from Padang, and sailed, 15, for Amsterdam; H.M.S. Scout, from China and Cape, and sailed, 17, for England; 15, Tien-tsin (str.), from Shanghai and Cape, and sailed, 15, for England; 16, Balmacarra, from Shanghai, and sailed, 17, for London; Queen of the Seas, from Foo-chow-Foo, and sailed, 17, for New York; 18, Christine and Jeannette, Rademaker, from Java, and sailed, 20, for Amsterdam; 19, Glen Huntley, Crone, from Shanghai, and sailed, 20, for Liverpool; Iberica, Onati, from Manila, and sailed, 20, for Cadiz; 20, Dolphin, Withers, from Kanagawa, and sailed, 22, for London; Germania, Francke, from Java, and sailed, 22, for Amsterdam; California, de Wyn, from Banjoewangie, and sailed, 22, for Amsterdam; 21, Apollo, Hagedorn, from Shanghai, and sailed, 22, for New York; 24, Hollandia, Wap, from Java, and sailed, 25, for Rotterdam; 25, Dygden, Ahrenberg, from Banjoewangie; 29, Lodore, Morrison, from Shanghai.

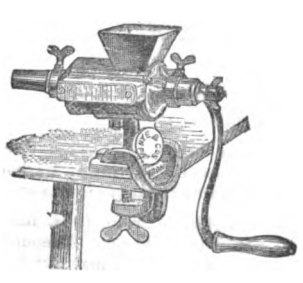
OFF ST. HELENA.—Feb. 16, Princess of Wales, from Shanghai, for London; 24 Bankside, from Foo-chow-Foo, for London.

AT TABLE BAY.—Jan. 23, Watergeus, from Batavia, for Amsterdam; 29, Seawfell, Guthrie, from Japan, and sailed 31, for London; Falcon, Sullivan, from Hong Kong, and sailed Feb. 2, for Liverpool; Citadelle, Horman, from Hong Kong, and sailed Feb. 8, for London; 30, Walcheren, from Batavia; Alfonzo de Albuquerque, from Macao, for Havana; 31, Donna Maria da Gloria, from Macao, and sailed Feb. 3, for Havana; Feb. 1, Ocean Gem, Selby, from London, and sailed 18, for Hakodadi; 6, Vulcan str., from New York, and sailed 13, for China; 4, Prins Carl, Bergmann, from Batavia, and sailed 18, for Amsterdam.

AT SIMON'S BAY.—Jan. 22, H.M.S. Pelorus, from Rio Janeiro, and sailed, 26, for China; 29, China (str.), Osborne, from China, and sailed 6 Feb for England; 27, Pekin (str.), from Cheefoo, for England; H.M.S. Scout, Capt. Corbett, from Hong Kong and Singapore, for England; Tientsin (gunboat), Capt. Nicholas, from China; 10, Ballarat, Baker, from Shanghai, for England; 12, H.M.S. Conqueror, from Plymouth, and sailed, 13, for Japan.

AT NATAL.—Jan. 26, Carl Wilhelm, Marten, sailed for Singapore.

At MAURITIUS.—Feb. 28, H.M.S. Centaur, from Hong Kong on Feb. 26, in lat. 21 S., lon. 62 E., she experienced a very severe gale from E.N.E. to N., which lasted four hours, and during which she lost some sails. March 1, Walvisch, Baskett, from Singapore.



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OF various sizes, for MINCING MEAT, VEGETABLES, &c., &c., for making Sausages, Mince Meat, Potted Meats, and various Dishes. Price £1. 1s., £1, 10s., £2. 2s., £3. 3s., £5. 5s., and £7. 7s.
"It is extremely clever."—*Times.*

A small MINCER or MASTICATOR, to assist digestion. Price £1. 10s.
"Very suitable for invalids and for persons with decayed teeth."—*The Lancet.*

IMPROVED MILLS for COFFEE, PEPPER, SPICE, MALT, &c., the best and most convenient made. Price 6s., 8s., 10s., 14s., 15s., and 20s.
"The best and most convenient Mill in use."—*Family Herald.*

ROTARY KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES of SUPERIOR QUALITY from £2 and upwards.

79, WARDOUR STREET, LONDON.

PROTECTION FROM FIRE!

Important to Buyers of Matches, Wax Vestas, &c.

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PATENT SPECIAL SAFETY MATCHES, WAX VESTAS, & CIGAR LIGHTS,
IGNITE ONLY ON THE BOX.

Safety Matches in Slide Boxes—One Dozen Packets. Safety Vestas in Slide and Japan Tin Boxes of various sizes.

THE above contain no Phosphorus, are not Poisonous, Light only on the Box, and are especially adapted for the Foreign and Colonial markets.

BRYANT and MAY, manufacturers of WAX VESTAS in Round Plaid Card-boxes, and in Japaned Tin-boxes of 50, 100, 150, 250, 500, and 1 000, warranted for all climates.

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PAYNE'S
INDIAN CURRY POWDER

IS unequalled for its delicious flavourand a stimulating qualities.

In Bottles, 3s. 6d., 2s. 3d., and 1s. 6d. each.

Curry and Mulligatawny Paste, jars, 3s. 6d. and 2s. 3d each

Royal Combination Pickle, bottles, 2s. each.

N.B.—This pickle is highly approved, and as a zest for cold meat, &c., will be found unrivalled.

LIST OF CONDIMENTS, &c.,
repared by PAYNE and CO at the Belatee Bungalow Calcutta.

	Bottles.
Pindaree Chutnee	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Bengal Club, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Green Mango, do.	1s 6d. and 3s.
Cashmere, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Lucknow (sweet), do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Curry Sauce	1s. 6d.
Tap, do.	1s. 6d.
Pickled Limes	1s. 6d.
Pickled Mangoes	2s. 6d and 5s.
Essence of Chillies	1s. 9d.
Tamarind Fish	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Balachow	1s. 6d.
Genuine Cayenne	1s. and 2s.
Nepaul Pepper	1s. and 2s.
Guava Jelly	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Preserved Mangoes	2s. and 3s. 6d
Do. Jamaica Ginger	from 3s. 6d.
Do. Chinese Ginger	...jars, 5s. and 10s.

Genuine Arrowroot, 1 lb. tins, 2s.; 7 lb. tins, 10s. 6d each.

PAYNE and CO.

FOREIGN WAREHOUSEMEN, WINE MERCHANTS, AND IMPORTERS OF INDIAN DELICACIES.

328, REGENT-STREET, & 46, MORTIMER-STREET, W.

OPPOSITE THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

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COMMERCIAL BANK CORPORATION of INDIA and the EAST.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, limiting the liability to £25 per Share, in addition to the £25 to be paid up.

Capital, One Million sterling (with power to increase to £2,000,000.)

In 40,000 Shares of £25 each, of which 30,000 are already taken.

£2. 10s. per Share to be paid on application, and £3. 10s. per Share on allotment.

Calls to be made at intervals of not less two months, and 21 days' notice to be given of each call.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

H. D. CARTWRIGHT, Esq., Chairman* (of Rimington, Cartwright, and Co., London; and Leckie and Co., Bombay).

John Campbell, Esq.* (of John Campbell and Co., London, and late of Bombay).

J. J. Cater Esq. (of J. W. Cater, Sons, and Co., of Mincing-lane).

F. Chapman, Esq.* (of Chapman, King, and Co., China).

J. J. Lowndes, Esq.* (late Remembrancer for Legal Affairs to the Bombay Government).

A. Middleton Esq. (of Middleton, Harrison, and Co., of Singapore and of Liverpool)

W. Trevor Roper, Esq.* (late of Bombay).

Edward Thornton, Esq., C.B. (late Judicial Commissioner of the Punjaub).

Robert Angus, Esq., ex officio.

(With power to add to their number).

* The gentlemen to whose name an asterisk is affixed were Directors of the Commercial Bank of India in Bombay.

CHIEF MANAGER.

Robert Angus, Esq.

LONDON MANAGER AND SECRETARY.

David Allardice, Esq.

(At present holding these offices in the Commercial Bank of India.)

AUDITORS.

John Ball, Esq. (of Quilter, Ball, and Co., Public Accountants).

Robert Strong Esq. (late of Bombay).

BANKERS.

London Joint-Stock Bank.

BROKERS.

Messrs. Hichens, Harrison, and Co., 21, Threadneedle-street.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Clarke, Son, and Rawlins, 29, Coleman-street.

TEMPORARY OFFICES.

64, Moorgate-street, London, E.C.

One of the objects of this Corporation is to take over the business and assets with the reserved fund of the Commercial Bank of India, established in Bombay in 1845, an arrangement to that effect having been made with the shareholders.

By this arrangement one-half of the required capital (viz., 20,000 shares of £25 each, fully paid up) has been already secured. A further number of 10,000 shares, on which £12. 10s. per share has been paid up, has also been subscribed for, pro rata, by the shareholders of that Bank. In consideration of the transfer of the business and reserved fund, it has been arranged that these shares be taken at par.

The shares of the Commercial Bank of India command a high premium in Bombay; and by the last advices received were above 85 per cent., equivalent to £21. 5s. premium per £25 share. The last dividend declared on the 30th June, 1863 (being an interim dividend) was at the rate of 9 per cent per annum. The reserve fund, by advices lately received from the Chief Manager in Bombay, was expected to amount to above £50,000; the accounts up to 31st December last not being completed the precise amount cannot be stated.

The remaining 10,000 shares (with the exception of a sufficient number retained for Directors' qualifications not exceeding 500 shares, to be allotted at par) are now offered at a premium of £10 per share, which premium will form part of the reserved fund.

The calls on these shares will be made as follows:—

On application (on capital account...	£2	10	On allotment on premium account) £2 10
1st call (8th July)...	10	0	Ditto 5 0
2nd call (8th Oct.) .	2	10	Ditto 2 10
3rd call (8th Dec.) .	5	0	—
4th call (8th Feb. 1865)	5	0	—
			—
	£25	0	£10 0

All calls paid on their due dates will be entitled from those dates to their proportion of the dividend which may be declared at the usual Half-yearly Meeting.

The calls may, however, be paid in anticipation; and on all such payments in advance interest will be allowed at the rate of £5 per cent. per annum to the respective due dates of the calls.

The Directors trust that the arrangement for the transfer of the business of the Commercial Bank of India will be completed so as to admit of its being carried on under the Corporation in July next.

Application for shares may be made in the subjoined form, but no application will be entertained unless the requisite deposit has been previously made.

In the event of no allotment of shares being made the deposit will be returned in full.

Should a less number of shares be allotted than are applied for, the deposit will be made available towards the payment on allotment, and the balance, if any, returned to the applicant.

Prospectuses and forms of application may be obtained from the brokers, or at the temporary offices of the Company.

NO APPLICATIONS will be received after THURSDAY, the 14th inst.

TELEGRAPH CONSTRUCTION and MAINTENANCE COMPANY (Limited), uniting the business of the Gutta Percha Company with that of Messrs. Glass, Elliot, and Co.

Capital £1,000,000.

First issue, £750,000, in 37,500 shares of £20 each.

Deposit on application £1 per share, and on allotment a further payment of £3 per share.

DIRECTORS.

Henry Ford Barclay, Esq. (Gutta Percha Company.)
Thomas Brassey, Esq.
Alexander Henry Campbell, Esq. (Fiulay, Campbell, and Co.)
George Elliot, Esq. (Glass, Elliot, and Co.)
Alexander Struthers Finlay, Esq., M.P.
Richard Atwood Glass, Esq. (Glass, Elliot, and Co.)
Daniel Gooch, Esq., C.E.
Samuel Gurney, Esq., M.P.
John Pender, Esq., M.P.
John Smith, Esq. (Smith, Fleming, and Co.)

BANKERS.

The Consolidated Bank Limited), 7, Fenchurch-street, London, and Manchester; Messrs. Arthur Heywood, Sons, and Co., Liverpool.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Bircham, Dalrymple, Drake, and Ward; Messrs. Baxter, Rose, Norton, and Co.

BROKERS.

Messrs. Seymour and Co., 38, Throgmorton-street; Messrs. Cazenove and Co., 52, Threadneedle-street.

SECRETARY (pro tem.).

Mr. William Shuter.

OFFICES.

23, Great George-street, Westminster.

WORKS.

Wharf-road, City-road, N., and East Greenwich, S.E.

This Company has been formed for the purpose of making and maintaining telegraphic lines of communication, both submarine and on land, in every part of the world.

The facility of intercourse which telegraphic communication, now in such extensive operation, has afforded to the public in its varied communities—political, commercial, and social—has rendered that which was but a few years ago regarded merely as a scientific experiment absolutely necessary for the purposes of our social system, and a highly remunerative investment. It has been found that, as in the case of railways (although to a much greater extent), telegraphic cables have uniformly developed a constantly-increasing traffic, with this remarkable and special feature, that the more distant the points brought into connection the greater the proportion of business done.

Experience has proved that increasing receipts from the working of submarine cables bring with them only a trifling proportionate increase in the amount of working expenses.

Messrs. Glass, Elliot and Co., and the Gutta Percha Company, have hitherto together had the principal share in the manufacture of submarine telegraphic cables.

The former firm, who have undertaken the manufacture, laying down, and maintenance of the cables, have hitherto obtained the inner cores of the cables from the Gutta Percha Company, which has in this branch of its trade confined itself entirely to the production of that part of the cable.

Messrs. Glass, Elliot, and Co. have during the last ten years manufactured and laid down in different parts of the world no less than 6,500 miles of submarine telegraph cable, while the Gutta Percha Company have during a like period manufactured upwards of 9,000 miles of insulated wires for submarine telegraph cables now in work.

It has been ascertained that the manufacture of entire cables could be more securely and beneficially carried on by uniting in one establishment the manufacture of the outer cable and wires and the execution of the portion of the work heretofore separately executed by the Gutta Percha Company, and with this view contracts have been entered into for the purchase of the entire machinery, premises, plant, patents, stock, goodwill, &c., of the Gutta Percha Company, by Messrs. Glass, Elliot and Co; and that firm have agreed to transfer to this Company, at the cost price to them, the works so acquired. A contract has also been concluded with Messrs. Glass, Elliot, and Co. for the acquisition by this Company of their manufactory, premises, patents, stock, and business, the consideration being paid, to the extent of £100,000, in fully paid-up shares of the Company. Under these combined arrangements the Company will enter into possession of the amalgamated businesses, and be entitled to their profits, as from the 1st of January last.

The Company's business will be conducted under the personal superintendence of Mr. Barclay and Mr. Glass, as Managing Directors, assisted by the efficient staff of the united Companies.

The agreement with Messrs. Glass, Elliot, and Co. provides for the assignment, with the consent of the Treasury, to the Company of the lease held by that firm of the submarine telegraph between Malta and Alexandria. The Alexandria, Cairo, and Suez Telegraph, held by Messrs. Glass, Elliot and Co. under agreement with the Telegraph to India Company, is also comprised in the arrangement.

The large profits which have hitherto been realised by both of the above firms, and the prospect which exists of considerable extension of the business, justify the expectation of a large return to the shareholders, independently of the profits arising from the working of the telegraph lines above referred to.

Copies of the above contracts, together with the Articles of Association of the Company, may be inspected at the solicitors' offices.

Applications for shares must be made in the annexed form; but no application will be considered unless the deposit of £1 per share has been previously paid to the bankers of the Company. This deposit will be returned if no allotment is made to the applicant, and if an allotment is made it will be applied towards the payment then due.

An option will be given to the subscriber of taking one fourth of the shares allotted as fully paid-up shares.

Prospectuses and forms of application for shares may be obtained at the offices of the Company, and of the brokers

London, April 7, 1864.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

No. ——.

(This form should be presented entire to the Bankers of the Company, who will detach the receipt, and return it to the applicant.)

To the Directors of the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company (Limited).

Gentlemen,—I request you to allot me —— shares of £20 each in the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company (Limited), and I hereby agree to accept such shares, or any less number that may be allotted to me, subject to the regulations of the Company, and to pay the further deposit of £3 per share on allotment; and I authorize you to enter my name on the register of members of the Company in respect of the shares allotted to me.

Name in full.....
Usual Signature .....
Address in full .....
Date .....

THE ORIENTAL FINANCIAL CORPORATION (Limited).

Incorporated under "The Companies' Act, 1862," with Limited Liability.

CAPITAL £1,000,000, in 20,000 SHARES of £50 EACH. (With power to increase.)

First issue, 10,000 shares.

Deposit on application, £1 per share, and £4 on allotment.

Calls not to exceed £5 per share, and at intervals of not less than three months.

DIRECTORS.

W. C. Brown, Esq., Richmond, Surrey, Deputy-Chairman of the Joint-Stock Discount Company (Limited).
W. H. Smith, Esq. (W. H. Smith, Barry, and Co.), London and Calcutta.
Major-General Clarke (late Commissioner of Revenue in Oude), Norwood.
John Brown, Esq. (late of Grant, Smith, and Co., Calcutta), Culvers, Hadham, Herts.
J. P. Cornforth, Esq., London and Liverpool (and J. P. Cornforth, and Co., Bombay).
W. B. M. Lysley, Esq., Director of the Bombay Gas Company, Queen's-gardens, Hyde-park.
Stephen Clark, Esq., London and Madras.
R. Russell Carew, Esq., 26, Westbourne-terrace, and Carpenders-park, Watford.

BANKERS.

The Mercantile and Exchange Bank (Limited), 4, Lombard-street, and 41, Mincing-lane, London; 17, Brown's-buildings, Liverpool; and 35, St. Vincent-place, Glasgow.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. Johnstone, Cooper, Wintle, and Co., public accountants, 5a, Lothbury.

SOLICITORS.

William F. Farmer, Esq., 17a, Size-lane, Bucklersbury.
Messrs. Andrew, Atkins, and Irvine, 5, White Hart-court, Lombard-street.

BROKERS.

Messrs. George Burnand and Co., Lombard-street, London.

Messrs. Taunton and Co., Liverpool.

SECRETARY (pro tem.).

R. D. Jacob, Esq.

Temporary Offices—1, White Hart-court, Lombard-street.

PROSPECTUS.

The object of this Company is to promote financial, commercial, and industrial enterprise in India and the East by the application of English capital, for the legitimate and remunerative employment of which there is ample and constantly-extending scope.

The success of the operations of the financial companies in England has now been satisfactorily proved; and a similar institution, adapted especially to the requirements of the East, and combining on its direction the needful experience, will have a field for profitable operations equal, if not superior, to any other.

The Corporation will act as general financial agents, will make advances on approved securities, and will promote the development of the internal resources of the countries in which it may operate by assisting in the establishment of sound industrial undertakings and enterprises.

The Corporation will also undertake on commission the investment of funds placed in its hands either in the purchase of property, or in lending it out on mortgage and other securities. It will receive deposits at rates to be agreed upon; and it will take powers to issue bonds or obligations on the security of its mortgages and subscribed capital.

The revenue of India has risen in a few years from £26,000,000 to £47,000,000, and the aggregate import and export trade during the same period has more than doubled itself. The increasing development of her natural productions, and the successful cultivation of tea, coffee, and other staple articles, together with the high rates there current for money, compared with those upon which it can be borrowed in this country, make the opening very favourable for the establishment of a Company of this description.

Powers will also be taken to extend the operations of the Corporation elsewhere as may be found expedient.

Arrangements are in progress by which the business may be speedily commenced.

Prospectuses and Forms of Applications for Shares may be obtained at the Temporary Offices, or of the Brokers or Solicitors. The Memorandum and Articles of Association may be inspected at the Offices of the Solicitors. In the event of no allotment being made, the deposits will be returned without deduction.

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THE FINANCIAL CORPORATION

(Limited) invite SUBSCRIPTIONS for SHARES in the EUROPEAN CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY (Limited).

Incorporated with limited liability, under the Companies Act, 1862, being the first link for connecting the north with the south of Europe, and affording the shortest and most convenient route between England and India, China, Australia, &c.; from Chiasso, near the lake of Como, to Lugano, Bellinzona, and Biasca, with a branch to Locarno, on the Lake Maggoire, in Switzerland, 60 miles; with privilege to extend from Biasca to Lucerne, or to Coire. Concession 99 years.

CAPITAL—£1,400,000.

First issue £700,000, in 17,500 shares of £40, or 1,000f. each.

The remaining £700,000 to be raised hereafter in shares, bonds, or obligations, as may be deemed advisable.

Deposit on application £1. or 25f., per share, and a further payment of £3, or 75f., per share on allotment.

No call to be made at an earlier date than three months from the date of allotment, and no call to exceed £2 per share.

DIRECTORS.

Colonel Sykes, M.P., F.R.S., Chairman of the East India Company, Chairman.
H. D. Cartwright, Esq., late Chairman at Bombay of the Commercial Bank of India, and of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company.
Thos. Cave, Esq., Sheriff of London and Middlesex.
S. H. Godefroi, Esq. (Demattos and Godefroi), Copthall-court.
R. F. Gower, Esq., 66, Great Cumberland-street.
G. F. Holroyd, Esq., 8, Sussex-square, Hyde park, Director of the Mercantile Credit Association (Limited).
John Wm. Maclure, Esq., Manchester.
Thomas Pemberton, Esq., Heathfield-hall, near Birmingham, Director of the Birmingham Banking Company.
Wm. Henry Petit Jean, Esq., Manchester, Director Birkenhead Railway Company.
J. L. Propert, Esq., 6, New Cavendish-street.
P. G. Van Der Byl, Esq., 3, Upper Hyde-park-gardens.
Cornelius Walford, Esq., Director Financial Corporation (Limited).

AUDITORS.

D. Allardice, Esq., Manager of the Commercial Bank of India; Edwin Brett, Esq., Manager of the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney.

BANKERS.

London, the National Bank and its branches; Birmingham, the Birminham Banking Company; Manchester, the Manchester and County Bank.

SOLICITORS.

London, Messrs. Hughes, Masterman, and Hughes, 17, Bucklersbury; Manchester, Messrs. Sale, Worthington, Shipman, and Seddon.

CONSULTING ENGINEER.

G. P. Bidder, Esq., late President of the Institution of Civil Engineers, 24, Great George street, Westminster.

BROKERS.

London, Sir R. W. Carden and Son, Royal Exchange-buildings; Lewis H. Haslewood, Esq., Founders'-court, Lothbury.—Liverpool, Robert Byrne, Esq.—Manchester, Messrs. Rawson and Spencer.—Birmingham, Messrs. James Pearson and Sons.

SECRETARY.

A. Pixley, Esq.

TEMPORARY OFFICES.

193, 194, 195, Gresham-house, Old Broad-street.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

This Company is formed for the purpose of constructing a railway from Chiasso to Biasca, in the canton of Tessin, Switzerland, with the design of extending the line to Lucerne, by the Alpine pass of the St. Gothard, or to Coire by the pass of the Luckmanier.

The line now to be made from Chiasso to Biasca is indispensable to either of these routes, it being the only line allowed by the Swiss Government to connect the railways of North Italy, the line being comparatively easy of construction, free from costly works, and promising a large traffic.

The Company has, however, secured from the Canton Tessin, besides the concession of the line from Chiasso to Biasca, the preferential right to construct the extension of their line to any junction with the system of railways of Central Europe, whether at Lucerne or at Coire, and this peculiarly advantageous condition forms a very important feature of the present enterprise.

State subventions to a very considerable amount have been voted in aid of the proposed Alpine Railway, which is acknowledged to be of the highest national importance to both Switzerland and Italy. The lines proposed by this Company will complete the shortest overland route to India and China across the centre of Europe, and will effect a saving of three days' sea navigation.

As the line from Chiasso to Biasca, which is intended to join the Lombardo-Venetian lines, will open a direct communication between the most important towns of the Canton Tessin and the railway network of Italy, connecting also the three lakes of Como, Lugano, and Maggiore, and as it forms the key of the whole position, the Directors have resolved to commence this line forthwith, pending the surveys and negotiations for determining the precise Alpine pass to be finally adopted for the extension.

Responsible contractors have undertaken to construct and complete the line for a sum within the amount of capital, and the works were commenced on the 18th of January, in the presence of Government officials.

Interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum will be paid to shareholders, during construction, upon the amounts from time to time paid in respect of their shares.

Full particulars are given in the detailed prospectus, which may be obtained, together with the map, at the offices of the Company.

Applications for shares must be addressed to the Directors, and copies of the prospectus may be obtained at the temporary offices of the Company, or at the offices of the Financial Corporation (Limited), No. 14, Leadenhall-street, the brokers and solicitors; but no application will be considered unless a deposit of £1 per share on the number of shares applied for has been paid.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

Subscribed Capital, 2,000,000 taels, in 400 Shares of 5,000 taels each.

Paid up Capital, 200,000 taels.

DIRECTORS.

H. H. Wiggins, Esq., Manager Commercial Bank of India Chairman.
F. B. Johnson, Esq. (Messrs. Johnson and Co.).
H. D. Stewart, Esq. (Messrs. Turner and Co.).
F. Porter, Esq. (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston, and Co.).
J. Thorne, Esq. Messrs. Thorne Brothers and Co.
David Reid, Esq.

Agencies are about to be established at the several ports in China and Japan.

L. JOSEPHS, Secretary.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA. and JAPAN (Limited).

16, CORNHILL, LONDON.

Capital, Two Millions.

BANKERS.

Bank of England, The Alliance Bank of London and Liverpool.

Branches at Bombay, Calcutta, Hong Kong, and Shanghae.

Deposits received at 10 days' notice, on the usual terms, and for fixed periods, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued, and bills negotiated, payable in India, China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government Loan Notes effected, so that the interest may be paid in England.

Every other description of banking and agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

THE ORIENTAL AND GENERAL MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY,

8, Finch-lane, London, E.C.

LOSSES and CLAIMS upon POLICIES granted by this Company can be made PAYABLE at the following places in India and China through the Company's Agents, as under:—

Bombay—Messrs. Ritchie, Stewart, and Co.
Calcutta—Messrs. Grant, Smith, and Co.
Madras—Messrs. Bainbridge, Byard, Gair, and Co.
Singapore—Messrs. Cumming, Beaver, and Co.
Hong Kong—Messrs. Johnson and Co.
Shanghai—Messrs. Johnson and Co.

JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

THE HONG KONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY.

AN ASSOCIATION, called the "HONG KONG and WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY," having purchased Messrs. J. C. Couper and Co.'s extensive DOCKS, with Engineer Factory and Foundry, at Whampoa, are prepared to execute all kinds of work with prompt despatch.

The Dock is built of Granite, and is 550 feet over all with 520 feet on the blocks, and a breadth of 80 feet at the entrance. It can be used as either one or two Docks, being fitted with two Caissons. It is also furnished with Steam Pumps.

Depth of Water at Spring Tides, 16½ to 17 feet.
Do. Neap do. 13½ to 15 „

Attached to the Docks is a Pair of Shears, fitted with two capstans and three winches, and capable of lifting fifty tons, with a depth of water under the Shears, alongside the Jetty, enough for any vessels at all times of Tides.

The Engine-house on the Establishment contains Lathes of all sizes, and capable of taking any sized Shaft; one Self-acting Planing Machine, Screwing Machine, with Taps and Dies complete, Large and Small Drilling Machines, Punching and Cutting Machines, Rolling Machines, powerful Steam Hammer (3 tons), &c., &c.

Also, one Wood Dock, capable of taking a Vessel of 240 feet on the keel, on a Draft of 14 feet at Spring Tides, and 11 at Neap Tides. This Dock is also fitted with a Caisson, and is pumped out by steam.

The above are the only Docks in Whampoa fitted with Caissons.

There are also Two Mud Docks, one capable of taking in Vessels of 164 feet on the keel, with a Draft of 12 feet 6 inches at Spring Tides, and 9 feet 6 inches at Neap Tides. The other, Vessels of 120 feet 6 inches at Spring Tides, and 7 feet 6 inches at Neap do.

The Blacksmith's Shop contains 1 Large Boilermaker's Furnace and 12 Smiths' Forges, fitted with Steam Blowers.

The Iron Foundry contains a Furnace capable of melting 5 tons, and Brass Furnace for melting half a ton.

Attached to the premises is a Circular Sawmill driven by Steam, capable of cutting logs or planks of any length.

The whole under the Superintendence of experienced European Foremen.

All Tools and Materials connected with Machinery kept always on hand.

Copper and Yellow Metal Sheathing, Felt, Pitch, Tar Oakum, Paints, Oils, &c., &c., supplied at market rates.

For Dock Charges, or further particulars, apply to Mr. D. LAPRAIK, Hong Kong; to G. N. MINTO, Manager, Whampoa; or to Messrs. JAMES MORRISON and Co., 1, Crown-court, Philpot-lane, London.

DOCKS. PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 236 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caissoon Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA. Incorporated by Royal Charter. Paid-up capital £500,000. Reserve Fund, £100,000.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts, payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Kandy, Singapore, Galle, Penang, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Mauritius, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the overland route terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office, in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 2.

THE MONEY MARKET REVIEW

A WEEKLY JOURNAL OF THE HIGHEST CLASS,

EXCLUSIVELY DEVOTED TO THE DISCUSSION OF COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL TOPICS.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

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"CHINA MAIL" OFFICE.

PUBLISHED at this Office, No. 2, WYNDHAM-STREET (back of the Club):—

1.—THE EVENING MAIL,

EVERY DAY.

PRICE,—2 dols. per month.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.—First insertion, Ten lines and under, 1 dol.; each additional line, 10 cents. Subsequent insertions, per week, 50 cents and 5 cents—("Auction" Notices excepted, for which only One Charge per week is made).

2.—THE CHINA MAIL,

ONCE A WEEK.

(On Thursday Night).

PRICE—15 dols. per annum; Single Copies, 44 cents.

ADVERTISING.—First insertion, Five lines, 1 dol.; each additional line, 20 cents. Subsequent insertions, 50 cents and 10 cents.

3.—THE OVERLAND MAIL.

ONCE A FORTNIGHT.

(The Morning of the Mail's despatch.)

PRICE—To Subscribers to the Weekly issue, 8 dols.; to Non-subscribers, 12 dols. Single copies, 50 cents.

ADVERTISING.—The same as in the Weekly. All "Notices of Firms" appearing in the Weekly will be inserted in the *Overland*, and charged for, unless otherwise ordered.

A. SHORTREDE & CO.

Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.

The most reliable intelligence from these colonies is given in the AUSTRALIAN and NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE, published every Saturday, price 6d., free by post.

London: F. ALGAR, 11, Clement's-lane, City.

THE CANADIAN NEWS and BRITISH COLUMBIAN INTELLIGENCER gives the latest intelligence from all parts of Canada and the new Gold Fields, also Original Correspondence from Canada, &c Price, post free, 5d.

VICHY.

SUMMER RESORT OF HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.

THE HOT WELLS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ALL THE YEAR ROUND.

Salts for making baths, each stone bottle containing the proper quantity for one bath.

These Salts are extracted from the mineral waters under the superintendence and **Control of the Government** and the use of the baths, drinking at the same time the water of the GRAND-GRILLE OR CELESTINS spring, may take the place of a course of treatment at Vichy itself.

PARIS, 22, BOULEVARD MONTMARTRE.

LONDON, 27, MARGARET-STREET, REGENT-STREET.

MARSEILLES, 9, RUE PARADIS.

JAMES HENDERSON,

COMMISSION MERCHANT, TIEN-TSIN, CHINA.

AGENT FOR THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS."

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THE IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA

(LIMITED).

INCORPORATED UNDER THE COMPANIES' ACT, 1862.

THE CREDIT MOBILIER, LIMITED,

Is prepared to receive Applications for the Capital of the IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA (Limited).

CAPITAL £1,000,000, IN 20,000 SHARES OF £50 EACH.

FIRST ISSUE, 10,000 SHARES.

DEPOSIT ON APPLICATION £1 PER SHARE, AND £4 ON ALLOTMENT.

Subsequent Calls not to exceed £5 per Share, and at intervals of not less than Three Months.

No Call will be made until after the expiration of Three Months from the date of Allotment.—It is not intended to call up more than £10 per Share; but as the operations of the Company increase, and more Share Capital can be advantageously employed, further issues of Shares will be made, a preference being given to the then existing Shareholders.

Directors.

RICHARD C. COLES, Esq. (Coles, Brown and Co.), London.
WM. COTTON CURTIS, Esq. (Robarts, Lubbock, and Co.), London.
Lieut.-Col. FRENCH, Chairman of the Bombay and Baroda Railway.
JAMES LEVICK, Esq., Director of the Credit Mobilier (Limited).
ALEXANDER MORRISON, Esq., Director of the Bank of Otago.
ROBERT BARCLAY REYNOLDS, Esq. (Reynolds, Mann, and Co.), London and Liverpool.
PETER ROLT, Esq. (Peter Rolt and Co.), London.
Hon. FREDK. STUART WORTLEY, late Member of the Elgin Embassy to China.
J. MACKRILL SMITH, Esq., 35, Old Broad-street, London and Shanghai.

(With power to add to their numbers.)

Bankers.

Messrs. ROBARTS, LUBBOCK, and Co., London.

Solicitors.

Messrs. NEWBON, EVANS, and Co., Nicholas-lane. | Messrs. EDWARDS and Co., Westminster.

Brokers.

Messrs. FIELD, SON, & WOOD, 9, Warnford-court, Throgmorton-street. | Messrs. ROBINS and BARBER, 29, Threadneedle-street, E.C.

Secretary (pro tem.) T. SHORT, Esq.

Temporary Offices.

At the Offices of the Credit Mobilier (Limited), 80, Lombard-street.

PROSPECTUS.

China is the only large country in the civilised world which has no direct bank in London operating solely for its benefit; and it is obvious that a vast fertile region, inhabited by three hundred millions of intelligent people who carry on an enormous internal trade by means of native joint stock and private banks of issues, and who have an extensive and increasing commercial intercourse with Europe, India, America, and Australia, must present a lucrative field for monetary operations.

Great Britain imports from China and Japan (via China) upwards of seven million pounds of silk, and about one hundred and twenty million pounds of tea. The rapid increase of trade is thus shown:—

Years.	Imports of China Produce.	Exports to China of British Manufactures.	Total Trade between China and United Kingdom.
1842 ...	£3,956,290 ...	£969,381 ...	£4,925,671
1862 ...	11,376,150 ...	5,310,036 ...	16,694,186

The commerce between India and China has increased during the past twenty years from three to fifteen millions sterling.

The port of Shanghai alone exhibits an extraordinary development. In 1842 it had no European trade; in 1862 the value of its exports was £14,667,466, its imports £22,863,953; total, £37,531,419.

The balance of trade with China is paid in bullion—chiefly silver—of which the export value was in 1851 £102,316; in 1862, £3,498,397. Cotton is now becoming a large item of trade: during the last six months of 1863 more than twenty million pounds were exported.

The Imperial Bank of China has therefore been formed to supply an acknowledged want on the plan which has been so successfully carried out in London by the Banks for India, and other similar institutions, the success of which the following table will exemplify, and it is believed at least equal success will mark the progress of this Bank.

Name of Bank.	Paid up per Share.	Present price per Share.
Agra and United Service	£50 ...	£126
Chartered Mercantile of India, London, and China	25 ...	70
Hindustan, China, and Japan	25 ...	40
Oriental	25 ...	66

The Imperial Bank of China will transact all operations connected with those of a Bank of Issue, Deposit, Discount, and Exchange.

The directing and controlling authority will be in London. Branch Banks, with Boards of Local Directors, will be formed at Hong Kong, Canton, Shanghai, Foochow, Tientsin, Pekin, and at such other cities as may from time to time be deemed advisable. The branches will be under the control of the London Board, aided by the supervision of an Inspector-General, as in the case with the Indian and Colonial Banks, and the authorisation of the Government at Pekin has been solicited, to allow the specie notes of the Imperial Bank of China to be received in payment of Custom Duties and at the Tax Offices throughout the Empire, an official correspondence now being carried on by the Bank with Pekin for that object; and as the Pekin Government will not trust the native local banks, it is believed this Bank will become to the Government of China, what the Imperial Ottoman Bank is to that of Turkey.

The desire on the part of the Government of China for railways and telegraphic communication will render necessary extensive financial operations, which the Imperial Bank of China will be peculiarly favourably situated to undertake.

Applications for Shares to be made in the annexed Form. In the event of no allotment of Shares being made, the deposit will be returned in full. Should a less number of Shares be allotted than are applied for, the deposit will be made available towards the payment on allotment, and the balance, if any, returned to the applicant.

Prospectuses and Forms of Applications for Shares may be obtained at the Offices of the Credit Mobilier (Limited), 80, Lombard Street, and from the Bankers, Brokers, and Solicitors.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To the Directors of the Imperial Bank of China (Limited).

GENTLEMEN,—Having paid to your Bankers, Messrs. Robarts, Lubbock and Co., the sum of £ , being a deposit of £1 per share on shares in the above Company, I hereby request that you will allot me that number, and I agree to accept such shares or any less number you may allot to me: and I agree to pay the deposit on allotment, and to sign the Articles of Association of the Company when required, and I authorise you to insert my name on the register of members for the number of shares allotted to me.

Usual signature .....
Name in full .....
Residence .....
Profession... .....
Date .....April, 1864.

THE IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA (LIMITED).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the LIST of APPLICATIONS for SHARES in this Company will be CLOSED on WEDNESDAY, the 13th inst., for London, and Thursday, the 14th inst., for Country Applications.—By order of the Board,
T. SHORT, Secretary (pro tem
Temporary Offices: 80, Lombard-street, April 9, 1864.

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THIRTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

OF THE

AGRA AND UNITED SERVICE BANK

(LIMITED),

Held at the Bank, 27, Cannon-street, E.C., on Saturday, April 2, 1864.

GEORGE GORDON MACPHERSON, Esq., Chairman, in the Chair,

The notice convening the Meeting and the following REPORT and STATEMENT of ACCOUNTS were read:—

The Directors have to submit to the shareholders the audited accounts for the year ended 31st December last, and to report that, after making ample provision for all bad and doubtful debts, the net profits of the Bank for the year amounted to £242,909. 12s. 6d.

Out of this sum the Directors have declared, free of income-tax, two half-yearly dividends at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum each, and have added to the last of these a bonus of £4 per share, thus making a return for the year of 18 per cent. on the paid-up capital of one million sterling.

From the balance remaining the Directors have refunded to reserved fund account the sum of £7,341. 2s. 4d. taken from it last year, and, in consideration of the greatly extended business of the Bank, have carried to credit a further sum of £25,000, thus raising the fund to £225,000. They have also passed the sum of £5,000 to superannuation fund, and £15,000 to building fund, carrying forward £10,568. 10s. 2d. to credit of profit and loss account for the current year.

Since last annual meeting the Directors have purchased desirable premises in Sydney, and have secured land at Shanghai, Kurrachee, and Madras, in view to the erection of suitable buildings for the branches of the Bank at those ports.

The present Auditors being eligible for re-election, in terms of the deed of settlement, offer themselves accordingly.—By order of the Board,

MACKINTOSH BALFOUR, General Manager.

(No. I.)—BALANCE-SHEET, DECEMBER 31, 1863.

Dr. LIABILITIES.			
To paid-up capital	£1,000,000	0	0
„ Reserved fund	192,658	17	8
„ Amount due by the Bank for customers' balances, fixed deposits, acceptances, letters of credit, circular notes, &c.	8,952,830	12	11
„ Profit and loss	242,909	12	6
	£10,388,399	3	1
Cr. ASSETS.			
By cash in hand and at call at head office and branches	£941,863	4	1
„ Government securities	511,549	9	10
„ Other securities, including specie, bills purchased, discounts, loans, &c.	8,840,914	12	1
„ Freehold premises in London, Edinburgh, Calcutta, Bombay, Agra, Lahore, and Sydney, and leasehold property and building ground at the other branches	94,071	17	1
	£10,388,399	3	1

G. B. DALBY, Chief Accountant.

(No. 2.)—PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1863.

Dr.			
To payment of dividend on paid-up capital (at 10 per cent. per annum) for half-year ended 30th June	£50,000	0	0
„ Ditto ditto for half-year ended 31st December	50,000	0	0
„ Bonus of £4 per share	80,000	0	0
„ Amount transferred to reserved fund	32,341	2	4
„ Amount transferred to building fund	15,000	0	0
„ Amount transferred to superannuation fund	5,000	0	0
„ Balance carried forward	10,568	10	2
	£242,909	12	6

Cr.			
By gross profits at head office and branches to Dec. 31, 1863—after making provision for bad and doubtful debts	£496,652	6	0
Less interest allowed on current and deposit accounts	167,505	14	0
	£329,146	12	0
Total expenditure of head office and branches, including rent, income-tax, taxes, stamps, salaries (with a gratuity of 10 per cent. thereon, to the officers of the establishments at home and abroad), miscellaneous charges, &c.	86,236	19	6
	242,909	12	6
	£242,909	12	6

G. B. DALBY, Chief Accountant.

(No. 3.)—RESERVE FUND ACCOUNT, DECEMBER 31, 1863.

Dr.			
To balance at credit of reserved fund	£225,000	0	0
Cr.	£225,000	0	0
By amount on 31st December, 1862	£192,658	17	8
„ amount transferred from profit and loss account, as above	32,341	2	4
	£225,000	0	0

G. B. DALBY, Chief Accountant.

We have examined the preceding statements (Nos. 1, 2, and 3) with the books, vouchers, and securities, at the head office in London, and with the detailed returns and balance-sheets signed by the auditors of the several branches, and we hereby certify to the correctness and satisfactory character thereof.

London, March 16, 1864. W. FARR, J. HILL WILLIAMS, } Auditors.

The following resolutions were duly moved, seconded, and carried unanimously:—

"1. That the Report and Statements which have been read to the meeting and previously circulated to the Shareholders in Europe, be adopted.

"2. That George Gordon Macpherson, Esq., Colonel Henry Doveton, James Sydney Stopford, Esq., and James Thompson, Esq., be re-elected Directors.

"3. That John Hill Williams, Esq., and William Farr, Esq., D.C.L., F.R.S., be auditors for the present year.

"4. That the thanks of the Shareholders be given to the Board of Directors for their careful control of the Bank's affairs; to the General Manager, Mr. Mackintosh Balfour; to the London Manager, Mr. William Shipman; and to the Local Committees and Managers of the Branches, for the satisfactory manner in which they have conducted the business of the Bank for the past year; and to the Auditors, for their efficient supervision of the accounts.

"5. That the thanks of the meeting be given to the Chairman for his able conduct in the chair."

G. G. MACPHERSON, Chairman.

THE AGRA AND UNITED SERVICE BANK (LIMITED).

ESTABLISHED IN INDIA, 1833.—INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, £1,000,000 (ONE MILLION STERLING).

Subscribed Capital, £2,000,000 (Two Millions Sterling), in 20,000 Shares of £100 each.

NUMBER OF SHAREHOLDERS, 725.—RESERVE FUND, £225,000.

HEAD OFFICE—27, CANNON STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Directors.

GEORGE GORDON MACPHERSON, Esq., Chairman. | Ald. THOMAS QUESTED FINNIS, Deputy-Chairman.

General Manager—MACKINTOSH BALFOUR, Esq. | **London Manager**—WILLIAM SHIPMAN, Esq.

Auditors—WILLIAM FARR, Esq., D.C.L., F.R.S. JOHN HILL WILLIAMS, Esq.

Solicitors—Messrs. UPTONS, JOHNSON, and UPTON, 20, Austinfriars. | **Inspector of Branches**—RICHARD BARNES, Esq.

Edinburgh Branch—17, ST. ANDREW-SQUARE.

Directors in Edinburgh.

THOMAS RANKEN, Esq., 68, Queen-street, Chairman. | BENJAMIN BURT, Esq., M.D., 31, Charlotte-square.

DANIEL AINSLIE, Esq., 48, Moray place. | GEORGE MOIR, Esq., Advocate, Sheriff of Stirlingshire, 14, Charlotte-square.

Manager in Edinburgh—ROBERT HUNTER, Esq.

Branches in Edinburgh, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee, Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong, and Sydney.

Current Accounts of firms and individuals are kept at the head office, on the terms customary with London bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received at ten days' notice of withdrawal at rates fluctuating with those of the Bank of England; and for longer periods at fixed rates, particulars of which may be obtained upon application.

Every other description of banking business and money agency, British and Indian, transacted.

Letters of Credit and Circular Notes issued, payable at the chief cities of Europe and Asia, and also at Cairo and Alexandria.

MACKINTOSH BALFOUR, General Manager.

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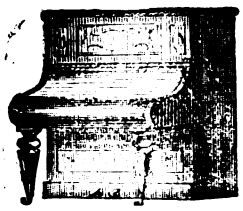
MESSRS. RAND AND BECKLEY
(SUCCESSORS TO LAURIE, BEDFORD, AND RAND)
SADDLERS AND HARNESS MANUFACTURERS,
INVENTORS OF THE PATENT ELASTIC SADDLE.

MESSRS. R & B. have a large assortment of well-seasoned Saddlery and Harness suitable for India and the Colonies, always on hand.
297, OXFORD STREET, LONDON (oppposite Stratford Place).

TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND INDIA.



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(EIGHTEEN YEARS WITH COLLARD AND COLLARD)
PATENT PIANOFORTE MAKERS.
PIANOFORTES, WITH ALL THE LATEST IMPROVEMENTS, EXPRESSLY FOR EXPORTATION.
13, STORE-STREET, TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD, W
FACTORY, LITTLE STORE-STREET.
ILLUSTRATED LISTS FORWARDED FREE ON APPLICATION.

GARDNERS'
£2 12s. DINNER SERVICES.
CUT WINES, 3s. 6d. per dozen; CUT QUART DECANTERS, 7s. 6d. per pair
Regimental Messes supplied at the lowest possible prices. Engravings free by post.
INDIAN LAMPS ON AN IMPROVED PRINCIPLE.
MAKERS OF THE
PATENT ENAMEL GREAT CLOCK DIALS AT THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT
BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY. ESTABLISHED 109 YEARS.
453, STRAND, CHARING-CROSS: AND 5 AND 6, DUNCANNON-STREET, ADJOINING.

RIMMEL'S CHOICE PERFUMERY,
AND NOVELTIES FOR THE SEASON.

RIMMEL'S VIOLET WATER for the Toilet, in elegant Parian bottles, 3s. 6d.
RIMMEL'S TOILET VINEGAR, of world wide celebrity, 1s., 2s. 6d., and 5s.
The ALEXANDRA, PRINCE OF WALES, and ROYAL BRIDAL BOUQUET, 2s. 6d. per bottle, or the three in an elegant box, with photographs of the illustrious pair, 7s. 6d.
RIMMEL'S PELLUCID GLYCERINE SOAP, warranted to contain 30 per cent. of Glycerine—the best Soap ever produced for the Skin—1s., extra scented 2s.
The ALEXANDRA CREAM, a transparent Pommade, for fixing the Hair, and making it glossy, without greasing it. Price 1s. 6d.
ROYAL DENTIFRICE for the TEETH, one shilling.
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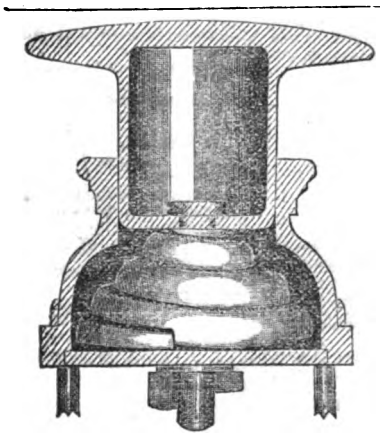

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in. „ better ivory	13 0	10 0	4 6
3½ in. „ white	15 0	12 6	6 0
4 in. strong „	20 0	15 0	7 0
4 in. „ „	25 0	18 0	9 0
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Round handle, silver ferrules ...	40 0	30 0	13 0
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12 Dessert Spoons... ...	1 1 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
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Ships.	Tons	Class.	Destination.	To Sail.
Jane Leech ...	871	A 1 ...	Shanghai ...	With dis.
Juanpore ...	459	...	Hong Kong and Whampoa	„

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LINE OF SHIPS for 1864.

Ships' Names.	Ton. Reg.	Class	Commander.	To Sail.
SirJohn Lawrence	1090	A 1 13 yrs	J. Sinclair	April 20
Robert Lees ...	1199	A 1 12 yrs	A. Douglas	May 20
Alumbagh	1137	A 1 13 yrs	W. J. Dale	June 20
Bayard (new) ...	1315	A 1 12 yrs.	——	July 20
Lloyd Rayner ...	1004	A 1 13 yrs.	J. Pollock	Aug. 20
Houguomont ...	962	A 1 13 yrs.	J. Flannank	Sept. 20
S. Lamanca	861	A 1 13 yrs.	G.N. Livesay	Oct. 20
Cornwallis	1214	A 1 12 yrs.	J. Leeman	Nov. 20
Bolingbroke ...	1260	A 1 12 yrs.	H. Ross ...	Dec. 20

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Destination	Ship's Name.	Reg. Tons.	Commanders	To Sail.
Bombay ..	Mary Smithouse	1,243	H. Finlay	April 20
Calcutta ...	SirJohn Lawrence	1,090	J. Sinclair	April 20
H. Kong & Whampoa	Sydney Eggers ...	870	H. Campbell	April 20

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Port.	Ships.	Docks	Last Shipping Day
Shanghai	Laurel ...	E.I D	May 3.
Shanghai	Isles of the South ...	E.I.D	To follow.
H. Kong & Whampoa.	GustavAdolp.	S.K.D	With des.
Amoy & Foo-chow-Foo	Rubicon ...	L D.	With des.
Kanagawa, Japan ...	Medina ...	W.I D	With des.
Singapore	Maggie ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Singapore	Xan heppe...	W.I.D.	To follow.
Bangkok	Helen Baird .	S K.D.	With des.

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Destination.	Ships.	Docks.	To Sail.
Shanghai	Heroes of Alma ...	W.I.D.	April 30.
H. Kong & Whampoa	Maida Queen	W.I.D	With des.
Manila	Concha ...	W.I.D.	April 18.
Manila	Angela ...	W.I D.	To follow.
Singapore	Moneta ...	W.I.D.	April 25.
Calcutta	Jas. Livesey .	E.I.D.	With des.
Bombay	Tiverton ...	E.I.D.	April 25.
Penang	Celestial ...	W.I.D.	With des.

London, 5, Newman's-court, Cornhill; or York-chambers, 55, King-street, Manchester.

THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE FIFTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 28th December, 1863. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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WITH SUPPLEMENT.]

The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 135.] LONDON, THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Kanagawa			March 4
	Nagasaki			„ 2
	Hakodadi			
CHINA—				
	Peking			Feb. 20
	Tien-tsin			
	Hankow			March 2
	Shanghai	Jan. 10	March 3	„ 9
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 11
	Amoy			„ 12
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	Jan. 26	March 14	„ 15
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	Jan. 10	March 2	„ 8
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Touron			
	Saigon			„ 10
SIAM—				
	Bankok			
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			„ 12
	Sarawak			
JAVA—				
	Batavia			„ 16
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	Feb. 10	March 16	„ 23
	Penang	„ 10	„ 14	„ 25

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, to Marseilles, per Euxine, arrived April 26.—From Hong Kong: Sir Malcolm and Lady Stevenson, Messrs. Baker, Montejo, Desnagieres, and Clarke. From Singapore: Messrs. Oviessen, Ducasse, and Voight. From Penang; Mr. Jevons.

To Southampton, per Ceylon, expected to arrive May 2.—From Shanghai: G. W. Goodman, Deputy-Purveyor Menzies, Capt. Coney, and Jas. Axford. From Singapore: J. Nevin. From Penang: Mrs. Plunket and two children. To Malta.—From Hong Kong: Messrs. W. H. Dalgleish and H. E. Bush.

By last Bombay mail, to Gibraltar, per Ellora, arrived at Southampton April 23.—From Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Burrows, Miss Trowbridge. From Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Zarate.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

By this mail, per P. and O. steamer Delhi, from Southampton, April 20.—To Hong Kong: Rev. J. Wilson, R.N., Mr. H. Hickling, and one second-class passenger. To Shanghai: Mr. H. Morrison. To Penang: Mr. Maxwell, and one second-class passenger. To Singapore: Mr. R. B. Torrance, and one second-class passenger. To Calcutta: Messrs. B. Stainforth, Brind, Hamilton, J. Tulloch, A. H. Rennie, A. Smith and P. Stainforth, and eight second-class passengers. To Madras: Mr and Mrs. C. Pochin, Mr. and Mrs. Lushington, infant, and native female servant, Mrs. Anne Dinger and two children. To Ceylon: Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals Fraser, Mrs. Fraser, infant, two children, and European female servant, Capt. J. Allen, Miss Gray, and one second-class passenger. To Alexandria: Mr. Geils, Mr. and Mrs. Boustead. From Marseilles, per Massilia, to leave April 28.—To Shanghai: Mr. W. Aretz, Mr. Charles Don, Mr. G. Ryding, M.D., Mr. W. Neuhoff. To Hong Kong: Mr. F. H. Lane, Mr. Paul Ehlers, and one second class passenger. To Calcutta: Messrs. H Greaves and Witney. To Ceylon: Messrs Gordon, J. H. Ranken, A. G. Jack, and C. Tatham. To Alexandria: Messrs. W. Johnston and Garland. From Suez.—To Madras: Capt. M. W. Carr.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Marseilles, May 5.—To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. Neilson.

Per P. and O. steamer Syria, from Southampton, May 4.—To Singapore: Mr. P. L. Blyth. To Hong Kong: Mr. H. D. Margesson, Mr. and Mrs. Nielson. From Marseilles, May 12.—To Penang: Mr. Jno. Lamb. To Shanghai. Admiral Steen Bille and Secretary. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. M. Borntraeger, Mr. G. Hubbe.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Marseilles, May 28.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Von der Heyde. To Shanghai: Mr. Broadbent.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

KANAGAWA.

Our advices by the present mail continue the complaints of the foreign merchants relative to the impediments thrown in the way of trade by the Government of the Tycoon. However, the mist that has so long hung over the commercial policy of that potentate seems to be gradually clearing away. The report current now among the natives (states the *Commercial News*) is, that the Mikado has consented to allow foreigners to remain during another five years in Japan; and that as soon as this resolution is fully confirmed and approved of by the Great Council of Daimios, trade at the open ports will go on as usual. It is upon this ground that native merchants have been promising for some weeks past the immediate prospect of a greatly improved trade. It is said that raw silk will be allowed to come to market at the rate of 500 bales a month. During the past week about 200 bales came down. There are indications that the Government are doing what we sometime ago stated they were likely to do, namely, to encourage and direct trade to Nagasaki while discouraging it at Kanagawa, with the view of closing the last-named port.

We have again to record the total loss of a British ship in Japanese waters. In the present instance, less fortunate than in the case of the *Egeria*, reported in our last issue, the mishap of the *Star of Peace* was accompanied by great loss of human life, there being but one survivor, it is feared, out of a crew of fourteen, with one passenger, a Chinaman. The seaman, Joseph Corbett, a native of Bristol, aged twenty-nine, made the following solemn declaration before Mr. Consul Winchester :—

I belong to the Naval Reserve, and shipped at Bristol on the 14th July, 1862, in the *Star of Peace*, and have been in her ever since. We came first out to Shanghai, from which we took a cargo of tea to Sydney, and returned to Shanghai with coal. We have been in the interval between twice to Chefoo; and on the 15th of January the ship sailed from Shanghai for this port. There were 15 souls in all, including one Chinese passenger. I do not know his name. I have heard him say he had a brother in Yokohama. The name of the captain of the vessel was William Eames, master; James Renton, 1st officer, of Plymouth; McLennan, 2nd officer, Stornoway; Peter Asmasson, steward (a Dane). Shipped in Bristol: John Tuwsell, A.B, Bristol; James Bennett, A.B., Bristol; Dennis M'Carty, A.B., Castletown, Ireland; George King, A.B., Shoreham; John James, O.S., native of Bristol. Shipped in Shanghai: Henry Bragg, A.B., native close by Dover, England; Thomas White, A.B., native of Edinburgh; Henry Graves, O.S., Whitehaven.

On the 31st of January about 4.30 A.M. I heard the chief officer say we were off Cape Omosaki. I was on watch; the captain and chief officer had gone to the cabin to look at the map. When the vessel went on, she did so quite easily on what appeared to be a coral reef. The weather was hazy; we were under short sail; we were running along the coast, and about half an hour before the captain had kept her off the coast a little. There were no signs of breakers; there was a man on the look-out. It was blowing very strong from N.N.E. as near as I remember; we were under close-reefed topsails, fore-topmast staysail and main spencer. As soon as it was perceived she touched, the yards were backed to get her off. The ship bumped heavily four or five times. I was up loosing the foresail and the mate called us down, thinking the mast would go. After the foresail was set, the ship backed off. When the pumps were sounded, three feet or three feet and a half of water were found in the well. The captain then ordered the men to the pumps and to get the boats clear. We got out the long boat and gig. There was another boat, the pinnace, but it was not deemed sea-worthy, and left standing. The boats were hoisted out alongside, and left hanging in the tackles. After we had got the boats out, and some water, biscuits, and cheese on board the boats, the pumps were again sounded and 6 or 8 feet of water, I can't be sure which, were found in the hold. The captain then ordered the reefs to be shook out and topgallant sails to be loosed in order to make the next cape. This was done, and the topgallant sails set about 6.30 A.M. After that we found we were making little way, and the water was washing over the decks—we sounded and found 12 feet of water in the hold, though the pumps were going all the time. The water was washing up to the boats and we feared losing them if we did not take to them. Thomas White was steering up to this time. All hands, officers and men, tried to persuade the captain to leave the ship but he declined to do so, and told the second officer to keep as close to the ship as he could in the gig.

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McLennan, the steward, cook, and Thomas White were in the gig; the rest in the long-boat. The captain took the wheel from White before he went into the gig. He then ordered White into the gig. About ten minutes after we got into the boats, it was found that the gig could not live in the sea, and the few men in that boat came into the long-boat, and the gig was set adrift. We were then astern of the ship about a quarter of a mile. After that we saw the main yard of the ship squared, and we could not keep up with or near her on account of the sea: we tried to keep as near as we could, but we drifted in shore. The only sail we had set in the long-boat was the gib. We could not set the main and foresail on account of the weather, and because we had only the gig's mast, on which the gib was set as a mainsail. There was no quarrel or mutiny in the ship before we left it. We had the captain's permission to leave the ship. I had been 23 months in the ship with the captain, having been in her a previous voyage to the West Indies. I asked the captain myself to come into the boat. He told me he would not come, but that I was to go into the boat. The last time I saw the captain he was steering the ship towards the next cape. About 7 A.M. we got into the boats. About 7.30 I saw the ship go down, but could not distinguish whether she went down head or stern first: this was about half an hour after we got into the boats. The sea was higher where the ship went down than at the place where we were in the long-boat. We were closer in shore. The vessel had 150 tons of ballast, and had only 300 cases of glass and as many of champagne on board. She was drawing 12½ by the stern and 10½ by stem; her depth of hold might be about 16 feet. The Chinaman was in the long-boat. I cannot state what were the captain's hopes or object in remaining in the ship. We were lost on this side of Cape Omosaké. The captain may have hoped to see a ship and get assistance.

The captain was about fifty-four years of age. He was married; he has two daughters and a son. I have never seen these; but James Bennett, who was an apprentice, knew the family. The captain was a very quiet man, sober in his habits, and got on well with the crew: he was a strong man of his age. I did not hear the captain making any reproaches against himself or the officers for getting on shore. There were four hands pulling at the long boat and the chief officer steering when we were trying to keep near the ship. We were nearly two miles off the land. The ship might be going two or three knots; she was waterlogged, The gib in the long-boat was hoisted to keep her steady. We were trying to fetch the next cape. The master was on good terms with the officers so far as I know. The master was on good terms with the crew; he never quarrelled with us; he never struck any one; he was a very quiet man. The proposal to leave the ship came first from the officers and crew, not from the captain. We went aft; and he told us that he was not going to leave the ship, but that we were to go into the boats ourselves. The captain asked for no one to remain with him; he ordered White into the boat. Everything was done in the way of pumping to save the ship. She measured 293 tons. Nothing belonging to the captain was put into the boats, no chronometer, ships' papers, logbook, nothing. We were on the port tack at the time we struck. It was this side of the westerly point of Tootamy Bay when we struck. The mate said it was above five miles off the land. When the ship struck we were running off the wind with the yards braced up. After the ship got off the rocks the yards were squared. About three or four hours after we left the ship we got round the next point, and took refuge in an inlet where there were some Japanese junks. The chief officer and the Chinaman went on shore, and came back in about an hour, saying that the Japanese would keep us till they could communicate with Yokohama. We all landed, and remained on shore in the village till the 5th February (Friday). I don't know the name of the village. We were well treated at this place, and got potatoes, rice, and fish to eat. On Thursday, the 4th, while I had gone off to see if I could discern any signs of a ship, the second mate cut down a tree near a temple to make a mast for the boat. We had only the gig's mast in the long-boat, though we had all her sails; the mast was in the hold. When I came back on Thursday afternoon, I found the second mate working the tree, making it into a mast. I believe the chief mate must have ordered this tree to be cut down, for he directed me help the second mate to make the mast. There came a great crowd, and made signs on Thursday evening that we should go on; however, we did not leave till next morning, having then made a mast of the tree. The mate said the Japanese would not let us stay any longer. The mate had about 30 dollars with him, and paid away about 15 dollars for what provisions we had from this village. We left on Friday morning, the 5th, in company with a Japanese boat, and the same day about 1 P.M. we boarded the British schooner *Kung Mou*, of Bristol. The mate and two others, including myself, went on board. The mate, Renton, was about half-an-hour in the cabin with the captain of the *Kung Mou*, who offered to take us to Hong Kong, but that was declined by all of us, for we had then a fair wind for Yokohama. About 4 or 5 P.M. the wind came off the land and blew us off, and we were obliged to lash four oars to break the sea. About 9, the wind died away, and we kept to our oars all night, and about 8 A.M. a breeze sprung up and we stood in towards the cape. The Japanese boat that was with us went to a large village, but seeing the schooner, we declined to accompany them.

About 8 A.M. on the morning of the 6th, we headed up towards the land and got into a bay, at the east side of the gulf, about noon. We pulled the boat upon the beach and lay there all night in the boat. The chief officer and the Chinaman went into the village. The Chinaman, on coming back, said the Japanese would send a boat along with our boat. Next morning, Sunday 7th, we launched the boat, and on getting outside the rocks and finding no Japanese boat, we pulled on by ourselves, and got round the next headland. There was an island in the bay of which this headland formed the point; and the chief mate thought it was the way to Yokohama, but a Japanese boat we met motioned us to go round the next point. A breeze then sprung up between 10 and 11 A.M., and we set close-reefed mainsail and foresail on the port tack, and carried on up to about 1 P.M., when the boat was capsized. The second mate, McLennan, was at the helm. One of the men attended an oar on the lee quarter, and the chief mate was looking out for the seas, to luff up and get under the weather shore. We were then about mid-channel, very near abreast of Uraga. When the boat was capsized, all came up except Dennis MacCarty and Henry Bragg. We all clung round the boat; 4 or 5 of us got on the top of the keel—that is to say, Witnal, Graves, Bennett and McLennan. The sea righted the boat twice or thrice, mast uppermost, but it always capsized again, and all but White, Witnal, Bennett, and myself were shaken off the last time the boat turned. The second mate, who was in the life-buoy, was drowned in it. The steward and the second mate had both hold of the life-buoy, and both were drowned. The second mate was within the circle of the life-buoy and the steward had hold of it outside. The second mate had his arms over the life-buoy: when I took the life-buoy from him he was drowned. I had no struggle with him for the life-buoy; he was quite dead. I slipped his arms over it and he went down like a stone. When I got hold of the life-buoy, I swam as well as I could towards the shore. The sea helped me—I am a pretty good swimmer, but was nearly half drowned when I got into the life-buoy. I think it must have been near 4 P.M. on Sunday, the 7th, when I got on the east side of the bay, about opposite Uraga. I was thrown on the rocks and managed to scramble up. The life-buoy saved me. I could then see nothing of the boat. I went into the nearest house, and remained there till Saturday, the 20th Feb., that is, fourteen days. I was well-treated all that time; had plenty to eat, and clothes from the people of the house. The Japanese owner of this house took off my clothes, put on me dry ones, and lit a fire for me. I was much exhausted. I remained in his house throughout the fourteen days. His name is Kosemon; he is married, and has three children. I wrote a letter to the Consul on Wednesday, the 10th, and Kosemon promised to send it off. Kosemon is a fisherman, and was very good to me all the time I was there. I landed in my cotton shirt and drawers. I was an object of great curiosity to the Japanese at this place, but they were all very kind to me. On Saturday, the 20th, I was taken across to Uraga, and put into a tea-house with the officer and interpreter. I remained there well treated on Sunday and Monday; on the Monday I got some European clothes, and yesterday, Tuesday, came back here.

After we were in the boats, we saw the main yard squared. It had been backed to enable us to get in the boats. The captain must have done this himself. I am doubtful as to the precise direction of the wind after the ship was on the rocks, and we got into the boats. We had had a rough passage from Shanghai. There was no spirits in the boats, a glass was served out to us after we got the ship off, by the steward. There was no allowance of spirits served out to the crew. None of the champagne was touched that morning.

Read over to declarant before signature and solemnly declared to be the truth.—JOSEPH CORBETT.

Declared before me at the British Consulate, Kanagawa, this 24th February, 1864.—CHARLES A. WINCHESTER, H.B.M's. Consul.

The *Commercial News* observes on the above:—"We need not comment upon the strange conduct of Captain Eames in deliberately devoting himself to death, nor upon the ill-fate of the crew after having been well saved from the wreck; but the kindness of the Japanese, wherever the unfortunate crew had occasion to test it, is above all praise; and we trust that the humane, hospitable treatment extended to the survivor by a poor fisherman and his family on the opposite side of this bay, in the province of Kadzusa, will not be allowed to pass unacknowledged by those interested in the prosperity of commerce—by the merchants as well as by the Government of the country to which the merchant seaman belongs. H. B. M.'s authorities have taken the necesssary steps for bringing the matter before the Board of Trade in England, but the delay which such a course entails is likely to reduce the moral effect of any acknowledgment that may be made, and it would be well if something could be done on the spot and at once, to mark the gratitude of this mercantile community for humanity and disinterested kindness shown by a poor Japanese to a merchant seaman."

Two reports have reached us (says the same journal of the 24th February), which we give without vouching for the truth of either. One is to the effect that there is another wreck down the coast, some ship having struck on a rock near Volcano Island, and that the crew were saved and accommodated in a temple in that neighbourhood. This is probably another version of the wreck of the *Star of Peace*. The other report is that some steamer had lately been fired into on Satsuma coast, and considerable harm done to the vessel and to those on board. This is highly improbable, and the report may have originated also in the wreck of the *Star of Peace*. Both reports are traceable to Japanese fishermen who came in yesterday from a cruise outside the bay.

As there is no further reference to the above in the *Commercial News* of the 2nd March, both rumours may be taken as having no foundation.

We have by this mail further accounts of the loss of the Russian Government schooner *Perwee*, which ran ashore on the 8th November last on the Nambu coast, on the opposite side of the Tsugar Strait to that on which Hakodadi is situated. It would appear the Russians met with no such kindly treatment from the Japanese as did the crew of the *Egeria*, or the sole English survivor of the *Star of Peace*. Mr. Frederick Wilkie, an enterprising merchant of Hakodadi, well acquainted with the language and customs of the Japanese, was selected by the

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European Consuls to visit the locality, and he accordingly proceeded thither, accompanied by Captain Vyse, the British Consul. From Mr. Wilkie's report, it is clear that the Hakodadi officials are, some of them, much behind others of their brethren in civility and promptitude. He says :—

In the latter part of the day (Nov. 21) we again took to boats, and by 4 P.M. arrived at the village of Oestaki. Along the beach in front of the village we saw many fragments of the wreck, in the shape of planks, broken spars, torn sails, &c. Our first care was to discover the unfortunate officers and crew ; the latter, twenty in number, we found drawn up near the beach, who pointed out a small hut where their commander and officers were located, to which we immediately repaired. We soon gained from Captain Naoomoff the particulars of the loss of his ill-fated schooner the *Perwee*. It was distressing to witness in what miserable quarters they had lived, as they informed us, for the last twelve days. The room occupied by them was not over twelve feet square, in a very filthy state, and in my opinion barely fit for human beings to exist in. The house was certainly one of the worst in the place ; and to add to this, the only food they had been able to procure was rice and raw turnips. I would particularly draw your attention to this point, because we discovered that a Japanese officer —although perhaps on a different errand—had been in the village several days, and had not taken a single step to afford assistance to the shipwrecked sufferers, who, having lost the greater part of their clothes, and the remainder being frozen or wet, were in a pitiable plight. This, as you are well aware, is not carrying out the stipulations of the treaties existing between foreign nations and Japan. By urging the officials who accompanied us, fresh and better lodgings were soon provided, as well as superior food ; and arrangements were made so that the whole party might start for the village of Tszae next day. Owing, however, to most unfavourable weather, we were forced to remain over another night. On the 23rd, we all reached Tszae at about three P.M., the boats which conveyed us being furnished by the officials. We here found quarters for the night, and next morning started in the Government boats for Hakodadi, but head-winds prevented us accomplishing any distance, and we were obliged to return again to Tszae. The day following the wind continued from the same quarter, and we rested on shore; but being short of food for so many months, we applied to the officers accompanying us for some provisions. Some few vegetables and two pheasants were provided, but owing to the bad weather no fish could be had. We consequently asked for a bullock, as there were many in the place ; but the officials informed us that they could not comply with our request without communicating with the officers of the Prince of Nambu, in whose territory we then were; they promised, however, to give us an answer at ten A.M. We learned privately that they were able to furnish us with a bullock. Owing to Japanese obstinacy, or whatever it might be, the officials brought forward one excuse after another, and in fact by deliberate lying kept us without beef until late at night : consequently we were the whole day with very little food. I entirely lay the blame of this on the Hakodadi officers, and these very men were sent for the purpose of rendering assistance. On the whole, the conduct of the officials was certainly not what could have been expected from agents of the Imperial Government of Japan, which professes such amity and friendship towards foreigners. Leaving the coast of Nambu on the morning of the 26th, we arrived safely at this port the same afternoon.

A fire took place on the premises of Messrs. Allmand and Co., in the Foreign Settlement, on Monday the 22nd February, when the English and French guards distinguished themselves by their early arrival at the scene, and by the prompt manner in which they exerted themselves to protect the premises. Their presence was very necessary, for facts show that there were thieves about. The comprador lost $1,500 in cash, and property of his own worth, $3,000. The cash and also a gold watch are supposed to have been stolen. Mr. William Wilson, who also distinguished himself by his active assistance, sustained some injury by his clothing catching fire. The burns were, however, not serious.

Arrangements have been made for the scavenger-work of the Foreign Settlement, at an expense of $1.35 per month on each house. In addition, $2,130 have been collected for the purchase of fire-engines, and annual subscriptions promised for the expense of the fire brigade to the amount of $1,255. The Imperial Insurance Company have been requested to procure three engines with their appurtenances.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

The dates are down to the morning of the 9th March. The English mail of 10th January arrived out on the 3rd March. Sir Harry Parkes, K.C.B., has assumed the Consular Charge ; Mr. Markham resuming his post of Vice.

On the subject of a Survey of the Settlement, the *Friend of China* says :—

In our last issue we published certain correspondence with the Municipal Council, on the subject of a survey of the British Settlement. This, Messrs. Kingsmill and Knevitt offer to do for, in round figures, something like £2,500, or £5. 10s. per acre. As thus:—We take the settlement to measure, within the limits mentioned, say 4,000 feet by 5,000 feet. This gives the area, reckoning 7,260 ft. to a mow, as 2,800 mow ; which, at three taels, equals 7,400, or [say the sterling figures before mentioned. Now, considering that only about the half of this area is built over, a dollar and a-half for measuring a line of 100 feet in length seems a trifle too much, and we would suggest the advisability of advertising in England for tenders to do the work. We undertake to say that three young surveyors in England would readily undertake the job for an average of £500 a-piece ; and if an advertisement went home next mail, we might have a qualified man and two assistants out by sea within six months, or by October next—quite early enough. If such three could not measure and lay down 600 acres within the following three months they would not know much of their business. Messrs. Kingsmill and Knevitt want about £5. 10s. per acre. We think that the half of this is sufficient ; and we ought to know something of surveying.

The convict David Williams, whose execution had been fixed for the 1st of March, succeeded in evading justice. On the evening of the 29th of February he was taken from the English jail to the room occupied by the American Marshal. In order to arrive at this room he had to walk under the drop of the gallows erected for his execution. He did not, however, appear in the least degree moved, and during the evening repeatedly asserted that he was ready for death, and would "die game." He eat and smoked, and about nine o'clock went to bed. The marshal and jailor remained all night with him, taking it by turns to watch. The jailer noticed that about half past five in the morning the prisoner suddenly commenced to breathe very heavily, and on going to ascertain the cause, he found a pool of blood under the man's head. He thought that a blood vessel had burst, and accordingly reported the matter to the deputy consul, and obtained medical assistance. On examination, however, it was found that a knife had in some way come into the prisoner's possession, and that with this he had succeeded in making an incision of considerable depth in his throat, severing the principal vessels. No means were left untried to restore him to consciousness, but he died in about an hour from the time that the jailer noticed the change in his breathing.

For some time past the crimes once so common have again diminished in frequency. However, the centre of the English settlement became the scene of an outrage which for brutality and audacity could not well be excelled. Mr. Dore, the superintendent of the naval store, had been dining at one of the foreign hongs, and about ten P.M. was returning with a native servant to his house at the head of the Maloo. When he arrived at the junction of Park-lane with the Maloo, immediately opposite a low public-house known as "Our House," he stooped down to obtain a light for his cigar. While stooping he was shot in the body, the ball (a spherical one) entering about three inches below the right breast. No attempt was made to rob him, although, as usual, there was not a policeman within sight or hearing. A foreigner who happened to pass a few minutes afterwards, was begged by the China boy to come to his master's assistance. The unfortunate gentleman was carried as soon as possible to the London Mission hospital, and thence to his own house, where he died.

At a meeting of the North China branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, the following resolutions were passed :—

Present.—Drs. J. Henderson, F. C. Sibbald and J. Johnston, Rev. R. J. Thomas, and Messrs. T. Hanbury, R. A. Jamieson, E. Lawrance, R. Hart, R. F. Gould, A. Wylie, J. M. Hockly, O. R. Crockett, and R. S. Gundry. Dr. Henderson, having been requested to take the chair, briefly explained the object of the meeting, which was to re-establish the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society.

After some discussion, it was proposed by Dr. Sibbald, and seconded by Mr. Hanbury,

"That the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society be revived, and for that purpose due notice be given in the local papers, inviting the original members of the others wishing to join, to meet at some place and time appointed, to make arrangements with regard to the appointment of office-bearers, revision of rules, &c."

This resolution having been carried, it was proposed by Mr. Hanbury, and seconded by Mr. E. Lawrance,

"That with a view to carrying out the resolution of Dr. Sibbald, a meeting of the former members of the society, and those desiring membership, be convened in the library on the 9th inst., at 8.30 P.M."

A vote of thanks to Dr. Henderson for presiding having been proposed by Mr. Lawrance and seconded by Dr. Sibbald, the meeting separated.

A second proclamation has been issued by the Futai respecting the terms of land at Soochow. He states by this that the question of the eligibility of foreigners to purchase land in the interior had been referred to the English Ambassador, and by the latter to Earl Russell. The Futai quoting the despatch from Mr. Hannon to the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, gives

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the following passage:—"With regard to the second point—viz., prohibition to open hongs or other buildings, and to reside permanently in the interior, I have to state that the twelfth article of the treaty of Tien-tsin upon which the claim of these privileges rest, is to the following effect:—Art. XII. British subjects whether at the ports or at other places, desiring to build or open houses, warehouses, churches, hospitals, or burying grounds, shall make their agreement for the land or buildings equitably, and without exaction on either side."

The *North China Herald*, on this subject, says:—"That the Futai has, accurately speaking, right on his side we cannot deny. The wording of the English translation is the version by which, in all cases of dispute, we are bound, but this fact does not affect the soundness of our conclusion that, so far as the Futai and his advisers are concerned, little sympathy exists between foreigners and the native authorities, and little desire is felt by the latter to render foreign relations more intimate. The Futai dwells on the fact that foreigners provided with passports are permitted to travel in the interior, but denies that any permission to acquire real property is tacitly involved in this concession. For some reason or another the Futai has come to the conclusion that it will be to his advantage to conciliate foreigners."

SOOCHOW.

The *North China Herald* gives the following as the latest from Soochow:—

By recent advices from Soochow we regret to learn that the four men, Dolle, Martin, Petit, and Easton, who were asleep on board the *Firefly* at the time of her capture by rebel agents, on the 14th of November, have been foully murdered either by the imperialists or the rebels. The balance of probability inclines towards regarding the latter as the perpetrators of this dastardly act, but we cannot as yet determine the question with absolute certainty. The facts, so far as they have hitherto been elicited, are as follow. When Major Gordon was on his way to Yih-shing, he passed through Wu-sih, on the 24th Feb., to a village about a mile into the country, where an old woman volunteered to show him a spot at which she asserted four foreigners had some time previously been decapitated, burned, and then buried. Gordon immediately proceeded to the place indicated by his informant, where he found lying on the surface of the ground a penknife, and a waistcoat pocket containing a handkerchief marked with Martin's name. On digging a few feet four corpses were found, answering as far as could be ascertained to the description of the four men. The flesh which remained was charred, but the size of the bones and the colour of the hair showed conclusively that the victims had been foreigners, and that they were, in all probability, the ill-fated prisoners seized on board the *Firefly*. That at least one of the men whose remains were discovered belonged to that party was put beyond a doubt, as on one of the bodies a waistcoat was found, from which the pocket mentioned above had evidently been torn. The remains were collected and sent to Shanghai as aids in whatever further investigation may be deemed necessary. The date of their execution may be ascertained with accuracy from the fact that, on the wall of a house near the grave, was found scratched the date "Dec. 11th, 1863." As, therefore, Wu-sih surrendered on the following day, it must have been either on the evening of the 11th or on the morning of the 12th that the execution took place. A report is current that Easton's servant escaped from Chan-chow a few days before Christmas, and discovered from some Wu-sih refugees whom he met on his way to Shanghai that his master had been beheaded by order of Chung Wang. Major Gordon states that the Futai gave orders for the burial, but has not satisfied himself who was guilty of the murder. We have, ere this, learned to look without surprise on any proof of malignity or treachery on the part of the Futai. We are not, therefore, disposed to dismiss from our minds all suspicion as to his guilt in the matter, though want of evidence compels us to bring in a verdict of at least "not proven." But if the rebels were, in truth, guilty of this act, on the Futai's head be it. In simple justice we are bound to remind our readers that no case has hitherto been instanced and satisfactorily proved in which foreigners were badly treated in the country held by the insurgents. Whether this forbearance on their part arose from motives of policy, or whether it was dictated by the principles of humanity inculcated by the religion once professed by the rebel leaders, may remain an open question. Whichever it may have been, the slaughter of the Wangs was to the Chinese mind sufficient to justify the execution of the four foreign prisoners; since we must remember the atrocity committed by the Futai was, by Chung Wang, of course ascribed to Gordon. We have thus discovered another instance in which the Soochow massacre has borne bitter fruit; and can only regret the more deeply that, although consequences so dire have followed from its having been attributed to an English officer, that officer gives countenance to the suspicion in the eyes of the Chinese, by continuing to co-operate with one so steeped in treachery as is the Futai.

At the date of the latest advices from Soochow, news had been received to the effect that Gordon was successful in his attack on Yih-shing on the 2nd inst., but no particulars had arrived. Ching was to have assaulted Kia-shing-fu on the 5th inst. The destitution prevailing at Wu-sih still continues, and is only partially alleviated by the efforts made by the local officials and the benevolent in Shanghai. Human flesh is said to be constantly on sale in the markets. Some few Shanghai merchants have agreed to do what they can towards relieving the distressed country people, and have accordingly portioned out the months of the ensuing spring and early summer amongst the richer members of the guilds. Yang-Ta-Kee, the well-known Ningpo banker, has undertaken the provision of rice for the first month, and has sent large parties into the surrounding districts to inquire into the wants of the inhabitants. The Futai has also remitted the embargo on the export of rice from Soochow, in favour of those who may choose to purchase it for benevolent purposes. The Taotai Woo had lately visited Soochow, and had had several interviews with the Futai.

KIUKIANG.

We (*North China Trade Report*) have mentioned on a previous occasion that the Futai intended to deport to their homes the inhabitants of Kiang-si whom he found among the rebel garrison that surrendered at Soochow. This intention has been put into execution in the heartless manner usual with the Chinese. Our correspondent advises us that on the 11th inst. the s. s. *Nora Creina* arrived at Kiukiang with two lorchas in tow, bringing 1,100 of these unfortunate people. They were landed on the same afternoon; but no provision had been made for their arrival, and they were obliged to shift for themselves. Many of them, too weak to search for shelter, lay down upon the bund to pass the night. Eight or ten corpses were found in the morning, and many of the others were lying in a dying state. Several also died during the voyage. The local authorities have paid no attention whatever to these unfortunates, beyond burying the dead. It seems questionable humanity to send away starved wretches without making provision for their being attended to upon their arrival at their destination. Unless it were intended to afford them some aid in regaining their homes, it would have been better to have allowed them to remain at Soochow, where they would have died of starvation quite as comfortably as on the bund of Kiukiang.

NINGPO.

The anticipation of the Che-kiang Futai that the rebels would evacuate Hang-chow does not appear likely to be realised. On the contrary, according to the latest advices, the old energy of the latter was reviving, and the Imperialists were in so critical a position that a retreat on Sao-tsan was not improbable. The garrison of Yu-hong, by a vigorous sortie, had succeeded in capturing fourteen of the Fauti's stockades, and M. D'Aiguebelle, who lost a number of men by desertion at new year time, was said to be thinking of re-crossing the river. This unsatisfactory state of affairs is, in a great measure, attributable to the insane jealousy of the Futai, in preventing the Franco-Chinese force from acting independently, or even from opening fire on the city when they had placed guns in position, in close proximity to the wall. The delay naturally gave the rebels confidence, as they would attribute it to fear of the result of an attack. There is a probability of Colonel Cooke's Anglo-Chinese contingent advancing to the front.

HONG KONG.

Dates are down to the 15th March. The English mail of 26th January arrived out on the 14th march. Sir Macdonald Stephenson was in Hong Kong to ascertain the practicability of constructing lines of railway in China. The *China Mail* on the subject says:—

The idea of having railways in China will most likely be favourably received long after a line has been opened from Shanghai to Soochow, a project said to be on the eve of maturity. A country that has been so famous in the past for the excellence and number of its canals and for

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the employment it was able to provide for them must, *prima facie*, be a tolerably suitable country for railways. It is more than two years since the design of having a railway between Peking and Tientsin was first mooted; the idea has not been lost sight of, though it was shelved at the time; while that of a line between Hankow and Canton has always been the favourite one in the South. Railways make trade as well as divert it into new channels, and though the last-named plan would drain away the commerce, or a large part of it, which has at present its outlet by the Yang-tsze, it would also lead to new fields and increased facilities for business. The Canton of old would revive and come forth with far more than restored health, and Hong Kong would become a more bustling mart of trade than it is now. As a political move, nothing could suit a large empire like China so well as swift communication. It would not only overawe rebellion and maintain peace in the land, but the people of different provinces would have intercourse with each other and with foreigners, and the very best relations would be maintained at once in domestic and foreign affairs. We believe that the Hankow and Canton line is soon likely to receive the attention of scientific and experienced men. The funds could be raised both here and at home should a survey be favourably reported upon. The British Government are willing, we believe, to countenance and assist the scheme in every way short of guaranteeing the shares, and the mercantile firms here are likely to receive the proposal very favourably.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	. . .	6 months sight.	6s. 6d. to 6s. 6½d	6s. 6d. to 6s. 7d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	.	6 ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	. . .	6 ditto	4s. 11d.	5s. 0d. to 5s. 1d.
At Singapore	. . .	6 ditto	4s. 11½d. to 4s. 11½d.	4s. 11½d. to 5s. 0½d.
At Manila	. . .	6 ditto	4s. 8d.	

At Shanghai: Bills on India, Rs. 308 to 310 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong: Rs. 233 to 235 per $100. Bar silver at Shanghai, 110. Hong Kong, 4 prem. Mexican Dollars at Shanghai, 76; and exchange on Hong Kong, 25 discount.

The Circular of Mr. Sharp says:—

GOLD.—Of this bullion we have received during the last fortnight from San Francisco and Australia about five and a-half lakhs of dollars' worth: this includes a very considerable sum brought forward in Chinese passengers' parcels.

SILVER.—About a lakh and a-half, has been received and we hear of no transactions at present.

DOLLAR CURRENCY.—Seven hundred thousand dollars have been received during the fortnight; the amount by French mail not having yet come to hand. The amounts sent away are in total very little over two and a-half lakhs. Clean coin are at an almost nominal price at present.

DISCOUNTS AND MORTGAGES.—Two or three lakhs of short paper have been discounted at ten per cent. Merchants have as usual taken their own paper on more advantageous terms for small sums.

MALACCA STRAITS

SINGAPORE.

The advices from this quarter are to the 23rd March. The London mail of the 10th February reached on the 17th March, but the Messageries steamer, with the Marseilles mail of the 17th February, had not made her appearance.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BLAKISTON—On the 22nd April, at Benhall Vicarage, Suffolk, the wife of the Rev. Horace Mann Blakiston, of a son.

BRAND—On the 22nd April, at the Cedars, Upper Tooting, the wife of Harvey Brand, Esq., of a daughter.

CAINE—on the 6th March, at Swatow, the wife of G. W. Caine, H.M.'s Consul, of a daughter.

CAMPBELL.—On the 17th April, at Elleralie, Streatham, the wife of Patrick Campbell, Esq., of a son.

ELLISSEN—On the 11th April, at 9, Warrington-terrace, Maida-hill West, the wife of A. Ellissen, Esq., of a son.

HARRISON—On the 17th Feb, at Amoy, the wife of A. J. Harrison, of Imperial Maritime Customs, of a daughter.

HOGG—On the 13th April, Mrs. Joseph Hogg, at St. James's-street, Piccadilly, of a daughter.

SARGEAUNT—On the 22nd April, at Berrylands, Surbiton, the wife of W. C. Sargeaunt, Esq., of a son.

TOWSE—On the 23rd April, at 13, Albert-road, Regent's-park, the wife of Robert Beckwith Towse, Esq., of a son.

VACHER—On the 21st April, at Belmont House, Lee, the wife of W. H. Vacher, Esq., of a daughter.

WADMAN.—On the 17th April, at Park House, Staugham, Sussex, the wife of G. Wadman, Esq., of a son, stillborn.

MARRIAGES.

ATKINSON—HUNTER.—On the 1st March, at St. Paul's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. H. Gray, M.A., Consular Chaplain, Canton, Augustus William Henry Atkinson, Lieut. 99th Regt., Private Secretary and A.D.C. to his Excellency the Governor of Hong Kong, second son of Thos. Atkinson, Esq., M.D., Inspector-General of Hospitals, to Pauline Rivis Hunter, eldest daughter of William C. Hunter, Esq., of New York.

HEYDE—EGGERS.—On the 21st inst., at Bremen, at the Cathedral, Ferdinand Von der Heyde, of Singapore, to Adelheid Eggers, of Bremen. No cards.

RAMSAY—CRAWFURD.—On the 23rd April, at Holy Trinity Church, Brompton, by the Lord Bishop of Hereford, assisted by the Rev. E. Baskerville Mynors, George Dalhousie Ramsay, Esq., son of the late Sir Alexander Ramsay, Bart., of Balmain, in the county of Kincardine, to Eleanor, youngest daughter of John Crawfurd, Esq., of 4, Elvaston-place, Queen's-gate.

WONG-KIU-TAK—YING.—On the 15th Feb., at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. Stringer, assisted by the Rev. J. R. Wolfe, Wong-Kiu-Tak to Yeunga Ying (baptised name Lydia).

DEATHS.

BOJE—On the 9th March, at Hong Kong, Edward Boje, aged 22 years.

WARRENS—On the 28th Feb., at the Civil Hospital, Charles Warrens, Engineer of the steamer Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy.

FRANKS—On the 13th April, at Streatham-common, Bernard, the infant son of Joseph F. and Catherine S. Franks, aged three months.

GREENFIELD—On the morning of the 10th April, at 15, Whitehall-place, Hume Greenfield, Esq., Assist.-Secretary Royal Geographical Society, in the 36th year of his age.

LEWER—On the 7th March, at Whampoa, Robert Lewer, surgeon, aged 42.

ROSS—On the 28th Feb., at Hong Kong, James Gordon, son of Mr. Alex. Ross, aged 3 years and 1 month.

ROBERTSON—On the 2nd March, at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, George Robertson destitute seaman.

SMALL—On the 8th March, at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, W. P. Small, seaman of brig Fah-kee.

SMITH—On the 7th March, at Hong Kong, Alexander Smith, Police Sergeant Dockyard (apoplexy), aged 29 years.

STEPHENSON—On the 8th April, after a few days' illness, at 10, Rochester-square, Camden-town, deeply regretted by all who knew him, James Stephenson, Esq., late of Hong Kong, aged 48. Friends will kindly accept this intimation.

WAGNER—On the 12th March, at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, of hydrophobia, Samuel M. Wagner, shipwright, &c., aged 40 years.

WAGNER—On the 5th March, at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, Wm. Wagner, destitute seaman.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—Canton: Since the date of last report the teamen have evinced a little alarm at the lateness of the season, and have become slightly easier in their terms for Congous. There were several orders on the market, and the result was a little business at a decline of 2 taels on previously ruling rates. Buyers generally are very cautious, as even the reduced quotations exhibit no margin in the prices current in London at date of last advices. In scented teas and Canton greens the transactions have been small. No additional supplies of country greens have come forward, neither are any more operations reported. The settlements of the fortnight are reported as under:—Congous: 7 chops, say 6 chops black leaf Pekoe flavour at 24½ taels to 26½, and 1 chop black leaf full Pekoe at 33½; also 450 ch. and 200 half do., Canton packed, at 17 to 18. Scented Caper: 900 boxes good middling at 18. Scented Orange Pekoe: 1,100 boxes good middling, at 24½. Canton Gunpowder: 700 boxes and 100 half-chests fair to middling at 18 to 20. The stock remaining on the market: Congous, 38 chops; Scented Caper, 19,000 boxes; Scented Orange Pekoe, 4,000 boxes; Canton Gunpowder, uncertain; Country Greens, 3,500 packages.

FOOCHOW.—The demand during the fortnight has been rather animated, and settlements of Congous have been made to a fair extent at rates fully equal to last quotations. Latterly, however, buyers have exhibited less desire to purchase, but the teamen are firm, and will not entertain any reduction, The following are the settlements of the fortnight:—Congous: 7,000 chests and 6,500 half-chests, at 8 to 22 taels. Souchong: 700 chests and 300 half-chests, at 17 to 19 taels. Pekoe: 200 chests, at 19 to 20 taels. Oolong: 800 half-chests, at 13 to 15 taels. Scented Teas: 3,000 boxes, at 20½ to 22 taels. The comparative supplies to date stand thus:—

	1863-64.		1862-63.
Congou and Souchong..	605,500 ch.	..	602,800 ch.
Oolong	176,700 hf.-ch.	..	211,100 hf.-ch.

The comparative stocks stand thus:—

	Now.		Same period last year.
Congou..	10,000 ch.	..	7,100 ch.
Souchong	2,000 ,,	..	none.
Pekoe	200 ,,	..	1,400 ch.
Oolong	1,200 hf.-ch.	..	2,500 hf.-ch.
Scented..	1,060 bxs.	..	1,000 bxs.

SHANGHAI.—The total settlements and re-shipments for the present season to date amount to 385,700 chests, against 284,700 do. corresponding period last season. Green Teas: The finer description of Fychow and Moyune have been inquired for, but the firmness of holders has been so great that the business done has been small. Some few parcels of Shanghai packed Hoochow leaf have been settled at extreme rates, and quotations for all descriptions are fully a tael higher than last mail The settlements of the fortnight are stated at 2,500 half-chests. Fychow and Moyune at 40 to 42 taels, and 1,000 half-chests Shanghai packed at 30 to 35 taels.

HANKOW.—No transactions are reported during the fortnight. The stock remaining on the market consists of 10 chops common Oonahms, which are held at 12 to 19 taels, but which being the refuse of the season, no one cares about buying. The total export of the season to date consists of 679 chops, or 362,100 chests—against 279,400 chests corresponding period last season.

KEWKIANG.—In black teas there is no business to report. The settlements for the fortnight of green teas are reported as under:—8,500 half-chests Moyune, at taels 33 to 40¾; 1,800 half-chests mixed, at taels 29 to 33½; 500 half-chests Fychow, at taels 34½; 550 half-chests Kewkiang packed, at taels 33; total half-chests, 11,050. These prices show no alteration in rates. The stock remaining unsold is stated at 25,000 half-chests. Very little more is expected from the country this season.

YOKOHAMA.—Settlements for the month amount to about 1,000 piculs, taken at about previous rates. The unsold stock is estimated at 1,150 piculs. Common, $8 to 12; common to fair, $14 to 17; fair to good; $18 to 25; good to fine, $26 to 29.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—During the early part of the fortnight, more disposition to purchase was manifested, and 600 bales, principally Yuenfaas and No. 3 Tsatlees were settled at former quotations. The unfavourable advices of the home market by the 11th Jan. mail, combined with an advance in the rate of exchange, has latterly entirely checked the demand; on the other hand, no supplies have come forward from the interior, and stocks being much reduced, holders are very firm. The receipts of the fortnight from Japan amount to 158 bales. The total receipts of the present season to date amount to 38,000 bales, against 67,590 bales last season, and 74,300 bales the season before. The unsold stock is 4,300 bales now, against 2,500 corresponding period last season, and 12,400 the season before. The following are the latest quotations:—Tsatlees, No. 2 chops, 430 to 440 per picul; 3, 415 to 425;

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market, 3, 405 to 415; 4, 390 to 400; 5 and com., 375 to 385; Taysaams, 1 and 2, 390 to 420; 3 and infe., 340 to 380; Yuenfa, 1 and 2, 405 to 425; 3, and infe., 375 to 395; Hainings, 375 to 420.

MACAO.—Some small sales of Cumchook at $390 have been made for the Straits, leaving on the market 5 piculs of inferior Loong-kong held at $420, and some 30 piculs Cumchook and Kow-kong for which $390 and $360 respectively are demanded.

YOKOHAMA.—Settlements for the past month are about 100 bales, making the total to date 13,600 bales, against 19,500 bales; leaving a stock of 150 bales against 600 bales last year. Throughout the month the market has been extremely dull; scarcely any arrivals; excepting about 100 bales which came in during the past two or three days, and future supplies are still enveloped in great obscurity. The steamer will take only 38 bales.

DRUGS, &c.—Cassia Lignea, $16½ to 17, stock 1,500 piculs. Cassia Oil is quoted 230 to 235, but no supplies come forward and there is no stock. Cassia Buds are quoted 47 to 48—no sales reported—stock 80 piculs. Star Anniseed quoted 22 to 22.50, but no supplies. Anniseed Oil 160 to 170—no sales, stock 10 piculs. Rhubarb, scarce, at 60 to 70. Gamboge, no stock, quotation 40 to 45. China Root, no transations, stock small, quotation 3.50 to 3.75. Galangal, no business done, stock 500 piculs, quotation 3.50 to 4. Vermilion has advanced to £48 per box. Cassia, nominal at 4.50 stock 100 piculs.

CAMPHOR.—HONG KONG.—The whole stock on hand at the time of the departure of last mail has been cleared at $16¼ to $16¾ per picul and the market is at present bare, with exception of a few very small lots in the hands of Chinese. Further supplies from Formosa are shortly expected.

RAW COTTON.

CANTON.—The sales of the fortnight are reported at 1,214 bags Shanghai at taels 23.2 to 24, and 650 do. Ningpo at taels 23.8 to 24.7. Stocks unsold 1,337 bags Shanghai and 550 do. Ningpo.

HONG KONG.—The demand noticed in last report has been maintained throughout the fortnight, on the part both of foreigners and natives. The receipts have been small, and rates have advanced $1 to 2 on previous quotations. Holders are firm and expect an advance. In the absence of further advices from Europe, they seem inclined to wait the arrival of the mail. The transactions of the fortnight are reported at about 10,000 pls., the stocks unsold being about 21,000 pls. The quotations are:—Shanghai, $32 to 35.50; Ningpo, 34 to 36; Japan, 37 to 38, according to quality. The stock in the hands of both native dealers and manufacturers is very low, and a good demand exists for shipment to Canton.

SHANGHAI.—Prior to the arrival of the London mail of 10th January the demand had become languid, and difficulty was experienced in effecting sales, except at prices which holders were not inclined to or could not accept. The advices of the Liverpool market of the 9th January, reporting an advance in prices of ⅛d to 1d. per lb. for East India, and 1d. per lb. for other sorts, and the stocks proving so little in excess of the estimated amount, a reaction took place in this market, and considerable settlements of Hankow and Up-River cotton were made at tls. 22 and tls. 24 per picul. Shanghai Staple is quoted tls. 20 to tls. 22 per picul according to quality and condition.

NINGPO.—Supplies arrive scantily and appear exhausted.

YOKOHAMA.—A steady business to be transacted, and prices have advanced to $280. Supplies are but moderate. The exports since 1st July have been as follows:—To Shanghai 1,432 bales. Hong Kong 16,819 do. England 23,114. U. States 342 do. Total 41,707 bales, against 6,227 bales corresponding period last season.

OPIUM.

NEW PATNA.—Clearances during the first part of the last fortnight were made freely at $512.50 to 515 per chest, latterly there has been little doing, owing to scarcity of stock, and prices are now quoted at 535 per chest (cash), and to arrive 490 per chest.

NEW BENARES.—Prices have remained very steady at $500 to 505 per chest, and latterly has been in but moderate demand.

MALWA.—There is an extremely small stock now in the market, and mostly of an inferior description; prices are now $710 per chest, at which rates sales have been made, against 685 to 690 last advised.

TURKEY.—Stock said to be much reduced, and prices have ruled from $510 to 515 per picul.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—The annexed quotations for this article show a slight decline upon those current when the last mail was despatched, and the sales effected in Hongkong during the fortnight amount to 140 bales, and 84 bales of damaged Twist sold by auction. In Canton there have not been any sales, and prices remain unchanged. Grey Shirtings: Have been in but limited request, and prices are scarcely so firm. Sales amount to 2,500 pieces, and 1,200 pieces moved off by public sale. These goods show a decline in the Canton market of 10 cents per piece, without sales. White Shirtings: The value of these goods remains unchanged, and the sales of the fortnight aggregate 4,500 pieces. T-Cloths: Meet with hardly any inquiry at the hands of the native dealers, and the only sales effected of these goods during the fortnight consist of damaged Cloths, which have been moved off by public auction to the extent of 2,300 pieces. Some 5,500 pieces have also been taken by foreigners. The value of these goods has declined materially in Canton. White Spotted Shirtings, dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: The business transacted in these goods during the fortnight is confined to the sale of 1,200 pieces of the first-named description at the rates previously current. White Brocades show an advance of about ten cents per piece upon last quotations, but other kinds remain as before. All fancy goods show a material depreciation in value in the Canton market. Damasks: Without change in value, or sales to notice. Chintzes: Have met with some inquiry, and sales of 2,000 pieces are reported for the fortnight. Handkerchiefs have also been in request, and the sales since the date of last circular amount 2,600 dozens.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: Without material change to notice in value, the sales which have been effected during the fortnight amount to 700 pieces of the first-named description of cloth. Of Medium Cloths some 40 pieces have changed hands. 120 pieces Spanish Stripes sold in Canton. Long Ells: Are quoted slightly lower for the inferior qualities imported, but HH goods remain unchanged in value, and the sales effected in this market during the past fortnight are reported at 500 pieces, and 300 pieces damaged goods disposed of at public sale. Camlets: An average amount of business, at a slight advance in value, has been done in these goods since the date of last circular, and the sales amount to 560 pieces. The sales in Canton amount to 100 pieces. Lastings remain without change in value, and the sales of the past fortnight amount to 200 pieces. In Canton these goods have advanced 50 cents to $1 per piece, but without sales. Blankets Have again met with moderate inquiry, and have been placed in this market to the extent of 660 pairs.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: The demand for iron in this colony during the fortnight has been confined to round bar, of which description about 500 piculs have changed hands; prices of all sorts remaining unchanged. A small sale of iron wire, amounting to 30 piculs, is also reported. There are not any sales to notice from Canton, and prices remain unchanged. Lead: The quotations of lead both here and in Canton still continue extremely low, and the sales of the fortnight in this colony are put at about 1,600 piculs, of which some 1,100 have been taken by foreign purchasers. In Canton 2,000 piculs have changed hands at previous rates. Tin: 778 slabs of tin have changed hands during the fortnight at previous rates. Tin-Plates: Show a slight decline in value in this colony, where the sales since the commencement of the month amount to 300 boxes. Steel: The sales effected during the past fortnight amount to 350 tubs.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN.—None.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Feb. 24, Albuera; 25, Merse. From Liverpool: 22, Victoria Cross. From Glasgow: 20, Burman From Newport: March 7, Idas. From Newcastle: Feb. 22, Mandarin; March 2, Neville. From Sunderland: Feb. 24, Western Continent, and Seaton.

At FOOCHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From London: Feb. 29, Flying Spur. From Liverpool: March 9, Julia Ann. From Cardiff: Feb. 29, Trio and Maria Bartlett; March 8, Denmark. From Sunderland: March 2, Hyderssa. From Newcastle: 6, Otto; 11, Wilhelm. From England: 5, H.M.S. Scylla. From Bordeaux: 2, Bouqueyran. From New York: 3, D. Fex.

At MANILA.—From Liverpool: March 5, Aureliana. From Glasgow: 7, Chase.

At SINGAPORE.—From Newcastle: March 16, Margaret Campbell. From Cardiff: 21, Suez. From Bordeaux: March 7, C. la Londa. From Rotterdam: 7, Candati. From Hamburg: 20, Blacher.

At BATAVIA.—From London: Carl Julius. From Liverpool: Fop Smit.

At BANGKOK.—None.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—For London: Feb. 3, Cymbeline and Mary Shepherd; 17, Cissy; 22, Macedon. For New York: March 1, Benefactor.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Feb. 27, Thomas and Rebecca, From Liverpool: 20, Antelope; 24, Bentinck and Polmaise; 25, George Ruxton; 26, Blackburn; 29, Macassar; March 3, Berdinkha. From New York: Feb. 23, Mercara.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: March 6, Robert Henderson.

From HONG KONG.—For Liverpool: Feb. 25, Crest of the Wave and Nancy Brysson; March 7, Patrician; 11, Vanguard. For England: 8, H.M.'s Encounter.

From MANILA.—For Liverpool: Feb. 24, Burdeos y Habana No. 1; 26, J. A. U.; March 2, Conception; 5, Cervantes (via Cadiz). For New York: 3, Surprise.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Feb. 17, Avonale.

From BANGKOK.—None.

LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Abbotsford, Anglo-Indian, Meppel, W. W. Smith, Auld Reekie, Milbrook, and Ann Adamson. For New York: Osborne.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Birtie, Samuel, Spirit of the North. For Liverpool, Advance, Netherby, Express, Lauderdale, Glengairn, Mayflower, Simoda, and Fort William. For New York: Cornelia, Volunteer, Eva, and Egean.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Daybreak.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Black Watch, Queen's Own, and Canaan. For Liverpool, Black Prince, and Berwickshire Bristow. For New York: Sophie.

At SINGAPORE: None.

At BATAVIA.—For Rotterdam: S. Vanlieel, and Albrecht Beyling. For Amsterdam: Australie, Willem Daniel, Brederode, Catherine, G. F. Lessing.

At BANKOK.—To Europe: None.

AT SINGAPORE.—For London: Eleanor. For Bordeaux: Jarva. For New York: Marzburg and Reynard.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

JAPAN.—To England, silk, £6, and £6. 10s. to £7 for cotton and tea.

SHANGHAI.—Tonnage is in good demand for suitable vessels for coasting purposes, but the inquiry for Europe is small; to America it is somewhat better. The following are the rates:—To London, £3. 15s. To New York, £3. 15s to £4. 7s. 6d.

FOO-CHOW.—To London, £5.

HONG KONG.—Rates remain good, although there are a large number of vessels in the harbour; there is a brisk demand for the rice ports, and some inquiry for London, at £4. 10s. to £5.

MANILA.—The last charter was for Liverpool, at £5. 15s. for Unclayed Sugar, and £6. 5s. for Hemp.

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BATAVIA.—Tonnage is much required, and vessels arriving are at once taken up. The rates to Europe are equivalent to £5. 5s. per ton.

BANGKOK.—To Hong Kong, 55 to 60 per picul, inquiry moderate.

SINGAPORE.—Vessels are in less demand for coast, but for Europe freights are advancing. The following are the rates to London:—tin, £3; sago, sago flour, gambier, &c., £3. 10s.; pepper, hides, gutta percha, &c., £4. 10s.; measurement goods, £4. 10s. for 50 cubic feet.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—20th Feb., Kosmo, from Hamburg to Singapore; 24th, Australia, Amsterdam to Batavia, Margaret Campbell and Juliet, from Newcastle to Singapore; March 1, Diana, Cardiff to Singapore; 3, Baros, Amsterdam to Batavia; 4, Willem Daniel, Amsterdam to Batavia, Bride of the Seas, Sunderland to Shanghai, Galilei, Rotterdam to Batavia, Fop Smit, Liverpool to Batavia, Grondwet, Newcastle to Sourabaya.

From CHINA, &c., to the CONTINENT.—Feb. 10, Norwood, from Hong Kong to Liverpool; 13, Queensbury, Shanghai to Liverpool; 17, Annie Duthie, Hong Kong to Liverpool; 18, H.M.S. Pearl, Singapore to England; 20, La Plata, Macao to Falmouth; 27, Thomas Dryden, Shanghai to Liverpool; March 1, Constantia, Hong Kong to Liverpool; 15, Mary Shepherd and Nelly, Japan to London.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—Feb. 26, Silver Craig, Shanghai to New York; 27, Neuhoff, Amoy to New York; 29, Mecklenburg, Shanghai to New York.

CASUALTIES.

JAPAN.

The Dutch barque Ceres, from Hong Kong, bound to San Francisco, put into Nagasaki on the 23rd of December, in distress.

SAIGON.

The British barque Alicia reports the arrival in Saigon, previous to her departure, of the crew of a vessel which had been lost on the banks, at or near the entrance of the Saigon River. Her name was not ascertained. When the Alicia was coming down the river she passed a boat containing other shipwrecked mariners, who stated that their vessel, the Madras, had been lost a short distance from Saigon.

The Alicia, when near the Macclesfield Bank, was passed by a vessel under topsails and topgallant sails, with mainsail hauled up, running S. She was apparently a Clyde built ship, painted black, with a long white poop, patent-reefing topsails, short mastheads. As she passed she hoisted a signal intimating that she was leaking badly.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

We have no later dates to hand since our issue of the 16th. The telegrams of the incoming mail were duly received, and the letters will be delivered on the 28th.

SILK.—Messrs. Waithman's Circular gives the following:—The silk market continued very firm for a day or two after the departure of the last mail, and some few parcels of China Silk were sold at prices even higher than quotations; but the advance of the Bank rate to 7 per cent., which took place on the 16th instant, again checked business, and we have since had a quiet market, though prices on the whole have been well maintained. Deliveries from 1st to 23rd inclusive—China, 2,450 bales; Japan, 1,158; total, 3,608 bales. Tsatlee: No. 1, 23s. to 23s. 6d.; 2, 22s. to 22s. 6d.; 3, 21s. to 21s. 6d. Mibash: No. 1, 22s. 6d. to 23s.; 2, 21s. 9d. to 22s. 3d.; 3, 21s. to 21s. 6d.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN TABLE.—April 22, at Marseilles, from Saigon, Napoleon III.; 25, at Cowes, from Batavia, Prins Carl; 26, at Liverpool, from Shanghai, Montmorency; 24, at Texel, from Padang, Herman. At Plymouth, from Manila, Manila, from Foo chow-Foo, Albrecht Oswald; 21, at Deal, from Batavia, Prins Carl; 25, off Queenstown, from Manila and Bahia, Flora.

DEPARTURES.—From off Torbay, from Singapore, Victoria; 23, from Greenock, for Hong Kong, Dumbarton, steamer; from Queenstown, for Hong Kong, Clara; from Shields, for Shanghai, Edith; 25, from London, for Manila, Conchita; 26, from Liverpool, for Singapore and Hong Kong, Oceanica; from London, for Hong Kong and Canton, Prince Alfred; for Kanagawa, Medina; 20, from off the Start, for Batavia, Petronella; 21, from off Plymouth, for Batavia, Julia; 25, from Shields, for Shanghai, Jeannie Douglas; 22, from Sunderland, for Shanghai, Esperanza; 24, Sabina; 27, from Liverpool, for Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai, Arab; from London, for Cardiff and Hong Kong, Orion; 20, from Sunderland, for Hong Kong, Beaufront; 25 from Deal, for Singapore, Louise, Kroon Prinses v. Sweden; 27, from Deal, for Singapore, Joan (str.).

SPOKEN.—Strathallan, Shanghai to London, April 5, 25 N., 35 W.; Pet von Maulx (?) (Dut. ship), Southampton to Batavia, March 22, 2 N., 22 W.; Lord Lyndhurst, Hong Kong to Liverpool, March 30, 16 N., 35 W.; Albrecht O'Swald, Foo chow-Foo to London, April 4, 22 N., 35 W.; Annie Wood, Shanghai to New York, Feb. 22, 23 S., 30 E.; Montmorency, Shanghai to Liverpool, April 1, 16 N., 37 W.; Henriette Cornelis, Hong Kong to Liverpool, March 15, 35 S., 21 E.; Oithona, Shanghai to London; Herald, Foo-chow-Foo to London, Feb, 12, 35 S., 20 E.; Thomas Dryden, Shanghai to London, Feb. 24, 23 S., 70 E.; Royal Mint, Foo-chow-Foo to New York, March 8, 33 S., 32 E.; Wilhelmina, Dutch barq., Batavia to Rotterdam, 58 days out, 35 S., 19 E.; Aurora, from China, April 9, 51 N., 11 W.; Donna Maria (Span. barq.), Macao to Habana, March 4, 13 S., 8 W.; Jannetje, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 17, 36 N., 12 W.

LAID ON.—At London, for Kanagawa and Nagasaki, Velocidade for Batavia and Sourabaya, Heilige Liduina. At Liverpool, for Batavia and Sourabaya, Oceaan, for Penang, Fairy Belle.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of the following Government stores from Woolwich to Hong Kong, viz.:—66 tons shot and shells in boxes and 249 tons loose shells, 5 tons combustibles, 99 tons gunpowder, and 39 tons light measurement stores.

LIVERPOOL, April 26.—The Hoang-Ho of this port, Carrington, from the Clyde to Singapore, with a general cargo, which put in here April 11, after getting on shore on the Saltees in the night of the 7th, had been making 12 inches of water per hour after coming off the reef on the morning of the 8th, and a portion of her main keel forward was found broken; the cargo has been discharged, apparently in good order.

At ST. HELENA, March 29.—The Orion (schr.) arrived here from Macao, reports having been boarded and overhauled by an armed screw steamer, March 13, in lat. 34 S., long. 15 E.

CAPETOWN, March 21.—The Sappho, of Greenock, Hildreth master, from Shanghai for London, with a cargo of tea, got on shore on the beach while entering Table Bay March 15, and became a total wreck; all hands saved by the lifeboat. The wreck has been sold, with her cargo, for £545. The Confederate Alabama, three months from Singapore, arrived in Table Bay March 20.

The Conqueror, for Japan, was still in Simon's Bay by last advices.

OFF ASCENSION.—March 28, Maria Louise Antoinette, from Java.

OFF ST. HELENA.—March 26, Pak Wan, from Foo-chow-Foo.

AT ST. HELENA.—March 11, Montmorency, Maxwell, from Shanghai, and sailed for Liverpool; 14, Taffarette, Dereix, from Canton, and sailed for Havre; Atlantic, Sherman, from Singapore, and sailed for New Bedford; 16, Etoile, Lachaud, from Penang, and sailed, 21, for Belle Isle; Juno, Nicolai, from Banjoewangie, and sailed for Amsterdam; 19, Rockliff, Drew, from Penang, and sailed, 20, for London; Isaac du Costa, Klein, from Tjilatjap, and sailed, 20, for Rotterdam; 20, St. Michel, Fradin, from Singapore; 21, Emma, Arentzen, from Singapore, and sailed for Copenhagen; 22, Doelwyk, Hoffman, from Batavia, and sailed, 23, for Rotterdam; 23, Orion, schooner, from Macao, and sailed for Hamburg; 24, Ridderkerk, Teerlink, from Batavia, and sailed 26, for Rotterdam; Helvetien, Boysen, from Manila, and sailed, 26, for Falmouth; 25, Spanker, Candlish, from Singapore, and sailed, 26, for Liverpool; 27, Castilian, Pike, from Manila, and sailed, 28, for New York; 28, Thetis, Rhodin, from Shanghai, and sailed, 29, for New York; 29, Dolphin, Gollards, from Hong Kong, and sailed for Liverpool.

At TABLE BAY.—Feb. 24, Tun-sin (str.), Rowe, from London, and left, 29, for Mauritius and China; March 3, Margarita, Mas, from Manila, and sailed, 9, for Cadiz; 18, Gov. van Swieten, v. Fagg, from Kanagawa.

At NATAL.—Feb. 24, Robin, Gammon, sailed for China; March 4, Conrad, Claasen, for Singapore.

THE JAPANESE AMBASSADORS IN PARIS.

The new Embassy left Alexandria, on the 9th inst., in the *Peluse*, and arrived at Marseilles on the 22nd. The party is unusually large, comprising thirty-three persons. There are three Ambassadors of various ranks, the first being a young Daimio, not more than twenty three or twenty-four years of age, handsome—as some think—remarkably intelligent, and of very distinguished manners. The rest of the party present no special characteristics, and look as like those who were in London during the Exhibition of 1862 as one pea is like another. The Envoys are accompanied by two counsellors or secretaries of legation, two first and two second secretaries, two attachés, four interpreters, two ushers, two masters of the ceremonies, and fourteen servants. The Embassy is also accompanied by an interpreting secretary belonging to the French Legation in Japan. On their arrival at Marseilles they were of course received with the honours due to their rank. Eight carriages were placed at their disposal, in which they were conveyed to the Grand Hotel, and as they passed Fort St. John they were saluted with ten guns. An immense crowd assembled to see the Ambassadors pass along the quays, and in the Cannebiere the streets were lined with the troops of the garrison. They were soon afterwards visited by M. Fanjoux, Secretary-General to the Prefecture, General d'Aurelles de Paladine, the mayor, and other functionaries. The illustrious representatives of the Tycoon did not appear at all fatigued by their voyage, for they passed the greater part of the evening on the balcony looking at the crowd which thronged the street. The next morning they returned the visits of the authorities and in the afternoon drove out in open carriages along the Prado and the quays, accompanied by the Mayor, M. Mure de Pelanne, Consular Agent for Foreign Affairs, and M. Famin, Chancellor of the Consulate. They did not evince surprise at what they saw, but were evidently delighted with the panoramic view from the Prado, as well as with the number of vessels in the port. In the evening the Embassy went to the Grand Théatre and witnessed the performance of the opera "Si j'étais Roi." The front of the theatre was illuminated on the occasion, and the Ambassadors were received at the entrance by the mayor and other authorities. They occupied the Prefect's box, and their suite the Mayor's.

On Sunday morning the Ambassadors and their suite, with the exception of one member, who was too ill to travel and has been left at Marseilles, arrived in Paris and took up their abode, for the present at least, at the Grand Hotel, the director of which went to the railway station to conduct his illustrious visitors to their temporary home. A grand suite of rooms, with a separate entrance court, has been set apart for the accommodation of the Embassy, and many curious eyes are directed towards that quarter of the Grand Hotel, which at the present

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moment and for some time past has been overflowing. The French are quite proud to find that the Japanese do not disdain their cuisine, but that, on the contrary, they find *cotelettes à la jardiniére, filets de sole au vin blanc*, and *suprême de volaille* quite to their taste, and Bordeaux, Burgundy, and champagne very nice sauces to their meats.

The new Ambassadors have not been introduced to the splendours of the Tuileries, but they have commenced the tour of the outward sights. On Monday they were taken to see the new Jardins d'Acclimatation in the Bois de Boulogne, which are becoming very fashionable, and really present a charming place of recreation; and if my information be correct, they were present last evening at the opening, for the season, at the Chateau des Fleurs in the Champs Elysées, where *les belles fleurs* in their ravishing costumes, with their bewitching smiles and extraordinary evolutions in the dance, must have astonished and perhaps delighted the younger portion of the Embassy more even than the bees, the beavers, or the ostriches in the Bois de Boulogne. Of course we shall soon be inundated with accounts, accompanied by sauce *a la Francais*, of the observations and notes of the Eastern visitors on men, women, and manners in Paris; in fact, the gentlemen who supply the world with elegant nothings, and exhibit their light philosophy in the miscellaneous columns of the papers, from the *Petit Journal*—which is now printing, I am assured, 170,000 copies daily, and only owning to 130,000 in order to be able to raise the total 10,000 a day or week before the acme is reached, to the *Grand Journal*, printed on a sheet about the size of that of the *China Telegraph*, but folded only once and presenting four pages, each double the size of those of the *Times*—have commenced already. They tell us, with that curious air of serious folly which marks the Parisian journalist out amidst his brethren, that the Japanese appear, by a study of their physiological peculiarities, to partake of the Tartar, Chinese and Malay races. They are, we are gravely told, an exceedingly brave people, but not cruel; clever and shrewd, without cunning; well-informed in all kinds of knowledge, especially astronomy; they are taught from their infancy reverence for their parents, for nobles, and princes. In Japan no beggars nor drunken persons are ever to be seen, and on that account they entertained no very high opinion of the English when they visited London. Their writing goes from the top of the paper to the bottom. In the social scale, the various elements take rank as follows:—Princes, nobles, priests, soldiers, officials, merchants, and labourers. There is a sad omission from this very philosophical and novel account of the Japanese: the writer omits to state that they are of a yellowish brown complexion, and that they do not wear chimney-pot hats, wide-awakes, or glengarries; that knickerbockers are unknown among them, and that they do not play at dominoes; but all this we shall learn doubtless as time rolls on, and as matter is required to fill up the Great and the Little Journals. The only thing we are likely to wait longest for here is an account of the objects of the Japanese Embassy, and of its success with the Court of the Tuileries. Something may even ooze out upon these points in time, and I shall take care to keep you posted on the subject.

The China Directory for 1864. Hong Kong: Shortrede and Co.; London: F. Algar, St. Clement's-lane.—The fifth annual volume of this work is now to be had of the London agent. All who have felt the value of its predecessors will hasten to furnish themselves with the new issue. Merchants and shippers of goods should be made aware that, besides every kind of information as to the officials of the Far East, whether native or European, as to Tariffs, Weights and Measures, Rates of Postage, down to Chair-hire, they can learn from the *China Directory* the name of every European resident at any town or port of either the Celestial Empire or Japan.

Continental Intelligence.

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HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, APRIL 22.

The King and the Prince of Orange have left this city and returned to the Hague. His Majesty on his departure handed to the Burgomaster of Amsterdam the sum of 2,000 fl. for distribution among the poor. The health of the King of Wurtemberg being so much improved as to justify the medical opinion that there is no immediate danger, the Queen has returned to the Hague from attendance on her royal parent.

Both Chambers of the States-General have resumed their parliamentary duties after the Easter vacation. The business hitherto done by them has been chiefly confined to their working in sectional committees. In the First Chamber official notice was received of the death of two of its members (Messrs. van der Oudermeulen and Quintus), and new writs were ordered to be issued. A large number of Bills were sent up from the Lower Chamber. Messrs. van Beeck Vollenhoven, Beerenbrock, Hartsen, and Eysinga, were elected to form a committee for the preliminary examination of the Bill on the East India Finances. Amongst the papers received were a Report on the Cultivation of Cinnamon and Coffee in Ceylon; one on the Budget of Netherlands India for 1863; and a third on the State of the East India Colonies in 1861. The Second Chamber re-opened on the 19th inst. Mr. Yssel de Schepper took the oaths and his seat. Among the new Bills brought in was one for the naturalisation of eleven foreigners, among whom are Mr. H. Meister, of Netherlands India, Mr. G. H. Miesegoes, of Samarang, and Mr. H. A. Bernstein, of Ternate.

Mr. J. Messchert van Vollenhoven has been appointed Burgomaster of Amsterdam for the ensuing year, commencing on the 15th inst.

The following 24 first-class vessels have been chartered by the Netherlands Trading Company to convey cargoes of produce from Java to the undermentioned ports:—*Drie Gebroeders*, Capt. van Tubergen; *Ystroom*, Capt. Hansen; *Nicolas Witsen*, Capt. Portengen; *Louise*, Capt. Buys; *Bantam*, Capt. Claasen; *Jacoba Cornelia*, Capt. ———; *Honey Bee*, Capt. Valk; *Huidecoper*, Captain Reynders; *Brouwershaven*, Capt. Huyzer; *Zephyr*, Capt. Wemmers; *President Plate*, Capt. Harten; *Staatsraad van der Houven*, Capt. Heimericks; *Nova Zembla*, Capt. Mommes; *Souberg*, Capt. Swart; and *Bezoekie*, Capt. Reckers,—all for Amsterdam. *Philips van Marnix*, Capt. Ruyven; *Kanagawa*, Capt. Ouwehand; *Batavia*, Capt. Prange; *Hendrik Ido Ambatch*, Capt. Bye; *Henriette Gerardine Susanne*, Capt. Sissingh; *Cornelis Anthonie*, Captain Bouten; *Alblasserdam*, Capt. Hoen; and *Kortenaer*, Capt. Schuchard,—all for Rotterdam; and *Johannes Lodowyk*, Captain van der Waal, for Schiedam.

A detachment of supplementary troops, consisting of twelve non-commissioned officers and 150 rank and file, under the command of Capt. W. R. Tergau, of the East India Infantry (returning to duty from leave of absence to this country), and accompanied by Lieut. Renford van Vankelburg, of the E I. Cavalry, and Lieut. A. J. Kalff, of the E I. Infantry, have marched from the E.I. Depot at Harderwyk for Nieuwe Deep, where they embarked on board the chartered transport *Gerard Pieter Servatius*, Capt. J. Wamsteker, for Batavia.

A telegram has been received at the Colonial Departmen dated Batavia, March 14, containing the following:—"Demang Lehman taken prisoner and hanged at Martapoera."

On the Westerdoks Dyke, near the pilot's office here, a mast has just been erected for the display of storm signals. The Municipal Council of Rotterdam has just voted the sum of 250fl. for similar apparatus in the Leuvehaven. These Dutch signals differ somewhat from the system in use in England, and appear to be more simple and practical. They consist of a cylinder (forming a square (□) when seen at a distance), a cone (△), and a ball (○). When the cone is hoisted alone it means "Look out! bad weather is expected;" the cone over the cylinder means "Gale from N.W.;" when made under it, "Gale from S. and S.W.;" and the ball alone, "Storm from West."

The Indian Association at the Hague has just distributed to the members the printed catalogue of their library, which consists of works almost exclusively relating to the East India colonies, and is perhaps the most perfect of its kind to be found in any country. Among many valuable modern works is a large collection of all the pamphlets and smaller works from the beginning of the seventeenth century down to the present time, arranged in chronological order, some of them exceedingly scarce, and not to be found in any other collection in Europe.

Orders have been given to the naval authorities at Vlissingen to prepare the first-class screw steamer *Leeuwarden*, of 16 guns, now lying off that dockyard, for immediate service. It is understood that she will be commissioned on the 1st of May, and that she is to reinforce the squadron in the East Indies. The commanding officer has not yet been named, but from her rating it will be a captain-lieutenant.

By advertisement in several journals, the Colonial Minister

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draws the attention of capitalists to the fact that, in the month of November next (day not yet fixed), the Government of Netherlands India will dispose of the following sugar plantations by sealed tender, in conformity with the conditions published in No. 118 of the *Staatsblad* for 1863 :—1. The plantation called Tjomal, in the district of Pamalang and Residency of Tagal; and, 2, the plantation Bandjardawa, in the same district and Residency. The contracts to run for a period of ten years from the planting season of 1864 to the harvest of 1874. The minimum quantity of sugar-cane to be planted each year to be 400 *bouws*, of 500 □ Rhineland roods each. The contractor to take possession of the works and buildings on the 1st April, 1865, and to pay the amount within a month from that date. A guarantee will be given to the contractor that he shall always have sufficient water to drive the wheel of the crushing mill. The produce to be delivered into the Government warehouses at Pekalougan. The contract will be given in preference to the bidder that offers to deliver to the Government on the usual terms the greatest number of piculs of sugar for each *bouw* of land.

The Minister of Finance warns the public against putting letters for Japan into the Post-office without paying the postage, which, he says, experience shows is often done. He adds that such letters are always forwarded as ship letters when an opportunity offers, but that as a considerable period must elapse even in the best of cases before they can arrive at their destination, he recommends people who have correspondence with Japan to prepay their letters, and send them *via* Singapore as the quickest route.

Lieutenant E. l'Honneré of the East India Army, now on leave of absence in this country, is permitted to retire from the service with a pension, being incapacitated for further active service on account of his health.

The King has granted permission to Mr. H. L. van Bloemen Waanders, officer of the East India Civil Service, late administrator of the tin mines at Marawang in Banca, and now in this country on leave of absence, to retire from the service at his own request with a pension, commencing on the 1st May, 1864.

The following Protestant clergymen have been appointed chaplains and preachers in Netherlands, India :—Rev. J. T. van Dorp, of Hoornaar, Rev. P. van der Meulen, hitherto chaplain in the Dutch settlements on the Coast of Guinea, now on leave of absence in this country, and Rev. F. Hoog, of Hoogoliet.

Mr. A. Loudon, member of the Council of Netherlands India, has received the royal permission to accept and wear the decoration of officer of the Order of the Legion of Honour, conferred on him by His Majesty the Emperor of the French.

The naval Lieutenants G. M. Schuurman and J. C. Egter, both serving in Netherlands India, have been permitted to retire from the service, and the officer of administration in the squadron in Japan, Mr. C. J. Court, lately returned to this country by private ship, is placed on half-pay.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per *Anthony van Hoboken*, Capt. Hazewinkel, from Rotterdam to Batavia; Capt. P. A. Collard, E. I. Army, wife and family, Mrs. Gilbert and two children, Miss S. Lammers, and Mr. Arntzenius.

Per *Quintett*, Capt. Sleyboom, to Batavia; Mr. and Mrs. Schuurman and two children.

Per *Petronella Catharina*, Capt. van der Veen to Japan; Rev. H. S. Balem, wife and family, Mrs. Grivel.

Per *Antonio Petronella*, Capt. Vorendyk, from the Texel to Sourabaya; Mrs. Willemse and two children.

Per *Vertrouwen*, Capt. Vos, from Amsterdam to Sourabaya; Mr. and Mrs. F. C. de Wit and daughter, Miss D. Raaymakers.

Per *Provincie Drenthe*, Capt. de Boer, from the Texel to Samarang: Mr. G. C. Termichelen.

Per *Nederland and Orange*, Capt. Bowmeester, from Rotterdam to Sourabaya: Mr. H. C. Voorhoeve, jun.

Per *India Packet*, Capt. Diepering, from Amsterdam to Batavia: Captain and Mrs. Hoogekerk, E.I. Army, Mr. P. Bloem, E.I. Civil Service, Miss Bloem, and Miss Pen.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The Company's sale of 82,000 bags went off a trifle lower than their last sale in March. The whole quantity found willing purchasers, the decline being about 1 cent. The market is in a healthy condition and there is a lively demand, especially for bright descriptions of Java, about 5,000 bags of which have been disposed of since the sale, by private importers. The Company's sale of Ceylon, on the 12th inst., went off as follows:—

224	bags of native,	pale greenish,	42	to 42¼ cents.
27	„	do. triage,	23½	„
13	„	do. sea damaged	22	„

SUGAR.—Purchasers come forward very freely, and a decided improvement has taken place since Mr. Gladstone's Budget was known here The sales have amounted to 15,000 kranjangs. The market for refined. was in a very excited state, and immense purchases were made at successively rising prices.

RICE.—Of rough grain there are no dealings to report, and the market is not quite so firm as it was. There is reason to believe that many holders are inclined to realise their stocks, and would not refuse lower offers. In cleaned descriptions there continues to be a fair demand for the execution of consumptive orders, and prices are well supported.

SPICES.—Nutmegs are again in great request, and all disposable parcels have been bought up for shipment at 73 cents for No. 1, and 66 for No. 2. Pepper is also very lively, and several parcels have been taken at 22 cents in bond.

METALS.—Banca Tin continues low. A few parcels have been taken at 68¼fl., at which figure there are sellers. In Copper nothing has been done, prices nominal.

INDIGO.—The demand for Java holds on, and more than 100 chests have been sold at full prices.

TOBACCO.—The value of Java is well supported. The result of the sale at Rotterdam on the 13th inst. was as follows:—597 bales mark Limburg, from 18 to 28 cents, average 23; 646 bales L in a triangle, of which 281 bales sold at from 11½ to 24½ cents, and 365 bales bought in at 19½ to 23 cents, but subsequently sold by private contract. The present stock of Java is 8,861 bales.

P. S.—The following have just been sold by private contract:—1,350 bags of Java coffee, ex *Merchantman* and *Cornwallis*, at 44 to 46½ cents, and 1,289 kranjangs of Java sugar, No. 16, per *Princess Amelia*, for arrival, at 41½ fl. At a public sale of 182,500 Manila cigars, 16 lots sold at from 13 to 62 fl., and 9 lots bought in at 50 to 61½ fl.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRANCE AND CAMBODIA.

(April 18th.) Viscount ENFIELD asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether it was true that a treaty had been concluded between France and Cambodia (or that portion of Cambodia which is tributary to Siam), the provisions of which tended to an entire exclusion of all foreigners from that country with the exception of the French; and, if so, whether Her Majesty's Government had taken, or intended to take, any steps to secure to British subjects equal advantages with those obtained by France in that country?—Mr. LAYARD said that a treaty had been concluded between France and Cambodia, but he had not seen it, and was not able to state exactly its terms. Yet he had reason to believe that in that treaty there were provisions which would imply that exclusive privileges were to be given to French subjects over those of other nations. This matter had been brought under the notice of the French Government, and Her Majesty's Government had received an assurance from the French Minister for Foreign Affairs that if there were provisions which bore that interpretation, they had been put into the treaty by inadvertence, and that it was the desire of the French Government that that treaty should bear the most liberal interpretation, and should give French subjects no privileges which were not equally extended to the subjects of all other nations.

BURNING THE DEAD IN INDIA.

(22nd.) Lord STANLEY had seen it stated in the Indian newspapers that an order had been issued by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal prohibiting the immemorial native custom connected with the native religion of burning the dead on the banks of the Hooghly. He wished, therefore, to ask the Secretary of State for India whether it was true that the Government of Bengal had issued an order prohibiting the burning of dead bodies on the banks of the Hooghly river: whether the terms of that order, and the reasons on which it was based, had been known to him; and, if so, whether there was any objection to make them public. Sir C. Wood said that no despatches had been received on that subject, and the only information he possessed was derived from private sources. The cholera had been exceedingly prevalent at Calcutta lately, and the greatest possible alarm had been created there in consequence. The question was therefore taken into consideration of what was to be done to check the spread of the disease, and an order was issued to prevent the throwing of dead bodies into the Hooghly. Anything more disgusting than the sight of the dead bodies floating up and down that river could hardly be imagined, and it was thought most desirable to prevent that practice. With regard to the burning of dead bodies, he did not believe that any order on that subject had been issued; but there was, he thought, a proposal that means should be provided for the burning of dead bodies at a short distance from Calcutta. He had reason, however, to know that, if the objections to it were as strong as was represented by some persons, that proposal would not be persevered with.

THE CIVIL WAR IN CHINA.

(22nd.)—Mr. LIDDELL, in rising to move the resolution of which he had given notice, deprecating further interference on the part of this country in the civil war in China as impolitic and unnecessary, hoped the indulgence of the House would be extended to him, saying it would be necessary to occupy their attention some time, having to go over a considerable period, and bring before them a mass of details. He had no such stirring incidents to present as might be found, perhaps, in the history of the quarrel between Germany and Denmark, but the question was one in which the material interests and honour of England were largely involved. It might be said his motion had reference to events gone by, and that the interest connected with them had ceased. But although, to use a metaphor, the piece had been played out in China, although the curtain had fallen on the performance, the actors still remained on the stage, and it was competent for the House to express an opinion as to how they had played their parts. He should have to refer to the past, but their attention must not be diverted from the future. On our policy in China much depended. We had a very large stake in that country. Our position there was very peculiar, and it depended entirely on our policy for the future whether we should secure or imperil that stake—whether we should render our trading relations beneficial alike to England and China, or whether we should have to maintain our position there at an incalculable cost. The history of the Anglo-Chinese expedition was very simple. The first idea of forming a European force for the Emperor of China originated in the autumn of 1861. It was to be

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composed of powerful vessels, well armed and manned, under the command of an English officer of experience; its two objects being to establish the Imperial authority in the Yang-tze-kiang River, and to suppress piracy and smuggling in the waters of China. The progress of the rebellion had been very rapid, and the Chinese Government eagerly embraced the plan of forming that force. Mr. Lay, the Inspector-General of Customs, being then in England on sick leave, was selected for the purchase and fitting of the vessels. Authority was given to Mr. Lay by Prince Kung for that purpose; and each of the custom-houses in China contributed its quota towards the very large outlay. In his letter of instructions to Mr. Lay, Prince Kung mentioned three objects to which he should apply himself:—1. The purchase of the vessels and guns; 2. The engagement of officers, seamen, and others; and 3. The retention of a sufficient sum of money for salaries, wages, &c. In consequence of receiving that letter Mr. Lay proceeded, as the agent of the Chinese Government, to purchase the vessels and make the necessary arrangements, and he at once placed himself in communication with Captain Sherard Osborn, an officer of large experience in China—a very competent person, possessing, he believed, the confidence of Her Majesty's Government. He was selected to command the fleet, and an agreement was drawn up between Mr. Lay and Captain Osborn in reference to the command he was about to assume. The agreement between Mr. Lay and Captain Osborn was entered into in England, but the name of the Emperor of China, or that of his minister, Prince Kung, did not appear in the document, and so far from the agreement being adopted by the Chinese Government it was ignored by Prince Kung, who never even acknowledged its receipt. When the House heard the terms of the agreement they would not be surprised that it was ignored by Prince Kung. The terms contained in that agreement were as follows:—

"1. Osborn agrees to take the command of the European-Chinese navy for a period of four years, and stipulates that there shall be no other European naval commander-in-chief. 2. Osborn, as commander-in-chief, is to have entire control over all vessels of European construction, as well as native vessels manned with Europeans, that may be in the employ of the Emperor of China, or under his authority of the native guilds. 3. Lay will procure from the Emperor such an authority as may be necessary to cover Osborn's acts as the commander-in-chief of the European-Chinese navy. 4. Osborn undertakes to act upon all orders of the Emperor which may be conveyed direct to Lay, and Osborn engages not to attend to any orders conveyed through any other channel. 5. Lay, upon his part, engages to refuse to be the medium of any orders of the reasonableness of which he is not satisfied. 6. Osborn will appoint all officers and men on board the vessels of the force, subject, however, to the approval of Lay, as the representative of the Emperor."

Let the House consider what was the meaning of those words, and what would have been the effect of that treaty had it been carried out. The meaning of those words was, to establish a complete dictatorship over the naval operations of China in the person of Mr. Lay. The effect of the agreement, if carried out, would have been that every port, every estuary in China, would have been at the mercy of the fleet which was under the command of Captain Osborn, and the whole of the commerce in Chinese waters would have been under his control. Those gigantic powers could not, in his opinion, be safely entrusted to two private individuals, who were practically unrestrainable, and their possession of such power would have been incompatible with the existence of the native Chinese authorities. When it was remembered that Mr. Lay as Inspector-General of Customs, had the whole of the customs' revenue of China at his disposal, it would be perceived that that gentleman had created for himself a post of no ordinary responsibility. It was not surprising that Prince Kung should have ignored that agreement. It was sometimes well in such cases to apply the *argumentum ad hominem*, and to consider how we should act if such a state of things could by possibility be applied to ourselves. Supposing that a distinguished stranger were to present himself in this country, and, claiming an interview with the Prime Minister, were to tell him that the administration of naval affairs by the Board of Admiralty was infamously mismanaged, and that the revenues of this empire were recklessly squandered by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and then supposing that that stranger were to propose that the control of the navy and the revenue should be entrusted to him free from the control of the noble lord and his colleagues, receiving instructions only from Her Majesty, and that he should himself best judge as to what those orders should be, if the noble lord were to listen to such a proposition he would fail in his duty to his Queen and his country; and so, if Prince Kung had accepted the agreement that was offered to him, he would have been a traitor to the Emperor of China. The Prince, however, did not acknowledge the agreement, and when Captain Osborn arrived in China about April last, he found a pressing letter awaiting him from Mr. Lay, urging him to proceed at once to Peking. On his journey to that city Captain Osborn had reason to perceive that affairs were not quite in the shape in which they had been represented to him in England, and even at Shanghai attempts had been made by the local authorities to induce the seamen on board his vessels to enter on board native ships. He also received from Mr. Lay a letter of instructions from Prince Kung, and the House would perceive the difference there was between those instructions and the terms arranged between Mr. Lay and Captain Osborn in England:—

"It has been settled that the post of Chinese commander-in-chief of the steam fleet now purchased shall be filled by the high officer selected by the Chinese Government, and that Captain Osborn, C.B., a British subject, shall be assistant-commander-in-chief, for a period of four years. The affairs of the fleet are to be managed by the said commanders-in-chief in a friendly spirit of co-operation. While Captain Osborn assists the Chinese Government in the command of the fleet, he will take the instructions of the governors general and governors as to the employment or distribution of the force. In all operations he is always to confer personally with those officers before either undertaking or staying these, and is to accept the Chinese decision as final."

Captain Osborn saw that, were he to accept service upon these terms, he would be placed under the orders of local governors and mandarins, instead of having only the Central Government to look to as he had expected. The gallant officer felt that to take service upon those terms would be to insure a failure of operations, or to require him to engage in operations which might possibly be disgraceful, and would not be creditable to this country. (Hear, hear.) He, Captain Osborn, refused to accept service on those terms, and he was right in so refusing. (Hear, hear.) Indeed, throughout all these transactions Captain Osborn had behaved as a man of honour. (Hear, hear.) That his conduct had been straightforward and sagacious must be admitted, but Captain Osborn had been deluded—not intentionally, but still deluded—by Mr. Lay, for no one who had read the account of these transactions could fail to perceive that Mr. Lay had greatly exceeded his power, and had persuaded Captain Osborn and himself that he had an authority which in fact the Chinese Government never intended to confer, and which ought never to be given to any foreigner. It would be well to know what was the opinion of our envoy in China upon the subject, and, therefore, he would read a few sentences from Sir F. Bruce's despatches. Sir F. Bruce wrote:—

"Mr. Lay mistook his position, and overrated his influence when he resolved on starting his flotilla without having previously ascertained that the terms agreed upon with Captain Osborn would be accepted."

It was but fair to the Chinese Government that he should state what they had done for Mr. Lay, after having assumed powers which were never conferred upon him and having squandered money placed at his disposal. They allowed him £1,000 a month for the expenses of his establishment during his residence at Pekin, in addition to a salary at the rate of £8,000 a year from the 1st of May, 1863, to the month of March next, and they presented him with £2,000 as a gratification on leaving their service. He did not think that they had any right to charge the Chinese Government with having acted falsely or perfidiously throughout the affair, but he regarded the conduct of Mr. Lay as open to grave censure from his having mistaken his position and exceeded his authority. He must, however, trace the course that the Government had pursued in connection with this expedition. There were several legal objections, at the time of Mr. Lay's application, to the enlistment of men in this country, and to the equipment of vessels for the service of the Emperor of China. There was the Foreign Enlistment Act staring Government in the face, and there was also Sir John Bowring's Act. An angry discussion upon the subject took place at the Colonial, the Home, and the Foreign Offices, and he remembered that the right hon. gentleman the Home Secretary characterised the application as a very unusual one. Earl Russell himself was alarmed on account of the Neutrality Ordinance. He had noticed in the pape only a short time since the case of George White, who was engaged the capture of the *Firefly*. He was arraigned at Shanghai, first of all for piracy; and, secondly, for a breach of the Hong Kong Ordinance. He was found guilty upon the latter charge, and sentenced to two years' imprisonment, and he had since expired in confinement. The noble Duke, whose departure from official life they all lamented, had said, however, that the Ordinance had ceased to take effect in 1858. Two Orders in Council were issued, one on August, 30, 1862, and the other on January 9, 1863, the latter having reference to the whole of our army and navy, the officers in both departments being invited to take service under the Emperor of China. All this was done without any application to Parliament, and in all probability Parliament would never have heard anything of the matter but for the curiosity of some of its members. He regarded this as the crowning act in a line of policy which had for its object the creation of a British protectorate in China. (Hear, hear.) He maintained that the Government must, from its conduct, have been held responsible for the success or the failure of the expedition. Sir Frederick Bruce, our Ambassador at China, in one of his despatches, says:—

"Had the Chinese voluntarily accepted the squadron, the *onus* of the difficulties it would have encountered would have rested on the Chinese Government; but the burden would have been thrown on Her Majesty's Government by the Chinese, and with justice, had it appeared that this flotilla, exclusively British in its character, directed by British officers and agents, and imposed by British pressure, was acting under a Chinese flag, which the Chinese Government, contrary to its wishes, had been compelled to hoist on board the ships."

Had it succeeded—had Captain Osborn in the course of his duties been embroiled in any conflict with subjects of foreign nations, and had these subjects appealed to their respective consuls, Her Majesty's Government would have been answerable. On the other hand, if failure had been the result, did the House believe that Captain Osborn would have been left to his own resources? Sir Frederick Bruce had given the following opinion upon the conduct of Her Majesty's Government in reference to this matter:—

"If it was considered necessary that the flotilla should be taken out of the hands of the Government which paid for it, and the exclusive control over its operations vested in its foreign commander and the foreign agent employed in procuring it, these conditions, of so singular a nature, ought to have been submitted and agreed to before the vessels were allowed to sail for China."

A harder rebuke, and one more merited, had, probably, never been administered to a Government at home by a Minister abroad. His complaint was that the Government had trusted to the mere *ipse dixit* of Mr. Lay as the proof of authority which, in reality, never had been conferred upon him; that in all their negotiations in reference to this fleet they had entirely ignored the presence of our Minister; and that they had trusted to the diplomacy of Mr. Lay in a matter involving great responsibility. In reviewing the Anglo-Chinese expedition he thought the Government should be congratulated upon its failure. (Hear.) All the parties concerned had had a fortunate escape. The Emperor of China was fortunate in escaping from the *imperium in imperio* which it was the intention of Mr. Lay and Her Majesty's Government to have established at Pekin; Captain Osborn had fortunately escaped, owing to the exercise of his own sagacity, from being involved either in transactions which would have redounded but little to his credit or in certain failure; and Her Majesty's Government had had a fortunate escape from those embarrassments and complications which the position they had chosen to assume would inevitably have entailed upon them. Mr. Lay had been dismissed by the Emperor of China, and Captain Osborn had now returned home. But there was something more in the dismissal of Mr. Lay and in the rejection of Captain Osborn's services than met the public eye. While the Emperor

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of China, through his representatives, was enlisting the services of English officers and men to fight his battles, the representatives of foreign Powers of Pekin had got round the Chinese Government, and whispered into their ears some such words as these:—"England is a selfish Power. England does nothing except to promote her own interest. She has overrun India. Take care how you allow her a hold of China." Private members knew nothing of Cabinet secrets and intrigues, but they knew that Russia aimed at an extension of her eastern empire, that France always looked to play first fiddle, and that America, whose eastern policy he admired, because it was conciliatory and peaceful, was perfectly insane in her jealousy of this country. The representatives of these Powers would never sit with their arms folded at Peking, and see English supremacy paramount in China; and if Mr. Lay had succeeded in installing himself as First Lord of the Admiralty, with the Customs' revenue in his pocket, that would have been a long way towards the establishment of British supremacy. (Hear, hear.) It was said that the dismissal of Mr. Lay, and the rejection of the services of Captain Osborn and the British fleet, were the signs of retrogressive policy in China. That was the language of the Protectorate party in this country. He could imagine that this party, who talked of regenerating China by European influence, were deeply disappointed at the failure of their promises and expectations. But so far from agreeing that this act was a sign of retrogression, he thought it was the healthiest symptom he had yet perceived of Chinese vitality. This rejection of foreign interference was a certain sympton that the Chinese nation were at last awaking to a sense of their own degradation in cringing and whining for aid from foreigners for the management of their internal affairs, especially from a nation which had done more than any other to destroy the central authority of the Chinese Government. (Hear, hear.) He ventured to predict that unless we contented ourselves with purely peaceful trading operations, abstained from interference, and insisted only upon the strict fulfilment of treaty obligations, we should yet have considerable trouble in China. (Hear, hear.) In the motion he was about to propose he asked the House to say that further interference in the civil war in China was impolitic and unnecessary. He should no doubt be told that the Government had not interfered. Now, he did not want to split straws about the meaning of words. What he meant by interference was the system initiated by Admiral Hope and General Staveley of affording material aid to the Imperialists. This aid was both direct and indirect. First, Her Majesty's forces had been employed as an army of reserve to assist and support the Chinese forces. (Hear, hear.) Towns had been garrisoned, positions occupied, siege guns lent, and ammunition and supplies to any extent had been supplied. This question of supplies was a very serious one, and touched one of the highest constitutional functions of this House. They had been lately engaged in voting money for the army and navy. For whose service was this money voted—for the service of the Queen of England or for that of the Emperor of China? (Hear, hear.) In May last, Lieutenant-Commander Bosanquet, writing from Ningpo, said:—

"Great efforts have been made and assistance afforded by Her Majesty's Government in this neighbourhood, both as to supplies of munitions of war, drilling troops, and otherwise, but I am afraid without effect. The last supply of munitions brought by me from Shanghai, and handed over to the Taoutae by Captain Dew, viz., 1,000 Tower muskets, 100,000 rounds of ball cartridge, besides guns and other stores, I ascertained, too late to remonstrate, have been handed over to the Taoutae and his undisciplined troops, which is almost throwing them away." (Hear, hear.) If this had occurred in one case it must have occurred in many; and he believed that an unlimited amount of stores, guns, and war munitions had been furnished to the Chinese troops for the purpose of carrying on their military operations. This was indirect aid. He would now refer to the direct aid which was afforded. Last year a good deal had been heard about the intention of the Government to establish a thirty-mile radius around the treaty ports of China, and especially Shanghai. Now, he thought that the difficulty of protecting the settlement was sufficiently great, considering the embarrasments to which a joint protectorate gave rise. But if we were to occupy and hold against all comers this radius of thirty miles, it amounted simply to a military occupation of the country—(hear, hear); and this very Quixotic undertaking could only be carried out by a large addition to our military force. (Hear.) The only excuse alleged for this extraordinary policy was the necessity of defending the interests of trade. But in a paper recently laid before Parliament, signed by the President of the Chamber of Commerce of Hong Kong, and dated the 22nd of October, 1863, he found this passage:—

"The great majority of the respectable commercial classes (foreign) in this country strongly disapprove of the present action of our authorities; and many persons, even, who at an earlier period gave all their influence in opposition to the maintenance of neutrality, have seen reason materially to modify their opinion. The commercial body, for the most part, have no faith whatever in the regeneration of China by such foreign aid as is now afforded; nor do they believe that hearty co operation in introducing the foreign element into the various branches of the Chinese public service can be expected from any native officials, beyond, perhaps, the few men at Peking within the personal influence of foreign Ministers. . . . . It may not be too late to withdraw from Shanghai with either safety or honour, but there can be no difficulty in restraining the energy of our military chiefs within the defined thirty mile radius round that city and settlement; and the extension of the system of protected areas round the other treaty ports would, in the general opinion of foreign residents in China, be a most serious mistake, and one much to be deprecated."

(Hear, hear). After this he hoped it would not be said again that the policy of the Government had been adopted in the interests of trade. (Hear, hear.) He maintained that our trade had never been attacked, and he challenged the hon gentleman (Mr. Layard) to furnish an instance in which the property or the person of a British subject had been injured by the Taepings. In reference to this question of the thirty miles' radius, Sir Frederick Bruce stated that he had reluctantly consented to undertake the defence of that extent of territory in deference to the opinion of the naval and military authorities. The House knew very well that naval and military men took professional views on these matters, and he did not think they ought to be the judges of what the policy of Her Majesty's Government in China was to be. But this protection had not been confined to a thirty miles' radius; for the two towns which had recently been guarded under the orders of General Brown, were sixty miles from Shanghai. He had also to call the attention of the House to the fact that the instructions given to our officers in China were complicated and difficult to be understood. Officers on half-pay had been allowed to take service under the Chinese Government, and to act in the field; but officers were detached from their regiments to discipline the Chinese soldiers. This latter class of officers were, however, forbidden to go into the field; so that if the place in which they were instructing Chinese troops were attacked they must not lead their own men. Those shilley-shalley orders were enough to lead to embarrassment and disobedience on the part of our officers. (Hear.) He now came to what he called the direct aid—that aid which had been given under an order in Council enabling English officers to take service absolutely under the Chinese Government. That order had been cancelled lately; but he wanted to know distinctly from the Government in what position Major Gordon and Major Cook had stood; for in the papers he found it asserted by Captain Sherard Osborn that the former had no commission from the Emperor of China, and, with respect to the latter, there was the record of an observation made by a very intelligent officer to the effect that the sooner he (Major Cook) got his commission from Peking the better. The opinion of our own Ambassador in China was that the course which we had adopted with regard to giving the Chinese this assistance was attended with serious embarrassment, arising from jealousies among the different nationalities represented in China, and that the most effectual means of assisting the Chinese would be to leave them to their own resources. (Hear, hear.) He now asked the House who were the men whom we had assisted with our English officers, and what had been the consequence of our assisting them? Captain Sherard Osborn gave a very strong opinion of the unscrupulous character of Futai Le; and he need scarcely remind the House that the name and presence of English officers had been identified with transactions at which English honour and English humanity revolted. (Hear.) They had heard of the siege of Soochow, and the massacre of 30,000 persons which followed it; and they must remember that, on the fatal night that preceded the commencement of the massacre, Captain Gordon, with one of the rebel chiefs, concocted the means by which the gates of the town were to be opened to the Imperialists. It was true that he left the town before the following day, and, his troops being bribed in all likelihood he was perfectly powerless; but, at the same time, his name was unhappily associated with those events; and our unhappy connection with such unhallowed proceedings was a retribution on England for her abandonment of the principle which ought to have guided her in her dealings with China. He had another miserable event to notice. There was in the Blue-book an account given of the execution of certain prisoners of war. An eyewitness stated that eight prisoners, naked and tied to stakes, were tortured and mutilated from midday to five o'clock in the afternoon, and were afterwards decapitated with a blunt sword. Last year this occurrence was brought to the attention of Earl Russell by the Bishop of Victoria, and the noble lord immediately sent out to inquire into the accuracy of the report. Sir F. Bruce intimated its perfect truth, and said he should use his best endeavours to put a stop to the infliction of such barbarous punishment, though he had to contend with the difficulty that they were sanctioned by law. He would not waste time in vague declamation, but he wanted the House of Commons and the people of England to understand that the infliction of a slow death, preceded by torture, was the mode of punishment resorted to according to law by the Chinese soldiery alongside whom we were fighting (Hear, hear.) An Order in Council had been cancelled, but that would not cancel the memory of the horrors he had described. The noble lord at the head of the Government had, when too late, expressed regret at the doings at Soochow, but that would not go far in removing from the minds of Englishmen the indignation and disgust which the recital of these atrocities had produced. (Hear, hear.) Since the previous debate on the affair at Soochow two remarkable circumstances had occurred. The Futai, the hero of Soochow, had been held up to public estimation in China, and had received honours and decorations from his Sovereign for the part he played in the capture of that city; and, what was more extrordinary still, Major Gordon had returned to his service. (Cheers.) He wished to hear from the Government whether that return to the service of the Futai had received their sanction—(hear, hear), and whether in the persons of our officers we were to continue to identify ourselves with the proceedings of the Chinese armies and officials. (Hear, hear.) What was the Government we were supporting so warmly in China? The Mantchoo dynasty was of foreign origin, and was hateful to the people whom it ruled. It was founded some 200 years ago in massacre and violence, and it had been maintained ever since by extortion. Persons selected for the service of the Government were chosen in the first instance by public competition, but their official salaries were miserably small, and they were instructed to eke them out by the sale of justice and the oppression of the people. They amassed in this way sums of money with which they purchased promotion, and at length, after years spent in extortion, they retired to consume their old age in debauchery and sensuality. (Hear, hear.) Could anybody wonder that, under such a system, anarchy should prevail, or believe that any amount of physical force or of foreign aid would suffice to put down rebellion against such a Government? (Hear, hear.) The rebellion was said to be on its last legs, but, though it might be trodden out for the moment, it would be sure to be renewed at some not very distant time, for there were embers constantly smouldering in China which at any instant might burst into a flame. But he wanted the House to consider what would happen if the Taipings were ejected from their strongholds. The great tea and silk districts were in their hands, and had been so for some years. Yet the supplies of silk and tea had been punctual, uninterrupted, and gradually increasing. (Hear, hear.) We had turned the minds of the Taepings against us. They knew that their ejection from their strongholds would be due to the material aid afforded to their enemies by England, and they said we had broken our pledges to them, while they had fulfilled their obligations to us. It was not improbable that, when deprived of their strong places, they might spread themselves over the tea

Continued in Supplement.

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THE CURTAIN UPLIFTING.

Bit by bit, as time rolls on, and events, those best correctors of speculative theories, make themselves recorded, first one corner and then another of the curtain that shrouded the policy of the Japanese Government lifts up, till we can discern those who have either been pulling the cords or strenuously resisting the efforts making by others to expose the whole of the stage to the public gaze. Every successive glimpse we get of the machinery now at work on the political boards of the Island Empire of the Far East confirms our former opinion, that the parties now at conflict on the question of the mode and place in which intercourse with the foreigner is to be carried on, are the TYCOON and the MIKADO on the one side, and the Daimios on the other. Neither party is desirous of annihilating a commerce that has assumed such important dimensions. The TYCOON, for certain reasons, is desirious of removing its principal seat from Kanagawa—possibly from political motives mainly, as it may there have been found too near to Yedo, for reasons which Englishmen can but guess at, such is still our ignorance of the system by which the Government of Japan discharges its functions. On their side it becomes more manifest that those powerful Satraps, the Daimios, who have to raise their own revenues, are anxious that the trade should be thrown open almost entirely, so that each one would have his own port, where the supplies he requires could be received, and his produce shipped, under his own eye and for his own profit. This is, we learn, the view adopted by Col. NEALE, who finding that the restrictions on the silk-trade were continued, and grew even more and more annoying, has officially and formally represented to the Gorojio, or Council of State, what must be the inevitable consequence of their persisting in such a course of policy; and has reminded them that there is nothing in the treaties to prevent foreigners from entering into trade conventions with the Daimios, who are thoroughly disposed to sell their produce to the highest bidder —that is, to the foreign merchant. Her Majesty's Representative has, at last, by the obstinate folly of the TYCOON'S Government, been enabled to bring the grand question on the board, and to take the first important step towards the complete emancipation of trade in Japan. On this point we cordially endorse the sentiment of a Kanagawa contemporary, that "so long as trade remains in the hands of the Tycoon's Government, and is confined to two or three ports as at present, it will be hampered, and regulated, and limited to suit the views of the government; and all our expectations as to what should result, according to our experience of commerce and political economy elsewhere, will be disappointed in Japan." The present and the preceding mail, indeed, happen to furnish most convincing tests of the feeling prevalent at the two extremes of Japanese social existence in reference to the foreigner. The last mail told us of the kindness of the Prince of MATSUMAI'S officers to the shipwrecked crew of the *Egeria*. This mail shows us a Japanese fisherman bestowing the most generous and sympathetic aid on the solitary survivor from the hapless *Star of Peace*; while, opposite Hakodadi, we find the officers of the Tycoon treating shipwrecked Russians with barbarous indifference and surliness.

THE DEBATE ON CHINA.

THE debate which took place in the House of Commons on the 22nd was the most practical on record, at least so far as this Session and the last are concerned. Mr. LIDDELL really proposed to condemn the policy of Government, while other speakers have always fallen short of this. We need hardly say that all the speeches in the world are comparatively useless unless a result is attained. It is to be regretted that the motion was not brought to a division, owing to the number of members present dropping down to thirty. Our readers will be astonished at this *vis inertiæ*; but when subjects on India or the Far East are attempted in full, it is invariably the fate of them. If any member introduces India or China he has a poor chance of being heard at any length. If he will "cut it short," he can bring his motion to a decisive issue; but, unfortunately, the further the scenes are separated from us the more necessary is it to give the details. These details are generally dry and not appreciated by the House at large, and consequently they drop off to avoid voting on a subject they do not understand. Mr. LAYARD'S defence of the Government was chiefly founded on facts. The evidence of Mr. MICHIE, of the firm of Messrs. LINDSAY and Co., was very important item in the defence, and had the House gone to a division there can be no doubt but that the Government would have been victorious. We are glad to see that the conduct of Captain SHERARD OSBORN and Major GORDON received such unqualified approval; and, oddly enough, the one for refusing to take service under the Chinese local mandarins, and the other for continuing in it. To the uninitiated this will appear a paradox, but if they will read Mr. LAYARD'S speech they will see it is consistent. Such are the exigencies of war. This debate has brought out most satisfactory evidence of the harmony existing amongst the foreign ministers in Peking, which is a distinct answer to those who predicted that Ministers at Peking would produce a state of intrigue similar to that in Turkey. That it has not been so is owing to the good judgment of the respective Ambassadors, and we trust that this state of things will not be jeopardised, during Sir F. BRUCE'S leave of absence, by his *locum tenens*, Mr. WADE. Both Mr. LIDDELL and Mr. LAYARD made some inaccurate statements, showing that they are not attentive readers of the *London and China Telegraph*, which is in our eyes of course a heinous crime.

DECLINE OF THE TAIPING REBELLION.

A cursory glance at the rise and progress of this extraordinary rebellion shows that it attained its culminating point two years ago. From the time the scaly monster was hatched in the south, and wound its desolating way through a thousand miles of the richest lands in China, until it reached its northern limit, upwards of twelve years had elapsed, when it was checked in its progress by British policy and valour, which, after two years' struggle, has broken its back at Foochow, and threatens its rapid extermination. At that time the increasing rebel hordes overran the greater portions of the provinces of Kiang-soo and Che-kiang, of which Shanghai and Ningpo are respectively the outports open to foreign trade. The latter-named city was in their possession, and their line of march encircled the former, while they commanded the riverine and maritime territory from Nanking southwards for a distance of at least five hundred miles. Towards the interior their sway extended to the borders of the Poyang Lake over the chief silk districts, and for a time they were the rulers *de facto* of several millions of people. Since then they have been driven from the sea-board and all the chief cities, excepting Nanking, Changchaou, and Hangchow, while the territory and population under their subjection are not one-third the former number and area. It is a long time since we have received any authentic accounts from the first-named city—which has been their head-quarters for eleven years—but the scraps of intelligence which have reached foreign ears describe a horrible state of affairs, from fear and famine. A reign of terror exists among the chief Taipings, who have lost their trust in each other; and the TIEN-WANG himself is afraid of treachery among his followers, who are fast losing faith in him or his cause, and are ready to desert or betray him at the first safe opportunity to themselves. Apparently, the time has approached when the Imperialists, by ordinary humane concessions to the vanquished, could secure the allegiance of all, as exemplified in the voluntary adhesion of the Soochow leaders and their men, when guaranteed their lives through the pledge of GORDON, which the FUTAI so treacherously betrayed. But

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DEBATE ON CHINA.

(*Concluded from page* 231.)

and silk districts, burning and destroying wherever they went; and, if so, we should only have our own policy to blame. (Hear, hear.) He now came to the motion which he had put on the paper, and which declared that further interference in the war in China was impolitic and unnecessary. It was impolitic for the various reasons he had stated, and it was unnecessary because our trade had never been attacked. (Hear, hear.) What he wanted the House to declare was that, if our diplomatists, envoys, and political agents were to leave things alone, our trade in China would go on smoothly and satisfactorily. (Hear, hear.) The presen moment was a turning point in Chinese affairs:—

"There is a tide in the affairs of man which,
Taken at the flood, leads on to fortune."

The present moment was a turning point, because, the Chinese having rejected the dictatorship of Mr. Lay and the services of an English fleet, our Government might recede from the difficult and dangerous position which they had improperly attempted to assume, without any appearance of fear, or without any sacrifice of prestige, if that word could be applied to any honours we had gained in China. (Hear, hear.) He did not ask the House to pass a censure upon the Government, though he thought their policy had been erroneous in many material respects; but he earnestly invited them to join with him in dissuading the Government from a further continuance in a course which he believed to be unprecedented in the past, as he hoped it would be found without imitation in the future. The hon. gentleman concluded, amid general cheering, by moving, "That, in the opinion of this House, further interference on the part of this country in the civil war in China is impolitic and unnecessary."

Mr. LAYARD said his hon. friend had on more than one occasion brought the question of China before the House, and he had done so with considerable ability. (Hear, hear.) He also willingly admitted that the opinions of his hon. friend, in consequence of the close study he had given to the subject, well deserved the consideration of the House. (Hear, hear.) For the first time the hon. gentleman had to-night concluded his speech with a motion, and it was only right that the House should be at once informed of the course which the Government intended to pursue with respect to that resolution. The forms and rules of the House precluded him from moving the previous question, but the Government would support the motion for going into Committee of Supply, to which the resolution of his hon. friend might be regarded as an amendment. They would do so because, whatever the words of the resolution might be, the intention of his hon. friend, as explained in his speech, was that the policy hitherto pursued by the Government should be reversed, and that a course entirely different should be adopted in its stead. He thought he would be able to show that if such a motion as that were carried, and the debates of that House went out to China, the effect might be so disastrous that he believed no Government and no House of Commons would take on itself the responsibility of passing such a resolution. He would now call attention to our position in China. The question was one of enormous importance, and the interests at stake were of vast magnitude. He knew that in that matter some persons were of opinion that Her Majesty's Government were something like the ogres read of in children's books, who had no other object but to scatter misery and destruction in all directions, and he must say he had read with surprise a speech made to his constituents in the autumn by the hon. member for Bradford, in which brutality such as made his blood run cold was laid to the charge of the Government, making him almost begin to think that he was as bad as the Taipings. But he appealed to the hon. gentleman to discuss that subject with him fairly and calmly—to lay aside all the accusations of wilful atrocity which he had accumulated on the heads of the Ministry, and to look on the question merely as a question of policy. The only desire of the Government was that British interests in China should be maintained, and maintained in a manner consistent with right and honour. Many years ago our commerce with China was entirely in the hands of the East India Company. Then those who carried on that commerce were under a certain control, their operations were restricted to one port, the trade was limited, and there was no difficulty in dealing with the Chinese Government. That system of monopoly, however, was abolished, the trade was thrown open, and, as the result, a large number of adventurers rushed to the East, over whom there existed no control. The consequence was that this country was involved in several long and costly wars with China. There ensued, indeed, almost a chronic state of war on our part with China. That position of affairs was brought to an end by the celebrated Treaty of Tien-tsin, or Peking—that most important instrument ever concluded by this country with any Eastern nation. It completely changed our relations with China. Previously our intercourse had been confined almost entirely to communication with the provincial authorities. When we gained a victory the Central Government was led to believe we were beaten; when we exacted an indemnity, it was told that "the barbarians" had been bribed. But when that treaty was made, we and other European nations were enabled to have a minister resident at Peking, and direct relations were opened with the Chinese central Government. Anybody who read the papers lately laid on the table would be struck with the change that had taken place in that respect. Instead of the former chronic state of war, we were in a state of peace with China such as was utterly unknown before. We were never more free from war with that country than at this moment; and those relations with it were now carried on which, when he sat below the gangway, he had always wished to see established, and which the hon. members for Rochdale and Bradford ought also to desire to see established — relations that, instead of leading us into wars through mere local quarrels, put a stop to wars by placing us in direct diplomatic intercourse with the seat of Government. If we now had any grievances to complain of a correspondence passed between Sir F. Bruce and Prince Kung, which was carried on almost in the same way as a correspondence between two European Courts. In fact, we treated China almost for the first time as a civilized Government. He was amused the other day to find that an order was given by Prince Kung for the translation into Chinese of a work on international law for the use of the Chinese Foreign Office and the benefits of its young diplomatists. That marked an extraordinary change in the relations of Western nations with China, and the rise of a state of things which he had long been anxious to see, because it gave the only hope of maintaining peace with that country. He said that if a tithe of the questions now arising in China had arisen fifteen years ago, they would have produced war upon war with her; whereas they were all settled now by diplomatic notes. Our great difficulty had been to restrain our consuls and different officials in the ports of that country. He did not wish to cast blame on those gentlemen who possessed great ability and experience in the public service; but they had been brought up in the old school, and had been in the habit, if they had a grievance, to insist at once on redress, without a reference to head-quarters, and sometimes without a good case. Sir F. Bruce had, however, restrained the consuls in many instances, requiring them to communicate with him in order that he might make representations where that course was necessary to the Court of Peking. After the treaty of Tien-tsin various ports were opened for commerce in China. But it must be remembered that China was in an exceptional position. He did not think that that put her out of the pale of the law, or justified them in treating her differently from any other nation; but, after all, they had to deal with an Eastern people, with different laws and a different civilisation from our own. His hon. friend said, as was true, that their modes of punishment were barbarous, and such as we could not submit to—that we could not allow British subjects to be cut in two or exposed to torture. Now, a large number of Englishmen and other Europeans had resorted to the treaty ports. These persons had a certain right to be governed by the laws of their own country; and out of that arose what was called the extra-territorial jurisdiction in China—that was to say, each of the ports had a settlement beyond the Chinese quarter, in which Europeans lived, and were subject only to the law of their own country, administered by the consuls. Thus sprung up a number of these almost independent settlements; and that system, together with the humiliation which the Chinese Government underwent by wars and by the taking of Peking, greatly weakened the central authority, and rebellions broke out. One important rebellion was that of the Taipings. He could scarcely call that a civil war. The Taipings were admitted to be a horde of mere marauders by everybody but the hon. and gallant member for Aberdeen. ("No," from Colonel Sykes.) Merchants, missionaries, soldiers, sailors, all parties were agreed as to the fact that the Taipings had no form of government, that they did not aim at establishing any kind of administration, but were a mere set of plunderers, spreading ruin and devastation everywhere they went. There was not a doubt as to that. Having at last overrun a large portion of the central provinces, the Taipings came down to the neighbourhood of Shanghai. It was all very well for gentlemen resident at Hong Kong, under the protection of the British fleet and British troops, to pretend to debate what was the policy which the Government ought to pursue in regard to Shanghai—a very different place from Hong Kong. (Hear, hear.) But let him quote to the House the opinion expressed by the British subjects living at Shanghai itself on that point. [An hon. Member.—"How long ago?"] He thought it was three years ago. (Hear, hear.) That opinion appeared in a blue-book laid on the table, he believed, in 1862, and, although it had been cited before, yet so entire a misunderstanding seemed to exist on the subject that he hoped he might be allowed to read it to the House again. When the Taipings approached the neighbourhood of Shanghai, our merchants there were in the greatest alarm, and the Chamber of Commerce met and passed a series of resolutions. The hon. gentleman proceeded to read the resolutions in question, which declared that the meeting felt strongly the advisability of our Government sending a regular force to protect the residents of the settlement, and prevent the recurrence of panics utterly destructive of trade; that the understood policy of Her Majesty's Government to defend the settlement and city of Shanghai from the rebels had led to a vast accumulation of population and wealth there; that that accumulation of wealth offered a greater temptation to the Taipings to go and plunder the place, more especially after what had happened at Hangkow, the rebels being also flushed with the capture of Ningpo; and that the meeting cordially agreed that a considerable permanent addition ought rapidly to be made in the force of troops sent there. Suppose they had allowed the Taipings to enter Shanghai, the place would have been sacked, trade would have been utterly destroyed, and a terrible massacre would have taken place. ["No!" from Colonel Sykes.] He would show that presently. But let him ask the House if Government, notwithstanding the representations of the Chamber of Commerce of Shanghai, of consuls, missionaries, and others, had allowed the Taipings to enter Shanghai, and had its commerce been destroyed, what would have been the opinion of the House and the country of the conduct of Her Majesty's Government? One of three things had to be done; to leave the defence of Shanghai in the hands of the Chinese themselves, to defend it with our own troops, or to assist the Chinese by giving them English officers in order to discipline their forces. The Government had to choose one of these three modes of action. To have left Shanghai in the hands of the Chinese would have been virtually to abandon it to the Taipings. Had we taken to ourselves the defence of Shanghai we should have had to send a large English army to the place, and would not the House have complained had the Government sent more troops there? They took the third course. It was by far the cheapest and most advantageous. They had reduced their troops there to the *minimum*, and the object was to allow not English officers only, but foreign officers also, to take service under the Chinese, to endeavour to organize and discipline the Chinese troops so as to enable them to defend Shanghai. That was, he contended, a most reasonable policy, and one which would least involve this country either in expense or in her relations with China. It now became a military question how Shanghai should be defended. It was discussed by Admiral Hope, Brigadier Stavely, and others. It was thought necessary that with regard to Shanghai there should be a thirty miles radius, and instructions, which would be found in the blue book, were given that British officers should not go beyond that radius. In some instances that radius had been exceeded. In one case General Brown thought it necessary to exceed the thirty miles' radius. He wrote to this country and gave his reasons, and what did the Government do?

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They thought the case entirely exceptional, and, in excepting his explanation, they adhered to their orders that the thirty miles' radius should not be exceeded. The instructions were particularly clear. What Government said was this:—Officers on half pay might take service with the Chinese Government, and go beyond the thirty miles' radius; but so long as men were in the service of Her Majesty they should not in any case exceed the thirty miles' radius. No conflicting instructions were given. In order to allow British subjects to take service under the Chinese orders in Council were issued. They were issued after mature deliberation, and a good deal of the correspondence took place on the subject; but, after taking the advice of Sir F. Bruce and the commanding-officers, and communicating with other Powers, we decided to allow English officers, men of character and skill, to take charge of the Chinese troops, with the view of exercising some restraint over them, and thus preventing those horrors which it was the custom of Chinese troops, when under the command of Chinese officers, to commit. No doubt, there was great inconvenience in allowing British officers to take service under the Chinese Government. That was fully taken into consideration, but it was considered better to encounter that inconvenience, and have the Chinese army well disciplined, than allow that army to be broken up, and let Shanghai fall into the hands of the Taipings. Major Gordon was a very distinguished officer, a man of great ability, and the accounts of what he had done in China were highly creditable to him. He enjoyed the high opinion of Sir F. Bruce, not only as a man of ability and skill, but of humanity. He would not go over the history of Soochow. No doubt it was a very horrible case. His noble friend at the head of the Government had, on a former occasion, condemned it in appropriate terms. In fact, everyone who had spoken on the subject had done so. He was not there to justify it. But he must warn the House against exaggerating these things. They had had a recent instance in Japan connected with the bombardment of Kagosima. He was not going to justify the Futai; but the 20,000 said to have been massacred proved entirely a myth. The Chinese papers were not remarkable for diminishing the horrors of any event they might have to describe. The first account of this alleged massacre appeared in the Chinese papers, and the *China Mail*, of January 1, within a week after that account had appeared, published the following:—

"Since we wrote last week upon the fall of Soochow further accounts tend to show that the slaughter of the besieged was not carried out to the extent which was on all hands expected. Indeed, from what we can learn there was little more, comparatively speaking, than a show of bloodshed sufficient to stamp Ching's troops with the character of conquerors. It is not unworthy of notice, with regard to the Imperial troops under the Futai, that, notwithstanding the number of 'Eye-Witnesses' by which they were constantly surrounded, and the demand which existed in the news market, if we may so speak, for reports about Imperial cruelty, 'sanguinary atrocities,' and so on, no instance of cruelty, except that o Taitsan, was ever adduced against them; and in that case the Chinese commander was remonstrated with. . . . The Futai in the hour of victory certainly forgot himself, and disgracefully broke faith with Major Gordon, but the indiscriminate slaughter of old and young at first vaguely reported does not prove to have followed as we confess to have expected. There is reason to believe that foreign influence went far to restrain the barbarities of the Imperial troops; and, therefore, it is advisable that foreign assistance should not be too hastily withdrawn."

His hon. friend had asked what Major Gordon's position was. He continued to act under the Futai, and he must say he did perfectly right. The reasons he gave for doing so entitled him to the highest credit, and justified the good opinion entertained of him by those who knew him. He had remonstrated and protested against the conduct of the Futai, but he went on to say if he had, thinking only of his own reputation, thrown up his command, the troops to a man would have gone over to the Taipings, the Chinese would have been defeated, Shanghai would have been sacked, and an enormous amount of British property would have been destroyed. He thought that Captain Gordon was quite right in the views he took. (Hear, hear.) His hon. friend had asked what was the position which Captain Gordon now occupied. The answer was that Captain Gordon was no longer in the service of the Chinese Government, because when Her Majesty's Government learnt the disgraceful act of treachery that had been committed they immediately repealed the order in Council which gave permission to British officers to take service under the Chinese Government. His hon. friend had accused Her Majesty's Government of not only giving the Chinese Government the assistance of British officers, but also of supplying them with arms and ammunition. The fact was that some old stores had been supplied to the Chinese Government, and had been paid for, except a trifling balance, so that there had been no loss to the country on that account. His hon. friend had dwelt at considerable length upon the circumstances attending the expedition of Captain Osborn and his flotilla, but there really was very little in the statement he had made. The British Government had nothing to do with the flotilla, and were not in any way answerable for it; and after the passage which his hon. friend had quoted from Sir F. Bruce's despatch, disclaiming all interference in the matter, and avowing a conviction that the Government at home had not made themselves responsible for the proceedings of the flotilla, it was surprising that any attempt to mix up the British Government in the affair should be persevered in. The real history was that Mr. Lay came to this country stating that he had authority from the Chinese Government, and it was not the business of the British Government to inquire into the nature of the au hority. If they had inquired into that, and then had said nothing, they would have been told that they had acquiesced in those instructions, and had virtually approved them: but they abstained from all interference. They knew that in the Chinese seas and rivers there were swarms of pirates, which it was for the interest of British commerce should be got rid of; and it appeared that the Chinese Government, instead of relying, as heretofore, upon the British squadron for that purpose, had determined to obtain a fleet of their own to carry out that object. If they had been able to effect that object, it would have been a great advantage to this country, as it would have relieved our ships from the task of suppressing piracy in the Chinese waters, and the fact that Captain Osborn was to command the squadron was a guarantee that the purpose intended would be attained. Accordingly, Captain Osborn did go out, but when he got to Peking he found that Mr. Lay had exceeded his instructions and gone beyond the authority he had received, directly or indirectly from the Chinese Government. What did Sir F. Bruce do then? No one could have behaved with more straightforward candour or with greater impartiality than Sir F. Bruce, and he determined not to interfere in the matter. He accordingly requested the United States Minister to settle the question, and to communicate with the Chinese Government, and the result was that the negotiations thus carried on were brought to a satisfactory conclusion. The Chinese Government behaved with great liberality to Captain Osborn and Mr. Lay, but refused to accept the flotilla upon the terms proposed to them, and the ships were sent home to be sold. There was nothing in the whole of these transactions to warrant any condemnation of Her Majesty's Government for any part they had taken, but, on the contrary, Mr. Burlinghame, the United States Minister, spoke in his despatches in the highest terms of the course that had been pursued. Nothing could be more honourable than the conduct of Sir F. Bruce. (Hear, hear.) In one of his despatches Sir F. Bruce wrote:—

"The belief that I, as British Minister, would respect the rights of the Chinese, and that I would not force the flotilla upon them from selfish political considerations, induced my colleagues to abstain from interfering while the subject was under discussion, and thereby secured for the flotilla a deliberate and unfettered consideration on the part of the Chinese Government; and I am certain that this course was more favourable to the success of the scheme, had success been possible, than any other that could have been adopted. It appeared to me, also, that I should not have been justified in taking a more active part, for I had reason to believe that your lordship had no cognisance of the undertaking of so novel a character entered into by Mr. Lay by Captain Osborn; and the absence of instructions was to me a significant proof that Her Majesty's Government had no intention of being a party to, or responsible for, the arrangements under which the operations of the flotilla were conducted."

Nothing could be plainer than these words. His hon. friend had talked about the Government intending to assume a protectorate of China; but the suggestion was really so absurd that it was almost impossible to reply to it in sober seriousness. To talk about intrigues on the part of the British Cabinet to obtain the exclusive control of the Chinese empire was unintelligible, because even if such intrigues could be contemplated they must fail, as the representatives in China of France, the United States, and other Powers would exercise a vigilant control to defeat them. Upon that subject, however, he must say a few words more. He was not in the habit of attending to anonymous scribblers, and he had seen an article in a China newspaper, alleging that this expedition was a speculation on the part of the British Government, that Sir F. Bruce had endeavoured to force it upon the Chinese Government, and that the Chinese Government was so indignant that for a whole year Sir F. Bruce was not permitted to enter the presence of Prince Kung. Such statements were too ridiculous to need contradiction, but when gentlemen signed their names to their communications it was as well to notice any statements which were made in that manner. There was a gentleman well known to the world, a professor at Oxford, Mr. Goldwin Smith, who, in a letter to a newspaper, used the following expression:—

"In the case of China a step has been gained, though at the expense of a great dishonour to the nation. The Chinese have detected and frustrated the design of our Government in sending out mercenaries ostensibly to serve the Emperor of China, but with secret instructions to seize the supreme command. This great England of ours has been placed by her rulers before the world in the position of a pickpocket caught with his hand on a handkerchief, and exposed to the jeerings of the crowd. But the filibustering policy has received a serious check, and the order in Council inciting British soldiers and seamen in the name of their Sovereign to sell themselves as mercenaries to a barbarian prince has been withdrawn."

If Mr. Goldwin Smith had not reduced his authority to the lowest level, it would be necessary to answer such a statement, coming from a professor of history; but did any hon. gentleman believe that Captain Osborn went out to China with secret instructions to seize upon the country and to obtain a complete control over it? He was sure that if his hon. friend sat upon the Treasury bench and he (Mr. Layard) were to make such a statement, the impression created by it would be that the person who uttered it was a fit object for confinement in Hanwell Asylum. But the truth was Captain Osborn was in a position to make his own terms, but in a manner becoming a gentleman and a British officer—(hear, hear); he abandoned the undertaking, which might have been a source of great profit to himself, and returned to this country. Could anyone say that Captain Osborn's conduct had been that of a buccaneer or a filibuster? (Hear, hear.) With regard to Mr. Lay, he did not wish to say anything unfavourabe, but he believed that Sir F. Bruce was correct in saying that Mr. Lay had exceeded his instructions, and had misunderstood his position. Mr. Lay was a man of great capacity, of large views, and great ideas. (A laugh.) He could hardly see cause for laughter in that statement, for he believed that Mr. Lay had done much for the advancement of China. (Hear, hear.) His efforts in the revenue department had been extraordinary; but in this instance it must be admitted that he made a mistake. But in that mistake he did not receive the support of the British Minister, and he actually complained that he had not received that support. The policy of the Government had been to avoid all interference in the civil war, if such it could be called, that was going on in China, so long as the combatants did not approach the treaty ports. If the order of the Government had been disobeyed, and our officers had gone beyond the thirty miles' radius, it was through misconception or from special causes, but the Government had never sanctioned such expeditions. His hon. friend had not been quite correct in his statement, because the silk trade had been stationary for the last three years, though our trade had increased in almost every other branch to an enormous extent. In Shanghai, in 1845, the imports and exports connected with the British and foreign trade amounted to £2,571,033; in 1850, £7,449,360; 1853, £11,217,420; 1856, £17,911,280; 1860, £23,589,417; 1861, £25,961,019; 1862, £37,531,359. The tonnage of vessels at Shanghai in 1861, inwards and outwards, was 827,000, while in 1862 it had increased to 1,447,000. The results of the trade at some of the principal

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ports in China was exhibited in the following figures, representing the imports and exports:—Canton, £6,473,261; Amoy, £1,056,510; Swatow, £1,988,043; Foochowfoo, £5,965.425; Hankow, £6,189.952 (showing an increase of £3,011,482 over previous year); Shanghai, £58,604,550. In addition to these amounts there had been considerable trade at Tientsin and at the other open ports, of which the particulars had not been given. Their imports and exports, however, amounted to £2,341,589; making a grand total of £60,946,139. He was afraid lest the statistics might prove wearisome to the House, but they were necessary for the purpose of showing that the policy of the Government had been successful and justifiable, and he was certain there was not a respectable merchant in China who would not have been horrified if that policy had been reversed. Sir Frederick Bruce, on the 30th of April, 1863, speaking of Shanghai, said:—

"The growth of Shanghai is wonderful; its population is estimated at 1,500,000, and it bids fair to become soon the most important city of the East. The Chinese flock to it on account of the security it enjoys, and the silk manufacture, which was destroyed by the Taiping occupation of Soochow and Hungchow, is taking root at Shanghai. It is a subject of great satisfaction to me that our resolution to save Shanghai from the destruction that menaced it at the hands of the Taiping hordes has not only been productive of great benefit to trade, but has afforded a safe asylum and an escape from ruin to so large a body of the industrious and respectable native population."

(Hear, hear.) He believed, therefore, that Her Majesty's Government might fairly take credit for the policy it had pursued with regard to Shanghai. The policy of the United States had been held up for admiration, and recommended to Her Majesty's Government for imitation. He thought it quite right that our policy should be judged by that of other nations. He would, therefore read a despatch from Mr. Burlingame, which would enable the House to see for themselves what the opinion of the American Minister was upon their conduct:—

"Mr. Burlingame to Mr. Seward.

"Legation of the United States, Pekin, June 20, 1863.

"In despatch No. 18, of June 2, 1862, I had the honour to write 'if the treaty Powers could agree among themselves to the neutrality of China and together secure order in the treaty ports, and give their moral support to that party in China in favour of order, the interests of humanity would be subserved.' Upon my arrival at Peking I at once elaborated my views, and found, on comparing them with those held by the representatives of England and Russia, that they were in accord with theirs. After mature deliberation we determined to consult and co-operate upon all questions. . . . . In all our conversations Sir F. Bruce, with great force, urged the adoption of a co-operative policy in China, and, as the representative of the largest trading power here, said he was willing to lead in a liberal direction. Indeed, so striking were his views, and so in contrast to what had hitherto been the English policy, and so in accordance were they with the policy strongly urged by me before I came to Peking, that I expressed a warm desire that he would present them to his Government that they might become the basis of our future co-operation. . . . Upon this frank avowal of the policy of England, it would be impossible to refuse co-operation. The Russian Minister and myself both concurred in the view that the position of Sir Frederick was just what we desired, and we hailed with delight its avowal. The French Minister, Mr. Berthemy, agrees with us. Being a broad and experienced statesman, he at once saw the advantages which would flow from the casting down of all jealousies, and by a co-operation on every material question in China. . . . The policy upon which we are agreed is briefly this—that while we claim our treaty right to buy and sell and hire in the treaty ports, subject, in respect to our rights of property and person, to the jurisdiction of our own Governments, we will not ask for nor take concessions of territory in the treaty ports, or in anyway interfere with the jurisdiction of the Chinese Government over its own people, nor ever menace the territorial integrity of the Chinese Empire. That we will not take part in the internal struggles in China beyond what is necessary to maintain our treaty rights. That the latter we will unitedly sustain against all who may violate them. To this end we are now clear in the policy of defending the treaty ports against the Taipings, or rebels, but in such a way as not to make war upon that considerable body of the Chinese people by following them into the interior of their country. In this connection, while we feel desirous, from what we know of it, to have the rebellion put down, still we have become to question the policy of lending Government officers to lead the Chinese in the field, for fear of complications among ourselves, growiug out of the relative number to be employed, &c. That while we wish to give our moral support to the Government, at the present time the power in the country which seems disposed to maintain order and our treaty rights, we should prefer that it would organise its own people, as far as possible, for its own defence, taking only foreigners for instruction in the arts of peace and war, and these, as far as possible, from the smaller treaty Powers. To maintain the revenue laws of the Government, to relieve the treaty Powers from the burdens attending the suppression of piracy along the coast, the Chinese Government has been persuaded to purchase several war steamers, and to man them temporarily with foreigners. This fleet is coming out under the command of Sherard Osborn, and is manned chiefly by English sailors, with the understanding that it is a temporary arrangement. . . . While Sir Frederick Bruce shall remain, or while the policy now agreed upon shall be maintained, no harm can come from it. That the indemnity may be collected and accounted for, and that the Chinese Government may have a fund to maintain a national force, organised upon European principles; that the local authorities may be checked in their corrupt practices, and a uniform system for the collection of the revenue maintained, it is agreed on all hands that the present foreign Custom-house system is the best as yet devised, and as it has been administered by Mr. Lay entitled to our support. Indeed, it is alone through such instrumentalities that we can hope to advance the cause of civilisation in China."

That was the policy which the English Government had uniformly adopted with reference to China, and it was the policy they were now called upon to reverse. (No, no.) Hon. members might say, "No," but their language would imply that desire. His hon. friend was mistaken in imagining that the jealousies he had described really existed in China. It was not true either that the merchants in that country were adverse to the policy we had adopted. Mr. Michie, one of the partners in the well-known firm of Lindsay and Co., a short time since journeyed from Shanghai to England, through China and Russia. (Hear, hear.) Would any member have ventured ten years ago to predict the possibility of such a journey? The fact, also, that telegraphic communication had been established spoke volumes in favour of the policy of her Majesty's Government—a policy which he believed would be regarded with favour by every well-wisher of China. When he heard that Mr. Michie was in this country he submitted a series of questions to him, and this is what he said in reply:—

"I have no reason to think that if the Taipings had taken possession of the treaty ports they would have established order and good government, respected our treaties, or protected our trade. My whole knowledge of the Taipings leads me to an opposite conclusion." His hon. friend the member for Aberdeen (Colonel Sykes) had no personal knowledge of the Taipings, and he (Mr. Layard) hoped he never would. (A laugh.) "Even if they had the will, I esteem them incapable of organising a civil government. They have held Nanking for eleven years, with little or no molestation for several years; but it is still only a fortified camp, absolutely without trade or population. The interior of the city is a desert. Having had the privilege of accompanying Admiral Hope in his expedition up the Yang-tze-kiang, in 1861, I became acquainted with his views regarding the Taipings. He endeavoured to establish friendly relations with them, and in March, 1861, obtained permission for Lieutenant-Colonel Wolseley, Vice-Consul Hughes, Rev. Mr. Muirhead, and myself to reside in Nanking for a week, in order to become acquainted with the Taiping chiefs. Colonel Wolseley reported his impressions in his interesting "Narrative of the Chinese War in 1860." The impressions of Mr. Hughes and myself, and I think also Mr. Muirhead, are reported in the Parliamentary blue-book of 1861. During the whole of that year Admiral Hope was indefatigable in his endeavours to keep on good terms with the Taipings, and in December he again paid a visit to Nanking, accompanied by Sir Harry Parkes, to remonstrate with the chiefs for the violations of agreements of which they had been guilty. In the same month the treaty port of Ningpo was captured by the Taipings, and I know, by personal conference with Admiral Hope, that up to that time he had not abandoned the idea of giving the Taipings a fair chance of showing their ability and disposition to establish an administration under which it would have been possible to carry on trade. How these experiments failed is well known, and it is a significant fact that Sir James Hope, the last friend the Taipings had among British officers, with the exception of one of our consuls, who years ago committed himself to Taiping advocacy on theoretical grounds, should have been the first officer who took the responsibility of leading a British force to the field against them, which he did with energy and determination in the spring of 1862."—Now Admiral Hope was a man of the most enlarged and liberal views—(hear, hear); no one could have a more enlarged and liberal heart—(hear, hear), and yet he was obliged to give up the Taipings, and was the first to lead an army against them. (Hear.) "The course pursued by Sir James Hope towards the Taipings ought to be a convincing proof to impartial minds of the impracticability of maintaining relations with the rebels in China. I need not say that my own opinion on the subject is very strong, and has been for the last five years. I am not aware of any influential firms who were in favour of allowing the Taipings to take possession of any treaty ports, although, no doubt, many were pleased to see Admiral Hope's experiment tried at Nanking and Ningpo. Nor am I aware that any influential firms entered into commercial relations with the Taipings. The agents of European firms who have been engaged in the transport of produce to and from the interior have, no doubt, come into contact with Taiping troops, and have had to negotiate with them for the passage of goods. A certain class of traders have carried on an extensive and lucrative trade with the Taipings in munitions of war. This traffic is considered disreputable. Munitions of war can only be entered by smuggling and making false declarations,—for example, gunpowder has been passed through the Custom-house under the name of Bibles—(laughter), and rifles and bayonets under the name of umbrellas—(renewed laughter); and to disarm the suspicions of the Custom-house officers these packages have occasionally purported to be consigned to missionaries and others. For the sake of accuracy I should also mention that some business has been done with the Taipings in opium and cotton goods, and that they have at times had tea and silk to sell, which has either been seized by them or abandoned in terror by the owners. The British merchants most largely connected with China are in favour of the British Government giving such assistance to the Chinese Government as will enable them to keep the Taipings out of the treaty ports; nor do I think there is any difference of opinion as to the advisability of pushing our assistance to the ultimate crushing of the rebellion. The *modus operandi* may have been questioned, and I know some merchants have considered that the Government might with advantage have gone a step further than it has done. But all feel and acknowledge the difficulty and delicacy of the position. The suppression of the rebellion would be deemed an inestimable blessing by all—natives and foreigners; and if peace again reigns in China the means of access we now possess to the interior of the country, and the amount of European enterprise that is in readiness to be let loose, would inaugurate an era of commercial expansion that would be without parallel in history. I don't think there are any merchants of influence in China who would like to see the Government withdraw all assistance from the Chinese, for that would cause anarchy. The great majority, however, have been in favour of the plan pursued, as being the most economical to this country and the soundest in policy, not compromising the British Government more than necessary, and teaching the Chinese to help themselves. (Hear.) It would be disastrous to British trade in China to withdraw from relations with the Chinese Government, and disastrous alike to the Chinese Government and people. It would be a breach of faith with all the merchants and others who had invested large sums in China on the faith of treaties and permanent relations with China. (Hear.) The employment of officers of rank and character has, moreover, done more than anything else to check the rise of that dangerous class of military adventurers in China. (Hear.) The Chinese Government will certainly employ foreigners of some sort, and in the absence of anything better they will accept men of

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the worst characters. Our commerce with China has increased, and is increasing, under the policy at present pursued by our Government. I doubt if it would have improved more under any other policy. That our trade has increased at all under the incubus of the rebellion I take to be an earnest of what it might grow to when that incubus is removed." (Hear, hear.) He took that reply to be the most remarkable and complete testimony that could be given of the success of the policy pursued by Her Majesty's Government, coming as it did from the representative of one of the most eminent firms engaged in the China trade. (Hear, hear.) But the Government were now asked to reverse that policy. Well, then, what policy was to be put in its place? They had heard lately that it was not for the opposition to suggest a policy. It was very easy to criticise and protest; but if the Government had done wrong they who said so were bound to point it out, and show how they could set themselves right. But he had not heard any suggestions of that kind. The opponents of the policy pursued by the Government in China would not, he presumed, admit the Taipings into the treaty ports; would they ask the Government to do so? He had heard some gentleman, he believed the hon. member for Rochdale, defend that policy. Some said we ought to withdraw from China, we ought to have factories along the coast, and allow our people to trade with certain fixed stations. He had asked a member of one of the largest Chinese firms if that policy were possible, and what would be the result, and that gentleman replied that they (the merchants) would at once invest £100,000 in well-armed steamers, which would engage in smuggling, and would carry on their trade by force. (Hear, hear.) And a paper had been actually established at Shanghai, called the *Chinese Recorder*, and paid in order to advocate the policy that each merchant should be allowed to make his own arrangements with the Chinese authority on the spot, and should buy exactly what the latter agreed to take—he having, of course been bribed—and that there should be no diplomatic relations between this country and China. He would not trouble the House to read the answer which had been published in the *China Mail*; it was to be found in the blue-book; but that answer was so complete that it led, he believed, to the suppression of the *Chinese Recorder*. The *China Mail* showed that that policy would lead to a system of buccaneering along the coast; that the large firms would purchase vessels of the kind required; that the very small firms would go to the wall; and that the result would be to involve us in a war with China. (Hear, hear.) No gentleman in that House would recommend a course of action of that kind, or say that we ought to reverse a policy which, like all other things, had faults, but which, on the whole, had been attended with the most marvellous success. (Hear, hear.) He had shown how the most marvellous superstructure of trade had been raised upon that policy—a trade amounting to something like £60,000,000, most of which was British. Another policy might be successful; but it might also fail to succeed, and no Government would take upon itself the responsibility of reversing their system merely upon a theory brought forward by an hon. gentleman who could not have materials at hand to form a correct judgment. The policy of Her Majesty's Government had been approved by merchants in the East; it had been approved by missionaries, by naval and military authorities, by Sir F. Bruce, and by Mr. Burlingame—(hear, hear)—and he trusted it would receive the approval of the House. If it were in his power he would move the previous question, but as he was not able to do so he thought the best way of meeting the motion of his hon. friend, since he could not agree to it, was to conclude by moving that the Speaker do leave the chair. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. W. E. FORSTER said the hon. gentleman had not at all met the question which had been brought before the House in so convincing a speech by the hon. member for Northumberland. (Hear, hear.) The Under-Secretary told them about the immense quantity of tea and silk which we get from China, but he had never met the real question, which was not whether we should or should not withdraw from the protection of Shanghai and the treaty ports, and of British life and property in China. There was no member of the House who wanted the Government to do that, although they might have doubts whether we should have begun that protection by opening the treaty ports at all. (Hear, hear.) But the question before the House was whether we were to sanction the Government going on interfering in the civil war for the purpose of putting down the rebellion. (Hear, hear.) He did not wish to make any charge against his hon. friend the Under-Secretary; they knew they had not the Chief of the Foreign Department in that House; and his hon. friend might often find his great abilities taxed in defending a policy which he had not originated. But what he complained of was that the policy of Her Majesty's Government was not only not right as regarded China, but it was not fair as regarded that House. From Session to Session the House had not been informed of what was doing in China and of the intervention which was taking place there. Last year his hon. friend told the House that the measures which were contemplated would not violate the principle of neutrality. ("Hear, hear," from Mr. Layard.) Why, they broke through every principle of neutrality ever professed by any country. (Hear, hear.) In this civil war the English Government began by professing neutrality, but at the beginning of 1862 this principle was departed from. Up to this time Sir F. Bruce declared that it would be not only impolitic but hopeless to meddle in the war, because he had no hope of the Chinese Government. No country, he wrote, could present a darker picture than China, and he added that the Emperor was powerless to resist the progress of the insurrection whenever it concentrated its forces. Suddenly, a change came over Sir F. Bruce. He was struck by the success of a disciplined force under Colonel Ward, and he suggested that a military organisation would be most useful in the present distracted state of China, and recommended the loan of ten thousand muskets. Upon the receipt of this letter, Earl Russell wrote back, and said that the rational course for us to pursue was to defend our own trade, protect the treaty ports, and encourage the Chinese Government to arm a sufficient force of artillery, infantry, and cavalry, to overcome the rebels and reduce them to subjection. Well, then, his hon. friend wrote to the Secretary of the Admiralty and to the War office, in which he spoke of the measures to be taken against the Taipings, the great want of the Chinese being a disciplined force and gunboats. It was suggested that some work upon international law should be translated into Chinese for the benefit of the Chinese Government; but if his hon. friend maintained that there had been no departure from the principle of neutrality here, he ought certainly to read that volume himself. English officers were allowed to enter the Chinese service, the Chinese were enabled to obtain ammunition, and our troops were stationed so as to help the Anglo-Chinese force at a distance. It was said that the Government had nothing to do with the employment of this force. But, after the dismissal of General Burgevine, General Staveley wrote in one of the despatches to say that he had appointed Captain Holland to the temporary command; and on another occasion General Brown told the European consuls that Major Gordon's connection with him as a British officer was such that he must support him. It did not appear that the experience of facts had proved to the Government, what they should have known from theory, that they could not allow British officers and British skill to be used by foreigners without incurring responsibility, and that they could not, in short, afford material assistance in carrying on war without taking the consequences. (Hear, hear.) Last year his hon. friend had treated the House not quite fairly on the subject of the flotilla, in saying that the object of the flotilla was to put down piracy, "and for that object almost alone." Now, before that time a memorandum had been sent by Mr. Lay to Earl Russell, stating what the real objects of this flotilla were. These objects, as he stated them, were twofold. The first was "to re-establish Imperial authority upon the Yang-tse, and commercial security upon the inner waters." (Hear, hear.) Now, this was not piracy; it was just the sort of intervention which the English Government ought not to attempt. The second objection was to suppress piracy between the open ports. If his hon. friend was not aware last year of the extraordinary memorandum of agreement between Mr. Lay and Captain Osborn, he ought to have been, and the Government should never have allowed such a breach of neutrality and of the Foreign Enlistment Act, as the sailing of a fleet from this country to assist a foreign Government in putting down a rebellion, without knowing all the arrangements which had been entered into. As it was, Captain Osborn went away with the blessing of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, given to him publicly at the Geographical Society. ("Hear, hear," and a laugh.) His hon. friend said it was extremely unfair to charge the Government with a design to make Mr. Lay dictator of China. He did not charge them with this, but he did charge the Government with great negligence in not being aware that this must have been the case if Captain Osborn and Mr. Lay had carried out their agreement. He would then have had control of a force with which no one in China could have contended. Reverting to the object of the flotilla, it was evident that Prince Kung, at all events, did not think it was meant to suppress piracy alone, because he expressly stated that he expected that the flotilla would sweep away all rebellion. It would be difficult to lay down any definition of the word "filibustering" which would not be applicable to the course in China. He did not apply this term to Captain Osborn, whose conduct had been most noble. He had made a mistake in putting himself in such a position, but he had resisted temptation, and had saved the Government which had, he might almost say, sent him out, from consequences which the country would probably have rued for many years. Mr. Lay recommended his project to Earl Russell on the ground that it would "in no way compromise Her Majesty's Government, while it possesses at the same all the advantages, without the inconveniences, of direct aid." It was in vain to expect to have the advantages without the inconveniences of war. If the Government gave material assistance to a Power they must take the consequences. Well, was the present policy to go on or not? The Foreign Secretary said some time ago that if that policy failed graver questions must arise. It had failed in two cases, and would the Government tell the House whether they had now entirely given up the notion of carrying on a private war? The Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs denied that there had been any interference except for the protection of Shanghai. But Soochow could not have been taken except by English aid. The whole subject of employing foreigners was considered by the legations of the foreign Powers to be unwise, likely to lead to the grossest injustice, and to be a cause of danger. [Mr. Layard: We have suspended it.] Yes, but the Government had only lately suspended it. There might be an argument in favour of the conquest of China. It, no doubt, offered a temptation to ambition, but it would be the most costly business ever undertaken by this country. It was, moreover, impossible to look back at the policy of Her Majesty's Government without feeling that this country was in a great measure the cause of the anarchy that prevailed in that country. The noble lord at the head of the Government could scarcely look back at what has happened without feeling that the policy he had so energetically pursued had so far weakened the central authority in China as to render possible the rebellion that had occurred. The noble lord now probably thought that he was called upon to restore order in China, but he repeated that it was too great a business for this country to undertake. There was no alternative between conquest and non-intervention. If the Government tried to get certain advantages without the inconveniences of war, they would, notwithstanding, have war on their hands, and would be obliged after all to make the conquest. This, however, would not be done unless the Government succeeded in misleading and deluding the people.

Mr. FERRAND said he had heard the noble lord at the head of the Government protest against the atrocities perpetrated by European Governments, but he doubted very much whether the atrocities perpetrated in the whole of Europe for the last twenty-five years equalled those which had been perpetrated under the authority of the English Government in China. The noble lord tacitly encouraged the opium trade for the purpose of forcing a quarrel on the Chinese. From the year 1834, when the noble lord began to persecute the Chinese Government, his policy in China had been unjust, cruel, and dishonourable. The hon. gentleman then quoted extracts from speeches of the late Sir R. Peel and the Chancellor of the Exchequer condemnatory of Lord Palmerston's policy in China; and was proceeding to give the House a history of our hostilities with the Chinese, when

An HON. MEMBER drew attention to the fact that there were not forty members present; and, there being only thirty-five when the Speaker counted, the House stood adjourned at a quarter past eight o'clock.

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for that sanguinary act we might now have been announcing in these columns the opening of the gates of Nanking to his victorious disciplined troops. It is to be hoped that he is not too late in the field, with that end in view. Eshing being evacuated, the next rebel stronghold we expect to be captured is the city of Chang-chaou, situated on the grand canal some thirty miles beyond Soochow, which in all probability will have the effect of securing the towns east of Nanking, so that he could march unopposed by any formidable body of insurgents upon its southern walls, where the fortifications are most vulnerable. Moreover, it is reported that the city is now completely invested, on land and water, by Imperial troops, who have for months stopped all external supplies of food by native dealers, and munitions of war by foreign contraband traders; while all the renegade volunteers have decamped, like rats from a drowning ship. Under these circumstances it is not likely that the TIEN-WANG'S remaining adherents, tainted with dissension, could maintain a long stand against a vigorous assault of the disciplined Chinese, led by GORDON and his foreign officers, who have hitherto had no opportunity of exhibiting their prowess before the walls of the ancient capital. For such an event they awaited the co-operation of OSBORN'S Anglo-Chinese fleet to make a combined attack on Nanking by river and land, and carry the place by a *coup de main*. This chance, however, has been frustrated through the unskilful and egotistical diplomacy of LAY. Nevertheless, we look forward with confidence to the attainment of this success by the Chinese alone under the generalship of GORDON, should no further act of treachery dissuade him from throwing up his command. In anticipation of such an event we may safely conclude that the monstrous heresy of Taipingism, which once set the Christian world in a flame, is rapidly sinking into the oblivion of impostures; and the regeneration of China by the establishment of a "Heavenly Kingdom of Great Peace," is but "a mockery, a delusion, and a snare."

THE HONG KONG MINT.

THE absence of Sir HERCULES ROBINSON from his seat of Government has caused some little delay in the completion of the arrangements for the Hong Kong Mint. We stated in December last that a site had been recommended for the building at Cow-loong; but that point, it appears, could not be definitively settled till the return of the GOVERNOR. As Sir HERCULES got back to his post early in February, we shall probably learn by the next mail that the spot on which the establishment is to be located has been officially determined on. Here at home all the preparations are proceeding steadily and rapidly. The iron frame-work, roofing, &c.—from the manufactory of Messrs. RANKIN and Co.—will be shipped from Liverpool early next month; to be followed at the latter end of the month by the heavy portion of the material. The rolling-mill, engines, &c., will go out in July; and September will probably see the despatch to China of the very last portion of the requisites, whether as regards the building or the apparatus. Mr. INGLIS, foreman of engineers in the establishment of Messrs RANKIN, has been selected to go out and superintend the fixing and putting together of the various parts of the iron-work. The building itself will consist of iron and granite, and will occupy about three acres, so that the choice of a site may well demand consideration. Plans of all the woodwork required for fitting up the interior have already been forwarded to Hong Kong, with instructions to have everything prepared, so that no delay may occur on the arrival of the materials for the external frame of the edifice. The building has been so planned that the Master of the Mint will have under his eye at one view whatever is going forward in every part of the establishment; for which desirable purpose great facility was afforded by the fact that all the processes of the Mint are to be conducted on the ground floor, while the upper part of the building will be appropriated for the residence of the Master. Captain KINDER, who, as our readers already know, has been appointed to the office of Master of the Hong Kong Mint, will take his departure from England, accompanied by his wife and family, the moment matters are so far advanced as to render his presence at his post of any service. The other officers of the establishment have not yet been nominated, but they will probably be selected in time to proceed with the Master.

STEAMERS, &c., FOR CHINA.

The paddle-wheel steamer *Dumbarton*, which we have before noticed as building by Messrs. Denny and Co., Dumbarton, for Messrs. Gibb, Livingston, and Co., China, tried her speed between the lights on the Clyde, and ran the distance in 65 minutes, being equivalent to a speed of over 14 miles.

The paddle-wheel boat by the same builders for Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co., has been launched and named the *Glengyle*. She will shortly proceed to her destination under the command of Captain Sullivan. The *Glengyle* is 290 feet length, 38 feet beam, 15 feet depth. Her tonnage is 2,040 tons B.M.; and her engines will be of 400 H.P.

Another screw steamer has been launched for Messrs. Trautman and Co., of Shanghai, and others, from the yard of Messrs. Blackwood and Gordon, Port Glasgow. She is named the *Ta Pang Nyo*. Length, 220 feet; beam, 29; depth, 14; and her register tonnage about 600 tons, with engines of 150 H.P.

THE DEBATE ON CHINA.

(THE TIMES.)

Mr. Liddell's speech upon China last night is a very good example of that style in which the question does not so much signify so as the matter be good and the manner agreeable. It certainly is a most readable speech, and it recals to the memory various episodes of Chinese history, and results of our relations with China, that we ought not to forget. But there is an important difference between such speeches and the real business of a Cabinet or a Legislature. It is that the question for a statesman is generally present, and to be met by an immediate decision. It is not whether such a course was good or bad, or whether the good or the evil had preponderated in a given period; nor is it the question what we want to have, or what we ought to do, for the next twenty years. It is what we ought to do to-day. It is sometimes, indeed, as in the present instance, even more imminent; for we can only advise upon information already out of date, and for a state of things which will arrive faster than our advice. This is the last week in April. It will not be till the third week in June that our Minister in China will receive any despatches that may now be sent from this country, or the newspapers containing the debate of last night. But it is absolutely impossible for mortal man to devine what the state of things will be at Shanghai or elsewhere in China at that date. Towards Midsummer-day, however, our representatives in China will receive the latest expressions of our political intentions in this country, and the rules on which they are to act under whatever emergency. Come what will, Mr. Liddell is prepared to tell them what they must do. More prescient, more decided than any oracle, he will not leave them in doubt, or suffer them to weigh their responsibilities. Even though the Taipings are at the gates and the harbours are invested with pirates, though the mixed European communities around them are full of treason and conspiracy, they are then to be positively forbid further interference in the civil war. Parliament says so, and they must abide by it. Now, we have far too good an opinion of Mr. Liddell to suppose that this is really what he means, or that he has reflected on the practical application of his resolution. It is only a thesis. The subject of the speech is the Anglo-Chinese alliance. The resolution is only a peg to hang the speech upon.

Not only do we agree with almost every word that Mr. Liddell says as regards the past, but we are prepared to be more comprehensive in our criticism; for, instead of singling out certain particular "interferences," we will say at once that everything we have done in China, or omitted to do, has led to ill consequences, or failed outright, or has been otherwise condemned by the result. In the first place, our not going near China for ever so many centuries contributed to a very exclusive system there, in which the bad preponderated. When we had at last commercial communication with the country the Chinese themselves, who ought to know best, found us such a nuisance that they kept us at arm's length. We bought tea and sold opium, both injurious in excess. We smuggled, bribed, corrupted officials, and had to do with pirates. The monopoly of the Company had its evils, and the opening of that monopoly to all the world let in a flood of other ills, and worse ills, as faithfully set forth by Mr. Layard last night. No doubt, too, our missionaries, or the missionaries of other nations, did no end of mischief by giving instruction and teaching doctrines which the Chinese had just wit and malice enough to misunderstand and misuse. All writers hold us partly answerable for the rebellion—not but what there have always been rebellions in China. When we suffered in silence we had the usual fate of silent sufferers; when we resisted we provoked opposition, and ended by weakening the Imperial authority. The free ports became new centres of agitation, hotbeds of disaffection, and smuggling depots. They attracted the scum of all nations, who, certain of our protection, did as they listed, and dragged us into scrapes. When the rebellion spread into our neighbourhood we permitted the fugitive Imperialists to take refuge under our wing, and so found that we had to support a load of misery, and either see them perish under our eyes by famine or by foe, or do something to save them. All our interferences have been equally, though variously unfortunate—that is, they have failed of the good they aimed at, or done some unintended evil. Mr. Lay and Captain Osborn planned an Anglo-Chinese armament, which was to be free to act, and responsible to public opinion for its action. It fell to the ground because Prince Kung wanted to place it under the Governors of provinces, who would be sure to mismanage the force, and apply it to bad uses. On the other hand, Major Gordon did that which Captain Osborn would not do, and is now held answerable by Mr. Liddell for the massacres, mutilations, and other horrors committed by his Chinese colleagues and superiors. If both these courses had their faults, it was comparatively safe to supply arms and ammunition; but the result has been, Mr. Liddell says, to let them fall into hands that know not how to use them. If we left the Chinese to deal themselves with the pirates, it became a war of pirates with pirates, in which the Imperialists were occasionaly worsted. If we took the pirates in hand ourselves, we had occasionally to do strong things. If we attempted to co-operate with the Imperialists, we had the benefit of both their weakness and their wickedness. In a spirit of pure aggrandisement, as Mr. Liddell intimates, we have claimed the military

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occupation of our suburbs to the distance of thirty miles. But, not content with this, our soldiers have gone out sometimes as much as fifty miles. This is a proceeding very familiar to the readers of military history; indeed, it is impossible to hold a line in actual war without occasionally going beyond it; and if a foe is to be stopped you must have the option of meeting him half way. But the result has been fighting. As for the belligerents themselves, Mr. Liddell makes out the Imperialists first so good that we ought never to have had a quarrel with them, then so bad that we ought to thank the Taepings for destroying them. Mr. Liddell has certainly made out his case; but then he has made out too good a case. He has proved far too much. He has proved that we can neither sit still nor move this way nor that way without doing harm. The only conclusion is that we must not be deterred by any amount of harm if we only believe that we are doing less harm by one course than we should by another, or by no course at all.

The case is one, we submit, which is not to be met by general rules, much less by rules far more stringent and unbending than those for our dealing with settled communities. If anybody were to propose in the House that further interference on the part of this country in European wars is impolitic and unnecessary, he would certainly have a good deal to say for his advice, yet we all see that the next two months might easily bring a crisis in which we should forget or disregard it. We have interfered not only in the wars, but in the civil wars, of the Continental nations, with results good and bad; and for all our continual protests, we, or our children, will do the like again, for occasions will arise to break our strongest resolutions. But as regards China it is far more difficult to lay down a law of the Medes and the Persians than as regards Europe. If, as people say, we have contributed to the weakness of the Government and the dissolution of the Empire, that circumstance appeals to our humanity to mend the mischief we have done. We have definite political relations with the Imperial Government which we cannot at once repudiate on the plea that the rebels have something to say for themselves. These rebels are not orderly belligerents, but cruel and destructive marauders; a mere crowd of robbers and murderers, consisting of all who prefer robbing and murdering to the chance of being themselves the victims. We can never be sure for a day that such a body will not put us in a position to defend ourselves, and we defend ourselves in the most effectual way, by carrying the war into their own camp. At all events, we are chargeable with the police of the sea, unless we would hear continually of ships and crews sailing from our ports never to come back again. But the police of the sea comprises the security of the rivers and the coasts, which we can never call secure if we are forbidden to use our arms. Grant that there is room for pacific counsels, and that Parliament and the British public may easily show their preference of the bloodless way of settling quarrels; that is very different from an absolute prohibition. We think this a case for the golden mean. Let our representatives in China be desired to maintain an armed and resolute neutrality, in the interest of order and peace; but, considering the weakness and violence between which they are placed, let it be known that they are prepared to resist the violent and to befriend the weak, if necessary.

THE CURIO COLLECTOR AT PEKING.

(To the Editor of the *China Telegraph.*)

DEAR SIR,—Referring to the "curious" correspondence, copied from the *Friend of China*, in your last impression, I have deemed it my duty as an intimate friend of Mr. Andrews, to call the attention of Her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to the subject, and have received a reply from the Under-Secretary (Mr. Layard) to the effect that my letter will be brought under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, so that we shall see whether the ruling of our Minister at Peking is correct.

The only error that I can see in the *Friend of China* report is the terming Mr. Andrews a curiosity "dealer," as he never sold anything he obtained. He would be more properly called a "collector;" and this is of importance to him; for as a "dealer" he would come under the denomination of "trader," and for which he has been excluded Peking, while as a "collector" he contends he was not such; and this is the point to be decided. If the Imperial Bank of China gets its concession to establish a bank at the capital, the question will be set at rest, for "trade," and that a good one, must necessarily follow, without which I should like to know what use an embassy is at Peking?—Yours faithfully, F. H.

London, E.C., April 26, 1864.

KING V. KING AND DENT.—In this case a rule *nisi* had been granted for the dissolution of the marriage on the ground of the respondent's adultery with the co-respondent. The petitioner had since presented a petition for an order with respect to settlements of property. The Queen's Advocate and Dr. Swabey appeared for the petitioner; Mr. Edward James, Q.C., and Dr. Spinks for the respondent. The Court now made the decree absolute. With regard to the sum of £4,000 put into settlement by the petitioner, it decreed that the life interest given to the respondent should be extinguished. It made no order as to a reversionary interest of the respondent in a sum of £3,000, to which she was entitled upon the death of her mother. It also declined to order the petitioner to make a provision for the respondent's maintenance.

THE Hon. T. C. Bruce has issued an address to the electors of Portsmouth, wherein he offers himself to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Sir Francis Baring.

A SELECTION of China and Japan curios, the property of Mr. Thomas Baker, lately resident in China, were sold by Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Co., on the 19th inst.

Monetary and Commercial.

The Imperial Bank of China, announced in our issue of the 11th, has been changed to the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan, in order to embrace the entire circle of business from London to Japan. It is also intended to extend operations to Australia, when the India and China branches are satisfactorily established. The capital has been increased from one to two millions, and the shares are in demand at 3 premium. If properly conducted, there is ample room for all its contemplated action, and although the directors place Australia as the last to have attention, we may remind them that no bank has been established in London for that country for about ten years. The prices of the shares of London-Australian banks may be quoted as an index of the profitable nature of the business. We understand that Mr. Henry Turner, late Manager of the Agra Bank at Hong Kong, has accepted the appointment of Manager in London. The directors, by selecting officers who have practical knowledge of business in India and China, will cut short their preliminary expenses very materially.

A company has been formed for the working of the concession lately granted to Mr. Robinson for running steamers in Java. The field is well known as a lucrative one, and with the advantages of a subsidy of £27,000 per annum, and the experience of one of the directors of the P. and O. Company, there is every prospect of the undertaking yielding large returns to the shareholders, and certainly every possible security that the company will not end in failure. It is a *bona fide* opening, and the subsidy from a cautious Government like the Dutch, is perhaps the best security. The prospectus will be found in another column.

A company has been formed in London for the purpose of importing oil from Burmah. In order to carry out this, it is necessary to carry out a process of distillation on the spot. This has already been done by an enterprising private merchant, who unfortunately died shortly after the establishment of his works. The producing powers of the country are undoubted, and with the reduction in the cost of transit by shipping only the good or refined oil, a large profit will result on the current prices ruling in this market. The directors are gentlemen of local experience and influence. A prospectus, with full particulars, will be seen in another column.

The second ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan is called for the 2nd of May, when the directors will recommend a dividend.

A meeting of the Singapore Gas Company will be held on the 29th inst., to receive the report of the directors and the balance-sheet.

The directors of the Agra and United Service Bank (Limited) have convened a special meeting of the shareholders for the 7th of May, to confirm the agreement for the amalgamation with Messrs. Masterman and Co.; to change the company's name to the Agra and Masterman's Bank (Limited); to appoint Mr. Edward Masterman, Mr. William Peters, and Mr. Frederick Mildred, directors; to increase the number of the board to not more than 18; and to increase the company's capital to £3,000,000 by the issue of 20,000 new shares of £50 each. It is proposed—

That 10,000 of such new shares shall be offered to the holders of the original £100 shares, in the proportion of one new £50 share to every two original £100 shares held by them respectively on the 15th May, 1864, at a premium of £30 per share, to be paid, together with £25 per share, within six calendar months, by such instalments as the directors shall appoint, with liberty to the shareholders to pay up the £30 and £25 per share in advance. That the residue of the 20,000 new shares, together with such of the 10,000 as shall not be applied for by the holders of the original shares, may be disposed of by the directors as they think most beneficial to the company. That the capital created by the new shares shall be considered as part of the original capital, and two of the new shares shall be equivalent to one original share.

It is understood that the Postmaster-General has extended, the postal contract of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company of Liverpool, for a period of seven years, dating from April, 1865. In addition to the payment from the Home Government for the conveyance of the British mails, the company enjoys postal subsidies from the various local Governments along the whole line of coast from Panama to Valparaiso and Chiloe for the conveyance of the local mails.

The directors of the Bank of London have called a meeting for the 9th of May, to propose an increase of capital by the issue of 2,000 new shares at the price of 120, or 70 premium per share. They will be allotted rateably to the present proprietors in the proportion of one share to every three at present held.

At the meeting of shareholders of the Oriental Bank Corporation held on the 21st, the report, which we noticed in our last, was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Harry George Gordon) commenced by declaring a dividend of 5 per cent. and a bonus of 7 per cent. for the half-year, making 19 per cent. for the year, or £4. 15s. per share, payable on and after the 23rd May, free of income-tax. This was the largest divi-

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dend the corporation had yet declared—(hear, hear)—and he need not say what a pleasure it was to the directors to be able to announce so large a division of profits. It ought, however, to be stated, that these large profits had arisen from an exceptional year in Indian banking, and they had also to bear in mind, though some of his friends pooh-poohed the idea, that banking competition in that country was becoming excessive. Consequently, although they had largely extended the business of the bank, the profits had not advanced in the same ratio. It would not be wise, therefore, to calculate upon always maintaining the same high rate of dividend. It was not necessary for him to go into any glowing description of the prospects of the bank; there was in the present accounts a gratifying increase in every item of their business, and they must rely on what they knew of the past as a criterion for judging of the future. He concluded by moving the adoption of the report.

A SHAREHOLDER asked if current charges included any bonus to the officers of the bank. He thought, when the position of the bank was so favourable, the officers, by whose assistance the profits were made, should share in that prosperity which they had assisted to bring about. (Hear.)

The CHAIRMAN replied in the negative, but intimated that he and his co-directors were always ready to acknowledge the efficiency and valuable aid of the staff, and promised to take the subject into consideration.

Thanks were then voted to the auditors, and 50 guineas each awarded to them for their services. The directors and auditors retiring by rotation were re-elected.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the directors had come to the determination, in consequence of the increasing business of the bank, to raise the balance of the additional capital authorised in July, 1854. The original capital was £1,000.000. The shareholders had authorised an increase of £500.000, of which only £250,000 was raised, and, it was now proposed to call up the other £250.000, making the total capital £1,500,000. He could not state the details until they received the requisite authority from the Treasury, which was expected in a few days, but he mentioned the fact in order that the shareholders might not, by parting with their shares in the meanwhile, lose any advantage to which they were entitled. The usual vote of thanks to the chairman and directors concluded the proceedings.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Delhi*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was, in gold: To Alexandria, £84,000; to Suez, £60; to Galle, £3.000; to Madras, £1,040; to Calcutta, £5,000. In silver: To Madras, £3,750; to Hong Kong, £4,390; to Foo-chow-Foo, £850; to Shanghai, £10,450; to Sydney, £1,000. Total: In gold, £93,100; in silver, £20,440.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Low and dusty kinds of Congou have realised former prices to a fair extent. Good common has been less in demand, and prices are ¼d. per lb. lower, being now quoted 1s. to 1s. 0½d. per lb. Fair flavory kinds continue very difficult of sale, and prices have ruled in favour of buyers. There has been a moderate demand for Kaisow kinds, from 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d. Fine to finest remain without alteration. Common to fair black-leaf kinds remain dull of sale at former prices; good qualities, from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d., have been freely offered, and both at public sale and privately have been sold about 1d. per lb. lower. The grades from 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d. per lb. have been firmer, and some sales made at rather better prices. Fine to finest have been wanted for export at fully former prices. Tayshans show no alteration. The new-make from Canton have sold freely at an advance of d. to 2d. per lb. Oolongs show no change. Souchongs are only saleable in small parcels at former prices. Flowery Pekoes remain much as before. Scented teas, except the finer qualities, have been heavy of sale some large parcels having gone at a reduction at public sale without reserve; common Orange Pekoes at 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d., and fair capers at 11½d. to 1s. Uncoloured Japans have been sold to a fair extent at fully former prices. The public sales of Indian tea have gone very heavily at a considerable decline for some descriptions, especially those wanting strength. In green teas there has been a fair amount of business at about previous prices for Moyune kinds, but Ping-Suey have been difficult of sale at former prices; the deliveries for export continue large. Canton-make, of good to fine kinds, remain in demand at former rates, but common to fair are still difficult of sale.

SILK.—*See Latest.*

SUGAR.—Immediately after our last report transactions of fair extent took place, partly on speculative account, and extreme rates were paid; since the opening, however, little general disposition to purchase has been shown by the home trade, and although holders from their continued firmness have succeeded in obtaining an average advance of 6d. to 1s. per cwt. on the bond prices of last week, the business done has been of only moderate amount, and the market generally has a rather quiet appearance. Of private transactions reported we can record, 17,000 bags Clayed Manila at 37s. 9d. to 40s. and 43s. 1½d., the latter at the old duty of 12s. 8d., and 10,000 bags Unclayed, price kept secret, also for arrival, a cargo of 500 tons at 40s. (duty 12s. 8d. to be allowed), and 150 tons Clayed at 31s.

COFFEE.—The demand is very limited, and in the sales of Colonial lower prices have been submitted to. Ceylon: 1,320 casks, 730 barrels and bags Plantation, at public sale, went off without spirit at a decline of 1s. to 2s. per cwt., and part was bought in, the rate for the portion sold being as follows:—fine ordinary to low middling 78s. to 81s. 6d.; middling to good middling 82s. 6d. to 85s.; fine 86s. to 92s. Of 234 casks, 1,628 bags Native, the bulk was held for the previous value, and withdrawn, the part realised being good ordinary 70s. 6d. to 71s.

RICE.—In public sale, 3,952 bags Rangoon, 2,435 bags white Bengal, and 5,451 bags cargo sort met few or no offers, and were withdrawn, but part of the latter has since been taken at 8s. 3d. A cargo of 1,000 tons Nakrenzie, arrived off the coast, has been sold at 9s. 9d. for the Continent.

COTTON.—Early last week the demand became languid, and prices gave way ¼d. to ⅜d. per lb., but the favourable accounts from India have since produced a reaction, and in the business done this decline has mostly been recovered. On the spot, 5,300 bales have been sold, middling to fully fair western Madras, 18¾d. to 20d., middling fair and fair Tinnivelli 18d. to 19¼d., fair Coconada 18d. to 18¾d., and fair to fully fair China 17d. to 17½d. Sales for arrival:—1,230 bales western at 18¾d. Aug., 19d. to 19¼d., July and Sept. deliveries, 19¼d. to 19⅜d. Dec., 19⅜d., Jan. shipments, guaranteed fair; 2,200 bales China, at 17d. August, 17¼d. to 17⅜d. June to August deliveries, 17d. Jan. shipment, guaranteed fair; 400 bales Japan, at 18d. March shipment, guaranteed fair: 100 bales Kurrachee, at 15¾d. Jan. shipment, guaranteed fair: 200 Sawginned, at 19¼d., August delivery, guaranteed fair: total, 4,100 bales. For arrival at Liverpool:—500 bales China. at 17½d Jan. shipment, guaranteed fair.

CAMPHOR.—Lower, and very inactive: small sales have been effected privately within our quotations; 166 chests China and 100 tubs Japan at auction, retired.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Firm, but quiet, with very limited business. Buds: Moderate private transactions upon previous terms.

COCOA NUT OIL.—This market, which was strong, at the date of our last, has since become less and less firm, and prices are now fully 10s. per cwt. lower. Business has been limited: 859 casks Cochin, 711 casks Ceylon, 23 casks Sydney, 43 casks Madras, 29 casks Singapore, and 20 casks Zanzibar at auction; a limited proportion placed.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Continue quiet, and without business. Dragon's Blood: Flat; 5 boxes at auction, retired. Galangal Root: Has improved 1s. per cwt., and 173 bags at auction, mostly sold at 21s. to 23s. per cwt. for fair to good. Rhubarb: Held with great firmness, but no business doing. 69 chests at auction, all retired.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Siam again much dearer; 82 cases sold at auction at £45. 10s. per cwt. for fine tear; £38. 5s. to £42. 5s. for first quality in block; £24 to £32. 5s. second; £26 fine seed in block; £19 to £19. 10s. dark; £13s. 15s. to £14. 15s. small seed and dust in block; and £10. 5s. dust in block. Sumatra quiet; and of 140 chests, only a small proportion placed at £5 to £5. 7s. 6d. middling dark thirds, and 32s. 6d. low fourths. Damer: Continues steady; and of 368 cases at auction one-third sold at 42s. 6d. per cwt. for fair picked yellow. Gamboge: Very scarce and dearer; of 35 cases at auction, half sold at £8. 17s. 6d to £9. 5s. per cwt. for middling pipe.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Very quiet; 6 tons at auction all retired.

INDIA RUBBER.—There is still inquiry, but little if any trade: 59 baskets Penang at auction retired.

HEMP.—Manila: This market has been very inactive, with most limited business upon barely the former terms: 649 bales at auction partially sold at £34 to £35. 5s. per ton for middling to very fair roping.

HORNS.—Buffalo have realised fully the previous value; and of 72 tons Madras, and 3 tons Singapore at auction, two-thirds sold at 31s. 6d. to 32s. per cwt. for 2 to 2¼ lb. average, and 24s. to 26s. 6d. for 1¼ to 1½ lb.

JAPAN WAX.—Rather lower; 150 boxes sold, good saucer 69s. to 70s., block 59s. 6d.

OILS.—Anniseed: Our unaltered quotation recently obtained: a moderate quantity sold. Cajaputa: Buyers at the quotations; 2½d. demanded by sellers; 2 cases at auction retired. Cassia appears to be entirely neglected at present terms of 9s. 6d. Cinnamon: Five cases at auction sold at 2s. 2d. to 2s. 4d. per oz. for good. Mace and Nutmegs: Nothing doing; Nutmeg Paste selling slowly at 1d. per oz.

SAGO.—Firm; and of 874 boxes at auction, two-thirds sold at 24s. per cwt. for good small. Pearl remains quiet, and without business of importance.

SPICES.—Cloves: Zanzibar steady, with limited trade privately upon fully former terms: 12 casks Penang, and 12 casks Amboyna at auction, all retired. Mace: Quiet: 11 cases Singapore, and 6 cases Batavia at auction, all retired. Nutmegs: Some inquiry for small shipping qualities at previous moderate prices, at which there are few, if any sellers. No auctions held, and very little business done privately. Pepper, Black: Without at all receding in value has become very quiet, with a greatly reduced extent of transactions. Of 5,520 bales Penang at auction a small portion only sold at 3⅜d. to 3⅝d. per lb. White: Quiet, but without change in value; of 269 bags Singapore at auction two-thirds sold at 5⅜d. to 5⅝d. per lb.; and of 169 Penang one-fourth (damaged) sold at the previous worth.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Remains very quiet; scarcely anything doing privately; and 3,165 bags at auction, all retired. Gambier: Remains very firm at previous value on the spot for block, and for arrival rather more money has been obtained. Cubes quite 1s. per cwt. higher. Of 819 bales Cubes at auction, half sold at 27s. to 27s. 6d. Good stroke of business done.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls: All kinds, Bussorah, China, and Japan, very scarce, and in continually increasing demand. We quote Japan and China 70s. to 100s. per cwt. Musk is unsaleable upon former terms; and of 65 caddies at auction, only one-sixth placed at 25s. 6d. to 30s. per oz. for middling to good Tonquin, and of 4 tins grain, one fine sold at 52s. Rattans continue very firm, and 8,513 bundles Singapore at auction sold at 3s. 10d. to 8s. 9d. per 100. Sapan Wood continues firm, with consumptive inquiry; fair business done privately, and of 40 tons Manila at auction, half sold at £8 to £9. 12s. 6d. per ton, and ten tons Siam sold at £11. 15s. Sticklac: Siam very quiet, and 257 cases at auction were all retired in the absence of biddings, at the previous currency; very small sales effected privately. Turmeric: No China here; Java generally held for more money, and of 165 bags at auction, a few only sold at 19s. per cwt. for fair. Vermilion scarce and wanted; no auctions; trifling sales privately at the higher quotation of 2s. 10d.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £8. 10s. to £9; nail rod, £9. 10s. to £10. 5s.; hoops, £11 to £11. 5s.; sheets, single £12 to £12. 5s.; Staffordshire bars, £10 to £10. 5s.; rails, £7. 10s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £105 per ton; yellow metal, 8½d. to 9¾d. per lb.

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TIN.—112s. for block; 113s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 31s. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £21. 15s. to £22; W.B. £23; shot, patent, £24; sheet, £22. 10s.; spelter, £21. 5s. to £21. 10s.; zinc, English sheet, £26. 10s.: quicksilver, £9 to £9. 5s.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£112,425
Foo-chow-Foo	—	6,430
Hong Kong	£5,000	240,661
Amoy	—	—
Singapore	£3,750	48,875
Penang	—	51,695

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£32,220
Hong Kong	£31,568	81,520
Singapore	—	18,920
Penang	—	3 272
Foo-chow-Foo	—	1,000

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0	to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 3½	
Silver in Bars	0 5 1½	
Mexican Dollars	0 5 3½	

Shipping Intelligence.

DEPARTURES.

Dat	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Apr.13	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Jannetje	Meyerhoff.
— 14	Deal	Do.	Julia	Van der Pas.
— 14	Cardiff	Singapore	Elise	Wesselhoeft.
— 16	London	Shanghai	Spirit of the Deep	Hewitt.
— 18	Liverpool	Singapore	Lorton	Fearon.
— 18	London	Cardiff & H. Kong	Sooling	Mortensen.
— 15	Cardiff	Singapore	Bravo	Ode.
Mar. 6	Buenos Ayres	Java	Nicot	Amesz.
Apr.20	London	Cardiff & Shanghai	Palmerston	Williams.
— 20	Do.	Cardiff & Manila	Bonnie Dundee	Connor.
— 18	Cardiff	Shanghai	Allendale	Young.
— 18	Do.	Singapore	Mary Ann	Mitchell.
— 13	Off Scilly	Batavia	Geertruida Maria	De Ligny.
— 13	Do.	Do.	Comdes Konv.d.Heim	Kramer.
— 8	Off the Start	Kanagawa	Petronella Catherina	v.d. Veen.
— 21	Liverpool	Singapore	King of Trumps	Pondder.
— 21	London	Bankok	Helen Baird	Harris.
— 21	Do.	Swansea & H. Kong	Philip the First	Koca.
— 23	Liverpool	Singapore	Pladda	Hutchinson.
—	Off S. Foreland	Do.	Victoria	Gregson.
— 19	Cardiff	Do.	Alberto	Brodersen.
— 20	Do.	Shanghai	Anna Helen	Morris.
— 20	Do.	Hong Kong	Lord Macaulay	Care.
— 21	Bridgewater	Cardiff & Shanghai	Cesarea	Dolbel.
— 21	Pill	Singapore	Lady Love	Tonge.
— 21	Deal	Shanghai	Canada	
— 22	Shields	Do.	Bosworth	
— 20	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Beaufort	Coxon.
Mar.30	New York	Shanghai	Antonio Terry	Lewis.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
— 13	Off Scilly	Penang	Teesdale	Topping.
— 18	London	Canton and Macao	Agra	Bell.
— 18	Do.	Shanghai	Balmacorra	Dunlop.
— 16	Cork	Akyab	Blencathra	Mo-sop.
— 13	Scilly	Amoy	Maria Wilhelmine	Niemann.
Mar.31	New York	Manila	Helvetia	Menke.
— 31	Off Scilly	Banjoewangie	County of Lanark	Jenkins.
Apr.19	Downs	Kanagawa	Confiance	Bolito.
— 18	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Iron Crown	Rodgers.
— 14	Off Scilly	Samarang	Vrede	v.d. Plas.
— 16	Zierikzee	Banjoewangie	Johanna Christina	Leclerq.
Mar.22	Havana	Macao	Alfonzo de Albuquerque	Marquez.
Apr. 2	New York	Canton	Marmion	Warsaw.
— 20	London	Penang	Nipisiquit	Sherry.
— 19	Do.	Nagasaki	Carn Tual	Hill.
— 21	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	China	Tofield.
— 11	Off the Start	Batavia	Goede Verwachting	Hellenins.
— 17	Bordeaux	Singapore	Orixa	Demernant.
— 18	Zierikzee	Banjoewangie	Jacoba Helena	Swart.
— 13	Cadiz	Manila	Reina de los Angelos	Vildosalo.
— 20	Off Falmouth	Shanghai	Ballarat	Baker.
— 19	Texel	Banjoewanjie	Wassenaar	Wofstee.
— 19	Do.	Do.	Elshout	Akkermaun.
— 19	Do.	Patjitan	W.K. der Nederlanden	Zetzler.
— 19	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Henriette	Visser.
— 19	Zierikzee	Do.	Schelde	Hoffman.
— 19	Texel	Do.	Jacoba and Christina	Jaski.
— 19	Do.	Do.	Cornelia Hendrika	Swart.
— 19	Do.	Banjoewangie	Aldebaran	Meyboom.
— 6	New York	Amoy	Louise Kohn	Gohse.
— 20	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Germania	Franke.
— 20	Texel	Do.	California	De Wyn.
— 20	Do.	Do.	Christina Jeannette	Rademaker.
— 20	Do.	Do.	Gebroders	De Groot.
— 13	Cadiz	Manila	Yberica	De Onate
— 14	Do.	Do.	Casas	Pardo.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa: Medina. For Kanagawa and Nagasaki: Norfolk. For Shanghai: Isles of the South, Anglo Saxon, Heroes of Alma, Laurel, Sir W. F. Williams. For Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo, Rubicon. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Havelock. For Hong Kong and Canton: Cambalu, Gustav Adolph, Sovereign of India, Mary Mildred, Dilkhoosh, Prince Alfred, Sydney Eggers. For Hong Kong: Maiden Queen. For Manila: Conchita, Elisa. For Singapore: Maggie, Xanthippe, Moneta, Coromandel. For Penang: Celestial.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Alice, Jane Leech. For Hong Kong: Star of the North, Eliza Stewart, Tricolor, Amazone. For Hong Kong and Canton: Juanpore. For Singapore: Spirit of the Sea, Arab, Simoon, Hanover. For Singapore and Hong Kong: Oceanica. For Manila: Ercilla. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Cherokee (steamer).

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore and Penang: Osprey. For Shanghai: Glenclune.

At GREENOCK.—For Hong Kong: Dumbarton (str.).

SPOKEN.

CONSTANTIA (Dutch), Batavia to Rotterdam, Feb. 18, 35 S., 21 E.
SEFORA (Spans. ship), Manila to Cadiz, Jan. 25, 31 S., 38 E.
ELIZABETH (Sw. bqe.), Shanghai to N. York, Feb. 14, lat. 34 S. lon. 32 E.
BILDERDYK (ship), Java to Rotterdam, March 1, 26 S., 5 E.
NIGDER (?), (Sw. bqe.), Java to St. Helena, Feb. 21, 19 S, 1 W.
SUSANNA JOHANNA, Banjoewangie to Rotterdam, Feb. 10, 31 S., 41 E.
NAJADE (?), (Eng. bqe.), Singapore to London, 32 S., 37 E.
A Portuguese ship, with coolies, steering N.W., March 1, 10 N., 24 W.
HELENA CHRISTINA, Bali to Amsterdam, April 9, 51 N., 12 W.
CAR GALEAS (?), Shields to Anjer, 89 days out, Jan. 6, 40 S., 78 E.
ALBLASSERDAM (Dutch bqe.), Cardiff to Singapore, 19 days out.
CARACTACUS, Liverpool to Shanghai, Feb. 29, 15 S., 33 W.
DEWA GUNGADHUR (ship), London to Singapore, Feb. 24, 3 S., 30 W.
ANN FORSTER (bqe.), Shanghai to Liverpool, March 6, 17 N., 40 W.
ST. PHILIP, for Manila, 14 days out, off the Canary Islands.
RAVEN, London to Shanghai, March 12, 23 N., 58 W.
JOHN STANTON, of London, Bristol to Shanghai, March 3, 1 N., 21 W.
THREE BELLS, Clyde to Batavia, &c., March 5, 2 S., 22 W.
JAN VAN BRAKEL, Amsterdam to Japan, Feb. 22, 10 S.
ANNIE WOOD, Shanghai to New York, Feb. 22, 23 S., 30 E.
MONTMORENCY, Br. bqe., Shanghai to Liverpool, April 1, 16 N., 37 W.
PAK WAN (ship), Foo-chow-Foo to London, 42 days out, March 17.
ROYAL MINT (bqe.), Foo-chow-Foo to New York, March 8, 33 S., 32 E.
THOMAS DRYDEN (bqe.), Shanghai to London, Feb. 24, 22 S., 70 E.
HERALD, Foo-chow-Foo to London, Feb. 12, 35 S., 20 E., 52 days out.
COUNTY OF AYR (ship), Java to Rotterdam, March 23.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Governor Van Swieten, Louis Kniffler, Nelly, Mary Shepherd, Cymbeline. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, Forerunner, Alexandra, Vampyre. At NEW YORK: Sarah, *via* Shanghai.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Monarch, Belle, J. H. Ransom, Annie Archbell, Stornoway, M. M. Peter, Antelope, George Ruxton, Bentinck, Aurora Australis, Pakwan, Tamberlane, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Oliver Cromwell, Wagoola, Ralston, Thomas Dryden, Magnus, Nelly, Island Queen, Josephine, Marquis of Argyle, Amaranth, Glaramara, Bankside, Sappho, Sir Harry Parkes, Lansdowne, Egmont, Fairleader, Oithona, Albrecht Oswald, Herald, Weymouth, Stuart Wortley, Rio. At LIVERPOOL: Joshua Bates, Cornelia, Inamhore, Bella, Norwood, Alchymist, Isabella Hercus, Constantia, Nancy Bryson, Strathallan, Oliver Cromwell, Thomas Royden, Alice Painter, Queensbury, Regina, Victoria, Montgomery, Lord Lyndhurst, Virginia, Spirit of the Times, Veloz, Koh-i-noor, Cornelia Hendrika, Devonshire, Dolphyn. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama. At HAMBURG: Johanna, Hamilla Mitchell, Alt Mecklenburg, Gravina, Orion. At NEW YORK: Lettice Catharina, Dorester, Neuhof, Sarah, Wilhelmina, Apollo, Elizabeth, Louise Kohn, Lord Collingwood, Silvercraig, Mercara, Hermine, Kahlamba, Confucius, St. Paul, Guiding Star, Queen of the Seas, Peep O'Day, Anne Wood, Capella, Thetis, Kate Carnie, Santon. At MONTREAL: H. E. Sassaune, Asia, Tycoon, Madura, Romeo.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Flora. At FALMOUTH: Maggie Lauder, Helverton. At LIVERPOOL: Elias, Teide. At COWES: Manila. At DENMARK: Emma. At ROTTERDAM: Zanibar. At NEW YORK: Castilian.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Oscar, Pilgrim, Confiance, Early Dawn, Chili. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Centaur. At LIVERPOOL: Crusader, Spanker. At FALMOUTH (for orders): Helene. At BORDEAUX: Salares, Hooghly, Saint Michel. At NEW YORK: Caroline, Rudolf.

From BATAVIA.—At FALMOUTH: Fredrika. At CHANNEL: Ceres.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Nipisiquit, Rockliff, Edinburgh Castle. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Outward freights continue very low, there being but little export business doing, and ships on the berth are difficult to fill up in consequence. Vessels are in request for coals from the outports to Hong Kong and Shanghai. Homeward freights are active, and small vessels are wanted from Japan.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or

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measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £42, and £1. 18s. For Shanghai: £52, and £2. 3s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £30, and £1. 6s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

CASUALTIES.

The Helvetia (Oldenburg barque), Menke, which arrived at New York 31st March, from Manila, experienced a gale from N.E. on the 23rd March, in lat. 38 N; lon. 73 W., during which she stove bulwarks, stanchions, covering boards, cabin skylight, doors, &c., lost galley, boats, and split sails, &c., the sea making a clean beach over her and filling the cabin. On the 29th March, while at anchor in the lower bay during the N.E. blow, she came in collision with the Dagma (Norwegian barque), and received some slight damage.

ST. UBES, April 10.—The Magnus (Swedish brig), Noring, from Macao, for Bremen, with a general cargo (mostly cassia), put in here yesterday dismasted. She has been well surveyed, and will have to discharge her cargo to step new masts.

The William Mitchell, Bryce, from Shields, for Shanghai, put into Lisbon, April 17, leaky forward.

The Aalborg, Tecker, from Copenhagen, for Amoor River, which put into Rio Janeiro, 9th March, leaky, was discharging there on the 24th March, in order to repair.

HAMBURG, April 19.—The Helene, barque, of Altona, Knudsen master, bound to China, and having on board a quantity of gunpowder for Singapore, has been seized in Altona Harbour by the Commissioner of the Allies, and a number of troops put on board. The sailing of the above vessel has been prohibited in order that she may not fall into the hands of the Danes.

ROTTERDAM, 20th April.—The Henriette, Visser, from Batavia, which arrived at Brouwershaven yesterday, had lost bowsprit and foretopmast-yard, by collision with the Camillus, Coss, from Rio Grande to Queenstown, which sunk, 31st March, in lat. 45 N., lon. 31 W., and not in Brouwershaven Roads, as before reported.

ROTTERDAM, 22nd April.—The Zephyr (s.s.), from London, has been in collision with the Rudolph (Dutch barque), from Java, in the Helvoet Canal, and caused considerable damage to the stern of the latter.

The Sappho, from Shanghai, for London, has been wrecked while entering Table Bay.

At ST. HELENA, 1st March.—Peep o' Day, Fentie, from Foo-chow-Foo, and sailed. 2, for New York; 2. J. H. Ransom, Chapman, from Shanghai, for London; 4. Virginia, Lewis, from Hong Kong, and sailed, 5, for Liverpool; 1. Royal George, Bell, from Shanghai, for Liverpool.

NOTICE TO SHIPOWNERS.

SINGAPORE DOCKS.

THE PATENT SLIP AND DOCK CO. execute, in the most efficient manner, SHIPS' REPAIRS of all descriptions, under the supervision of European Shipwrights and Engineers.

The Dry Dock (opened in March, 1859) admits two Vessels at same time, being 400 feet in length, with a depth of water ranging to 15½ feet.

Another Dry Dock, of larger dimensions, on the same premises, will next year be completed and available for the heaviest Screw-steamers.

There is extensive wharf, warehouse, and other accommodation adjoining, together with the usual conveniences for the discharge, re-fitting, and coaling of Vessels; also, Lathes and every appliance for the repair of Iron Steamers.

Apply at the Offices of Messrs. PATERSON, SIMONS, and Co., Singapore; or to W. W. KER, Esq., 25, Poultry, London, E.C.

WILLIAM CLOUGHTON, Managing Director.

New Harbour, Singapore, March, 1864.

THE BURMESE OIL DISTILLERY (Limited).

Incorporated under "The Companies Act, 1863."

Capital £100,000, in 10,000 Shares of £10 each.

First issue, 5,000 shares.

A minimum dividend of 7½ per cent. per annum guaranteed on the paid-up capital for the first three years.

£1 per share payable on application, and £1. 10s. on allotment, and calls not to exceed £2. 10s. per share, at intervals of not less than three months.

It is not proposed to call up more than £7. 10s. per share; but as more capital may be required for extending the works, it is intended to issue further shares, one half pro rata amongst the shareholders, at par, and one half to the public, the premium on the latter to form part of a reserve fund.

DIRECTORS.

John Ogle (Messrs. Ogle and Co.), Calcutta and London, Chairman.
William Cremer, St. George's place, Hyde park, London.
John Alers Hankey, jun. (Messrs. Dumas, Hankey and Co.), London.
William Lyall (Messrs. R and W. Lyall and Co.), London.
R. Campbell Macrae, Rangoon and London.
T. H. Scarborough, Bloomsbury-square, London
David Wilson (Messrs. Wilson, Worcester, and Co.), Calcutta and London.
With power to add to their number.

BANKERS.

The Agra and United Service Bank (Limited), Cannon-street.

SOLICITORS.

Druce and Co., 7, Bank-buildings, City, and 53, Victoria-street, Westminster.

AUDITORS.

Stanley R. Bennett, public accountant, Nicholas-lane.
Francis Chambers, Fen court, Fenchurch-street.

BROKERS.

Sims and Hill, 3, Bartholomew-lane, Bank.

MANAGER.

E. S. Greens-treet.

AGENT FOR PARIS.

Emilie Delacre, 34, Rue des Petites, Ecuriés.

OFFICES.

21, Great St. Helen's, Bishopgate street.

PROSPECTUS.

The description of oil called "Petroleum," lately discovered in Pennsylvania, which has already grown into a trade, employing millions sterling in Europe and America, and is now all but universally consumed for luminating purposes, has been known and used by thousands of tons annually for at least 400 years in the Burmese Empire, where it is obtained of a uniform and very superior quality.

Crude "Petroleum," or "Earth Oil," though burned by the poorer natives of Burmah, has never been used out of that country for the purpose in consequence of its impurities, which can only be removed by a peculiar mode of distillation—it has, however, been shipped to and distilled in England, and a portion of the refined oil has been returned to the East Indies.

The trade thus carried on has entailed large losses to the importers of the crude oil, while distillers have derived large profits; as scarcely one-half can be converted into fine oil, the residue being comparatively of little value in England, but costing the same for packing, freight, insurance, &c., which amount to from £12 to £15 per ton; whilst in Rangoon, Moulmein, &c., this residue is as valuable as the crude oil itself, for coating the bottoms of native boats, as a substitute for grease, tar, &c.

To obviate this, and extract the fine oil on the spot, the lease for ten years, from 1st March, 1861, of a piece of land in Rangoon, comprising about 30 acres (a portion of which has been let for £120 per annum), admirably situated on the banks of the River Irrawaddy, was taken at a rental of £300 per annum, and on it a factory, with stills, steam power, superheating apparatus, saw mills, and every other appliance for working upwards of 100 tons of oil per week, erected by an engineer sent expressly from England, and wharves, cooperages, stores, &c., were built.

This property has, in consequence of the death of the resident proprietor—which took place just as he had completed the "work"—been offered to this Company.

The present owner, who resides in England, will make over the lease, factory, and plant (with option of purchasing the freehold at £6,000) for the sum of £20,000, one-third of which he will take in fully paid-up shares, and has guaranteed, to the satisfaction of the Directors, a minimum dividend of 7½ per cent. per annum on the paid-up capital for the first three years, feeling confident the profits will exceed 25 per cent.; the refined oil being saleable at very high prices for burning, painting, &c., in Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, Australia, and all over the East.

The consumption of Calcutta alone is sufficient to absorb the production of the factory for some time to come; whilst the duty of 10 cents per gallon lately imposed on Pennsylvanian oil by the American Government is a direct bonus of £5 per ton on this oil, and has opened an improved market for it in England and France capable of taking off any surplus quantity.

The Directors have a competent manager and an engineer who will at once proceed to Rangoon, and have the advice and assistance of an eminent mercantile firm there who have undertaken to act as agents for the Company.

There is no paid promoter in this Company, and the preliminary expenses will be strictly confined to necessary outlay.

One-fourth the capital has been privately subscribed by the directors and their friends, and the remaining shares will be allotted with due consideration to priority of application.

Prospectuses may be obtained from the bankers, brokers, solicitors, or manager, at the offices of the Company, where plans of the land and distillery may be seen, and the Articles of Association inspected.

THE BURMESE OIL DISTILLERY (Limited).

APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

(To be retained for the Company.)

To the Directors of the Burmese Oil Distillery (Limited).

Gentlemen,—I request you will allot me ..... shares in the Burmese Oil Distillery (Limited), on account of which I have this day deposited with the bankers of the Company £1 per share, as directed by the prospectus; and I agree to accept this or any less number you may allot me, subject to the conditions of the Articles of Association; and I hereby authorise you to enter my name on the register of members.

Signature .....
Address in full .....
Profession or description .....
Date ..... 1864.

HONG KONG.—A young Man, having to return to the above port by September, desires an ENGAGEMENT for himself and wife during the journey (overland or sea immaterial), to attend on a gentleman and lady; or the wife to take the charge of children. Salary no object. Address G. S., post-office, St. Matthias-road, Stoke Newington-green, N.

DOCKS.

PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 236 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caissoon Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1861.

THE HONG KONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY.

AN ASSOCIATION, called the "HONG KONG and WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY," having purchased Messrs. J. C. Couper and Co.'s extensive DOCKS, with Engineer Factory and Foundry, at Whampoa, are prepared to execute all kinds of work with prompt despatch.

The Dock is built of Granite, and is 550 feet over all with 520 feet on the blocks, and a breadth of 80 feet at the entrance. It can be used as either one or two Docks, being fitted with two Caissons. It is also furnished with Steam Pumps.

Depth of Water at Spring Tides, 16½ to 17 feet.
Do. Neap do. 13½ to 15 „

Attached to the Docks is a Pair of Shears, fitted with two capstans and three winches, and capable of lifting fifty tons, with a depth of water under the Shears, alongside the Jetty, enough for any vessels at all times of Tides.

The Engine-house on the Establishment contains Lathes of all sizes, and capable of taking any sized Shaft; one Self-acting Planing Machine, Screwing Machine, with Taps and Dies complete, Large and Small Drilling Machines, Punching and Cutting Machines, Rolling Machines, powerful Steam Hammer (3 tons), &c., &c.

Also, one Wood Dock, capable of taking a Vessel of 240 feet on the keel, on a Draft of 14 feet at Spring Tides, and 11 at Neap Tides. This Dock is also fitted with a Caisson, and is pumped out by steam.

The above are the only Docks in Whampoa fitted with Caissons.

There are also Two Mud Docks, one capable of taking in Vessels of 164 feet on the keel, with a Draft of 12 feet 6 inches at Spring Tides, and 9 feet 6 inches at Neap Tides. The other, Vessels of 120 feet 6 inches at Spring Tides, and 7 feet 6 inches at Neap do.

The Blacksmith's Shop contains 1 Large Boilermaker's Furnace and 12 Smiths' Forges, fitted with Steam Blowers.

The Iron Foundry contains a Furnace capable of melting 5 tons, and Brass Furnace for melting half a ton.

Attached to the premises is a Circular Sawmill driven by Steam, capable of cutting logs or planks of any length

The whole under the Superintendence of experienced European Foremen.

All Tools and Materials connected with Machinery kept always on hand.

Copper and Yellow Metal Sheathing, Felt, Pitch, Tar, Oakum, Paints, Oils, &c., &c., supplied at market rates.

For Dock Charges, or further particulars, apply to Mr. D. LAFRAIK, Hong Kong; to G. N. MINTO, Manager, Whampoa; or to Messrs. JAMES MORRISON and Co., 1, Crown-court, Philpot-lane, London.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA. Incorporated by Royal Charter. Paid-up capital £631,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts, payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Kandy, Singapore, Galle, Penang, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Mauritius, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the overland route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office, in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 2.

JAMES HENDERSON,
COMMISSION MERCHANT, TIEN-TSIN, CHINA,
AGENT FOR THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS."

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MAPPIN, WEBB, AND CO.'S

LONDON WAREHOUSES contain the largest and best selected STOCK of ELECTRO-SILVER PLATE and CUTLERY in England.

71 AND 72, CORNHILL, CITY.
IVORY-HANDLE TABLE KNIVES
WARRANTED.

Blades secured to Handles. Best Quality only.	Table Knives.	Cheese Knives.	Carvers.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
In. balance ivory, per dozen ...	11 0	9 0	3 6
In. „ better ivory	13 0	10 0	4 6
3½ in. „ white	15 0	12 6	6 0
4 In. strong „	20 0	15 0	7 0
4 in. „ „	25 0	18 0	9 0
4 in. full strength	34 0	24 0	10 6
Round handle, silver ferrules ...	40 0	30 0	13 0
Electro-plated handles, any patn.	26 0	22 0	8 6

Smaller quantities can be had at the above rate of prices which are the same as at the manufactory, Royal Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

Side Dishes from £8 10s., £9, £10, £12, to £25 per set of Four.

77 AND 78, OXFORD-STREET, WEST END.

SILVER-PLATED SPOONS AND FORKS.

Full-size. Best Finish.	Fiddle Pattern.	Thread Pattern.	King's Pattern.	Lily Pattern.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
12 Table Forks	1 7 0	2 14 0	2 16 0	2 14 0
12 Table Spoons	1 7 0	2 14 0	2 16 0	2 14 0
12 Dessert Forks	1 1 0	2 2 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
12 Dessert Spoons... ...	1 1 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
12 Tea Spoons...	0 10 6	1 4 0	1 4 0	1 8 0

Smaller quantities can be had at the above rate of prices which are the same as at the manufactory, Royal Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

Costly Illustrated Catalogues forwarded free to India, China, or Colonies.

Warehouses—"77 & 78" Oxford-street, and 71 & 72, Cornhill, City. Manufactory—The Royal Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

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COMMUNICATION by STEAM to INDIA, AUSTRALIA, &c., *via* EGYPT.—The PENINSULAR and ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY book Passengers and receive Cargo and Parcels at their London Offices for Gibraltar, Malta, Egypt, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, the Straits, and China, by their steamers, leaving Southampton on the 4th and 20th of every month. For Gibraltar Malta, Egypt, Aden, and Bombay by those of the 12th and 27th of each month; and for Mauritius, Reunion, King George's Sound, Melbourne, and Sydney, by the steamers leaving Southampton on the 20th of every month.

For further particulars apply at the Company's Offices, 122, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C., or Oriental-place, Southampton.

INDIA and CHINA.—New Overland Steam Communication.—French Mail Steam Ships.

SERVICES MARITIMES DES MESSAGERIES IMPERIALES.

On the 19th of every month a FRENCH MAIL STEAMER will be despatched from Marseilles, at 2 P.M., for ALEXANDRIA, corresponding with another steamer from Suez to India and China. Passengers will be booked and cargo received for conveyance to the following ports:—Messina, Alexandria, Aden, Point de Galle (Ceylon), Pondicherry, Madras, Calcutta, Singapore, Saigon, and Hong Kong. In addition to the foregoing, the November steamer will receive passengers and cargo for Shanghai.

For Passage, Freight, and general information, apply to B. W. and H. HORNE, 4, Moorgate-street, London; G. H. FLETCHER and Co., 11, Covent-garden, Liverpool; and at No. 28, Rue Notre Dame des Victoires, Paris; 7, Place des Terreaux, Lyons; 1, Place Royale, Marseilles; 36, Quai de Bacalan, Bordeaux; or to Messrs. SMITH and Co., Rotterdam.

ORIENTAL, AUSTRALIAN, AND GENERAL STEAM AGENCY, AND GLOBE PARCEL EXPRESS.

PARCELS, PACKAGES, and MERCHANDISE forwarded, and PASSAGES engaged to all parts of the world. Baggage collected and shipped. Insurances effected, &c.

CALCUTTA, MADRAS, CEYLON, and ADEN—Overland, 4th and 20th of every month.

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AUSTRALIA and MAURITIUS—Overland, 20th.

INDIA, CHINA, and AUSTRALIA—Via Cape of Good Hope, Clipper Ships, weekly.

Prospectuses, with through rate to 500 places, free on application.

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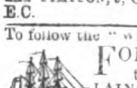
FOR COLOMBO, CEYLON, direct, to sail about 10th May, having a considerable portion of her cargo engaged, the magnificent, fast sailing well-known ship AVON, A 1 for thirteen years, register 645 tons, WILLIAM RICHARDSON, Commander; loading in the West India Docks. This splendid vessel has a full poop, with most superior accommodations for the comfort and convenience of passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to W. A. WINKLEY, 23, Birchin-lane, Cornhill, E.C.

FOR COLOMBO Direct.—The very fast-sailing barque WILLIAM AND JANE, A 1, 410 tons register, ROBERT BRUCE, Commander, now loading in the West India Export Dock. This vessel will now stand in Lloyd's Register continued A 1 five years. She has just had new decks and large repairs, and been re-coppered in the river.

For Freight or Passage apply to the owners, SUART and SIMPSON, 2, Clement's-lane, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

To follow the "William and Jane," with quick despatch.



FOR COLOMBO and COCHIN, the nearly new clipper barque ELIZA LAING, A 1 eleven years, 441 tons register, T. LAING, Commander, now loading in the West India Export Dock. This fast-sailing Vessel, built under special survey in 1862, is strongly recommended to Shippers of fine goods. Has good accommodation for Passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to SUART and SIMPSON, Clement's-lane, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

MANILLA Direct (guaranteed first ship, and sailing under the Spanish flag), the splendid, new, Spanish clipper ELISA, A 1 at Lloyd's for ten years, 431 tons register, FRANCISCO RIVERO, Commander; loading in St. Katharine's Dock. This vessel has been built expressly for the Manilla line, and offers an excellent opportunity to shippers requiring despatch.

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Regular Line of Packet Ship.

FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the celebrated British clipper MARY MILDRED, 3 T. French Lloyd's, 460 tons register; C. J. FINE, Commander; lying in the London Docks. This beautiful vessel has superior accommodation for passengers, and sails very fast.

For Freight or Passage apply to PHILLIPPS, SHAW, and LOWTHER, 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, E.C.

HONG KONG and WHAMPOA.—Notice to Shippers.—The magnificent new clipper DILKHOOSH, A1 twelve years, has nearly all her cargo engaged, and will be despatched in a few days.

Apply to GEORGE DUNCAN and Co., 2, East India-avenue, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, direct, with quick despatch, the well-known British-built ship CAMBALU, A 1 13 years, 499 tons register, loading in the London Docks. This fine vessel has good accommodation for passengers.

TEMPERLEYS, CARTER, and DARKE, 3, White Lion-court, Cornhill, E.C.

To follow the "Sydney Eggers."—With immediate despatch.

DIRECT for HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the splendid clipper ship SOVEREIGN OF INDIA, A 1 ten years, 774 tons register, WALTER SCOTT, Commander; loading in the East India Docks. This beautiful vessel, built in 1861, has just discharged a cargo of tea from Shanghai, and will be found an excellent opportunity to shippers of fine goods.

For Freight or Passage apply to GELLATLY, HANKEY and SEWELL, 27, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the splendid Clyde-built clipper ship SYDNEY EGGERS, classed A 1, twenty years, in the Liverpool Underwriter's book; 870 tons register; JAMES RICHARDSON, Commander; loading in the East India Docks. This magnificent vessel built on the Clyde in 1859, made her last passage to Bombay in seventy-nine days, is noted for her great speed and sound delivery of cargo, and will be found an excellent opportunity for shippers of fine goods.

Apply to RAYDEN and REID, 12, King William-street; or to GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL, 27, Leadenhall-street.

With Quick Despatch.

FOR YOKOHAMA and NAGASAKI, the celebrated Aberdeen clipper VELOCIDADE, A 1 thirteen years, 289 tons register, JOHN WYRILL, Commander, lying in the West India Docks.

For Freight apply to PHILLIPPS, SHAW, and LOWTHER, 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, E.C.

INDIA AND CHINA.

ROBERTSON and CO. will despatch the following first-class VESSELS to their respective destinations. They are well adapted for their several trades, and are confidently recommended to their friends:—

Destination.	Ships.	Docks	To Sail.
Shanghai	Heroes of Alma ...	W.I.D.	May 2.
Shanghai	Sir H. Parkes	W.I.D.	June 1.
H. Kong & Whampoa	Maiden Queen	W.I.D.	With des.
Kanagawa & Nagasaki	Norfolk ..	W.I.D.	With des.
Manila	Angela ..	W.I.D.	With des.
Bombay	Tiverton ..	E.I.D.	May 1.
Kuarrachee	Victoria ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Singapore	Moneta ...	W.I.D.	April 30.
Penang	Celestial ..	W.I.D.	With des.

Apply at 5, Newman's-court, Cornhill London; or York-chambers, 55, King-street, Manchester.

FROM LIVERPOOL for CHINA.

Ships.	Tons	Class.	Destination.	To Sail.
Juanpore ...	481	A 1 ...	Hong Kong and Whampoa	With des.
Jane Leech ...	871	A 1 ...	Shanghai ...	„

For terms of Freight or Passage apply to MCDIARMID and GREENSHIELDS, Liverpool.

GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL will despatch the undermentioned SHIPS, from the East India Docks, as under:—

Destination	Ship's Name.	Reg. Tons.	Commanders.	To Sail.
Bombay ...	Mary Stenhouse	1,243	H. Finlay	April 30
H. Kong & Whampoa	Sydney Eggers ...	870	H. Campbell	April 30
Calcutta ...	Robert Lees ...	1,200	T. Walter	May 20
Bombay ...	Caranjah	893	J.C.Clarke	With des.

For Freight or Passage, apply to GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL, No. 27, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

CHINA and SINGAPORE.—The following splendid first-class Clippe Ships will be despatched as under:—

Port.	Ships.	Docks.	Last Shipping Day
Shanghai	Laurel ...	E.I.D.	May 2.
Shanghai	Isles of the South ...	E.I.D.	May 30.
H. Kong & Whampoa	Pak-Wan ...	E.I.D.	With des.
H. Kong & Whampoa	GustavAdolp.	S.K.D.	April 30.
Amoy & Foo-chow-Foo	Rubicon ...	L.D.	April 29.
Singapore	Maggie ...	W.I.D.	April 29.
Singapore	Xantheppe...	W.I.D.	To follow.

For Freight or Passage, apply to KILLICK, MARTIN, and Co., 28, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, E.C.

BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN (Limited),

No. 16, CORNHILL, E.C.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Second Ordinary Meeting of the Company will be held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, in the City of London, on Monday, the Second day of May next, at 1.30 P.M. precisely, when the Report of the Directors will be presented, and a dividend will be recommended, and Directors and Auditors will be elected.

The retiring Directors—viz., William Harrison, Esq., Richard Spooner, Esq., and William Frederick Baring, Esq., being eligible, will offer themselves for re-election; and the retiring Auditors, viz., James Goodson, Esq., and Frederick William Spooner, Esq., also being eligible, will offer themselves for re-election.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from Monday, the 18th day of April, until Monday, the 2nd day of May, both days inclusive.—Dated this 15th day of April, 1864.

By order of the Board,
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE FIFTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 28th December, 1863. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

Subscriptions and Advertisements received abroad by the following Agents:—

Penang	SANDILANDS, BUTTERY AND CO.
Bangkok	REMI SCHMIDT AND CO.
Batavia	HUNTER, HOUGHTON, AND CO.
Anjer—Straits of Sunda	G. SCHUIT, Anjer Hotel.
Manila	PHILLIPS, MOORE, AND CO.
Hong Kong, Canton, Macao, & Swatow,	JAMES GARDINER, Hong Kong.
Amoy	BOYD AND CO.
Foo-Chow-Foo	HEDGE AND CO.
Shanghai	H. FOGG AND CO.
Tien-Tsin	JAMES HENDERSON.
Nagasaki Japan .	PIGNATEL AND CO.
Kanagawa	A. W. HANSARD.

OFFICE, 12, GEORGE-YARD, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

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THE NETHERLANDS INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited),

For performing the Mail and Intercolonial Steam Packet Service of the Dutch Possessions in the Eastern Archipelago, under contract with the Government at Batavia, to commence from 31st December, 1865.

Capital £300,000, in 15,000 shares of £20 each, one-fifth of which is reserved for subscribers in Java, remainder now offered for subscription in England and Holland.

Deposit, £1 per share, with an additional £2 per share to be paid up on allotment.

It is anticipated that not more than £14 per share will require to be paid up.

Three months at least between each call, and no call will exceed £3 per share.

Incorporated under the Joint-Stock Companies Act of 1862, whereby each shareholder's liability is limited to the amount of his shares.

HONORARY DIRECTORS.

His Excellency Baron Bentinck, Minister of State, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Netherlands Majesty in London, 20, Lowndes-square.

His Excellency J. J. Rochussen, Minister of State, and late Governor-General of Netherlands India, The Hague.

DIRECTORS.

James Bonar, Esq. (Messrs. Small and Co.), Leadenhall-street, London.

Rear-Admiral William H. Hall, C.B., F.R.S., Director of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company.

Bartholomew H. Hartley, Esq., Leadenhall-street, London. Director of the Marine Insurance Company and of the British and Irish Steam Packet Company.

Richard B. Martin, Esq. (Messrs. Martin and Co.), 68, Lombard-street, London.

John Wm. May, Esq., Knight of the Netherlands Lion, Great Saint Helen's, London, Netherlands Consul-General.

H. Oliver Robinson, Esq. (Messrs. H. O. Robinson and Co.), 12, Leadenhall-street, London.

(With power to add to their number, either in Holland or England)

MANAGING DIRECTOR.

H. Oliver Robinson, Esq., A. Inst. Civ. Engrs.

BANKERS.

Messrs. Martin and Co., Lombard-street, London.

BROKERS.

Messrs. Spurling and Skinner, 12, Copthall-court, London.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. McLeod, Stenning, and Watney, London-street, Fenchurch-street.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. Quilter, Bull, and Co., 3, Moorgate-street, London.

Thomas M. J. Tilby, Esq., Duke-street, Adelphi.

SECRETARY PRO TEM.

Walter William Ritchie, Esq.

OFFICES.

12, Leadenhall-street, London.

COMMITTEE OF SUPERVISION AT BATAVIA.

Five of the shareholders among the mercantile firms in Java; two to be nominated by the Directors here, and three to be elected by their co-shareholders in Java.

MARINE SUPERINTENDENT AT BATAVIA.

Captain S. Van Hulsteyn, shipowner, Batavia.

ENGINEER SUPERINTENDENT AT BATAVIA.

Mr. Alexander Brown, late Marine Engineer in the Netherlands Government Service.

PROSPECTUS.

This Company is formed for the purpose of working the valuable contract recently granted for ten years, commencing the 1st January, 1866, by the Governor-General of Netherlands East Indies, at Batavia, to Mr. H. Oliver Robinson, for the performance of the Mail Steam Packet Service of the Dutch possessions in the Eastern Archipelago, and for the Steam Navigation generally of those seas. A printed translation of this contract may be seen at the offices of the Solicitors of the Company.

The Steam Service under the contract will consist of four principal and three secondary lines of Steam Navigation to and from the principal ports and islands of the Eastern Archipelago, centering at Batavia, and including the connection with the Peninsular and Oriental and French Mail lines at Singapore.

The subsidy on the mileage will amount to £27,000 per annum as a minimum

The Government gives a loan, free of interest, of £83,330, to be repaid in eight equal instalments, commencing in the third year of the contract, viz., 1868.

The Government guarantees to the contractor all its own traffic in freight and passengers, which amounted in 1862, independently of the subsidy, to £68,044. The tariff is fixed for the whole period of the contract, and the rates are liberal.

A contract mail steam service to nearly the above extent has been in regular and successful operation for several years, and expires at the end of 1865.

The traffic receipts of the present contractor, independently of the subsidy, were, during the last few years, as follows, viz.:—

In 1859...	£78,200	In 1861 ...	£108,600
In 1860 ..	101,660	In 1862 ...	132,785

The dividends declared by the Company of the present contractor during the last two years have been at the rates of 15½ and 16 per cent. respectively, after providing for insurance and a large reserve fund to replace capital.

The undertaking of the Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company (Limited) is therefore to carry out and develop an established steam traffic of the most profitable character, and which is necessarily a monopoly, as no opposition line, deprived of the support of the Government, could prove remunerative.

Subscriptions have been obtained in Java for 742 shares of 1,000 guilders each, equivalent to 3,091 shares of £20 each, and amounting to £31,820, in a Company proposed to be formed for working the new contract. The first instalment on these subscriptions has been paid. The names embrace nearly all the leadings merchants and traders in Netherlands India, who employ the steamers, and are more especially of value as manifesting the confidence of the colonial public in the undertaking, and the creation of a local interest in its success.

The modifications which it has been found desirable to make in the scheme submitted to the Java subscribers will render it necessary that an option should be given them of becoming shareholders in the Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company (Limited), as now constituted, and it is confidently anticipated that they will readily do so, and 3,000 shares will therefore be reserved for them accordingly.

The consideration to Mr. Robinson for his interest in the contract will be shares in the capital of £300,000, or any future increase thereof or addition thereto, in the proportion of one share out of every ten shares that may be issued or placed, and also a percentage upon the excess of the net profits above 15 per cent. on the paid-up capital. One-half of the shares so given will be permanently held by him.

An entirely new fleet of steamers, of the most perfect adaptation to the traffic and climate, is in course of construction.

From the dividends yielded by the present service, as mentioned above, and from the superior adaptation and economy of the steamers that will be employed under the new contract, a steady increase of traffic and proportionate dividends may be fairly anticipated.

Interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum will be paid on the deposit and calls until 31st December, 1865, when the Government subsidy commences; and the charge on the revenue of the Company created by such payment will be defrayed out of the annual profits of the Company.

In the event of no allotment of shares being made, the deposit-money will be returned in full, but without interest. If more shares are applied for than are allotted, the surplus of the deposit-money will be applied to the payment due on allotment.

Prospectuses and forms of applications for shares may be obtained of the brokers, and at the offices of the Company.

THE NATIONAL FINANCIAL COMPANY

(Limited) invite SUBSCRIPTIONS for SHARES in the ALBERT INSURANCE COMPANY (Limited), for Fire and Marine Insurances.

Incorporated under the Companies' Act, 1862, whereby the liability of each member is strictly limited to the amount of his Shares.

Capital £1,000,000, divided into 20,000 Shares of £50 each.

First issue 10,000 Shares.

Deposit on application £1 per Share, and £4 on allotment.

No call to exceed £5 per Share, nor to be made until the expiration of three months from the incorporation of the Company, nor at intervals of less than three months.

It is not contemplated, however, to call up more than £5 per share beyond the deposit and payment on allotment.

DIRECTORS.

Oswald H. Colven, Esq (Messrs. John Nickols and Co.), Seething-lane.
E. T. Gourley, Esq., shipowner, London and Sunderland.
Angus McKenzie, Esq., merchant. Old Broad-street, Director of the Oriental Commercial Company.
Joseph McMaster, Esq., merchant, Eastcheap, Director of the National Financial Company.
P. W. Spence, Esq. (Messrs E. J. Spence and Co.), Pinner's-hall, Old Broad-street.
Charles Rudd Tatham, Esq. (Messrs. Tatham and Co.), Pudding-lane.
C. P. Varsami, Esq, merchant, 1, Shorter's-court, Throgmorton-street.

William Beattie, Esq.,
Lieut.-Col. J. Croudace,
William King, Esq.,
G. Goldsmith Kirby, Esq., Managing Director,
James Nichols, Esq.,
Wm. Page T. Phillips, Esq.
T. Stevenson, Esq., F.S.A.,
Robert Whitworth, Esq.,
} Also Directors of the Albert Life Assurance Company.

BANKERS.

The Alliance Bank, Lothbury; the London and Westminster Bank, St. James's-square.

AGENTS.

The National Financial Company (Limited).

BROKERS.

Messrs. Partridge and Greenfield, Throgmorton-street.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Mercer and Mercer, Mincing-lane.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. Johnstone, Cooper, Wintle, and Co., Lothbury.

SECRETARY (pro tem.)

H. L. Gentile, Esq.

TEMPORARY OFFICES.

No. 12, King's Arms yard, Moorgate-street, City.

This Company is established in order to afford to the agents and connections of the Albert Life Assurance Company, founded in 1838, an opportunity to combine the transaction of fire and marine insurance with that of life assurance.

The Albert Life Assurance Company has a share capital of £500,000 fully subscribed, and has an income from premiums of upwards of £220,000 per annum, and during the last three years has issued new policies of assurance to the amount of £2,573,979, the premiums upon which amount to £108,556.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The agents, policyholders, and shareholders of the Albert Life Company necessarily form a connection of the most influential character for a Fire and Marine Insurance Company.

The annual increase in the wealth of the country and in that description of property known as "insurable property" has suggested the formation of several new fire insurance offices, but the Directors of this Company believe that in very few instances has a fire company started with the same chances of success as attend the introduction of this.

The Company will have the advantage of the co-operation of a trained and perfectly organised system of agents; and the Directors submit, therefore, that there is a certainty of securing, almost at once, a large and profitable business.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer having intimated his intention to reduce the duty one-half on stock in trade, a large additional number of fire insurances will, no doubt, be effected by persons who have hitherto been deterred from insuring for the full value of their stock by reason of the heavy duty.

The following table shows the present value of the shares of those Fire Companies which are in alliance with Life Companies:—

Name of Office.	Shares.	Paid on each Share	Annual Dividend Paid.	Present Market price per Share.	Present Premium.
	£.		£6½ p.ct.		
Sun	100	£10 0	& bonus	£220 0	2,100 p. ct.
Union ...	200	20 0	£65 p.ct.	280 0	1,300 p. ct.
County ...	100	10 0	£40 p.ct.	86 0	760 p. ct.
Imperial ...	500	50 0	£36 p.ct.	360 0	620 p. ct.
Liverpool & London..	20	2 0	£24 p.ct.	11 10	475 p. ct.
London ...	25	12 10	£20 p.ct. £10 p.ct.	45 0	433 p. ct.
N. British Royal Exchange...	100	6 5	& bonus	19 0	204 p. ct.
	100	100 0	£14 p.ct. £14 p.ct.	30 0	200 p. ct.
Atlas... ...	50	5 15	& bonus	14 0	143 p. ct.
Law	100	2 10	£11 p.ct.	5 0	100 p. ct.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Notwithstanding the recent establishment of several marine insurance companies, and the extensive business they have acquired, there is ample room for the safe and profitable employment of capital in this direction. The vast increase in the shipping interest of the United Kingdom, together with the growing feeling in favour of the security afforded by joint-stock companies as compared with private underwriters, points to the opening which exists for this department of the Company's operations.

The services of an able and experienced underwriter will be secured, and a large business can at once be obtained for the Company.

The following statistics of a few of the present marine insurance companies show the present value of the shares of those companies, and the highly successful nature of such business:—

Name of Office.	Date when Established	Shares.	Paid on each Share.	Present Market Price per Share.	Present Premium.
			£ s.	£ s. d.	
Marine	1836	100	18 0	96 0 0	£433 p. ct.
Ocean Marine	1859	25	5 0	19 10 0	290 p. ct.
London	1720	25	12 10	48 0 0	284 p. ct.
Thames and Mersey	1860	20	2 0	6 17 6	244 p. ct.
Indemnity	1824	100	50 0	147 0 0	194 p. ct.
Alliance	1824	100	25 0	50 0 0	100 p. ct.
London & Provincial	1861	20	2 0	4 0 0	100 p. ct.
Commercial Union .	1861	50	5 0	9 10 0	90 p. ct.
English & Scottish	1863	100	5 0	6 0 0	20 p. ct.
Lond. & Caledonian	1863	25	5 0	6 0 0	20 p. ct.

In the event of no allotment being made, the deposit will be returned in full. Should a less number of Shares be allotted than are applied for, the deposit will be made available towards the payment on allotment, and the balance (if any) returned to the applicant.

Forms of applications for shares may be obtained from the National Financial Company (Limited), 12, King's Arms'-yard, Moorgate-street, E.C.; or the Brokers or Solicitors of the Company.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To the Directors of the ALBERT INSURANCE COMPANY (Limited).

Gentlemen,—Having paid to your bankers the sum of £ , being a deposit of £1 per share on shares in the above Company, I hereby request that you will allot me that number, and I agree to accept such shares, or any less number you may allot me, and I agree to pay the deposit on allotment, and to sign the Articles of Association of the Company when required, and I authorise you to insert my name on the Register of Members for the number of shares allotted to me.

Usual signature .....
Name in full.....
Residence .....
Profession .....
Date April, 1864 .....

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Subscribed Capital, 2,000,000 taels, in 400 Shares of 5,000 taels each.
Paid up Capital, 200,000 taels.

DIRECTORS.

H. H. Wiggins, Esq., Manager Commercial Bank of India Chairman.
F. B. Johnson, Esq. (Messrs. Johnson and Co.).
H. D. Stewart, Esq (Messrs. Turner and Co.).
F. Porter, Esq. (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston, and Co.).
J. Thorne, Esq. Messrs. Thorne Brothers and Co.).
David Reid, Esq.

Agencies are about to be established at the several ports in China and Japan.

L. JOSEPHS, Secretary.

THE ORIENTAL AND GENERAL MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY,

8, Finch-lane, London, E.C.

LOSSES and CLAIMS upon POLICIES granted by this Company can be made PAYABLE at the following places in India and China through the Company's Agents, as under:—

Bombay—Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, and Co
Calcutta—Messrs Grant, Smith, and Co.
Madras—Messrs. Bainbridge, Byard, Gair, and Co.
Singapore—Messrs. Cumming, Beaver, and Co.
Hong Kong—Messrs. Johnson and Co.
Shanghai—Messrs. Johnson and Co.

JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

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AMENDED PROSPECTUS.

THE IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA, INDIA, AND JAPAN
(LIMITED).

INCORPORATED UNDER THE COMPANIES' ACT, 1862.

INTRODUCED BY THE CREDIT MOBILIER (LIMITED).

CAPITAL £2,000,000 IN 40,000 SHARES OF £50 EACH.

FIRST ISSUE, 20,000 SHARES.

DEPOSIT ON APPLICATION £1 PER SHARE, AND £4 ON ALLOTMENT.

Subsequent Calls not to exceed £5 per Share, and at intervals of not less than Three Months.—No Call will be made until after the expiration of Three Months from the date of Allotment.—It is not intended to call up more than £10 per Share; but as the operations of the Company increase, and more Share Capital can be advantageously employed, further issues of Shares will be made, a preference being given to the then existing Shareholders.

Directors.

RICHARD C. COLES, Esq. (Coles, Brown and Co.), London.
WM. COTTON CURTIS, Esq. (Robarts, Lubbock, and Co.), London.
Lieut.-Col. FRENCH, Chairman of the Bombay and Baroda Railway.
JAMES LEVICK, Esq., Director of the Credit Mobilier (Limited).
ALEXANDER MORRISON, Esq., Director of the Bank of Otago.
PETER ROLT, Esq. (Peter Rolt and Co.), London.
ROBERT BARCLAY REYNOLDS, Esq. (Reynolds, Mann, and Co.), London and Liverpool.
Hon. FREDK. STUART WORTLEY, late Member of the Elgin Embassy to China.
J. MACKRILL SMITH, Esq. (Mackrill Smith, and Co.), 35, Old Broad-street, London and Shanghai.

(With power to add to their number.)

Bankers—Messrs. ROBARTS, LUBBOCK, and Co., London.

Solicitors—Messrs. NEWBON, EVANS, and Co., Nicholas-lane; Messrs. EDWARDS and Co., Westminster.

Brokers.

Messrs. FIELD, SON, & WOOD, 9, Warnford-court, Throgmorton-street; Messrs. ROBINS & BARBER, 29, Threadneedle-street, E.C.

Secretary (pro tem.)—T. SHORT, Esq.

Temporary Offices—At the Offices of the Credit Mobilier (Limited), 80, Lombard-street.

PROSPECTUS.

The IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA, INDIA, AND JAPAN is established to meet the increasing demand of the commerce of those countries for additional Banking accommodation.

When it is considered that the total paid-up capital of the Joint-Stock Banks doing business in China and India is represented by the inadequate sum of £6,000,000, whilst the aggregate of imports and exports with Great Britain alone amounted in the year 1862 to a total of £70,000,000, it will be apparent that there is an ample field for a new undertaking of this nature.

Great Britain imports from China and Japan an annual average of upwards of seven million pounds of silk, and about one hundred and twenty million pounds of tea.

The rapid increase of trade between China, India, and the United Kingdom is shown as under:—

Years.	Total Trade between India, China, and United Kingdom.
1854	£33,643,000
1862	70,540,000

The commerce between India and China has also increased during the past twenty years from three to fifteen millions sterling.

The balance of trade with China and India is paid in bullion—chiefly silver—of which the export value was in 1863, £8,263,011.

The Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan has been established on the basis of similar institutions, the success of which the following table will exemplify, and it is believed at least equal results will mark the progress of this Bank:—

Name of Bank.	Paid up per Share.	Present price per Share.
Agra and United Service	£50	£145
Chartered Mercantile of India, London, and China	25	70
Chartered of India, Australia, and China	20	41
Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	40
Oriental	25	66

The Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan, will transact all operations connected with those of a Bank of Issue, Deposit, Discount, and Exchange, in China and the East; and as soon as necessary arrangements can be completed, the business of the Bank will be extended to the Australian Colonies.

The directing and controlling authority will be in London. Branch Banks will be formed in the first instance at Shanghai, Hong Kong, Bombay and Calcutta, and at such other places as may from time to time be deemed advisable. The Branches will be under the control of the London Board, aided by the supervision of an Inspector-General. The authorisation of the Government at Pekin has been solicited to allow the Specie Notes of the Bank to be received in payment of Customs Duties, and an official correspondence is now being carried on by the Bank with Pekin for that object.

The growing necessity and desire for the introduction of railway and telegraphic communication in China will render necessary extensive financial operations, which the Bank will be favourably situated to undertake.

No fresh Applications for Shares will be received.

THE IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA, INDIA, AND JAPAN (LIMITED).

The following Circular has this day been sent to each Applicant for Shares in the Imperial Bank of China (Limited):—

THE IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA, INDIA, AND JAPAN (LIMITED).

Temporary Offices, 80, Lombard-street.—22nd April, 1864.

SIR,—I am instructed to inform you that, in consequence of the great encouragement held out to the proposed Imperial Bank of China (Limited), since the Prospectus has been issued, the Directors have found it absolutely necessary to enlarge the basis and sphere of operations.

With this object they have determined upon increasing the Capital of the Bank to Two Millions, in 40,000 Shares of £50 each, and issuing 20,000 Shares instead of 10,000, as originally announced; the title has also been made more comprehensive, viz., "The Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan (Limited)."

I am further requested to enclose you the amended Prospectus, and to place at your disposal the option of confirming or withdrawing your application for shares, but in consequence of the very large number of Shares applied for (upwards of 92,000), no additional applications can be entertained.

The Board Meeting for the purpose of Allotment, stands adjourned to THURSDAY, the 28th inst., your decision must, therefore, be received at this Office not later than WEDNESDAY, 27th inst., at 12 o'clock; all such as are not then received will be considered as withdrawn.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant, THOMAS SHORT, Secretary (pro tem.).

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THIRTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS
OF THE
AGRA AND UNITED SERVICE BANK
(LIMITED),

Held at the Bank, 27, Cannon-street, E.C., on Saturday, April 2, 1864.

GEORGE GORDON MACPHERSON, Esq., Chairman, in the Chair.

The notice convening the Meeting and the following REPORT and STATEMENT of ACCOUNTS were read:—

The Directors have to submit to the shareholders the audited accounts for the year ended 31st December last, and to report that, after making ample provision for all bad and doubtful debts, the net profits of the Bank for the year amounted to £242,909. 12s. 6d.

Out of this sum the Directors have declared, free of income-tax, two half-yearly dividends at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum each, and have added to the last of these a bonus of £4 per share, thus making a return for the year of 18 per cent. on the paid-up capital of one million sterling.

From the balance remaining the Directors have refunded to reserved fund account the sum of £7,341. 2s. 4d. taken from it last year, and, in consideration of the greatly extended business of the Bank, have carried to credit a further sum of £25,000, thus raising the fund to £225,000. They have also passed the sum of £5,000 to superannuation fund, and £15,000 to building fund, carrying forward £10,568. 10s. 2d. to credit of profit and loss account for the current year.

Since last annual meeting the Directors have purchased desirable premises in Sydney, and have secured land at Shanghai, Kurrachee, and Madras, in view to the erection of suitable buildings for the branches of the Bank at those ports.

The present Auditors being eligible for re-election, in terms of the deed of settlement, offer themselves accordingly.—By order of the Board,

MACKINTOSH BALFOUR, General Manager.

(No. I.)—BALANCE-SHEET, DECEMBER 31, 1863.

Dr. LIABILITIES.			
To paid-up capital	£1,000,000	0	0
„ Reserved fund	192,658	17	8
„ Amount due by the Bank for customers' balances, fixed deposits, acceptances, letters of credit, circular notes, &c.	8,952,830	12	11
„ Profit and loss	242,909	12	6
	£10,388,399	8	1
Cr. ASSETS.			
By cash in hand and at call at head office and branches	£941,863	4	1
„ Government securities	511,549	9	10
„ Other securities, including specie, bills purchased, discounts, loans, &c.	8,840,914	12	1
„ Freehold premises in London, Edinburgh, Calcutta, Bombay, Agra, Lahore, and Sydney, and leasehold property and building ground at the other branches...	94,071	17	1
	£10,388,399	8	1

G. B. DALBY, Chief Accountant.

(No. 2.)—PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1863.

Dr.			
To payment of dividend on paid-up capital (at 10 per cent. per annum) for half-year ended 30th June ...	£50,000	0	0
„ Ditto ditto for half-year ended 31st December ...	50.000	0	0
„ Bonus of £4 per share	80,000	0	0
„ Amount transferred to reserved fund	82,341	2	4
„ Amount transferred to building fund	15,000	0	0
„ Amount transferred to superannuation fund	5,000	0	0
„ Balance carried forward	10,568	10	2
	£242,909	12	6

Cr.			
By gross profits at head office and branches to Dec. 31, 1863—after making provision for bad and doubtful debts ...£496,652	6	0	
Less interest allowed on current and deposit accounts 167,505	14	0	
	£329,146	12	0
Total expenditure of head office and branches, including rent, income-tax, taxes, stamps, salaries (with a gratuity of 10 per cent. thereon, to the officers of the establishments at home and abroad), miscellaneous charges, &c. 86,236	19	6	
	242,909	12	6
	£242,909	12	6

G. B. DALBY, Chief Accountant.

(No. 3.)—RESERVE FUND ACCOUNT, DECEMBER 31, 1863.

Dr.			
To balance at credit of reserved fund	£225,000	0	0
	£225,000	0	0
Cr.			
By amount on 31st December, 1862	£192,658	17	8
„ amount transferred from profit and loss account, as above	32,341	2	4
	£225,000	0	0

G. B. DALBY, Chief Accountant.

We have examined the preceding statements (Nos. 1, 2, and 3) with the books, vouchers, and securities, at the head office in London, and with the detailed returns and balance-sheets signed by the auditors of the several branches, and we hereby certify to the correctness and satisfactory character thereof.

London, March 16, 1864. W FARR, J. HILL WILLIAMS, } Auditors.

The following resolutions were duly moved, seconded, and carried unanimously:—

"1. That the Report and Statements which have been read to the meeting and previously circulated to the Shareholders in Europe, be adopted.

"2. That George Gordon Macpherson, Esq., Colonel Henry Doveton, James Sydney Stopford, Esq., and James Thompson, Esq., be re-elected Directors.

"3. That John Hill Williams, Esq., and William Farr, Esq., D.C.L., F.R.S., be auditors for the present year.

"4. That the thanks of the Shareholders be given to the Board of Directors for their careful control of the Bank's affairs; to the General Manager, Mr. Mackintosh Balfour; to the London Manager, Mr. William Shipman; and to the Local Committees and Managers of the Branches, for the satisfactory manner in which they have conducted the business of the Bank for the past year; and to the Auditors, for their efficient supervision of the accounts.

"5. That the thanks of the meeting be given to the Chairman for his able conduct in the chair."

G. G. MACPHERSON, Chairman.

THE AGRA AND UNITED SERVICE BANK (LIMITED).

ESTABLISHED IN INDIA, 1833.—INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, £1,000,000 (ONE MILLION STERLING).

Subscribed Capital, £2,000,000 (Two Million Sterling), in 20,000 Shares of £100 each.

NUMBER OF SHAREHOLDERS, 725.—RESERVE FUND, £225,000.

HEAD OFFICE—27, CANNON STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Directors.

GEORGE GORDON MACPHERSON, Esq., Chairman. | Ald. THOMAS QUESTED FINNIS, Deputy-Chairman.

General Manager—MACKINTOSH BALFOUR, Esq. **London Manager**—WILLIAM SHIPMAN, Esq.

Auditors—WILLIAM FARR, Esq., D.C.L., F.R.S. JOHN HILL WILLIAMS, Esq.

Solicitors—Messrs. UPTONS, JOHNSON, and UPTON, 20, Austinfriars. | **Inspector of Branches**—RICHARD BARNES, Esq.

Edinburgh Branch—17, ST. ANDREW-SQUARE.

Directors in Edinburgh.

THOMAS RANKEN, Esq., 68, Queen-street, Chairman. | BENJAMIN BURT, Esq., M.D., 31, Charlotte-square.

DANIEL AINSLIE, Esq., 48, Moray-place. | GEORGE MOIR, Esq., Advocate, Sheriff of Stirlingshire, 14, Charlotte-square.

Manager in Edinburgh—ROBERT HUNTER, Esq.

Branches in Edinburgh, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee, Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong, and Sydney.

Current Accounts of firms and individuals are kept at the head office, on the terms customary with London bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received at ten days' notice of withdrawal at rates fluctuating with those of the Bank of England; and for longer periods at fixed rates, particulars of which may be obtained upon application.

Every other description of banking business and money agency, British and Indian, transacted.

Letters of Credit and Circular Notes issued, payable at the chief cities of Europe and Asia, and also at Cairo and Alexandria.

MACKINTOSH BALFOUR, General Manager.

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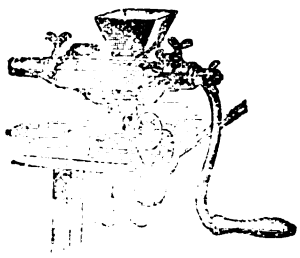

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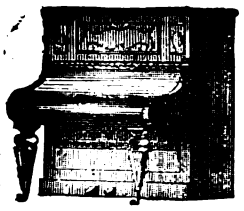

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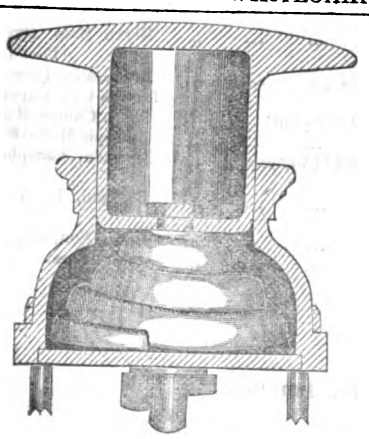

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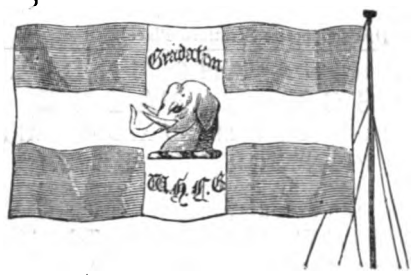

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 136.] LONDON, FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Kanagawa			March 4
	Nagasaki			„ 2
	Hakodadi			
CHINA—				
	Peking			Feb. 20
	Tien-tsin			
	Hankow			March 2
	Shanghai	Jan. 10	March 8	„ 9
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 11
	Amoy			„ 12
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	Jan. 26	March 14	„ 15
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	Jan. 10	March 2	„ 8
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Touron			
	Saigon			„ 10
SIAM—				
	Bankok			
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			„ 12
	Sarawak			
JAVA—				
	Batavia			„ 16
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	Feb. 10	March 16	„ 23
	Penang	„ 10	„ 14	„ 25

THE FRENCH MAILS.

The following telegram has been received by the Messageries Imperiales in Paris :—

The *Bengal* has spoken the Messageries Imperiales steamship *Imperatrice*, 760 miles from Aden. Her shaft had broken down, but had been repaired. She was making six knots per hour, and expected to arrive at Aden on the 30th of April. Her mails have been transshipped in the *Bengal*, and will arrive here with the next P. and O. mail about the 13th inst. She brings 214 passengers.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Syria, from Southampton, May 4.—To Singapore: Mr. P. L. Blyth. To Hong Kong: Mr. H. D. Margesson, Mr. C. Smale. From Marseilles, May 12.—To Penang: Mr. Jno. Lamb. To Shanghai: Admiral Steen Bille and Secretary. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Neilson, Mr. Barnes Dallas. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. M. Borntraeger, Mr. G. Hubbe.

Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, 20th May, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Rev. W. A. Rutherford, Mr. Kilby. To Shanghai: Mr. F. Whitmore. From Marseilles, May 28.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. von der Heyde. To Shanghai: Mr. Broadbent.

Per P. and O. steamer, 4th June, from Southampton.—To Singapore: Mr. J. Tyndall Woods. From Marseilles, 12th June.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Bannatyne.

Summary of News from the Far East.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

Having been informed that shipments of sporting guns and ammunition are included in the following notification, we publish it again for the guidance of shippers :—

CUSTOMS NOTIFICATION.

Office of Maritime Customs, Shanghai,
Tuesday, 9th June, 1863.

The following is a translation of a Notice posted at the Custom House by the order of his Excellency the Superintendent of Customs.

H. TUDOR DAVIES, Commissioner of Customs.

HUANG, SUPERINTENDENT OF CUSTOMS, INTENDANT OF CIRCUIT, &c.

A Special Proclamation.

It is laid down in the Regulations appended to the Tariff, that munitions of war are contraband, and that import and export trade therein is prohibited; and thus it is only when specially imported for Chinese Government officers, under Government authorisation, that the contraband character of such commodities is removed.

Therefore after the dates mentioned below, all munitions of war, brought to Shanghai, will be regarded as, and treated as contraband, unless the importer has *in the first instance* obtained a *Permit to Import*. This document will be issued by the Customs, on receipt of instructions from H. E. the Governor; and will state distinctly that a certain merchant is authorised to purchase on behalf of His Imperial Chinese Majesty's Government, at a certain place, a certain quantity of munitions of war.

All munitions of war brought here, save under this permit to import, will be seized and confiscated, and the plea that they are intended to be eventually taken to Japan or elsewhere will be by no means admitted.

As however the distance between China and the various foreign countries is not uniform, I, on the 4th day of the 4th moon (the 21st May) addressed communications to the Consuls of the Treaty Powers, to the effect "that *after the expiry of a term of six weeks*, commencing on the 4th day of the 4th moon, the date of my communications, munitions of war, for which no Customs permit to import has been issued, brought to Shanghai in vessels which have come from Hong Kong, or any Asiatic or Australian port, or in vessels which, coming from other parts of the world, have touched or anchored at Hong Kong, or any Asiatic or Australian port, shall be regarded as contraband and seized and confiscated: and that *after the expiry of a term of seven months*, munitions of war brought to Shanghai in vessels which coming from any European, American, or African port, have not touched or anchored at Hong Kong, or any Asiatic or Australian port, shall be regarded as contraband, and seized and confiscated."

In addition to the communications which I have already addressed to the Consuls of the Treaty Powers, I now publish this proclamation for the information of all whom it may concern.

T'ung-Chih, 2nd year, 4th moon, 19th day.

HANKOW.

A meeting of merchants has been held here for the purpose of inquiring into the reasons alleged by A. Macpherson for the detention of the Shanghai Steam Navigation Company's steamer *Huquong*. There were forty-five gentlemen present, and all the leading firms in China were represented.

The Chairman (Mr. John Mackellar) explained the object of the meeting, expatiating upon the annoyance arising from the detention of the *Huquong*. He requested Mr. Breck (U. S. Consul) to read the correspondence on the subject. Mr. Breck read the correspondence consisting of—

1st. A letter from the Acting Commissioner of Customs, of the 15th February, enclosing a copy of Tidewaiter Gray's report of the alleged insults offered to him by John Peterson, Assistant engineer of the *Huquong*, and demanding written apologies from the same.

2nd. Tidewaiter Gray's statement enclosed. In which he affirms that Mr. Peterson had abused the Custom House and all its officials, while he (Mr. Gray) was on board the *Huquong* in the execution of his duty.

3rd. A letter from the Acting Commissioner of Customs of the 16th February stating that it was by his authority that the Custom House officers had been withdrawn from the *Huquong*, and as a matter of course the shipment and discharge of cargo then ceased.

4th. Affidavits of officers on board the *Huquong*, denying Tidewaiter Gray's statement.

5th. Mr. Tidewaiter Gray's statement on oath before the U. S. Consul.

The Chairman asked if any gentleman, having heard the correspondence, had any observations to make.

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Mr. J. T. Hudson proposed the following resolution to the meeting :—

"Resolved, that this meeting do consider the detention of the *Huquong* unjustifiable under the circumstances." Seconded by Mr. Townend, and carried *nem. con.*

Mr. Jerdein proposed the following resolution :—"Resolved that, in the opinion of this meeting, the Commissioner of Customs acted without carefully weighing the facts of the case, and at the same time exhibited a want of judgment in the detention of the *Huquong*, which has resulted not only in great inconvenience to the consignees and shippers, but to the public generally, who had availed themselves of that opportunity to write their homeward mail." Seconded by Mr. D. C. Williams, and carried *nem. con.*

Mr. Innes then proposed as follows :—"Resolved, that this meeting are of opinion that the Acting Commissioner of Customs not only showed a want of judgment, but exceeded his authority, in detaining the *Huquong*, inasmuch as that vessel did not break the American treaty, or the Yang-tsze regulations." Seconded by Mr. Lloyd, and carried *nem. con.*

Mr. J. H. Evans turning the attention of the meeting to the question of redress, proposed the resolution :—"Resolved, that a representation be made to H.B.M.'s Consul, showing the very serious injury that such acts are calculated to inflict on the interests of this port, and praying for his interference in such manner as he may deem best, in order to secure protection to the community from such acts in future." Seconded by Mr. Ramsey, and carried *nem. con.*

Mr. Hardy then proposed as follows :—

"Resolved, that a Committee be formed consisting of the Chairman, Mr. Wetmore, and Mr. J. H. Evans, to wait on H.B.M's Consul, and to carry out the meeting's last resolution." Seconded by Mr. Deuce, and carried *nem. con.*

Mr. Littledale thought that the Commissioner was not responsible, but that the Taoutai was responsible for the detention. Did the meeting know if the Taoutai knew of and authorised the detention ?

Mr. Breck said that the Taoutai did not know, but sent for the Commissioner and ascertained the fact. The Taoutai only know that the vessel was detained on account of a squabble between the inferior officers of the Customs and of the *Huquong*. That the Commissioner had not the usual advantage of falling back on the Superintendent of Trade, as he (Mr. Breck) had himself received a letter from the Taoutai, informing him that the matter lay with the Commissioner of Customs, as the Commissioner had been appointed from Peking to manage such business.

Mr. Little wished to know on whose authority the vessel was eventually cleared.

Mr. Breck did not know.

Mr. Josephs proposed that a copy of these resolutions, and of the proceedings of the meeting, be forwarded, to the Chamber of Commerce at Shanghai and to the Inspector-General of Customs at Shanghai. Seconded by Mr. Cheshire, and carried *nem. con.*

Mr. Menzies proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman. Mr. Evans seconded it. Carried *nem. con.*

HONG KONG.

On the new postal regulations the *China Mail* says :—Some amusing scenes occurred at the Post-office last mail, owing to the inauguration of the new arrangement, whereby the use of postage stamps has become compulsory. Of course, those having a large correspondence to post regularly were prepared for the change, and had their measures taken accordingly, and the discomfiture was therefore chiefly among private correspondents with their one or two letters. In order to make sure of the letter being posted, in the absence of the usual chit-book check, each man went to the office in person, and the scene was somewhat exciting. The first difficulty was with the shroff who sells the stamps. This public servant's leading weakness, it was proved, is a steady unwillingness to admit that any dollar is of full weight. He holds up each of these coins that come before him, and informs the applicant for stamps what value he is prepared to affix to it. The latter person being in a hurry to have his letter posted, and not wishing to amuse the bystanders by a dispute about the alleged deficiency, takes what he can get for the light dollar. If, as usually happens, he requests the change to be given him in stamps, the shroff or compradore entrusted with the sale of these has to cast up a calculation and adjust the value of the stamps returned so as to suit the amount of change requisite. The next difficulty consists in finding out the weight of each letter, which is not so easily done in the present dearth of implements for the purpose ; after this the price forms a separate subject of inquiry, and one thing only remains, viz., to find out the proper pigeon-hole into which the letters are to be put. The public are, perhaps, rather slow in finding out these things ; and, as people had generally allowed their servants to post their letters, there was the most profound ignorance shown on all hands with regard to this point. Men might be seen running about demanding of each other the required information, and comparing notes as to what was best to be done. Of the different stages of the postal process this was the most trying, and taxed the ingenuity most severely. But, of course, all these labourers met their reward, by thoroughly initiating those who endured them in the profound mysteries of posting letters. The coinage is easily arranged beforehand, as the new ten-cent piece cannot be denied ; it will be easier still to get satisfaction when the coming dollar shall have made its appearance. The matter of weight and price is probably a study, but it is one well worth going into, and a little practice will soon render one perfect.

The Post-office here, though very well managed, is scarcely up to the requirements of the place, and it is greatly to be desired that more hands and larger premises be provided. A Post-office should facilitate the despatch of letters, but here it rather impedes it. Decent people, as a rule, pay attention to all legal enactments, but the sending of letters by private hands is a thing at which the most scrupulous would never hesitate.

The practice of returning to the senders all letters insufficiently stamped is most objectionable. It is simply offensive, in the first place, to open a man's letter, but it is worse than offensive to cause him to have his correspondence, or any portion of it, delayed for a week or a fortnight. The opening of under-stamped letters may be avoided by each sender putting his name outside in case of accidents, but the practice of detaining correspondence in any way is surely entirely unnecessary, as a fine can be imposed here and charged to the sender's account, at least where the latter is known.

The Quarterly Tea Meeting in connection with the Rev. Dr. Legge's congregation was held in the School-room. Tea being over, the Chairman (Dr. Legge) introduced Captain Hedger, who addressed to the meeting a few humorous and instructive remarks on what he had seen and heard of Christain worship in foreign lands. Short addresses were then made by Mr. Keyworth, Rev. Mr. Lech, Mr. Cox, and Mr. Denison, in the course of the evening. Hymns were sung in the intervals by the audience ; and a pleasant and profitable evening having been spent, the meeting closed about half-past ten.

The New Dock at Aberdeen promises to be a fine work, and will be capable of taking in the *Warrior* itself should that renowned vessel ever visit these shores. The Admiralty, it is perhaps not generally known, are extending their assistance to the energetic proprietor in the construction of a second dock ; and they are doing so on very liberal terms. The depth already attained is about twenty-two feet, and the length will be considerably over that of the existing dock. The soil proves to be of harder material than had been previously excavated, so that the prospects of success may be considered fair. The part requiring most ingenuity will be about the entrance, and the trouble entailed will depend upon the kind of bottom that may be found, a matter which has not yet been precisely ascertained.

On the 9th and 10th of March a series of garrison sports took place here. The following were the leading sports. First day : Naval scrambling, running, high jumps, Minden Cup race, Lanarkshire Plate do., Hong Kong Plate do., the Indian Star do., putting shots, the sack race, and the Victoria Cup do. Second day : Race for the champion's belt, throwing the hammer, hop, step and jump, short scurry race, mile do., throwing a cricket ball, and Indian wrestling. The best run race was a race got up among gentlemen belonging to the colony. Twenty-eight names were put down for five dollars each, the winner to pocket the stakes. Nineteen out of the twenty-eight started, the distance being one hundred yards. The lead was taken by Davidson (Messrs. Deut and Co.'s), and was kept the whole way. Harris (2-20th) and Tanner (99th) were respectively second and third, Baldwin being fourth. When we mention that the distance was run in ten seconds and a third it will be seen that the race was a good one. Ten yards per second is a rate of progression not often attained.

From a return just published by Captain Frederic Brine, of the Royal Engineers, we find that, up to the present date, the

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number of vessels presented or sold by foreigners to Japanese has been thirty-seven ; five of these were vessels of war, one of which was a present from Queen Victoria and one a present from the King Holland, who also sold the Japanese three more at $100,000 each. The number of merchant vessels sold to the Japanese within the last three years has been thirty-two ; the highest price obtained was for the *Ly-ee-moon* ($195,000), sold by Messrs. Dent and Co. Other steamers have brought such prices as the following :—*Jinkee* $150,000 (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston and Co.) ; *Yang-tsze*, $145,000 (Messrs. Dent and Co.) ; *Shantung*, $135,000 (Messrs. A. Heard and Co.) ; *Fiery Cross*, $130,000 (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.) ; *England*, $128,000 (Mr. W. S. Lindsay) ; *Kumsing*, $125,000 (Messrs. Thomas Hunt and Co.) ; *Lancefield*, $115,000 (Messrs. Jardine, M. and Co.) ; *Shanghai*, $115,000 (Messrs. Wilkinson and Co.) ; *City of Hankow* and *Shunlee*, $100,000 each (Messrs. Dow and Co). The Tycoon bought ten of the thirty-two merchant vessels, and the Prince of Satsuma five. Six or seven of these ships are no longer afloat, having been lost at sea or burned at Kagosima, others have got out of repair and are doing nothing. The entire cost of this fleet has amounted to $2,481,800 ; and for the ships-of-war supplied by the Dutch in 1858, $300,000. There have also been offered for sale besides, 12 British, 3 American, 1 Russian, and 1 Prussian, screw-steamers ; 8 British paddle-steamers, 1 American brigantine, and 2 British schooners ;—total, 28 vessels. The Japanese have also three schooners built out of wrecks of foreign vessels, one of which is from the wreck of the late Russian frigate *Diana*, that foundered rounding Cape Idsu when on her way from Simoda on the 23rd December, 1854. The guns of the *Diana* are now in the new fort at Hakodadi.

The following letter is on the subject of railways in China noticed in our last :—

(To the Editor of the *China Mail*.)

CANTON, *March* 4, 1864.

Dear Sir,—Your last issue gave, in mournful numbers, the lamentations of some "Old Cantoner" for the desolations of this city, and the decline of trade. Yet there was a beam of cheerful content and loving attachment to this ancient settlement glimmering through them which was commendable.

In another column of the same paper, which contains the poetical lamentations over Canton's departed glory, are editorial remarks concerning a railway from Canton to Hankow. Although but a few lines are devoted to the subject they are true and timely. It is an object deserving the attention of both Chinese and foreign Governments, the Chinese people and foreign residents.

The 1st question which suggests itself is this. Is it practicable to construct a railway on the proposed route? Are there no insuperable obstacles of mountain ranges, rivers, or yearly freshets? From personal observation I can assure you there are none. It has been supposed that the mountain range running east and west between Canton and Hunan provinces was a barrier that would effectually prevent all attempts to connect the two provinces by a railway. I am happy to inform you that such is not the case. The pass or gap in the mountain range named See-ue Leng, is only twenty-eight miles in length, from the head waters of Canton North River, to the head of boat navigation on the Say-ung River, which empties into Tong Teng Lake, not far south of Hankow. This pass has a gradual ascent on the north and south sides, but so low that small streams flow parallel with the stone-paved road which runs through it. The grade is much less than that of many hills in England and America, which have been levelled by railway engineers.

2nd. Will the road pay after it is built? This question is much more problematical than the first. But if the number of travellers up and down the route, the produce that would be exported, and the goods imported by it, should be only what are now carried in Chinese boats, I am confident it would pay the outlay and expenses. The actual existence of such an unheard-of, safe, and speedy communication between Hankow and Canton, including all the intermediate places, would open new streams of trade, develop more largely the resources of the country, and induce many a villager and mountain peasant to purchase a railway ticket.

3rd. Who shall build the railway? Chinese coolies and workmen, of course, superintended by foreign engineers and interpreters. Who built Shameen, and changed a mud flat into one of the most beautiful and healthy places in China for the residences of foreigners? Thousands of poor Chinese day-labourers were delighted to have a share in that job for a few pennies a day. Thanks to the zeal, skill, and energy of Sir Harry Parkes, Carl Brunsted, Esq., and their associates, who planned and carried out the work to completion. Who have built the fine granite docks at Whampoa and Hong Kong? Who have built the roads, bridges, and princely dwellings on the hill-sides of Victoria? Chinese workmen, taught and directed by foreign overseers. In like manner can it be with this railway from Canton to Hankow. No want of labourers and diggers.

What we have now between Canton and Hong Kong for the transfer of passengers and produce are several fine steamers for passengers, specie, silks, and other valuable merchandise; while a dozen or twenty Chinese cargo-boats transport the heavier goods, rice, fuel, and lumber. On this railway there would be the crowded passenger cars and heavily loaded freight trains. A happy day will it be for Canton when the first spade is struck in the ground to begin the proposed railway. Happy day for all the inhabitants two hundred miles on either side of the route, eight or nine hundred miles to Hankow. Idlers and half-starved coolies would find constant employment and good wages.

The day of Mandarin tyranny over foreigners in Canton has passed away. The Cantonese of to-day are not the same as those of 1854. They are willing to listen to propositions for improvement, although they do not always see the best way to adopt them.

The mention of the subject in your paper gives me pleasure, and I trust it will be taken up and carried through by those versed in such matters. There is not a single railway in China. Canton needs it quite as much, and more, than Shanghai. The Yang-tsze may suffice for her great highway and commercial avenue. Those mammoth steamers plying to and fro on its waters have stolen from Canton her ancient rights and possessions. They must be regained by the swifter locomotive, which shall draw back to their former outlet the productions of Hunan, Hupeh, and Sz-chuen provinces. Would it not be a great loss to Canton and Hong Kong if the present steam communication between them was cut off? The advantages to all concerned are too many to be given up. And have they not been increasing every season, notwithstanding the Hankow competition? Let the rapid increase of the Chinese population of Hong Kong answer. Now is the time for Canton and Hong Kong to take hold of this matter in earnest, and not let it cease till it has become a substantial *bona fide* railway. Deliberate, consult, organise, talk, "proceed to business," and push on the work until we see in the advertising columns of the Hong Kong dailies a notice somewhat like this :—

CANTON AND HANKOW RAILWAY COMPANY.

Until further notice, the express train for Hankow will leave the depot at the North City Gate punctually at 8.30 A.M. and 5 P.M., stopping half-an-hour at every district and department city on the route. Through tickets may be purchased at the office in New China-street (Old Factory site), or at the superintendent's office in Hong Kong. Passengers' luggage will be in charge of the baggage-master, who will furnish a ticket in exchange for each article put under his charge. Freight trains leave at 6 A.M. and 6 P.M. Refreshments provided at the stopping places of the express train.—By order of the directors,

CHUN AWIN, Agent for Canton.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

The dismantling of Fort Fullerton had been confined to the removal of a few guns, which are to be placed in position on Pearl's Hill, where some earthworks are now being constructed. The site of the fort had been applied for by the Municipal Commissioners, who propose to connect both sides of the river by a bridge, thrown over near its mouth, securing a fine broad carriage way from the Esplanade direct into the sea-wall frontage on the business side. This sea-wall frontage has a road of fine proportions, and is being lined by a row of handsome godowns.

Her Majesty's steam frigate *Pelorus*, which arrived on the 12th March, brought the chief mate of the British brig, *Fame*, or *Fawn* (it is given both ways), charged with shooting a seaman belonging to the said vessel. The brig, under the command of Captain Macdonald, was bound from Mauritius to New Zealand, having a crew disposed to be insubordinate. On one occasion a scuffle ensued between the chief officer and one of the crew, which led to the offence charged. The brig, subsequently, touched at St. Paul's, and seeing the frigate passing showed signals of distress. An inquiry ensued, and the result was that the mate was brought in a prisoner, with the second mate and three of the crew of the brig as witnesses. A petty officer and three men of the *Pelorus* were placed on board the brig to navigate her to New Zealand.

We announce with deep regret, says the *Straits Times*, the death at Malacca of Mr. Tan Kim Sing, one of our greatest public benefactors. Though a Chinaman, he identified himself thoroughly with the welfare and prosperity of the settlement. Mr. Kim Sing was trustee of the Institution Schools, the Townhall, and the gasworks.

Mr. Williams, chief mate of the British brig *Louisa*, of this port, went ashore on Sunday, the 6th March, and left the Prince of Wales tavern in the evening with the intention of going off to the vessel in a China sampan, but nothing had been since seen or heard of him.

PENANG.

We take the following from the *Penang Gazette* of March 19 :—"H.M.'s steamer *Prince Arthur*, Captain Baker, from Singapore on the 10th and Malacca on the 12th inst., arrived here on the 14th, and sailed the following day for Maulmain.

The French barque *Louise Collet*, for Havre, *via* Rangoon, sailed on the 15th inst., with the following cargo :—

Pls.		
7.03	Tin.	
" 669.87	Black Pepper.	
" 102.25	White do.	
" 100.30	Rattans.	

The British barque *Devonvale*, for London, sailed on the 16th inst., with the following cargo :—

Pls.		
1,791. 48¾	Tin	
,, 824. 40	Sugar	
,, 3,714. 05	Black Pepper	
,, 20. 38½	Gum Benjamin	
,, 37. 85	M. O. Pearl Shells	

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,,	5. 57	Gutta Percha
,,	4. 40	Fish Maws
,,	151. 71	Nutmegs
,,	13. 64	Mace
,,	13. 64	Cloves
Bottles	96	Essential Oil
lb.	1,678	Cotton
Case	1	Sundries.

The dry weather still continues, and with it a very high atmospheric temperature, which makes it very oppressive to those residing in the plain. This drought has now lasted upwards of three months, the few partial showers which have, at rare intervals, fallen during that time have had very little effect indeed on vegetation, or at all contributed to our personal comfort. On Thursday evening, there was every appearance of a very heavy fall of rain in the province, accompanied by lightning and thunder, which we fully expected would extend to this island; unfortunately the wind changed and the rain clouds were rapidly dispersed, affording us the benefit of the merest sprinkling, not sufficient to lay the dust on the roads. It is to be hoped we shall not be much longer without a good supply of rain, and we anticipate that the end of this month will see its advent.

Since the above was written, we learn that on Thursday evening a heavy shower fell in the south of the island which lasted four hours.

From our observations up to this time we think that the tree which has suffered most from the drought is the Pinang or betelnut. This is curious, as the Pinang is an indigenous tree. Several batches in the jungle are completely scorched up. One effect of the drought has been to push forward the flowering season of the fruit trees. We are promised an abundant crop of durians and other fruits, and some very young trees of the former show a large quantity of blossoms.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1863-64.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864	2160943	43662911	50895604	2257092	12719873	111695523	37270
Corresponding period last season	2074919	38136350	40518123	336208	19721698	100780290	64919

SHIPMENTS IN MARCH.

Ship.	From.	lbs. Tea.	Bales Silk.
Emue (Mail str.)	Shanghai, &c.	—	360
Victory	,,	33,017	—
Robert Henderson	Foo-chow	715,000	—

TO UNITED STATES.

		Piculs.
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864	19685554	539
Corresponding period last season	17693726	1999

SHIPMENTS IN MARCH.

Ship	From	lbs. Tea.	Bales Silk.
Haversham	Shanghai	495,126	—

TO THE CONTINENT.

		Bales.
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864	1289007	3271
Corresponding period last season	1124764	6532

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Tl. pkgs.	
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864	467365	...
Corresponding period last season	47987	...

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	51,022,600	..
,, 1845 to 1846	57,334,200	18,604
,, 1850 to 1851	63,972,300	22,143
,, 1853 to 1854	77,327,800	61,980
,, 1855 to 1856	92,240,300	50,480
,, 1857 to 1858	76,990,255	68,311
,, 1858 to 1859	65,789,792	83,136
,, 1859 to 1860	85,560,452	64,163
,, 1860 to 1861	90,066,160	79,644
,, 1861 to 1862	109,854,040	70,199
,, 1862 to 1863	121,273,580	...

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864	416939	24	9664	4990	349	1784

SHIPMENTS IN MARCH.

Ship.	From	Piculs Cotton.
Berdinkar	Shanghai	1,125
Victory	,,	2,971
Patrician	Hong Kong	18,262
Vanguard	,,	5,858

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864	3059	...	...	350	100	...

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864	46630	20523	2744	1400	24	336

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864	706	16482	99149	7982	4840	212400

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864	6	146	2737	2318	23400	...

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents., and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

OPENING OF WESTERN CHINA.

A Parliamentary paper has been published giving the memorials which have from time to time been given in our journal. We extract the last one and the reply thereto from Government, which, we regret to see, shelves the question. It is due to the various Chambers, and also to the memory of the late Lord Elgin, to publish the despatch in which his lordship expresses the adverse opinion which Sir Charles Wood attributes to him. We append a list of the memorials which have been forwarded :—

	1860.
The President of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce to Viscount Palmerston	July 12
The Secretary to the Manchester Chamber of Commerce to Lord J. Russell	July 12
Mr. Baring to the Secretary to the Manchester Chamber of Commerce	Aug. 3
The President of the Huddersfield Chamber of Commerce to Viscount Palmerston	Aug. 7
The President of the Leeds Chamber of Commerce to Viscount Palmerston	—
The President of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce to Viscount Palmerston	—
The President of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce to Viscount Palmerston	Aug. 23
Mr. Hammond to the President of the Leeds Chamber of Commerce	Aug. 27
The President of the Leeds Chamber of Commerce to Lord J. Russell	—
Mr. Hammond to the President of the Leeds Chamber of Commerce	Sept. 22
Memorial of the Salt Chamber of Commerce	—
Mr. Hammond to the Chairman of the Salt Chamber of Commerce	Dec. 8
	1862.
The President of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce to Mr. Milner Gibson	Sept. 5
Mr. Booth to the President of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce	Sept. 10
Mr. Merivale to the President of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce	Sept. 13
Chairman of the Liverpool East India and China Association to Sir C. Wood	Sept. 23
Mr. Melvill to the Chairman of the Liverpool East India and China Association	Sept. 25
The Chairman of the Liverpool Shipowners' Association to Mr. Milner Gibson	Oct. 29
Sir J. E. Tennent to the Chairman of the Liverpool Shipowners' Association	Nov. 6
Mr. Merivale to the Secretaries to the Liverpool Shipowners' Association	Nov. 22
	1863.
The President of the Manchester Cotton Supply Association to Viscount Palmerston	July 15
Mr. Baring to the President of the Manchester Cotton Supply Association	July 28
The Secretary to the Liverpool East India and China Association to Mr. Milner Gibson	Aug. 28

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Mr. Farrer to the Secretary to the Liverpool East India and China Association	Sept. 4
The President of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce to Viscount Palmerston	Oct. 6
Mr. Merivale to the President of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce	Oct. 16
The Chairman of the Liverpool Shipowners' Association to Viscount Palmerston	—
Mr. Merivale to the Chairman of the Liverpool Shipowners' Association	Oct. 16
The President of the Leeds Chamber of Commerce to Viscount Palmerston	Oct. 1
Mr. Merivale to the President of the Leeds Chamber of Commerce	Oct. 16
The Chairman of the Bristol Chamber of Commerce to Viscount Palmerston	Oct. 16
Mr. Baring to the Chairman of the Bristol Chamber of Commerce	Oct. 26
The President of the Halifax Chamber of Commerce to Viscount Palmerston	—
Mr. Baring to the President of the Halifax Chamber of Commerce	Oct. 29
Memorial of the Gloucester Chamber of Commerce	Oct. 16
Mr. Merivale to the Chairman of the Gloucester Chamber of Commerce	Nov. 17
The Chairman of the East India and China Association to Viscount Palmerston	Oct. 29
Mr. Merivale to the Chairman of the East India and China Association	Nov. 17
The Secretary to the Liverpool East India and China Association to Earl Russell	Nov. 13
Mr. Hammond to the Secretary of the Liverpool East India and China Association	Nov. 25
The Chairman of the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures to Viscount Palmerston	Nov. 18
Mr. Merivale to the Chairman of the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures	Dec. 7
The Chairman of the Salt Chamber of Commerce to Viscount Palmerston	Nov. 5
Mr. Merivale to the Chairman of the Salt Chamber of Commerce	Dec. 7
The Secretary of the Liverpool East India and China Association to Sir C. Wood	Nov. 27
Mr. Merivale to the Secretary to the Liverpool East India and China Association	Dec. 7
The President of the Huddersfield Chamber of Commerce to Viscount Palmerston	—
	1864.
Mr. Baring to the President of the Huddersfield Chamber of Commerce	Jan. 28

MEMORIAL FROM THE HUDDERSFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO VISCOUNT PALMERSTON.

The Memorial of the Huddersfield Chamber of Commerce, sheweth, that in the year 1860 a memorial was addressed to your Lordship by this Chamber praying that Her Majesty's Government would cause such surveys to be made as would expedite and facilitate the making of a commercial road or railway from the port of Rangoon across British Eastern Pegu, and the south-eastern territory of Burmah towards Esmok and the Western Chinese Provinces.

That your memorialists, after having obtained further information, are now still more forcibly impressed with the importance of opening up a direct route of commercial communication with the provinces of Western China, whose productions of silk, cotton, wool, and tea, well suited to English markets (and the cultivation of which might be indefinitely increased if a convenient outlet could be formed), might thereby be readily exchanged for British manufactures to the advantage and development of the commerce of the country.

That recent events (such as the American civil war) have shown that existing markets, furnishing important raw materials, and receiving British manufactured goods largely in exchange, are liable to be deranged so as to interfere seriously with the operations of important branches of industry in this country, which renders it of great importance that all proper effort should be made to facilitate the opening of new markets to the wants and enterprise of British manufacturing and trading interests.

That the recent Treaty of Commerce concluded with the King of Burmah, by which British merchants are allowed liberal trading facilities in that kingdom, is regarded by your memorialists as a favourable step, if properly availed of, towards a commercial contact with Western China.

That the Emperor of the French, having gained a footing in Cochin China, is fully alive to the advantages of his newly-acquired position there, and contemplates using the route by the river Kamboja to open up French commerce with the Western Chinese provinces, in competition with the British trader. This circumstance makes it highly desirable that Her Majesty's Government should endeavour to render available the superior position and shorter route possessed by this country so as to secure a full share of advantage in commercial intercourse with the new markets now presenting themselves in Western China.

That your memorialists learn through the public journals that the authorities of Calcutta have contributed a sum of money to the Rev. Mr. Bixby (an American missionary) to enable him to explore, during the approaching dry season, some of the Burman Shan States; also that Dr. Marfels (a German) is instructed to proceed by another route in the direction of the same states, and also that Captain Fitzroy, of the Royal Artillery service, is commissioned to explore from Pegu in still another direction.

That your memorialists, however, beg most respectfully to submit to your lordship that the proposed exploring journeys by these individuals are not what the manufacturing, shipping, and mercantile interests of this country have so earnestly and so generally appealed to your lordship to have effected; nor can the reports of such individuals be satisfactory on so important a question as the practicability of opening the West of China commercially by the most direct route.

Your memorialists, therefore, earnestly pray that your lordship will be pleased to cause instructions to be forwarded to Her Majesty's Viceroy and Governor-General of India forthwith to cause a thorough survey of route from Rangoon through Pegu and the South-eastern corner of Burmah to Kiang-hung on the Upper Kamboja River, to be entered upon by a sufficient party of surveyors and engineers acting under the directions of a chief engineer of eminence, whose report might be calculated to give satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government, and to the manufacturing and trading classes of this country. (Signed)

THOS. P. CROSLAND, President.

MR. BARING TO MR. CROSLAND.

India Office, January 28, 1864.

Sir,—I am directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to acknowledge the receipt of the memorial of the Huddersfield Chamber of Commerce addressed to Viscount Palmerston, praying that the Government of India may be instructed to depute a qualified engineer to survey the country between Rangoon and Kiang-hung with a view to the eventual construction of a road, as may be found best, between those two points; and I am to inform you in reply that, in accordance with the opinion expressed by the late Viceroy, Sir Charles Wood is not prepared to sanction the measures suggested by you.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) T. G. BARING.

OUR AID TO THE IMPERIALISTS TO BE STOPPED.

(THE TIMES.)

History has sometimes paused incredulously over stories of great cruelty, such as those alleged against Genseric and his Vandals, who are said to have collected their prisoners at the gates of the African cities which refused to surrender, and to have slaughtered them there, leaving the carcasses to fester in the sun, that the stench might carry plague into the towns. Modern civilisation has refused to believe that even a barbarian could pursue a policy of such ruthless inhumanity. Yet, really, the contemporary acts which are reported to us every day make it very doubtful whether we ought to reject any tradition as improbable simply because it records an act which would have been more than usually atrocious. The highly-educated Prussians have just been throwing shot and shell among the women and children of a defenceless town, without caring to take the trouble of giving the accustomed notice of what they were about to do. The free and enlightened Americans have been slaughtering without mercy all who were found in a fort taken by assault. To-day we have news that a people whose government is founded entirely upon reason, and whose literature and religion only exist to combine with a system of pure ethics, have just been roasting to death over a slow fire four European prisoners. After all, if a man should happen to find himself in a defenceless city it would seem to be a matter of small difference to him whether the army at the gates might call itself Vandal, or Prussian, or American, or Chinese. We have, perhaps, no great right to throw up our hands and eyes, while all the representatives of Christendom are dawdling away moments that pass heavy with deaths, and exclaim, "What detestable wretches these Chinese are!" Yet the descriptions of the present doings of these Chinamen must not be passed entirely without notice. Perhaps they scarcely exceed in extent, and not very greatly even in degree, what is being done by other civilised belligerents; but they have this peculiarity, that Englishmen are in some respects mixed up with the parties who are thus emulating each other in atrocity, and that the victims and the abettors are sometimes men of our own kith and kin.

The *Firefly*, in which the four Europeans who are now discovered to have been roasted to death were found, was surprised at night by a party of "foreigners" in the service of the Taipings. The "foreigners" carried the steamer up through the intricate and narrow channels that lead to the Imperial Canal, and the prisoners were landed and handed over to the leader of the Taiping banditti. Here, at the foot of a pagoda, these unhappy men were bound with sharp bamboo thongs, and slowly burnt to death, their charred bodies being cast into the earth, where the fragments were found by Major Gordon as he passed by the place, acting in the service of a Chinese master. The steamer was afterwards overtaken and destroyed by the Imperialist soldiers, but not until the Taipings had removed her machinery to a place of safety, where, by the aid of the "engineer officers" in their employ, they propose to make it available for another hull. These facts have a startling significance apart from the distressing circumstances of the death of the four Europeans. They show that the civil war in China has arrived now at that stage which was expected and dreaded by our Government, and that Europeans are actually fighting against Europeans in these inhuman and demoralising contests. There is Major Gordon, a British officer of high character, marching in the pay of a Chinese Satrap, who had already made him the unwilling agent of a most sanguinary perfidy. There is Colonel Cooke, who is not, we believe, a British officer, but who seems to be a skilful soldier, and who is employed in the same mercenary manner. Opposed to them there are "foreigners" capable of surprising and managing a war steamer, and "engineer officers" capable of adapting machinery to the hull of a sailing vessel. These are the active leaders on both sides in a war carried on with episodes in which the inhabitants of cities are massacred and prisoners tortured to death. Who the Europeans are who have taken service with the Taipings we do not know; but we do know that Major Gordon is a man of unsullied reputation for truth and humanity, and it is greatly to be regretted that such a man should be found serving under such conditions in a war which has assumed a completely Asiatic phase. The uncouth names which appear in our correspondent's communication give little intimation of the character of the district which is rendered desolate by this civil war. The great country where millions are starving and where, as is affirmed on respectable authority, dried human flesh is offered for sale as food, is or was the garden of China. The cities which are now solitudes, so ruined that an army passes through them to encamp beyond, because they cannot supply quarters for the troops, were the great historic cities of the old civilisation. All that the Chinese had of art and excellence was to be found in Soochow and Hangchow, and the best and happiest populations of China lived and laboured in the silk

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districts around. Hangchow, which was the ancient capital of China, was in modern times the storehouse and the mart for the produce of their plains of mulberry-trees and garden-grounds. In the caves and grottoes of the neighbouring limestone hills the fantastic superstitions which have grown parasitically upon the Chinese State philosophy had their shrines, their temples, and their great gilded gods. There is not much worth studying in Chinese art, where grotesqueness takes the place of beauty, and where wasted ingenuity and objectless labour only create a feeling which ought not to be a pleasure; nor is there any very worthy subject of inquiry in the various Chinese religions, which are but different husks of a philosophy not new to the West; but whatever there was of art, literature, and religion was to be found here, where everything that had life is now fainting or raging in the agony of death, and where everything that had the mark of industry is being trampled into desolation. We are not about to call Europe to the rescue. It is too great a matter for us to meddle with to any good effect. The only chance we had of doing good was that of interposing a strong European contingent, acting with direct authority from the Imperial Government. This has failed, and all we can now do is to withdraw our officers, to leave the Chinese to their own devices, and to spare them the aggravation of European assistance and ourselves the disgrace of any part or lot in this bad matter.

We must not, however, overrate the importance even of events so shocking to our human feelings as these are. We will hope that when our correspondent writes that "the little flesh that can be cut from the emaciated bodies of the dead is eagerly taken for food by the miserable survivors," he but repeats an exaggeration of a sufficiently terrible reality. But, even it this were literally true, the authorities at Peking would probably hear the news with great philosophy. They would reflect that the destruction of a few cities and a few millions of lives and of a few hundreds of square miles of cultivation can have no material influence upon the political influence of the great Empire of China. We are apt to forget that China is as large as Europe, and do not remember that it is as possible that the destruction of a province may be a matter of indifference at Peking as it is possible that the burning of a European city may be a cause of joy at Berlin, or the desolation of a district may be a triumph at St. Petersburg. China is large enough to endure a great deal of this without becoming so marrowless as to fail in the purposes of European commerce. Our only duty is to defend ourselves in the exercise of our lawful avocations in China, and to discourage the interference of foreigners in the quarrels of the natives. We have done what we could to stop this carnage; but apart from suggestions of humanity, the tendency of these civil convulsions is to increase the power and influence of the Western nations. Shanghai has already risen if not to the rank, yet to the position of a free, independent city. It shelters a million and a half of Chinamen who have brought their capital, their industry, and their skill there, and will not be tempted away. It has a municipal Government, that collects a revenue and employs an armed force which, although now embodied under the modest name of police, may be readily made efficient to the defence of the place against assailants from without as well as against disturbers within. The Consular Courts are gradually acquiring the sanctions necessary to authorize them to deal justice throughout the city. Shanghai is now practically independent of Peking except in the matter of Customs' dues. In the unexampled rise of this enormous settlement we may, perhaps, read the future history of the relations of the West with China. There are other places almost as convenient for purposes of trade as Shanghai. There are other points where a commercial settlement will be flocked to by the Chinese as to a city of refuge, where population and trade will collect wealth, and where wealth will be able to hire guards. The Chiefs both of the Imperial and the rebel party are by every excess they commit driving their people and our people to combine for a mutual protection. They are thus bringing about a cohesion we never could have ourselves accomplished, and are raising upon the vantage points throughout the Empire settlements which will be stronger than military posts, and much more durable than military conquests.

THE INDIA AND CHINA BANK MONOPOLY.

(To the Editor of the *Morning Post.*)

SIR,—To those who have closely watched the prevailing public excitement in favour of investments in shares of the old and new joint-stock banks, it must have appeared somewhat singular that, whilst almost every section of the globe, and nearly every corner of the United Kingdom, have been ransacked and pitched upon for the formation of new banks, British India, one of the richest fields for banking in the world, should have been comparatively neglected. And yet this circumstance, so pregnant with meaning, may perhaps be accounted for. Although apparently secure in the enjoyment of their monopoly, the directors of the existing Indian exchange banks have striven to the utmost of their power, and with a zeal and devotion worthy of a better cause, to divert public attention from their own lucrative field of operations. Witness, for instance, the number of banks and other companies connected with North America, South America, Australasia, the continent of Europe, and Scotland, which Mr. William Walter Cargill, M.P., and Mr. Harry George Gordon, of the Oriental Bank Corporation, have recently joined as directors. And who can doubt that their motive has simply been to divert public attention from British India, China, and the East? And who cannot but admire with what striking and signal success their consistent and determined, though ill-judged, policy has hitherto been pursued?—the result being that, with the exception of the Land Mortgage Bank (which, as its name implies, is not in reality a bank professing to transact exchange, discount, and remittance business, but a simple trust and loan association), there has not been, during the recent mania, a single new bank started in London for British India. That the same monopolising policy will continue to exclude home capitalists from this noble field of banking and exchange operations is, however, doubtful.

The wonderfully-successful progress within the last 10 years of the Indian exchange banks, which are all constituted on the principle of "limited liability," would seem to indicate that there is ample room for the introduction of similar institutions. A glance at the salient features connected with some of them will prove the truth of this assertion, without fear of any contradiction from those parties who mistakenly consider themselves interested in opposing the introduction of additional banking capital into India.

The Oriental Corporation was the first Indian bank established in London, and it is well known that the directors, from the circumstance of the liability of the shareholders being then unlimited, had to contend with many difficulties for about 10 years, after which (in 1851), an amalgamation was brought about with the Bank of Ceylon, which was at the time not in a thriving state; but inasmuch as it was in possession of a Crown charter of incorporation conferring the (to an Indian bank) inestimable privilege of limited liability, and also that of issuing bank-notes, and carrying on business in the British colonies eastward of the Cape of Good Hope, the junction was eagerly sought for, and completed at the Treasury, under the able and clever management of Mr. Harry G. Gordon, the present chairman of the corporation. After the charter was thus obtained a career of extraordinary prosperity ensued, and has continued, to the vast benefit and great enrichment of the proprietors, to increase, in an almost uninterrupted and unprecedented manner, up to the present time. The dividend and bonus just announced amount, on a capital of £1,260,000, to 19 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, and the reserve funds stands at the high figure of £252,000. The £25 shares command the high price of £67, equal to 168 per cent. premium. The net profits were £193,178 and £248,919 in 1862 and 1863 respectively.

The history of the Agra and United Service Bank (Limited) is one of a not less wonderful character than that of the Oriental. Commencing at Agra in 1833, more like a small London loan society than anything else, the directors and managers have succeeded within the last few years to net, on a capital of £1,000,000, very large profits, as will be seen from the following returns, viz:—

In 1861	the net profits were			£160,000
„ 1862	„	„	„	173,815
„ 1863	„	„	„	242,909

The dividend for 1863 was at the rate of 18 per cent. per annum, free of tax, and the reserve fund now figures at £225,000, while the market value of the £50 shares is £150 per share, or 200 per cent. premium. The branches of this bank now extend over several of the principal ports and cities of India, China, and Australia; whilst at the same time, availing of a privilege which, with the exception of the Scinde Bank, they alone seem to possess, they are transacting a large and remunerative local business in London and Edinburgh, which will doubtless be greatly stimulated by the amalgamation with Messrs. Masterman, Peters, Mildred, and Co. Of a certainty, therefore, the progress of the Agra Bank—especially since the chief office was transferred to London in 1857—has been of a most remarkable, if not marvellous character, ranking as it now does amongst the noblest banking institutions of the country.

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China does not lag much, if at all, behind its older competitors. The £20 shares in December, 1862, were selling at £19. Now they stand at £42 per share, or 110 per cent. premium, which is a wonderful rise within 18 months. The net profits during the last three years ending 31st December have been as follows:—

1861	£37,500
1862	70,792
1863	101,102

showing that their net earnings have been nearly trebled in three years. The reserve fund is £105,000, and the dividend for 1863, on a capital of £644,000, was 12½ per cent., free of tax. This bank commenced business in February, 1858, and has therefore only been seven years in working operation.

The Chartered Mercantile Bank of London, India, and China have, in 10 years, done equally well, the last dividend having been net 20 per cent. per annum on a capital of £500,000, and they have accumulated a reserve fund of £100,000. The £25 shares are selling at £70 per share, or 180 per cent. premium.

The Scinde, Punjaub, and Delhi Bank Corporation bids fair to become a prosperous concern, the shares (£7. 10s. paid up) being saleable at £12. 10s., equal to 66⅔ per cent. premium; and the Hindostan Bank shares (£25 paid) command £37. 10s., equal to 50 per cent. premium.

And yet, in the face of these extraordinary instances of great, unexampled, and still steadily increasing success, we are told, forsooth, that banking is likely to be overdone in British India. In reply to this insinuation of these would-be monopolists of Indian banking and exchange business, I would ask, how does it happen that the banks of Bengal and Bombay are at the present moment doubling their respective capital stocks? And it may also be suggested that, whilst native cultivators can afford to pay the shroffs, or native bankers, 5 per cent. per month, or 60 per cent. per annum, and still amass considerable wealth, that the field for the profitable and safe employment of banking capital in India is practically unlimited, and that Mr. Gordon and his brother monopolists, in combining to prevent the further introduction of British capital to aid in the development of her vast resources, are seriously damaging the interests, present and prospective, of their own shareholders, and proving themselves to be the worst enemies of our Indian empire. G. H.

April 16, 1864.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN (LIMITED).

The second ordinary meeting of proprietors was held at the London Tavern, on the 2nd May, to receive the report of the directors and declare a dividend; Mr. J. N. Daniell in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN said it was very satisfactory to the directors to present, and he hoped it would be equally so to the shareholders to receive, the accounts now placed in their hands. Although their working had been for twelve months, it had been only in a homœopathic degree from the commencement, first because their capital had been only paid up in small portions from three months to three months; and, secondly, because it was necessary to organise the establishment in India, and to find and send out properly qualified persons to work it. The consequence was that the bank could scarcely be said to have been in operation more than six months, and under those circumstances he thought a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. was satisfactory. As the capital was paid up and they became in a

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position to carry on operations the business had progressed rapidly. Since the 31st Dec. it had increased largely, and they were now as fully established as if they were a bank of four or five years' standing. They had acquired as good a position in India as any bank there, and all their transactions were carried on at the same rates as those of the oldest and most favoured banks in that country. The expenses at head office and branches, for salaries, direction, travelling expenses, stamps, rent, &c., £19,376, would appear to the shareholders, as it had at first to the directors, a very large sum. (Hear, hear.) But it was to be borne in mind that they had had to form their establishment in India, and to secure the services of persons duly qualified they had to pay heavily, though not so heavily as some of the older banks. Rent, too, was very high in India, and all the other expenses necessary in forming such an institution were great, and, having closely gone into the matter, the directors were satisfied that every economy consistent with efficiency had been exercised. They had now an establishment in full working order, capable of carrying on without extra cost a much larger business than was represented in the present accounts; that larger business was flowing in, and he had no doubt that at the next meeting they would be enabled to show a much more favourable result. It would not do for them to go to inferior places, or to employ inferior people; they had to make themselves known, and make their position, which he believed they had done. In conclusion, he moved the adoption of the report.

Mr. SPOONER seconded the motion.

In reply to questions,

The CHAIRMAN stated that the shares still in hand would be disposed of at the most favourable moment, and the premium, whatever it might be, would be carried to the reserve fund, for the benefit of the company. There was an arrangement that they should be issued at £2 premium; but the shareholders might rest assured that by means which he excused himself from explaining more particularly, a larger amount than £2 a share would be carried to the credit of the company. The bank premises were not freehold, but held on a sixty-five years' lease. They stood in the accounts at £9,000, but they were worth £20,000. They had been offered £18,000 for them. He believed before long they would be found too small for the business of the bank, and in that case would be disposed of at considerable profit.

The report was adopted unanimously. The dividend at the rate 15s. a share, payable on the 5th of May, was confirmed.

The resolutions and report will be found in another column.

RECEPTION OF THE JAPANESE AMBASSADORS.

PARIS, Wednesday Morning.

The Emperor received the Japanese Ambassadors yesterday.

In reply to their speech, his Majesty said:—"I am grateful to the Tycoon for having felt the necessity of giving explanations as to the difficulties attending the execution of the treaty, and also as regards the attack upon a French officer. I sincerely desire to see an extension of our relations. For this end the Japanese Government must, before all, cause international laws to be respected, and be convinced of the understanding between the European Powers to defend their honour and interests in distant countries."

THE JAPANESE AMBASSADORS IN PARIS.

We gave in our last some particulars of the Japanese Ambassadors in Paris. We now add some items which have appeared in Paris papers:—

As we have the Japanese Ambassadors here, we are naturally interested in knowing any details of their private life. It is, therefore, with singular pleasure that I announce to you that to the numerous habits of civilisation which travellers have discovered among them, the fighting of duels may now be added. They fight, however, after a fashion of their own, but one more deadly than ever was devised by the unkindest second, who put up his own man, or allowed the other side to stand, in a furrow or against a tree. When two Japanese quarrel—as two of the staff did at Marseilles last Monday—they put two papers, on which are inscribed "life" and "death," into a hat, and draw lots. The one who draws the latter fatal word goes home and shoots himself, without benefit of docter or second. This, indeed, is duelling *a outrance!* Why, one had better have gone out with Ross, who used to kill swallows with a pistol ball, or have taken your chance at twelve paces in front of the modern Mahon, Carysfort. Happily, last Monday the chiefs of the mission detected and forbade this duel before the paper had been drawn from the fatal hat.

Apropos of strangers, should you like to know the names of the Japanese Ambassadors? As a specimen of spelling, their nomenclature is not without interest. Ykedachi-Knigo-no-Kami is the leader of the band, and I am assured, by one who "knew him at home," that he is a charming diplomatist. Then comes "numero-deux," Kowadsu-Idsuns-Kami, who is second in command; and then—I really think I must borrow the phraseology of the late Mr. Tattersall—"Lot 3 is Kowada-Sagamino-Kami, in perfect training, and likely to make a good ambassador." I will not add my old friend's other question—"What will any gentleman give for him?"—because the price of foreign ambassadors, at least those from afar, is never settled till they themselves have been through the mill, or, to speak more diplomatically, have "had their worth tested by society." An admirable test, doubtless, but who shall judge the judges? A friend of mine, meeting some of the darkies to-day on the stairs of the Grand Hotel, saluted them in their native tongue, and the effect was a sort of panic. They detected "agents of public security" from Jedo, and were taken with alarm accordingly. You see their mission is not nearly such good fun as that of the happy assistants at the polite "Conference" now sitting in Whitehall. Should nothing come of that assembly round a green-baize table, the assembled Ministers having been to Court, dined with the Premier, assisted at the "Derby," dined again at Greenwich, and passed two months of great enjoyment, will, nevertheless, return, and, having announced to their respective Governments that their mission is a failure, will be "decorated" and dismissed to their pleasant homes. Not so my friends of the "Premier," of the Grand Hotel, "with five windows looking on the Boulevards"—I quote the bills. If they fail in their mission, they will be sent up the country, to make what the Americans call "pants" out of black silk—that is, the hemp-picking of Japan—and if they succeed they will be asked to kill themselves off at once, to save trouble, for fear they should tell in Japan that France and England are not perfectly barbarous. When I meet, while calling on my friends at the Grand Hotel—I have one now far beyond human "attendance," he is, I think, "1,109" au sixième—a Japanese on the stairs, I think of the future of his mission. I saw Lord Clarendon coming out of the Bristol the other day, and felt no alarm; but the Oriental, I picture him to myself failing utterly and becoming a tailor, or succeeding, being obliged to kill himself to save the hangman from unpleasant interference.

One of the members of the Japanese embassy died at Marseilles. The ambassadors, on receiving information of this incident, sent instructions that the hair of deceased should be cut off and brought to them; that no priest should accompany the funeral, that an ordinary coffin should be used, and be enveloped in fine linen before inhumation. They also ordered the site for the tomb to be purchased in perpetuity, and announced their intention of shortly forwarding the model of the mausoleum to be erected.

THE ARMSTRONG GUNS IN JAPAN.

(To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Gazette.*)

SIR,—You have been so considerate as to suggest, in your last number, that it is probable I have something to say upon the reports concerning the Armstrong guns at Kagosima. I will refer in the first place to the following passage from a letter written by Captain Hunter, now commander, and previously gunnery lieutenant, of the flag-ship *Euryalus*, dated Yokohama, February 18, 1864. This letter has found its way to me within the last few days by chance only, for I have not the honour of any acquaintance with Captain Hunter or his friends. Alluding to the 110-pounder guns, Captain Hunter writes as follows:—"My opinion, and also that of the gunnery lieutenant, is, that for long range they are most successful. The 100-pounder as a pivot gun is superior to the 95 cwt. solid 8-inch gun, but as broadside guns between decks we do not like them; the smoke is too great. Rear chock carriages with such heavy guns are very slow in working, and the decks dreadfully cut up. The common shell is one of its great efficiencies, the bursting charge is so great. At Kagosima one vent-piece of the pivot gun broke, and a piece went up to foreyard, but no one was hurt, and it was the fault of the captain of the gun not putting the tin cup in. If the gun is understood, and worked properly, it is very successful. The 40-pounders we found answer exceedingly well, for, coming out of the place, we planted common shell with pillar fuzees wherever we wished a range of 3,800 yards. Five steel vent-pieces broke, but another replaced them immediately, and no harm was done. These guns work very easily, are very true, and the drill is very simple." It will be observed that Captain Hunter satisfactorily explains the only instance throughout the squadron of the failure of a 110-pounder vent-piece. He tells us that the captain of the gun forgot to insert the tin cup. I need hardly say that such an omission is evidence of very imperfect training, for, when the men are sufficiently drilled, every act necessary to be performed in the use of the gun becomes a matter of habit, and not one of recollection. As to the injuries sustained by one of the 110-pounder carriages, and referred to in the official reports, it will be apparent that such injuries have nothing whatever to do with the gun. In fact, the report states that "the carriage was an old one (having been originally fited for a 68-pounder), and would probably have suffered nearly as much had a smooth-bored gun been fired from it at the same elevations." Captain Hunter objects to the rear chock carriages used with these guns as broadsides guns; but this again has nothing to do with the merit of the gun. I have never recommended, nor even countenanced, the use of the 110-pounder gun upon a rear chock carriage. The recognised practice is to mount such guns upon the regular naval slide carriage fitted with the usual compressors, and the decks are sure to be cut up where this practice is departed from. Upon the subject of the jamming of the 110-pounder vent-piece nothing is said either by Captain Hunter or in the official report from the flag-ship. The *Euryalus* carried five 110-pounders, but the casualty of jamming appears to have occurred to none of them. In the smaller vessels, which carried altogether three 110-pounders, we find by the official reports that this defect was experienced; yet, from the same source, it appears that on board the *Coquette* "the high-gauge tin cups [of the 100-pounder] did not fit, thereby causing unnecessary delay after every round, in having to wedge the vent-piece out. The high-gauge tin cups never fitted, and all the low-gauge cups were expended. The gun worked in every other way very satisfactorily." The cause of the jamming of the vent-pieces in the smaller vessels seems thus revealed, and shown to be an error of supply, and not the fault of the gun. The only other defect of the 110-pounder mentioned in the official reports is communicated by Captain Boxer, of the *Racehorse*, who finds more serious fault with the gun than any other officer of the squadron. Not only does he complain of the jamming of the vent-piece, but he also says:—"Great difficulty was found in getting the 110-pounder to go off from the quantity of rain falling, which so thoroughly wetted the vent-piece and ran into the interior of the chamber that it was found necessary to unload the gun three times to replace the cartridges which had got wet." It is difficult to conceive why Captain Boxer's gun should have exhibited a liability in regard to rain from which every other gun of the squadron appears to have been exempt, although all were exposed to the same conditions of weather. Captain Boxer's complaint of the gun missing fire requires no notice. He can scarcely intend to suggest that it missed fire because it was an Armstrong gun. If he omitted such obvious precautions as were necessary to keep the carriages dry no further explanation is needed of the guns missing fire. You are aware, Sir, that I have always admitted that the 110-pounder is the least satisfactory of my guns. The difficulties of breech-loading increase with the size of the gun, and it is doubtful whether the vent-piece and screw arrangement can be made as successful for the 110-pounder gun as for the smaller natures. I maintain, however, in accordance with Captain Hunter, that "if the gun is understood, and worked properly, it is very successful."—I am, &c.

Shoeburyness, April 27. W. G. ARMSTRONG.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, *and other parts of the* FAR EAST, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1864.

TRADE IN CHINA.

THE commercial reports from Her MAJESTY'S Consuls in China, for the year 1862, have been presented to Parliament, and embrace some interesting details on the trade of the empire, and on the commercial capabilities of the several Consular districts, with remarks thereon by Sir F. BRUCE.

TIEN-TSIN.—The imports carried on under foreign flags at this port in 1862 were goods of the value of £2,215,946, in eighty-seven vessels, of 21,921 tons. The exports, £155,643 in the same vessels. The duties collected were £28,802. The principal imports were British and American cotton and woollen goods, metals, window glass, watches and clocks, opera glasses, and opium. The report of Mr. Acting Consul GIBSON on the trade of this port is a most full and interesting one. He tells us that small steamers, nearly all of which hoist British colours, are now chiefly employed, and prove by far the most convenient class of vessels for the local traffic. The city of Tien-tsin stands about sixty-five miles from the village of Taku, upon a river which, owing to its insignificant depth of water and tortuous course, is extremely difficult of navigation. At the mouth of this river (Peiho) there is a bar which renders it unsafe for vessels drawing more than eleven feet six inches of water to enter the Taku anchorage; while outside in the Gulf the weather is often so boisterous and the swell so high that vessels cannot discharge their cargo for several days together. The convenience, therefore, of a class of vessels able not only to clear the bar but to carry their cargoes right up this sixty-five miles of river navigation, to the very gates of the merchants' godowns, is very great. Two such vessels have run regularly this year between Tien-tsin and Shanghai, and several others have made occasional trips at moderate intervals. The foreign goods which arrive here are mostly re-exports sent up from Shanghai. The vessels which trade at Tien-tsin are, therefore, in most cases engaged in a coast trade; probably not more than one or two vessels arrive here in the whole course of the year from Europe, India, or America direct. A few vessels, it is true, enter and clear from this port for Hong Kong direct; but these constitute the only exceptions. There is another circumstance to be noted with reference to the character of the shipping at Tien-tsin. Not only are the great majority of the vessels which enter this port employed in a purely coast trade, but a very large number of these vessels, though foreign-built, foreign-owned, and navigated under a foreign flag, are engaged in carrying native not foreign produce. The produce of Southern China is transported largely to the North in foreign bottoms, and, conversely, the products of Northern China are largely transported to the South in foreign bottoms. Thus foreign vessels are not restricted to the carrying trade in foreign products and manufactures; they are, under certain tariff regulations, which will be more particularly referred to hereafter, permitted to participate in the carrying trade in native produce. This privilege freely accorded by the Government of China, is of high and increasing value. The junks are gradually disappearing from the highways of commerce. The more enlightened Chinese merchants no longer patronise them. A south-country junk makes but one voyage to Tien-tsin in the course of a whole year; the cargo cannot be insured, and the chances of her going to the bottom in bad weather as compared with the chances against a foreign vessel under like circumstances are great. Native merchants are now perfectly well aware of the enormous disadvantages involved in the employment of junks, and rarely entrust valuable cargoes to them when foreign shipping can be procured. Thus the competition of foreign vessels, coupled with the operations of the insurance offices, is rapidly driving the junk off the face of the ocean. The trade in British woollens, the Consul tells us, makes no progress. The quantity of opium consumed in the city of Tien-tsin, judging by the number of smoking houses, must be enormous. A good deal is made about Shensi, but this native opium requires to be mixed with the stronger Indian drug to render it palatable to the Chinese consumer. 3,613 chests of Indian opium were imported here in 1862. The domestic trade of this district in home cotton manufactures is still considerable. The foreign cottons are cheaper than the native, look much better, and under certain circumstances are even more profitable; but the latter nevertheless are still extensively used. I have now before me (writes the Consul) samples of native cottons of the following sorts:—A white fabric, one foot two inches, English, in width; its retail price 1½d. a foot; a blue cotton, one foot two inches in width, price 1¾d. a foot; and a very coarse white cotton, one foot three inches, English, in width, price 1¼d. a foot. When the difference in width is taken into account, the foreign cottons are about one-half cheaper than the native; but native cottons wear better, and are, therefore, still generally preferred by the country people whose avocations are of a rougher description than those of the town population. Thus two yards of foreign cotton can be purchased for, say 9d.; and will go as far towards making a jacket as three and a-half yards of native cotton, which, assuming the quality to be equally good, will cost about 1s. 3d.; but a jacket of the latter will wear twice as long under bad treatment as a jacket made of the former. Since foreign cotton became so common among the people of this district, a vast number of dye-works have been established. In these dye-houses the white and unbleached cottons of Manchester are dyed light blue or black. Nearly the whole population, male and female, belonging to the middle and lower orders living in towns, wear these home-dyed foreign cottons. Unbleached and pale ash-coloured cottons are universally put on for mourning. The quantity of foreign printed goods used in upholstery within this district must also be enormous. The domestic trade in woollens is limited. Russian cloth is a good deal employed in upholstery. English cloth, blue and grey, is worn in the shape of jackets by such people as can afford to buy it. In winter these jackets are lined with fur. As padded cotton jackets are equally worn in winter, and a great deal less expensive, woollen ones are rarely purchased by poor people. Wealthy persons prefer to wear the beautiful native silks. The salt trade is strictly a Government monopoly, and sells after paying duty at 6d. a lb., for abominably coarse and dirty stuff. It is to be regretted, therefore, that British salt cannot be brought into competition. The tariff regulations applicable to the coast trade in native produce carried on by foreign merchants are just and moderate. The rate fixed is a duty of 5 per cent. *ad valorem* at the port of shipment, and a further 2½ per cent. at the port of discharge. Foreign ships and merchants are permitted, under these very moderate conditions, to participate in the native trade of China. The duties fixed by the tariff are fairly levied, and no reasonable complaint can exist under this head. The 2½ per cent. transit duty, however, on goods entered for an inland market has been the cause of some irregularity, but it is only fair to state that every effort has been made by the Superintendent of Customs, and with a large measure of success, to set the matter right. Mr. GIBSON says there is no doubt but that excellent coal exists in several localities in the north of this province, and that even the mining he saw in force at Huens-hua-fu, prosecuted with a little more energy, would turn out great quantities of coal suitable for the use of steamers. The ordinary coal consumed by people in their houses, a hard shaley variety, is altogether unfit for steam purposes; but good steam-coal has been found both in the hills west of Peking and in the neighbourhood of Huens-hau-fu. The coal mines further eastwards, in the direction of Jehol, are reported to be productive; the quality of the coal is said to be good; it burns freely, being very bituminous, but throws off a great quantity of smoke, and is therefore not very well adapted for the use of steamers.

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There is water carriage the whole way between the Jehol mines and Taku. The coal can be laid down at the latter place for seven or eight dollars a ton. In the absence of better, this coal would fetch at Taku ten or twelve dollars a ton.

NEW-CHWANG.—The first is by Mr. T. T. MEADOWS, Consul at New-chwang—a district which embraces the whole of Manchooria, as bounded by the Yellow Sea and the Chih-li Gulf on the south; by Corea on the south-east; by the Russian territories on the east and north; and by Mongolia on the west; and it also embraces the eastern portion of Mongolia. We cannot forbear quoting the very practical remarks which Mr. MEADOWS makes on the duties of the Consul in China:—

"In this country (he observes) Her Majesty's Consuls are charged with the exclusive civil and criminal jurisdiction over British subjects ashore and afloat, not only in their relations to each other, but to the Chinese populations, and to the subjects of other States settled at the ports. These duties, apart from the judicial labours which they directly cause, bring with them, on the English Consul at each port, a considerable amount of international discussion with the territorial authorities and with the Consular representatives of Occidental States, which cannot, in anything like a similar degree, come on Her Majesty's Consuls in countries where they exercise no judicial functions. The Consuls here do not and could not by any, the fullest and minutest, accounts of the past amount of shipping and of goods, increase the future amount of that shipping by a ton or of those goods by a bale. On the other hand, by sparing their powers for the prompt and full discharge of those other duties to which I have above referred; by striving to get justice done to their countrymen, and by taking care that they do justice to others; by seeing that they have the virtual enjoyment of their treaty rights; and by preserving and promoting, as much as possible, peaceable, if not friendly, relations between them and the people of the country,—the Consuls can really do something to increase British trade, by thus establishing and maintaining the conditions of peace, justice, and order under which alone trade can flourish. It is to such labours that I have had to devote myself since I came here, to open the Consular district by establishing the Consulate in May, 1861; and these labours, in an utterly strange region, and somewhat disorderly locality, have fully taxed my working strength from that time to this."

Mr. MEADOWS thinks that this port can compete with Nicholayevsk, at the mouth of the Amoor, as far as regards the introduction of foreign manufactures into the Sungari Valley. The Amoor is closed to navigation for seven months, and the Leaou for four and a-half, whilst this river, besides being perfectly free from ice for seven and a-half months, is remarkably easy of access. The navigation closes about the 10th or 15th of November. The great export of the port is pulse and pulse cake, and the oil expressed from them. In the season of 1861, 34 occidental vessels visited the port; in 1862, 86; and last year double that number was expected. The greater safety and cheapness of the transport by the foreign vessels cannot fail to add an impulse to the other causes of the colonisation of the Mongolian plains. The value of the imports in 1862 was estimated at 442,000 taels, amongst which shirtings and other cotton fabrics, opium, and rod iron are the principal. The exports were estimated at 335,642 taels.

CHE-FOO.—Sixty-nine British vessels, of 25,090 tons, imported merchandise of the value of £231,328, and exported goods of the value of £105,156. The number of vessels of all flags that entered the port in 1862 was 178.

HANKOW.—At this port Mr. Gingell (since deceased) tells us that foreign relations with the Chinese people and with the authorities continue on a favourable footing. The value of the trade of the port in 1862 reached £6,189,952, being an increase of £3,011,482 over 1861. The treasure imported was 3,417,894 taels, and of opium, 1,133 chests. The export of tea was 28,846,533 lbs. 1,462 vessels, of an aggregate of 290,536 tons, arrived and departed.

KIU-KIANG.—Mr. Consul Hughes states that he has been unable to obtain accurate statistics of the trade of the port, but furnishes some interesting information. The steamers and other vessels which arrive at Kiu-kiang from Shanghai, commonly, but by no means invariably, proceed to Hankow. American-built steamers are preferred; they carry cargo on deck, and therefore load and discharge with greater speed, facility, and safety. Paddle-wheel vessels are superior to screw-steamers for the navigation of the Yang-tze. The former make better way against the current; and, in the event of touching the ground, the reversing of the paddle-wheels is found to be more effective than that of the screw. About twenty steamers now ply regularly on the river, and the number this season will be probably much increased. The great staple of the export trade of Kiu-kiang is tea; the green tea coming from the Moyune (Woo-yuen) districts, distant, by water, about 280 miles; and the black tea from Ning-chow, distant, by water, about 250, by land, 90 miles. The following is an approximate estimate of the export for the year 1862:—Green, 14,373,933 lbs.; black, 7,757,560 lbs.; unprepared leaf, 530,400 lbs.; total, 22,661,893 lbs. Paper and china ware are the exports next in importance.

FOO-CHOW-FOO.—Mr. Sinclair reports that the arrivals at this port were 207 vessels, of 97,585 tons, bringing goods valued at £2,169,525. The exports, in 206 vessels, value £3,195,901. The duties collected, 1,381,770 taels.

AMOY.—Mr. Consul Pedder points out that the foreign vessels arriving at Amoy have decreased in the last three years, having fallen from 77,765 tons to 70,598; the British tonnage is about stationary, at 84,000 tons; but only a small portion of this tonnage can be said to be engaged specially in the trade of Amoy. The value of the imports in British vessels fell from $5,324,791 in 1860, to $3,592,000 in 1862; and the exports from $3,673,646 to $2,100,000. It is believed a large smuggling trade is done outside the port. The whole number of arrivals in 1862 were 484 vessels, measuring 154,417 tons.

SWATOW.—The entries of British shipping were 130 vessels with cargo, and 33 in ballast, total tonnage, 62,965. 85 vessels, other than British, entered the port. The value of the import trade in British vessels was $3,589,686; by other vessels, $1,829,362. The total exports were $3,143,960. Mr. G. W. Caine, the Consul, says:—A much larger quantity of ground was set apart at the end of the year for sugar plantations, which will in a year or two double the present export of sugar from hence. The total increase in the value of the trade in 1862 over 1861, was $1,689,023. The steady advance in the trade of this port, both in imports and exports, augurs well for its durability. Every year shows a large decrease in the junk trade at this port. The Chinese prefer chartering vessels which can make several voyages in the year, to the unwieldy junks which can travel only with a fair wind.

TAMSUY—FORMOSA.—Mr. G. C. Braune states that fifteen British vessels, of 2,746 tons, entered with goods valued at $273,765, and sixteen vessels, of 3,036 tons, left with goods valued at $204,222. Twenty-seven foreign vessels, of 6,176 tons, entered, and the same number left, but the value of their cargoes could not be ascertained. Mr. Braune enters into some discursive remarks on the disputes which have arisen in conducting the camphor trade.

CANTON.—Mr. D. B. Robertson the Senior Consul in China, reports on the trade of this port, that the prospects are satisfactory in spite of the effect produced by the opening of the Yang tze river:—The import trade for 1862 was to the value of £2,412,515, a decline of half-a-million on the previous year's return. The cause of this is attributed to the deficient cotton supplies. Of opium there was an import of 3,913 piculs, against 1,363 in 1861. In tea the exports were 31,894,031 lbs., showing a decrease of 7,580,826 lbs. In raw silk there was an increased shipment of 357,396 lbs.; of thrown, 2,552 lbs.; and of coarse, 78,392 lbs. The export trade had increased in value in 1862 by half-a-million sterling. The shipping returns in 1862 were 723 vessels, of 253,146 tons; of these, 154 were in ballast.

There are no reports given for Shanghai and Ningpo.

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUICATION WITH INDIA.

The following telegram has been received at the India Office:—

"May 2, 1864.

"Colonel Stewart requests me to inform Sir Charles Wood that the cable was landed at Fao on the 29th of March. Its junction with the Turkish line was effected on the 8th of April. Telegraphic line between Irak and India is now completed—works nicely. Communication between Bussorah and Kurrachee takes place in five minutes. Two English steamers ply on the Tigris, a third one expected from Kurrachee to convey correspondence till completion of the Irak line. Persian line will be completed in July."

THE COLLINS' RUSSIAN OVERLAND TELEGRAPH *VIA* BEHRING STRAITS.

(*New York Herald.*)

WASHINGTON, April 7, 1864.

Mr. Collins has returned to Washington, after nearly two years' absence in Russia and England. Negotiations for right of way, and the construction of a telegraph across Asiatic Russia, Russian America, and British Columbia, so as to connect Europe with America by way of Behring Straits, having been brought to a satisfactory conclusion, under very favourable terms, now await the final action of Congress.

We understand that Mr. Collins will soon present the plan to Congress, in view of the co-operation of our Government.

It is due to Great Britain and Russia that their liberal grants and concessions in aid of a purely international work of this nature—an enterprise fraught with incalculable advantages to the United States and the world at large—should command promptly generous aid from us.

It certainly devolves upon our Government to second this great enterprise, and more especially now since Russia and Great Britain have met

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he question in a liberal international spirit, and cleared it of all question as to right of way, so as to connect London and St. Petersburg with New York.

There never was an enterprise presented to the consideration of Government that pleaded more eloquently than this. It is the last link in a telegraphic chain that is to bind not only Europe and America, but Asia and Africa as well, in one living and speaking unity.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Apr.22	Marseilles	Saigon	Napoleon III.	Ottaviani.
— 25	Cowes	Batavia	Prins Carl	Bergmann.
— 26	Liverpool	Shanghai	Montmorency	Maxwell.
— 24	Plymouth	Manila	Manila	
— 25	Off Plymouth	Foo-chow-Foo	Albrecht O'Swald	Zoder.
— 25	Off Queenstown	Manila & Bahia	Flora	
— 6	Havana	Macao	Mariada Gloria	Batista.
—	New York	Amoy	Confucius	Raschen.
— 29	Deal	Maulmain	Astrea	
— 12	New York	Shanghai	Apollo	Hagedorn.
— 12	Do.	Do.	Wilhelmina	Knaack.
— 13	Do.	Batavia	Walcheren	v. d. Heyde.
— 13	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Queen of the Seas	Ross.
— 23	Off Scilly	Shanghai	Strathallan	Paddle.
— 30	Falmouth	Maulmain	Edward Stanley	Yates.
May 2	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Virginia	Lewis.
— 2	Deal	Amoy	Amaranth	Haderup.
— 2	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Bankside	Woodruff.
— 2	Do.	Shanghai	J. H. Ransom	Chapman.
Apr.30	Falmouth	Maulmain	Martha Rideout	Poole.
— 30	Do.	Do.	Earl of Chester	Nancollis.
— 30	Do.	Pasaroeang	Dygden	Ahrenberg.
May 2	Deal	Singapore	Pilgrim	McDougall.
— 1	Portsmouth	Soerabaya	Duisberg	Holljes.
Apr.28	Texel	Batavia	6 Gezusters	Rutgers.
— 28	Do.	Do.	Elise Henriette	Deterding.
— 10	Havana	Macao	Don Fernando	Sena.
— 18	New York	Shanghai	Guiding Star	Maas.
May 3	London	Singapore	Tre Brodre	Myhue.
— 3	Do.	Amoy	Maria Wilhelmina	Niemann.
— 3	Queenstown	Maulmain	Prince of Wales	Young.
— 2	Off Portsmouth	Batavia	Constantia	Overgaaun.
Apr.30	Off the Start	Java	Rotteroam	Mann.
May 2	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Jan v. Galen	de Boer.
— 1	Do.	Banjoewangie	Hollandia	Wap.
— 4	Liverpool	China	Lord Lyndhurst	

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Apr.23	Greenock	Hong Kong	Dumbarton, str.	
— 23	Queenstown	Do.	Clara	Talpey.
— 28	Shields	Shanghai	Edith	
— 25	London	Manila	Conchita	Anduiza.
— 27	Liverpool	Singapore & H. Kong.	Oceanica	Wilson.
— 26	London	Hong Kong & Canton.	Prince Alfred	Edison.
— 26	Do.	Kanagawa	Medina	Le Brun.
— 20	Off the Start	Batavia	Petronella	Leicher.
— 25	Shields	Shanghai	Jeannie Douglas	Donaldson.
— 22	Sunderland	Do.	Esperanza	Murrell.
— 24	Do.	Do.	Sabina	Woodward.
— 26	Liverpool	Sing., H. K., & Shan.	Arab	Robertson.
— 27	London	Cardiff & H. Kong	Orion	Timme.
— 20	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Beaufront	Coxon.
— 25	Deal	Singapore	Louis Kroon Prinses	
— 27	Do.	Do	Johore, str.	
— 29	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Tricolor	Price.
— 26	Swansea	Singapore	Northumberland	Small.
— 27	Shields	Hong Kong	Wave	Henderson.
Mar 19	Callao	Macao	Maria Pia	Full.
Apr. 29	London	S'd'land & Singapore	Stafford	Myler.
— 24	Texel	Padang	Herman	Bart.
— 30	London	H. Kong & Shanghai	Havelock	Cock.
— 30	Do.	Do Canton	Cambalu	Wood.
— 30	Do.	Amoy & Foo-chow-Foo	Rubicon	Hosenson.
— 30	Do.	Singapore	Maggie	Gruchy.
— 28	Shields	Shanghai	Valetta	
— 29	Off Folkestone	Batavia	Zes Gezusters	Rubgers.
May 1	Shields	Hong Kong	Melita	
Apr.26	Off Plymouth	Batavia	Isis	Duwel.
May 4	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Gustav Adolph	Ingram.
Apr.22	Off the Start	Batavia	Loevestein	Hulshoff.

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa and Nagasaki: Norfolk, Velocidade. For Shanghai: Isles of the South, Anglo Saxon, Celestial, Heroes of Alma, Laurel, Sir W. F. Williams. For Hong Kong and Canton: Sovereign of India, Mary Mildred, Dilkboosh, Sydney Eggers. For Hong Kong: Maiden Queen. For Manila: Elisa, Angela. For Singapore: Xanthippe, Moneta, Coromandel. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Heilige Liduina.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Sea Horse, Alice, Jane Leech. For Hong Kong: Star of the North, Eliza Stewart, Amazone, Gemini, Chryseis, Esmeralda. For Hong Kong and Canton: Juanpore. For Singapore: Mount Vernon, Simoom, Hanover. For Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Spirit of the Sea. For Singapore and Shanghai: Conference. For Penang: Fairy Belle. For Manila: Ercilla. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Cherokee (steamer), Oceaan.

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore and Penang: Osprey. For Shanghai. Glenclune. For Singapore and Kanagawa: Stad Enschedi.

SPOKEN.

PET VON MAULX (?) (Dut. sh.) Southamp. to Batav., Mar. 22, 2 N., 22 W.
HENRIETTE CORNELIS, Hong Kong to Liverpool, March 15, 35 S., 21 E.
OSTSONA, Shanghai to London.
WILHELMINA (Dut. barq.), Batavia to Rotterd, 58 days out, 35 S., 19 E.
AURORA, from China, April 9, 51 N., 11 W.
DONNA MARIA (Span. barq.), Macao to Habana, Mar. 4, 13 S., 8 W.
JANNETJE, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 17, 36 N., 12 W.
BARROW (?), Batavia to Amsterdam, April 20, 48 N., 16 W.
MICHAEL (?), (Fr. ship), Singapore to Bordeaux, Jan. 29, 13 S., 106 E.
BILDERDYK, Java to Rotterdam, March 25, 5 N., 26 W.
CATHARINA JACOBA HENRIETTE, Amstm. to Bat., Mar. 22, 2 N., 22 W.
ROTTERDAM, Rotterdam to Batavia, outside the Straits of Sunda.
MO-YUNE, New York to China, April 8, lat. 36, lon. 74.
HOISA (?), (Eng.), Liffey River to Hong Kong, Mar. 17, 3 N., 26 W.
QUARTET (Dut.), Sourabaya to Amsterdam, April 2, 20 N., 36 W.
LOUISE KROONPRINSES VAN SWEDEN, Rott. to Sin., Apl. 28, 49 N., 7 W.
CORNELIS GIPS, Sourabaya to Amstm., March 6, off Cape Agulhas.
ENGLAND, of London, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Mar. 1, 15 S. 35 W.
A STEAMER, No 8,371, 3rd d.p., Liverp. to Sing., Mar. 5, 9 S., 33 W.
KOERIER (Dut. brig), Padang to Amsterdam, April 14, 45 N., 23 W.
VENUS, Cardiff to Hong Kong, March 9, 2 N., 22 W.
MARINUS WILLEM, Batavia to Amsterdam, 24 N., 35 W.
CEDAR, Newport to Singapore, March 8, 1 N., 23 W.
ELISABETH (Swed. barq.), Shang. to N. York, Feb. 12, lat. 32, lon. 37.
SHIRLEY, Clyde to Batavia, March 22, 1 N., 22 W.
FRIAR TUCK, Shanghai to London, April 26, 36 N. 35 W., 95 days out.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Governor Van Swieten, Louis Kniffler, Cissy, Macedon, Nelly, Mary Shepherd, Cymbeline. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, Foreunner, Alexandra, Vampyre. At NEW YORK: Sarah, *via* Shanghai, and Benefactor.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Monarch, Belle, Annie Archbell, Stornoway, M. M. Peter, Aurora Australis, Pakwan, Tamberlane, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Wagoola, Ralston, Thomas and Rebecca, Robert Henderson, Magnus, Nelly, Island Queen, Josephine, Marquis of Argyle, Glaramara, Sappho, Sir Harry Parkes, Lansdowne, Egmont, Fairleader, Oithona, Herald, Weymouth, Stuart Wortley, and Rio. At LIVERPOOL: Joshua Bates, Cornelia, Inamhore, Bella, Norwood, Alchymist, Isabella Hercus, Constantia, Nancy Brysson, Oliver Cromwell, Thomas Royden, Alice Painter, Queensbury, Regina, Victoria, Montgomery, Spirit of the Times, Veloz, Koh-i-noor, Cornelia Hendrika, Devonshire, Dolphyn, Antelope, Bentinck, Polmaise, George Ruxton, Blackburn, Macassar, Berdinkha, Thomas Dryden, Crest of the Wave, Patrician, Vanguard, Annie Duthie, and Ann Forster. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Encounter. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama, La Plata. At HAMBURG: Johanna, Hamilla Mitchell, Alt Mecklenburg, Gravina, Orion. At NEW YORK: Lettioe Catharina, Dorester, Neuhof, Sarah, Wilhelmina, Apollo, Elizabeth, Mecklenburg, Lord Collingwood, Silvercraig, Mercara, Hermine, Kahlamba, St. Paul, Queen of the Seas, Peep o'Day, Anne Wood, Capella, Thetis, Kate Carnie, Santon, Mercara. At MONTREAL: H. E. Sassaune, Asia, Tycoon, Madura, and Romeo.

From MANILA.—At FALMOUTH: Maggie Lauder, Helverton. At LIVERPOOL: Elias, Teide, Burdoes y Habana No. 1. J. A. U., Concepcion, and Cervantes (via Cadiz). At COWES: Manila. At DENMARK: Emma. At ROTTERDAM: Zanibar. At NEW YORK: Castilian, and Surprise.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Oscar, Confiance, Najade, Early Dawn, and Chili. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Centaur and Pearl. At LIVERPOOL: Crusader and Spanker. At FALMOUTH (for orders): Helene. At BORDEAUX: Salares, Hooghly and Saint Michel. At NEW YORK: Caroline and Rudolf.

From BATAVIA.—At FALMOUTH: Fredrika. At CHANNEL: Ceres.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Nipisiquit, Rockliff, and Edinburgh Castle. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The advices from the East received by last mail are favourable to shipowners. In China the amount of tonnage is large, but there is abundant employment in the country trade. At Manila and Batavia there is quite a dearth of British shipping. Homeward charters are being obtained here from Maulmain and Java. In outward freights there is no improvement to report, as the tonnage on the different berths is still large, and there is but little doing in export business. The demand for coal ships for China is slacker, several charters having been recently entered into.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £42, and £1. 18s. For Shanghai: £52, and £3. 9s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £30. and £1. 6s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

The Admiralty have engaged freight in the Sydney Eggers and Sovereign of India for the following Government stores from Woolwich to Hong Kong, viz.:—66 tons shot and shells in boxes, and 249 tons loose shells, 5 tons combustibles, 99 tons gunpowder, and 39 tons light measurement stores.

CASUALTIES.

LIVERPOOL, April 26.—The Hoang-Ho, of this port, Carrington, from the Clyde to Singapore, with a general cargo, which put in here April 11, after getting on shore on the Saltees in the night of the 7th, had been making twelve inches of water per hour, after coming off the reef on the morning of the 8th, and a portion of her main keel forward was found broken; the cargo has been discharged apparently in good order.

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ST. HELENA, March 29.—The Orion (schr.) arrived here from Macao, reports having been boarded and overhauled by an armed screw steamer, March 13, in lat. 34 S., long. 15 E.

CAPETOWN, March 21.—The Sappho of Greenock, Hildreth, master, from Shanghai for London, with a cargo of tea, got on shore on the beach while entering Table Bay, March 15, and became a total wreck; all hands saved by the lifeboat. The wreck has been sold, with her cargo, for £545.

The Confederate steamer Alabama, three months from Singapore, arrived in Table Bay March 20.

The Herman, Bart, from Amsterdam, for Padang, put into Portsmouth April 27, with master dead.

The Promise, English steamer, from New York for China, put into Rio Janeiro March 21, with loss of foremast.

OFF ASCENSION.—March 28, Maria Louise Antoinette, from Java.

OFF ST. HELENA.—March 26, Pak Wan, from Foo-chow-Foo.

AT ST. HELENA.—March 11, Montmorency, Maxwell, from Shanghai, and sailed for Liverpool; 14, Taffarette, Dereix, from Canton, and sailed for Havre; Atlantic, Sherman, from Singapore, and sailed for New Bedford; 16, Etoile, Lachaud, from Penang, and sailed, 21, for Belle Isle; Juno, Nicolai, from Banjoewangie, and sailed for Amsterdam; 19, Rockliff, Drew, from Penang, and sailed, 20, for London; Isaac da Costa, Klein, from Tjilatjap, and sailed. 20, for Rotterdam; 20, St. Michel, Fradin, from Singapore; 21, Emma, Arentzen, from Singapore, and sailed for Copenhagen; 22, Doelwyk, Hoffman, from Batavia, and sailed 23, for Rotterdam; 23, Orion, schooner, from Macao, and sailed for Hamburg; 24, Ridderkerk, Teerlink, from Batavia, and sailed, 26, for Rotterdam; Helvetien, Boyson, from Manila, and sailed, 26, for Falmouth; 25, Spanker, Candlish, from Singapore and sailed, 26, for Liverpool; 27, Castilian, Pike, from Manila, and sailed, 28, for New York; 28, Thetis, Rhodin, from Shanghai, and sailed, 29, for New York; 29, Dolphin, Gollards, from Hong Kong, and sailed for Liverpool.

At TABLE BAY.—Feb. 24, Tun-sin (str.), Rowe, from London, and left, 29, for Mauritius and China; March 3, Margarita, Mas, from Manila, and sailed, 9, for Cadiz; 18, Gov. van Swieten, v. Fagg, from Kanagawa.

At NATAL.—Feb. 24, Robin, Gammon, sailed for China; March 4, Conrad, Claasen, for Singapore.

According to last advices H.M.S. Conqueror, for Japan, was still in Simon's Bay.

At MAURITIUS.—Mar. — Tun-sin (str.), Rowe, from London, and left, 19, for China.

OVERLAND ROUTE.

COMMUNICATION by STEAM to INDIA, AUSTRALIA, &c., *vis* EGYPT.—The PENINSULAR and ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY book Passengers and receive Cargo and Parcels at their London Offices for Gibraltar, Malta, Egypt, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, the Straits, and China, by their steamers, leaving Southampton on the 4th and 20th of every month. For Gibraltar Malta, Egypt, Aden, and Bombay by those of the 12th and 27th of each month; and for Mauritius, Reunion, King George's Sound, Melbourne, and Sydney, by the steamers leaving Southampton on the 20th of every month.

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On the 19th of every month a FRENCH MAIL STEAMER will be despatched from Marseilles, at 2 P.M., for ALEXANDRIA, corresponding with another steamer from Suez to India and China. Passengers will be booked and cargo received for conveyance to the following ports:—Messina, Alexandria, Aden, Point de Galle (Ceylon), Pondicherry, Madras, Calcutta, Singapore, Saigon, and Hong Kong. In addition to the foregoing, the November steamer will receive passengers and cargo for Shanghai.

For Passage, Freight, and general information, apply to B. W. and H. HORNE, 4, Moorgate-street, London; G. H. FLETCHER and Co., 11, Covent-garden, Liverpool; and at No. 28, Rue Notre Dame des Victoires, Paris; 7, Place des Terreaux, Lyons; 1, Place Royale, Marseilles; 36, Quai de Bacalan, Bordeaux; or to Messrs. SMITH and Co., Rotterdam.

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CHINA, SINGAPORE, and EASTERN SEAS—Overland, 4th and 20th.

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FOR COLOMBO, CEYLON, direct, to sail about 10th May, having a considerable portion of her cargo engaged, the magnificent, fast sailing well-known ship AVON, A 1 for thirteen years, register 645 tons, WILLIAM RICHARDSON, Commander; loading in the West India Docks. This splendid vessel has a full poop, with most superior accommodations for the comfort and convenice of passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to W. A. WINKLEY, 23, Birchin-lane, Cornhill, E.C.

FOR COLOMBO Direct.—The very fast-sailing barque WILLIAM AND JANE, A 1, 410 tons register, ROBERT BRUCE, Commander, now loading in the West India Export Dock. This vessel will now stand in Lloyd's Register continued A 1 five years. She has just had new decks and large repairs, and been re-coppered in the river.

For Freight or Passage apply to the owners, SUART and SIMPSON, 9, Clement's-lane, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

To follow the "William and Jane," with quick despatch.

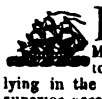
FOR COLOMBO and COCHIN, the nearly new clipper barque ELIZA LAING, A 1 eleven years, 441 tons register, T. LAING, Commander, now loading in the West India Export Dock. This fast-sailing Vessel, built under special survey in 1862, is strongly recommended to Shippers of fine goods. Has good accommodation for Passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to SUART and SIMPSON, 6, Clement's-lane, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

MANILLA Direct (guaranteed first ship, and sailing under the Spanish flag), the splendid, new, Spanish clipper ELISA, A 1 at Lloyd's for ten years, 431 tons register, FRANCISCO RIVERO, Commander; loading in St. Katharine's Dock. This vessel has been built expressly for the Manilla line, and offers an excellent opportunity to shippers requiring despatch.

For Freight or Passage apply to CHARLES HINGSTON, 2, John-street, E.C.; or to BREMNER and Co., 20½, Great St. Helen's, E.C.

Regular Line of Packet Ship.



FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the celebrated British clipper MARY MILDRED, 3 T. French Lloyd's, 460 tons register; C. J. FINE, Commander; lying in the London Docks. This beautiful vessel has superior accommodation for passengers, and sails very fast.

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FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, direct, with quick despatch, the well-known British-built ship CAMBALU, A 1 13 years, 499 tons register, loading in the London Docks. This fine vessel has good accommodation for passengers.

TEMPERLEYS, CARTER, and DARKE, 3, White Lion-court, Cornhill, E.C.

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DIRECT for HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the splendid clipper ship SOVEREIGN OF INDIA, A 1 ten years, 774 tons register, WALTER SCOTT, Commander; loading in the East India Docks. This beautiful vessel, built in 1861, has just discharged a cargo of tea from Shanghai, and will be found an excellent opportunity to shippers of fine goods.

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HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the splendid Clyde-built clipper ship SYDNEY EGGERS, classed A 1, twenty years, in the Liverpool Underwriter's book; 870 tons register; JAMES RICHARDSON, Commander; loading in the East India Docks. This magnificent vessel, built on the Clyde in 1859, made her last passage to Bombay in seventy-nine days, is noted for her great speed and sound delivery of cargo, and will be found an excellent opportunity for shippers of fine goods.

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With Quick Despatch.

FOR YOKOHAMA and NAGASAKI, the celebrated Aberdeen clipper VELOCIDADE, A 1 thirteen years, 290 tons register, JOHN WYRILL, Commander, lying in the West India Docks.

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ROBERTSON and CO. will despatch the following first-class VESSELS to their respective destinations. They are well adapted for their several trades, and are confidently recommended to their friends:—

Destination.	Ships.	Docks	To Sail.
Shanghai	Celestial ...	W.I.D.	May 18.
Shanghai	Sir H. Parkes	W.I.D	June 1.
H. Kong & Whampoa.	Maidn.Queen	W.I.D.	May 10.
Kanagawa & Nagasaki	Norfolk ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Manila	Angela ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Bombay	Tiverton ...	E.I.D.	May 15.
Kuarrachee	Victoria ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Singapore	Moneta ...	W.I.D.	May 6.

Apply at 5, Newman's-court, Cornhill London; or York-chambers, 55, King-street, Manchester.

FROM LIVERPOOL for CHINA.

Ships.	Tons.	Class.	Destination.	To Sail.
Juanpore ...	451	A 1 ...	Hong Kong and Whampoa	With des.
Jane Leech ...	871	A 1 ...	Shanghai ...	,,

For terms of Freight or Passage apply to MCDIARMID and GREENSHIELDS, Liverpool.

GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL will despatch the undermentioned SHIPS, from the East India Docks, as under:—

Destination	Ship's Name.	Reg. Tons.	Commanders.	To Sail.
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Calcutta ...	Robert Lees ...	1,200	T. Walter.	May 20.
Bombay ...	Caranjah	893	J.C.Clarke	May 25.

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Port.	Ships.	Docks.	Last Shipping Day
Shanghai	Isles of the South ...	E.I.D.	May 30.
H. Kong & Whampoa	Pak-Wan ...	E.I.D.	With des.
Singapore	Xantheppe ...	W.I.D.	With des.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

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Amoy	BOYD AND Co.
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Shanghai	H. FOGG AND Co.
Tien-Tsin	JAMES HENDERSON.
Nagasaki - Japan .	PIGNATEL AND Co.
Kanagawa	A. W. HANSARD.

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Although Liverpool enjoys an immense export and import trade, and is the port through which the valuable manufactures of Lancashire and Yorkshire pass, it has not a single Bank connected with the Mediterranean, the East Indies, China, or Australia.

The exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures to the above countries for the year 1863 amounted to about forty millions, and by far the greater portion was shipped from Liverpool, whilst the produce received in return into Liverpool was of a value of upwards of sixty millions, making a total of one hundred millions sterling.

Whilst London has upwards of fifty Banks, with branches in different countries, established for the purpose affording every facility in Exchange transactions, there is no Bank of this description, with its head-quarters in Liverpool, connected with the East.

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Some evidence of the safety and profitable character of the business is afforded by the present values of the undermentioned Banks, whose chief sources of profits are in connexion with Exchange operations.

	Paid up per Share.	Present Price.
Agra and United Service Bank	£50	... £145
Chartered Mercantile Bank of London, India, and China	25	... 70
Oriental Bank Corporation	25	... 69
Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	20	... 41
Bank of Australasia	40	... 74
Imperial Ottoman Bank	10	... 21
Bank of New South Wales	20	... 57

The Eastern Exchange Bank (Limited) will have its head-quarters in Liverpool. Branch Banks will be formed, in the first instance, at Alexandria, Bombay, Calcutta, China, and Australia, and as the business develops, at other places.

The Directors of the Eastern Exchange Bank will make arrangements for London business, constituting a first-class London Banking Agency on mutually advantageous terms.

The business of the Bank will chiefly consist in negotiating mercantile bills of exchange, granting drafts, in negotiating and collecting bills payable at places where the Bank has Branches or Agencies. It will issue circular notes and letters of credit, will undertake the purchase and sale of securities, the receipt of dividends, and effect remittances between the several places, including London, at which its Agencies and Branches will be established.

The Bank is founded under "The Companies Act, 1862," whereby the respective liability of each Shareholder is limited to the amount of his Shares.

There will be no fee for promotion; the remuneration of the Directors will be fixed by the Shareholders at each annual meeting; and the preliminary expenses will be confined to indispensable outlay.

The Articles of Association lie at the Office of the Solicitors for inspection.

Applications for Shares must be accompanied with a Banker's Receipt for £1 per Share.

In case the amount so paid should exceed £3 per Share on the number of Shares allotted, the surplus will be returned; but if it should fall short, the balance must be paid within seven days after notice of allotment, or in default, the allotment will be cancelled and the deposit forfeited.

If no allotment be made the deposit will be returned in full.

Applications for Shares may be sent through the Solicitors or Brokers of the Company, from whom Forms of Application may be had.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES, TO BE RETAINED BY THE BANKERS.

EASTERN EXCHANGE BANK (Limited).

First Issue, 50,000 Shares.

To the Directors of The Eastern Exchange Bank (Limited).

Gentlemen,—Having paid to the Bankers of the above-named Company the sum of £ , I hereby request that you will allot me Shares in the said Company, and I agree to accept such shares or any smaller number that may be alloted to me, and to become a member of the Company; and I authorise you to place my name on the Register of Members in respect of the Shares to be allotted to me, and I agree to be bound by all the conditions and regulations contained in the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company. I further authorise you to forward by post to my address as below the Certificate for any Shares which may be allotted to me.

Dated this day of 1864.
Name in full.....
Firm (if any) .....
Business or Profession.....
Place of Business.....
Residence .....

EASTERN EXCHANGE BANK (LIMITED).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the LIST of APPLICATIONS for SHARES will be CLOSED on SATURDAY NEXT, the 7th May.

LACE, BANNER, GILL, and LACE, Solicitors to the Company.

17, Brown's-buildings, Liverpool, May 3rd, 1864.

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MAPPIN, WEBB, AND CO.'S

LONDON WAREHOUSES contain the largest and best selected STOCK of ELECTRO-SILVER PLATE and CUTLERY in England.

71 AND 72, CORNHILL, CITY.

IVORY-HANDLE TABLE KNIVES
WARRANTED.

Blades secured to Handles. Best Quality only.	Table Knives.	Cheese Knives.	Carvers.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
fn. balance ivory, per dozen ...	11 0	9 0	3 6
in. „ better ivory	13 0	10 0	4 6
3½ in. „ white	15 0	12 6	6 0
4 in. strong „	20 0	15 0	7 0
4 in. „ „	25 0	18 0	9 0
4 in. full strength	34 0	24 0	10 6
Round handle, silver ferrules ...	40 0	30 0	13 0
Electro-plated handles, any pattn.	26 0	22 0	8 6

Smaller quantities can be had at the above rate of prices which are the same as at the manufactory, Royal Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

Side Dishes from £8 10s., £9, £10, £12, to £25 per set of Four.

77 AND 78, OXFORD-STREET, WEST END.

SILVER-PLATED SPOONS AND FORKS.

Full-size. Best Finish.	Fiddle Pattern.	Thread Pattern.	King's Pattern.	Lily Pattern.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
12 Table Forks	1 7 0	2 14 0	2 16 0	2 14 0
12 Table Spoons	1 7 0	2 14 0	2 16 0	2 14 0
12 Dessert Forks	1 1 0	2 2 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
12 Dessert Spoons... ...	1 1 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
12 Tea Spoons...	0 10 6	1 4 0	1 4 0	1 8 0

Smaller quantities can be had at the above rate of prices which are the same as at the manufactory, Royal Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

Costly Illustrated Catalogues forwarded free to India, China, or Colonies.

Warehouses—"77 & 78" Oxford-street, and 71 & 72, Cornhill, City. Manufactory—The Royal Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

NOTICE TO SHIPOWNERS.

SINGAPORE DOCKS.

THE PATENT SLIP AND DOCK CO. execute, in the most efficient manner, SHIPS' REPAIRS of all descriptions, under the supervision of European Shipwrights and Engineers.

The Dry Dock (opened in March, 1859) admits two Vessels at same time, being 400 feet in length, with a depth of water ranging to 15½ feet.

Another Dry Dock, of larger dimensions, on the same premises, will next year be completed and available for the heaviest Screw-steamers.

There is extensive wharf, warehouse, and other accommodation adjoining, together with the usual conveniences for the discharge, re-fitting, and coaling of Vessels; also, Lathes and every appliance for the repair of Iron Steamers.

Apply at the Offices of Messrs. PATERSON, SIMONS, and Co., Singapore; or to W. W. KER, Esq., 25, Poultry, London, E.C.

WILLIAM CLOUGHTON, Managing Director.

New Harbour, Singapore, March, 1864.

J. C. and J. FIELD,

ORIGINAL MANUFACTURERS (IN ENGLAND) OF

PARAFFINE CANDLES,

TO WHOM THE PRIZE MEDAL (1862) HAS BEEN AWARDED.

The Candles can be obtained Retail of all Chandlers and Grocers in the United Kingdom Price 1s. 8d, per pound; also

FIELD'S Celebrated United Service Soap Tables, 6d. and 4d. each.

The high melting point of the Paraffine Candles (130 deg. Fahr.) makes them well adapted for Exportation to all climates, and they have been adopted by Her Majesty's Government for use at all Military Stations abroad.

WHOLESALE AND SHIPPING PRICES ON APPLICATION AT THE

WORKS, UPPER MARSH, LAMBETH, LONDON.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON, AND CHINA.

THE SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China will be held within the Banking House, No. 52, Threadneedle-street, City, at One o'clock precisely, on Tuesday, the 17th proximo, in accordance with the term of the Deed of Settlement.

By order of the Directors,

D. T. ROBERTSON,
Chief Manager.

London, April 29, 1864.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Subscribed Capital, 2,000,000 taels, in 400 Shares of 5,000 taels each.
Paid up Capital, 200,000 taels.

DIRECTORS.

H. H. Wiggins, Esq., Manager Commercial Bank of India Chairman.
F. B. Johnson, Esq. (Messrs. Johnson and Co.).
H. D. Stewart, Esq. (Messrs. Turner and Co.).
F. Porter, Esq. (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston, and Co.).
J. Thorne, Esq. Messrs. Thorne Brothers and Co.).
David Reid, Esq.

Agencies are about to be established at the several ports in China and Japan.

L. JOSEPHS, Secretary.

THE ORIENTAL AND GENERAL MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY,

8, Finch-lane, London, E.C

LOSSES and CLAIMS upon POLICIES granted by this Company can be made PAYABLE at the following places in India and China through the Company's Agents, as under:—

Bombay—Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, and Co
Calcutta—Messrs. Grant, Smith, and Co.
Madras—Messrs. Bainbridge, Byard, Gair, and Co.
Singapore—Messrs. Cumming, Beaver, and Co.
Hong Kong—Messrs. Johnson and Co.
Shanghai—Messrs. Johnson and Co.

JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

DOCKS.

PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caisson Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864.

THE AGRA and UNITED SERVICE BANK (Limited).

Incorporated by Royal Charter.
Established 1833.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, £1,000,000 (One Million Sterling).
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, £2,000,000 (Two Millions Sterling), in 20,000 Shares of £100 each. RESERVE FUND, £225,000.

HEAD OFFICE, 27, Cannon-street, London, E.C.

BRANCHES in Edinburgh, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee, Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong, and Sydney.

Current Accounts of firms and individuals are kept at the Head Office, on the terms customary with London Bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received at ten days' notice of withdrawal, at rates fluctuating with those of the Bank of England; and for longer periods at fixed rates, particulars of which may be obtained upon application.

Every other description of banking business and money agency, British and Indian, transacted.

Letters of Credit and Circular Notes issued, payable at the chief cities of Europe and Asia, and also at Cairo and Alexandria.

MACKINTOSH BALFOUR, General Manager.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter. Paid-up capital £634,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts, payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Kandy, Singapore, Galle, Penang, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Mauritius, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the overland route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office, in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 2.

THE HONG KONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY.

AN ASSOCIATION, called the "HONG KONG and WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY," having purchased Messrs. J. C. Couper and Co.'s extensive DOCKS, with Engineer Factory and Foundry, at Whampoa, are prepared to execute all kinds of work with prompt despatch.

The Dock is built of Granite, and is 550 feet over all with 520 feet on the blocks, and a breadth of 80 feet at the entrance. It can be used as either one or two Docks, being fitted with two Caissons. It is also furnished with Steam Pumps.

Depth of Water at Spring Tides, 16½ to 17 feet.
Do. Neap do. 13½ to 15 „

Attached to the Docks is a Pair of Shears, fitted wit two capstans and three winches, and capable of lifting fifty tons, with a depth of water under the Shears, alongside the Jetty, enough for any vessels at all times of Tides.

The Engine-house on the Establishment contains Lathes of all sizes, and capable of taking any sized Shaft; one Self-acting Planing Machine, Screwing Machine, with Taps and Dies complete, Large and Small Drilling Machines, Punching and Cutting Machines, Rolling Machines, powerful Steam Hammer (3 tons), &c., &c.

Also, one Wood Dock, capable of taking a Vessel of 240 feet on the keel, on a Draft of 14 feet at Spring Tides, and 11 at Neap Tides. This Dock is also fitted with a Caisson, and is pumped out by steam.

The above are the only Docks in Whampoa fitted with Caissons.

There are also Two Mud Docks, one capable of taking in Vessels of 164 feet on the keel, with a Draft of 12 feet 6 inches at Spring Tides, and 9 feet 6 inches at Neap Tides. The other, Vessels of 120 feet 6 inches at Spring Tides, and 7 feet 6 inches at Neap do.

The Blacksmith's Shop contains 1 Large Boilermaker's Furnace and 12 Smiths' Forges, fitted with Steam Blowers.

The Iron Foundry contains a Furnace capable of melting 5 tons, and Brass Furnace for melting half a ton.

Attached to the premises is a Circular Sawmill driven by Steam, capable of cutting logs or planks of any length

The whole under the Superintendence of experienced European Foremen.

All Tools and Materials connected with Machinery kept always on hand.

Copper and Yellow Metal Sheathing, Felt, Pitch, Tar, Oakum, Paints, Oils, &c., &c., supplied at market rates.

For Dock Charges, or further particulars, apply to Mr. D. LAPRAIK, Hong Kong; to G. N. MINTO, Manager, Whampoa; or to Messrs. JAMES MORRISON and Co., 1, Crown-court, Philpot-lane, London.

DINNEFORD'S PURE FLUID MAGNESIA has been, during Twenty Five years, emphatically sanctioned by the Medical Profession and universally accepted by the public, as the best remedy for acidity of the stomach, heartburn, headache, gout, and indigestion, and as a mild aperient for delicate constitutions, more especially for ladies and children. When combined with the acidulated lemon syrup, it forms an agreeable effervescing draught, in which its aperient qualities are much increased. During hot seasons, and, above all, in hot climates, the "regular" use of this simple and elegant remedy has been found highly beneficial. It is prepared (in a state of perfect purity and of uniform strength) by DINNEFORD and Co., 172, New Bond-street, London, and sold by all respectable Chemists throughout the World.

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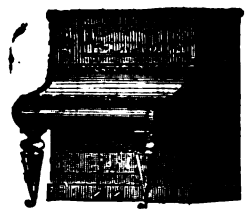
(SUCCESSORS TO LAURIE, BEDFORD, AND BAND)
SADDLERS AND HARNESS MANUFACTURERS,
INVENTORS OF THE PATENT ELASTIC SADDLE.

MESSRS. B & B. have a large assortment of well-seasoned Saddlery and Harness suitable for India and the Colonies, always on hand.
297, OXFORD STREET, LONDON (oppposite Stratford Place).

TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND INDIA.



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(EIGHTEEN YEARS WITH COLLARD AND COLLARD)
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ILLUSTRATED LISTS FORWARDED FREE ON APPLICATION.

GARDNERS'
£2 2s. DINNER SERVICES.

CUT WINES, 3s. 6d. per dozen; CUT QUART DECANTERS, 7s. 6d. per pair
Regimental Messes supplied at the lowest possible prices. Engravings free by post.
INDIAN LAMPS ON AN IMPROVED PRINCIPLE.
MAKERS OF THE
PATENT ENAMEL GREAT CLOCK DIALS AT THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT
BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY. ESTABLISHED 109 YEARS.
453, STRAND, CHARING-CROSS; AND 5 AND 6, DUNCANNON-STREET, ADJOINING.

RIMMEL'S CHOICE PERFUMERY,
AND NOVELTIES FOR THE SEASON.

RIMMEL'S VIOLET WATER for the Toilet, in elegant Parian bottles, 3s. 6d.
RIMMEL'S TOILET VINEGAR, of world-wide celebrity, 1s., 2s. 6d., and 5s.
The ALEXANDRA, PRINCE OF WALES, and ROYAL BRIDAL BOUQUET, 2s. 6d. per bottle, or the three in an elegant box, with photographs of the illustrious pair, 7s. 6d.
RIMMEL'S PELLUCID GLYCERINE SOAP, warranted to contain 30 per cent. of Glycerine—the best Soap ever produced for the Skin—1s., extra scented 2s.
The ALEXANDRA CREAM, a transparent Pommade, for fixing the Hair, and making it glossy, without greasing it. Price 1s. 6d.
ROYAL DENTIFRICE for the TEETH, one shilling.
RIMMEL'S PERFUME FOUNTAIN, as used in the Princess of Wales' Brid Boudoir, an elegant adjunct to the Drawing Room, Ball Room, Dinner Table, & Price from £1 10s. Lent on Hire for Bazaars and Parties.
The TURKISH SCENTED CHARM, a pretty ornament for the Watch Chain, price 1s.; sent by post for 13 stamps. Made also in real gold, enamelled, at £1. 1s.
RIMMEL'S PERFUME VAPORIZER, for Purifying and Perfuming the air in Apartments, Ball Rooms, Clubs, Theatres, &c. Price, from 6s.

96, Strand, and 24, Cornhill, London; and 17, Boulevard des Italiens, Paris.
Sold by all Perfumery Dealers throughout the United Kingdom.

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PATENT SPECIAL SAFETY MATCHES, WAX VESTAS, & CIGAR LIGHTS,
IGNITE ONLY ON THE BOX.
Safety Matches in Slide Boxes—One Dozen Packets. Safety Vestas in Slide and Japan Tin Boxes of various sizes.
THE above contain no Phosphorus, are not Poisonous, Light only on the Box, and are especially adapted for the Foreign and Colonial markets.
BRYANT and MAY, manufacturers of WAX VESTAS in Round Plaid Card-boxes, and in Japaned Tin-boxes of 50, 100, 150, 250, 500, and 1,000, warranted for all climates.
Sole Importers of "Jonkoping's Tändstickor."
All Orders made payable in London will receive immediate attention.
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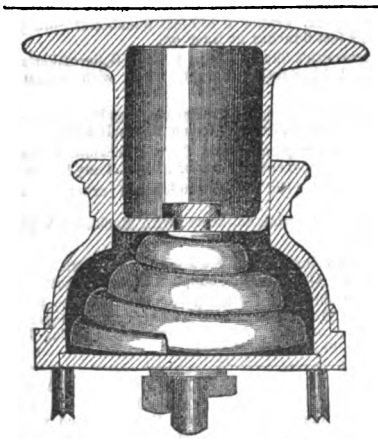

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CAST STEEL for Punches, Taps, and Dies Turning Tools, Chisels, &c.
CAST STEEL Piston Rods, Crank Pins, Connecting Rods, Straight and Crank Axles, Shafts, and Forgings of every description.
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THIS Paper is now published at Shanghai, and contains full details of all the important Taiping movements; Mercantile and Shipping intelligence, Political and General Information from the ports in Japan Peking, the Yang-tse, &c.
Subscriptions received at 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, London.

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SOUTHAMPTON.
(Adjoining the Docks and Railway.)
Hot and Cold Baths, and Moderate Charges,
THE Proprietor, having been many years in the employ of the P. and O. Company, can give every information respecting the arrival and departure of the steamers.
R. KELWAY, Proprietor.

TUPPER AND COMPANY
MANUFACTURERS OF PATENT GALVANISED IRON, in Sheets, Tiles, Iron Roofs Sheds, Cisterns, Pails, Gutters, Wire for Fencing, &c.
WORKS AT BIRMINGHAM AND LONDON.
OFFICES: 61A, MOORGATE STREET, LONDON
Merchants' orders executed with despatch.

COWASJEE DINSHAW,
Close to the Landing Place Depot of
EUROPEAN, CHINA, AND INDIAN WORK.
WINE, BEER, CHAMPAGNE, and SPIRITS of the best quality. Bombay-made Soda Water and Lemonade. Perfumery, Confectionery, Oil man's Stores, and Stationery of every description. Sola Topees and Canvas Shoes, &c., &c., &c.
STEAMER POINT, ADEN.
Drawing and Reading-room free to Passengers.
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Bottled Ales and Wines, &c.
"NO BUYERS for the BEST BRANDS, unless RE-PACKED," in consequence of repeated BREAKAGE.—Melbourne Journa of Commerce, Nov. 16. Heating and Breakage entirely prevented, and 15 per cent. saved in Freight of Cases by using SEYMER'S BOTTLE PACKINGS AND COOLERS
Price 7½d. per doz. Bottlers contracting for large quantities effect so great a saving in labour, &c., that they can supply them at one-fourth less in price to Shippers, who will find it most profitable to order their goods to be so packed in future. In use by all the leading London houses.—T. WHITEHEAD, 37, EASTCHEAP E.C. Sole Manufacturer.

Dr. Curtis on Marriage, Nervous Debility, Spermatorrhœa &c, with Plates. Post free by the Author,
12 stamps; sealed ends, 20.
MANHOOD: the CAUSE and CURE of PREMATURE DECLINE IN MAN, with plain directions for perfect restoration to health and vigour; being a Medical Essay on the treatment of Nervous and Generative Debility, Impotency, and those peculiar disqualifications to marriage which originate in youthful errors and excess: the cure of Infectious Diseases without Mercury, and their Prevention by the Author's Prescription of his Infallible Lotion, the result of Twenty, five Years' successful practice. By Dr. J. L. CURTIS, 15, Albermarle-street, Piccadilly, London.
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"We feel no hesitation in saying, that there is a member of society by whom the book will not be found useful—whether such person hold the relation of a Parent Preceptor, or Clergyman."—Sun, Evening Paper.
"Curtis on Manhood should be in the hands of young and old. It is an ably-written medical treatise on diseases of error and effects of climate."—Sunday Times, March 23, 1856.
"Dr. Curtis has conferred a great boon by publishing this little work, in which is described the source of those diseases which produce decline in youth, or more frequently premature old age."—Daily Telegraph, March 27, 1858.
N.B.—Agents in India—Von Lintzgy, Loll Bazaar, Calcutta; Athenæum office, Madras; Hunnam, Queen's-road, Hong Kong, China; Observer office, Colombo, Ceylon; Esperance, Bombay; Times office, Malta, price half a dollar or one rupee. Patients in India and the Colonies can be successfully treated by letter, by enclosing the consultation fee of £1, and medicines forwarded with secrecy and despatch. Consultations daily from 10 to 3 and 6 to 8.
London Agents:—J. Allen, 20, Warwick-lane, Paternoster-row; Mann, 39, Cornhill, London; and the booksellers in town and country.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—All kinds of Fevers are most successfully treated by purifying the blood and invigorating the nerves. Holloway's Pills happily effect these two objects with celerity and certainty, they cool the system, relax the skin, and mitigate the thirst. They relieve the head, tranquillise the heart, and induce sleep. Their beneficial action is equally apparent in typhoid and inflammatory fevers, these pills extirpate that origin and root of all fevers—bad blood, and substitute for it a clean, renovating, health-generating fluid, in face of which no fever can exist. Holloway's incomparable Pills increase the appetite, and improve the digestion; therefore while repelling disease they are really restoring strength, giving tone to the nervous system, and energy to the mind.

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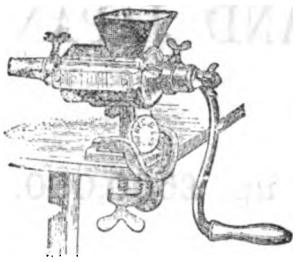

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A small MINCER or MASTICATOR, to assist digestion. Price £1. 10s.
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IMPROVED MILLS for COFFEE, PEPPER, SPICE, MALT, &c., the best and most convenient made. Price 6s., 8s., 10s., 14s., 15s., and 20s.
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ROTARY KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES of SUPERIOR QUALITY from £2 and upwards.

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BOYVEAU LAFFECTEUR'S ROB.

The only one authorised and adopted in France, Belgium, Austria and Russia.

THIS Vegetable Syrup, prepared and guaranteed genuine by the signature of Dr. GIRAUDEAU DE ST. GERVAIS, is very superior to the purifying syrups. It effects a radical cure, without mercury of all affections of the skin, scurf, scrotula, &c., and symptoms arising from the acrid state of the humours. The Rob is especially valuable in diseases which have resisted the effect of mercury or iodide of potash. The general entrepot is 19, RUE RICHER, PARIS.

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BRYANT AND MAY'S

PATENT SPECIAL SAFETY MATCHES, WAX VESTAS, & CIGAR LIGHTS.

IGNITE ONLY ON THE BOX.

Safety Matches in Slide Boxes—One Dozen Packets. Safety Vestas in Slide and Japan Tin-boxes of various sizes.

THE above contain no Phosphorus, are not Poisonous, Light only on the Box, and are especially adapted for the Foreign and Colonial markets.

BRYANT and MAY, manufacturers of WAX VESTAS in Round Plaid Card-boxes, and in Japanned Tin-boxes of 50, 100, 150, 250, and 1,000, warranted for all climates.

Sole Importers of "Jonkoping's Tändstickor."

All Orders made payable in London will receive immediate attention.

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CELLÉ FRERES' PERFUMERY.

CHIEF ESTABLISHMENT, 35, RUE DES VIEUX AUGUSTINS, 35, à PARIS.

THE house of GELLE AINE and CO., celebrated for the superiority of its Perfumery, addresses itself to the fashionable world as much for its essentially hygeianic, refreshing, and tonic preparations as for its delicate and distingué perfumes.

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TRADE MARK.

DEPOT: H. BRULE, 23, RUE DE L'HOPITAL, BRUXELLES.

1st Class. London Exhibition. Medal.

Commission. Articles specially Recommended. Exportation

REGENERATEUR, a superior pomade.
EAU D'ALBION for the toilet,
CARBOQUINA ROSE toothpowder.
CUCUMBER SOAP for softening the skin.
VIOLET ESSENCE and VIOLET WATER for the handkerchief.
CONCENTRATED EAU DE COLOGNE for the toilet.
LAIT PROPHYLATIC to remove freckles and improve the appearance of the skin.
COLD CREAM, AU LOTUS DE LYBIE, to soften and refresh the skin.
NIGRITINE VEGETALE, an incomparable dye for the hair and beard, not staining the skin.

SPECIAL PERFUMERY WITH A BASIS OF GLYCERINE

SOAP, TOOTH-PASTE, POMMADE, CREAM FOR THE COMPLEXION, EAU DE TOILETTE.

To be obtained of all the principal Perfumers and Hairdressers in Europe and other parts of the world.

JOHN GOSNELL AND CO.'S
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Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

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Curry Sauce...	1s. 6d.
Tap, do.	1s. 6d.
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Pickled Mangoes	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Essence of Chillies	1s. 9d.
Tamarind Fish	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Balachow	1s. 6d.
Genuine Cayenne	1s. and 2s.
Nepaul Pepper	1s. and 2s.
Guava Jelly	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Preserved Mangoes	2s. and 3s. 6d.
Do. Jamaica Ginger	from 3s. 6d.
Do. Chinese Ginger	jars 5s. and 10s.

Genuine Arrowroot, 1 lb. tins, 2s.; 7 lb. tins, 10s. 6d. each.

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(LIMITED).

16, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C.

CAPITAL: Subscribed, £2,000,000; Paid and called up, £500,000.

Directors.

CHAIRMAN—JAMES NUGENT DANIELL, Esq.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN — RICHARD SPOONER, Esq.

WILLIAM FREDERICK BARING, Esq.
THOMAS COTTERELL, Esq.
J. HENRY REYNELL DE CASTRO, Esq.
PHILIP SHORE FLETCHER, Esq.
WILLIAM HARRISON, Esq.
DEANE J. HOARE, Esq.
SPIRIDION MAVROJANI, Esq.
HENRY YOUNG, Esq.

Auditors.

JAMES GOODSON, Esq., Chairman Great Eastern Railway. | FREDERICK WILLIAM SPOONER, Esq., America-square.

Bankers.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND. | THE ALLIANCE BANK.

Solicitors—Messrs. FLUX and ARGLES.

General Manager—JOHN OUSELEY, Esq.

At the SECOND ORDINARY MEETING of the Shareholders in this Company, held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Monday, the 2nd of May, 1864, the following report was presented:—

SECOND REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS TO THE SHAREHOLDERS, MAY 2, 1864.

The Directors have the pleasure of presenting to the shareholders the accounts of the Bank for the year ending Dec. 31, 1863, duly audited.

The gross profits of the Bank amount to £36,662. 8s., from which, after deducting £7,458. 5s. 6d. paid as interest on current accounts and fixed deposits, and £19,376. 11s. 7d. on account of current expenses from the commencement of the Bank, there remains the sum of £9,827. 11s. 1d. as net profit.

In compliance with the terms of clause No. 121 of the Articles of Association, the Directors have written off £500 against preliminary expenses account. They recommend that £7,500 be applied to the payment of a dividend of 15s. per share, being at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the capital as from time to time received; and that £1,000 be added to the reserved fund, which, with the £2 per share premium on the new issue of shares, will amount to £21,000, leaving a balance of £827. 11s. 1d. to be carried forward to profit and loss new account.

The dividend, if approved by the shareholders, will be payable on or after the 5th of May, free of income-tax.

The Hong Kong Branch of the Bank was not opened for business until the 1st October, and the Shanghai Branch until December last.

The Directors have the satisfaction to announce that the general business of the Bank has made rapid progress, particularly within the last few months, and they look forward with confidence to the future.

The Directors who retire are Mr. Wm. Harrison, Mr. R. Spooner, and Mr. W. F. Baring, and being eligible for re-election, they offer themselves accordingly.

The Auditors, Mr. Jas. Goodson and Mr. F. W. Spooner, also retire, and being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

J. N. DANIELL, Chairman.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN (Limited).

BALANCE-SHEET, 31ST DECEMBER, 1863.

Dr.			
To capital paid up	£249,985	0	0
To amount due to the public on current and deposit accounts, bills payable, circular notes, letters of credit, &c.	2,122,917	2	11
To net profit for year ending December 31, 1863	9,827	11	1
	£2,382,729	14	0

Cr.			
By cash on hand and with bankers	£252,087	17	10
By bullion on hand and in transitu	153,702	12	2
By Government Securities	93,014	17	11
By bills receivable, loans, bills discounted, &c.	1,860,498	11	9
By bank premises in London	9,162	18	8
By miscellaneous—including furniture, at head offices and branches, stamps, insurance, &c.	6,803	18	1
By preliminary expenses	7,958	18	8
	£2,382,729	14	0

Dr. PROFIT AND LOSS.			
To expenses at head office and branches for salaries, direction, travelling expenses, stamps, rent, advertisements, &c.	£19,376	11	5
To balance carried down	9,827	11	1
	£29,204	2	6

Cr.			
By gross profits for year ending December 31, 1863, after allowing rebate on bills outstanding	£36,662	8	0
Less interest paid on current and deposit accounts	7,458	5	6
	£29,204	2	6

Dr. APPROPRIATION.			
To dividend of 15s. per share on 10,000 Shares, for year ending 31st December, 1863	£7,500	0	0
To amount written off preliminary expenses	500	0	0
To amount carried to reserve fund	1,000	0	0
Balance carried to profit and loss new account	827	11	1
	£9,827	11	1

Cr.			
By balance brought down	£9,827	11	1
	£9,827	11	1

We have examined and compared the accounts transmitted from the branches to the London office, and have traced the due acknowledgment of all bills and drafts, both out and home.

All vouchers for payment have been produced to us, and we have ascertained that the securities and monies of the Bank are in order as represented.

The balance-sheet and statement of accounts are correct. The books have been well kept, and the system of accounts is good.

F. W. SPOONER, } Auditors.
JAMES GOODSON, }

The Secretary having read the advertisement convening the meeting.

The seal of the Company was affixed to the register of transfers.

The Report and Statement of Accounts were taken as read.

The following Resolutions were moved, seconded, and carried unanimously:—

1. That the Report and Statement of Accounts of the Directors be received and adopted.
2. That a Dividend of 15s. per share be declared, payable on and after the 5th inst.
3. That the retiring Directors, Richard Spooner, Esq., William Frederick Baring, Esq., and William Harrison, Esq., to be re-elected.
4. That the retiring Auditors, James Goodson, Esq., and F. W. Spooner, Esq., be re-elected.
5. That the remuneration to the Auditors for their service during the past year be £50 each.
6. That the cordial thanks of the Meeting be given to the Chairman and Directors for their successful management.

J. N. DANIELL, Chairman.
J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

Printed for the Proprietors by WOODFALL and KINDER, Milford-lane, Strand, W.C., and published by JOHN ELLISON, at the Office of the "LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH," 12 George-yard, Lombard-street, London, E.C., in the parish of St. Edmund the King.—Friday, May 6, 1864.

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 137.] LONDON, FRIDAY, MAY 13, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Kanagawa			March 18
	Nagasaki			„ 25
	Hakodadi			
CHINA—				
	Peking			„ 18
	Tien-tsin			
	Hankow			„ 21
	Shanghai	Jan. 26	March 21	„ 26
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 28
	Amoy			„ 29
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	Feb. 10	March 25	April 1
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	Jan. 26	March 19	March 23
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Touron			
	Saigon			April 2
SIAM—				„ —
	Bankok			
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			March 18
	Sarawak			„ 30
JAVA—				
	Batavia			April 2
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	Feb. 26	April 3	„ 9
	Penang	„ 26	„ 1	„ 11

The French mail due here on the 5th inst. was received this day, as announced in our last issue.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, to Marseilles, per Massilia, arrived May 11.—From Shanghai: Mr. Cobb. From Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Parker, infant and servant, Mr. Thorne, Mrs. and two Misses Hunter, two children, and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Percival, three children, and five servants, Col. Neal, Messrs. Glover, D. Lapraik, Luce, and Cryder, Mrs. Stone, Captain Hall, Messrs. Jones, Flores, and Brinego. From Singapore: Mr. McLean. From Penang: Mr. and Mrs. Kuni, and three children.

To Southampton, per Delhi, expected to arrive May 17.—From Shanghai, Mr. Lewis. From Hong Kong: Mr. J. Bayley, Messrs. J. Scott, T. Bennett, H. Skey, and H. Fry. From Singapore: Mr. Cheever, Mr. Strath. To Gibraltar, from Hong Kong: Mr. Carasco.

By last Bombay mail, to Southampton, per Delta, arrived May 11.—From Hong Kong: The Lord Bishop of Victoria.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Syria, from Southampton, May 4.—To Singapore: Mr. P. L. Blyth. To Hong Kong: Mr. H. D. Margesson, Mr. C. Smale. To Calcutta: Asst. Surg. W. D. Smythe, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Casey, Mr. and Mrs. Bennett and infant, Mr. J. Pomeroy. To Madras: Ensign C. B. Cooke, Capt. E. G. Tremlett, Messrs. W. Boultbee and F. R. Ryan, Miss Alice Bayley. To Ceylon: Mr. W. Gaskell, Mr. Leechman, Mr. J. Bream, Mr. Moir, Miss Towell.

From Marseilles, May 12.—To Singapore: Mr. Paul Pickenpeck. To Penang: Mr. Jno. Lamb. To Shanghai: Admiral Steen Bille and Secretary. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Neilson, Mr. Barnes Dallas. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. M. Borntraeger, Mr. G. Hubbe. To Calcutta: Capt. G. C. Ross. To Madras: Rev. W. G. Hooper. To Ceylon: Messrs. C. Tatham, John Brown, and C. H. Ledward.

Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, 20th May, from Southampton.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Ricketts and child. To Hong Kong: Rev. W. A. Rutherford, Mr. Kilby. To Shanghai: Mr. F. Whitmore. From Marseilles, May 28.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. von der Heyde. To Shanghai: Mr. Broadbent. To Hong Kong: Mr. F. Muselius.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

KANAGAWA.

Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B., Her Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary in Japan, accompanied by Lady Alcock and suite, arrived by the *Argus* from Nagasaki on the 2nd March, and has taken up his residence at Kanagawa for the present. His Excellency had been waited upon by some members of the Gorojio who, "we understand (says the *Commercial News*) hail with great satisfaction the return of a minister whom they have always distinguished by the highest marks of confidence and esteem." There was a report that his Excellency means to proceed soon to Yedo, and to reside there for a while. The French Imperial steamer *Semiramis* left on the 11th March, conveying Colonel Neale, the late Chargé d'Affaires, as far as Shanghai, on his way to England.

The following important intelligence had been current for some time at Kanagawa, for it was first mentioned about the 24th February, but up to as late a date as the 18th March, the matter still remained in doubt. It was scarcely credited that Tsiosiu would have so committed himself. The statement made was, that on the Japanese 12th month 24th day (Feb. 1st) Tsiosiu fired upon one of Satsuma's steamers (said to be the *Sir Charles Forbes*) in the Straits of Shimonoseki, killing forty officers and burning the steamer to the water's edge. Affairs at Miako are greatly complicated, owing to the troubles with Tsiosiu. The Daimio tries to exonerate himself from blame by relying upon Ongasawara's celebrated order for the expulsion of foreigners, an order which he contends has not been rescinded. Satsuma is greatly exasperated, and is preparing to punish him for his dastardly act. The Government, however, is not content to allow Satsuma all the honour of capturing the haughty Prince, so will probably join in the expedition. It is likely that the Princes of Etchizen, Tosa, and Sendai will be sent to capture Tsiosiu's territories, and make a free passage through the Straits for the Government.

Mats' daira Shiringaka, the old Prince of Echizen, who, though he has vacated the chieftainship in favour of his son, is yet a man of considerable influence, has presented the following memorial to the Emperor and the Tycoon :—

Western foreigners of the present day differ greatly from those of former times. They are much more enlightened and liberal. While other nations are united in bonds of friendly commerce, Japan, standing apart in her solitude, has not known the changes of heaven's course, and has lost the friendship of the world at large. There is no greater disgrace to our country than this. Hence, to shut up this country and drive out the barbarians were a positive evil. Moreover, there are five great and powerful continents, and if all Japan were united, it would be an unequal contest, to attempt to expel the barbarians. How much more when the country is not of one mind, would Japan be shivered to pieces like a roof-tile. Furthermore, treaties have been made, and if without cause on the part of the barbarians, we should attempt the expulsion, the most serious result would be that we could not keep our good faith inviolate. The now talked of expulsion of the barbarians is a notion of those who do not know them; and our country would be destroyed. Let us by commerce conform to this law of changes in the world, and Japan also will become wealthy. Besides, all this talk about sweeping barbarians from the country and shutting up Japan and confining our attention to the protection of our own sea-coast, is no way to promote the dignity of the empire. Although there is so much said at Kioto about driving out the barbarians, I don't think the Emperor really reckons on success in the attempt. It would be impossible unless we navigate the seas.

The so-called corrupt religion of the Western Ocean is a different thing from the Christianity of former times. Were Japan to adopt and practice it, I am of the opinion that no sects would arise to ruin or damage the country.

This, however, would depend upon the laws of our country. If the people of Japan become assimilated to the foreigners' manners, it must be because the government here is inferior to those of other countries.

Let us stand up by the side of the five countries, and like them build many large vessels of war, and here and there along our coast erect forts, and let us inaugurate a flourishing commerce by our own vessels—not giving our useful articles to other nations, but those we do not need. Let us transport American goods to England, and French goods to Russia, and selecting the best of these commodities for ourselves while we carry on this exchange of products, we shall naturally become a rich and powerful country in the midst of the seas.

When we have become strong enough to attack others, we shall have firmly established our own coast defences. As the power of the empire

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becomes more and more confirmed, a friendly intercourse with other nations having been long established, destruction and overthrow cannot come upon us for ten thousand generations. If, perchance, good faith should be violated by another nation, the wrong would be theirs, and we could at once destroy them. Truly this would be a different affair to the expulsion of foreigners at the present time. This would not make all the Treaty Powers our enemies at the same moment. For, if one or two nations should violate their good faith, the enemy being small, it would be easy to destroy them.

Though these things are so, the Imperial Government is not administered upon this principle. There is but one aim there. Hating the Western barbarians, the Emperor regards them as brutes, and says, "Drive them out! Drive them out!" Though he regards them as brutes, they are, nevertheless, enlightened. At the present time, they firmly maintain friendly relations with each other, and it is clear that it is a great mistake to confound ancient with modern times. From the beginning mankind had not been unlike one another. If the views that prevailed at the capital were sound, Wan Hwang and Confucius were barbarians, and ought they not to have been exterminated?

Moreover, after all is said, the Tycoon's officers continued to hold friendly intercourse with foreigners, through fear of them. They were greatly scheming, and had no idea of opening commerce for the ben of the Japanese people. For this cause, the times have become what they are

And now, with all respect for the Imperial authority, I beg to say, that neither the views of the Celestial Court (the Emperor), nor the acts of the Tycoon, being in accordance with the principles of heaven, they have brought troubles upon us. To know these things, and not remonstrate against them, is not the part of a faithful servant of His Imperial Majesty. Saying this, I shall never change the opinions herein expressed, but as I value the lasting welfare of the empire, I shall persist in presenting these views, as a servant of His Majesty is in duty bound to do.

With all respect and reverence, I present my remonstrance against the loss of virtue on the part of the Celestial Dynasty and the Tycoon's Government, and if not listened to, I shall continue to do so while I live.

Here is the true representation of the opinions of one principality, and I have not persuaded any other prince to adopt and forward my views. But though one, two, or three other principalities have come to entertain these views, yet from the first the Imperial Government has been desirous to expel foreigners. Although I have on every occasion when at the Capital, presented these views, yet the Imperial Government has not embraced them. Now, the foregoing are opinions which one principality will hold till death. I purposed to go to the capital, but as the Commander-in-Chief (Shioongun) has returned from thence, I cannot but present this communication to his officers.

The present Prince of Echizen (the writer's son) was going to Yedo but is detained by a pain in his feet. Moreover, as I do not know when I shall go up to the capital (if the Tycoon says "to day," I am ready to-day, or whenever it may please him), and since my retainers are all in readiness, should there be any danger in the vicinity of the capital, I am determined to run to the ruts of the Emperor's cart-wheels,* and, therefore, I present this memorial.

The *Japan Herald* of the 18th March contrasts the present political condition of the Foreign Settlement with what it was twelve months since, when the Japanese Government had given official warning that it could not guarantee the residents against attack, and the English Admiral had stated that neither could he protect them. Our contemporary concludes:—"In such bright tranquillity are we now in this month of March, 1864, in Yokohama, that not one dull sound disturbs us; it is true a great portion of the British squadron still remains in our harbour, but at the present moment seems as innocent of mischief as a pet lamb. Business, it is true, in one of our great staple exports, silk, is unusually dull; but even as we write intelligence comes in of larger supplies, and that superior quality, beginning to arrive; whilst of our new staple of cotton extensive supplies continue almost to meet the increasing demand, amounting during this changeful period to upwards of 53,000 bales. No news has transpired of the conference at Kioto. At Yedo all is reported quiet; the Ronins having been effectually weeded out."

Now that the Japanese traders are tolerably sure the foreign relations of the country will continue unaltered and that peace will be maintained, they are likely to trade more actively than they did during the last half year. From some points of view it would appear that the last year has been one of progress, notwithstanding the undecided and threatening state of affairs which prevailed during the greater part of that period. The shipping certainly exhibits a decided improvement over that of the year 1862, the departures for that period being 97 vessels of 35,496 tons, against 168 vessels of 61,260 tons in 1863. The arrivals during 1863 were, according to nationality—British, 100 vessels, of 34,790 tons; American, 40 vessels of 21,102 tons; Dutch, 13 vessels, of 3,464 tons; Prussian, 8 vessels of 2,310 tons; French, 7 vessels of 2,156 tons; and 2 Russian vessels of 598 tons. The actual value of the trade done at the port during the eventful year of 1863, did, according to our own calculations, observes the *Commercial News*, exceed that of the previous year by, perhaps, from three to four million dollars. The values declared at the Custom House, however, show a marked decrease in the trade of the port during 1863, as compared with the previous year; but it is evident that these declarations of value are fictitious and unreliable. They give the average price of raw silk, raw cotton, and tea, at $210, $8, and $9 per picul, respectively; of shirtings at $2 per piece; and of wines, $1 per case! And in this way the total trade of the year amounts to $5,017,000 for exports; and to $1,600,000 for imports. These figures may certainly be doubled, and, perhaps, trebled for the approximate true value—the export of raw silk alone being equal to at least eight millions of dollars. The export of our new staple—raw cotton—amounted in 1863 to nearly 47,000 bales, against 4,616 bales in 1862. Metals, which were declared at a million and a quarter dollars in 1862, were comparatively neglected during the last year, and have not yet regained their former position in the market.

The new Hatoba was opened for traffic in the first week of March; and the local Government had also signified its willingness to grant a site for a hospital, and sites for engine-houses, as applied for by the foreign fire brigade. The following are the regulations for the Hatoba, as communicated to Mr. Consul Winchester:—

We have the honour to inform you in writing that the Hatoba and Examination-house will be opened on the 29th inst. for the examination of import and export goods, and the receiving of the duties thereon; for which the following rules have been established, viz.:—

Inward manifests, receipts of ships' papers, and other documents, may be delivered either at the Custom-house or at the new Examination-house, as such may be found most convenient.

N.B.—Permits for the clearing of vessels will be granted at the same place where formerly those for the entering were given.

2. The new Hatoba being smaller than the old one, the goods to be landed or shipped cannot be brought into the Examination-house before permits shall have been obtained.

3. No convenience can be made of both Hatobas for goods mentioned in one permit.

4. Permits for purchasing rice and corn, and for the shipment of articles for private use, will not be granted at the new Hatoba; these must be obtained at the Custom-house as heretofore.

N.B.—The shipment of goods will be granted at both Hatobas *ad libitum*.

We request that you will acquaint your countrymen with these regulations.

With respect and consideration,

OKUBO KUNO KAMI.
KOMAI DAIGAKU.

The 27th of the 1st month (8th March, 1864).

There had been amateur theatricals at the United Service Club, and the community had at hand another source of amusement in Professor Risley's Circus, the preparation of which was almost completed.

A subscription set on foot for the benefit of Joseph Corbett, the sole surviver of the ill-fated *Star of Peace*, reached the amount of $282½, of which £5 has been remitted to Corbett's wife; £54. 17s. 6d. had been vested in a bill in Corbett's favour—$250; which, with $23 paid to Corbett previous to his departure, and $9½ paid for his board, accounts for the whole sum.

An Englishman named Honeycombe had been found guilty by the Consular Court of plundering at the late fire at Messrs. Allmand's, and sentenced to nine months' imprisonment with hard labour at Kanagawa, or in the Colonial Gaol at Hong Kong, "as may be found convenient."

NAGASAKI.

From this port we hear of a brutal outrage committed on an Englishman, a Mr. Sutton, who has been so badly wounded that his life is in danger. A Japanese two-sworded official aimed a blow at his head, which he parried with his arm, and was severely cut in consequence.

YOKOHAMA.

The following is from the *Japan Herald* of March 12:—

We mentioned a few weeks since that we had found our article of July 25 on the trade of this port had been sent to his Government by the British Chargé d'Affaires, and by it had been thought worth the publishing in the Government *Gazette*, from whence it had been copied into the columns of *The Times*. We now find that it has been again copied from *The Times* into several of the most important of the provincial papers. Encouraged by this extensive recognition of the value of statistical remarks upon our trade, we purpose to take up the thread where we then dropped it, which we shall continue to do from time to time. We cannot permit the opportunity to pass without tendering to our commercial friends our acknowledgment for the ready liberality with which they al-

* The Emperor rides in a cart drawn by bullocks, and the phrase means "*run to the Imperial presence.*"

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ways place open to us those documents and information without which those returns could not be made with any degree of confidence in their accuracy.

We will take up for review in the present number the two staple exports, silk and tea, leaving over our remarks upon the other principal staple, cotton, and the smaller exports, and also upon the import trade, for future issues.

The result of the silk trade for the last six months of 1863, or, as it is generally denominated, the first six months of the season 1863-1864, presents a striking contrast with the former six months. When we published our last review of the trade of this market, we were in hopes that, the political panic having blown over, business would resume its wonted course and go on swimmingly. The appearances of the season had been all that could be desired, and we therefore cherished reasonable expectations of an abundant crop and increased transactions for the future.

The month of July opened the season auspiciously. The new produce was coming down freely, and was readily bought up; the only remark that was made at the time was that the new Silk bore signs of having been reeled off less carefully than in former seasons, and of having been, as it were, hurried off to market, which circumstances were explained by the high prices which were then prevailing and which the dealers were eager to secure without loss of time.

In the beginning of August a report came from the Japanese dealers that the importation of Silk from the interior into Yokohama, was about to be considerably restricted. This rumour, although disbelieved at first, proved to be quite correct. At the latter end of the month the importation into Yokohama was strictly limited to 50 Japanese bales of 60 catties a day.

Strong complaints were forthwith made by the foreign houses to their Ministers and Consuls, and remonstrances were addressed by the latter to the Japanese Government; the native dealers themselves took also active measures to get this obnoxious restriction removed, but it was not till the end of September that the Japanese could be induced to withdraw their illegal interference. In the beginning of October the arrivals from the country were, to all appearance, as free and unrestricted as they had been in former times, but this improved state of things did not last long. Means of intimidation were resorted to at Yedo and other places in the country with a view to deter the native dealers from intercourse with the foreigners; threatening placards were posted up here and in the interior, and finally a good many native merchants were murdered for the sole reason of their having done business with the foreign houses at Yokohama. The native dealers of Yokohama could not but feel, or affect to feel, the results of these harsh measures; several of the largest firms shut up their establishments and left the place altogether. The arrivals of Silk became again less and less, and from the end of November to the expiry of the year, they may be said to have been virtually interrupted, the transactions of the months of December being limited to the existing stocks which were getting gradually exhausted.

Thus were upset the hopes which had been indulged of a flourishing business and extended transactions in Silk. The exports from the 18th July to the 31st December 1863 amounted to only 11,531 bales, against 14,480 bales in the corresponding six months of 1862, showing a diminution of 2,949 bales instead of an expected increase.

It is impossible not to see in the fluctuating and fitful state of the Silk trade during this six months the deliberate action and baneful interference of the Japanese Government. We must do our Ministers and Consuls the justice to say that they did all they possibly could do by energetic remonstrances and cogent representations to resist such glaring and repeated infringements of one of our most important treaty rights. But the Japanese authorities, opposing dilatory ways and a system of *vis inertiæ* to honest arguments, succeeded by slow steps, but sure, in working out an end which is by this time a mystery to no one.

Trade cannot flourish when it depends upon the stealthy and mysterious action of a Government which has once openly avowed its intention of driving us out of this place; and the *resume* of the commercial events of the last half year may be taken as a certain augury of future results, unless means be devised to put matters, once for all, on a satisfactory footing, in strict accordance with the provisions of the treaty.

Reviewing the course of the tea market, we have only to repeat our first six months' report, and to add that very little change in the quotations and stocks took place in the latter part of the year.

In January an advance of $1 to $2 was submitted to, prices then standing about thus: Common, $14 to 20; medium, $21 to 28; fine, $29 to 33. Business then began to fall away, and, notwithstanding that the teamen showed some inclination to submit to some decline, no great demand existing, but little business was done.

February and March.—Small business was done during these months, but principally for the American markets.

April.—In consequence of the disturbed aspect of political affairs, the Japanese merchants took alarm, and, eager to work them off, consented to very considerable reduction; indeed at this period the changes were so great and so frequent that quotations were not obtainable.

May and June.—These two months ended the season with a slight improvement in business; stocks light and appearing likely to continue so until confidence in political matters be restored.

July.—Political affairs and the change of the season have all induced great fluctuations in this commodity. During the panic amongst the Japanese the prices fell considerably, but early recovered upon small stocks and slow arrivals. Quotations were as follows:—Common, $8 to 16; good common, $16 to 18; fair to good, $19 to 22; fine, $23 to 26.

August.—Medium and fine teas again slightly advanced. Teamen were but little inclined to give way in their demands; prices standing:—Medium, $20 to 25; fine, $26 to 28.

September, October, November.—Business was rather easier during these three months, and very little change took place. Quotations were:—Good common, $13 to 18; medium, $19 to 24; fine, $24 to 28.

December.—Fair business was done early in this month, with a slight advance, viz., fine, $29 to 32, but became very slack during the last week, owing principally to the high rate of exchange and the Christmas festivities.

On comparing the prices ruling at the close of the year with those of the same period of 1862, we find a fall of $2.50 per picul on common kinds—of $1 upon fine kinds, and a rise of $2 per picul on medium kinds.

We refer to our standing tables for information as to the details of the past season's campaign.

CHINA.

TIEN-TSIN.

A correspondent's letter, of March 12th, to the *Journal of China* says:—

We have had a splendid winter here, with not a single drop of rain, and only two light falls of snow. There is no news of any importance since my last. Our Consul has been appointed Consul for the King of Denmark, and Mr. Mackay is appointed Inspector of Customs for Newchwang. He is to be relieved by one who is on his way here overland from Chefoo.

The navigation of the Peiho at Taku has been opened since the 16th of February last. Any steamers could have come in, discharged, and taken in cargo, there being no floating ice any where, the tides having been unusually high. This is important for the public.

From Newchwang, the report is dated 27th Feb.:—

The passing winter has been very mild, allowing the arrival of a large amount of produce. We understand the present high prices are owing to the producers holding upon their own account. Should we have but few arrivals in shipping, however, we may speedily expect more favourable rates, and freights, at the opening of the port, should rule rather high.

Our present stock of imports is not large, and the amount introduced into the interior and the Corea during the past season was but small, and, so soon as trade fairly recovers, we may expect a good demand, and, we hope, at very favourable rates.

The country, so far, has been perfectly tranquil—communications with all parts being open. The mandarins have been unusually active during the winter in keeping order.

After the closing of the port, a Rifle Volunteer corps was formed, the whole of the foreign community enrolling themselves as members.

The whole mass of ice upon the surface of the river now rises and falls a great many feet with the tides, and lanes are forming some miles from the bar. Our last was dated the 3rd ult., and business continued uncommonly dull until the China new year, when an improvement took place, both in im-

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ports and exports; but we are sorry to say that the latter are far too dear to think of touching.

CHEFOO.

By the steamer *Island Queen* we have received advices from Chefoo to the 12th March. The weather mild and pleasant, and business improving. A good trade was looked for during the ensuing season. The programme and rules of a race meeting to be held in April does credit to the enterprise of the foreign residents. This is the first occasion on which races have been got up at Chefoo, and we congratulate the promoters on the length of the programme.

SHANGHAI.

The English mail of the 26th January, and the French mail of the 17th, arrived out on the 21st March. The dates are up to the 26th.

The attack on Mr. John Power Dore which we have already noticed, we regret to state, terminated fatally. At the inquest no clue was obtained as to the murderer. The shot was fired, accidentally or intentionally, from near a public-house in the settlement, and it would be well for the municipal authorities to cause all such houses to be removed from localities in the midst of the settlement. The lives of residents should not be exposed to the acts of rowdies in their drunken brawls. The deceased had a large number of horses, which were sold at the following prices:—Hadji 8,000 taels, Lawyer 1,600, Bravo 500, Smallhopes 100, Mandarin 400, Mrs. Gamp 450, Mr. Gamp 855, Sugarstick 150, and Honi Soit 575.

In addition to which there were also sold:—Waggonette and pair 1,100 taels, Whitechapel horse and harness 290, four wheeled dogcart and pair 410.

The following is in reference to the *Tsatlee*:—On Sunday morning the captain of the steamer *Tsatlee*, whose capture by pirates was reported in the *North China Herald* of the 12th inst., arrived in Shanghai, and made a statement as to the circumstances of the seizure. It would seem that on Monday the 7th inst. the engineer was found by the captain in a state of intoxication, and was accordingly ordered out of the steamer. He did not make his appearance during the remainder of the day. At about 1 A.M. on Tuesday morning the captain, who was lying asleep in his cabin, was awakened by finding a man standing over him, and holding him down, while another held a revolver to his head and threatened instant death if any noise were made. The captain remained still, and felt that the steamer was in motion. No difficulty could have been experienced in starting her, as she always lay with steam up, and merely moored to a buoy. The captain was kept a close prisoner until daylight of Tuesday, when his captors promised to release him and put him ashore so soon as they should arrive at a place sufficiently distant from Shanghai. This promise was not kept, and, accordingly, when, on Wednesday evening, the steamer arrived near Ka-shing-fu, the captain was still a prisoner, the mate having been compelled to steer. Ching had, meanwhile, seized the stockades outside Ka-shing. It was, therefore, rendered necessary to rush past his camp. A barricade had, however, been erected under water, and, in endeavouring to pass one of the stockades at full speed, the boat struck on this and remained fast. A European in the camp hailed her, and, not receiving any answer threw a line of boats across the creek behind her, so as to cut off her retreat. A strong body was then ordered on board. The crew now promised to release the captain on condition that he would represent them as a party of excursionists. This he promised to do, but when the Chinese officials made their appearance, he explained the entire affair. Ching, of course, immediately seized the steamer and the men. The former still remains in his hands, but the latter are, we understand, on their way to Shanghai. From what the captain overheard while on board, he gathered that a sum of 65,000 taels was to have been paid for the steamer on delivery to the rebel authorities at Ka-shing. The engineer and other men implicated in the active part of this transaction are tolerably well known to fame and the gaolors of the respective prisons in Shanghai. We trust to see them properly cared for on their arrival. The punishment of death may, under the American law, be awarded to four of them who claim American protection, while the Englishmen (also four in number) have rendered themselves liable to fine and imprisonment. We should be sorry to see the extreme penalty of the law inflicted on any of these men, who, after all, have been but tools in the hands of others; but, as a warning is much needed, we hope that the Consuls will exert the power vested in them in any manner short of actual capital punishment.

Our advices from Soochow extend to the 17th of March. We learn that Ching has pushed his works up to within three hundred yards of the wall of Ka-shing. On the 14th inst., Ching, after having made a practicable breach, advanced with his men in gallant style, but, owing to the shortcomings of the Futai's brother, Li-san-ta-jen, he found it impossible to enter. Li, it seems, had failed to provide bridges, as he had previously arranged to do, and it was, therefore, impossible to cross the creek which surrounds the city. It is said that at present there are three Wangs resident in Ka-shing, and that the wealth of the place is enormous. The walls are completely surrounded, ingress and egress being alike impossible.

From Ningpo we learn that a club is about to be started at that port. H.B.M. gun-boat *Cockchafer* has had a brush with pirates in the Chusan Archipelago. She left Ningpo on the 24th February, and after a short cruise discovered a French brig on shore. On going to the assistance of the latter, she found on board, besides the crew of the brig, a number of men taken off the *Ella Brache*, which had been wrecked on the Matelota reef. Having returned to Ningpo with these men, she started again, and on the 28th encountered three piratical junks, who opened fire as soon as the gun-boat hove in sight. After a smart engagement of about an hour's duration, the junks were obliged to give in. The prisoners (thirty-six in number) stated that some few months before they had seized two Portugues lorchas and a French brig laden with arms. When captured by the *Cockchafer*, two thousand bayonets, fifty-two swords, several stands of arms, and a large number of double-barrelled guns were found distributed between the three junks.

Our Hang-chow correspondent reports a brilliant affair which came off on the 3rd, between the Franco-Chinese contingent and the rebels within the city. Since receiving his letter we have learned that the French were two days afterwards repulsed by a vigorous sortie on the part of the rebel garrison, and were in consequence compelled to retire on Shao-shing. No reliable information has arrived, but, so far as we can discover, there would appear to be little doubt that the Imperialists have met with a serious reverse. The attack described by our correspondent was made on an advanced post which had been stationed in one of three forts mutually commanding each other, situated at an inconsiderable distance from the wall of Hang-chow. An attempt was made to surround one of these forts, and after a few hours' hard fighting the occupants were completely hemmed in, and, an assault having been made, the garrison was routed. The rebel loss was estimated at three hundred men. The casualties on the side of the contingent were:—Killed, one officer and four men; wounded, six officers and eight men. As soon as the first fort was taken, the remaining two were evacuated.

The criminal classes have not been idle. Although a thief was shot by one of the Custom-house assistants during the night of the 10th, another individual managed, on the evening of the 13th, to effect an entrance into the Custom-house quarters, and to carry off a clock. A correspondent also informs us that, on the evening of the 11th, a man was seen on the roof of a godown in the middle of the English settlement, endeavouring to tear away the tiles. He, however, contrived to escape before steps could be taken to secure his capture.

A meeting of the members of the Shanghai Rowing Club was held on the 12th. The report laid before the meeting was most satisfactory. Three resolutions of general interest were proposed and carried, viz., that the rowing season for 1864 commence on the 26th March; that the colours of the club be light blue; and that a regatta be held after the departure of the second mail in May.

The weather, which has been clear and bracing, has undergone a sudden change, and is now damp and foggy, as usual in Shanghai at this period of the year. The thermometer averages from 41 deg. to 43 deg. during the day, and ranges between 32 deg. and 36 deg. and night.

The *Friend of China* on the criminal Buckley says:—The United States Minister at Peking having confirmed the judgment of the Consular Court, Buckley, the murderer of Capt. McKinnon, was yesterday taken to the American Consulate from the British Consular Gaol, and formally told that, on Friday, the 31st March, he would be hung by the neck till he was dead. On being asked why the sentence of the

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law should not be passed on him, Buckley, we hear, raised several objections, one being that he denied the jurisdiction of the Court; the only allegiance he ever gave to America, he said, being to serve under the banner of Filibuster General Walker in Mexico. As to the report that he had shot several men at San Francisco, he denied it; nor was it a revolver that he used here, it was a Deringer. We can hardly believe that he added, 'it was well for others at the International that night he did not carry a revolver, for, if he had, he might have potted more than one.' Buckley, who was in handcuffs, and brought down in a chair, looked haggard, though still defiant. His suicide is specially interdicted."

A correspondent of the *Friend* complains of the treatment of second class passengers on board the Messageries Imperiales steamer *Tigre*:—

"The gauge either the managers of this company, or the management of their agents on board the Commissaires, have put upon the appetites of their passengers of the second, only allows them two meals per day, or rather parts of two, consisting of, at 10 A.M., dry bread and tea, and five or six stale eggs between seven or eight of us, followed by sometimes the remains of a fowl or the skin of a duck stew, finished with in the first saloon. At 5.30 P.M., or thereabouts, hot water, remains of duck skin stew again, washed down by a cholera mixture they call vin ordinaire (we name it vin extraordinaire), the entertainment concluding with dry bread and a little dryer cheese."

The men-of-war in port were gaily decorated with flags, and a salute fired from the Prussian frigate *Gazelle* and British steam frigate *Leopard*, in commemoration of the 66th natal day of the King of Prussia.

The following *resumè* of the Imperial and Rebel engagements is from the *China Mail*:—

The most prominent feature in the fortnight's intelligence is the state of the rebel cause and the movements of Major Gordon in connection with it. That officer, since his return to action from the town of Quinsan, has captured one city, Yih-sing (or E-shing, as spelt in our last summary of news), and, since we last wrote, he has received the surrender of two more—viz., Li-yang and Kintang. His march from the city of Yih-sing, on the Taehoo lake, was in a westerly direction, towards Li-yang, after which he proceeded northwards to Kintang, the garrisons of both places shaving their heads in token of submission. His object is to isolate Nanking, and already he is met by messengers from the camp of Tseng-Kwo-fan.

These operations have been somewhat extensive, and have been performed without bloodshed; the movements have all been rapidly executed, forty miles in one day having been accomplished between Yih-sing and Li-yang. The rebels at the latter city, after having submitted, proceeded to make arrangements for returning to Kwangsi (in the south of China), which they say is their native province. It is even reported that the Chung Wang himself, the leading military genius of the rebellion, "the figting King," as he is called, is collecting his property in Nanking with a view to retiring to his home. He feels as unequal to the task of opposing Gordon as he felt on a former occasion at Soo-chow, when it will be remembered he left the city with a considerable force for service on the other side of the Tae-hoo lake. He is now in Nanking preparing for the worst. It is even said that his sword has fallen into Gordon's hands.

With the fall of Soo-chow the chief difficulties in Gordon's way appear to have vanished. It is reported that the rebels are lively near Kiang-yiu and Fooshan, and also that they have retaken the latter city. Imperialist General Ching had suffered a repulse at Kia-shing just as he was recalled by the Futai to protect Soo-chow an alarm having spread that the rebels were within 20 miles of Taitsang.

That the most heartrending destitution has long prevailed in Taiping districts is now known, from the scenes witnessed by Major Gordon and his officers in the course of their march through rebel territory. The absence of all but military government no doubt conduced to the miserable condition of the people, the silk that was raised being appropriated, to the extent of one-fourth, if not one-half, by the Taiping authorities. No doubt it found its way into the foreign market all the same, and so gave rise to the cry that there was no diminution in the supplies of silk, and that, therefore, the country was flourishing. The cry of the Taipings ravishing the silk districts so often held up as a bugbear to everybody, was intended for home use; no one attached serious importance to it in China, except poor Burgevine, who actually urged it upon the rebels as *modus operandi*. As for the fabled bales of silk stacked mountain high in Nanking, and which Osborn's sailors were to loot when they took the city, we shall hear no more of them; the rebels do not hoard their silk but sell it for money, or, better still, for fire-arms. Abundant proof now presents itself that rebel rule has been one of the most grinding tyranny. This fact was presented long ago, but there were reasons why many people should not see it.

The screw-steamer *Sea King* had arrived from Sydney, after an unprecedented passage of twenty-four days. This vessel was chartered by the English Government to carry troops to New Zealand. She left Woolwich on November 15th, made a passage of seventy-three days to Auckland, where she lay for nineteen days. She then proceeded to Sydney, whence after a stay of twelve days she started for this port.

HONG KONG.

The English Mail of Feb. 10 arrived out on the 25th March. The dates are down to the 1st April. The weather had been very unhealthy, owing to damp, heavy fogs and a low temperature; the thermometer falling at night to 44.

The site for the Hong Kong Mint is thus noticed:—"The site chosen for the mint is probably the best that could have been selected. It will be obtained by filling in that bay adjoining East Point, and to the north of the Wong-nei-chong. The space filled in cannot amount to much less than eighty acres, and the protection-wall will have to be about five hundred yards in length. The building will give a very effective appearance to a locality that was never before prepossessing in its aspect, while the presence of a military guard may possibly tend to keep order in a somewhat lawless neighbourhood. In other words, their being on the spot will act as a moral support to the local police. Now that the Praya and numerous godowns are finished in the same neighbourhood, East Point is changing its appearance for the better, and this new Mint will complete the change."

Attention has been called to the grievance entailed by the withdrawal of the guarantee chops at Fuhchau by the commissioner, thus forcing the use of the bonded godowns lately built. The commissioner was partly exonerated from blame, seeing that the merchants agreed unanimously that the godowns should be built, and afterwards refused to use them. It concludes that, as illustrated from this case and the post-office grievance amongst ourselves, "high officers should never resent."

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 5d. to 6s. 6d.	6s. 6d. to 6s. 7d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6 ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 10d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 1d.
At Singapore	6 ditto	4s. 11d. to 4s. 11½d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 0½d.
At Manila	6 ditto	4s. 8½d.	4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.

At Shanghai: Bills on India, Rs. 305 to 310 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong: Rs. 228 to 227 per $100. Bar silver at Shanghai, 110. Hong Kong, 4 prem. Mexican Dollars at Shanghai, 76; and exchange on Hong Kong, 25 discount.

The Circular of Mr. Sharp says:—

GOLD.—The aggregate amount received since last report has been three and-a-half lakhs of dollars' worth, and the sum total sent away, including the *Orissa's* cargo of the 15th instant, and excluding that to leave by the *China*, amounts to two lakhs and three-quarters. The market has been benefited oy the fall in Rupee bills.

SILVER.—The shipments inwards and outwards during the fortnight have been pretty much upon a balance, and amount to about three quarters of a lakh on either side.

DOLLAR CURRENCY.—We have received 360,000 dollars, and sent away during the last two weeks 557,000 dollars. The dealings in clean coin have been on a limited scale, but a very small demand existing for shipments to the North.

DISCOUNTS AND MORTGAGES.—Mortgages for a term have been effected at 12 per cent., and money has been invested upon first-class securities at 9 and 10 per cent.

EXCHANGE.—The amount of commercial paper as usual at this season has been small, and the support given to the market for some weeks past by the supply of Bank bills from an influential quarter have been withdrawn, the rate has gone in favour of the seller. Owing to the absence of the *Lightning's* cargo of drug the demand for Rupee remittance has been lessened.

JAVA.

Our dates from Batavia are to the 31st March. A commencement has been made at Samarang with the erection of a railway station. Dr. Bernshein has returned from his trip to Halmahera, where he had been sent by the Government on a voyage of discovery. He reports the inhabitants as very docile and obliging, and has collected a number of interesting objects. He is to return in a few weeks, and will proceed to New Guinea on a similar mission.

A new Government resolution has decreed the establishment of an entrepot at Cheribon, on the same footing as the others at the principal ports of the island.

Samarang has again been inundated. With the exception of the capture of the notorious rebel chief Demang Lehman, there is no news of any importance from Banjermassing.

TIMOOR.—In addition to the stormy weather in December and January, there had been a hurricane at Koepang from the 1st till the 6th of February, and which was so violent that the oldest inhabitant does not remember ever having seen such bad weather. In the midst of this storm, signals of distress were continually observed from an English ship, which anchored in the outer roads on the evening of the 1st of February. Said ship was the *Water Lily*, Captain Towers, from Shields, with coals for Japan, and had been out 173 days. The captain, who had left the ship the day after her arrival, could not reach the shore owing to the

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heavy surf, nor could he return on account of the heavy sea running, so that he was four days, with three of his crew, without any provisions in the boat, knocking about at sea, before he succeeded in landing on the North-east coast of Koepang. This was the reason of the signals from the ship, on board of which was also the wife of the the captain, and who, uneasy respecting the fate of her husband, and careless of the high sea and the heavy surf, left the ship in search of him in a boat, accompanied by two young children and a couple of sailors. When this boat reached the shore, which was not done without imminent danger, and from which the authorities sent men to help her through the surf, it was found that the captain had been forced by urgent circumstances to leave the ship in such weather. Part of the crew was in a state of mutiny, and the cook had threatened to throw him overboard. The whole crew were suffering from scurvey in its worst stage; the chief mate had broken his arms, and the second was dying of consumption. The necessary assistance was afforded the captain to restore order on board, and the sick men were sent to the hospital at Koepang.

BANCA.—The yield of tin in the island during 1863 was, according to an official statement, 95.981,14 piculs, being 25.296'80 piculs more than in 1862.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

The European mail of the 26th February did not reach Singapore till the 3rd April. Dates are down to the 9th April.

The event of the fortnight was the sale, on the 5th of April, of Government, excise, farms, and market rents. The result was unfavourable, in so far that though some of the farms realised an advance, the whole sale shows a falling off of $1,800 per month, or about £4,500 on the next year's revenue. The total amount fetched was $35,620, the several items being as follows:—Opium, $25,000; spirit, $6,500; pawnbrokers, $2,040; toddy and bang, $590; Ellenborough market, $260; Singapore town do., $770; Kampong Glam do., $460.

Her Majesty's steamer *Conquerer*, Captain W. G. Luard, bound to Hong Kong, arrived on the 3rd April. The crew of the British ship *Fortuna*, and sixteen of the crew of the British barque *Moneka*, were committed by the Marine Magistrate on 29th March, to eight weeks' imprisonment in the House of Correction with hard labour, for refusal of duty.

By advices received from Labuan, it appears that the steamer *Thunder* had put in there short of coals, coaled, and proceeded on her voyage to China on the 12th.

The following steamers have also coaled at Labuan: H.M.S. *Scylla*, Courteney, Singapore to Hong Kong; *Thunder*, Rodgers, Singapore to Hong Kong; *Bahama*, Rowe, Bangkok to Hong Kong; *Stirling*, Henderson; H.M.S. *Leven*, Knevitt.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

FRASER—On the 29th ult., at Truman's Brewery, Mrs. Alexander Fraser, of a daughter stillborn

HELMS—At Sarawak, on the 14th March, the wife of L. V. Helms, Esq., of a daughter.

MINTO—On the 19th March, at Hong Kong, the wife of G. N. Minto, of Whampoa, of a son.

PAGE—On the 5th inst., at Broxbourne, Herts, the wife of F. M. Page, of a son.

PEDDER—On the 7th February, at Tien-tsin, the wife of James N. Pedder, of a son.

RICHARDS—On the 24th ult., at Glendon Lodge, Southsea, the wife of W. M. Richards, Esq., late H.M.'s Naval Storekeeper, Hong Kong, of a son.

SMITH—On the 28th April, at Stanley Villas, West Brompton, the wife of George Smith, Esq., of Shanghai, of a daughter.

WEST.—On the 9th inst., at 15, Frampton Park Villas, Hackney, the wife of James West, late of Shanghai and Hankow, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

CAMPOS—FLADGATE.—On the 23rd ult., at the Quinta do Monte, by the Abbade of S. Jaoa da Foz, in conformity with the rites and ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church, and afterwards at the British Consulate, and by the Rev. E. Whitteley, at the British Episcopal Chapel, Antonio d'Almeida Campos, K.C.C., Chevalier of the Military Order of Tower and Sword, and Portuguese Consul at Liverpool, to Margaret Ellen, eldest daughter of John Alexr. Fladgate, of Oporto. No cards.

DENTON—MULFORD.—On the 24th March, at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, Colonial Chaplain, Edward Denton, farrier to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co., to Mary Ann Mulford, of Kingston, Somersetshire.

GODDARD—MOORE.—On the 28th ult., at Lymington parish church, by the Rev. B. Maturin, A.M., John Redloe Goddard, Esq., of Her Majesty's Consulate, China, to Emily, eldest daughter of Mr. E. H. Moore, Solicitor, Lymington, Hants. No cards.

HOWARD-BARNS.—On the 27th April, at St. Marylebone Church, Capt. Henry Troughton Howard, late of China, to Catharine Ann Barns, daughter of Mr. William Barns, of Exeter.

WOODWARD—JELLY.—On the 19th March, at Trinity Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. R. Hamilton, Robert Hanslip Septimus Woodward, to Charlotte Ellen Jelly, both of Shanghai.

DEATHS.

ADRIANCE—On the 5th March, at Amoy, Miss Caroline Adriance, of the American Reformed Dutch Mission.

BOWKER—On board the Nizam, from Shanghai to Singapore, aged two years, Cosley, son of John T. F. Bowker, Esq., of Shanghai.

FALMOUTH—On the 1st May, at her residence, in Whitehall-gardens, Anne Frances, Countess of Falmouth.

HOUGHTON—On the 27th April, of whooping cough, aged seven months, Herbert MacGregor, youngest child of Henry J. Houghton, 33, Gordon-square, W.C.

HYDE—On the 5th May, at his residence, Impington, near Cambridge, Orlando Hyde, Esq., aged 53.

RICHARDS—On the 27th Feb., at the Royal Naval Hospital, Simon's Bay, invalided from the Japan Exhibition, Edward Thicknesse Richards, Second Lieutenant Royal Marine Light Infantry, aged 21.

ROSS—On the 20th March, at Hong Kong, Jane, infant daughter of Alexander Ross, shipwright, aged 11 months.

ROBINSON—On the 21st March, at the Seamen's Hospital, Hong Kong, William Robinson, seaman of British barque Bristow.

THOMAS—On the 24th March, at the London Mission, Shanghai, Caroline, the wife of the Rev. R. J. Thomas.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA IMPORTS.

Cotton Yarn: The quotations annexed for the higher numbers show a slight decline upon those given in last Circular, and the sales of the past fortnight amount to only 160 bales. Grey Shirtings: Prices again show in some instances a trifling decline, and the total sales effected in this market, both to Chinese and foreign purchasers, amount to 19,000 pieces. In the Canton market the sales amount to 1,000 pieces without change in value. White Shirtings: Without material alteration to notice in quotations, have found buyers to the extent of about 10.000 pieces. T-Cloths have again been in very limited request amongst the native dealers, the sales to whom amount to about 3,000 pieces, which with 6,000 pieces taken on foreign account complete the transactions reported during the past fortnight. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades White and Coloured: The sales effected during the past fortnight amount to 1,250 pieces of Figured Shirtings, say 500 of white and 750 of coloured; prices remaining without change; neither have there been sales of Brocades reported. Damasks: There have not been any sales of these goods. Chintzes: The value of these goods has declined slightly, and the business of the fortnight is put at 1,800 pieces sold. Handkerchiefs: Have met with moderate inquiry, and the sales of all kinds are estimated at about 1,500 dozens.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies and Habit Cloths: There have not been any sales of Spanish Stripes reported either in this market or in Canton during the fortnight, and prices at both ports remain as before quoted. Long Ells: In this Colony the value of these goods have experienced a decline of about five cents per piece, with sales for the past fortnight amounting to about 1,800 pieces. In Canton there is not any change to notice in quotations, neither are there any sales to report. Camlets: A slight decline is also noticeable in the value of these goods, with sales in the Hong Kong market of 220 pieces. In Canton, where 100 pieces have changed hands, prices remain unaltered. Lastings haue found buyers to the extent of 340 pieces in Hong Kong. Blankets have been in fair request during the fortnight, and the sales amount to 720 pairs.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.—A moderate enquiry has existed in Hong Kong during the fortnight, at about the quotations previously current, resulting in sales of 5,880 piculs of nail rod, 1,100 piculs of bar, and 225 of Wire. In Canton, where the prices of nail rod and wire show some decline in value, the business of the fortnight is limited to 2,500 piculs of the former. Lead has again declined slightly both in this market and in Canton, and the business of the fortnight is estimated at 300 piculs, and 12,000 piculs for each port respective. Tin.—500 piculs sold in Hong Kong. Tin-Plates.—The business done in this colony has been upon an unusually large scale during the past fortnight, amounting to 2,200 boxes, but prices show a slight decline when compared with the rates previously current. In Canton quotations show some improvement, but there are not any sales to notice. Steel.—The sales effected during the fortnight amount to 400 tubs.

CHINA EXPORTS.

CANTON.—The last report advised a fall in the price of Congous, and some settlements at the decline, which, however, left no margin on London rates, but, on the contrary, a loss. The tenor of last Mail's advices has been still discouraging for investment in tea. Purchasers of Congous have retired from the market, and beyond the settlement of a chop of Oopack for immediate shipment, nothing has been done, the offers being made now far below the teamen's ideas. Considering the lateness of the season, the holders of the remaining stock of Congous show great firmness. One teaman, the holder of six chops, is about shipping them on his own account to England. In Canton descriptions the demand has been quite insignificant, the demand for the London market having entirely ceased. The settlements of the fortnight are reported as under. Congous, 6 chops shipped on native account, 1 chop Oopack, blksh. 1f. Pekeo fla. at 31½ taels. Country Greens, 1 chop 1,100 packages for New York at 51½ taels. The stock remaining on the market is stated at 32 chops Congous and 2,400 packages Country Green.

FOO-CHOW-FOO.—The transactions of the fortnight have been moderate, at the range of rates last quoted. Latterly, however, owing to the lateness of the season and to the unfavourable advices from London, holders have shown more desire to realise, and the market tends down. The settlements of the fortnight are reported as under:—Congous, 4,800 chests, and 3,000 chests at 5 to 19 taels. Souchong, 260 chests at 22 taels. Oolong, 110 half chests at 19½ taels. Scented teas, 1,000 boxes at 17 taels. The total supplies to date are as follows:—Congou and Souchong, 605,500 chests, against 601,400 corresponding period last season. Oolong, 176,200 half chests, against 212,200. Stocks are so much reduced that the season may be said to be over. They are reported as under:—Congous, 4,500 chests. Souchong, 1,700 chests. Pekoe, 200 chests. Oolong, 1,100 half chests. Scented teas, 500 boxes.

SHANGHAI.—Black Teas: The settlements of the fortnight amount to 8 chops Oonam and Ningchow, at 25 to 28 taels per picul; and 3 chops Hohow and Shanghai packed, at 17½ to 21½ taels; leaving in stock only about 1,000 chests Congou, with very little more expected during the present season. Since the mail arrived rates have declined a tael per picul. Green Teas: Only 4,300 hf.-ch. are reported settled, the re-shipments on owner's account (which have been principally for New York), amounting to 5,400 hf.-ch. The quotations are as follows: Moyunes and Fychows, 34 to 46 taels; Ningsuey kinds, 34½ to 30 taels; and Hohows, 31 to 35 taels. The stock on the market is estimated at 8,500 pkgs.

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KEWKIANG.—Green teas continued in demand, the settlements for the fortnight being reported at 9,400 half chests Fychow and Moyune, whereof 4,000 were purchased for New York. For second class teas the rates are a little easier, but the finer qualities are firmly held. The arrivals during the fortnight amount only to 2,500 half ch., the stock on the market being computed at 25,500 do. The total supply for the present season will undoubtedly be 50,000 half chests short of that of last. The quotations are—Moyune, medium to finest 35 to 41 taels. Fychows 33 to 39 taels. Kewkiang packed 27 to 32 taels. For Black teas the season may be said to be closed. Three chops of Common Hohow remain in stock. The exports are stated as under: Green teas present season to date 231,022 half chests against 223,058 half chests same period last season. Black teas present season to date 110,610 chests against 57,445 chests same period last season.

HANKOW.—Only one chop has been settled during the fortnight at 15 taels. The stock on the market comprises 12 chops of very undesirable quality. The total export of the season to date amounts to 362,100 chests against 279,400 do. same period last season.

YOKOHAMA.—We can at last perceive a slight improvement in the quantity offering of this staple, but prices are pretty fairly maintained. However, if foreign houses abstain from buying for a short time, we believe that the native merchants will become more rational in their ideas, and the sooner the better, as for the last three months rates prevailing here have left but a poor margin for satisfactory account sales from the other side. From native accounts we are led to hope for the arrivals of the new crop from the adjacent districts in about two months from the present date, and no doubt the slight improvement in supply arises in some measure from the Yedo merchants being desirous to get out of old stock, knowing from past experience that old season's teas are very unsaleable after arrival of the new crop. Our prices to-day are—fine, $26 to $32; medium, $21 to $25. Common, $11 to $20. Ordinary $1 to $10. These rates, however, with an absence of demand, are likely to become weaker, but we do not expect to be able to report much further business in the staple prior to the arrival of the new crop.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—During the fortnight about 800 bales have found buyers, without producing any alteration in prices. The demand has been chiefly for Tsatlee and Hainings; Taysaams being almost out of stock, and proportionately much dearer than other descriptions. The 26th January mail arrived on the 21st inst. with very unfavourable market advices, which, together with the possibility of war, have caused buyers to ask for lower prices, and as the dealers have thus far continued firm, transactions have only been moderate since the letters were received. The silkmen appear more desirous to realise, and it is probable we may shortly see lower quotations. From the interior it is reported that the rebels are committing great havoc in the Tsatlee districts, which is likely to interfere considerably with the coming crop. The transactions of the fortnight are reported at 800 bales, against 2,400 corresponding fortnight of last season, and 3,500 the season before. The present unsold stock is 4,000 bales, against 2,000 corresponding period last season, and 4,500 bales the season previous. The following are the latest quotations:—Tsatlees: No. 3 chops, 430 to 440 tls. per picul; No. 3, 415 to 425 tls. per picul. Market: No. 3, 405 to 415 tls. per picul; No. 2, 390 to 400 tls. per picul; No. 5, and common, 375 to 385 tls. per picul. Taysaams: No. 1 and 2, 390 to 420 tls. per picul; No. 3, and inferior, 340 to 380 tls. per picul. Yuenfa: No. 1 and 2, 405 to 425 tls. per picul; No. 3, and inferior, 375 to 395 tls. per picul. Hainings: 375 to 420 tls. per picul.

YOKOHAMA.—At the commencement of the week there was no perceptible change upon our last week's report of the business in this staple, towards the end of the week we had some arrivals of the stock, which we now estimate at fully 100 bales. Quotations nominal as follows:—Ida, medium, $540 to $555; inferior, 490 to 510. Sodi, fair to good, 480 to 505. Mybash, best parcels, 550 to 560; medium, 530 to 545; inferior 510 to 525. Oshio, best parcels, 535 to 545; medium, 495 to 515; inferior, 445 to 465. Coshu, best parcels, 495 to 510; medium, 475 to 490; inferior, 460 to 470. Hatchogee, 410 to 420.

DRUGS, &c.—CANTON.—Cassia Lignea: No settlements; quotations $16.50 to 16.75; stock 1,500 piculs. Cassia Oil: Still no supply. Cassia Buds: A small lot has been placed at $55; stock 75 piculs. Star Aniseed: Still no stock; nominal quotation, $22 to 22.50 for good. Aniseed Oil: 15 piculs are reported as placed at $152½, leaving no stock. Rhubarb: 60 piculs came to market, which were at once taken at $70. Gamboge: Still no supply; quotation $40 to 45. China Root: No settlements reported; stock 500 piculs; price $3.50 to 3.75. Galangal: No sales; stock 250 piculs; price $3.50 to 4. Galls: Stock 150 piculs; no settlements; price $14 to 14.50. Vermilion: About $45 per box. Musk: 30 catties appeared on the market, which were taken at $98.

CAMPHOR.—HONG KONG.—A lot of 40 piculs sold at $17.50 per picul is the only transaction reported since the issue of our last report, and but a small supply of about 300 to 400 piculs has arrived from Formosa. From Japan a small lot of very fine (Satsuma's best) camphor has been imported, and is held at $24 per picul. Formosa camphor nominal value $18 to 19 per picul. If supplies do not arrive shortly a small advance in prices will probably be reported next mail.

RAW COTTON.

CANTON.—The sales of the fortnight amount to 1,550 bags Shanghai, 800 do. Ningpo, and 480 do. Shantung, at previous quotations. The stock in the packhouses is stated at 1,100 bags Shanghai, 800 do. Ningpo, and 400 do. Shantung.

HONG KONG.—The activity mentioned in last report would have caused a rise in price of this staple, if the 26th January mail from London (arrived here on the 14th instant) had brought favourable advices, as expected. But, on the contrary, a gloomy state of affairs on the continent, and the value of money in London having become dearer, cotton was quoted lower, with few sales of China. This news caused purchasers, both Chinese and foreigners, to withdraw until the mail of the 10th ult. arrived here on the 25th inst., bringing rather better and improving intelligence for cotton, when a few sales of good Shanghai were made at $32 to 32.75. Present quotations are generally $2 lower than last reported, sales of the fortnight amounting to about 2,500 bales, and the present quotations are nominally:—Shanghai, $31 to 32.75; Ningpo, $32 to 33; Japan, $35. Stocks are increasing, and may now be estimated at 40,000 bales of all sorts.

SHANGHAI.—The market drooped ever since the date of last report, and the unfavourable advices from Liverpool, received per 26th January mail, decided the course of the market, causing an immediate fall of 2 taels per picul. Should exchange become easier a reaction is probable, in anticipation of more favourable advices. The late heavy rains have retarded supplies from the country, whence there are stocks to some extent expected. During the past few days settlements have taken place of 5,000 to 7,000 piculs fair and dry Shanghai and Kongpoot staple, at 20⅛ to 22 taels per picul, on English account, which will lay the article down in Liverpool at about 15d. to 15½d.

YOKOHAMA.—During last week supplies have arrived freely, giving rise to large transactions at about last quotations. The market closed firm.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1863-64.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864	2160943	43662911	56895604	2257092	12719875	111696425	3720
Corresponding per.o last season	2074919	38138350	40518123	836208	1972169	100738269	6[illegible]19

SHIPMENTS IN MARCH.

Ship.	From.	lbs. Tea.	Bales Silk.
Emue (Mail str.) ...	Shanghai, &c. ...	—	360
Victory ...	„	33,017	—
Robert Henderson .	Foo-chow	715,000	—
Samuel	Shanghai	538,423	21
Orissa (mail str.) ...	Do.	—	672
Daybreak	Foo-chow	357,000	
Spirit of the North	Shanghai	768,735	514
Queen's Own ...	Hong Kong ...	518,886	6
Black Prince ...	Do.	4,280	

TO UNITED STATES.

		Piculs.
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864	1908554	539
Corresponding period last season	1769320	1999

SHIPMENTS IN MARCH.

Ship	From	lbs. Tea.	Bales Silk.
Haversham ...	Shanghai	495,136	—
Volunteer	„	521,863	
Canton	Hong Kong ...	275,544	
Egean	Shanghai	353,161	
Benefactor	Japan	169,490	
Osborne	Do.	326,687	

TO THE CONTINENT.

		Bales.
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864	1289007	3271
Corresponding period last season	1124764	6532

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Tl. pkgs.	
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864	467365	...
Corresponding period last season	47987	...

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844.....	51,022,600	..
„ 1845 to 1846.....	57,331,200	18,604
„ 1850 to 1851.....	63,972,300	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854.....	77,327,800	61,950
„ 1855 to 1856.....	92,210,300	50,480
„ 1857 to 1858.....	76,990,255	65,311
„ 1858 to 1859.....	65,789,792	85,136
„ 1859 to 1860.....	85,560,452	64,163
„ 1860 to 1861.....	90,066,160	79,644
„ 1861 to 1862.....	109,854,040	70,199
„ 1862 to 1863.....	121,273,580	...

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864 ...	416939	24	9664	4990	349	1784

SHIPMENTS IN MARCH.

Ship.	From	Piculs Cotton.
Berdinkar	Shanghai	1,125
Victory	„	2,971
Patrician	Hong Kong	13,262
Vanguard	„	5,858
Sea Witch	Shanghai	2,130
Helena	Hong Kong	4,774
Black Watch	„	3,262
Bertie	Shanghai	3,435
Glengairn	„	6,985
Black Prince	Hong Kong	4,203
Bristow	„	3,460
Macedon	„	4,022

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864 ...	3059	...	...	350	100	...

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TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864 ...	40630	20523	2744	1400	24	336

SHIPMENTS IN MARCH.
Canton, crackers, ... 1,460 boxes.

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864 ...	706	16182	99149	7982	4840	212400

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Feb. 29, 1864 ...	6	116	2737	2318	23400	...

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents, and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN.—None.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: March 11, Ellen Rodger. From Liverpool: 8, Ellen Radford. From Cardiff: 10, Mandarin; 12, Richard. From Sunderland: 16, Luzon; 17, Java and Osborne House. From Newcastle: 17, Keepsake. From Havre: 10, L'Oriental.

At HONG KONG.—From London: 18, Chandernagore; 25, Yangtsze. From Hamburg: 17, Mathilde; 27, Atalanto. From New York: 25, Howqua.

At MANILA.—None.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: April 2, Ferozepore; 6, Tun Sin (steamer). From Hartlepool: 28, Yarin. From Cardiff: 28, E. A. Wall; 2, Diana; Pooruyt. From Shields: March 29, Julie. From Queenstown: April 3, Fortitude. From Hamburg: 24, Kosmos. From Antwerp: 4, Ortelins. From Boston: 3, Aristides.

At BATAVIA.—From Amsterdam: March 25, Josephina. From Hamburg: 12, Johanna. From Rotterdam: 12, Graaf Dirk; 22, Rotterdam.

At PENANG.—None.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—None.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: March 11, Samuel; 17, Sea Witch; 24, Spirit of the North. For Liverpool: 8, Victory; 18, Bertie. For New York: 12, Volunteer; 24, Egean.

From AMOY.—For New York: March 26, Hermann.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: 16, Daybreak.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: 22, Black Watch. For Liverpool: 16, Helena; 23, Black Prince.

From MANILA.—For Liverpool via Singapore: March 10, Bella Gallega; 18, Loyola. For New York: 11, Willy; 17, Solo and Argonaut.

From SINGAPORE.—For Liverpool: March 31, Bella Gallega. For New York: April 5, Harzburg.

From BATAVIA.—For London: March 23, West. For Holland: 22, Dordrecht, Macassar, Willemien, and Carel.

From PENANG.—For London: March 17, Devonvale.

LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Milbrook, Ann Adamson, Anglo-Indian, Merse, Abbotsford, Alexander, Meppel, Mercator, and W. W. Smith.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Benvoirlich, Osborne House. For Liverpool: Advance, Dunkeld, Express, Neville, Lauderdale, Mayflower, Simoda and Fort William. For New York: Cornelia and Luzon.

At FOO-CHOW.—For New York: Eva and Benefactor.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Aunt Lizzie, Ethel. For New York: Sophie.

At MANILA.—For Cowes (for orders): John Banfield. For New York Ocean Eagle.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Eleanor, Couranto, Tartar, and Hindustan. For Liverpool: Caroline, Chisholm and Ferris. For Bordeaux: Java and Spahis. For Nantes: Suez. For New York: Reynard.

At PENANG.—For London: Akbar.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

JAPAN.—To England: Silk, £7; £5. 10s. to £6 for cotton and tea. To Hong Kong: $8 to 9 per ton measurement.

SHANGHAI.—Freights remain unaltered, and little activity is shown. The rates, which are nominal, are:—To London and Liverpool, £3. 15s. to £4, and to New York, £4.

FOO-CHOW.—To London, £5 per ton of 50 cubic feet; to America, £4. 10s. per ton of 40 cubic feet.

HONG KONG.—Shipping has been in good demand, and still remains so. Considerable business has been done at £4. 10s. to £5 to England and Continent. The following are some of the charters:—Aunt Lizzie, £4. 10s. and £5 to London; Ethel, ditto, £4. 10s.; Diadem, Manila to Liverpool, £6 per ton hemp; Der West, Manila to England, £4. 15s. To Ningpo and Shanghai the rate is 40 cents per picul; to Saigon and back 60 cents per picul.

SINGAPORE.—To England, £3. 15s. for dead weight, and £4. 10s. for light freight. For New York, £2. 15s. sugar; hemp, £3. 10s. Tonnage less inquired after.

PENANG.—To England, £3. 10s. for dead weight, and £4 light goods.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—March 5, Gwalior, from London to Singapore; J. M. Bockelmann, Hamburg to Hong Kong; 11, Elizabeth, Cardiff to Singapore; 12, Jubitor, Bordeaux to Singapore; 19, City of Aberdeen, London to Hong Kong; 20, Preciosa, Hamburg to Hong Kong; Whinfell, London to Hong Kong; 24, Toke Lin (str.), Shields to Shanghai; 27, Alida, Swansea to Singapore; Bothwell Castle, Glasgow to Singapore; Constance, Cardiff to Hong Kong; Drusus, Cardiff to Singapore.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—March 5, Tyburnia, Manila to London; Isabella Hercus, Hong Kong to Liverpool; 12, M. M. Peter, Shanghai to Liverpool; 14, Antelope, Singapore to Liverpool; 17, Coniston, Hong Kong to London; Concepcion, Manila to Liverpool; 18, Blackburn, Shanghai to Liverpool; 20, Thomas and Rebecca, Shanghai to London; 21, Patrician, Hong Kong to Liverpool; Macedon, Japan to London; 25, West, Batavia to London.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—March 15, Resolute, from Canton, and, 17, Haversham, Shanghai to New York.

CASUALTIES.

The Dutch vessel Krimpenerwaard struck a rock off Amoy the beginning of March—had to discharge and dock. The Danish brig Thorwaldsen, from Tamsui to Ningpo, had to enter Amoy for shelter, having lost sails, &c., the early part of March. The Danish barque Herlaff Trolle has been condemned and sold at auction for $2,600.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

TEA.—Sixth Day, 10th May.—The present series of sales were brought to a conclusion to-day. Prices generally have not altered much, with the exception of fair red leaf Congou, which must be quoted ½d. to 1d. per lb. lower. To-day a chop of black leaf, "with all faults," brought the fair value of 1s. 1d. per lb.; and some broken leaf sold from 7¼d. to 7½d., former prices. There were also realised about 1,100 packages recovered from the wreck of the Friar Tuck. To-day 4,538 packages have passed, and 3,667 have been sold, including 2,576 "without reserve." The total quantity offered at these sales amounted to 60,701 packages, exclusive of 6,400 which had been advertised, were withdrawn. About 38,000 packages were sold, but 36,400 were "without reserve."

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—May 8, at Deal, from Batavia, Wilhelmine Johanna; at Falmouth, from Macao, Orion; April 25, at New York, from Shanghai, Elizabeth; May 9, at Clyde, from Maulmain, Princess of Wales; 5, at Grangemouth, from Maulmain, Astrea; 4, at Texel, from Padang, Koerier; 5, from Batavia, Marinus Willem; at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Susanna Johanna, Duisburg; 8, off Portland, from Foo-chow-Foo, Weymouth; 7, off Dartmouth, from Shanghai, Wagoola, Lansdowne; 10, at Deal, from Foo-chow-Foo, Pak-wan; 9, at Falmouth, from Singapore, Emma; 11, off Liverpool, from Shanghai, Queensberry; 10, off Plymouth, from Shanghai, Marquis of Argyle; 10, at Deal, from Batavia, Nord; from Maulmain, Batavia; 10, off Plymouth, from Foo-chow-Foo, Stuart Wortley; 9, off the Start, from Shanghai, Oithona, Egmont; April 27, at New York, from Shanghai, Kate Carnie; from Canton, Ceres; from Shanghai, Annie Wood; from Kanagawa, &c., Sarah; from Shanghai, Johanna; 28, from Foo-chow-Foo, Peep o'-Day; 29, from Foo-chow-Foo, Kahlamba; off New York, April —, a barque (not American), from Canton; May 10, off Falmouth, from Hong Kong, Windward; 11, from Sourabaya, Sir Robert Peel; 13, at Liverpool, from Shanghai, Ranee; off Plymouth, from Shanghai, Island Queen; off Mount's Bay, from Shanghai, Sir Harry Parkes; off the Eddystone, from Canton, Tamerlane.

DEPARTURES.—May 9, from London for Shanghai, Sir W. F. Williams; 6, from Newport for Hong Kong, Atlantic; 7, from Liverpool for Shanghai, Jane Leech; 10, for Hong Kong, Amazone; 19, from Liverpool, for Penang, Fairy Belle; 10, from London, for Hong Kong and Canton, Dilkhoosh, for Newport and Shanghai, John C. Munro; 6, from off Dover, for Macassar, Helena; 7, from Cardiff, for Shanghai, Cesarea, from Liverpool, for Batavia, Cherokee (str.); 5, from Sunderland, for Singapore, Impulse; April 28, from Texel, for Batavia, Elise Henriette; May 10, from Glasgow, for Singapore and Penang, Osprey, from Port Glasgow, for Shanghai, Teen-chang, Vulcan; 11, from Liverpool, for Hong Kong, Eliza Stewart, from London, for Singapore, Hanthippe, from Deal, for China, Niagara; 7, from off Beachy Head, for Batavia, Kortenaar; 9, from Cardiff, for Shanghai, Spirit of Trade, from Liverpool, for Shanghai, Hannover; 10, from Shields, for Singapore, St. Oswin; 8, from off Lowestoft, for Singapore, Helena; 10, from Cardiff, for Shanghai, Palmerston; 9, from Swansea, for Hong Kong, Philip 1st; 13, from Liverpool, for Hong Kong Gemine.

SPOKEN.—Valdivia (ship), London to Singapore, Jan. 26, 24 S., 23 W.; Hamilla Mitchell, Canton to New York, April 8, 4 N., 30 W.

Laid on at London, for Shanghai, Clarendon.

The Elise Ruger, Treviranus, for Hong Kong, put back to New York 24th April, in consequence of the master having received considerable injury during a heavy gale on the 14th April.

Liverpool, 10th May.—The Falcon, O'Sullivan, from Hong Kong, which arrived here 10th April was ashore in Crosby Channel while coming in.

Lisbon, 5th May.—The William Mitchell, Bryce, from Shields for Shanghai, with coals, which put in here 17th April leaky, will sell part of her cargo here and return to England with the remainder.

The Maiden Queen loading in the West India Docks for Hong Kong, has been on fire—ship is not supposed to be much injured—cargo very much damaged.

Laid on at Liverpool for Singapore: Veteran; for Shanghai, Twilight; for Sourabaya, Gazelle.

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THE TELEGRAPH BETWEEN RANGOON, JAVA, CHINA, &c.

We understand that the telegraphic scheme of Mr. Francis Gisborne, for connecting Australia, Java, Saigon, Singapore and China with Rangoon will be shortly announced to the public for its capital, which is fixed at £1,350,000. We shall notice this matter more fully in our next.

THE NEEDLE GUN.—Capt. Brooke, dating from the Army and Navy Club, in a letter to *The Times*, gives the following testimony to this gun:—"In 1860 I took a few needle rifles on Needham's principle to Sarawak, in Borneo, as an experiment. These rifles were turned out in a hurry, and were in many respects defective. It so happened that shortly after my arrival in Sarawak hostilities with some neighbouring tribes broke out, and the needle rifles were at once brought to the test. Now, I suppose of all climates in the world, the Bornean is the most trying to firearms. However, under all the difficulties of Bornean campaigning against head-takers by day and pirates by night, I found my needle rifle prove a trusty weapon, and carried it in preference to any other, on account of its accurate and rapid shooting, and its simplicity was such that an ordinary rough Chinese armourer could always repair or replace any portion of the needle apparatus with facility."

THE LEVEE.—On Saturday, the 7th inst., his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, by command of the Queen, held a levee at St. James's Palace. Presentations at this Court were, by the Queen's pleasure, to be considered as equivalent to presentations made to Her Majesty. The Duke of Cambridge and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar were present. Her Majesty's bodyguard of the honourable corps of Gentlemen at Arms was on duty in the State saloons, under the command of the lieutenant. The Royal bodyguard of the Yeomen of the Guard were on duty, under the command of Colonel Bourke, the groom in waiting. The Prince of Wales having entered the Throne Room, attended by his gentlemen in waiting, the Foreign Ambassadors and Ministers were introduced. Amongst the presentations to his Royal Highness, on the part of the Queen, we notice the names of the following gentlemen connected with China:—Croft, Dr. J. M'Grigor, late of Hong Kong, by Sir R. M'Grigor; Medhurst, Mr. Walter Henry, Her Majesty's Consul at Hankow, by Earl Russell; Ross, surgeon A.C., M.D., on return from China, on appointment to the 92nd Highlanders, by Dr. J. B. Gibson, C.B., Director-General of the Army Medical Department; Rivett Carnac, Lieutenant R. Stirling, 19th Hussars, on his return from India, and late service in China, by his father, Vice-Admiral Rivett Carnac.

BANKRUPTCY OF JAMES CROSSLEY, OF THE CHINA TRADE.—The bankrupt was a merchant of 43, Mincing-lane, City, and of No. 23, Victoria-road, Old Charlton. He now came up for examination. Mr. Lawrence appeared on behalf of the assignees; Mr. Harrison for creditors; and Mr. C. E. Lewis supported the bankrupt. From the report of Mr. Graham, the official assignee, it appeared that the bankrupt's indebtedness, contracted from 1861 to 1863, represented a total of £90,689, of which a sum of £18,888 was due to unsecured creditors. The assets were stated at £339, and a further amount might possibly be realised from the property held as security. On the 1st of April, 1859, the bankrupt had a surplus of £3,328, and, as accounting for the present deficiency, he returned the following items:—Interest and discount, £4,618; trade expenses, £1,667; commission, £724; rent, £113; domestic and personal expenditure, £2,787; losses, £11,180; and expenses of journey to China, £593. Mr. Lawrence said he was not instructed to oppose. The bankrupt had dealt largely in teas, and there was no reason to question the *bona fides* of his trading. The books had been remarkably well kept. Mr. Harrison, for Messrs. Hyde and Jones, having stated that he did not oppose, the order of discharge was granted.

BRITISH WEST INDIES.—IMMIGRANTS AND LIBERATED AFRICANS.—A return, giving the numbers and other particulars of immigrants and liberated Africans admitted into the British West Indian colonies from 1843 to 1863, has been published. In that period there were altogether 164,505 immigrants and liberated Africans, of whom 981 were negroes taken from slave ships, 86,537 came from the East Indies, 27,575 from Madeira, 14,002 from St. Helena, 12,382 from Sierra Leone, 11,566 from China, &c. A similar return respecting the Mauritius gives a total of 305,963, of whom 302,627 were from the East Indies, 1,497 from captured slave-ships, 843 from China, 692 from Aden, 325 from Ibo, and 39 from Madagascar. A further return relates to the immigrants and liberated Africans who have returned to their own countries, and the amount of earnings remitted through Government agency in their behalf. The number who returned from Jamaica in the twenty years was 1,844, and the amount of earnings (so far as ascertainable), £3,000; from British Guiana 5,412, earnings £61,234. 9s. 10d; from Trinidad 2,680, earnings £39,861. 3s.; and from Mauritius 75,465, no returns of the earnings being supplied.

DEATH OF MAJOR BRABAZON.—A large number of gentlemen connected with the military and sporting world will regret to hear of the death of Major Brabazon, who expired last week, at his seat, Brabazon Park, in the county of Mayo, in his sixty-fourth year. The deceased gentleman had served in the army for many years, and was well and honourably known on the Turf. His eldest son was Captain Brabazon, of the Royal Artillery, whose capture and massacre in the last Chinese war will not be forgotten. Major Brabazon never got over the shock caused by his son's death, and an accident which occurred to him on his way home from China, whither he had gone in the vain hope of hearing some tidings of his son, gave rise to a long illness, which has now resulted in his death. His only remaining son, a lieutenant in the Grenadier Guards, is now serving with his battalion in Canada.

A WAR STEAMER FOR JAPAN.—Messrs. Westervelt and Son, of New York, have completed a war steamer of seven guns for the Japanese. She will leave for Japan in about two months.

BY the death of Lieutenant-General Geddes, Major-General H. A. Hankey becomes a lieutenant-general, and Colonel W. G. Brown, serving as a major-general on the Staff in China, a major-general on the fixed establishment.

THE troop ship *Adventure* is on the point of despatch from Plymouth, with the supernumeraries for the China fleet.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, MAY 6.

The First Chamber of the States General has passed the East India Finance Bill by twenty-six to five votes, so that the Opposition, which many people supposed would muster very strongly, were left in a miserable minority.

In a very short time the Java railroads will come under discussion in the Second Chamber. A number of reports and other documents on the subject have again been presented by the Colonial Minister, in addition to those already mentioned in this correspondence. Among them are a letter from Mr. Stieltjes to the Governor General of Netherlands India, dated 6th September, 1863; a note from Lieut. Col. Haitink, of the Engineers; another from the civil officers of the Colonial Department; and another from the Governor General, to demonstrate the feasibility of constructing the branch line from Tempoeran to Ambarawa. Much light will all also be thrown on the subject by a report of the committee of the Indian Association, consisting of Mr. Bachiene, member of the Council of State, Mr. van Kerkwyk, member of the Second Chamber, and Mr. Millard, formerly an officer of the East India Civil Service, now sugar contractor, who were commissioned by the association to draw up a report on the question of the concession for the Java railroad to Messrs. Banck and consorts.

In accordance with the hundreth paragraph of the Electoral Law, one half of the members of the Second Chamber vacate their seats on the 14th June, their period of service having expired, when fresh elections will take place. Among the members who thus retire by rotation are Mr. C. Van Heukelom, Mr. J. Heemskerk, and Mr. S. Kool, representatives of Amsterdam; Mr. F. W. Blom, member for Rotterdam; and Mr. Gevers Deynoot, member for the Hague. Besides these there will be elections of members for the newly-constituted boroughs of Winschoten, Deventer, and Haarlem.

From the Government of Japan the following communication has been received concerning the reduction of import duties on various articles of foreign produce and manufacture, in conformity with the promises made by the Japanese Embassy that visited Europe in 1862:—

"To his Excellency Mr. De Graeff van Polsbroek, Consul-General and political agent of H.M. the King of the Netherlands, &c., &c.

"By the present we make you a communication. The reductions of duty on the import articles contained in the annexed list will come into operation at the following periods:—At Kanagawa on the first day of our first month (8th of February, 1864), and at Nagasaki and Hakodadi on the first day of our second month (8th of March, 1864).

"As the needful orders will be given to the different governors in the above named ports, we request you to communicate this to your several consuls there.

"Representation made with respectful courtesy on the 27th day of the 12th month in the 3rd year of Bunn Cuw.

(Signed) ITAKOERA SOEWOONO KAMI.
INOWOEYE KAWATSINO KAMI.

"ANNEXE.—Ornaments for dresses, looking glasses, perfumed waters and soap, knives and scissors, arms, books, paper and drawings,—all these articles to be imported henceforth at the reduced duty of 6 per cent. *ad valorem*.

"All sorts of wine, glass ware, engines and machinery, drugs and medicines. N.B.—The prohibition on the importation of opium remains in full force by virtue of existing treaties: bar iron, pig iron, iron plates, iron wire, tin and tinned manufactured articles, white sugar in loaves and crushed, clocks and watches; all these articles to be imported in future at the reduced duty of 5 per cent. on the value.

"The following articles used for the preparation and packing of tea to be imported free of all duty: sheet lead, solder, matting, canes, oils for paint, indigo, gypsum, pans, and baskets."

In addition to the list of vessels chartered by the company as given in my last letter the following supplementary list has been published:—*Gelderland*, Capt. Gaaff, *Commissaris des Konings van der Heim*, Capt. W. Kramers, and *Elize Henrietta*, Capt. Deterding,—all for Amsterdam; *Copernicus*, Capt. Algra, *Johanna Maria*, Capt. P. Dam, and *Triton*, Capt. Rusman,—all for Rotterdam; and *Ary Scheffer*, Capt. Kunst, *Aegidia and Pauline*, Capt. Hoogland,—both for Dordrecht.

On the 30th ult., a detachment of supplementary troops, Consisting of 12 non-commissioned officers and 150 rank and file, the whole under the command of Capt. J. Tomei, of the E. I. army (returning to duty from leave of absence to this country), and accompanied by Lieut. H. J. Prins, of the E. I. Infantry, and Lieut. P. K. Andreae, of the E. I. Cavalry, embarked at Rotterdam on board the fast-sailing clipper *Noach*, Capt. J. Ulrich, for Batavia, which vessel immediately afterwards got under weigh and proceeded to her destination.

H.N.M. steam transport *De Heldin*, commander Toutenhoofd, is nearly ready for sea, and is under orders to sail for Batavia on the 15th inst. She takes out a detachment of eighty-eight marines for distribution among the squadron in the Eastern Archipelago, under command of Lieut. Kaat, of the marines, who have already proceeded from this city to Nieuwe Deep, to be in readiness to embark.

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A letter from Helvoetsluys announces that the new iron-clad steam gunboat is to be commissioned in the course of this month. The First-class Lieutenant Younker A. C. Van Haeften is appointed to the command. Destination unknown.

A report was in circulation last week that all the aides-de-camp of the Governor-General of Netherlands India had tendered their resignation. The *Courant* of the Hague now asserts that there is not the slightest truth in the rumour, which is nothing but a *canard* of Dutch manufacture, founded on the fact that one of those gentlemen, who has been for some time in ill-health, had obtained permission to return to Europe on sick leave.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

Per *Maria Adolphine*, Capt. Blom, at the Texel, from Batavia: Capt. N. H. Cornelissen, of the E. I. Army, and family; Mr. C. H. Fransen, Mr. Pastoer, and twelve passported soldiers.

Per *California*, Capt. De Wyn, at Amsterdam from Batavia: Mr. and Mrs. Leonhardt, Mrs. Trail and three daughters.

Per *Schelde*, Capt. Koffman, at Middelberg from Batavia: Mr. and Mrs. L. Kruyk and four children, Mr. and Mrs. Sperhake and child.

PASSENGERS OUTWARDS.

Per *Triton*, Capt. Rusman, from Rotterdam to Batavia: Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Breton Vincent, Miss C. Kroon, two Masters Kroon, Miss Boerenbreker, Mr. Sloten, officer of the first class E. I. Civil Service, Mrs. van der Heuvell and Javanese servant, Mr. de Buck, and Mr. H. A. Verduyn.

Per *Loevenstein*, Capt. Hulshoff, from Rotterdam to Batavia: Messrs. Z. H. Bachiene and P. Rutgers.

Per *Philips van Marnix*, Capt. Ruyven, from Rotterdam to Java: Capt. and Mrs. Bode, E. I. infantry, three children, and Javanese servant, Mr. and Mrs. W. Buurmann, Mrs. and Mrs. Bruins and two children, Messrs. Boot, Carstens, Bosch, de Kruyff, Faber, Hoofd, Meyer, Raadsma, and van der Burgh.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—There is but little alteration in the state of the market since last mail. Prices are, on the whole, well supported. Among the sales of the fortnight were 1,200 bags private trade Java, and 1,836 bags of Sumatra, both at secret prices; 727 bags of good bright Preanger at 45 cents, and 71 mats of bright do. at 46, both ex *Insulanern*. The company have announced their third sale in this year for the 18th inst., when 86,200 bags will be brought forward. The stock of coffee on company's warrants at the end of March was 87,761 bags, to which must be added the last sale of 82,527 bags, making together 170,288 bags of E. I. coffee. The deliveries in April were 78,297 bags, so that the present stock is 91,991 bags. The total deliveries of the four first months of this year amounted to 222,175 bags, against 373,101 bags at the corresponding period of last year; 320,917 in 1862, 352,146 in 1861, and 346,189 in 1860, so that there is a great falling off as compared with previous years.

SUGAR.—The excitement of the past few weeks has given way to a reaction, and a dead calm has set in. The only sales reported since last mail are 1,900 kranjangs of Java, No. 14¾, ex *China*, at secret prices, and 450 kr. of do., No. 13, ex *Germanica*, at 39 fl. The Company have announced their next sale to take place on the 24th inst. It will contain 80,400 kranjangs of Java, against 71,439 kr. in their May sale last year. Refined goods are dull, and prices have a drooping appearance.

RICE.—Market quiet. Holders of rough grain ask too high a figure to lead to business. In cleaned descriptions the dealings were confined to a few small purchases for the trade, but prices were well supported.

SPICES.—Nutmegs have been in lively request during the whole of the fortnight at an advance of 5 to 6 cents, 78 cents having been paid for No. 1, and 71 cents for No. 2. Mace has also experienced a considerable demand at improved values, as several parcels were taken for exportation at 62 cents. Some lots of Java cinnamon, No. 3, have been sold at 91 cents.

EAST INDIA HIDES.—A fair amount of business has been done at full rates. Among the sales were 175 Passaroean ox, per *Merchantman*; 780 Sourabaya buffalo, per do.; 55 Batavia do., per *Isaac da Costa*; 974 do., per *Johanna*; 1846 do., per *Rudolf*; all by private contract; and 1850 Java ox, per *A. R. Falck*, by tender. 7,000 Java ox, chiefly of fine quality, and light weight, are advertised for public sale on the 12th inst.

METALS.—Nothing to say about copper. Of Banca tin a few sales are reported at 67¼ fl., at which figure there are sellers. The deliveries of the first four months of this year were 26,817 blocks, against 30,288 last year. The stocks on Company's warrants are now 48,721 blocks, against 39,452 last year. In the Company's warehouses are 119,475 blocks unsold, against 101,325 last year.

INDIGO firm, but with limited dealings, in expectation of some sales advertised by private importers. The Company's sale went off well. Result at foot.

RATTANS can with difficulty keep up their value. Among the sales were 4,097 bundles (180 piculs), ex *A. R. Falck*, and 1,800 bundles ex *Margareta*.

JAVA TOBACCO is lower, judging from the result of some public sales held here, though it is but fair to state that a great deal was of very inferior quality, and the rest more or less sea-damaged. Since last mail the following have arrived:—189 bales W. Malang, per *County of Lanark*, 130 bales K L, per same ship, and 501 bales K L per *Aldeboran*; stock, 2,804 bales.

GUTTA PERCHA.—There has been a public sale of this article at Rotterdam, the result of which was as follows:—

26,000 kilogr., per *Cornelis Anthonie*:—
- 7,000 kil., No. 1, sold at 90 to 94 cents per ½ kil.
- 16,000 „ No. 2, „ 75 to 79 „
- 3,000 „ No. 3, „ 55 „

2,100 kil. per *Herman*:—
- 1,200 kil., No. 1, sold at 76 to 78 cents per ½ kil.
- 900 „ No. 2, „ 69 „

2,700 kil. per *Brouwershaven*:—
- 280 kil., No. 1, bought in at 175 cents per ½ kil.
- 2,230 „ No. 2, sold at 120 „
- 190 „ No. 3, „ 85 „

1,500 kil., also per *Brouwershaven*:—
- 200 kil., No. 1, bought in at 135 cents per ½ kil.
- 1,300 „ No. 2, sold at 120 „

MANILA CIGARS.—At public sale, of 182,500 cigars, 16 lots were sold at from 13 to 62 fl., and 9 lots bought in at 50 to 61¼ fl.

Result of the Company's sale of 670 chests and half-chests of Java indigo on the 2nd of May. There was a brisk demand, and the whole sold, in comparison with the sale of last October, as follows:—

Very low qualities	Par to 10 cents.	higher.
Ordinary	10 „ 20	„
Ordinary middling ..	20 „ 40	„
Middling and good middling	30 „ 50	„
Fine middling	40 „ 60	„
Fine and very fine ..	40 „ 60	„

Thirty-two bales of Java cochenille. All sold with lively competition, as follows, compared with last sale:—

First quality	5 to 10 cents.	higher.
Second	10 „ 15	„
Zaccatille	Par.	

PORTUGAL.

A correspondent writes from Lisbon on the 24th ult.:—This letter will be forwarded by the steamer *Maria Pia*, belonging to the Portuguese Steam Company Lusitania, which no doubt finds it attractive to establish a line between Lisbon and London in the differential addition duty of one-fifth imposed upon goods not the produce of England or British possessions imported into Portugal in British ships. Tea from London will form the principal element of freight for the Lusitania Company. The Portuguese direct navigation with China became so limited some years back that it was found necessary to allow indirect importations, the exorbitant freights under the protection of the national flag from Macao causing consumers in this country to pay more for it than the rest of Europe. Since the admission of indirect importations of tea Portuguese sailing vessels from London have, with great irregularity, supplied the principal wants of the country, exacting higher freights even than the English steamers under the one-fifth protective duty, the consumers continuing to pay an artificial price, to the prejudice of the revenue and without benefit to Portuguese ships, which have had to remain long upon the berth in London before they could complete a cargo, thus sacrificing the profit derivable from the high freight upon tea while filling up with other cargo at low rates as compared with the English steamers engaged in the trade. The Portuguese Government does not, however, always allow the prejudicial effect of existing laws to continue when once observed. It has just submitted to the Cortes a Bill to reduce from two per cent. to one per mil the duty upon the transshipment of goods from one vessel to another in its ports, because the war between Denmark and Germany brought to its notice the fact that vessels laden with Brazilian produce for belligerent ports might be transshipped here with a nominal duty, while they would seek other ports to call at and transfer cargoes if the two per cent. duty were maintained. The tobacco monopoly was to have been suppressed on the 1st of May, but the debates in the House of Deputies had delayed the Bill so long that the Government agreed with the Peers in Committee to alter the clause for suppression to the 1st of January, 1865.

Literature.

The Rudiments of the Chinese Language, with Dialogues, Exercises, and a Vocabulary; by the Rev. JAMES SUMMERS, Professor of Chinese in King's College, London. Quaritch, Piccadilly.—This little book will be eagerly sought for by those who are about to visit China for the first time, who will be rejoiced to find that some 160 pages can be made to contain such an introduction to the language as will enable them on their arrival in the country to speak and understand common words and phrases. The Roman alphabet is employed in the book, but sufficient examples are given of the Chinese characters to habituate the student to their use and signification. Generally speaking, the Chinese language is thought to have so many characters as to require a life-time to obtain a thorough knowledge of them. It is pleasant, therefore, to be able to correct this misconception by the authority of the Professor of Chinese at King's College, who tells us—

The number of different characters in Chinese is upwards of 40,000, but many thousands of them are ancient forms, and, therefore, obsolete. Thousands more are simply curious variations of characters which are in use, but which are not wanted. Not more than 10,000, it is believed, enter into ordinary use, and 5,000 are quite sufficient for the general purposes of literary composition.

Mr. Summers has, no doubt, thoroughly fulfilled the object he proposed to himself when setting about the rudimentary manual before us, viz., to make it "a stepping-stone to further efforts, and a practical grammar of the first principles of Chinese etymology and syntax." The purchaser will have to congratulate himself that the task has been undertaken by one thoroughly competent to discharge it.

The new number of the *Chinese and Japanese Repository* has a continuation of the "Story of Han-wan and the White Serpent," with which we expressed our delight on a former

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occasion. The history proceeds in a very interesting fashion, and the reader will agree with us in hoping that we shall not part very hastily with the enchantments perpetrated by the Mistress of the Thunder-peak Pagoda. The first article is devoted to the "Mythology of the Dayaks of Banjer-masing." There is a fund of meaning in the following item of their creed :—

The god who ranks next to Hattala is Radja Ontong. "The King of Fortune," also called Radja Blawang Bulau, *i. e.*, the "King of the Gate of Gold," and his wife, Puter Sawawang Langit. Radja Ontong is constantly overburdened with work; his hands are never suffered to rest. *Bulau, salaka, blanga, garantong*—*i. e.*, "gold, silver, vessels, copper-drums"—are always being applied for, each person being anxious to get the largest share of these articles. But though the store of treasures of Radja Ontong is immense, even inexhaustible, he is not permitted to distribute them arbitrarily; for before he gives away any of these precious things to the suppliants, he must apply to Hattala for his consent, which is only then given when all the preliminaries have been conducted in the proper manner, which is not often the case. Radja Ontong being so much harassed by the fortune-seeking Dayaks, leave has been given him to present his applications in writing, it being impossible for him to go on every occasion in person to Hattala, and ask his consent.

The other articles are a continuation of Sir John Bowring's translation from the "Arte China" of Pére Goncalves, and a translation by the Editor from Von der Gabelentz's "Sketch of the Mongolian Language and Literature."

At length a blank in English literary history has been filled up that, in these days of Memoir and Diary publishing, has always surprised one should have existed so long. Mr. PERCY FITZGERALD'S *Life of Lawrence Sterne* renders "poor Yorick" simple, but ample justice. The author shows that many of the evil stories current about the writer of "Tristram Shandy" were little better than slanders. The truth is, Sterne's enemies had in himself their most potent ally. His asserted neglect of his mother, wife, and child, is proved to be an invention. Mr. Fitzgerald has collected a vast deal of information about the "life and times" of his subject, and, dealing with his materials in an impartial spirit, has placed the great humorist in a far more favourable light to that in which he has usually been regarded.—The Viscountess STRANGFORD'S *Eastern Shores of the Adriatic in* 1863, *with a Visit to Montenegro*, is a book that will be eagerly perused, dealing as it does with a portion of Europe hardly so well known to us as are the Sources of the Nile —thanks to Captain Speke. Lady Strangford's course of travel lies from Corfu into Albania, and by way of Ragusa into Montenegro and Dalmatia, and so homewards into Austria Proper. Along this route the Viscountess notes pleasant pictures, fluttering incidents, and agreeable civilities; while, by the side of these easier passages of feminine narrative and gossip, we have in three separate chapters a good deal of clear observation on the politics and prospects of the East of Europe, from the pen of Lord STRANGFORD, to whom wit and diplomatic acuteness descend hereditarily.—M. GUIZOT'S *Memoirs of a Minister of State, from the Year* 1840, resume the story of the author's official life with his return to Paris as Minister of Foreign Affairs, and carries it on to 1844. The Eastern Question, and the complications that led to the bombardment of St. Jean d'Acre, begin the volume, which then treats of the Paris Fortifications, the negotiations concerning the Right of Search, the visit of Queen Victoria to Louis Philippe at the Chateau d'Eu, that of the Emperor Nicholas to England, and Louis Philippe's return-trip to Windsor. It is needless to say that all the great statesmen of the period are introduced to the reader in turns, and that no one who has a spark of political feeling or even of love of mere gossip in his breast will be one unnecessary moment deprived of the pleasure of reading the volume whose contents are thus summarised.—Of works of fiction that have appeared since our last reference to books, we can recommend Mr. ALSTON COLLINS'S *Bar Sinister*, though the performance is perhaps happier in its scenery than in the characters.—Mr. DYCE'S *Bella Donna; or the Cross before the Name*, is a clever book, with the drawback of having a most hateful set of persons for the actors in it.—*Vladimir and Catherine, or Kiev in the Year* 1861, consists of a number of detached pictures of Russian life and manners, written by one who evidently has a personal knowledge of the scenes he describes.—Professor KINGSLEY'S *Roman and the Teuton, a Series of Lectures delivered before the University of Cambridge*, may be described as a book made up of light and rapid utterances of the thoughts that have occurred to the lecturer in his perusal of the works he has had occasion to "read up." The Teuton is the hero of the disquisition, while the Roman is unduly depreciated. However sad may have been the fate of the race, it should never be forgotten that Roman institutions are to this day at the root of all the liberties of modern civilisation.

The East India Ready Reckoner; by C. D., just published by Smith, Elder, and Co., is a set of tables showing the cost of any number of articles in Indian currency, from one pie to one rupee, advancing one pie at a time, including numbers answering to fixed Indian weights and measures. The tables go up to 14 annas 11 pies, and the accuracy of the book has been secured by repeated and rigid tests.—Mr. Bohn has brought his republication of *The Bibliographer's Manual of English Literature*, by LOWNDES, to a close in Part X. An appendix is to follow, however, which will contain, *inter alia*, a complete list of all the books printed by the literary and scientific societies of Great Britain, with particulars respecting them. The undertaking now so nearly completed has cost Mr. Bohn seven years of anxiety and application, and right well has he earned the thanks both of the scholar and the general reader. The latest addition to the Select Library of Messrs. Smith and Son is a two-volume republication of LEVER'S *Martins of Cro'Martin*. This tale has, perhaps, not achieved the popularity of others of the author's productions, simply because the public are generally unwilling to accept instruction from any man to whom they have been in the habit of looking for amusement only. Yet Mr. Lever tells us in the Dedication that he bestowed "much thought and labour" on the work; and the dialogues between Captain Martin and his fashionable associates have an epigrammatic smartness about them, combined with intense reality, that will bear comparison with anything to be found in the long series of modern fictions. This cheap reissue is worth the attention of all who prefer a mixture of food for solid thought with the lighter entertainment for an idle hour.—The two last numbers of *Macmillan's Magazine* are of superior attraction. Mr. Henry Kingsley's "Hillyars and the Burtons" interests the reader the farther the story advances. The scene in Old Chelsea Church invests a building we all know with a reality such as it never possessed before, by mixing it up with the deeds and emotions of living men and women. Mr. Broughton's "Letter from a Competition Wallah" is devoted to the subject of Christianity in India. In his opinion we are not to look for any wide or rapid conquests there to the profession of a purer faith. But if the prospects of missionary enterprise in India are discouraging, it does not follow there is no hope for the future. As one of the missionaries has described it—"Hinduism is dying; yea, is well-nigh dead, as respects the hold it has on the mind of the public." The following is true of other quarters than Bengal and of other Eastern modes of faith than Brahminism :—

However little we may have succeeded in doing towards introducing Christianity, we have done a great deal towards driving out Brahminism. The fresh air of European civilisation circulates freely through every pore of this vast community. That gross and grotesque system of religion which has prevailed through so many ages of semi-barbarism cannot hold its ground in the face of our art and science, our energy and good sense, our liberal views and purer morality. The gigantic edifice of class exclusiveness is shaken to the very foundation. The Government school had already done much, and the railroads seem likely to complete the work. A Brahmin who travels from Burdwan cheek-by-jowl with a butcher, in order to see his son go up to receive a prize at the Presidency College, in company with the offspring of a sweeper, is likely to go home with some new ideas on the question of caste.

The series of the Letters is completed in the May number in which also is the announcement that they are to be republished immediately in a separate form, and the pseudonym is discarded for the author's real appellation, G. O. Trevelyan.—Dalziels' *Illustrated Arabian Nights' Entertainments* grow in the spirit of the engravings with each issue. *The Vicar of Wakefield*, from the same *atelier*, also improves, but we still retain our opinion that something in the vignette style would have better suited the simplicity of that charming tale in the way of embellishment.—*Minchmoor*, by JOHN BROWN, M.D., is a reprint of a sketch by that popular writer, which first appeared in an Edinburgh periodical. The hill so called, "lying between Tweed and Yarrow," however little frequented by excursionists hitherto, is now destined to be climbed by thousands, who will be urged thither by this delightful essay on the traditions and poetry connected with it. *Jeems the Doorkeeper* is another of the same series—of an interest too local for general readers, who, with Jeems himself, will prefer "the fancical line —there is more leecence."—Mr. Murray, of Albemarle-street, has just brought out, in two volumes, with numerous illustrations, *Travels in the Central Parts of Indo-China* (*Siam*), *Cambodia, and Laos, During the Years* 1858, 1859, *and* 1860; by the late M. HENRI MOUHOT, French naturalist. A notice of this important and interesting work will appear in our next number.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, FRIDAY, MAY 13, 1864.

THE TYCOON BROUGHT TO BAY.

HOWEVER craftily the TYCOON may have manœuvred to turn into his own reservoir the wealth that flows on the current of foreign trade, each mail brings intelligence to show that the Daimios are as resolutely bent on changes that will enable them to obtain their fair share of the fertilising stream. In another part of this journal will be found a remarkable document which has been presented to the TYCOON and the MIKADO by the Prince of ECHIZEN, a veteran statesman who is looked up to with great respect, and will be held by the Japanese themselves to speak the sentiments of an independent and disinterested looker-on, inasmuch as he some time since resigned his principality to his son. Our old friend SATSUMA, too, steadfastly keeping to the object he has so long had in view, has at last succeeded in obtaining from the two Sovereigns the important concession that the whole question of foreign trade shall be referred for investigation to three eminent Daimios, one to be chosen by each of the parties principally concerned in the discussion. In consequence of this arrangement, we learn that the MIKADO has appointed as his representative a nobleman who is the head of the MITO family, and said to be opposed to foreigners. The TYCOON has selected OWARI, who, though much mixed up in late affairs, has contrived to keep his predilections a secret. SATSUMA himself has chosen no less able and fearless an advocate than MATS' DAIRA ECHIZEN-NO-KAMI, the man whose opinions are so decidedly set forth in the memorial we have above adverted to. It is clear that the persistency of the party of Daimios friendly to an extended intercourse with foreigners has won the day. The MIKADO and the TYCOON have been obliged to yield. However much opposed the Spiritual Emperor may have been to the naturalisation within his dominions of "barbarians"—more hateful still that they are Christians—the long-talked-of interview with his Temporal fellow-potentate has mitigated his views. The TYCOON, as we have over and over again stated, derives so much profit from the new-born commerce that he will submit to almost anything rather than go back to the old system of secluded isolation. The Daimios have now brought him to bay, and he will be obliged to face the decisive question of whether trade is to be free or altogether suppressed. One remarkable fact has just become known, which demonstrates convincingly the main bearing of the points of difference between SATSUMA and the Yedo Sovereign. The former is said to have obtained permission of the Gorojio, or Council of State, to dispose of a thousand bales of raw silk in the Kanagawa market. It is supposed that he will be allowed to escape the heavy exactions levied by the TYCOON'S Government on ordinary traders, and that the large margin of profit that will thus be left him, besides benefiting himself, will be an overwhelming argument in favour of his views on foreign trade with the other Daimios, when the result in hard cash is displayed before their eyes. Everything, in fact, betokens a year of peace and prosperity for the foreigner in Japan. Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, too, appears to have acquired the conviction that any display of material force is not needed, and is better away, for the party of British soldiery sent forward from Shanghai have been sent back thither in the *Vulcan*, the very one of Her MAJESTY'S steamers that took them up.

TAIPING ADVOCATES AND THE RECENT DEBATE ON BRITISH POLICY IN CHINA.

AN anonymous pamphlet has been handed to us, intitled "Extracts from 'The Taipings as They Are, by One of Them.'" Not having seen a book with that title, we presume that it is not yet published; and as the author has rushed into print in this garbled form, with its rabid contents, there are reasons for supposing that his M.S. has been rejected by the publishers. Be that as it may, the *brochure* before us is the strangest mixture of vulgarity, piety, and politics on the Taiping question we have seen since the issue from Nanking, by the American missionary, ISSACHAR ROBERTS, of his famous report for 1860. It is the old story over again, of the purity of Taiping Christianity, advanced with the vehemence of a blind partisan; of the leniency and perfection of their Government; of the cruelties of the Imperialists, and of the perfidious policy England has pursued against the insurgents. These we might tolerate, as matters of opinion, however strongly expressed, but we must object to the republication of that disgusting, falsely-unnatural account of Imperial atrocities at Shanghai, which first appeared in the *Times of India*; and which he endorses "I can avouch its entire accuracy," though it has been long since proved to be a pure invention. With this exception, the pamphlet is worthy of a perusal, as containing some fresh information from the ranks of the Taipings, even though that be immensely exaggerated.

The writer starts with the assertion that this is a patriotic movement in which the people sympathize, and he considers the Chief, HUNG-SIU-TSIUEN, the future deliverer of China from bondage. No doubt this element exists amongst the voluntary followers of that personage, but it cannot be said that the people sympathized in the movement; for if such had been the case they would have risen *en masse*, and rallied round the standard of the TIEN-WANG. On the contrary, wherever the Taipings went, the peaceable inhabitants looked on their approach with fear and trembling. Those who could not fly from them were made captive; the men and boys pressed into their ranks as slaves, whom they branded with a red-hot iron on the face with Taiping characters, and made them labour as beasts of burthen, under pain of death. Instead of being a patriotic movement, for the purpose of driving the Manchoo Tartars from China, as alleged, it became a war against their own people, whom they plundered—the non-workers robbing the industrious; in fact, the incursions of banditti on a great scale, who carried desolation and ruin before them, where formerly peace and plenty reigned. As far as punishing the real Manchoos is concerned, it has been a signal failure, for they have never yet confronted Tartar troops; while it is worthy of note that the most cruel mandarins and Imperial forces they have encountered have been pure Chinese. That monster of executioners, YEH, was not of Tartar origin, he came from the central province of Hoopeh, and the Futai LE, so notorious from the Soo-chow treachery affair, is a native of Honan—a province which the pamphleteer correctly describes as "producing some of the best soldiers," and finest men in China. Having seen many of these men, as well as that Mandarin, we can vouch for the description the author gives of the Honan braves in the Taiping ranks as superior to all others in physical proportion, stature, and intellectual features. But he clings to the common error that the Government and its officials, and the laws they administer, are purely of Tartar origin, and have been so since the accession of the present dynasty, two centuries ago. This is about as correct as if a Chinaman concluded that the members of the British Government and its executive throughout the realm of the military, naval, and civil services, were all Germans, because Her MAJESTY is descended from the House of Hanover. As in this country the Guelphic dynasty accepted the national laws, so in China, the Manchoo dynasty adopted the code revised by CONFUCIUS, the basis of which had existed from time immemorial. That the modes of punishment are cruel and barbarous is undeniable, but they are purely of Chinese invention, and have been introduced into Mongolia, and the tributary states of this vast empire, as heir-looms of that long-haired race, which this Taiping movement ostensibly seeks to replace on the throne.

If we are to credit the unknown writer of this pamphlet, he is in some measure an envoy from Taipingdom to the Governments of Europe, interested in the commerce of China. After stating that they threaten to destroy the mulberry trees and tea plantations in the districts they occupy, if foreign support to the Imperialists be not withdrawn, he adds:—"I will now

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"state what I am authorised to by the CHUNG-WANG. Upon "leaving him to proceed to England—considerably influenced "by this errand—I was commissioned to inform all European "authorities that, even now, the Taiping Government would "magnanimously forgive all their unprovoked murderous "aggressions, *if they were discontinued.*" From the earnestness in which he espouses the cause of the rebellion and its promoters there is evidence that the author believes, not only in their earthly success, but the divine mission of the TIEN-WANG, for which he quotes Scripture as follows:—"The "visions of HUNG-SIU-TSIUEN, if compared with Scripture, will "be found not so extravagant as has been represented. The "visions seem to have been the especial act of GOD to prepare "the man for the reception of His Holy Word, of which, at "the time of the vision, they were totally ignorant, and are in "accordance with the prophecy of JOEL quoted by PETER in "Acts: 'And your young men shall see visions.'" After perusing sixty-four pages of matter similar to these extracts, it naturally occurs to us, that if the author believes so firmly in the mission of the Taipings, and "as one of them," being delegated to address "all European authorities," why does he suppress his name—why "hide his candle under a bushel?" If the Taipings are such excellent Christians as he represents them to be, why should he be ashamed of announcing himself? Perhaps he blushes to acknowledge his virulent diatribes against the British Government and the people of England in the following *morceaux*, with which his lively pamphlet winds up:—

"If the present policy of the British Government with regard to China is to be persisted in, then I can only say that for England has been reserved the everlasting ignominy of striving to extinguish the last vestige of the glorious light of Christianity and patriotism in this mercenary-ridden land; and the name of England, so jealous of liberty for herself, will be handed down to all succeeding ages as a mocking bye-word for all that is base and perfidious. Is British principle to be made, or considered, subservient to any influence in the world? Yet lately it has assumed a most variable sort of existence in Chinese affairs. However, *nil desperandum.* The Taiping Chiefs say:—'The Mings took a hundred years to found their dynasty, and possibly so may we; but most assuredly, sooner or later we shall expel the Tartars and succeed.' What mockery is England's sympathy with Poland? Is liberty, patriotism, or life, so *very different* on opposite sides of the same world? What mockery and inconsistency is her sympathy with and reception of Garibaldi, the Italian patriot, when Hung-sui-tsiuen, the Chinese patriot, is by British hounds to be hunted to the death!"

We gladly turn from a review of this pamphlet—which is anything but creditable to an Englishman—to a consideration of the debate in the House of Commons on the same subject. The discussion, which was almost solely sustained by the mover, Mr. LIDDELL, and the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. LAYARD, was of a most interesting character, and did credit to both debaters. The former hon. member opened the question in an able and temperate speech, while the latter, in reply, produced quite a budget of fresh documents to support his arguments in defence of the Government policy. Among these some new matter appeared that is worthy of comment. It appears that Major GORDON, in his communication to General BROWN, assigned as his reason for not throwing up the command of his force after the treacherous affair at Soochow, that it was "his firm belief the troops, to a man, "would have gone over to the Taipings; the Imperialists would "then be defeated; Shanghai would have been sacked, and an "enormous amount of British property destroyed." The possibility of the force deserting to the rebels, or, what would be not improbable, starting as bands of marauders on their own account, has always been a matter for grave consideration; and hence the anxiety of their foreign officers to see that they were always properly cared for in food, clothing, and quarters, with regularity of pay. This being the case, the next piece of information announced by Mr. LAYARD is important, viz.:—"That Major GORDON was no longer in the service of the "Chinese Government, because when Her MAJESTY'S Govern-"ment learnt the disgraceful act of treachery that had been "committed, they immediately repealed the Order in Council "which gave permission to British officers to take service "under the Chinese Government." We fear that the rescinding of that order may bring about that state of disorganisation which is to be dreaded, as the great difficulty all along has been to officer the regiments with competent and respectable foreigners. The withdrawal of the English officers, who are the mainstay of the force, may cause serious disaffection amongst the men.

Not the least interesting feature in the debate was the perusal of a letter from Mr. MICHIE, partner in the old China firm of LINDSAY and Co. Without throwing into the shade the abilities of other talented merchants of all nations in Hong Kong and Shanghai, no gentleman is better qualified to give a weighty opinion on the affairs of China. His experience in all parts of the empire, his comprehensive views and impartial judgment, eminently mark him as the representative of the British merchants, in communicating with the Government. Neither must we overlook the impartial and friendly course pursued by the Hon. ANSON BURLINGAME, American Minister at Peking, in so ably assisting Sir FREDERICK BRUCE out of the LAY-OSBORN difficulty; while his despatch to Mr. SEWARD, read to the House by the Under-Secretary, displays his acuteness and ability as a diplomatist.

THE JAPANESE AMBASSADORS.

(FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT).

The three Ambassadors, accompanied by their chancellor and secretaries, were received at the Tuileries on the 3rd inst., with all the ceremonies usual on such occasions. The Emperor and Empress were seated on the throne, having the young Prince near them, and were attended by the great officers of State, the Commander of the Imperial Guard, and the officers and ladies of the Imperial household. The Minister for Foreign Affairs was also present. The First Ambassador, his Excellency Ikeda Tsikongo no Kami, read an address to the Emperor in the Japanese language, which was first translated into Dutch by the Japanese interpreter, and afterwards into French by M. Blekman, interpreting secretary to the French legation in Japan. The purport of the address was as follows:—

"Sire,—In accordance with the instructions which we have received from His Majesty the Tycoon of Japan, to offer to your Majesty proofs of his sincerity and good will, we have the honour in our quality of Ambassadors respectfully to present to your Majesty these autographic letters, expressing at the same time our wishes for the welfare of your Majesty, and for the prosperity of your subjects.

"Since a treaty was concluded between the two Empires friendship has increased from day to day; but, in consequence of great changes in our ancient customs, there have been disorders in the national feelings; all possible efforts have been made to bring about order, but, at present, it has not been accomplished.

"Japanese have in fact fired at one of your Majesty's vessels of war, and have even assassinated one of your military officers. On this subject His Majesty the Tycoon has ordered us to express all possible regrets for these accidents, and, in order to show his goodwill and amicable feelings, to confer with one of your Majesty's chief subjects, so as to give such explanations as may be necessary, in order that mutual good relations may continue eternally.

"His Majesty the Tycoon prays your Majesy to have confidence in us, for we have all three been chosen by himself."

The First Ambassador then presented to the Emperor the letters in the handwriting of the Tycoon.

The Emperor then addressed the Ambassadors as follows:—

"I am indebted to the Tycoon of Japan for having comprehended the necessity for giving me explanations of the difficulties in the way of the execution of the treaty concluded between us and respecting the violence committed against a French officer. I sincerely desire to see our relations extend day by day; but in order that they may do so your Government must, in the first place, create respect for the rights of nations, and be itself thoroughly convinced of the accord that exists amongst the European Powers to defend their honour and their interests in far distant countries.

"Your mission here is a proof that your Sovereign regrets' what has happened, and I see you amongst us with pleasure.'

The Emperor's reply has created considerable surprise, not only as regards its spirit, but also its form, which is singularly familiar and undiplomatic; in fact the first line—"Je sais bon gré au Taicoon," is colloquial to the last degree, and the expression, which is almost equivalent to "I thank you kindly," would not be used by the most careless writer. Surely there is no room for much astonishment that the Emperor should speak pretty plainly respecting the events referred to, and he probably selected the unconventional form in order that his meaning might be understood by all the world. He did not require the use of picked language to conceal his thoughts.

The Ambassadors were carried to the palace and afterwards back to their hotel in the Imperial carriages by the introducer of ambassadors and other officers, and entered the court of the Tuileries by the triumphal arch and gate of honour between

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two lines formed by a battalion of the infantry of the Imperial Guard. After the reception the Japanese visited M. Drouyn de Lhuys, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, who immediately returned their visit. A long and interesting conversation is said to have taken place between the Minister and the First Ambassador, who is said to exhibit most remarkable intelligence.

The Envoys afterwards called and left their cards on all the Ministers of State, and the Presidents of the Two Chambers and of the Council of State, and in the evening they gave a grand dinner to the Master of the Ceremonies, who had introduced them to the Emperor, and some other gentlemen. The Embassy attracts attention by the munificence of its arrangements, and it is asserted that they are to expend £200,000 in France, and at the rate of thirty-three millions of francs, or £1,320,000, a year during their stay in Europe. A good discount may be knocked off this account, and a liberal budget be still left. It is quite evident that the Japanese Government has selected able men and has given them important work to perform, and it is to be hoped that they will return to their own country with a sound appreciation of the civilisation and resources of Europe, and that their reports will be the means of preventing the recurrence of such scenes as those which have recently occurred between the Europeans and the Japanese, and of establishing a thorough and lasting understanding between them. The Ambassadors have, it is said, taken a step which certainly distinguishes them from all former Eastern emissaries; they have called in a Parisian tailor, and are about to don the coat, waistcoat, and trousers of Europe; much, doubtless, to their own discomfort, especially in the dog-days, which, however, will be mere happy days to them, and our July sun a mere farthing candle. Talking of costume, it may be mentioned that the Ambassadors passed the evening of Wednesday last at the house of M. Drouyn de Lhuys, and that the dress of the First Ambassador created quite a sensation. It consisted of an outer garment of white crape, with gold embroidery and black satin facings, an inner one also of white crape and a waiscoat of blue satin. The Japanese interpreter, Suo-Da, was quite a lion amongst the ladies, dealing out his autographs on all sides, and now and then venturing on an elaborate French compliment. The Ambassadors have been to the Opera and the Theatre Lyrique; at the former they saw a ballet, and went behind the scenes; they seemed deeply interested, and let us trust that they did not carry away a very unfavourable impression of European morality.

The body of the officer of the Embassy who died at Marseilles, was embalmed and afterwards buried in the cemetery of Saint-Pierre, several of the members of the Embassy having gone from Paris to be present at the ceremony. After the coffin was placed in the grave and covered with earth, a small brazier, half filled with burning charcoal, was placed on the ground, and each of the mourners, after kneeling and saying a short prayer, threw a small quantity of incense on the fire; this was all the ceremony. The other day the Ambassadors sent 300 francs to the Prince Imperial Asylum. A story is going the round of the papers that some days since, when making purchases at a jeweller's in the Rue de la Paix, the shopkeeper was so struck by a parasol carried by one of the Japanese, that he proposed to accept it in payment for a certain quantity of coral ornaments selected for purchase by his visitors; the proposal was readily accepted, and it is said that half the parasols of the Embassy have since passed into the hands of the speculative jeweller.

The following item appears in a Paris paper:—

The world of Paris is gone mad after the Japanese. This embassy, regardless of the "happy despatch" which may await them on their return, are enjoying themselves in the most reckless manner. Only last night I found several secretaries of legation—where, do you think? why actually behind the scenes of the Grand Opera, surrounded with ballet girls! European secretaries of legation know better than that, at any rate, though they do not know much as a rule. As for "Mabille," and the "Chateau des Fleurs," they are there every night. On Wednesday they "entertained at dinner." I saw the *menu*, but it contained nothing worth recording; judging, however, from the list of wines selected, I should say that the very best of everything is nearly good enough for the dusky diplomacy of Japan.

THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S SERVICE.

THE P. and O. Company's Southampton steamers will, in future, in order to avoid delay in transferring the mails from Alexandria to Marseilles, as sometimes now occurs, make one trip between Alexandria and Marseilles before returning to Southampton; so that the two lines will, in fact, be worked by the same boats, and not, as hitherto, special boats for each service.

COLONEL COOKE IN CHINA.—During the recent debate on China, Mr. Liddell mentioned the name of Colonel Cooke as that of a British officer in the Chinese service. This was an error among the many introduced on the occasion by members not thoroughly "up" in Chinese affairs. Although Colonel Cooke is an Englishman, yet he was not brought up to the profession of arms, and holds his rank in the Anglo-Chinese force from the native authorities, which he attained by his natural ability for generalship, and has, for some time, commanded the contingent at Ningpo. In the event of Gordon relinquishing the Chinese service entirely, it is probable that the post will be offered to Cooke.

IMPORTANT ADMIRALTY DECISION.—This was a cause of necessaries. The plaintiffs, Messrs. Thomson, Watson, and Co., of the Cape of Good Hope, claimed £1,210. 0s. 5d. for coals and ship's stores there supplied in February, 1859. The defendant, Jose Ramon Yglesias, the owner of the *Princess Charlotte*, pleaded that on the 30th of October, 1861, he purchased that steamer from Jonathan Dorning, of Liverpool, and J. H. Stebbing, of Southampton, shipowners; that at the time when he so purchased her she was a British vessel, duly registered under the name of the *England*; that he, the defendant, at that time had no notice, actual or constructive, of the plaintiffs' claim; and that at the time of the arrest of the vessel in this suit he, the said J. R. Yglesias, was domiciled in England. On these facts the defendant relied as a good defence to the action, the 5th section of the Admiralty Court Act, 1861, providing as follows:—"The High Court of Admiralty shall have jurisdiction over any claim for necessaries supplied to any ship elsewhere than in the port to which the ship belongs, unless it is shown to the satisfaction of the Court that at the time of the institution of the cause any owner or part owner of the ship is domiciled in England or Wales." The plaintiffs objected to this answer, as showing no defence in law. On a question previously raised in this suit, the *Princess Charlotte* had been held by the Court to have been a Belgian ship at the time when the necessaries were supplied. The plaintiffs consequently contended that their right of action in no wise depended upon the Admiralty Court Act, 1861, but upon the 6th section of the 3rd and 4th of Victoria, cap. 65:—"The High Court of Admiralty shall have jurisdiction to decide all claims and demands whatsoever in the nature of salvage, for services rendered to or damage received by any ship or seagoing vessel, or in the nature of towage, or for necessaries supplied to any foreign ship or seagoing vessel; and to enforce the payment thereof, whether such ship or vessel may have been within the body of a country or upon the high seas at the time when the services were rendered, or damage received, or necessaries furnished, in respect of which such claim is made." On the 19th of April last, counsel were heard on the question of the validity of the answer, Mr. Brett, Q.C., and Mr. Vernon Lushington appearing for the plaintiffs, and Dr. Deane, Q.C., for the defendant. Dr. Lushington now gave judgment. His Lordship held that the *Princess Charlotte*, having been a foreign ship at the time when the necessaries were supplied, the Court had jurisdiction to entertain the suit under the 6th section of the 3rd and 4th of Victoria, cap. 65; and that the sale of a foreign ship, effected subsequently to the supply of necessaries, could not oust the Court of its jurisdiction, although the purchaser were domiciled in England at the time of the institution of the suit.—Judgment for the plaintiffs.

POST-OFFICE PACKET SERVICE.—The total estimate for the Post-office Packet Service for the year 1864-5 is £860,276, the vote for the previous financial year having been £956,878. With respect to the former sum, it is stated in the official return that no part of it "is to be applicable or applied in or towards making any payment in respect of any period subsequent to June 20, 1863, to Mr. Joseph George Churchward, or to any person claiming through or under him by virtue of a certain contract, bearing date the 26th day of April, 1859, made between the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Admiralty (for and on behalf of Her Majesty) of the first part, and the said Joseph George Churchward of the second part, or in or towards the satisfaction of any claim whatsoever of the said Joseph George Churchward, by virtue of that contract, so far as relates to any period subsequent to June 20, 1863." Of the total estimate for the current financial year, £85,900 is allotted for the conveyance of mails between Holyhead and Kingstown; £174,840 for Liverpool, and Halifax, and Boston mails, and to and from Liverpool and New York and Nassau; £50,000 for Galway and ports in America; £135,360 for mails to and from the West Indies; Brazil and Buenos Ayres, £33,500; West Coast of America, £25,000; West Coast of Africa and England, £30,000; India, China, and Australia, £81,941; Point de Galle and Sydney, £67,336; &c., &c. The following are the items which make up the actual Post-office expenditure in the "packet establishments" at various ports, it being understood that one-half of the salaries and allowances are provided for by the Admiralty:—Dover, £311; Holyhead, £256; Liverpool, £415; Southampton, £775; and Devonport, £5. A sum of £150 is allowed for pensions to retired commanders; £100 to widows of commanders and masters of packets; and £297 to the clerks and artificers of packet establishments.

A MARRIAGE is arranged between the Hon. T. J. Howell Thurlow, brother of Lord Thurlow, and Lady Elma Bruce, eldest daughter of the late Earl of Elgin.

Monetary and Commercial.

The Union Bank of London have resolved to increase their nominal capital from £3,000,000 to £4,000,000, by an issue of 20,000 new shares of £50 each, rateably to the present proprietors at £15 premium. The amount paid upon the existing £50 shares of the bank is £13, and it is contemplated at an

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early day to increase this sum to £15 by an appropriation of profits.

The formal announcement of the Asiatic Banking Corporation has been issued and will be found in our advertisements. The project has been in hand more than a year, and a charter has been obtained. The subscribed capital is £500,000, of which £300,000 is paid, and the remainder is in course of being called up. By the terms of the charter, which, as usual, extends the liabilities of shareholders to double the amount of their shares, the company are empowered to increase their capital to £2,000,000. Mr. Fearon, late of the firm of Augustine, Heard and Co., China, is one of the directors. It is stated that the shares are at 50 premium in Bombay.

The Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China have issued their report, which shows the audited balance-sheet and profit and loss account of the bank for the year ended 31st December last. After providing for all bad and doubtful debts, and defraying expenses of management at all points, the net profit amounts to £196,562. 2s., to which has to be added a sum of £4,269. 9s. 2d. undivided profit, brought forward from the preceding year, making a total of £200,831. 11s. 2d. Out of the above total £50,000 has been paid in two half-yearly dividends, and £25,000 as a bonus, making together 15 per cent. on the paid up capital of the bank. A further sum of £50,000 has been added to the reserve fund. The unappropriated balance of £75,831. 11s. 2d. is carried forward to the profit and loss account of the current year. As will be seen by the accounts, the premium on new shares paid up to the 31st December, amounting to £81,140, has been added to the reserve fund; the balance due in respect of same, £18,860, since received, has also been passed to this account, which, with the addition of £50,000 from the year's profits, above referred to, makes a total at this date at credit of that fund of £250,000. The directors have purchased freehold premises for the bank's agencies at Bombay, Colombo, Singapore, Shanghai, and Yokohama. Agencies of the bank have been opened at Point de Galle and Newera Ellia, in Ceylon; Tuticorin, in Southern India; Hankow, in China; and Yokohama, in Japan. The 10,000 new shares have all been taken up by the shareholders to whom they were allotted, and the sum paid up to this date on account of the new capital amounts to £134,815.

The Oriental Bank Corporation have announced the terms on which their new shares for an increase of capital are to be issued. The amount is to be £1,500,000, in shares of £25 each, to be allotted at the price of £45 a share, being a premium of £20 to the proprietors whose names shall be on the shareholders' register on the 20th of May inst., in the proportion of one in six—*i.e.*, one-sixth of a share for every share held by them on that date. The whole are to be paid up by the 31st of December.

At a meeting of the Scinde, Punjaub, and Delhi Bank, W. P. Andrew, Esq., in the chair, a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent., calculated from the date of the payment of each call, was agreed to. The chairman stated that the bank had not, from the day it started, incurred a single loss or met with anything to retard its progress. A balance of £278 was carried forward, and £3,896 derived from premiums was placed to reserve. This bank intends opening branches in China, and has advertised for managers.

The Imperial Bank of China have taken the premises formerly occupied by the Oriental Bank in Walbrook.

At the meeting of the Agra and United Service Bank on the 7th, the arrangement with Messrs. Masterman and Co. was confirmed, resolutions being adopted to alter the title to that of the Agra and Masterman's Bank (Limited), and to increase the capital to £3,000,000.

It has been announced in the Spanish papers that the duty on coal imported into the Philipine Islands for consumption by Government vessels has been abolished at the solicitation of the Commandancy of marine of the Archipelago; and the Queen of Spain, wishing to lend her protection to the growing industry of that country, has extended the same privilege to the coal consumed by private individuals, this article being completely expunged from the tariff. On the talked of Spanish loan *The Times* says:—

It appears that the parties to the arrangement stated by the *Epoca* to have been made for supplying the Bank of Spain with £2,000,000 in gold and silver are Messrs. Baring, Gibbs, and Mildred. It is not believed, however, that the negotiation can be of the nature described by that journal. At a juncture like the present it is unlikely that three firms, each of which has a partner in the direction of the Bank of England, would enter into a commitment to send such a sum of money out of the country, not for commercial purposes, but to relieve the inconvenience which the Government of Spain encounters through the treatment experienced by its foreign creditors; and on the condition that they shall participate in future credit or industrial schemes that may be promoted in that country. Not only would this be in opposition to all the warnings which cautious persons have lately been endeavouring to impress, but it would also be a betrayal of the claims of the certificate holders unless a settlement of these claims shall have been at the same time stipulated. Hence, whatever may have been the circumstances in which the statement originated, no one doubts that its real explanation will be found to differ widely from the account in the *Epoca*, and that it will not prove in any way inconsistent with the high character of the parties whose names have been used by that journal.

It is rumoured that steamers similar but much larger than the *Far East* are to be put on the line between China and London. Two boats are building on the Clyde which may go in this service.

The biddings for £300,000 in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were—to Calcutta, £133,700; to Bombay, £120,000; and to Madras, £46,300. The *minimum* price was as before—1s. 11½d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11¾d. on Bombay. The applications within the limits amounted to £850,000. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 1s. 11½d. will receive about 21 per cent., on Bombay at 2s. 0⅛d., about 66 per cent., and all above these prices in full.

It appears that from this date the drawings of the India Council on India, instead of being £700,000 per month, as has recently been the case, will be limited to £600,000 per month.

The Trade and Navigation Accounts for the month, and the three months, ending the 31st March, exhibit a continuance of the favourable state of things manifested in the two previous months of the present year. The expansion of the export trade of the United Kingdom not only continues, but progresses in a wondrous ratio, as will be seen from the following "total declared value of British and Irish produce exported:"—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	For the month ending 31st March.		
All articles	£9,664,649	£10,217,473	£13,555,674
	For the three months ended 31st March.		
All articles	£26,423,763	£27,561,204	£36,667,381

The Exports to the countries and ports of the Far East, in regard to the articles named, are returned as follows:—

CHINA AND HONG KONG.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	For the month ending 31st March.		
Cotton Manufactures ..	15,744,663	5,007,244	8,437,906 yds.
Cotton Yarn	530,649	60,800	63,042 lbs.
Woln. & Worst. Manuf.	328,672	245,959	110,969 yds.
Worsted Stuffs	669,003	1,120,902	1,231,482 „
Lead	561	2,413	549 tons
	Value for the three months ending 31st March.		
Cotton Manufactures ..	£398,527	£163,600	£386,067
Cotton Yarn	29,470	6,147	11,595
Wool and Worsted Manufactures	56,716	73,423	67,165
Worsted Stuffs	68,393	127,053	192,659
Lead	1,279	4,229	1,546

The Export of Cotton Manufactures for the month ending 31st March to the quarters named is thus given:—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
Singapore	2,937,643	844,288	3,080,464 yds.
Java	792,486	507,720	1,857,213 „
Philippine Islands ..	—	—	2,402,362 „
	Value for the three months ending 31st March.		
Singapore..	£199,740	£60,987	£276,231
Java	113,827	92,444	173,059
Philippine Islands	64,190	37,400	162,159

Singapore also took 166,900 lbs. of Cotton Yarn during the month of March last, against 35,200 lbs., and 142,360 lbs. in the same month of the years 1863-4; the value for the three months of 1864 being returned at £41,134, against £10,980 and £26,936 in the two preceding years.

Java and the Philippine Islands have sent us, during the present year, of Unrefined Sugar, third quality (not equal to brown clayed), for the month of March, 15,415 cwts., and for the three months, 23,650 cwt., while the quantity for the same three months of the preceding years was, for 1863, 268,630 cwt., and for 1862, 99,710 cwt. Of Hemp, we received from the Philippine Islands in the month of March last 3.008 cwt., which appears to have been the first import of the year, as the import for the three months ending 31st March is given as follows:—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
Quantity..	41,387	59,516	3,008 cwt.

The Declared Value of British and Irish produce and manufactures exported from the United Kingdom to the quarters named, for the two months ending the 29th February, was as follows:—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
Singapore and the Eastern Straits	£236,472	£84,739	£280,110
Hong Kong	124,815	123,287	186,654
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	238,704	191,292	359,993
Dutch Possessions in India (Java, &c.)	156,603	90,283	173,521
Philippine Islands	101,921	61,029	131,542
Japan	—	13,467	39,873

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The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Syria* from Southampton on the 4th inst. was in gold, to Alexandria, £16,000; to Madras; £700. In silver, to Calcutta, £20,000; to Penang, £20,800; to Singapore, £33,400; to Hong Kong, £47,473; to Shanghai, £14,400. Total in gold, £16,700; in silver, £136,073.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Busines done.
100	Agra and United Service, Limited	50	140 to 143	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	39 to 41	...
20	Do. New	15	18 to 20pm.	
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	69 to 71	...
50	London Joint Stock	10	46 to 47	...
100	London and Westminster	20	93 to 94	...
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	64 to 66 xd.	...
50	Union of London	13	55 to 57	...
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	7 to 9 pm.	...
100	Do. New	8	6 to 8 pm.	...
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	3¼ to 4 pm.	...
20	Do. New	10	3 to 4 pm.	...
25	Bank of Egypt	All	27 to 29	...
100	Bank of London	50	174 to 178	...
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	2 to 2¼pm.	...
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 4	...
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	84 to 86	
50	Do. New	30	19 to 21 pm.	
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	...	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	...	...
2	Telegraph to India Company	2	¾ to ⅞ dis.	...
5	Bombay Gas	All	¼ to ⅜ pm.	...
10	E. I. and London Shipping B.	All	3 to 6	...
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	8	2 to 1½ dis.	...
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	par to ¼ pm.	...
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	20½ to 21	...
1	Oriental Gas	All	1¾ to 1⅞	...
1	Do. New	¾	½ to ⅝ pm.	...
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2½ to 3½	...
100	West India Steam Company	60	84 to 86 xd.	...
20	Ceylon Company	7	3¾ to 4¼ pm.	...
20	International Finance Society	5	5¾ to 6 pm.	...
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	5¾ to 5¾ pm.	...
50	London Financial Association	15	11 to 11½pm.	...
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	2	3 to 3½ pm.	...
20	Société Financiére d'Egypte	6	1¾ to ⅞ dis.	...
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	18¾ to 19¼	...
20	British Indian Tea	5	par to ¼ pm.	...
10	Upper Assam Tea	1¼	2½ to 3¼ pm.	...
10	Do.	All	14 to 17	...

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—The very large quantity declared for public sale without reserve, coupled with the advance of the Bank rate to 9 per cent., having more than neutralised the effect of the favourable advices received from China, the export from which quarter now shows a decrease upon last season, whilst our deliveries continue on a very large scale; prices, however, for congous under 1s. 6d. per lb. have given way about ½d. to 1d. per lb. Low and dusty kinds of congou have been offered freely at public sale, and prices have declined ¼d. per lb. Fair to good common, in the absence of shipping orders, has also suffered a similar reduction, the quotation being now 1s. per lb. Fair flavoury kinds have been much depressed, and prices are ½d. to 1d. per lb. lower. Common to fair blackish-leaf kinds have been sold at public sale without reserve at a reduction of about ½d. per lb. The better qualities show no material alteration. Good to fine Kaisows, also Monings and Wopaks, have been firmly supported; finest grades of Moning have been taken to a limited extent for export. Tayshans remain as before, also the new make Canton kinds. Oolongs, up to 1s. 3d., have been taken for export; fine kinds have been inquired for to a moderate extent. Souchongs of fair to good quality have been purchased for export to America at about former prices. Flowery Pekoes have sold at low rates at public sale without reserve. Common to fair scented capers have sold at a decline of ½d. to 1d. per lb., good to fine have been fairly maintained. Common to fair scented orange Pekoes have been difficult of sale; good qualities have sold about 1d. per lb. lower. Foo-chow kinds remain without material alteration. Uncoloured Japans have been sold to a large extent at the full prices last quoted. There have been no further public sales of Indian teas. Green teas show no material alteration in the fortnight, the fresh arrivals having been very limited; prices have been firmly maintained for all Country kinds. Canton-make Gunpowder of common to fair qualities have been sold at public sale without reserve at a decline of ½d. to 1d. per lb. The public sales, which commenced on the 3rd instant, comprised 66,160 packages, of which 38,143 packages were printed without reserve; of these, up to date, 46,454 packages have passed auction, and 26,872 packages have been sold, nearly all without reserve, whilst 6,462 packages have been withdrawn, 1,742 packages of which were printed without reserve.

SILK.—Soon after the departure of last mail, the silk market became active, and a large business was done, more especially in Japan silk. This, however, was put a stop to by the advance of the Bank rate to 8 per cent., and subsequently to 9 per cent., since which we have had a quiet market though importers show little or no disposition to sell at lower prices. Deliveries from 1st to 7th inclusive: China, 706 bales; Japan, 359 bales: total, 1,065 bales. A letter from Lyons of the 5th inst. states that the silk trade continues to improve in that city. The price of the raw material is likewise firm, but not so high as to prevent manufacturers purchasing all they require. The scarcity of Chinese and Japanese raw silk is the only unfavourable circumstance to be remarked. In New York the following is the report:—Stock is not large. Market steady and firm, on Canton, R. R., of which a considerable quantity has been sold during the past month at $8.87½, 9.00, and 9.25, mostly at $9.00. Canton, re-reeled Cumchook, No. 1, $9.00 to 9.50; Japan, $8.50 to 11.00; Tsatlees, Nos. 1 and 2, $9.1-4 to 9.75; Taysaams, usual reel, Nos. 1 and 2, $8.25 to 9.25.

	Ordinary, s. d.	a. d.	Superior. s. d.	s. d.
Tsatlee, No. 1 and 2	22 0 to	23 6		
„ No. 3 and 4	19 6	21 0	21 6	21 9
„ No. 5	18 6	19 0		
Ditto, Hang-Chow	19 0	19 6	20 0	
Yuenfa	10 0	20 0	20 6	22 0
Taysaam	15 6	18 6	19 0	20 6
Ditto, skeins	16 0	16 6		
Ditto, long reel	16 6	17 6	18 0	18 6
Canton	11 0	16 6	17 0	17 6
Chinese Thrown	15 0	19 0	21 0	22 0
Maibash, dyepot Japan	19 6	21 6	22 6	23 6
Ida, bricks	18 6	20 6	23 0	26 0
Sodai „	19 0	20 6	21 6	22 0
Oshu, re-reeled	18 6	20 6	21 6	22 6
Koshu, Selé	19 0	20 6	21 0	22 0
Aechezan, slips	15 0	19 6	20 0	21 0
Mashtah „	17 0	19 0	19 6	20 6
Hatchojee, Tussah	17 0	18 6	19 3	

SUGAR.—The revival of animation noticed at the close of our last report was followed by a subdued tone pending the final settlement of the duty question, and the small purchases made were at rather easier rates. As soon as the new scale passed into law, speculators again came forward, but, owing to the disinclination of the home trade to operate, a feeling of languor shortly returned, and with the prospect of large imports of their class of goods from the continent, refiners more especially, have almost kept out of the market, so that increased depression has of late been experienced; and, combined with the rapid advance in the Bank rate of discount within the last week, sales have been difficult to effect at drooping prices, by which not only has the reduction of duty gradually gone in favour of the buyer, but some additional decline has lately taken place, leaving our bond quotations, with few exceptions, lower than those of the 9th ultimo. With little inquiry from speculators, clayed Manila has been neglected, and purchases have generally been on lower terms: in unclayed business was at first transacted, chiefly for export, at advanced rates, but lately some reaction has taken place. Actual sales are as follows:—2,000 tons clayed Manila, shortly after our last, at 43s. 1½d., but since at the new duties from 40s., down to 37s. to 38s. 6d.; also 150 tons to arrive at 31s.; 600 tons unclayed, the recent sales being at 35s. 3d. to 34s. 6d.; and 500 tons for arrival at 40s., the duty of 12s. 8d. to be allowed.

COFFEE.—The sales of the month comprise,—4,800 casks, 3,600 barrels and bags Plantation Ceylon, latterly, fine ordinary to low middling 76s. to 81s., middling to good middling 82s. to 87s., fine colory up to 94s.; 500 casks, 8,000 bags native, great part good to real good ordinary 70s. 6d. to 72s., fine ordinary to superior 73s. to 74s., but within the last few days good ordinary to superior 68s. 6d. to 70s. 6d.: 900 packages Mocha, green to fair clean garbled, 90s. to 95s., a few good long berry 95s. to 96s.; also 500 bags Malabar, good ordinary 72s. 3d., fine ordinary 74s. to 75s., 40 cases superior Neilgherry at 86s. 6d. to 88s.; 300 bags mixed Courtallum, and 800 bags Singapore, part fair Campar 62s.

RICE.—A larger amount of business has been done in this article on the spot, but prices have ruled irregularly, as while soft grain kinds have been realised on moderate terms, the white and cargo sorts of Bengal have fetched some advance; the sales are 145,000 bags. Bengal: Ordinary cargo to fair Ballam and Moonghy, 8s. to 9s. 3d.; good and fine pearly Ballam, 9s. 6d. to 10s.; low (siftings) and middling hard white, 9s. 3d. to 10s. 6d.; good middling to good bold, 10s. 9d. to 13s.; good new Askoolie, at 11s. 6d.; low to fair pinky Madras, 8s. to 9s. 6d.; low Nakrenzie, 7s. 9d.; fair, 9s. 6d. to 9s. 7½d.; Rangoon, 7s. 9d. to 9s. 3d.; good, 10s. 3d.; common and middling Bassein, 8s. to 9s. 6d. Also 5,710 bags low middling to good white Java (offered by auction), at 12s. 6d. to 14s. 9d.; and to arrive 300 tons low cargo Bengal, at 7s. 7½d. ex ship, or 8s. 1½d. landed.

COTTON.—China (says the circular of Messrs. Walker, Whitehead, and Co., of Liverpool) has been in most extensive demand, both on the spot and to arrive, and prices have advanced from 1½d. to 1½d. per lb. For arrival, 19d. to 19½d. is now freely paid. Among the sales noted in a London market report between the 29th ult. and the 5th inst., we note—4,130 bales China, at 18d. to 19d. for fair; 3,020 bales Japan, at 19d. to 19½d. for fair, 19¾d. to 20d. for good fair, and 21d. to 21½d. for good—total, 15,880 bales. There was a large business transacted during the past week, and in the early part the demand was very active, and prices advanced about ½d. per lb. On the 2nd the rise in the Bank rate to 8 per cent. checked business, and the advance was lost. On the 6th there was a better tone until the further rise in the rate of discount to 9 per cent., when the market again became dull, and closes quiet, but firm, at last week's quotation. Sales for arrival:—7,400 bales China, at 18½d. to 19½d. January and March shipments, for guaranteed fair, 18¾d.; June, 18½d. August deliveries, for guaranteed fair; 2,500 bales Japan, at 19½d. to 21d. January shipment, for guaranteed fair.

CAMPHOR.—Market very flat; 421 cases China at auction mostly sold at £5 to £5. 2s. 6d. per cwt. Nothing doing privately.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Nothing of any importance doing. Buds: Held firmly; and 70 cases firm, and of recent import, at auction retired at £16 per cwt.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Continue flat; and of 29 bags damaged, at auction, half sold upon former terms. Dragon's Blood: Flat: 64 boxes at auction, all retired. Galangal Roots: Steady; 95 bags at auction sold at 22s. per cwt. for good. Rhubarb: Is still held with great firmness, but is very quiet; and of 63 chests at auction, a few only sold at extreme value.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Steady, 9 cases Siam at auction sold at £14 to £16. 10s. per cwt. for very dark block; and £10 to £12. 15s. dust and seed in block; and of 409 cases Sumatra, five-sixths sold at 27s. 6d. to 32s. for low 4th quality. Damer: Quiet, 78 cases at auction, all retired. Gamboge: Firm, and of 12 cases at auction, half sold at £8. 15s. per cwt. for middling mixed pipe.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Remains very quiet, and the lower qualities are cheaper; of 13 tons at auction half sold at 1s. 5d. to 1s. 11d. per lb. for middling to good natural; limited business privately. India Rubber: Very inactive, only 20 cases Assam at auction, sold at 5½d. to 8½d. per lb. for low to middling ball.

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HEMP, MANILA.—Has been of heavy sale, and not above 4,000 bales have been reported, sold on the spot, at rates now showing a reduction of 30s. per ton on those of a month since, viz., roping and Sorsagon, £34 to £35; also, 500 bales fair roping for arrival at the latter price.

HORNS.—Auctions confined to 15 tons Siam, and 7½ tons Bombay Buffalo horns sold at 42s. 6d. to 43s. per cwt. for 3¼ lb. average, and 30s. 2 lb.; 4½ tons Calcutta Tips sold at 31s. 6d. to 32s.

JAPAN WAX.—2s. to 3s. lower. 100 bales good saucer sold at 64s. 6d. to 65s.

OILS.—Anniseed: A decline of 2d. per lb. having been submitted to, sales to a limited extent have been effected at the lower quotation of 6s. 6d. Cajaputa: Small sales at the higher figure of 2½d. Cassia: Flat, and without buyers at the quotations of 9s. 3d. to 9s. 6d.; 8 cases at auction retired. Cinnamon: One case at auction sold at 2s. 2d. per oz. for good. Mace and Nutmegs: Nothing doing; some inquiry. Small sales of the paste at 1d. per oz.

SAGO.—Small pearl in some instances the turn lower; of 2,201 boxes at auction, two-thirds sold at 23s. to 24s. per cwt. for fair to good small, and 21s. 6d. to 23s. large. Flour: Remains quiet, with limited business a little under the previous currency, 14s. 10½d. cash. Tapioca: Less in request, and only the following quantities of East India have been sold: 800 bags, 100 tins Penang, ordinary, 2d.; middling white, 2½d. to 2¾d.; good, 3d. to 3½d.; and sixty boxes stained Singapore at 1½d. per lb.; of pearl, 300 packages have been sold at 22s. 6d. to 23s. per cwt.

SPICES.—Cinnamon: The quarterly sales only contained 1,276 bales, which met with an active demand, and sold at an advance upon the previous series of 2d. to 5d. per lb. on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd qualities, and 1d. 4th and jungle. 253 bales first sort realised 1s. 5d. to 2s. 6d., with superior up to 2s. 10d. to 3s. 2d.; 195 bales 2nd sort 1s. 2d. to 1s. 11d.; 280 bales 3rd sort 1s. 1d. to 1s. 6d.; 148 bales 4th and jungle 11d. to 1s. 2d. Cloves: Zanzibar very firm, with moderate business at full prices. Mace: Steady; and 42 cases Penang, and 12 cases Singapore at auction, mostly sold at 1s. 10d. to 2s. 2d. per lb. for fair palish, and 11d. to 1s. 6d. *inferior* dull red to fair reddish. Nutmegs: Have improved in *value 1d. to 2d.* per lb., but the most recent sales have shown less buoyancy *than the* earlier ones; of 140 cases Penang and 24 cases Sincapore brought *to the* hammer, three-fourths sold at 3s. 3d. to 4s. 2d. per lb. for middling to fine bold, and 1s. 1d. to 2s. 2d. middling small to fine medium. Pepper, Black: The inaction reported in our last continues, and business has been very limited, but without alteration in terms; of 673 bags Sincapore, and 1,056 bags Penang at auction, a small proportion (damaged) alone placed. White: Continues quiet, without change in value: 307 bags Sincapore at auction, all retired.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Market very quiet. 762 bags at auction all retired, with the exception of a single lot sold at 26s. 9d. per cwt. Limited business done privately at 26s. 6d. Gambier: Remains firm at previous value, with very moderate business. 1,712 bales at auction all retired.

TOBACCO.—Manila Leaf: A parcel is close at hand, bound for a port. There will be no auctions held in Manila till June, but from that period to the end of the present year 40,000 quintals will be submitted for sale. Cigars and Cheroots: Quiet. No further auctions will be held by the Government; purchasers can be supplied direct from the Government stores. Japan: Has engrossed a fair share of attention; parcels fairly packed and butted command ready sale. Java: Fine leafy descriptions soon pass into manufacturers' hands; medium parcels can now be obtained at reasonable prices; low classes difficult of sale.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Blacklead: Lump is 3s. to 4s. per cwt. lower, but dust is without change; several barrels at auction mostly sold at 15s. to 19s. per cwt. for fair to very good lump, and 9s. 3d. to 10s. good dust. Galls: All kinds—Bussorah, China, and Japan—very scarce, and in continually increasing demand. We quote Japan and China 80s. to 100s. per cwt.; 3 cases China sold at auction at 100s., and 25 cases Japan retired at 95s. Musk: Very quiet, and of 20 caddies at auction, one only sold at 25s. per oz. for middling Tonquin; remainder held for the previous nominal value of 27s. per oz. Rattans; Steady, and 3,660 bundles Penang, and 3,770 Calcutta, sold at auction at 3s. 6d. to 7s. 10d. per 100. Sapan Wood: Firm; and of 70 tons Siam at auction one-fourth sold at £11. 5s. per ton for fair wood, but damaged; £14 offered for fine. 38 tons Manila sold at £9 to £9. 17s. 6d. Mother o'Pearl Shells: Manila in demand at 5s. to 7s. 6d. per cwt. advance; and of 262 cases at auction, half sold at 92s. 6d. to 102s. 6d. per lb. for fair to good. Soy: Firm, with moderate trade at our higher quotation of 3s. for good. Star Anniseeds: Not any stock in the market; 4 cases at auction retired. Sticklac, Siam: Very flat. 206 cases at auction all retired: small sales privately upon previous terms. Tortoiseshell: Little doing. Of 8 cases Sincapore at auction 4 cases sold at 11s. 6d. to 17s. per lb. for inferior to good in sorts; 2 cases Manila retired; 3 cases turtleshell sold at 4s. to 4s. 3d. Turmeric: No China here: Java rather lower; and of 172 bags at auction half sold at 17s. 6d. to 19s. per cwt. for fair. Vermilion: Scarce and wanted. Nothing doing.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £8. 10s. to £9; nail rod, £9. 10s. to £10. 5s.; hoops, £11 to £11. 5s.; sheets, single £12 to £12. 5s.; Staffordshire bars, £10 to £10. 5s.; rails, £7. 10s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £105 per ton; yellow metal, 8½d. to 9½d. per lb.

TIN.—108s. for block; 109s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 31s. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £21. 15s. to £22; W.B., £23; shot, patent, £24; sheet, £22; spelter, £21. 10s.; zinc, English sheet, £25; quicksilver, £9.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—The month past has been marked by general dulness in the metal trade, very unusual even at the worst of times, nearly all speculative inquiry has ceased, and consumers buy only for immediate wants. Iron:—Scotch pig has fluctuated but little during the month. The shipments have been rather over the average, prices are rather weak. For railway iron there is a fair inquiry. Staffordshire of all descriptions is dull. Copper has continued dull the whole of the last month, and notwithstanding the reduction in price on the 11th ult., the demand has been very limited. This continued absence of demand caused a fall in the standard of ores at yesterday's sale, in Swansea, of about 3 per cent. Tin has steadily declined in price, both English and foreign, and in the face of increasing stocks here and in Holland, and a dear money market, we see no hope of early improvement; we must, however, take into consideration that it is probable many mines, especially English, which pay to work when tin is at a higher standard, must work at a loss at present prices. Yesterday the price of English tin was officially reduced £4 per ton. Tin Plates: The demand has been good for charcoal, but for coke there is not so much inquiry. The quantity shipped to all parts last month was 120,000 boxes, against 113,000 boxes, April, 1863. Lead: The prices have been well maintained, with good demand, but the last week or two the inquiry has slackened. Spelter is quoted, £21. 10s. but quiet; stock in London is 11,655 tons, against 4,729 tons same time last year. Quicksilver is ather easier, present quotation £9 per bottle.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£126 815
Foo-chow-Foo	—	6,430
Hong Kong	£5,000	258,134
Amoy	—	—
Singapore	£3,750	82,375
Penang	—	78,495

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£34,248
Hong Kong	£31,568	81,590
Singapore	—	18,920
Penang	—	4,233
Foo-chow-Foo	—	1,000

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0	to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 3½	
Silver in Bars	0 5 1	
Mexican Dollars	0 5 2	

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

Mr. Mendel's Circular states that the market to-day is firmer with more enquiry, advanced prices are asked, but not assented to; the result is only limited sales, but at full rates, especially for yarns of all sorts. The tendency of the market is upwards, and particularly so for good makes. Grey Grey Shirtings, 7 lbs., 17s. 6d. to 18s.; 9 lbs., 23s. 6d. Cotton Yarns, 16-24, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 7d.; 28-32, 2s. 9d. to 2s. 1d. Maddapollams, 7s. 6d. Long Cloths, 20s. T-Cloths, 14s. 3d. White Spot Shirtings, 21s. 6d.; White Brocade do., 21s. 9d. White Damasks, 37s. 6d.

Mills, which had long been idle, are recommencing work, and the production is likely to augment considerably. So far as spinners are concerned, many of them have heavy contracts, but manufacturers are not generally so well situated.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Apr. 22	Marseilles	Saigon	Napoleon III.	Ottaviani.
— 25	Cowes	Batavia	Prins Carl	Bergmann.
— 26	Liverpool	Shanghai	Montmorency	Maxwell.
— 24	Plymouth	Manila	Manila	
— 25	Off Plymouth	Foo-chow-Foo	Albrecht O'Swald	Zoder.
— 25	Off Queenstown	Manila & Bahia	Flora	
— 6	Havana	Macao	Mariada Gloria	Batista.
—	New York	Amoy	Confucius	Raschen.
— 29	Deal	Maulmain	Astrea	
— 12	New York	Shanghai	Apollo	Hagedorn.
— 12	Do.	Do.	Wilhelmina	Knaack.
— 13	Do.	Batavia	Walcheren	v. d. Heyde.
— 13	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Queen of the Seas	Ross.
— 23	Off Scilly	Shanghai	Strathallan	Paddle.
— 30	Falmouth	Maulmain	Edward Stanley	Yates.
May 2	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Virginia	Lewis.
— 2	Deal	Amoy	Amaranth	Haderup.
— 2	Do.	Foo chow-Foo	Bankside	Woodruff.
— 2	Do.	Shanghai	J. H. Ransom	Chapman.
Apr. 30	Falmouth	Maulmain	Martha Rideout	Poole.
— 30	Do.	Do.	Earl of Chester	Nancollis.
— 30	Do.	Pasaroeang	Dygden	Ahrenberg.
May 2	Deal	Singapore	Pilgrim	McDougall.
— 1	Portsmouth	Soerabaya	Duisberg	Holljes.
Apr. 28	Texel	Batavia	6 Gezusters	Rutgers.
— 28	Do.	Do.	Elise Henriette	Deterding.
— 10	Havana	Macao	Don Fernando	Sena.
— 18	New York	Shanghai	Guiding Star	Maas.
May 3	London	Singapore	Tre Brodre	Myhue.
— 3	Do.	Amoy	Maria Wilhelmina	Niemana.
— 3	Queenstown	Maulmain	Prince of Wales	Young.
— 2	Off Portsmouth	Batavia	Constantia	Overgaauw.
Apr. 30	Off the Start	Java	Rotterdam	Marn.
May 2	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Jan v. Galen	de Boer.
— 1	Do.	Banjoewangie	Hollandia	Wap.
— 4	Liverpool	China	Lord Lyndhurst	
— 2	Off Dungeness	Java	Marinus Willem	Buyter.
— 3	Portland	Banjoewanjie	Quartet	Mulder.
— 3	Brouwershaven	Do.	Java	Mann.
— 3	Zierikzee	Do.	Bilderdyk	Victor.
— 4	Flushing	Akyab	Blencathra	Mossop.
— 1	Bordeaux	Singapore	Etoile	Lachaud.
— 3	Texel	Batavia	Baronvan Hardenbroek	V. Rossem.
— 3	Marseilles	Sumatra	Tarquin	Hoyt.
— 9	Liverpool	Shanghai	Spirit of the Times	

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

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DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Apr.23	Greenock	Hong Kong	Dumbarton, str.	
— 23	Queenstown	Do.	Clara	Talpey.
— 23	Shields	Shanghai	Edith	
— 25	London	Manila	Conchita	Anduiza.
— 27	Liverpool	Singapore & H. Kong.	Oceanica	Wilson.
— 26	London	Hong Kong & Canton.	Prince Alfred	Ellison.
— 25	Do.	Kanagawa	Medina	Le Brun.
— 20	Off the Start	Batavia	Petronella	Leicher.
— 25	Shields	Shanghai	Jeannie Douglas	Donaldson.
— 22	Sunderland	Do.	Esperanza	Murrell.
— 24	Do.	Do.	Sabina	Woodward.
— 26	Liverpool	Sing., H. K., & Shan.	Arab	Robertson.
— 27	London	Cardiff & H. Kong	Orion	Timme.
— 20	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Beaufront	Coxon.
— 25	Deal	Singapore	Louis Kroon Prinses	
— 27	Do.	Do.	Johore, str.	
— 26	Swansea	Do.	Northumberland	Small.
— 27	Shields	Hong Kong	Wave	Henderson.
Mar 19	Callao	Manila	Maria Pia	Full.
Apr. 29	London	S'pore & Singapore	Stafford	Myler.
— 24	Texel	Padang	Herman	Bart.
— 30	London	H. Kong & Shanghai	Havelock	Cock.
— 30	Do.	Do Canton	Cambalu	Wood.
— 30	Do.	Amoy & Foo-chow-Foo	Rubicon	Hoseason.
— 30	Do.	Singapore	Maggie	Gruchy.
— 28	Shields	Shanghai	Valetta	
— 29	Off Folkestone	Batavia	Zes Gezusters	Rutgers.
May 1	Shields	Hong Kong	Melita	
Apr.28	Off Plymouth	Batavia	Isis	Duwel.
May 4	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Gustav Adolph	Ingram.
Apr.22	Off the Start	Batavia	Loevestein	Hulshoff.
May 2	Cardiff	Singapore	Java	Deihe.
— 3	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Tricolor	Price.
— 6	London	Shanghai	Laurel	Moodie.
— 6	Do.	Do	Heroes of Alma	Lass.
— 6	Do.	Cardiff and do., &c.	Blackwood	Cappon.
— 3	Deal	Batavia	Lichtsraal	
— 5	Portsmouth	Padang	Herman	Ostroom.
— 4	Cardiff	Shanghai	Zingra	Gould.
— 5	Grimsby	Hong Kong	Cornelie David	Harms.
— 7	London	Cardiff and Shanghai	Star Queen	Shergold.
— 6	Leith	Shanghai	Bertha	Gladstone.
Apr.22	New York	Hong Kong	Moldavian	Ward.
— 15	Do.	Do.	Oriflamme (str.)	
— 15	Do.	Do.	Elise Huges	

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa and Nagasaki: Norfolk, Velocidade. For Shanghai: Isles of the South, Anglo Saxon, Celestial, Sir W. F. Williams. For Hong Kong and Canton: Sovereign of India, Mary Mildred, Dilkhoosh, Sydney Eggers. For Hong Kong: Maiden Queen. For Manila: Elisa, Angela. For Singapore: Xanthippe, Moneta, Coromandel. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Heilige Liduina.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Sea Horse, Alice, Jane Leech. For Hong Kong: Star of the North, Eliza Stewart, Amazone, Gemini, Falcon, Chryseis, Esmeralda. For Hong Kong and Canton: Juanpore. For Singapore: Mount Vernon, Simoom, Hanover, Prince Waldemar. For Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Spirit of the Sea. For Singapore and Shanghai: Conference. For Penang: Fairy Belle. For Manila: Ercilla. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Cherokee (steamer), Ocean.

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore and Penang: Osprey. For Shanghai. Glenclune. For Singapore and Kanagawa: Stad Enschedi. For the Cape, Singapore, and Hong Kong: Glengyle (str.).

At PORT GLASGOW.—For Shanghai, Vulcan, Teenchang (str.)

SPOKEN.

PET VON MAULX (?) (Dut. sh.) Southamp. to Batav., Mar. 22, 2 N., 22 W

HENRIETTE CORNELIS, Hong Kong to Liverpool, March 15, 35 S., 21 E

OITHONA, Shanghai to London.

VOLUNTEER, Newcastle to Singapore, March 14, 2 N., 23 W.

BARTLEY (?) (Dut. barq.), Batavia to Amsterdam, out 95 days, same day.

FIGARO (barq.), Clyde to Singapore, March 1, 19 N., 25 W.

CRUIKETON CASTLE (?), ship, Singapore to Liv., April 14, 14 N., 39 W.

GLENISLA (?) (barq.), Clyde to Batavia, March 7, off Teneriffe.

THOMAS MITCHELL, Clyde to Batavia, April 28, 50 N., 15 W.

WILHELMINA (Dut. barq.), Batavia to Rotterd, 58 days out, 35 S., 19 E.

AURORA, from China, April 9, 51 N., 11 W.

DONNA MARIA (Span. barq.), Macao to Habana, Mar. 4, 13 S., 8 W.

JANNETJE, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 17, 36 N., 12 W.

BARROW (?), Batavia to Amsterdam, April 20, 48 N., 16 W.

MICHAEL (?), (Fr. ship), Singapore to Bordeaux, Jan. 29, 13 S., 106 E.

CATHARINA JACOBA HENRIETTE, Amstm. to Bat., Mar. 22, 2 N., 22 W.

ROTTERDAM, Rotterdam to Batavia, outside the Straits of Sunda.

MO-YUNE, New York to China, April 8, lat. 36, lon. 74.

HOISA (?), (Eng.), Liffey River to Hong Kong, Mar. 17, 3 N., 26 W.

LOUISE KROONPRINSES VAN SWEDEN, Rott. to Sin., Apl. 28, 49 N., 7 W.

CORNELIS GIPS, Sourabaya to Amstm., March 6, off Cape Agulhas.

ENGLAND, of London, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Mar. 1, 15 S. 35 W.

A STEAMER, No 8,371, 3rd d.p., Liverp. to Sing., Mar. 5, 9 S., 33 W.

KOERIER (Dut. brig), Padang to Amsterdam, April 14, 45 N., 23 W.

VENUS, Cardiff to Hong Kong, March 9, 2 N., 22 W.

CEDAR, Newport to Singapore, March 8, 1 N., 23 W.

ELISABETH (Swed. barq.), Shang. to N. York, Feb. 12, lat. 32, lon. 37.

SHIRLEY, Clyde to Batavia, March 22, 1 N., 22 W.

FRIAR TUCK, Shanghai to London, April 26, 36 N. 35 W., 95 days out.

RANGOON, Shields to Singapore, March 17, 1 N., 25 W.

ALBERTINA, Hamburg to Singapore, Jan. 21, 23 S., 28 W.

BACALAN (Fr. ship), Bordeaux to Saigon, Jan. 18, 36 S., 9 E.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Governor Van Swieten, Louis Kniffler, Cissy, Macedon, Nelly, Mary Shepherd, Cymbeline. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, Forerunner, Alexandra, Vampyre. At NEW YORK: Sarah, *via* Shanghai, and Benefactor.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Monarch, Belle, Annie Archbell, Stornoway, M. M. Peter, Aurora Australis, Pakwan, Tamberlane, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Wagoola, Ralston, Thomas and Rebecca, Robert Henderson, Magnus, Nelly, Island Queen, Josephine, Marquis of Argyle, Glaramara, Sappho, Sir Harry Parkes, Lansdowne, Egmont, Fairleader, Oithona, Herald, Weymouth, Stuart Wortley, and Rio. At LIVERPOOL: Joshua Bates, Cornelia, Inamhore, Bella, Norwood, Alchymist, Isabella Hercus, Constantia, Nancy Brysdon, Oliver Cromwell, Thomas Royden, Alice Painter, Queensbury, Regina, Victoria, Montgomery, Veloz, Koh-i-noor, Cornelia Hendrika, Devonshire, Dolphyn, Antelope, Bentinck, Polmaise, George Ruxton, Blackburn, Macassar, Berdinkha, Thomas Dryden, Crest of the Wave, Patrician, Vanguard, Annie Duthie, and Ann Forster. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Encounter. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama, La Plata. At HAMBURG: Johanna, Hamilla Mitchell, Alt Mecklenburg, Gravina, Orion. At NEW YORK: Lettice Catharina, Dorester, Neuhof, Sarah, Elizabeth, Mecklenburg, Lord Collingwood, Silvercraig, Mercara, Hermine, Kahlamba, St. Paul, Peep o'Day, Anne Wood, Capella, Thetis, Kate Carnie, Santon, Mercara. At MONTREAL: H. E. Sassaune, Asia, Tycoon, Madura, and Romeo.

From MANILA.—At FALMOUTH: Maggie Lauder, Helverton. At LIVERPOOL: Elias, Teide, Burdoes y Habana No. 1, J. A. U., Concepcion, and Cervantes (via Cadiz). At COWES: Manila. At DENMARK: Emma. At ROTTERDAM: Zanibar. At NEW YORK: Castilian, and Surprise.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Oscar, Confiance, Najade, Early Dawn, and Chili. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Centaur and Pearl. At LIVERPOOL: Crusader and Spanker. At FALMOUTH (for orders): Helene. At BORDEAUX: Salares, Hooghly and Saint Michel. At NEW YORK: Caroline and Rudolf.

From BATAVIA.—At FALMOUTH: Fredrika. At CHANNEL: Ceres.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Rockliff, and Edinburgh Castle. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The advices from the East received by last mail are favourable to shipowners. In China the amount of tonnage is large, but there is abundant employment in the country trade. At Manila and Batavia there is quite a dearth of British shipping. Homeward charters are being obtained at the following rates. From Maulmain to United Kingdom, £5 per load for teak. From Singapore to London, 75s.; from Manila, 80s.; and from the Rice Ports to United Kingdom, or Coast, to load next season, 82s. 6d. From China there is but little offering. In outward freights there is no improvement to report, as the tonnage on the different berths is still large, and there is but little doing in export business. The demand for coal ships for China is slacker, several charters having been recently entered into.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight. 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £39 to £40, and 35s. to 37s. 6d. For Shanghai: £48 to £50, and £2 7s. 6d. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £28, and £1. 7s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

The Admiralty have engaged freight in the Sydney Eggers and Sovereign of India for the following Government stores from Woolwich to Hong Kong, viz.:—66 tons shot and shells in boxes, and 249 tons loose shells, 5 tons combustibles, 99 tons gunpowder, and 39 tons light measurement stores.

CASUALTIES.

The Herman, Bart, from Amsterdam, for Padang, put into Portsmouth April 27, with master dead.

The Promise, English steamer, from New York for China, put into Rio Janeiro March 21, with loss of foremast.

LIVERPOOL, April 26.—The Hoang-Ho, of this port, Carrington, from the Clyde to Singapore, with a general cargo, which put in here April 11, after getting on shore on the Saltees in the night of the 7th, had been making twelve inches of water per hour, after coming off the reef on the morning of the 8th, and a portion of her main keel forward was found broken; the cargo has been discharged apparently in good order.

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ST. HELENA, March 29.—The Orion (schr.) arrived here from Macao reports having been boarded and overhauled by an armed screw steamer, March 13, in lat. 34 S., long. 15 E.

CAPETOWN, March 21.—The Sappho of Greenock, Hildreth, master, from Shanghai for London, with a cargo of tea, got on shore on the beach while entering Table Bay, March 15, and became a total wreck; all hands saved by the lifeboat. The wreck has been sold, with her cargo, for £545. The Confederate steamer Alabama, three months from Singapore, arrived in Table Bay March 20.

OFF ASCENSION.—March 28, Maria Louise Antoinette, from Java.

OFF ST. HELENA.—March 26, Pak Wan, from Foo chow-Foo.

AT ST. HELENA.—March 11, Montmorency, Maxwell, from Shanghai, and sailed for Liverpool; 14, Taffarette, Dereix, from Canton, and sailed for Havre; Atlantic, Sherman, from Singapore, and sailed for New Bedford; 16, Etoile, Lachaud, from Penang, and sailed, 21, for Belle Isle; Juno, Nicolai, from Banjoewangie, and sailed for Amsterdam; 19, Rockliff, Drew, from Penang, and sailed, 20, for London; Isaac da Costa, Klein, from Tjilatjap, and sailed, 20, for Rotterdam; 20, St. Michel, Fradin, from Singapore; 21, Emma, Arentzen, from Singapore, and sailed for Copenhagen; 22, Doelwyk, Hoffman, from Batavia, and sailed 23, for Rotterdam; 23, Orion, schooner, from Macao, and sailed for Hamburg; 24, Ridderkerk, Teerlink, from Batavia, and sailed, 26, for Rotterdam; Helvetien, Boyson, from Manila, and sailed, 26, for Falmouth; 25, Spanker, Candlish, from Singapore and sailed, 26, for Liverpool; 27, Castilian, Pike, from Manila, and sailed, 28, for New York; 28, Thetis, Rhodin, from Shanghai, and sailed, 29, for New York; 29, Dolphin, Gollards, from Hong Kong, and sailed for Liverpool.

At TABLE BAY.—Feb. 24, Tun-sin (str.), Rowe, from London, and left, 29, for Mauritius and China; March 3, Margarita, Mas, from Manila, and sailed, 9, for Cadiz; 18, Gov. van Swieten, v. Fagg, from Kanagawa.

At NATAL.—Feb. 24, Robin, Gammon, sailed for China; March 4 Conrad, Claasen, for Singapore.

According to last advices H.M.S. Conqueror, for Japan, was still in Simon's Bay.

At MAURITIUS.—Mar. — Tun-sin (str.), Rowe, from London, and left, 19, for Singapore and China; 15, Vulcan (str.), Bunker, sailed for Singapore and Shanghai.

THE CAPE INDIA, AND CHINA AGENCY.

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SINGAPORE DOCKS.

THE PATENT SLIP AND DOCK CO. execute, in the most efficient manner, SHIPS' REPAIRS of all descriptions, under the supervision of European Shipwrights and Engineers.

The Dry Dock (opened in March, 1859) admits two Vessels at same time, being 400 feet in length, with a depth of water ranging to 15½ feet.

Another Dry Dock, of larger dimensions, on the same premises, will next year be completed and available for the heaviest Screw-steamers.

There is extensive wharf, warehouse, and other accommodation adjoining, together with the usual conveniences for the discharge, re-fitting, and coaling of Vessels; also, Lathes and every appliance for the repair of Iron Steamers.

Apply at the Offices of Messrs. PATERSON, SIMONS, and Co., Singapore; or to W. W. KER, Esq., 25, Poultry, London, E.C.

WILLIAM CLOUGHTON, Managing Director.

New Harbour, Singapore, March, 1864.

J. C. and J. FIELD,

ORIGINAL MANUFACTURERS (IN ENGLAND) OF

PARAFFINE CANDLES,

TO WHOM THE PRIZE MEDAL (1862) HAS BEEN AWARDED.

The Candles can be obtained Retail of all Chandlers and Grocers in the United Kingdom Price 1s. 8d. per pound; also

FIELD'S Celebrated United Service Soap Tables, 6d. and 4d. each.

The high melting point of the Paraffine Candles (130 deg. Fahr.) makes them well adapted for Exportation to all climates, and they have been adopted by Her Majesty's Government for use at all Military Stations abroad.

WHOLESALE AND SHIPPING PRICES ON APPLICATION AT THE

WORKS, UPPER MARSH, LAMBETH, LONDON.

THE ORIENTAL AND GENERAL MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY,

8, Finch-lane, London, E.C.

LOSSES and CLAIMS upon POLICIES granted by this Company can be made PAYABLE at the following places in India and China through the Company's Agents, as under:—

Bombay—Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, and Co
Calcutta—Messrs. Grant, Smith, and Co.
Madras—Messrs. Bainbridge, Byard, Gair, and Co.
Singapore—Messrs. Cumming, Beaver, and Co.
Hong Kong—Messrs. Johnson and Co.
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JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

PICTURE FRAMES AND MOULDINGS.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST IN THE WORLD.

	£.	s.	d.
1 in. O.G. 12 ft. Maple	0	2	0
1½ " " "	0	2	6
2 " " "	0	3	6
2½ " " "	0	4	6
1 " Washable Gilt (6 ft. inside), per doz. ...	0	4	0
1½ " " " " " ...	0	6	0
1 " " " " " ...	0	8	0
1 " Gilt Mouldings for Frames	0	11	0
1½ " O.G. " " " " ...	0	18	0

Every description of MOULDINGS kept in stock. PRINTS of every description at the lowest prices for the Trade and Exportation, at

GEO. REES',

57, DRURY-LANE, AND 34, ST. MARTIN'S-LANE CHARING-CROSS, LONDON.

ESTABLISHED 1800.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON, AND CHINA.

THE SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China will be held within the Banking House, No. 52, Threadneedle-street, City, at One o'clock precisely, on Tuesday, the 17th proximo, in accordance with the term of the Deed of Settlement.

By order of the Directors,

D. T. ROBERTSON,
Chief Manager.

London, April 29, 1864.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA. Incorporated by Royal Charter. Paid-up capital £631,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts, payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Kandy, Singapore, Galle, Penang, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Mauritius, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the overland route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office, in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 2.

"CHINA MAIL" OFFICE.

PUBLISHED at this Office, No. 2, WYNDHAM-STREET (back of the Club):—

1.—THE EVENING MAIL,

EVERY DAY.

PRICE,—2 dols. per month.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.—First insertion, Ten lines and under, 1 dol.; each additional line, 10 cents. Subsequent insertions, per week, 50 cents and 5 cents—("Auction" Notices excepted, for which only One Charge per week is made).

2.—THE CHINA MAIL,

ONCE A WEEK.

(On Thursday Night).

PRICE—15 dols. per annum; Single Copies, 44 cents.

ADVERTISING.—First insertion, five lines, 1 dol.; each additional line, 20 cents. Subsequent insertions, 50 cents and 10 cents.

3.—THE OVERLAND MAIL.

ONCE A FORTNIGHT.

(The Morning of the Mail's despatch.)

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ADVERTISING.—The same as in the Weekly. All "Notices of Firms" appearing in the Weekly will be inserted in the *Overland*, and charged for, unless otherwise ordered.

A. SHORTREDE & CO.

Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 18

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND. The most reliable intelligence from these colonies is given in the AUSTRALIAN and NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE, published every Saturday, price 6d., free by post.

London: F. ALGAR, 11, Clement's-lane, City.

THE CANADIAN NEWS and BRITISH COLUMBIAN INTELLIGENCER gives the latest intelligence from all parts of Canada and the new Gold Fields, also Original Correspondence from Canada, &c Price post free, 5d.

PAYNE'S INDIAN CURRY POWDER

IS unequalled for its delicious flavour and stimulating qualities.

1s Bottles, 3s. 6d., 2s. 3d., and 1s. 6d. each.

Curry and Mulligatawny Paste, jars, 3s. 6d. and 2s. 3d each. Royal Combination Pickle, bottles, 2s. each.

N.B.—This pickle is highly approved, and as a zest for cold meat, &c., will be found unrivalled

LIST OF CONDIMENTS, &c.,

prepared by PAYNE and CO., at the Belatee Bungalow Calcutta.

	Bottles.
Pindaree Chutnee	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Bengal Club, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Green Mango, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Cashmere, do.	1s. 6d and 3s.
Lucknow (sweet), do.	1s. 6d. and 3s
Curry Sauce...	1s. 6d.
Tap, do.	1s. 6d.
Pickled Limes	1s. 6d.
Pickled Mangoes	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Essence of Chillies	1s. 9d.
Tamarind Fish	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Balachow	1s. 6d.
Genuine Cayenne	1s. and 2s.
Nepaul Pepper	1s. and 2s.
Guava Jelly	2s .6d. and 5s.
Preserved Mangoes	2 sandoos. 1
Do Jamaica Ginger	ium 3s. 6d.
Do. Chinese Ginger	...jars 5s. and 10s.

Genuine Arrowroot, 1 lb. tins, 2s.; 7 lb. tins, 10s. 6d. each.

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OREIGN WAREHOUSEMEN, WINE MERCHANTS, AND IMPORTERS OF INDIAN DELICACIES.

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OPPOSITE THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

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THESE MACHINES are far Superior to any others manufactured. They are lighter and easier to operate, simpler to learn, quieter in action, and less liable to derangement. The range of work performed is greater than any. They run, tuck, hem, fell, gather, cord, quilt, braid, and embroider; sews from two ordinary spools, requires no re-winding, finishes its work where it stops, and the seam, if cut at every inch, will not rip. Price, Complete, from £6. 6s.

The New STAR PATENT IMPROVED DOUBLE-ACTION ARM MACHINE, for Bootmakers and Manufacturers generally. Complete, £12. 12s.

WHIGHT AND MANN, 143, HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.
MANUFACTORY: GIPPING WORKS, IPSWICH.

GELLÉ FRERES' PERFUMERY.

CHIEF ESTABLISHMENT, 35, RUE DES VIEUX AUGUSTINS, 35, à PARIS.

THE house of GELLE AINE and CO., celebrated for the superiority of its Perfumery, addresses itself to the fashionable world as much for its essentially hygeianic, refreshing and tonic preparations as for its delicate and distingué perfumes.

STEAM WORKS AT NEUILLY SUR SEINE

1st Class Paris Exhibition. Medal.

DEPOT: BLUMBERG & CO 55, CANNON-STREET WEST, LONDRES.

TRADE MARK.

DEPOT: H. BRULE, 23, RUE DE L'HOPITAL, BRUXELLES.

1st Class. London Exhibition. Medal.

Commission. **Articles specially Recommended.** **Exportation**

REGENERATEUR, a superior pomade.
EAU D'ALBION for the toilet,
CARBOQUINA ROSE toothpowder.
CUCUMBER SOAP for softening the skin.
VIOLET ESSENCE and VIOLET WATER for the handkerchief.
CONCENTRATED EAU DE COLOGNE for the toilet.
LAIT PROPHYLATIC to remove freckles and improve the appearance of the skin.
COLD CREAM, AU LOTUS DE LYBIE, to soften and refresh the skin.
NIGRITINE VEGETALE, an incomparable dye for the hair and beard, not staining the skin.

SPECIAL PERFUMERY WITH A BASIS OF GLYCERINE

SOAP, TOOTH-PASTE, POMMADE, CREAM FOR THE COMPLEXION, EAU DE TOILETTE.
To be obtained of all the principal Perfumers and Hairdressers in Europe and other parts of the world.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL

Universally recognised to be Incomparably Superior to every other kind.

Prescribed by the most eminent Medical Men throughout the world as the safest, speediest, and most effectual remedy for

CONSUMPTION, CHRONIC BRONCHITIS, GENERAL DEBILITY, RHEUMATISM, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, and ALL SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.

In cases of **EXHAUSTION** and **PROSTRATION** produced by the debilitating diseases of unhealthy climates or resulting from Tropical Disorders, DR. DE JONGH'S COD LIVER OIL is much more safe and useful than the ordinary stimulating tonics, and it has been resorted to with the most beneficial effects after the whole range of these had been tried in vain. By its administration the natural appetite is revived, and the functions of digestion and humilation are improved, reanimated, and regulated; the muscular power and activity are sensibly and rapidly increased; and when its use is steadily persevered in, its peculiar nutritive and reparative properties entirely restore health and strength to the most feeble and deteriorated constitutions.

SELECT MEDICAL OPINIONS.

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"I consider Dr. DE JONGH'S Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil to be a very pure Oil, not likely to create disgust, and a therapeutic agent of great value."

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"I invariably prescribe Dr. DE JONGH'S Cod Liver Oil in preference to any other, feeling assured that I am recommending a genuine article, *and not a manufactured compound in which the efficacy of this invaluable medicine is destroyed.*"

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Medical Officer of Health and Chief Anayst to the City of London.

"It is, I believe, universally acknowledged that Dr. DE JONGH'S Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil has great therapeutic power; and, from my investigations, I have no doubt of its being a pure and unadulterated article."

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"I consider the Cod Liver Oil sold under Dr. DE JONGH'S guarantee to be preferable to any other kind as regards genuineness and medicinal efficacy."

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"Dr. Granville has found that Dr. DE JONGH'S Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil produces the desired effect in a shorter time than other kinds, *and that it does not cause the nausea and indigestion too often consequent on the administration of the Pale Oil.*"

*** DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL *is sold* **ONLY** *in bottles, each bottle being sealed with a stamped metallic capsule, and bearing beneath the pink outside wrapper a label with* DR. DE JONGH'S *stamp and signature; to these capsules and marks purchasers are earnestly requested to pay particular attention.*

WITHOUT THESE NONE CAN POSSIBLY BE GENUINE.

FULL DIRECTIONS FOR USE ACCOMPANY EACH BOTTLE.

Sole Consignees, ANSAR, HARFORD, & Co., 77, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Sold by most respectable Chemists and Druggists throughout the World.

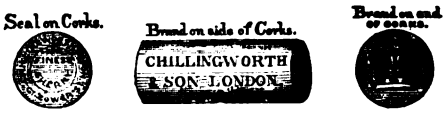
IMPERIAL Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 9d.; Quarts, 9s.

CAUTION.—BEWARE OF PROPOSED SUBSTITUTIONS.

By Special Appointment TO HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA.

BRANDS ON CASES AND CASKS.

Seal on Corks. Brand on side of Corks. Brand on end of cases.



WHEREAS Persons are shipping Wines to India marked with a Crown in imitation of CHILLINGWORTH and SON'S WINES, which are branded with a Crown, they having the appointment of WINE MERCHANTS to HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA, it is deemed expedient for the protection of dealers and consumers of their superior Wines selected from their extensive and valuable stock expresaly for the Indian market, which have been so well known and are proved by connoisseurs for the last twenty years for their extreme quality and purity, combining flavour and softness, together with great age, body, delicacy, and bouquet, being more free from acidity or alcohol that any other Wines, to caution all purchasers to ask for CHILLINGWORTH and SON'S CROWN SHERRIES, and other WINES, and to be particular in observing that the Cases and Cask-heads are branded with their names at full length; also, on the side of the Corks, inside the bottles, as well as the Crown; and also on the seals, in accordance with the headingof this notice, as a necessary precaution, to ascertain that they are CHILLINGWORTH and SON'S CROWN WINES, in order to prevent a common low class of Wines being improperly foisted on the public, and which are in no way to be compared with those of CHILLINGWORTH and SON.

Wholesale Agents for Sale of their Wines:—Bombay, Mr. Hormarjee Bomanjee; Madras, Messrs. Parry and Co.; Colombo, Messrs. Darley, Butler and Co.; Rangoon, Messrs. Gladstone, Wyllie and Co.; Hong Kong, Messrs. Walker, Borradaile and Co.; Calcutta, Messrs. Gordon, Stuart and Co., Messrs. John Elliott and Co., Messrs. Dickinson, Brothers and Co.; Shanghai, Messrs. Alfred Wilkinson and Co.; United States, America, Messrs. B. W. Pycock and Co., 24, Broad-street, New York.

ITALIAN ICE MACHINE.

THE simplest of all Freezing Apparatus, producing PURE ICE or ICES in a few minutes, with little cost and no danger.

TOSELLI and CO.,
236, FAUBOURG ST. MARTIN, PARIS.
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EXHIBITED AT WORK EVERY THURSDAY, FROM 10 TO 12 O'CLOCK.

ECONOMICAL PRODUCTION OF ICE
BY THE
French Societe des Appareis Refrigerants.

CARRE AND COMPANY'S PATENT ECONOMICAL FREEZING APPARATUS, for which the PRIZE MEDAL was awarded in the EXHIBITION of 1862, as well as a GOLD MEDAL by the FRENCH SOCIETE D'ENCOURAGEMENT, has been found to answer admirably in warm climates, as the daily increasing demand testifies.

An apparatus to produce 1 lb. of ice, at an expense of a Farthing per lb., costs, including packing and accessories, delivered in Paris, £6; one to produce 2 lbs. £8. 10s.; ditto, 4 lbs., £12. 6s., nett cash on delivery, without discount.

The time required varies from one hour and a-half to two hours and a-half. Large machines for Public Companies are also manufactured and cost, delivered at the Company's Works, 149, RUE MENILMOTANT, PARIS, as under:—

To produce	50 lb. per hour	£300
,,	100 lb. ,,	505
,,	200 lb. ,,	810
,,	400 lb. ,,	1,350

These prices include all the requisite chemicals for working the machines, as well as the indispensable duplicate pieces of the apparatus for exchanging in case of need.

These machines can be seen at work at the Company's Works, 149, Rue Ménilmontant, Paris, every Tuesday and Friday, from One to Six P.M.

Any further information, and a detailed prospectus, can be had on application to the Agent of the Company,

Any further information, and a detailed prospectus, can be had on application to the Agent of the Company

J. R. SHEPPARD,
106, LEADENHALL-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Prospectuses may also be obtained from Messrs. ROGERS and Co., Bombay and Poonah: Messrs. JOHANNES BROS., Madras; Messrs. W. H. FITZE and Co., 7, New China Bazaar-street, Calcutta.

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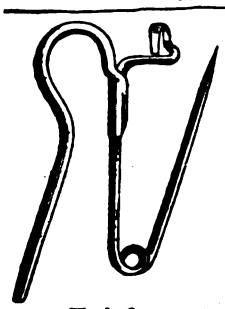
MONUMENTS, TOMBS, CHIMNEY-PIECES,

THE largest STOCK of MANUFACTURED MARBLE, STONE, and GRANITE in Europe on view at the BRITISH AND FOREIGN MARBLE GALLERIES, WARWICK HOUSE, 142 AND 144, REGENT-STREET.

Manufactories—Carrara, Brussels, Peterhead, and 17, Newman-street, London.

W. H. BURKE and CO., Proprietors.

SOLE AGENTS FOR THE INVERNETTIE GRANITE COMPANY.



Hook Open.

PATENT

SELF-ADJUSTING CURTAIN HOOK,

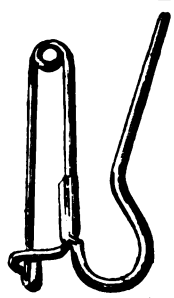
FOR SUSPENDING CURTAINS, AND ALL DESCRIPTION OF FABRICS WITHOUT SEWING,

And if reversed, can be used by Volunteers in Marquees, and for many other purposes. Specially adapted for India, China, and the Colonies.

PATENTEES,

W. TENT & CO.,

23, BIRCHIN LANE, LONDON.



Hook Reversed, Shut

H. AND H. LEDGER,

EXPORT OILMEN & PROVISION MERCHANTS

14, MINORIES, ALDGATE, LONDON,

CONTINUE to Manufacture their Pickles, Bottled Fruits, Jams, Jellies, Sauces, &c., with the greatest of care, for exportation, and at the same time paying strict attention to purity of quality, as will be seen by annexed extract from the "GROCER'S JOURNAL," June 13, 1863:—

"CHEMICAL LABORATORY,

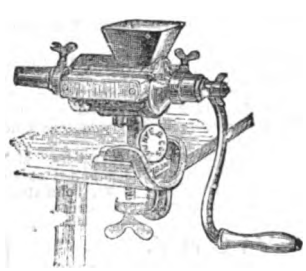
"7, BURY COURT, ST. MARY AXE, LONDON, E.C., June 4, 1863.

"SIR,—I have analysed the two samples handed me on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., and found the 'Mixed Pickles' of H. and H. LEDGER, of 14, Mineries, Aldgate, to be quite free from adulteration and made with Pure Malt Vinegar.

"I also found H. and H. LEDGER'S 'Britannia Sauce' to be free from any injurious substances.

"I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient Servant,

"For F. VERSMANN, F.C.S., Analytical Chemist.—ED. SCHREINER."



S. NYE AND CO.'S

PATENT MACHINES,

OF various sizes, for MINCING MEAT, VEGETABLES, &c., &c., for making Sausages, Mince Meat, Potted Meats, and various Dishes. Price £1. 1s., £1, 10s., £2. 2s., £3. 3s., £5. 5s., and £7. 7s.

"It is extremely clever."—*Times.*

A small MINCER or MASTICATOR, to assist digestion. Price £1. 10s.

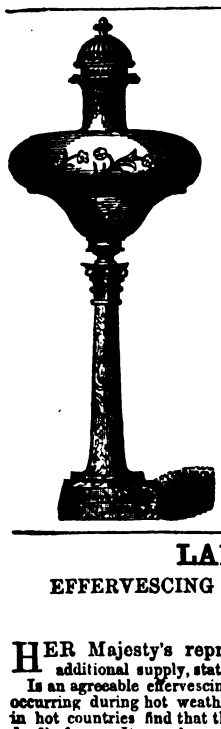
"Very suitable for invalids and for persons with decayed teeth.—*The Lancet.*

IMPROVED MILLS for COFFEE, PEPPER, SPICE, MALT, &c., the best and most convenient made. Price 6s., 8s., 10s., 14s., 15s., and 20s.

"The best and most convenient Mill in use."—*Family Herald.*

ROTARY KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES of SUPERIOR QUALITY from £2 and upwards.

79, WARDOUR STREET, LONDON.



BARCLAY AND SON'S

IMPROVED

Enamelled Punkah Lamps for China,

AS SUPPLIED TO THE INDIA OFFICE.

(TRADE BB MARK.)

SHOW ROOMS,

170, REGENT-STREET, LONDON.

THESE Lamps are wrought into many beautiful designs, having on the surface a coating of the Patent Enamel. By this process the most beautiful marbles and stones—as Malachite, Lapis Lazuli, Brocatella, Pale Sienna, Jasper, and Pink Granite—are imitated to a nicety.

Advantages of these Lamps over ordinary India Lamps:—

1st.—They are unaffected by damp, heat, alkali, or oil.

2nd.—The more they are rubbed the better the polish: in this respect they are the reverse of bronzed or lacquered lamps.

3rd.—They offer no temptation to the natives to remove the outer surface; and were they to endeavour to do so they would signally fail.

4th.—They are free from liability to fracture.

5th.—The enamel never wears off, nor changes in colour or appearance.

PRICES, from £4 10s. to £5.

Ornamental Glasses, 7s. 6d. extra.

Ordinary Lamps, in bronze, bronze and relieved, and lacquered, from 38s.

May be obtained of the makers, BARCLAY & SON, or through the Cape, India, and China Agency, of whom Illustrated Prospectuses may be obtained. Orders sent direct must be accompanied by a remittance.

LAMPLOUGH'S PYRETIC SALINE.

EFFERVESCING AND TASTELESS, ITS CONSTANT USE IS ESPECIALLY CALCULATED TO MAINTAIN HEALTH.

HER Majesty's representative, the Governor of Sierra Leone, in a letter of request for an additional supply, states, "it is of great value; it should be in the hands of all Europeans visiting the tropics" Is an agreeable effervescing remedy, of great efficacy in all kinds of Fever and Blood diseases, especially those occurring during hot weather. Dr. Gibbon, Staff-Surgeon in the Crimean war, states that European residents in hot countries find that the use of this refreshing beverage prevents exhausting perspiration and its alternative deadly fever. It acts by purifying and lowering the temperature of the blood, hence its great importance to all persons seeking to reside with safety and comfort in tropical countries subject to unusual heat.

The elegance, purity, and usefulness of the preparation has been certified by some of the most eminent physicians in the Army, Naval, and Hospital service of Great Britain.

Lieutenant-Colonel Murray, 1st West India Regiment, Sierra Leone. "I have enjoyed uninterrupted health since I have taken your Pyretic Saline."

Dr. Sparks, the Government Medical Inspector, port of London, bears cordial testimony to its efficacy in chronic forms of Gastric complaints and Febrile dyspepsia.

William Stevens, Esq., M.D., D.C.L., states in his work on West India fevers, that wherever the saline treatmen is adopted the fatal yellow fevers are deprived of their terrors.

Testimonials and directions for its use in disease accompany each bottle. To be obtained from H. LAMPLOUGH, 113, Holborn, London, ananyd of the Agents of this Paper, in bottles at 4s. 6d., 11s. and 21s.

DOCKS.

PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caisseon Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

Subscribed Capital, 2,000,000 taels, in 400 Shares of 5,000 taels each.

Paid up Capital, 200,000 taels.

DIRECTORS.

H. H. Wiggins, Esq., Manager Commercial Bank of India Chairman.
F. B. Johnson, Esq. (Messrs. Johnson and Co.).
H. D. Stewart, Esq. (Messrs. Turner and Co.).
F. Porter, Esq. (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston, and Co.).
J. Thorne, Esq. Messrs. Thorne Brothers and Co.).
David Reid, Esq.

Agencies are about to be established at the several ports in China and Japan.

L. JOSEPHS, Secretary.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA. and JAPAN (Limited).

16, CORNHILL, LONDON.

Capital, Two Millions.

BANKERS.

Bank of England, The Alliance Bank of London and Liverpool.

Branches at Bombay, Calcutta, Hong Kong, and Shanghae.

Deposits received at 10 days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed periods, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued, and bills negotiated, payable in India, China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government Loan Notes effected, so that the interest may be paid in England.

Every other description of banking and agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

THE HONG KONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY.

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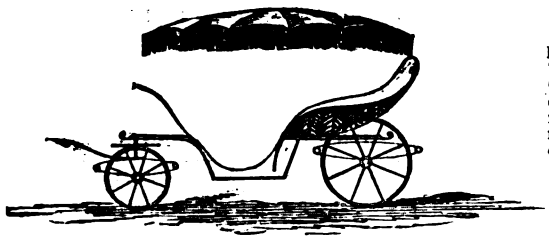

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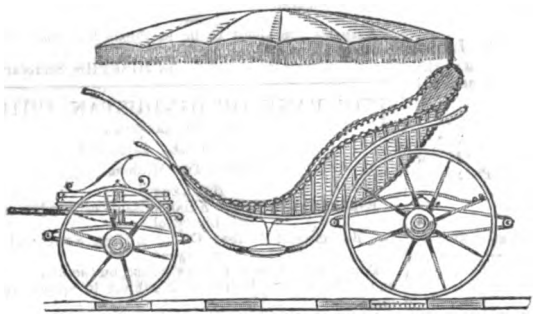

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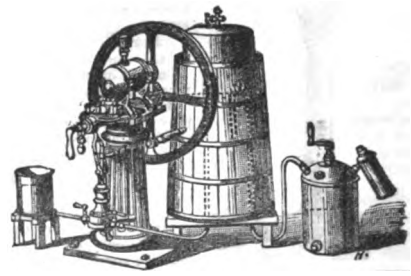

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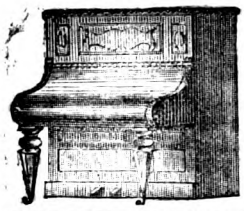

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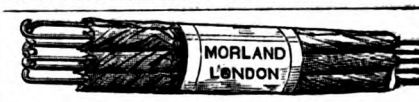

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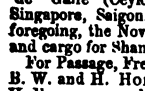

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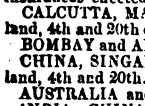
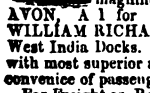


FOR COLOMBO, CEYLON, direct, to sail about 10th May, having a considerable portion of her cargo engaged, the magnificent, fast sailing, well-known ship AVON, A 1 for thirteen years, register 645 tons, WILLIAM RICHARDSON, Commander; loading in the West India Docks. This splendid vessel has a full poop, with most superior accommodations for the comfort and convenice of passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to W. A. WINKLEY, 23, Birchin-lane, Cornhill, E.C.



FOR COLOMBO Direct.—The very fast-sailing barque WILLIAM AND JANE, A 1, 410 tons register, ROBERT BRUCE, Commander, now loading in the West India Export Dock. This vessel will now stand in Lloyd's Register continued A 1 five years. She has just had new decks and large repairs, and been re-coppered in the river.

For Freight or Passage apply to the owners, SUART and SIMPSON, 9, Clement's-lane, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

To follow the "William and Jane," with quick despatch.

FOR COLOMBO and COCHIN, the nearly new clipper barque ELIZA LAING, A 1 eleven years, 441 tons register, T. LAING, Commander, now loading in the West India Export Dock. This fast-sailing Vessel, built under special survey in 1863, is strongly recommended to Shippers of fine goods. Has good accommodation for Passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to SUART and SIMPSON, 6, Clement's-lane, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

MANILLA Direct (guaranteed first ship, and sailing under the Spanish flag), the splendid, new, Spanish clipper ELISA, A 1 at Lloyd's for ten years, 431 tons register, FRANCISCO RIVERO, Commander; loading in St. Katharine's Dock. This vessel has been built expressly for the Manilla line, and offers an excellent opportunity to shippers requiring despatch.

For Freight or Passage apply to CHARLES HINGSTON, 2, John-street, E.C.; or to BREMNER and Co., 20½, Great St. Helen's, E.C.

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FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the celebrated British clipper MARY MILDRED, 3 T. French Lloyd's, 460 tons register; C. J. FINE, Commander; lying in the London Docks. This beautiful vessel has superior accommodation for passengers, and sails very fast.

For Freight or Passage apply to PHILLIPPS, SHAW, and LOWTHER, 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, E.C.

HONG KONG and WHAMPOA (under engagement with the Lords of the Admiralty), to sail on the 1st of June, the magnificent China clipper ship SOVEREIGN OF INDIA, A 1 ten years, 774 tons register; loading in the East India Docks.

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With Quick Despatch.

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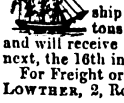
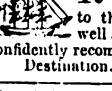


NOTICE to SHIPPERS to SHANGHAI.—The well known clipper ship ANGLO-SAXON, A 1 thirteen years, 693 tons register, has still room for measurement, and will receive goods in the London Docks all Monday next, the 16th inst.

For Freight or Passage apply to PHILLIPS, SHAW, and LOWTHER, 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, E.C.

INDIA AND CHINA.



ROBERTSON and CO. will despatch the following first-class VESSELS to their respective destinations. They are well adapted for their several trades, and are confidently recommended to their friends:—

Destination.	Ships.	Docks	To Sail.
Shanghai	Celestial ...	W.I.D.	May 18.
Shanghai	Sir H. Parkes	W.I.D.	June 1.
H. Kong & Whampoa.	Maidn.Queen	W.I.D.	May 10.
Kanagawa & Nagasaki	Norfolk ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Manila	Angela ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Bombay	Tiverton ...	E.I.D.	May 15.
Kuarrachee	Victoria ...	W.I.D.	With des.
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Ships.	Tons	Class.	Destination.	To Sail.
Ocean	920	A 1 ...	Batavia & Soubaya	With des.
Mount Vernon	549	A 1 ...	Singapore ...	„
Twilight ...	610	A 1 ...	Shanghai ...	„

For terms of Freight or Passage apply to McDIARMID and GREENSHIELDS, Liverpool.

CHINA.—The following splendid first-class Clipper Ships will be despatched as under:—

Port.	Ships.	Docks.	Last Shipping Day
Shanghai	Isles of the South ...	E.I.D.	May 30.
H. Kong & Whampoa	Pak-Wan ...	E.I.D.	With des.

For Freight or Passage, apply to KILLICK, MARTIN, and Co., 28, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, E.C.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE FIFTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 28th December, 1863. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

Subscriptions and Advertisements received abroad by the following Agents:—

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"

A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 138.] LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 28, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Kanagawa			April 1
Nagasaki			March 25
Hakodadi			„ 16
CHINA—			
Peking			„ 18
Tien-tsin			
Hankow			April 2
Shanghai	Feb. 10	March 31	„ 11
Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 8
Amoy			„ 9
Swatow			
Hong Kong	„ 26	April 11	„ 15
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	„ 10		„ 8
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Touron			
Saigon			„ 6
SIAM—			„ 2
Bankok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawuk			„ 14
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 16
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	March 17	April 21	„ 23
Penang	„ 10	„ 2	„ 2

The French mail, with dates from Hong Kong to 26th April, arrived at Suez on 25th, and the mail will be here on the 4th June.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, to Marseilles, per Syria, arrived May 26.—From Shanghai: Messrs. Reg. Russell, W. Watson, Stubbendorf, R. Daly. From Hong Kong: Messrs. Rodger, Escherich, M. Roldan, Pedro Largo, M. Diasdado, and S. Sedano, Miss A. Lyndon, and five second-class passengers. From Singapore: Mr. J. R. Smith.

To Southampton, per Ripon, expected to arrive June 1.—From Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter, two children, and servant, Col. Reeves, Lieut. Bennett, Messrs. C. Cooke and Lambert, seven second-class passengers. From Singapore: Mr. S. Davis and C. Lorenzen. To Gibraltar.—From Hong Kong: Mr. C. Valliscencio and two second-class passengers.

To Alexandria, per Golconda, arrived at Suez May 19.—From Shanghai: Mr. R. Gutschow, Mr. W. T. Tyers. From Hong Kong: Messrs. Youngman and Stephenson, Mr. E. H. Burgy.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, 20th May, from Southampton.—To Singapore: Mr. T. R. Waters, Mr. and Mrs. Ricketts and child. To Hong Kong: Rev. W. A. Rutherford. Mr. Kilby, Messrs. F. Sale, R.N., S. Thomas, R.N., and J. Morgan, R.N. To Shanghai: Mr. F. Whitmore, and four second class passengers. To Calcutta: Messrs. W. Jordan, A. Gordon, W. S. Blackhall, H. H. Locke, and J. P. Keatley. Assistant-Surgeons Troup, Lawless, Cunninghame, A. Thompson, A. Turner, A. Preston, and J. P. Dalmege, Dr. J. Anderson, and four second class passengers. To Madras: Mrs. Dauckert, Ensign G. H. Dale, and one second class passenger. To Ceylon: Mr. R. H. Hamilton. To Alexandria: Messrs. Summers, Davies, Cartwright, Cheatham, Nimmo, Johnston, James and Hosking, Mr. and Mrs. Barras and child.

From Marseilles, May 28.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. von der Heyde, and European female servant. To Shanghai: Mr. Broadbent. To Hong Kong: Mr. F. Muselius. To Calcutta: Messrs. Wilson, H. Heath, and S. B. Carpenter, Capt. Angus, and one second class passenger. To Madras: Rev. J. Richards, Mr. Symonds, Mr. J. C. Campbell and servant, Mr. R. Bell. To Ceylon: Mr. C. Tatham.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, 4th June, from Southampton.—To Singapore: Mr. J. Tyndall Woods. To Shanghai: Mr. S. Marcus. To Hong Kong: Mr. J. M. Hollingsworth, Assistant-Surgeon M. M. Magrath, R.N., Mr. R. Mearns, R.N. From Marseilles, 12th June.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Bannatyne. To Shanghai: Mr. H. Bruynd, Mr. P. J. Batteke. From Gibraltar.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. de Arguiz.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, June 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Lieut. C. C. King, R.M.A. To Singapore: Capt. G. Mairis, R.M.A. From Marseilles, June 12.—To Hong Kong: Don Antonio, Moraleda.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

KANAGAWA.

The intelligence by the present mail confirms to the fullest extent the statements made in the *London and China Telegraph* of the 13th inst. in the article headed "The Tycoon brought to Bay." It will be seen by the following, which we take from the *Commercial News* of the 30th March, that the Tycoon has made submissions to the Mikado, and that the Conference, of which we spoke in the article named, has made its report long before this date, which there is every reason to believe will have been in favour of an extended opening to foreign commerce. Our contemporary says:—

"The most important epoch in the history of our relations with the Japanese is before us. The Tycoon, having been compelled to pay obeisance to the Emperor—having been called upon to refute and answer the charges of his accumulating enemies—has, through wise counsels, succeeded in not only ingratiating himself with the Mikado, and being the recipient of another token of his regard in the shape of higher rank and title, but has won the admiration of several of the most powerful Daimios, and a good understanding has resulted from his fearlessness and promptitude in daring the emergency. The question as to foreigners and Japanese foreign policy is not only agitating the higher powers at Miako, but is the all-absorbing topic with all classes of Japanese, and pervades all communities. And rightly do they judge of its importance. All other matters fade before the single one, for as they decide now, so will they have to abide. It has been contended by the several Daimios now at Miako that the Mikado and Tycoon should, for the safety and welfare of the country, delegate power to half-a-dozen of the great Daimios, representing all phases of political opinions, to confer and decide as to the will of the nation in regard to foreigners; and that the views agreed to by those six Daimios should receive the sanction of both the Mikado and the Tycoon, and become the law of the land. In a spirit of conciliation, and with a desire to produce harmony in the empire, the following Daimios have been appointed, and have entered into a conference:—Etchizen, Tosa, Aids', Stutz'bashi, Shimatz'saboro, Oowajima. We recognise in the above list stanch friends of foreigners and of a liberal policy, to the end that Japan be opened to unrestricted trade and unlimited prosperity; and although two, if not three, are as unremittingly opposed to all concessions, and evince a desire to see the country freed from our presence, we do not despair of the result. The effects of opening the country to foreigners by a decision of the conference will prove that step the wisest they can adopt. Our advices from Miako report that a decision by the conference will be had before third Japanese month, or about the middle of April."

It will be remembered that we stated Satsuma had received permission to bring a considerable quantity of silk to market for sale to the foreigner. It seems that the Mikado has put in his claim also for a share of the profits derivable from the trade of Kanagawa.

At Kioto, Osaca, &c., proclamations are said to have been issued by command of the Mikado and the Tycoon, notifying to the people that there is no immediate cause for fear or distrust; and that they may continue their trading operations with foreigners. It is reported that an arrangement has been come to between the Mikado and the Tycoon, by which the former is to be benefited by foreign trade to the extent of fifteen thousand rios ($25,000) per annum; which sum is to be levied upon raw silk. When the Spiritual Sovereign and the great feudatories have had some taste of the benefits that

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flow from commerce with the foreigner, we need have no fear that the amicable relations once entered into will be lightly broken off.

The rumour that one of Satsuma's ships had been fired upon and sunk in the Straits of Shimonoseki turns out to be true. The following is Satsuma's own report of the affair to the Gorojio, or Council of State :—

The Prince of Satsuma had borrowed one of the Tycoon's steamers at Nagasaki, and she had gone to Satsuma's domain. Being in want of repairs, she was sent through the Inland Sea, on her way to the Nagasaki foundry to be repaired, on the (24th Jan.) 22 of the 12th moon of last year. Two days after this she came to an anchor in the Straits of Shimonoseki at eight o'clock in the evening. Shortly after this, the batteries on the northern shore opened fire upon her. Supposing that the steamer had been mistaken for a foreign vessel, the commanding officer ordered signal lanterns to be hoisted at the mast heads, according to an agreement entered into among the Daimios, to provide against such a misunderstanding. The signals were made and hauled down. But the firing commenced again, and as there was no attention paid to the signals when repeated, there being no help for it, the anchor was weighed, and the steamer directed towards the harbour of Shiro-no-e Mura, in the district called Awotoma, on the coast of Kokura. But a fire soon broke out in the ship and she was consumed before she reached the port Of the ship's company, nine officers, and nineteen others, including the engineers, lost their lives. Their bodies have not been found.

Tsiosiu, Prince of Nagato, who is the offending Daimio, pleads ignorance, and blames those on board the steamer, for neglect of the preconcerted signals, which should have been shown in time to prevent mistake. The steamers *Foh-kien* and *Scotland* are reported to have been purchased by Satsuma.

Professor Risley's amphitheatre was opened on the 28th March, and a large audience, consisting of upwards of 300 persons--Japanese, Chinese, Europeans, &c.—attended, and at eight o'clock the performances commenced. The arrangements as to lights, seats, &c., were very well made ; and judging by the enthusiastic applause which greeted the conclusion of each act, we conclude that the circus is the most popular amusement we have yet had at this port. The Japanese seemed delighted beyond measure with the feats of horsemanship, and with the high training of the dogs, all of which is something quite novel to them.

YOKOHAMA.

The following is a continuation of the Review of the Export Trade from this port, the first portion of which appeared in the *London and China Telegraph* of the 13th inst. :--

Raw Cotton has formed a very important branch of—indeed it may be said to have assumed the second position in—the export trade from this place during the last six months. It has given employment to a considerable number of vessels to Europe and China, and has proved, most conclusively, that this country possesses resources far beyond what is generally imagined by persons not acquainted with it, which resources only require inducement and opportunity to develop themselves.

Two years ago, as we have before observed, cotton was an article of import, and even when we closed our last report, only a few shipments had reached home from this. These few, however, had important results, for they convinced those connected with the trade that the Japan cotton is superior to China and to most of the Indian growth.

It is, therefore, not to be wondered at that, keeping pace with the great excitement prevailing in all the leading markets at home and in the East, a great demand should have manifested itself, resulting in considerable transactions at advancing rates during July, August, September, and October. At this period supplies began to decrease, the old crop's yield being exhausted. During July and August prices had advanced from $16 to $20 ; they declined in September to $19 ; but advanced in October again to $20. Towards the middle of November, as supplies of the new staple came to market, they were eagerly purchased at about $23 to $24 ; they however continued rather small during November, but then the effect of the high prices ruling began to tell upon producers, and, consequently, in December the cotton was freely supplied, and under the influence of favourable advices both from home and from China, the demand became very active, and prices advanced to $34 and $34.50 for best qualities,

The exports of cotton during the last six months of 1863 amount to 24,539 bales, and we calculate that would comprise about 4,000 of the new crop.

The exports for the two half-years show an amount for 1863 of 33,187 bales ; or, taking the weight at 1¼ piculs per bale, which we think may fairly be assumed to be the amount of the bale on average, 58,078 piculs.

We are happy to say that, apparently no restriction has been put upon the supplies of cotton, although on several occasions there were reports that the Japanese authorities would take some measures to curtail them, and there is every reason to believe that the native dealers experienced some difficulties in bringing down the staple to Yokohama, difficulties, however, which the large profits made by them determined them to brave and overcome.

We cannot end this slight review of this trade without again remarking upon the enormous increase which has taken place in the culture of cotton in Japan. We cannot ourselves go into the cotton-growing districts, and we are therefore limited for information to those accounts which the native dealers may vouchsafe, without any check as to what the amount of their reliability may be. So far as may be judged from this source, there is reason to believe that they regard this crop as having been very successful We learn, too, from them that they estimate that the yield is about double that of former years, and that much more cotton has been planted than formerly ; nor can it be doubted that, since the effect of the high prices lately ruling will have began to be felt by the original producers, their efforts would naturally be redoubled to increase the crop of a staple in so great demand in the ports open to European commerce.

We must permit ourselves one further remark before closing ; and that is of felicitation that at the present time, when the supply from America has ceased, when every bale from an outside quarter may be regarded as a boon to our starving operatives, a supply from an hitherto unexpected source has risen up, amounting to such a sum in a few months as that we have above quoted.

In our next number we shall publish a portion of the Tabular Returns of the Navigation and Trade of Yokohama for 1863.

HAKODADI.

Dates from this port are to the 16th March. The American steamer *Meteor* arrived from Nagasaki on the 10th, and on the 13th was passed over to the Imperial Government for the sum of $47,500. The new duty tariff came into operation here on the 1st day of the second Japan month. The principal alteration is the reduction from 35 to 5 per cent. on liquors ; and the understanding that, in future, foreign Government officers are to pay duty on stores landed for their own use, in the same way as others. According to the Custom-house returns, the export trade of this port (by foreigners) for the past year was $267,538, against $167,025 for 1862 ; a very decided increase.

It is now generally believed here that we must add another to the casualties in shipping in the neighbourhood during this winter. The *Dove*, a Prussian three masted schooner, Captain Wieland, left for Shanghai on December 12, in company with the *Osborne*. On the 14th the latter vessel put back to Hakodadi, with some damage to her sails, and several of the crew frostbitten. The captain reported very heavy weather at the western entrance of the Strait of Tsugar, which, together with the strong current setting into the Strait, and the intense cold, made it impossible for him to beat off the land into the Sea of Japan. He last saw the *Dove* on the 13th, endeavouring, also, to beat off the land. Shanghai and Nagasaki reports make no mention of the *Dove*, and, as there has been no native report of any vessel driven ashore, it is presumed that she foundered in the storm which caused the *Osborne* to put back. This case is more particularly distressing as Captain Wieland had his wife and family on board.

OURSELVES AND THE "JAPAN HERALD."

We observe that a "Subscriber to the *London and China Express*" has called the attention of the *Japan Herald* to an unintended piece of injustice committed against the last-named journal by the former in its issue of the 26th November last. The *London and China Express* of that day stated that the report on foreign trade, so highly spoken of by Colonel Neale, made its appearance in the *Japan Commercial News*. Our "Subscriber" corrects us by pointing out that the article in question first saw the light in the *Japan Herald* of the 16th of January, 1863. We can assure our friends in Japan that the error was simply an oversight, and not the result of any "dirty trick played" upon us. An occasional slip of the pen, being but mortal, we confess ourselves liable to ; but those who may attempt to "play tricks" upon us will assuredly find them detected and punished. We are glad, however, to have had the error of the 26th November last pointed out to us, and to be thus enabled to restore to our valued contemporary the *Japan*

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Herald the entire credit of the article, which had the almost unprecedented honour conferred on it of being copied into the *London Gazette*, the official organ of the British Government.

CHINA.

PEKING.

From the capital there is no news of importance. The American Minister had requested Prince Kung to interdict any supplies to the *Alabama*. The following is the notification issued on the subject:—

The Board of Foreign Affairs is fully aware that a treaty of peace and amity exists between China and the United States; it cannot be permitted, therefore, that American citizens coming here to trade shall suffer injury from any one while living in the country, nor their ships or goods be destroyed. Now, the steamer *Alabama* has been burning American vessels with their cargoes on the high seas; and she must not be allowed to enter our ports, still further to destroy their ships, and every other vessel with similar evil designs must be likewise forbidden to enter them.

We therefore hereby notify all the governors general and governors of the maritime provinces to enjoin all the local authorities to keep a careful and close oversight; and if the steamer *Alabama*, or any other vessel of war scheming to injure American property, approach the coasts of China under their jurisdiction, they are to prevent all such entering our ports. Let them also directly issue a proclamation, embodying all these circumstances and reasons, for general guidance.

A copy of this despatch has been communicated to the Ministers of Great Britain, France, and Russia, as well as to the American Minister, Mr. Burlingame; and it is accordingly forwarded to the Manchu commandants, the governors-general, and the governors along the coasts for their action thereon.

Horse-racing, under the most adverse circumstances, always prospers with Englishmen. A second meeting has been held at the capital, which came off with the greatest *éclat*, and was graced by the presence of the principal members of the foreign legations and several high Chinese officials. A capital luncheon was served, of which the principal gentlemen present, both native and foreign, partook. The drilled Manchu force was exercised on the ground, between the races, to give variety to the entertainment.

TIEN-TSIN.

The following account of the occupation of the foreign community will be found interesting:—

We are in the middle of the Chinese New Year's holidays. The main streets of the city and suburbs of Tien-tsin are turned into a market place. A vast quantity of the red candles, coloured lanterns of all shapes and sizes, carved red paper, kites, toys, artificial flowers, and all sorts of sweetmeats and dainties, in short, everything necessary for the celebration of the New Year, is exposed in the streets for sale. Pictures, some of huge size, are exhibited on the walls and everywhere a suitable place can be found; the whole street looks like a picture gallery. It would be difficult, however, to say to what school the paintings belong. We were surprised to find even some French pictures (those cheap sheets of paper covered with soldiers and other figures) amongst the array. Occasionally you may see little boys, who, with very grave faces and gestures, are hard at work to exercise the Chinese reverence and shaking of hands, indispensable during the New Year's festivities, and practised all over China on the first day of the new year.

Whilst the Chinese population is thus busily engaged, the foreign community of Tien-tsin is by no means idle. Tien-tsin in winter is a splendid place for recreation, and we would advise all those whose health has suffered, and whose nerves are relaxed through the influence of Hong Kong or Shanghai summers, to go to Tien-tsin or Chefoo, and spend a winter there. The months of December, January, and February are delightful; the air serene and bracing. Of all the different amusements and games practised here during the time that we are icebound, skating and coursing are most adapted to give the body vigour and health.

Riding has, no doubt, a most sanative influence, but we don't mean riding alone; it is riding in company which is calculated to give body and mind strength and new life. Fancy the pleasure of riding on a cold but calm day thirty miles across country, with a lot of jovial fellows, eagerly looking out for hares or foxes. This may every day be seen, and all classes of the community, whether official, professional, or mercantile, give themselves up to the excitement of the time. It will be easily seen that the Tien-tsin residents may be taken as a model in one or two cases. They know how to drive away *ennui*, and they do it.

SHANGHAI.

The following are the items of general news:—The London mail of February 10 arrived on the 31st March. The weather had been unseasonably mild for several days, but the general health of the community was not affected. An amateur theatrical performance was given by the sailors of H.P.M.S. *Gazelle*, lying in the river.

Burgevine, the ex-general, has turned up again from Japan, and been arrested by the American Consul.—The culprits who seized the *Tsatlee* have made their escape from gaol.—On the 31st March a daring robbery was perpetrated in broad daylight in the centre of the English settlement. A bank coolie, engaged in carrying a box of sycee, was surrounded by five armed Cantonese, while passing along Church-street, between the premises of the Commercial Bank and those of Messrs. Birley, Worthing on, and Co. A policeman and a soldier of the 67th Regiment, who happened to be passing, saw the men break open the box and endeavour to escape with eight shoes. They immediately gave chase, and at length captured two, the other three having succeeded in making good their retreat. Another case of a somewhat similar description occurred on the 27th. A coolie carrying a chest of silver along Temple-road was attacked opposite the London Mission, and the chest robbed of four hundred Mexican dollars. The thieves escaped, and have as yet evaded detection.

The Municipal Council for 1863-64 have submitted to the land renters their report for the past year. The Rev. Mr. Yates has been compelled through failing health to resign, temporarily, the office of interpreter.

Circumstances having delayed the arrival of the new Superintendent of Police, the Council considered it inexpedient to proceed with the contemplated alterations in the organisation of the force. The strength of the force is at present 126 men, but a large increase is proposed. The streets are again to be partially broken up; but as it is for the purpose of laying down gaspipes, the matter is rather one for congratulation than for regret.

The following particulars with regard to Major Gordon's reverse at Kintang are from the *Shanghai Recorder* of March the 28th:—

We have received advices from Major Gordon's force up to the 25th inst., and now continue our narrative of its movements from the period of the occupation of Leeyang. We are sorry to have to record a serious reverse which the Imperialists have met with at Kintang:—Major Gordon, Colonels Kirkham, Tumbelty, Williams, Major Brown, A.D.C.; Captains MacMahon, Mansell, Brinning, Willson, Williams, Creamer, Raddimore, and another wounded; Major Toute and fifteen rank and file killed, and ninety wounded.

The city of Leeyang being got into a state of quiescence, Major Gordon with the 1st, 2nd, and 5th Regiments, and proportionate force of artillery, marched on the 16th *en route* to the city of Kintang, in possession of there ebels, and the same night reached a village some 12 miles to the north of Leeyang, where, mid the vast ruins, a few houses still remained with roofs, which afforded shelter for the troops in preference to tents pitched on the ground saturated with the continuous rain. These practical sons of Han soon each took up the breadth of his back where he tossed off his blanket and accoutrements; wood was as quickly collected, and fires lighted—a flat cooking pan supported on a few bricks, rice, some salt fish and water, and chow-chow was soon ready, which disappeared with tremendous despatch, and with apparently as much relish as the most daintily prepared repast.

The line of march was the main road from Leeyang to Kintang On the right lay lakes and hills; on the left a broad outwork of creeks through which the flotilla of boats crept at a steady pace. The land lies low and flat, and has all the appearance of having been a most fertile grain-producing plain, though it is now fast returning to that state of swamp from which the industry of ages had reclaimed it. Mulberry trees line the banks of the creeks, uncared for; reeds and other aquatic productions occupy the place of the cereals; old walls and ruins mark the dwellings of a once numerous, peaceful, and industrious population, of whom there now remain but a few half-starved cadaverous-looking creatures, prowling about with hollow cheeks, sunken eyes, and tottering gait, picking up such herbs as are visible; while skeleton after skeleton, white and bleached, lie all along the way, felled either by the hand of the soldiers of great peace as an amusement, or plundered and burned out of their dwellings, as they sunk from starvation.

The same devastation and ruin was present all along the remainder of the march to Kintang. There is no sign of the soil having been cultivated for some years, and this is a district which has been in the undisputed possession of the rebels for over four years.

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Kintang is a district city standing in this vast plain, now little better than a desert, 30 miles north of Leeyang, the same distance to the west of Chan-chow-foo; unlike most of the cities in the hands of the rebels it has no outworks of defence, nor do the walls seem to be changed from their original state. On the morning of the 21st instant, the boats and guns were passed into a basin to the east of the city, distant from the wall only five hundred yards, without any opposition on the part of the garrison, beyond a few musket shots expressive of their disapproval of the proceeding. The heavy guns and mortars were placed opposite the angle of the wall to breach it, while the smaller guns and mortars were arranged so as to enfilade the *terre plein*.

The usual display on the part of the garrison was entirely absent; there the grim black walls stood without a single colour or spear visible.

The guns opened fire at 12 o'clock, bringing down ponderous masses of stone, clay, and brick, at every discharge, until at the end of two hours a breach was formed practicable to ascend; yet not a move on the part of the defenders. The advance was sounded, the 1st regiment by the bridge across the city ditch, and portions of the 2nd and 5th regiments by boat. The colours vied with each other in the ascent of the breach, but scarcely had their brave bodies set their foot on the top of the walls, than overpowered by overwhelming numbers, pouring on them musketry, bricks, stones, fire balls, and every other kind of missile procurable, they rolled with the advancing masses to the bottom, like a broken wave. Three times covered by the artillery, which did great execution, the party rallied and rushed up the breach, but with the same result.

Unfortunately at this stage of the proceedings Major Gordon was wounded and had to be carried to the rear, but getting into his boat he pushed forward and ordered up Col. Kirkham with the fresh companies of the 5th Regiment. The breach was again mounted but in vain—the defenders still held their ground; Kirkham was now also wounded and placed *hors de combat*. Again the breach was cleared by the artillery, and fresh companies of the 2nd Regiment coming up, the officers rallying their men, accompanied by Major Brown carrying Gordon's flag, made a most desperate attempt to establish themselves in the breach; the struggle for mastery lasted for several minutes, victory wavering in the balance, when the elements decided the day by a hurricane of wind and rain. The assailants slowly retired disappointed but not beaten. The force encamped in its position for the night, but news having reached of the Imperialists falling back from Chan-chow-foo, and the communications being threatened, the operations against this city (inasmuch as they were meant to press on Chan-chow-foo) were now without object, consequently the force withdrew and returned to Leeyang. Taking from them a portion of the garrison, Major Gordon continued his march to oppose the Rebels in the neighbourhood of Weosieh, at which place he arrived on the 25th.

In the operations the wounded and killed were as follows:—Major Gordon, Major Brown, Colonel Kirkham, Colonel Tumbelty, Cononel Williams, Captain MacMahon, Captain Mansell, Captain Brinning, Captain Willson, Lieutenant Williams, Lieutenant Creamer, Lieutenant Raddimore, and Lieutenant ——— wounded; Major Toute killed. Ninety rank and file were wounded and fifteen killed.

The following account is from the *China Mail*:—

The reverse which the Imperialists under Major Gordon sustained at Kintang admits of explanation, and we are glad to know that it has not damped the spirits of the disciplined force. So far as we have been able to ascertain, the circumstances are these:—The force left Li-yang on the 16th of March, and proceeded twelve miles that day and five more the next. On the 18th, they halted, marching again, on the 19th, when they arrived within four miles of Kintang. On the 20th, they advanced to within 700 yards of the city. The force numbered only 1,000 infantry and 350 artillery. The city is small, with no stockades, and the rebels did not venture out of it, nor were any flags visible on the walls.

At 10 A.M. on the 20th, just as the siege guns were landed, Gordon received letters that the Imperialists had fallen back from Chang-chow-foo to Woosih. This was a derangement of the general plan, for it had been determined that the Imperialists should press Chang-chow-foo as hard as possible while Gordon attacked Kintang. It was of importance that the two places should be threatened at the same time, so that neither might assist the other. The intelligence that Chang-chow-foo had been for three days without an enemy in front of it caused Major Gordon to doubt the policy of attacking Kintang; but as his arrangements for the attack were made, he considered that it would look awkward to withdraw. The attack was therefore proceeded with. In two hours a good breach was formed, and the Major led the assault in person. Hitherto the rebels had only replied feebly to the fire of the Imperialists, but as soon as the attacking columns reached the crest of t breach the most obstinate resistance was encountered. The colours of the first regiment were seized in the hands of the man who carried them, and lost after a desperate struggle. Meantime Gordon received a bullet through the fleshy part of his thigh, in consequence of which he had himself carried to the rear, and the assaulting party also retired, beaten. Gordon then directed Major Kirkman to renew the attack, which he did, both he and his men fighting bravely, but again they were repulsed, and Kirkham dangerously wounded by a bullet in the shoulder. A third time the assault was made under Major Brown, Gordon's aide-de camp, and with a similar result, Brown also being slightly wounded. The rebels fought very desperately, and the affair is said to have been worse than Taitsan. Brickbats, stones, and stinkpots were poured down upon the advancing column in great profusion. After the third attack had failed it began to rain tremendously, and the assault was abandoned for the day. Ten or twelve officers were wounded, and Major Chute of the 2nd Regiment was killed. Of the rank and file from 80 to 90 were killed and wounded, about 20 being killed. During the night the rebels attempted to surround Gordon's small force, but were forced to retire, having been rather warmly received.

The appointment of the Rev. W. J. Smith as British Consular Chaplain at this port, has been officially notified to the Church trustees by H. B. M. Consul. [We presume this is only a temporary arrangement, as the following announcement has been made here during this week:—The Rev. Charles H. Butcher, M.A., Fellow of University College, Durham, and curate of Hammersmith, has been appointed chaplain to the Church Establishment at Shanghai, China.]

KIUKIANG.

Some excellent races took place at this port on the 23rd and 25th March. Up to within two days of the time fixed, the weather had been so unpropituous that it had been proposed to train buffaloes, as the only animals capable of wading through the sea of mud which was where the course ought to have been. On the 20th, however, it cleared up, and the races came off most successfully; the omnipresent Aunt Sally being in attendance.

HONG KONG.

The dates are down to the 15th of April. The French mail of 17th of Feb. arrived out on the 2nd of April, and the P. and O. mail of the 26th on the 11th. The following items of news are from the *China Mail*:—

A fire occurred in one of the China houses in a street leading from Lascar-road to Taipingshan. As the locality is rather dense, and the dwellings very combustible, fears were at first entertained for the entire neighbourhood. Captain Quin was first on the spot, and had no less than five of the fire-plugs opened and a hose attached to each. The water played beautifully from each of the hose, and drenched out the fire in two hours. There was no disorder, but one Chinaman was apprehended while leaving a house with a bag of dollars belonging to an old woman who lived in one of the houses. Another old woman frantically implored some one to save a box she had left behind, and, on this being done for her she acknowledged the favour with many chin-chins. Two houses were burnt down before the fire was extinguished. The water-plugs were of immense value; some fire engines which were brought to the spot were not called into requisition.

The amateur performances for the season of 1863-4 came to a close last night, when the "Tailor of Tamworth" and the "Aladdin" burlesque were performed. Of the former we have already spoken, and have only to add that it was better played on this occasion than on the previous one. This we attribute to the increased familiarity with their parts which the performers had gained by experience, and it shows the value of rehearsal.

The Sailors' Home is still not nearly finished, and the money raised ($38,000) more than spent, the committee being in debt to the contractor. This is a pity, to say the least of it, and we call attention to the fact as one which cannot be too widely known. The principles upon which the institution

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would have been conducted were liberal and sound; the necessity for such a building admitted on all hands; the moral and physical interests of the sailors frequenting this port loudly spoken of; and more than half of the sum hitherto collected was paid by a gentleman now deceased. We have reason to think that the late Mr. Joseph Jardine would have paid all the money required to build a Sailors' Home, had he not believed that the community would gladly be represented in the matter by sharing with him in the expense. They have not done so in the proportion or to the extent which might have been expected, and the result is the present unfinished building. These things are facts. When looked at fairly, the conclusion cannot be avoided that we should be doing a foolish thing to leave an unfinished building, with a debt even upon the part of it that is built, and commence the erection of a Public Hall, let the necessity for such an institution be ever so urgent, and the opportunity for building it the most favourable that could be had. It is very hard; but there are the facts, and what else can be made of them? The Clock Tower is a smaller matter, but still a case in point. We are truly a strange community, to do as a body what as individuals we should view as absurd and foolish.

A more desirable scheme than the City Hall was never propounded in Hong Kong, and the opportunity offered in the affair of a site leaves nothing to be desired but the funds to go on with. But the dead lock now arrived at was inevitable, and the plea for the Sailors' Home unanswerable.

At a meeting of the Legislative Council the minutes of last meeting having been read and confirmed, the President moved the second reading of a Bill to authorise the appropriation of a supplementary sum not exceeding $151,770·65. The Council next resolved themselves into a committee to examine the items in detail, which were all agreed to, and the Bill was passed.

It was next moved that an Ordinance be passed to give effect to Her Majesty's proclamation of neutrality between the United States and the States calling themselves the United States of America. The Hon. Mr. Perceval pointed out that the Act could be evaded by laying down munitions on the opposite shore, which was admitted to be true. The Bill having been read, was then passed.

His Excellency said, with regard to the Mint, he had to thank the non-official members of the Council and the Surveyor-General. He thought that they had selected the best site, viz.,—Causeway Bay. The distance was a drawback, but that might be got over by a ferry steamer. The Surveyor-General said he would have to reclaim twenty acres of land.

With regard to the Bankruptcy Ordinance, it was agreed that it should be examined by the committee appointed for that purpose; and to have their report ready before the next meeting of Council. The council adjourned until Saturday, the 16th day of April.

A correspondent has directed the attention of owners and commanders of the steamers trading up and down the China Sea, to there being an abundance of good coal to be had at Coal Point, Labuan Island. The weather was noticed as being disagreeably heavy and rainy towards the end of last week, and an opinion advanced of hottish weather following, which view has not, however, as yet proved correct.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.		6s. 5d. to 6s. 6d.	6s. 6d. to 6s. 7d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 10d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 1d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 10d. to 4s. 10¼d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 0d.
At Manila	6	ditto	...	...

At Shanghai: Bills on India, Rs. 302 to 304 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong: Rs. 226 to 227 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai. Hong Kong, 4 premr Mexican Dollars at Shanghai; and exchange on Hong Kong, 26 to 27 discount.

BORNEO.

SARAWAK.

(From the *Straits Times*.)

The progress of Sarawak cannot fail to interest even those who are in no way connected with the country. It has been said by Mr. Crawfurd, and other eminent writers, that a European settlement in any well-peopled part of the Archipelago, just enough to abstain from oppression and to deal fairly, and strong enough to enforce obedience from and secure protection to its people, cannot fail of success. Sarawak is working out that problem to its extreme, and its development would seem to bear out the conclusion indicated. The difficulties that beset the foundation of the country were greater than can be readily conceived, and for many years there was a constant sink of money. Now, however, a tide of substantial return appears to have set in. The trade returns have year by year been improving. The following are the returns of last year, which have just reached us:—

IMPORTS, 1863.

	Coast.	Foreign.	Total.
Tonnage	10,062	7,420	17,482
Treasure	$43,776	$53,586	$97,362
Gold	8,298	„	8,298
Opium	„	14,500	14,500
Cloth	„	146,252	146,252
Tobacco	40	39,651	39,691
Gutta	128,650	„	128,650
Wax	17,242	„	17,242
Rice	32,528	11,798	44,326
Paddy	23,914	„	23,914
Sago	72,697	„	72,697
Brassware	618	27,709	28,327
Cocoanuts, oil, &c.	24,863	„	24,863
Camphor	3,740	„	3,740
Sundries	31,347	70,698	102,045
Total	387,713	364,194	751,907
Imports, 1862	259,176	268,328	527,504
Increase	128,537	95,866	224,403

EXPORTS.

	Coast.	Foreign.	Total.
Tonnage	11,734	7,162	18,896
Treasure	151,545	7,676	159,221
Gold	11,860	4,590	16,450
Opium	1,156	„	1,156
Cloth	104,639	„	104,639
Tobacco	21,145	„	21,145
Gutta	„	181,918	181,918
Wax	„	9,788	9,788
Rice	12,331	„	12,331
Paddy	4,519	„	4,519
Sago Flour	„	64,634	64,634
Sago (Raw)	„	7,050	7,050
Brassware	45,303	„	45,303
Cocoanuts Oil, &c.	5,313	1,384	6,697
Camphor	„	1,000	1,000
Antimony	„	26,140	26,140
Nests	„	14,065	14,065
Iron and Steel	494	„	494
Crockery	930	„	930
Salt	1,524	„	1,524
Sundries	58,039	10,669	68,708
Total	418,798	328,914	747,712
Export, 1862	279,056	365,196	644,251
Increase	139,743	„	103,461
Decrease	„	36,282	„

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

IMPORTS.

1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
406,466	400,226	378,067	527,504	751,907

EXPORTS.

1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
431,550	514,389	362,211	644,251	747,712

The above abstract of the coast and foreign trade of Sarawak shows the steady increase of imports and exports for the year 1863 over the four preceding years. In the years 1860 and 1861, the trade in Sago was destoyed for a time on account of the Mukah war, at the settlement of which the sago ports were opened, and the product which had been so long locked up was brought to Sarawak for sale, increasing the returns considerably, since which time there has been no intermission in the trade. The increase in the quantity of Gutta Percha forms an important item in the returns for 1863, and one which is likely to continue, both Malays and Dyaks being actually employed in working the forests. The foreign import trade is chiefly with Singapore, Java, and the Malay Peninsula, carried on by large native prahus of tonnage ranging from 40 to 190 tons, also the steamer to Singapore, and brigs or schooners as required. The foreign export trade is in sago, gutta, antimony, rattans, and timber, exported direct to England. The rivers from which most of the imports are derived are the Rejang for rice, gutta percha, wax, and rattans; the Batang Lupar for rice, paddy, gutta percha, wax, and gold; the Mukah Oyah and Matu rivers for sago in the raw state; Bintulu, gutta percha, camphor, wax, birds' nests, and rattans; Serebas, rice and gutta percha; Kalucka, rice and gutta percha;

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Sadong, rice and birds' nests; Lundu, rattans, cocoanuts, and oil from the islands adjacent. This is expected to be much increased by the opening up of trade with the Kayans of the Rejang, from whom there is nothing but good news.

JAVA AND NETHERLANDS INDIA.

Dates from Batavia are to the 14th April. The value of cotton and woollen goods imported into that port during the month of February last, was as follows:—Dutch, 476,409f.; foreign, 337,342f. At a sale by the Billiton Tin Maatschappy, 3,370 piculs of tin were sold, averaging 68 19f. per picul. The *Wyoming* left Batavia Roads on the 8th April, steering north-west.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates from this port are to the 23rd April. The London Mail of the 10th March reached there by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Jeddo* on the 15th, and the French mail with dates from London to the 17th, and Marseilles to the 19th March, arrived on the evening of the 21st.

The decision of the Home authorities regarding the transfer was anxiously looked for. April would close the official year 1863-64, and the Government Administration report would appear a couple of months afterwards. It is expected to show a considerable reduction in public works, and a steady yield for the Stamp Tax, of the proceedings of which only four months were included in last year's accounts. Some attention has again been directed to the progress making by the Dutch in the north-west coast of Sumatra. The Batavia papers complain that the Indian journals should term that progress "encroachment." The rights of the Dutch to this magnificent island are founded upon the treaty with Holland in 1824; and it would certainly seem that England then not only withdrew from the island, but acquiesced in the assumption by the Dutch of supremacy thereafter. All that was reserved was a stipulation from the Dutch that they should make no treaties with the native princes tending to exclude British trade or commerce, or to expose it to a disadvantage. Strong suspicions have been excited by the reports brought in by native traders, that exclusive treaties have latterly been concluded, and these suspicions are thought to gain weight by the circumstance that imports, both to Penang and Singapore, of Sumatra produce, have lately declined very much. No actual proofs of such treaties have, however, been brought forward. Indeed, no copies of any of the treaties lately made between the native princes and the Dutch have revealed this, and it is consequently impossible to say what they may contain. It is very desirable, observes the *Straits Times*, that the public mind should be set at rest on this subject, and for this purpose the Foreign Office at home should appiy to the Hague for copies of all treaties recently concluded in Sumatra, and when obtained, they should be sent out to the authorities here; for any complaints against the Dutch at present are made entirely in the dark.

The long drought had not yet been fairly broken. Within the three days before the 23rd some heavy showers had fallen, but of anything like continuous rains there had been none. Besides great damage to the fruits and vegetation which this condition entailed, a great scarcity of water in town had resulted.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

DOS REMEDIOS—On the 10th April, at Macao, the wife of F. A dos Remedios, of a son.
KRASBERRY—On the 12th April, at Mount Zion, Singapore, Mrs Krasberry, of a son.
PARKES—On the 22nd May, at 32, Priory-road, Kilburn, the wife of Sir H. S. Parkes K.C.B., H.B.M.'s Consul, Shanghai, of a daughter.
SINCLAIR—On the 5th May, at Brussels, the wife of Charles A. Sinclair, Esq., H.B.M.'s, Consul for Chin-Kiang-Foo, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

CAIRNS—CUNNINGHAM.—On the 17th May, at St. Andrews, St. Castle. Douglas, by the Rev. S. Cowan, of Kelton, Capt. Robert Hannah Cairns, late of Kirkcudbright, to Jessie, eldest daughter of the late Robert Cunningham, Esq., of Lurkins. No cards.
FABRIS—JENKINS.—On the 5th April, at Trinity Church, by the Rev. R. Hamilton Edward Antonio Fabris, Esq., of London, to Julia Catherine, only daughter of the Rev. Dr. Jenkins, of Charleston, South Carolina. No cards.
WOLFE—MACLEHOSE.—On the 12th April, at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. Thomas Stringer, M.A., the Rev. John Richard Wolfe, of Fuuchau, to Miss Mary Ann Margaret Maclehose.

DEATHS.

ANDERSON—On the 24th May, at the Grove, Norwood, Surrey, Mary Ann, wife of Arthur Anderson, Esq., Chairman of the Peninsula and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, aged 62.
CHAPMAN—On the 7th April, at the Government Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, Edward Lloyd Chapman.
D'ENCARNACAO—On the 31st March, at Shanghai, Carlos Maria, the infant son of Albino D'Encarnacao.
KING—On the 8th April, at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, Edward King, private H.M. 99th Regiment.
LEISK—On the 11th April, at Mount Erskine, Singapore, Anna, the wife of Captain W. C. Leisk, aged 65 years.
MAINE—On the 4th April, on his way home, on board the P. and O. Co.'s steamer China, Samuel Maine, Esq., of Yokohama, Japan.
MOLESWORTH—On the 5th April, at his residence, Portsdown Lodge, Notting-Hill, much beloved and most deeply regretted by all who knew him, Lieut. Robert Sackville Molesworth, R.M., aged 38, fourth son of the late Capt. Arthur Molesworth, R.M., for the last seven years Editor of *Thacker's Oeerland News.*
MATHESON—On the 11th April, at Hong Kong, on board the Hercules, George Matheson, sergeant, R.E.
ROBINSON—On the 21st March, at the Seamen's Hospital, Hong Kong, William Robinson, seaman ex-British barque Bristow.
STEPHENSON—On the 11th February, at Melbourne, Henry Stephenson, assistant with Messrs. Parker and Co., of Hong Kong.
SWANSON—On the 27th March, at Shanghai, Mr. William Swanson, aged 33 years.
TAPLIN—On the 21st March, at Yokohama, of small-pox, Frederic Taplin, engineer H.M.S. Argus, aged 36.
WILLIS—On the 9th April, at Hong Kong, on board H.M.S. Melville, Charles Willis, seaman H.M.S. Pelorus.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—MACAO.—New Tyshans, arrivals to date amount to about 1,400 bags of the Kysow fashion leaf, under private contracts, now in course of preparation for shipment, which would, however, only be equal to some 1,700 to 1,800 half chests when packed, after the process of firing, picking, and sifting; there seems to exist a great competition in the country which enhances the cost, and prices are reported higher by 2 to 3 taels.

CANTON.—The clearing of the Shanghai market of Congous, simultaneously with the shipments hence on China account, advised in last report, has to some extent tended to make holders of that description firmer in some instances. That is to say—some holders have refused offers quite as good as the rates at which late settlements were made, whilst others, either pressed for means or apprehensive at the near approach of the new season, have accepted prices which range as far as 1½ tael less. The fall established may be called one tael, the current quotations laying teas down in London at only one penny above the rates ruling there at date of last advice. A few musters of Tyshaans, country make, have been exhibited, and one small lot has been placed at a high figure. Scented Teas remain neglected. The market has been cleared of Country Greens for shipment to New York. In Canton Greens there is no alteration. The following are the settlements of the fortnight. Congoes 10 chops—say blackish leaf Pekoe flavour at 21½ to 24½ taels and blackish leaf Pekoe flavour at 26½ to 30½ taels; also 230 half-chests Tyshaans at 30½ taels. Scented Teas none. Canton Greens, 5,000 boxes Gunpowder at 18 to 20 taels. Country Greens, 2,900 packages at 42½ to 45 taels, making the total settlements of the season 11,250 packages. The stock is reduced to 21 chops of Congou, and a few Canton Greens and Scented Teas.

FOOCHOW.—There is no change to report in prices. The settlements of the fortnight are reported as under. Congous, 2,576 chests and 456 half-chests at 7 to 14½ taels for low and dusty to common, and 15 to 18 taels for good common to fl'ory. Souchongs, 866 chests and 226 half-chests at 16½ to 23 taels for common to fair. Oolongs, 1,364 half-chests at 13 to 15 taels common cargo. Scented Teas, 2,900 boxes at 17 to 18½ taels for common. The following is a list of arrivals, sales (including contracts) and stocks on hand, comparing this season with the last.

ARRIVALS.

	1863-64.		1862-63.
Congou	547,800 chests.		572,700 chests.
Souchong	60,570 do.		33,900 do.
Pekoe	7,700 do.		11,900 do.
Oolong	178,900 half do.		217,300 half do.
Scented Tea	73,400 boxes.		132,850 boxes.

SALES AND CONTRACTS.

	1863-64.		1862-63.
Congou	544,950 chests.		570,700 chests.
Souchong	60,000 do.		33,900 do.
Pekoe	7,100 do.		11,200 do.
Oolong	176,400 half do.		216,200 half do.
Scented Teas	72,570 boxes.		133,050 boxes.

STOCKS.

	At present.		Same time last year.
Congou	2,850 chests.		2,000 chests.
Souchong	570 do.		Nil.
Pekoe	600 do.		700 do.
Oolong	2,500 half do.		1,100 half do.
Scented Tea	830 boxes.		800 boxes.

SHANGHAI.—Black: Settlements for the fortnight on the market, 1 chop or 616 chests; reshipped on owners' account, 2 chops or 505 chests; together, 3 chops or 1,121 chests, making total to date 393,089 chests. Stock waiting shipment and for resale, 8 chops. The quotations are:—Second and third crop Oopacks and Ningchows, tls. 25 to 28; second and third crop Oonhams, tls. 20 to 25; second and third crop Hohows, tls. 17 to 21. Green: Previous to the arrival of the English mail on the 31st ult., the market was very dull, and although teamen appeared more willing to realise, yet no decline in price was established. Since then there has been more demand, and rates within the last day or two are decidedly firmer. The stock is now very small. Reshipments and settlements for the fortnight:—7,431 half-chests Fychows, &c., 946 chests Pingsuey, 796 half chests Japan and Shanghai packed—9,173 half-chests, making total to date, 282,450 half-chests. Stock of green tea is estimated at 5,309 half-chests Fychow, &c., and 1,100 chests Pingsuey; together, 7,009 half-chests.

KEWKIANG.—Greens: The finer kinds are a shade easier, whilst the commoner sorts have commanded full rates. The transactions of the fortnight comprise:—

900 half-chests	Fychows	at 22	taels
5,300 do.	Moyunes	do. 31 to 40½	do.
500 do.	Kewkiang packed	do. 29	do.

6,660 half-chests.

The stock is computed at 15,000 half-chests country, and 2,300 do. Kewkiang packed. Of the former full half are fine teas, the remainder being principally low and undesirable. In Black Teas there have been no transactions. The total settlements of the season to date amount to 110,600 chests Black, and 208,750 half-chests Green, against 53,000 chests of the

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former, and 257,300 half-chests of the latter, corresponding period of last season.

HANKOW.—The transaction of the fortnight is 1 chop Congou at 14*l.* 2*s.* 5*c.*, making the total for the season 657 chops. The stock on the market is 10 chops, held at 13 to 15 taels.

YOMOHAMA.—Little demand is experienced, with the exception of some for the United States, and there is very little alteration in prices. The unfavorable reports from the home markets are probably the cause of shyness of buyers, and we expect that little will be done prior to the arrival of the new crop, which may be looked for thirty days from date. Quotations:—Fine, $26 to 33; Common, $13 to 22; Medium, $23 to 25; Ordinary, $11 to 12.

RAW SILKS.—SHANGHAI.—Early in the fortnight the market was very quiet, influenced by late unsatisfactory advices from Europe, and the Chinamen becoming more anxious to realise submitted to a decline of about 10 taels per picul on Tsatlees, Yuenfas, and Hainings. This led to the sale of about 35 bales, and as the dealers still appear willing sellers, the present rates are not likely to be maintained in the face of a rising exchange. The Imperialists have at length taken Hangchow and Kashing, and should the peasants be allowed to remain in these districts without being disturbed, the future supply may be increased. From Japan 188 bales have arrived, which go forward by this steamer. The latest advices quote high prices still ruling with a stock of about 250 bales on the market. The settlements of the fortnight are reported at 350 bales, against 800 bales corresponding fortnight of last year, and 2,000 bales the corresponding fortnight of the previous year. The present stock is 3,500 bales, against 8,000 bales same period last year. The present stock is 3,500 bales, against 8,000 bales same period last year, and 3,000 the year before. The following are the latest quotations:—Tsatlees: No. 2 chops, 425 to 430 tls.; No. 3, 405 to 415 tls. per picul. Market: No. 3 chops, 395 to 405 tls.; No. 4, 380 to 390 tls.: No 5, and common, 365 to 375 tls. per picul. Taysaams: No. 1 and 2, 390 to 410 tls.; No. 3, and inferior, 340 to 380 tls. per picul. Yuenfa: No. 1 and 2, 395 to 415 tls.; No. 3. and inferior, 370 to 395 tls. per picul. Hainings, 370 to 410 tls. pes picul.

YOKOHAMA.—Foreigners are not inclined to do business, but the market has continued firm throughout the last month. Settlements do not exceed 135 piculs. There is not much alteration in quotations except for best kinds, which have been offered and taken at a little higher rates. Receipts are trifling, but have increased in a degree. The unsold stock, chiefly hanks sorts, is estimated at about 150 piculs. Quotations—Ida, medium, $530 to 550. Mybash, best, $550 to 560; medium, 530 to 540; inferior, 515 to 525.

DRUGS, &c.—MACAO.—Cassia Lignea: Sales 1,600 piculs at prices ranging from $14.90 down to 14.60, leaving in stock 400 piculs. Cassia Buds: The small parcel last reported as offering at 61, has been withdrawn from the market in the absence of a buyer at the price. Cassia Oil: None nominal rate 210. Aniseed Oil: Sales 60 piculs at 143 to 145; stock 25 piculs held at the latter figure. Star Aniseed: Sales 150 piculs at 17.50 for inferior quality, stock 150 piculs of similar kind held at 13. Galangal Root: Sales 300 piculs at 2.80 on Chinese account, for the Straits, leaving in stock 900 piculs, which may be had at easier rates. Gall nuts: None. China Galls: Small sales on Chinese account at 12.50. Ginger Preserves: Sales for the Straits and India at 2.90 for best. Vermilion: Sales for India at 38.50.

CAMPHOR.—HONG KONG.—No sales reported and no further supplies arrived. The parcel of Japan is still held at $23 to 24, which buyers are not inclined to pay. Of Formosa Camphor a supply is expected shortly, which will find a ready sale at $16.50 to 17 per picul.

COTTON.

SHANGHAI.—Before the arrival of the London mail of the 10th February, there were few buyers, even at taels 20 per picul; this was attributed to the unsatisfactory state of the Schleswig-Holstein question; since the arrival of the mail, prices have gradually improved, and are today—Shanghai, No. 1, taels 21.5 to 22; No. 2, taels 20; No. 3, taels 17 to 18; Hankow, taels 21.5 to 22; Kong Poh—the bulk of this description on the market is unsold on account of being very inferior, good description selling at the same rate as Shanghai No. 1. There are some parcels of very inferior Shanghai offering on the market, at from taels 13 to 16. Settlements, since the departure of last mail, are between 10 and 12,000 piculs. Stocks on hand and the parcels coming in from the country are very small. The Shanghai No. 1 Cotton now coming into the market is of the very best description, the country people retaining the best cotton until the last for the purpose of extracting the seeds for planting.

CANTON.—The sales of the fortnight amount to 2,200 bags Shanghai, 1,300 do. Ningpo, and 1,000 do. Shantung, at an advance of 5 mace. The stock remaining unsold consists of 2,000 bags Shanghai, 830 do. Ningpo, and 1,000 do. Shantung.

HONG KONG.—The advices from Europe are not encouraging, and, consequently, exporters having retired from the market, the native demand governs prices. This demand has been tolerably good, and has taken off during the fortnight about 6,500 bags at the following rates:—Shanghai, $31 to $33.75; Ningpo, 33.50 to 34.75; Japan, 35.50. The stock on the market is computed at 25,000 bales. A few foreign holders are shipping in preference to selling.

AMOY.—The article is quoted $33 to 34½. No stock.

NINGPO.—At date of last advices about 1,250 bags were on the market. $35 per 118 catties being asked without finding buyers.

YOKOHAMA.—The market fluctuates, and there is an irregular demand; during the past month prices have receded to $25 per picul, and with anything but a firm market; present rates are quoted at $26 to 28.25.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—The value of this article remains without material change to notice, and the business of the fortnight is confined to the sale of 200 bales. Grey Shirtings: Have continued quite neglected so far as the Chinese dealers are concerned, the sales to whom only aggregate 500 pieces, but purchases on foreign account have swelled the settlements which have been reported since the date of last circular to 27,500 pieces. Buyers have confined their attention almost entirely to 8¼ lbs. goods, the price of which is quoted slightly higher. White Shirtings: The settlements of these fabrics, estimated at 2,200 pieces, consist almost entirely of re sales by Chinese and of goods imported from Singapore - quotations remain without change. T-Cloths: These goods are still in very limited request, and the bulk of the sales reported consists of cloths imported from Shanghai. Settlements are estimated at 7,000 pieces for the fortnight. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades White and Coloured: These goods have been entirely neglected during the fortnight, and there is not a single sale of them to report. Damasks: Without sales to notice. Chintzes; Have likewise remained without inquiry. Handkerchiefs: A moderate demand has existed for these goods, and the sales of the fortnight are put at 2,600 dozens.

WOOLLENS.—SPANISH STRIPES, MEDIUM CLOTHS, LADIES' AND HABIT CLOTHS.—There are not any sales of the above fabrics to report from this market by the present mail, and prices remain as previously quoted. From Foochow the sales effected amount to 156 pieces, taken at 85 to 90 cents per yard. Long Ells have likewise been without inquiry since the date of last circular, but a fair amount of business has been transacted in Foochow during the fortnight, and the sales reported aggregate 1,000 pieces of Scarlet purchased at $8.60 per piece. Camlets: Without material alteration to notice in value, the business transacted in this description of goods amounts to 580 pieces, of which 200 pieces are of Dutch manufacture. Lastings: 100 pieces have been sold. Blankets have not met with any demand, and there are not any sales to report.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: The sales effected during the past fortnight of the various descriptions of Iron enumerated have been upon a smaller scale than for some time back, and are estimated to amount to 1,420 piculs of Nail Rod, 1,200 piculs of Bar, and 420 piculs of Hoop. The value of Nail Rod is quoted slightly higher, but other qualities remain unchanged. In Canton, where Nail Rod also shows some improvement, sales amount to 800 piculs. Lead: Without any improvement to notice in quotations the sales of the fortnight amount to 1,500 piculs. In Canton quotations have again given way, and sales amount to 1,400 piculs. Tin: 30 piculs have been sold. Tin Plates have again met with a fair amount of inquiry, principally on foreign account, and the sales of the past fortnight are estimated at 500 boxes sold to Chinese, and 1,200 boxes purchased by foreign firms. Steel: There are not any transactions to notice.

The Tabular Returns of Tea, Silk, &c., will be published in our next issue on arrival of French Mail.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN.—None.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: March 4, Challenger. From Newcastle: Susanna and Juno. From Hamburg. 6, Ida Maria.

At FOO-CHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—From London: April 6, Robin Hood and 12, Edward Percy. From Liverpool: 4, Young Lochiwar. From England: 7, H.M.S. Pelorus. From Cardiff: 8, Jupiter. From Queenstown: 13, Archilles.

At MANILA.—From London: March 30, Trafalgar.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: April 11, Chanarla; 13, Bonnie, Lassie; and 14, H. Puddemsey. From Liverpool: 10, Athelstan; and 11, Gwalior. From Cardiff: 10, Monitor, Elizabeth; 16, Carita; and 18, Druses. From Newcastle: 11, Aguste and Meline. From Glasgow: 11, Bothwell Castle; 18, Bacchante. From Swansea: 16. Alida. From Bordeaux: 11, Jupiter. From Antwerp: 6, Ortelius. From Hamburg: 11, Carlotta; 15, Persia. From Amsterdam: 20, Bernard Agnes.

At BATAVIA.—From Liverpool: Carl Frederick.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—For London: March 10, Milbrook; 20, Meppel; 23, Alexander; 26, Ann Adamson.

From SHANGHAI.—For Liverpool; March 26, Glengairn and Fort, William; April 1, Advance; 2, Simoda; 6, Lauderdale.

From FOOCHOW.—For New York: March 27, Benefactor; April 2 Eva.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: April 12, Ethel. For Liverpool: 2, Berwickshire. For Bordeaux: 9, Johanna. For New York: 2, Sophia.

FROM MANILA.—For Cowes (for orders): April 1, John Barfield; and for Liverpool, Aureliana. For New York: May 23, Ocean Eagle.

From SINGAPORE. For Liverpool: April 9, Victory; 18, C. Chisholm. For Bordeaux: 12, Java; and from New York, Reynard.

LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Canton, Abbotsford, Anglo-Indian. For Falmouth: Auld Reckie.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Benvoirlich, Rajah (str.), and Osborn House. For Liverpool: Mayflower, Express, Neville, Elizabeth Nicholson, Helvellyn, and Unrivalled. For New York: Luzon.

At FOO-CHOW.—For London: Nitherby, on the way for new teas; Flying Spur, Dora (both in port), Serica, Fiery Cross, Belted Will, Ziba, Falcon, Ellen Rodger, Childers, Yang-tse, Sea King, (str.) Far East (str.).

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Bahia and Aunt Lizzie.

At MANILA.—For Liverpool: Diadem and Trafalgar. For Cork (for orders): Victoria Cross. For New York: Isabella and Sea Serpent. For Boston: Fearless.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Eleanor, Tartar, Couranto, Athelstan, and Prince of Wales. For Liverpool: Ferris and Harry Puddemsey. For Falmouth (*via* Penang): Hindustan. For Bordeaux (*via* Penang): Suez and Nantes.

At BATAVIA.—For Amsterdam: Johanna, Waal van Puttershock, and Anna Sophia. For Rotterdam: Koophandel and Otto. For New York: Stockholm and Levant.

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FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

JAPAN.—To England: Silk, £7; and £5. 10s. to £6 for cotton and tea, with good demand for tonnage.

SHANGHAI.—Freights are somewhat dull, and but few charters have taken place. The rates are:—To England, for tea, £4, and £4 to £4. 5s. for cotton.

FOO-CHOW.—To London, £5.

HONG KONG.—The following (from G. Holmes's circular) are some of the charters, which will best indicate the business done:—Glencoe, to Liverpool, £4. 5s. per ton. The Glenlee, Chandanagore, and Bahia on the berth at £4. 10s.; Chance (Falmouth for orders), £4. 10s., if for Continent 5s. extra. To Saigon and back the rates are 50 cents per picul, and 15 to 25 cents extra if ordered to northern ports. To Bangkok and back 50 to 55 cents per picul; 15 to 20 cents extra if sent north. Manila to Shanghai, 42½ cents per picul.

MANILA.—To Liverpool, unclayed sugar, £4. 10s.; hemp, £6. To New York, £4. 10s. dead weight, and £6 5s for hemp.

SINGAPORE.—For the rice ports, freights remain good for suitable-sized vessels, but for England tonnage is in excess of the requirements, causing the rates to decline, which are as follows:—Dead weight, £3. 10s.; light freight and measurement, £4. 10s. per ton.

BATAVIA.—Tonnage is extremely scarce, and a further advance has taken place in the rate for sugar, which is:—£5. 15s. per ton to the Continent; to New York, £5. 15s. per ton.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—March 29, Niewland, from Sunderland to Hong Kong; 40, Karoline, Cardiff to Shanghai; April 3, Glen Aros, London to Hong Kong; 4, Berhard and Agnes, Amsterdam to Singapore; 5, Shanghai, Newcastle, for orders; 11, White Adder, London to Shanghai.

From CHINA, &c, to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—March 25, West Batavia to London; 29, Macassar, Shanghai to Liverpool; 31, Samuel, Shanghai to London; April 1, Volunteer, Shanghai to London; 5, Black Watch, Hong Kong for London, and Lyolla, Manila to Liverpool; 7, Chieftain, Sarawak to London; Daybreak, Foo-chow, to London; Berdinkha and Sea Witch, Shanghai to London; 9, Helena, Hong Kong to Liverpool; and 16, Anna Forster, Batavia to Falmouth.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—March 29, Willy, from Manila; April 1, Milbrook, from Nagasaki; 4, Canton; 6, Solo; and 11, Ocean Eagle, from Manila to New York.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—May 23, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Tollens; from Padang, Van der Palm; at Texel, from Banjoewangie, Sophia Kon der Nederlanden; 24, at Liverpool, from Hong Kong, Cornelia Hendrika; 26, at Liverpool, from Shanghai, Veloz; at London, from Hong Kong, Rio; May 23, off the Start from Sourabaya: Regina Maris; 11, at New York, from Foo-chow-Foo: Santon; 12, from Manila: Caduceus; 25, at Texel, from Banjoewanjie: Jan v. Schaffelaar.

DEPARTURES.—May 25, from London, for Sunderland and Shanghai, Weymouth; 23, from Shields, for Shanghai, Queen of the Tyne; 24, from Newport, for Shanghai, Analyst; 26, from Liverpool, for Singapore, Prince Waldemar; 25, from Shields, for Shanghai, Bertha, from Cardiff, for Shanghai, Timavo, Trieste; 24, from Sunderland, for Singapore, Dunedin; 27, from Deal, for Shanghai, Constance; 28, from Liverpool, for Cardiff and Singapore, Florentin.

LAID ON.—At London, for Singapore, Early Dawn. At Liverpool, for Singapore, Florentin. At Liverpool, for Hong Kong, Lodore. For Hong Kong *via* Cardiff, Virginia.

SPOKEN.—Souberg, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 11, 48 N., 7 W.; Batavia, Amsterdam to Batavia, May 10, 48 N., 8 W.; Kortenaar, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 10, 48 N., 7 W.; Philip van Marnix, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 8, 47 N., 10 W.; Helene and Anna, Dutch ship, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 12, on the line, 22 W.; Barque, 3rd d.p., No. 5,481, London to China, 10 days out, May 11, 47 N., 9 W.; Johannes, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 12, 2 N., 23 W.; Huydecoper, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 13, 50 N., 2 W.

The Loochoo barque, Warden, from Ardrossan for Shanghai, has been totally wrecked on the north bank of the Yang-tsze-kiang; three men reported missing.

The Tricolour, Price, from Liverpool for Hong Kong, put back to Holyhead, May 26, leaky.

THE P. AND O. STEAMER "CANDIA" IN A CYCLONE.

The passage to India and China by the overland route is generally reckoned on as a simple question of so many days, and persons speak of taking a run out and being back almost before they are missed in this country. An exception to this general rule has just occurred to the P. and O. Company's steamer *Candia* on her way from Aden to Galle with the outward mails of the 4th-11th April. Her mails were transferred to the *Messageries Imperiales* steamer leaving Aden with the outward mails of the 17th April. In a late issue we recorded the transfer of the mails from one of the French boats to a P. and O. steamer; thus the public have the benefit of the harmonious working of these two companies. Thanks to the good sense which guides their affairs. The following is the Captain's report:—

"Aden, May 5.

"THE DIRECTORS OF THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

"I regret to have to advise you of my return to this port on the 3rd inst., having been compelled to put back, owing to damage received on the 29th of April in a heavy cyclone off Ras Ulloolah, in latitude 12. 48 longitude 51. 12.

"We left this port for Galle on the 27th, and experienced very fine weather, with smooth water, until the morning of the 29th, when it suddenly changed.

"At 2 A.M. I was called as usual. It was then beautifully clear and fine, with a light breeze from the northward, and we made all plain sail. At daylight we met with a heavy easterly swell; the weather then had the appearance of rain; the barometer remained steady.

"At 9 A.M. the barometer suddenly fell two-tenths. I then gave orders to take in the topgallantsails, and double reef the topsails; before that was completed the barometer had fallen three-tenths more, and the breeze was rapidly increasing. The foretopsail was just reefed when it blew away; hauled the foresail and furled it, and secured it with the studding sail gear, &c.; the main and mizen topsails were left on the cap double-reefed; the carpenter and his mates employed securing tarpaulins, &c.

"By noon the barometer was down to 29·10, and it was blowing furiously; the main and mizen topsails were blown out of the bolt ropes.

"At 3.30, finding that I was running into the centre of a cyclone, I hove the ship to, with her head to the N.N.E., keeping the engines working slowly. By 1 P.M. we had a most terrific gale; the ship was completely buried to leeward, and taking in tons of water, which washed the tarpaulins off the skid gratings, and an immense quantity of water found its way on to the main deck, and down the fore stoke-hole, &c.; the lee boats were washed away; the weather quarter boat blew out of the tackles and was lost. The weather lifeboat was blown inboard altogether, bringing the davits with it. About 3 P.M. the mizenmasthead carried away, the maintopmast and foretopgallantmast soon followed, the leward cathead was washed away, and the anchor washed off the forecastle, but the shank painter held it. We were not able to send any hands forward to secure it, and the following morning we found it had knocked a hole in the bow, but well above the water-mark.

"At 4 P.M. the barometer commenced to rise: the ship was then in a fearful plight, the water increasing fast in the stokehole and engine-room, ship labouring heavily all the sails blown out of the gaskets, the deck-gear either washed away or smashed, awning booms carried away by the force of wind alone, lee bulwarks gone in many places, lower booms, hencoops, and ladders washed overboard. Mr. Miller, the chief engineer, reported to me that he could not keep steam up any longer, owing to the quantity of water in the stokehole. Stopped the engines. About this time Mr. Turner, second officer, who was engaged in securing the tarpaulins, was washed to leeward, and had his leg broken in two places by a hencoop. Set all hands (passengers and stewards included) to pump and bale.

"At 6 P.M. the gale was moderating, and the barometer rapidly rising; the ship then appeared a complete wreck, the whole of the starboard cabins were full of water, the berths and washstands washed down, and the whole of the baggage destroyed. From this time it gradually moderated, and the wind veered round to the S.E., and became fine; the pumping and baling was continued until 11 P.M. the following day, although at times we had great difficulty with the pumps, owing to their getting choked with the coal in the bilges.

"At 11 P.M. on the 30th got up steam and proceeded towards Galle; the following day, at 5 A.M., the engineer reported that he could not keep up steam, owing to the quantity of water in the stokehole. I then considered it prudent, as both passengers and crew were nearly exhausted, to return to Aden; turned the ship round accordingly, and set all hands pumping and baling again.

"On the morning of the 2nd I passed a large number of bales floating about, and one dead body. Pumping was continued until the 3rd, when we arrived at this port about noon.

"I cannot speak in too high terms of the whole of the officers; the manner in which they exerted themselves is beyond all praise; also of the passengers and stewards; they all worked with a will.

"On the morning of the 1st the passengers formed themselves into sanitary parties, and cleared the main deck of wet bedding and baggage, which was commencing to get offensive. I am sorry to say many of them are heavy losers, as, independent of the baggage in the cabins, a large quantity is damaged in the baggage-room.

"The officers and crew have also lost the greater part of their effects.

"The cargo, as far as we can see, has escaped damage.

"J. S. CASTLE, commander steamship *Candia*."

THE AMERICAN TELEGRAPH TO RUSSIA, &c.

(*New York Herald*).

WASHINGTON, April 21, 1864.

The efforts of Mr. Collins to enlist members of Congress and other prominent parties in his great enterprise of a telegraphic connection between Europe and America are, we understand, meeting with encouraging success. This subject has previously received the attention of Congress, in which body, it will be recollected, two very favourable reports were made three years ago—one by Senator Latham, of California; the other by Mr. John Cochrane, of New York.

Since the date of those reports Mr. Collins has spent a large portion of the intervening time in pushing his enterprise, mainly in Europe, where he has succeeded not only in interesting a considerable portion of the mercantile community in his projects, but in enlisting the patronage of Governments also. The fact of the valuable concessions made to him by England and Russia of the right of way through their dominions in the north-western portion of this continent, has already been made public. These concessions are valuable, as indicating the favour with which the enterprise is looked upon in other countries. They are valuable also in another point of view, for they offer such inducements to capitalists as will, it is believed, insure the speedy completion of the overland line to St. Petersburg and London with a very moderate degree of encouragement from the United States Government.

The enterprise of Mr. Collins is thoroughly American in conception,

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and is to be owned and controlled by American capital. For these reasons alone, therefore, it would seem to have peculiar claims upon the attention of the American public, as well as upon the favour of the Government.

A large portion of the Russian line with which the wires of Mr. Collins are to connect is already finished, and the work is now being rapidly pushed on at both ends—namely, from Irkoutsk, in Eastern Siberia; to which point the wires are already working from St. Petersburg, a distance of four thousand miles, and from the Amoor westwardly to meet the Siberian wires. The parties who have undertaken the construction of Mr. Collins' portion of the line—that is, the connecting link between Europe and America, *via* Behring's Straits—are gentlemen of experience in telegraph matters. It was their enterprise which, taking hold of the Pacific line at a time when all other men shrank from it, and enlisting the sympathies of the Government in its behalf, carried it through to a successful ending, in spite of the warning of friends as well as capitalists to let it alone. The fact that these eminently practical as well as energetic individuals have put their shoulders to the enterprise of Mr. Collins, is an assurance that the project will eventually be accomplished. But as the work is eminently national in its scope, and as, moreover, much time must necessarily be consumed in its construction before any returns can be made for the vast outlays its proprietors must submit to, it would seem that Government ought to find in the enterprise a case eminently worthy of its fostering patronage. The small subsidy allowed the line to the Pacific has, we are told, been paid back over and over again every year, through the facilities of the line enjoyed by Government in its correspondence with its Pacific posts. Similar facilities, only quadrupled in value, will be the result of the completion of the Russo-American line.

To all undertakings of this nature, so vast in its proportions and so full of promise to the welfare and progress of the country, Government will but show a prudent regard to the future, as well as a generous spirit in extending a helping hand. Russia and Great Britain in granting the right of way through their territories, besides according other valuable privileges for the purpose of encouraging the enterprise, have therein set an example which our Government, it is to be hoped, will not hesitate to follow.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

OUR POLICY IN CHINA AGAIN.

(May 20th).—Mr. BAXTER, in rising, pursuant to notice, to call attention to the state of affairs in China, said that while he approved the policy of non-interference which had been pursued by the Government in America and in Europe, he could not express satisfaction with the course which they had taken in Asia, where their policy had been one of interference and war. If, he added, we persist in that policy much longer we should have to encounter difficulties, the importance of which it was impossible to exaggerate. He objected to our aiding the Imperialists in China on two grounds,—in the first place, because he believed that in doing so we were acting on a bad principle; and, in the second place, because he did not think our efforts in that direction were likely to be attended with success. He did not, however, deem it necessary, after the exhaustive speeches which have been made on the subject by the hon. member for Northumberland, and the noble lord the member for Cockermouth, to enter very largely into details on the present occasion. As a merchant owning goods in the treaty ports of China, he did not hesitate to confess that he naturally wished these goods to be protected; but it was, he admitted, a doubtful question whether he was justified in calling upon the general body of the taxpayers of this country to contribute their money with that object, under the exceptional circumstances in which China was placed. Be that, however, as it might, he felt perfectly convinced that he was not, as a representative of the people, justified in voting away their money to assist a dynasty in that country which he looked upon as tottering to its fall. He would, no doubt, be met at the outset by the argument that the Government had done nothing more than defend the treaty ports, and the Under-Secretary of State, indeed, had over and over again maintained that we had been guilty in China of no breach of neutrality; but if the hon. gentleman would read the speeches which he had made on the subject, he would find that while seeking to justify everything that had been done there, and everbody by whom it had been done, he had admitted more than once that our policy in China had been neither impartial nor uniform. The papers which had been laid upon the table of the House did not, at all events, bear out the statement that we had been guilty in that country of no breach of neutrality. In the first despatch of Mr. Hammond to Sir E. Lugard, in April, 1863, he found it stated that Earl Russell did not deny that there was inconvenience in the state of things pointed out by the Commander-in-Chief, but that Her Majesty's Government could not allow British officers who were only temporarily detached from their regiments to be making war on the Taipings all over China. Again, in March of the same year, Sir F. Bruce wrote to General Staveley to the effect that he was very anxious it should be borne in mind that we were not making war on the Taipings, while, in the month of June, the Secretary for the Admiralty, in writing to Mr. Hammond, said he was commanded by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send for the information of Earl Russell a copy of a letter dated 14th of the previous April from Admiral Kuper, respecting the proceedings of Captain Dew, of the *Encounter*, at Show-Shing, and to state that the Admiral had been instructed to inform Captain Dew that he had exceeded his instructions in taking part in hostilities beyond the prescribed limit of 30 miles. Now, these instructions were all very well, but there were unfortunately other letters of the noble lords which have a different aspect, as well as two letters from the Foreign-office, in the latter of which Mr. Hammond stated that he was directed by Earl Russell, to say that during the then existing state of affairs in the neighbourhood of Shanghai British officers on full pay should be allowed to join the force under General Gordon's command, and to serve beyond the 30 miles radius. There was, besides, among the papers for 1862 a curious despatch setting forth the opinions of the noble lord with respect to the discipline to be observed in the British contingent in China, so that the instructions given on the one side of the question might, he thought, very well be set down against those given on the other. He would, however, appeal from the instructions to facts, which justified him in saying that we first broke our neutrality by our early operations within the thirty miles' radius round Shanghai, and subsequently by our operations at Ningpo, which was taken by a force commanded by Captain Dew. Our neutrality was again broken when the Commander-in-Chief of the British forces at Shanghai appointed Captain Gordon to the command of the Chinese auxiliaries. What was the character of these allies of ours, and what had been the proceedings of the men with whom it had been thought right to associate the soldiers of a Christian nation? The barbarities which were committed at Soochow were a sufficient answer to this question; but the blue-books were full of instances of the cruelty and perfidy of the Imperialists, and Sir F. Bruce had over and over again remonstrated with the Chinese Government upon the subject of the barbarous cruelties committed by their soldiers, which cruelties were defended by Prince Kung, the very man who was held up in that House by the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs as a man of humanity and enlightenment. (Hear, hear.) He now came to his second objection to the policy of upholding the Tartar dynasty—that it was not likely to succeed. In point of fact, we had been endeavouring to uphold a foreign dynasty which had never established itself in the affections of the people, and which those who had travelled in China told us would have fallen long ago if it had not been for foreign interference. Abbe Huc wrote that morality, arts, and industry had decayed, that poverty and destitution were making rapid progress, and that since the accession of the Mantchoo dynasty Chinese society had undergone a great alteration for the worse. Captain Blakiston, in his work entitled *Five Years on the Yang-tze*, declared that since the accession of the Tartar dynasty everything in the empire had fallen into a languishing and expiring condition, and that the rebellion against the Government was by no means confined to the Taipings, but extended very generally over the population. He had rather accept this testimony, agreeing as it did with the evidence of all missionaries and travellers, than the statements of the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who represented everything as *couleur de rose*. Sir F. Bruce and the consul at Shanghai told a very similar tale. It had been asked how it was that if the dynasty was so weak it had held power so long. The answer was, that no revolution had ever been accomplished in China until after years of convulsion, insurrection, and civil war, and he, in his turn, might ask how it happened, if the Taipings were so universally detested as had been represented in that House, that fears were so generally entertained lest the Imperialist troops and the auxiliary forces themselves should go over to the rebels? (Hear, hear.) He observed with regret the support given by the Government to the expedition sent out under Captain Sherard Osborn, and more particularly the parting benediction of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and he rejoiced at its failure because it opened to us an escape from a situation of great embarrassment and difficulty. He hoped that we should date from that event a total change in British policy in China. Our whole policy there for many years past had been, not a comedy, but a tragedy of errors. (Hear, hear.) He freely admitted that the whole blame did not rest with the Government, but must be shared by both Houses of Parliament and by the country, and his object was not to cast reproaches upon any one for what had been done in the past, but to provide security for the future. In the last sentence of a despatch written in June, 1860, Sir F. Bruce said, "No course could be so well calculated to lower our national character as to yield our material support to a Government the corruption of whose authorities is only checked by its weakness." That was what we had been doing, and our ambassador still adhered to his opinion of the impolicy of our conduct. Only the other day his hon. and gallant friend the member for Aberdeen brought out the fact that in June, 1863, Sir F. Bruce, in concert with the other ambassadors at Peking, signed a memorandum in which he expressed these same views, and complained of the employment of British officers in the Imperial service. That memorandum had been presented to the American Congress: but it had been suppressed by our Foreign-office, because if it had been produced the Government would have been forced to change their policy. In June or July last year the noble lord at the head of the Government, in replying to the noble lord the member for Cockermouth, entreated the House to wait for one year and see the result of the policy which was then being pursued. They had waited a year, they had seen the result of that policy, and every word of warning which was spoken by the noble lord the member for Cockermouth had been proved to be true. (Hear, hear.) Therefore, the question which he had to ask the noble viscount at the head of the Government, whom he was sure that they were all delighted to see again in his place (general cheers), was whether the Government meant in future to adhere strictly and honourably to the defence of British property in the treaty ports, refusing every kind of aid, direct or indirect, to the Imperialists, and abandoning altogether the attempt to bolster up and support the Government of Peking. He should also like to know what instructions, if any, had been sent to Her Majesty's servants in China with reference to this important question, and whether they had been enjoined for the future not only not to accept employment under the Imperial dynasty, but to take no step, however indirect, to support the Government of the Emperor. (Hear, hear.)

Lord PALMERSTON: I am quite ready to answer the question of my hon. friend, but I must be allowed to say I regret that, notwithstanding the acuteness of his mind and the ability which he shows on all occasions, he has come to conclusions which are not supported by the materials which he says he has searched and digested. (Hear.) My hon. friend started with a general theory, and nothing is so liable to mislead as a general theory. (Hear, hear.) My hon. friend said that the principle upon which the British Government ought to act is that of non-intervention in the affairs of other States—a very plausible principle, and one which, in many cases, ought to be strictly adhered to; but my hon. friend forgets that there are cases in which we have treaty rights—that there are cases in which we have national interests, and if his doctrine were to be applied rigidly and in every case, our treaty rights would be violated and our national interests would be sacrificed. (Hear, hear.) This has been the principle invariably acted on by the British Government. We have

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interfered with great success in the affairs of other countries, and with great benefit to the countries concerned. We so interfered, for instance, in the affairs of Greece, and we established the independence of that State. (Hear, hear.) We interfered in the affairs of Belgium, and we established the independence of Belgium as a separate State. We interfered in the affairs of Portugal, and enabled Portugal to obtain a free and Parliamentary constitution. (Hear, hear.) We interfered in the affairs of Spain with like success and with a similar result. We interfered in the affairs of Turkey, of Syria, and of Egypt, and we maintained the integrity of the Turkish empire. These were all events preceding the Crimean war, and I do not think any man in this House will say that in that struggle we were unsuccessful. We have interfered in the affairs of China. Why? Because our treaty rights were endangered and our national interests were at stake. (Hear.) See how inconsistent my hon. friend was at the beginning of his speech and in its conclusion. He said he would never, as a member of this House, consent to throw upon the tax payers of this country burdens for the sake of protecting his interests in China.

Mr. BAXTER said the noble noble lord had not properly caught his meaning.

Lord PALMERSTON: My hon friend said it was quite true he had merchandise and interests in China, and that he would not call on the Government to protect them. (Hear, hear.)

MR BAXTER: I said that might be an open question.

Lord PALMERSTON: My hon. friend now says that would be an open question. But in the question which he put to me at the conclusion of his speech, there was no uncertainty whatever, because he asked whether the Government would confine themselves to maintaining the security of our establishments in the treaty ports, in one of which I suppose his property must lie. ("Hear," and laughter.) I am bound to say that I quite concur in the propriety of maintaining and defending the security of British interests in the treaty ports. (Hear, hear.) But what has been the history of our interference in China? See the inconsistency of these mercantile gentlemen. They are constantly urging the Government to make treaties of commerce with foreign countries, and to extend the range of our commercial interests. Only the other day I received a deputation from the manufacturing districts urging that a reorganization of the Foreign-office and the Board of Trade should take place, for the purpose of enabling the Government more adequately to extend the commercial relations of this country. And the feeling no doubt was honestly entertained, because everybody must know that on the extension of our commerce depends the prosperity of our country, the accumulation of our capital, the abundance of our revenue, and the strength and prosperity of the nation. Any measure, therefore, calculated to increase the commercial relations of the country, so far from meriting the censure which my hon. friend, as a commercial man, thought fit to pass upon it, it is deserving of praise because it accords with the wishes and interests of the country. It was long felt that China would open a vast field of commercial enterprise to us; and there can be no doubt that among other things the great expansion of commerce with that empire has enabled us to meet without disaster the unfortunate obstructions to our commerce and manufactures occasioned by events still going on in America. (Hear.) My hon. friend says that the Chinese, especially the Imperialists, are a cruel people. Well, I have myself said in this House, and I repeat it, that the nature of the Chinese population is cruelty and perfidy. But those qualities are not confined to Imperialists, they are shared in a far higher degree by the Taipings, who are peculiar objects of interest to some hon. members of this House. (A laugh.) My hon. friend talks about a massacre at Soochow. There was no massacre. ("Oh, oh!") There was a very treacherous act committed towards the Whangs, who were decoyed into the power of the Tartar commander, the Tootai, who revenged upon them what he stated to have been an act of great barbarity committed by them on a former occasion I will not justify in any degree what they did. I am merely stating the extenuation put forward by themselves. But what happened the other day?—and this is a specimen of the acts of which Taipings are capable. There was a little steamer called the *Firebrand*, which they seized and carried off, and it was stated, and not contradicted, that four or five unhappy persons were roasted to death.

Colonel SYKES: By whom?

Lord PALMERSTON: By the Taipings.

Colonel SYKES: No, no! (Laughter)

Lord PALMERSTON: I believe their bodies were found in a charred state, but there was no other proof of the fact. Of course persons in the interest of these people who like to carry on a contraband trade with the Taipings, and to make a profit by supplying them with arms and ammunition—send home to their acquaintances high-flown panegyrics on the Taipings; but every impartial person writing from China bears witness to the desolation marking the track of the Taipings. (Hear) The districts which they occupy are laid waste, the people reduced to starvation, and only the other day we heard of a place in which the people were obliged to eat human flesh as a last resource. Is that a state of things conducive to British commerce? (Hear, hear.) Is that a state of things the extension of which to the immediate neighbourhood of our treaty ports we ought to permit? (Hear, hear.) My hon. friend does not deny that as far as the radius of 30 miles from these ports extends, we are justified in what we have done, and that it is our duty to keep these marauding Taipings from making piratical incursions within those limits. But my hon. friend, in studying the Blue-books, has not studied with equal care the history of China. He talked of the present dynasty as a foreign dynasty; and though he did not say, he certainly implied that it had been recently established in a conquered country, and, therefore, had no root in the affections of the population. If I am not misinformed, I rather think the dynasty has been the best part of 500 years in existence.

Colonel SYKES: No; 250 or 260 years.

Lord PALMERSTON: Well, when a dynasty has been established in a country for 250 years, I think hon. gentlemen at least ought to admit that it is well rooted ("hear," and laughter), has a good hold on the population of the country, and is no longer entitled to be called a foreign dynasty. (Cheers.)

Colonel SYKES: India! ("Order, order.")

Lord PALMERSTON: I say that it is greatly to the interest of this country to maintain those commercial rights which the treaty concluded with China gave us. When first the war with China began Sir James Graham, a sagacious man, warned this House of the danger that must arise from entering into war with a third portion of the human race. I return that argument to my hon. friend, and I say, what must be the commercial advantages to this country if it can have an unimpeded uninterrupted commerce with one-third of the human race? (Hear. hear.) It is, therefore, for our interests that tranquillity should be restored in China. My hon. friend says that the dynasty is tottering to its fall. I can only judge from what reports reach us, but I should rather be inclined to say that the rebellion is more likely to end than the dynasty to be overthrown. (Hear, hear.) No doubt there are parts of China which are always threatened with rebellion more or less violent; but that, I am sorry to say, is the normal state of many of those Oriental Governments which lack the organization and energy necessary to maintain order throughout their entire dominions. Such has been the condition of Turkey; such has been peculiarly the condition of China, whose central government has always had the greatest difficulty in maintaining order in its remoter provinces. But I can assure my hon. friend, as far as we can trust the accounts which reach us, that the Taeping rebellion has been narrowed to a much more restricted circle than it occupied one or two years ago; and that if we are to speculate on the future it will be safer to reckon that the rebellion is tending towards extinction, than that the dynasty is tottering to its fall. Besides, what must happen if the Imperial Government be overthrown? You would have nothing but extensive anarchy. (Hear, hear.) The Taepings are perfectly incapable of ruling the empire, and if they attempted to do so there would soon be fresh rebellions against them. In reply to my hon. friend, I stated that our interference as a direct interference has been limited to the treaty ports; but we certainly did give to the Chinese Government the assistance of British advice and arrangement in collecting their customs and improving their revenue, and great benefits have resulted to the Chinese Government from that assistance. (Hear.) Last year we issued an order authorising Captain Osborne and others acting under Mr. Lay to raise a squadron for the purpose of restoring order in the waters of China, and getting rid of the piracies which endanger navigation. My hon. friend says that when the expedition started he foretold its failure. Perhaps in that respect he was a better judge of Chinese character than we were. It certainly did fail, owing to the jealousies which existed between the central and provincial Governments, and to their desire to subject Captain Osborn to restraints and restrictions which he felt it would not be for his honour or for the advantage of this country to submit to. (Hear.) I regret very much that the expedition of Captain Sherrard Osborn did not succeed, because I believe that if it had gone on, and if Captain S. Osborn had been allowed to direct it according to his views, it would have put an end to that piracy which is now desolating all the coasts of China. That order in Council has been revoked, and there is no intention on the part of Her Majesty's Government to issue such an order again. Then there was another order in Council, authorizing any British subject to enter into the service of China. Major Gordon was one of those who took advantage of that order in Council. It has, however, been revoked, and there is no intention of renewing it. Major Gordon, I am sorry to see by the last accounts, has sustained a check, and has been wounded, I hope not severely. He is a most able and distinguished officer, and one who has performed great services for the Imperial Government, and my conviction is that if the Imperial Government could by his or any other means put down the rebellion, not only would they gain a great advantage for themselves, but they would confer an immense advantage upon the commercial interests of this country. All I can say is that it is not our intention to authorise any direct interference in the military or naval service of China as between the Imperial Government and the Taipings, beyond the protection to be afforded within a radius around our treaty ports. That is a duty which the Government owe to the commercial interests of this country, and I am quite convinced that if the commercial interests were assembled and were asked their opinion, they would say, "For Heaven's sake protect our commerce in China in the treaty ports." That commerce is daily assuming more and more importance, and is one of the means by which this country has wealth red the difficulty arising out of the diminished supply of cotton from America. I trust my hon. friend will be satisfied with what I have stated, although I cannot agree with him in the conclusions he draws or the objects he desires. My opinion is, that the country at large will be of opinion that the Government are doing their duty in protecting the commercial interests of this country in China, as defined by the treaty with China; and so far is it from being desirable that the Tartar dynasty—that is, the Imperial Government—should be overthrown and that these ragamuffin Taipings—(a laugh)—should get the advantage, that those who know anything about China will feel it to be an object of immense importance that order and tranquillity should be restored in a country in which our commercial relations are so extensive—(cheers).

M. LIDDELL said that the noble lord had expressed a hope that his explanation would be satisfactory. He felt compelled, however, to reply to some of the most glaring inconsistencies he had ever heard from a Minister of the Crown. The noble lord had spoken of the desolation which had been caused by what he termed the inroads of rebels. But the great silk-producing districts, the increase in the trade of which the noble lord had so much prided himself upon, had been in the hands of the rebels for the last four or five years. [Colonel Sykes.—"Since 1860."] The noble lord stated that the rebellion was waning, yet he next said that the troops, headed by a skilful English officer, had received a severe check. He could himself add that the French contingent had also received a serious check, and that in the opinion of persons on the spot there was a likelihood that Major Gordon and his force would be cut off. The successes of the rebels had been very considerable, and had followed each other in rapid succession ever since the last debate in that house. The noble lord had defended the policy of the Government in China, and had stated that it was intended to continue it. Had the noble lord, however, studied the advice of the Government Envoy in China, because the Government policy in every one of its most material points had been not only disputed, but absolutely contradicted by Sir F.

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Bruce during the last two years? It appeared to him that the Government ought either to follow the advice of their envoy in China or to recal him. It was rather significant that the noble lord began by telling the House that general theories were liable to mislead. He did not know whether that remark was applicable to a speech made lately from the Treasury bench in the noble lord's absence; but, if so, he must express his belief that if the noble lord at the head of the Government had been present those very misleading general theories would possibly not have been heard in that House. [The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER: "Question, question."] Perhaps his remark did not exactly bear upon the question; but at the same time he concurred with the noble lord that general theories were likely to mislead. After the experience which had now been had of the working of the Government policy in China, the House had, he thought, a right to expect a complete renunciation of that policy. The commercial interests connected with China disapproved the policy of the Government, and unless they confined themselves to the simple duty of forcing the Chinese to observe their treaty rights, our trade would be materially prejudiced. The noble Lord said that the Government had interfered because our treaty rights were in danger, but he should like to be told in what single instance our treaty rights or trade had been endangered. He had before asked, and he now asked again, for one single instance in which either the property or the life of a British subject had been placed in danger, except in a recent fatal occasion of reprisals. This was the sort of acts to which civil war naturally led; but the civil war in China had been pushed beyond its natural limits by the interference of Her Majesty's Government.

Lord NAAS said he felt that he could not enter upon the important question now before the House without interfering with the discussion which must be raised upon the motion of the hon. member for Rochdale. At present there was no question before the House except that the Speaker leave the chair, and it was impossible to ask the House to give an opinion on the subject. He must, however, enter his protest against some of the assertions of the noble lord, and, at the same time, express his disappointment that the events of the last year had made no change in the policy of the Government. He had hoped that the noble lord would have admitted that the new policy he had inaugurated in China was a failure, and would have promised that the Government would return to the policy which they pursued two years and a half ago. The noble lord had defended the policy of the Government, and said we were continuing in the same path in which we had been working for the last year and a half, and that we were bound to defend our treaty ports. No one denied that we were bound to defend our treaty ports, and, what was more, that we were bound to protect the property of British subjects in China. (Hear, hear.) But the policy of the Government went far beyond that (hear, hear); it went to the length of interfering in the internal and domestic affairs of that country. (Hear, hear.) We had sent a fleet to China, and had lent nearly 100 officers to command the forces, not of the Emperor, but of the local and provincial authorities. (Hear, hear.) He should be able to show on a future occasion that we had endangered the interests of our trade even in the opinion of our merchants themselves, and that our policy was in direct opposition to the views not only of our naval commanders, but of our most eminent representatives. In fact, there was hardly a man who was acquainted with the affairs of China, who did not see the enormous danger of the course we were pursuing, and was not anxious that we should go back to the principles laid down by Earl Russell after the Treaty of Tien-tsin, namely, that we should not interfere in the internal affairs of that empire. (Hear.)

Colonel SYKES said as there was a prospect of a full discussion upon this subject, he would limit himself to a few remarks. The noble viscount in saying that he had interfered in other countries had overlooked the motives for interference. In Europe we had interfered to protect the rights of the people against oppressive Governments, and that interference was to our honour in the cases of Belgium, Portugal, and, to some extent, Spain; but in China we interfered in behalf of a Government which had been described by Sir F. Bruce and other of our representatives there as the most corrupt, treacherous, and cruel Government on the face of the earth. (Hear, hear.) He held in his hand extracts from a paper which contained the real views of the representatives of the four great Governments in China—namely, Russia France, America, and England, and which had been presented as an official communication by the American Secretary of State to Congress. That communication contained a despatch written by Sir F. Bruce on the 20th of June, 1863, and also details of the many conversations which had taken place between Sir F. Bruce and Mr. Burlingham. Those despatches had been sent to the Foreign-office, but when he asked for them recently, he was refused, on the plea that they related to the understanding upon which the foreign Governments in China were to carry out their policy, and could not be produced without injury to the public service. But though they would not be laid before the House of Commons, they had been presented to Congress. He would read the substance of Mr. Burlingham's despatch to Mr. Seward, which was in the possession of the Foreign-office, and was to be found in the library of the House. Mr. Burlingham says, "I expressed a warm desire that he (Sir F. Bruce) would present them (his views) to his Government, that they might become the basis of our future co-operation." He (Colonel Sykes) was indebted to the Under-Secretary for knowing that, because that hon. gentleman on a late occasion quoted as much as served his own purpose, and of course suppressed the rest. Mr. Burlingham went on to say:—

"He accordingly wrote the powerful despatch marked A, which he communicated to me for my private use, and which, with his permission, I send to you confidentially, with the most positive request that it is not to appear until it is first published in England. The three ministers hailed with delight this frank avowal. The policy upon which we are agreed is briefly this,—'That while we claim our treaty right to buy and sell and hire in the treaty ports, subject, in respect to our rights of property and person, to the jurisdiction of our own Government, we will not ask for, nor take concessions of, territory in the treaty ports, nor in any way interfere with the jurisdiction of the Chinese Government over its own people, nor ever menace the territorial integrity of the Chinese Empire. This we will not take part in the internal struggles in China, beyond what is necessary to maintain our treaty rights. That the latter we will unitedly sustain against all who may violate them.' To this end we are now clear in the policy of defending the treaty ports against the Taipings, or rebels, but in such a way as not to make war upon that considerable portion of the Chinese people by following them into the interior of their country. In this connection, while we feel desirous of what we know of it to have the rebellion put down, still we have come to question the policy of lending Government officers to lead the Chinese in the field, for fear of complication among ourselves growing out of the relations to the employed, &c. That while we wish to give our moral support to the Government at the present time, the power in the country which seems disposed to maintain order and our treaty rights, we should prefer that it would organize its own people as far as possible for its own defence, taking only foreigners for instruction in the arts of peace or war, and these as far as possible from the smaller treaty Powers."

(Hear, hear.) It was stated by the noble lord at the head of the Government that the Taipings had roasted four Europeans; but there was testimony from a person in China to the effect that those four persons said to have been roasted in December were alive in January. In contrast with the assertions made of the desolations which accompanied the march of the Taipings, he directed the attention of the House to the following description by Dr. Legg of the proceedings of the Imperialists:—

"It behoves the British Parliament—the British people—to look to the new complication of affairs in China, to look it in the face. If we are to pacify the Empire, we shall require 50,000 troops, and may then find again that we have undertaken more than we are equal to. But, I ask, in whose interest are we to put down the rebellion? Hitherto, Admiral Hope has been acting in the interest of the Imperial Government. Now, I protest against our putting down the rebellion on behalf of the Imperial Government on two grounds. The first is, the ground of its cruelty. I have read harrowing accounts of the devastations of the rebels—how the country is blasted by their march. The accounts are, no doubt, true. But I have seen also the ways of the Imperial braves, and kept company with them for hours together. Their march over the country was like the progress of locusts and caterpillars. Their thirst for blood was quenchless; their outrages on the young and old were indescribable. On the score of cruelty the case must be about equal, inclining to the Imperialist side, if we may judge on the principle that the more cowardly are the more cruel."

With regard to Se-Chow, the great emporium of the silk districts, it appeared from official returns that the exports had increased annually since the Taipings first held it, on the 8th of May, 1860, up to the period when it was taken from them by treachery, and by the aid of Major Gordon and British guns. The annual exports of silk, which had exceeded up to this year 60,000 bales, then fell to 40,000 bales.

Mr. GREGSON understood that since the Order in Council had been withdrawn the policy of the British Government was now confined to defending the treaty ports and defending British life and property. The expedition of Captain Osborn had, as stated by the hon. member for Montrose, failed; but he regretted that that was the case, for its purpose was a noble one. The Chinese Government were very sincere in their application for that force, and promptly remitted the whole of the money to pay for the ships; but afterwards some interference took place on the part of the officers of the Chinese Government, and Captain Osborn would not submit to be placed under any Chinese authority. He must say that he regretted that the Chinese Government had not acted more consistently with their first intentions; for he believed that the valuable assistance which Captain Osborn's expedition might have afforded would have been of the greatest benefit to China. With regard to the silk districts, to which the hon. and gallant member had just alluded, it was his opinion that they had been destroyed by the Taipings.

Mr. KINNAIRD believed that Admiral Kuper had the utmost desire to act with perfect good faith towards the Taipings, but experience showed that those people would not keep faith themselves. He concurred in thinking that Captain Osborn's expedition would have been of great benefit to China in clearing the rivers of pirates; but, under the circumstances, Captain Osborn acted with great discretion in withdrawing his ships, though that step was a great loss to the Imperial Government in China.

TRIAL IN THE COURTS IN CHINA.

(23rd.) Colonel SYKES asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs under what rule, ordinance, or law British subjects in China are subject to trial in the Consular Courts for breaches of neutrality in the present civil war in China.—Mr. LAYARD could not give his hon. friend any information as to any trials for a breach of neutrality; but the jurisdiction exercised by the Consular agents was under certain orders in Council.

SIR F. BRUCE AND MR. BURLINGAME.

(26th.) Mr. J. B. SMITH asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether the communications made by the American Minister, Mr. Burlinghame, at Peking, in a despatch to Mr. Seward, the Secretary of State at Washington, and dated the 20th of June, 1863, respecting the joint policy to be pursued in China by the Ministers of England, France, and America, was substantially in accord with a despatch addressed to Earl Russell, and a copy of which Sir Frederick Bruce gave to the American Minister, and whether a reply had been given to Sir Frederick Bruce's despatch, and in what sense.—Mr. LAYARD said Sir Frederick Bruce had not informed the Government that he had ever communicated to the American Minister such a despatch as that referred to by the hon. member; but there was a despatch among the papers in the Foreign-office which had the appearance of being the one spoken of by the hon. gentleman. The only objection to producing it in full was that it might not be consistent with our duty towards foreign Governments to publish the entire of the despatch; but if the hon. member allowed him to make extracts from the document he would produce those passages which he believed would satisfy the hon. gentleman's object. With regard to Sir Frederick Bruce, Her Majesty's Government had always felt the most complete confidence in him; and as there was no difference between the Government and Sir Frederick in respect to the principles laid down in the despatch to which reference was made in the latter portion of the question, it did not require an answer.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 28, 1864.

ANOTHER DEBATE ON CHINA.

WITH persistent action, the philo-Taiping members of the House of Commons renewed the old topic of debate on British policy in China last Friday, which we had imagined received its *quietus* this session in the discussion before the recess. On this occasion the PREMIER undertook the defence of that policy himself; and with his usual inexhaustible fund of argument in reply to the mover of the question, convinced the House of its soundness. His home-thrust at that hon. member, as an interested but inconsistent advocate of our commercial relations in China, was keen and sharply aimed, showing that the vigour of political debate is still fresh within the "old man eloquent," party surmises to the contrary notwithstanding. We may thank Mr. BAXTER for again broaching the subject, as his questions elicited so many conclusive reasons in support of the Government action on this Taiping question. Lord PALMERSTON goes back to first principles, in elucidating the policy of intervention hitherto successfully pursued in the East, where our commerce required protection; and holds that such will rule our future relations with China, which has proved the opportune support of British foreign trade during the convulsions which have paralysed American traffic. As to rebellions in China, he alluded to the well-known fact that these have been the rule, and eras of peace the exception from time immemorial. And, he might have added, considering the vast territorial extent of that empire, with its multitudinous population, this is a matter not to be wondered at; inasmuch as, being greater than all Europe, a comparison of history will show that these regions of the West have been as rebellious as those of the Far East. Indeed, it would have been an apt illustration of the subject to show that with all our boasted institutions for the conservation of peace, Europe at the present time is suffering as much from a state of war as China is from rebellion; and the "greatest nation in all creation" is ten times worse. It is only by such comparisons that we can judge of a rebellion in one or two of the eighteen provinces of China, each of which is equal to a European State of the first or second order. It is with much satisfaction we remark that Lord PALMERSTON paid a well-deserved tribute to Major GORDON by designating him "a most able and distinguished officer," hoping that he is not wounded severely, as announced in the telegram from Suez. In this wish we cordially join, and trust that when the details reach us of his unexpected reverse at Kiu-tang, affairs will present a more favourable aspect than this brief message indicates.

THE ANGLO-AUSTRALIAN AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

FOR the past six years Mr. FRANCIS GISBORNE has been engaged in the formation of a company to carry out a line of telegraphic communication between Singapore, China, Java, and Australia, to be connected with the Indian system at Rangoon, to which port the lines already extend, and on completion of the cable now being laid in the Persian Gulf, the last-named will be in communication with England. Mr. GISBORNE has obtained a subsidy from the Dutch and Australian Governments, but owing to the unfortunate failure of the Red Sea cable our Government declines to follow their example. No doubt such a subsidy would smooth the course very materially, but we fully believe sufficient support will be obtained from our merchants and underwriters to make the undertaking remunerative. The spirit of enterprise is at the present day so strong that we are confident the necessary capital will be forthcoming under the very able board of directors which Mr. GISBORNE has succeeded in forming. The list comprises merchants and others practically acquainted with the trade, and of first class standing. The correspondence Mr. GISBORNE has conducted on the subject with the British, Dutch, and Australian Governments has been published in the form of a blue-book by order of Parliament. According to a map that has been published, the lines proposed will be as follows:—

From Rangoon to Singapore a submarine cable of 1,200 miles will be laid in three sections, in a depth of forty fathoms. The first section will extend from Rangoon to King Island along the coast of Siam; the second from King Island to Penang in the Straits of Malacca; and the third on to Singapore. From Singapore to Hong Kong, say about 1,300, the first section of the cable will stretch from Singapore, across the head of the Gulf of Siam, to Saigon; from Saigon to the Island of Hainan, on the west coast of China, and from thence to Hong Kong. From Hong Kong it is proposed to lay another cable to Shanghai, in sections to Amoy, the north end of Formosa, and thence to Shanghai, the distance being about 1,000 miles. If these cables are successfully laid and worked, there will be no difficulty in continuing them on to Tien-tsin and also to Japan.

The Java and Australia part of the project will be as follows:—From Singapore the cable will be laid to the Island of Banca, thence to Batavia; from Batavia a land line is already laid right through Java to Cape Sedano; from the latter place the line will be laid to the north or south end of the Island of Timor—a place well known and much frequented by vessels to and from China during the adverse monsoons. From Timor the stretch will be to Port Essington; from there across the Gulf of Carpentaria to Port Denison in Queensland, which is already in telegraphic communication with Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide. The depth of water in which the cables are to be laid ranges from 20 to 80 fathoms. The entire distance of the proposed operations is about 6,000 nautical miles, and the estimated capital required about two and a quarter millions sterling.

THE JAPANESE AMBASSADORS IN FRANCE.

The Ambassadors are making the best use of their time, and are producing a decidedly good impression. It is evident that their Government has, upon the present occasion, either selected better men for the mission than it did previously, or has given them wiser instructions. The present Ambassadors are manifestly intent upon really studying the strange people in the midst of whom they are thrown, and also on leaving a pleasant impression of their own manners and habits of thought on the European mind. Not long since the Ambassadors visited Vincennes, that curious old building, like all its contempories, half-palace and half-prison, and where, by the way, died Harry of England, Falstaff's friend in youth and England's champion in after years. They inspected the old donjon tower, the arsenal, the *salle d'armes*, and the barracks; and their inquiries proved they were no mere loungers and sight-seers, but men intent on picking up information and storing it for future use.

Since this they have paid a visit to Cherbourg and other places. The Ambassadors were accompanied during their journey by a numerous suite, and also by M. Ballier, an attaché of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Paris; M. Blekman, Interpreting Secretary to the French Legation in Japan; M. Hervé de Lavaur, a medical man, also attached to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; M. Pagès, Professor of the Japanese language, and several French artists. They were received at the railway station by the Sub-Prefect, commandant and commander of the artillery of the place, a battalion of the 18th regiment of the line, with band playing, being drawn up in the court of the station. The troops presented arms, and the Ambassadors drove off to the *Hotel de l'Europe*, where apartments had been engaged for them, through a dense crowd of people. On the following morning the Prefect of the Department, General de Maud'hui and Rear-Admiral Roze, acting at present for the Maritime Prefect, made a complimentary State visit to the Ambassadors, which, of course, the latter immediately returned in due form. Soon after this the boats of the Imperial Marine

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carried the Japanese to the maritime port, amid a salvo by the artillery of seventeen guns. At the port the Ambassadors were received by a battalion of marines, with music, and the chief officers were presented to them by Admiral Roze. The party was then escorted through the various portions of the port and arsenal, the sawing machine room, the artillery workshops and the graving docks, and exhibited great interest, especially in all that related to arms, asking innumerable questions respecting them. They then were taken on board the steel-plated vessels *Solferino* and *Couronne*, which again interested them exceedingly, and gave rise to many memoranda in their note-books, of which they make good use upon almost all occasions. They afterwards were taken to the breakwater and forts, where they had an admirable view of the iron-sided fleet lying at anchor within, and the day being magnificent the effect was admirable.

In the evening there was a grand dinner at the lodging of the Ambassadors, to which all the principal officers of the place were invited. In the evening the latter went to the theatre on foot; and on the following morning they departed for Havre in the *Talisman*, where pretty much the same routine was gone through, with due allowance for the special character of the two ports. From Havre they proceeded to Rouen, where they were shown over some of the mills and other establishments, and thence they returned to Paris.

On the 18th the Ambassadors were entertained at a grand dinner by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, when the Minister of Marine and of the Colonies, Baron Gros; M. Albrand, the Superior of Foreign Missions; M. Etiennes, the Superior of the Layaristes; Comte Vitzthum and Triconpi; Ministers of Saxony and Greece in England; Admirals Charner, Jurien la Gravière, and Baron de la Roncière le Noury, many other officers of the army and navy, and all the heads of Departments in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, were present. In the evening Mdme. Drouyn de Lhuys held a reception, at which the Japanese visitors remained till an unusually late hour. They have accepted an invitation from the Swiss Minister to visit that country, and also to enter commercial relations with the Government, and the proposal has been accepted.

The Japanese Ambassadors visited the Grand Opera on the evening of the 23rd inst., to witness the ballet of *Giselle*, when a kind of grand stand was erected for the party at the back of the pit, and in front of the balcony, placing them in the most conspicuous position imaginable. On the 25th the Ambassadors dined with the Emperor at the Tuileries.

EXTRAORDINARY IDENTITY OF THE JAPANESE INTERPRETER.

Several of the Paris journals relate the following story concerning the interpreter of the Japanese Embassy, now in Paris:—Frantz Bleckmann was a native of Holland, but being of a roving disposition, embarked on a vessel bound for Batavia to seek his fortune. Years passed by, and nothing being heard of him, his friends at last concluded that some accident must have befallen him, and that he was no longer living. His father remained in Holland, but being unsuccessful in business, he came to Paris. Here his resources soon failed him, and on writing to a friend to solicit a small loan he received the following letter in reply:—"I send you the money you ask for, and add to it the photographic portaits of the Japanese Embassy. You will remark the face of one of those strangers, for he is the very image of your son." The father could not but perceive the resemblance; the features were certainly the same, but the closely-shaven head and the Oriental costume greatly puzzled him. He, however, went to the courtyard of the hotel in which the Embassy was staying and was so fortunate as to arrive just as the Japanese were passing to go out. The original of the portrait he at once recognised, and called out: "Is that you, Frantz?" In a moment the son—for Frantz it really was—and the old man were locked in each other's arms. The Ambassadors who witnessed the scene were greatly moved, and old Bleckmann's troubles were now at an end, as the son is wealthy and prosperous.

A VOYAGE ROUND JAPAN.

A very interesting volume has lately made its appearance in Paris, published by the Messrs. Hachette, under the title of *Un Voyage Autour du Japon*. M. RODOLPHE LINDAU, the author, was some time ago introduced to the notice of our readers by one of our correspondents. Prepossessed in favour of the book by his recommendation, we have found, on looking into it, that the papers which appeared in the *Revue des Deux Mondes* certainly well deserved the distinction of a separate publication. The author's residence in Japan occupied portions of 1859, 1861, and 1862, and extended altogether to a space of two years. His sojourn, too, was not confined to one city, for he furnishes us with descriptions of Nagasaki, Hakodadi, Yedo, and Kanagawa, and of other places not so well known to us, based on his own actual residence and observation. He, besides, paid a visit to the Russian establishments on the Asiatic coast, his account of which is one of the most important chapters of the book. The general character of the work bears the impress of the mode in which its contents were originally published, partaking of that sketchy, easy-reading style that forms the charm of periodical literature. M. Lindau, moreover, is disposed, after the manner of his countrymen, always to look at matters on the bright side. He has a good word for everybody and every place. With the Japanese themselves he is ever on excellent terms; and the vices he recognises in them he is inclined to attribute to their new-born intimacy with Europeans; for he says, "You may admit it as a general rule, that the natives degenerate morally as soon as they enter into connection with us. To what causes are we to attribute this phenomenon, by no means flattering to our self-esteem? This is not the place for inquiring into it; but I assert that in Japan, as in China, the good and amiable native society has disappeared wherever the influence of Europeans prevails. The coolies of Decima are incorrigible thieves; the traders of Yokohama grow daily more insolent; and the Japanese women who are obliged to submit to the companionship of foreigners very soon lose the modesty that constituted their principal charm."

With the opportunities that our author enjoyed we are rather disposed to express surprise that he has added so little to our knowledge of the customs and laws of the Island Empire; but the difficulties of the language seem not to have been as yet overcome by any but the professional interpreters. To show the nature and amount of the impediments to a free interchange of thought and expression between the European and the Japanese, we will just throw together passages from various parts of the book that enable us to estimate the insurmountability of the barrier they interpose:—

Japanese, the profound study of which is for the learned man strewed with difficulties, presents to the traveller a mass of easy phrases which enables him in a short time to talk on common matters. The sound of Japanese reminds one of Italian. Vowels are abundant, and serve by their harmonious assistance to sustain an accent always placed with precision. The pronunciation is flowing, and a man of very ordinary memory may in a few weeks learn words enough to communicate with the natives without the aid of an interpreter. All foreigners who have resided in Japan for some time make use of the language of the country, and a few speak it readily. As regards the language of the men of letters and of political relations, to be able to write or handle it correctly demands a devotedness to dry philological studies which hitherto, even in the very country, missionaries alone have had the courage to undertake. . . . I endeavoured to explain the object of my visit, and I had some difficulty in making myself understood; but I had still much more to gather the meaning of the reply given. My hosts had never exchanged a word with a European, and the language that I passed off at Yokohama for Japanese seemed not to be naturalised throughout the Empire. In general, the Japanese spoken by most foreigners differs essentially from the pure and choice diction of the natives. So also I often remarked that to converse with traders from the interior the Yokohama dealers made use of their servants as interpreters. However, the difficulty we had in exchanging a few phrases threw no coolness on the kind welcome given me, and which Europeans always find in Japan when there is no particular motive for avoiding or fearing them.

Of the designs of the Russians on the islands and coasts of the Japanese seas, M. Lindau hints the gravest suspicions. The following extracts are of special value:—

POLICY OF RUSSIA IN JAPAN.

On the west of the bay, in front of Nagasaki, is situated the Russian establishment, near the native village of Inassa. The Russians are in the habit of isolating themselves from other foreigners in Japan. While the French, English, American, and Dutch functionaries and commercial men live without exception on the eastern shore of the bay at the gates of Nagasaki and in the centre of business, the Russians have withdrawn to Inassa, a little village peopled by monks, fishermen, and husbandmen. It is evident that the interests they are prosecuting in the Far East are altogether different from those of the English and French. Trade is not what occupies them: they have no representative at Yokohama, where most business is done, and not a single Russian merchant has, up to this time, established himself in Japan. At Hakodadi alone, a very busy city, but without foreign outlets, and for that reason neglected by the English and Americans—at Hakodadi, facing the ports of Mantchouria, is constantly stationed a small fleet of Russian steamers. People are much astonished to find the same nation represented there by a Consul-General, with a surgeon and a priest installed as fixtures. A hospital has been founded, a shipwright's yard constructed, and a number of measure taken from which may be deduced an inevitable intention to create there a durable establishment. The Russian Government has the propensity of certain rich proprietors: it neglects nothing to get its domains within a ring fence. The Island of Jesso, whose chief city is Hakodadi, would thoroughly complete its latest acquisitions in the Far East, and there is no doubt it will, at a period close at hand, seize on the first pretext for becoming its master.

RUSSIAN POSSESSIONS IN MANTCHOURIA.

Besides Vladivostock and Olga Bay, the Russians possess, on the coasts of Mantchouria and on the western coast of the large Island of Saghalien, Passiat Bay, Koussounai, Emperor Bay, Doui, Castries Bay, and Nicolaiefski. At Passiat Bay, in 42 deg. N., coal has been found. Koussounai and Doui, in the Island of Saghalien, offering no shelter for

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vessels, military posts have been established there—at Koussounai (48 deg. N.) to watch the Japanese frontier; at Doui (51 deg.) on account of the coal mines discovered there. The colony of Emperor Bay possesses an excellent anchorage, but is destitute of communication with the interior, and a weak detachment of soldiers suffices for its guard. Castries Bay (52 deg.) is, next to Vladivostock, the most considerable port the Russians have in these quarters. It is connected by an easy route with Lake Kisi, from whence vessels of light draught can reach the River Amoor. The Russians established themselves at Castries in 1854; at Doui in 1856; at Koussounai in 1857; at Olga in 1858; and lastly at Passiat and Vladivostock in 1860. The necessity of all these establishments is not yet fully evident, for Nicolaiefski itself, on the Amoor, the only Russian large town in this part of the world, is far from having acquired much commercial importance. The foundation of these distant colonies will be without a motive until the projects of the Government of the Czars on China and Japan have assumed a degree of consistence. The natural riches of Mantchouria are but imperfectly known, and their development would be attended with immense difficulty. I have already mentioned the coal-pits of Passiat Bay and Doui; I may add that marble has been discovered at Olga Bay, and auriferous ore at Vladivostock. Wood for building abounds in the interior of Mantchouria, and, if set on foot, the fur-trade would yield satisfactory results. The grand obstacle to the civilization of these vast countries—an obstacle that will long remain insurmountable—is the want of population. To the north are met a few wandering tribes—the Guilaks, Tungooses, and Orotches—mixed, about Olga Bay, with some Chinese. South of Olga, and on the coast, Manzas alone are to be found. Maximovitch, the botanist, estimates that the whole native population of the coast of Mantchouria, from 42 deg. to 52 deg. north, does not exceed a thousand souls.

Three chapters are devoted to the later history of Japan, in which the course of events is traced with great clearness and point. The feeling of the Daimios towards the Tycoon and the relative position of parties are put in a very unmistakable light in a quotation from a pamphlet distributed some time back by the section opposed to the latter. The reader will see in it a complete corroboration of the views constantly urged in this journal, and also a remarkable justification of the Prince of Satsuma's desire to possess himself of a war-steamer, as indicated to Colonel Neale by his envoys:—

For centuries the Tycoons, forgetting the origin of their power, have undermined the dignity and power of the Mikado their master, and the conduct of the present Tycoon proves that either equity nor good faith is to be expected from him. Things are come to that pass that foreign Powers look on the Tycoon as master of Japan, and treat the legitimate Emperor as a being without power and without influence. It was to the Tycoon the barbarians addressed themselves when they wanted to conclude treaties with Japan. The Mikado was not even consulted, and his approval, which is indispensable to the introduction of reforms into the constitution, was not solicited. Yet these treaties are in force as if they had a legal value. The Tycoon, therefore, has committed an act of treason against the majesty of his master and the sacredness of the constitution, in virtue of which he is placed at the head of the executive power. It cannot be denied that the Court of the Tycoon is endeavouring to concentrate all the power of Japan at Yedo. There are the arms and the foreign ships; there spring up schools, in which are taught the arts and sciences of the West. The trade with the barbarians has no place but in the dominions of the Tycoon; the great Daimios have no right to open their ports to it; it enriches the subjects of the Tycoon alone, and the latter derives considerable emoluments from it himself. The purpose aimed at by the Government of Yedo is easy to be seen; it is arming and preparing to subjugate all who would like some day to get from under its sway. In the time of Hieas, the eighteen great Daimios united might have offered a formidable resistance; but the armies of those Princes were inferior to those of Hieas but in one respect, that of numbers. Now-a-day, the chances are no longer so equal. The Tycoon's steamers, the firearms he has purchased or had manufactured after foreign patterns, his acquaintance with an entirely new art of warfare, give him a dangerous superiority over the other Japanese Princes. To avoid being attacked in detail, the latter ought to assemble, as soon as possible, and by allying themselves, defeat the tortuous policy of the Tycoon. The Mikado is ready to give the support of his name to the good cause; but for him to do so, it is necessary that an official request should be presented to him. There is no doubt that he would receive it favourably, and would re-establish the union of the old nobility with the legitimate Emperor. From that union, which he has always ardently desired, will spring a return to the ancient and venerable state of things.

In face of the combination against him the Tycoon was obliged to make great concessions, and eventually to promise to pay a visit to the Mikado within a year. This interview, which, according to our latest advices, has but just taken place, would exercise, thinks M. Lindau, a great influence on Japanese affairs, though it would not remove every difficulty. He concludes his historical retrospect in the following terms, which afford an excellent specimen of the author's more serious style:—

The Tycoon is in fact too potent voluntarily to abdicate a power exercised by himself and his ancestors for more than two centuries. The Mikado, on his side, will not, without an obstinate struggle, let slip the opportunity offered to him for regaining the power of which his family has been dispossessed since the days of Taikosama. One fact, however, remains certain—which is, that the existing difficulties of Japan will turn to the advantage of Europe. Whosoever shall be the master the eventualities of the struggle may give to Japan, he must resolutely put himself at the head of the party that is willing to ensure the progress of the empire by a new policy. The foreign element that has penetrated Japan can never again be expelled from it. Whether it like or not, the Japanese Government must remain in relation with the Westerns, and from those relations a better situation must inevitably arise. What the love of conquest did in the primitive times of human society—what love for the Faith did in the Middle Ages, commerce is doing in the present day. The principal civilising agent of modern times, it proceeds in a different manner to what national pride and religious belief did in former epochs; but it tends to the same goal. If the devouring activity of our merchants does not excite the same sympathies as the heroism of warriors and the devotion of apostles, those men none the less serve the cause of Western civilisation with an intelligent and fruitful ardour. They go to spread afar off that light of which their country is the fountain. They carry the influence of European energy unto the most distant and most barbarous countries. And the best guarantee of vitality put forward at this moment by Japanese society is found in the presence amidst it of European men of business—in the growing part that society itself is capable of assuming in the ideas and tentatives given birth to as a consequence of the commercial relations between Japan and the West.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON AND CHINA.

On the 17th inst. the sixth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders was held at the offices in Threadneedle-street; Mr. G. G. Nicol in the chair. The report and statement of accounts, which will be found elsewhere, were taken as read.

The CHAIRMAN hoped the report submitted would be as satisfactory to the shareholders as it was to the directors. The profits of the year had amounted to within a fraction of 40 per cent. The current and fixed deposits and the issues, which were the tests of public confidence and of prosperity, amounted to £8,600,000, and that in the face of a considerable drain on banking deposits. Of the last year's profits they had already divided at the rate of 15 per cent, and added £50,000 to the reserve fund, leaving a balance carried forward of £75,831. The system adopted of paying dividend and bonus in anticipation made it necessary to retain always in hand a sum sufficient to pay the next half-year's dividend and bonus, for which purpose the sum now carried forward would be available on the 1st July, at a rate which he had no doubt would satisfy the proprietors. They had increased the capital by £250,000, and had added £100,000 to the reserve, making the total capital £750,000, and the reserve £250,000. This might appear large for a reserve, but when they considered the great extent of their liabilities and the great importance of confirming the confidence of the public in the bank, he thought they would agree that the policy of the board, in increasing the reserve to an amount which would enable them to meet any emergency was sound. (Hear, hear.)

He had every reason to believe that the present year would be quite as successful in its results as the last; at the same time he wished to guard the shareholders against over sanguine expectations. The commerce of India was still in a transition state, arising principally from the uncertainty in which for some time to come the cotton trade was likely to be involved. It was possible, therefore, that their profits might be temporarily reduced; but the resources of India were so inexhaustible, and were being so stimulated, that he had no doubt of the general prosperity of trade in that country, and of the banking business as a natural consequence. It was only just to say that they were very largely indebted for their present favourable position to the zeal, intelligence, and energy of the officers of the bank, and to mark their sense of the exertions of the various officers, the directors had awarded a bonus equal to 15 per cent. in the case of the manager, and 10 per cent. in the case of all the other officers, on their respective salaries. (Hear, hear.) This amounted to about £6,000. No doubt this was a large sum, but he felt sure that the shareholders would consider it a wise policy.

They had also purchased freehold premises at the several points mentioned in the report; and although as a rule the directors were averse to locking up their monies in dead stock of that kind, the position of matters in India made it imperative that their establishments there should be placed on a permanent footing, otherwise, as land was rapidly rising in value, they might experience great inconvenience and expense in finding themselves suddenly displaced. He was happy to say that the purchases they had made in this way were already worth a considerable profit on the outlay as it stood in the books. He had also to inform them that the directors, finding that the business of the bank was increasing beyond the capabilities of their present offices, had purchased property in Broad-street, where they would have premises equal to three times the business which could be accommodated at the Threadneedle-street establishment, and he was happy to add that the purchase had been so well made that if they were now disposed to resell, they could realise a very considerable profit on the transaction. As would be seen from the report, branches had been opened in various places since the last meeting, and the board was always reluctant to extend branches, but in a bank like this it was absolutely necessary to follow the trade where it was. These were all sub-agencies, that at Point de Galle and Newera Ellia being in connection with the Columbia branch, and the others with the Shanghai branch. In conclusion he moved the adoption of the report, which was seconded by Mr. D. Larnach.

Captain HALL held that the new shares had no right to participate in the profits earned by the old capital.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the new shareholders were part and parcel of the general body. No distinction could be drawn.

Captain HALL repeated his objection, observing that the new capital had not come into operation until December 31. He could not understand what was the object of keeping so large a reserve. Was it that their operations were attended with more than ordinary risk? He thought £200,000 would have been an ample reserve, in which case they would have had £50,000 more to divide among the shareholders. Other banks, whose profits were only half as much as theirs, paid 18 or 19 per cent. to the shareholders, while they only divided 15 per cent. out of 40 per cent. profits earned. He suggested that instead of carrying over £75,800 they should have a bonus of £3 a share, which would enable them still to carry over a balance of £15,800.

The CHAIRMAN said that, so far from there being any unusual risk in

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the operations of the bank, it was quite the contrary. All their transactions were of the safest character, and carried on with the greatest prudence. The object of keeping up so large a reserve was to secure the confidence of the public, and that it had the effect was shown by the increased value of the shares since they had announced their intention of augmenting their reserve. He might mention that it was the intention of the board to pay a dividend on the 1st of July at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum, which would absorb the balance carried over.

Captain HALL complained that the money was kept in hand until July, and contended that the profits made ought to be divided in the current half year.

Mr. D. LARNOCH, a director, remarked that if they were to wait until the accounts of the current half year came in the dividend would not be paid until probably October next. As to the dividend, he thought 20 per cent. was a very good one, considering the time they had been in existence, and he thought too that the price at which the shares stood in the market, viz., £72 on £25 paid, was equally satisfactory.

The CHAIRMAN added that it was thought well to keep in hand a sum which would enable them to maintain something like an equal dividend, and this he hoped they would be able to keep at 20 per cent.

In reply to further questions,

The CHAIRMAN explained that it was thought advisable, looking at the aspect of the times, to keep a large proportion of the revenue invested in securities immediately convertible, and which did not therefore pay so high a rate of interest as it would yield if the money was used in the ordinary operations of the bank. The directors considered the reserve had now reached its maximum, and it was proposed in future to capitalise profits over twenty per cent. for the benefit of the shareholders.

Mr. D. LARNOCH added that the course would probably be to capitalise the extra profits and convert them into new shares to be given to the shareholders. The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

The directors retiring by rotation were re-elected.

Colonel JAMESON urged that directors of this bank ought not to hold office in other banks, and suggested that it was possible information might through their means be given to competing establishments to the injury of this.

The CHAIRMAN did not see that there was any objection to the directors being directors of other banks, provided they were not competing banks. He thought no charge could be made against them of neglecting the interests of the shareholders. (Hear, hear.)

The auditors were then re-elected, and £100 awarded to them for their services. A vote of thanks to the directors and managers concluded the proceedings.

ANOTHER CHINA DEBATE.

(THE TIMES.)

Lord Palmerston is one of the very few men in this country who understand the importance of China to England. Perhaps he is the only man in the House of Commons, and he certainly is the only man in the Cabinet, who is able, from a thorough knowledge of all that has gone before, to see his way clearly in his present conduct, and make his decisions with confidence as to his future policy. A China debate has become dreary and unattractive, but it is at the same time a very important matter, for it takes in, as Lord Palmerston said on Friday night, no less a question than that of our commercial relations with one-third of the human race.

We are committed to trading relations with the extreme East, which are to compensate, and which do in a great measure compensate, the falling-off of our commercial relations with the West. The opening up of China is undoubtedly one of the most obvious causes of that wonderful, and to many inexplicable, prosperity which, amid the dangers of Europe and the convulsions of America, seems to settle in lieu of other sunshine upon these islands. We must, however, accept the new advantage with its conditions. The Chinese never have been and never will be a peaceful and well-governed people. The insurrection of the Taipings is not an acute disease; is is the symptom of an ineradicable constitutional infirmity. China always has been a country of frequent revolutions, secret societies, and powerful robbers. In all ages and in all times China has been traversed by banditti and coasted by pirates. The history of China is full of nothing else but pirates and banditti, and it is because there has never been any security that China is the oldest society in the world with scarcely any really ancient remains. The oldest thing in China is supposed to be a vase, which hands down the tradition of the turbulent insecurity of still earlier times. Its inscription is an aspiration for "ten thousand years' rest from violence and troubles." China was never without her Taipings ashore and afloat. The Ming dynasty was founded by a lay brother of a Buddhist monastery, who got together a multitude of bandits. When the Tartars came down the last of the Mings had just hanged himself, because there was a robber chief in possession of Peking and eight rebel armies in different provinces of China, each plundering upon its individual account. The patriot defenders of their country against these same Tartars were pirates, now celebrated by Chinese historians, and robber chiefs who when they left a city massacred all the inhabitants, and the greatest of whom made it his chief merit that he had cut the throats of three hundred women. As it was then so it is now, and so it will continue to be while the same causes continue. China is a densely populated country, especially exposed to inundations and failures of crops. There are, therefore, always millions of hungry and destitute men, a feeble and corrupt Government, an inefficient police, and no poor-laws. It is a condition of such a society that men must either rob or starve, and therefore they rob, and they gather together to rob. But there is no fibre in their cohension. They gather like the avalanche, and they rush onwards with all its desolating force and rapidity; but when they have reached the valley they dissolve in the sunshine, and leave nothing but a mass of rubbish behind.

The difference between the Chinese rebels of to-day and the piratical bodies who drove the Dutch out of Formosa, or the bandit who got possession of Peking, or the Chinese Jack Cade who appointed an examination for literary honours, and when he had thus assembled several thousand candidates murdered them all on the spot under the pretext that by sophistry they would excite disturbances throughout the empire, or the monster who murdered all the women, is simply that the Taipings of the nineteenth century have come in contact with a trading nation, and are making themselves exceedingly inconvenient to the received course of respectable business. The brigands of former days swarmed and crunched and died like successive flights of locusts in the same lands, without acquiring much fame. No doubt they had their virtues in the eyes of some persons. The Portuguese obtained Macao as the price of protection against some of them, and Hangchow, Nanking, and Soochow became more wealthy as places of security. So, in the present day, Shanghai as a city of refuge is growing so important that a bit of land there is about as valuable as a site in Cheapside. Mr. Liddell, by a whimsical error, has sought to gain credit also to the Taipings for our recent supplies of silk, the fact being that these robbers, by their presence in the silk districts, have frightened away all the holders of the old hoards of "box silk," and have thus cast it all upon the market. The wind that blows nobody good has yet to blow, and the Taipings must necessarily produce some irregular advantage to some one. We can even recognise in the existence of some counterpoise to the absolute rule of the Peking Government a wholesome corrective to the "anti-barbarian" policy is even now only kept in check by fear of the spread of Taipingism to the Northern provinces, and by regard for the proceeds of the Shanghai customs. Their influence, however, upon our Western interests is in the general point of view evil, and their presence in the silk districts is an unmitigated misfortune to us. What we hope from the Sherard Osborn Expedition was not that the piracy and brigandage would for ever cease in China—for that is impossible—but that they would be driven away from those parts of the country where we trade and whence we draw our supplies. But for the unfortunate failure of that enterprise, this expectation would have been fulfilled. The Taiping Chiefs were prepared to abandon Nanking, and the whole "ragamuffin" crew would have moved off to more distant fields of operation. Now, not only is the rebellion raising its head again—a fact we need not care much about—but it is occupying the part of the country from which it is our interest that it should be driven. The encouragement of the Osborn expedition was in this point of view a wise and statesmanlike measure, and its failure was a great misfortune.

It is satisfactory, however, that, whatever may be the difference of opinion as to the past, every one agrees as to what the future conduct of England should be in China. The House of Commons was unanimous on Friday—perhaps Colonel Sykes may have protested, but if so we will take his protest as proof of the general unanimity—that the Treaty ports must be protected. The defence of a port of course involves the defence of its immediate circuit, and thus we are all resolved as to the propriety of defending the towns with which we trade. Henceforward we shall attempt no more, either by direct or by indirect interference. The silk districts and the tea districts must take care of themselves. After the practical refusal of the Peking Government to avail itself of the aid we offered it, this is, no doubt, our wisest course. But out of these circumstances important consequences must follow. The protected ports and the producing districts will soon find their interests in being indissolubly connected, and the result will probably be to effect some regularity and consistency in the Government of the Taipings, or to infuse some energy into the councils of the Imperialists, but in either case to obtain for the producing districts some practical protection from their mercantile ports.

Naval and Military.

VESSELS OF WAR ON THE CHINA STATION.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* gives the following in its usual monthly list as the names of vessels of the Royal Navy now on the China station :—

Algerine, 3, sc. gunboat, Lieut.-Com. A. R. Blane.
Argus, 6, st., Com. J. Morisby.
Barrosa, 21, sc., Capt. W. M. Dowell.
Bustard, 2, sc., gunboat, Mast. Com. J. C. Tucker.
Centaur, 6, pd. st., Com. J. T. Creasy (ord. home).
Clown, 1, sc gunboat, Lieut. Com. J. S. Tonkin.
Conqueror, 78, sc., Capt. W. G. Luard.
Coquette, 4. sc. gunboat, Com. A. G. Roe.
Cormorant, 4. sc., Com. G. M. Buckle.
Coromandel, 4, sc., Lieut. D. G. Davidson.
Encounter, 14, sc., Capt. R. Dew (ord. home).
Euryalus. 35. sc., Capt. J. H. Alexander, flagship of Vice-Admiral Kuper, K.C.B.
Flamer, 1, sc., Lieut. Com. T. S. Gooch.
Grasshopper, 2. sc. Lieut. Com. J. C. Tucker.
Hardy, 2, sc., Lieut. Com. T. G. Bogle.
Haughty. 2, sc, gunboat.
Hesper, 4, sc., Mast. Com. A. F. Boxer.
Hornet, 17, sc., Com. Hon. R. Hare (ord. home).
Insolent, 2. sc., Lieut.-Com. G. Parsons.
Janus, 1, sc., Lieut.-Com. Richard Adams.
Kestrel, 1, sc., Lieut.-Com. Hamilton Dunlop.
Leopard, 18, st., Capt. C. T. Lecky.
Leven, 1, sc , Lieut.-Com. H. P. Knevitt.
Manilla, sc., 70 h.p., Mast. Com. H. W. Burnett.
Osprey, 4, sc., Com. A. J. Innes,
Pantaloon, 11, sc., Com. F. R. Purvis.
Pearl, 21, sc., Capt. J. Borlase, C.B. (ord. home).
Pelorus, 21, sc., Capt. Henry Boys.
Perseus, 17, sc., Com. A. J. Kingston.
Racehorse, 4, sc., Com. C. R. F. Boxer.
Rattler, 17, sc., Com. J. W. Webb.
Rifleman, 5. sc., sloop, Com. John Ward.
Ringdove. 4, sc., Com. R. A. O. Brown (ord. home).
Saracen. 4, brig, tender to Rifleman.
Scylla, 21, sc., Capt. R. W. Courtenay.
Severn, 51, sc. frigate, Com. F. B. Montresor.
Slaney, 1. sc., Lieut. Com. W. R. Lee.
Staunch, 2, sc., Com. G. M. Temple.

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Swallow, 9, sc. sloop, Mast. Com. E. Wilds.
Tartar, 20, sc., Capt. J. M. Hayes.
Vigilant, 4, sc., Com. N. R. Hobson.
Vulcan, 6, sc. tr.-ship, Capt. A. C. Strode (ord. home).
Wasp, 13, sc., Capt. W. Bowden.

DEATH OF ADMIRAL HERCULES ROBINSON.—We have to record the death of the above gallant and distinguished admiral, who expired at Southsea on the 15th inst. The deceased, who had attained the advanced age of 75 years, entered the Navy in June, 1800, on board the *Penelope*, 36, and in the *Euryalus*, 36, fought at the battle of Trafalgar, October 21, 1805. He was confirmed a lieutenant April 25, 1807, in the *Glory*, 98, off Cadiz, and August 30, 1809, was promoted to the command of the *Prometheus*, 18, and captured three privateers and drove on shore and burnt a fourth in the face of a body of troops. He was advanced to post rank, June 7, 1814, and from September, 1817, to December, 1820, commanded the *Favourite*, 26, at St. Helena, in the Rio de la Plata, and Newfoundland. He accepted the retirement October 1, 1846; became rear-admiral, October 9, 1849; vice-admiral, October 21, 1856; and admiral, January 15, 1862.

DEATH OF SIR A. MURRAY TULLOCH, K.C.B.—We have also to record the death of Sir Alexander Murray Tulloch, K.C.B., who died on the 16th inst., after a short illness. The news of his death at the War Department occasioned much regret among those persons with whom he was associated in official matters. The late Sir Alexander Tulloch was educated at Edinburgh, and afterwards went to the Military College at Sandhurst, where he obtained the highest honours in the senior department of that military seminary. He entered the army as ensign in the 45th regiment in 1826. The late general occupied several important administrative offices in the War Department. For some time he was in charge of the statistical branch of the War Office, and was latterly Assistant Military Superintendent of Pensioners. He obtained the honour of a Knight Commander of the Bath for his civil services as Commissioner, in conjunction with Sir John M'Neill, G.C.B., in the inquiry sent out to the Crimea by the Government in 1855, on the management of the British army during the campaign in the East. The care and diligence in drawing up the joint report is generally considered due to the discretion of Sir Alex. Tulloch; and, as was afterwards declared in Parliament, "he was a faithful exposer of the errors which then brought our military organisation into disrepute."

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, May 22.

On the proposition of the Minister for the Colonies, H.M. the King has just authorised Mr. A. W. Kinder de Camarecq, principal officer of the East India Civil Service, lately Resident of Bagelen, in Java, now in this country on leave of absence, to proceed to Vienna and Paris to attend the practical trials about to be made with respect to the discovery of Mr. Daniel Hooibrenk for an artificial fructification of fruit trees and corn. The special object of this gentleman's mission is to ascertain the best method of introducing this important discovery into Netherlands India, where, as we learn by late advices from that country, great expectations are formed of the benefits to be derived from this new system. According to despatches from the Governor-General of Netherlands India, the first attempt will be made in the rice-fields belonging to the domain of Tjipanas, in the Treanger Regencies, and if they succeed, to be extended to the coffee and spice trees.

The "Indian Club" of this city, as a proof of its sympathy towards the Colonial Military Asylum at Bronbeck, has just sent to the commandant the munificent sum of 700 fl. for purchase of an organ for that establishment, which has also of late received some very valuable presents of works on various subjects from different booksellers, amongst whom may be mentioned the houses of Jantzen, of Amsterdam; Quentin, of Arnhem; and Breijer and G. J. Thieme, both of the same place.

The following twenty-two first-class vessels have been chartered by the Netherlands Trading Company to load produce in Java to the undermentioned ports:—*Jacob Roggeveen*, Capt. Van Marken; *Jan Hendrik*, Capt. Lelyfeldt; *De Zwaan*, Capt. Doekzen; *A. R. Falck*, Capt. Van der Plas; *Senior*, Capt. Bakker; *Wildemann*, Capt. Driest; *Helena and Anna*, Capt. Van Aalborg; *Vier Gezusters*, Capt. Otto; *Nieuw Holland*, Capt. Witting; *Helena*, Capt. Dill; *Kinderdijk*, Capt. Zwanenburg; *Telenak*, Capt. Popken; all for Amsterdam. *Europa*, Capt. Lupcke, jun.; *Silentium*, Capt. Schagen van Leeuwen; *Johanna*, Capt. Verduyn; *Vier Gebroeders*, Capt. Bunk; *Kaap Hoorn*, Capt. Dik; *Rudolf*, Capt. Meinsma; *Minister Thorbecke*, Capt. Kannegieter; *Columbine*, Capt. Kock, for Rotterdam; *Stad Middelburg*, Capt. Ouwehand, for Middelburg; and *Jacoba Helena*, Capt. Swart, for Schiedam.

H.N.M. steam transport *Heldin*, 10 guns, under the command of Capt.-Lieutenant P. W. Stort, after having had her crew mustered by the Naval Commander-in-Chief at Nieuwe Diep, hauled out into the outer roads, where she took in her gunpowder, and having exchanged the usual salutes with the batteries, sailed from the Texel on the 15th inst. for the East India station.

The flourishing little manufacturing town of Almelo appears to drive a large trade with Netherlands India; for, according to the returns just published, they exported to that country during the last year 201,202 pieces of cotton manufactures, 341 piculs of muletwist, 42,500 jute coffee bags, and 22,040 kilogr. of pork and beef.

The *Stoompost* asserts that the directors of the new Canal Company for cutting through the strip of land between this city and the sea, have received an offer from the house of Messrs. York and Co. to execute the works and keep them in order for two years after completion, for the sum of 23,750,000 florins.

H.M. the King has been pleased to appoint the following gentlemen to be members of the Order of the Netherlands Lion:—Baron Stoet van de Beele, Governor-General of Netherlands India, and Mr. A. Prins, Vice-President of the Council of Netherlands India, to be Knights-Commander; Mr. E. Netscher, Resident of Riouw; Mr. J. E. Teysmann, Director of the Government Botanical Garden at Buitenzorg, Mr. W. Cores de Vries, a manufacturer of Sourabaya, and Mr. P. W. Hofland, landed proprietor of Krawang, to be Knights.

The Second Chamber of the States-General, after passing nineteen Bills (all of a local nature), have adjourned, there being still left thirteen that will be brought on in the ensuing Session. The First Chamber is convened for Thursday, the 2nd June.

At a public sale of shares, &c., held here, Java Bank shares realised 174¾ per cent., and shares in the Netherlands Sugar Refinery 188 per cent.

The Netherlands Trading Company, by order and for account of the Colonial Department, invites tenders for 15,480 kilogr. of fine wheat flour, and 19,800 litres of wine vinegar, to be delivered into the Colonial magazine in this city for shipment to Java. Tenders received till the end of this month.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The Company's sale of 86,164 bags of Java, held this time at Rotterdam, went off very easily, all being sold, though generally a trifle lower than last sale. Good ordinary realised 43 to 43¼ cents, and on the average all went 1 to 1¼ cents lower. The sale was immediately succeeded by another containing about 5,000 bags of private trade Macassar, of which a few lots were bought in, and the rest sold at from 33¾ to 44½ cents, according to quality.

SUGAR.—Raw has had a fair amount of business, chiefly for shipment at ¼ to ½ fl. below Company's March sale prices. Refined market still in an unsatisfactory state, with little or no demand, and drooping prices.

SPICES.—Pepper has been more in request, but without leading to an improvement in value. Nutmegs continue in favour, and still realise the advance mentioned in last report. Cloves are again in favour, and have been an object of considerable speculation, 28¼ cents having been paid for parcels of the crop of 1863.

RICE.—The market has been very active since last mail, and prices well supported. Among the sales reported were 870 bags of Java, ex *Johanna Christina*, at 9¼ fl.; 2,132 bags Java ex *Vrede*; 2,200 bags do. ex *Nova Zembla* and *Johanna Christina*, at 9 to 10 fl.; and 1,750 bags of Java table rice ex *Henriette*, at 16 fl.; and at Rotterdam, 14,000 bags Java, ex *Rudolf*, at 16 fl.

HIDES.—Large parcels have been sold, including the following:—7,000 Java ox, by public sale, at 37 to 61 cents for the sound; and 34½ for the damaged; 780 buffallo, ex *Merchantman*; 2,427 ex *Johanna*; 560 ex *Cornwallis*; 878 ex *County of Lanark*; 165 ex *Mary and Hillegonde*; 859 and 515 ex do.; 494 and 60 ex *Macassar*; 500 buffalo ex *Elizabeth*; 944 ex *Jeddo*; 360 ex *Catharina*; 293 ex *Marinus*; and 465 ex *Henriette*. Full prices were in all cases realised.

METALS.—No sales are reported of copper. Banca tin continues to decline, and may now be bought at 66 fl. Billiton was more in demand, but could only realise 65¼ fl.

INDIGO still attracts purchasers at firm prices.

RATTANS were more in favour again, and the sales included 8,165 bundles (504 piculs), ex *Insulanarin*; 844 bundles (60 piculs), ex *Maria Adolfina*; and 561 bundles (100 piculs), ex *Scharnhorst*.

JAVA TOBACCO.—Market inactive, the only sales reported being 189 bales, mark W/Malang, ex *County of Lanark*, sold by tender; and by private contract 414 bales Kawi, 752 bales mark D. At the end of this month the Company have advertised some large sales of tobacco, among which are 22 bales from Japan, and 1,427 bales of Java, of the following marks:—K.M., B.K., K.L., P.O.M., D.M., W.G.J., and H.B.V.H. 131 bales of Java, mark *Josa Klakka*, have come to hand per *Bilderdyk*. Stock in this country 4,720 bales of Java and 22 of Japan.

Literature.

Stanford's Map of the Empires of China and Japan, with the Adjacent Parts of British India, Asiatic Russia, Burmah, &c. E. Stanford, 6, Charing-cross, London.—Maps of China have been hitherto almost invariably confined to the Eastern portion of that great empire, omitting even parts of the provinces which constitute China Proper. This mattered little when European intercourse with the Chinese was limited to the seaboard and to Kiachta on the Russian frontier. But our interest in the magnificent provinces of Western China has immensely increased of late years, and while Russia is extending her territory and establishing communication with the interior of China along the whole of her frontier, extending between the Pacific Ocean and the new settlements on the Kirghis Steppe, Englishmen may also hope to enjoy the fruits of commercial intercourse with the rich and populous provinces of Yunnan, Shensi, and Szchuen. The new map now before us, issued by

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Mr. Stanford, brings all these provinces before the eye, the undeveloped wealth of which offers a new field to commercial enterprise. It includes also, as the title intimates, the Empire of Japan, and thus the whole of the Far East is brought before us in a portable form. Mr. Stanford is so well known as a cartographer, that it is scarcely necessary to add that the execution of the work is admirable.

THE EARL OF ELGIN'S COLLECTION OF WORKS OF ART.—A portion of the choice objects of art collected in China and Japan by the late Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Governor-General of India, and recently exhibited at the Kensington Museum, was submitted to public competition at the rooms of Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods, in King-street, St. James's, by order of the executors. Also a few bronzes and porcelain, the property of the late Mr. George Roake, and some fine enamels and carvings in jade, recently received from China. The sale excited very great interest, and was numerously attended. The following were the more important articles:—Enamels 67 and 68. An incense-burner, of extraordinary size, on three feet, surmounted by masks of metal gilt, with mask and ring handles, enamelled with flowers in colours on turquoise ground, the cover of enamel, pierced, and surmounted by a kylin of metal-gilt, 3½ft. high; and the companion incense-burner, on three feet, enamelled with flowers and ornaments in brilliant colours on turquoise ground, the cover of enamel, pierced, and surmounted by a metal gilt kylin, 3ft. 2in. high—£139 (Hewett). Carvings in Jade.—80 and 81. A beautiful circular incense-burner of white jade, on three feet, with handles formed of kylins, the cover surmounted by a handle, with two rings attached, and a pair of beautiful small white jade bowls and covers, with dragons, bats, and ornaments in slight relief—£66. 10s. (Archer). Bronzes.—99 and 103. A bacchanal with a horn, and a bacchante—a pair—on bronze pedestals; and a similar pair, a bacchanal with a pipe, and a bacchante with an ewer, on marble plinths—£43. 10s. (Boore). A different property.—A pair of ivory vases, elaborately carved and perforated, the most exquisite specimens of Chinese workmanship ever produced; manufactured expressly for the Great Exhibition of 1862, by that celebrated worker in ivory, Hoaching. These vases are hexagonal, the larger panels measuring 8in. or 9in. by 6in. or 7in. on the wider sides; these, and the other panels and bars, exhibiting raised figures and foliage, illustrating episodes from classic story. Each vase measures, including ebony stand, about 3½ft. high. The ivory was selected at Siam, and is very pure—150 guineas (Harbord). 107. A massive Chinese silver vase and cover, manufactured expressly for the Great Exhibition of 1862, weighing 3?0oz.—£114 (Archer). 108. A pair of very large and rare old porcelain pagodas, on lacquered bases, about 18ft. high; from the Chinese collection, 1843—82 guineas (Hewett). 109. A Chinese skull, lined with gold, and with cover of pure gold; on triangular stand and plinth of the same, chased with dragons and clouds, weighing about 77oz. 9dwts. "The Gold-mounted skull from China, which is stated to be that of Confucius, has been described as a drinking cup, but we are not prepared to admit that it ever was applied to that purpose, as it may have been, and probably is, a sacred relic, though we may doubt it is the skull of Confucius himself which is thus richly mounted and preserved. All who visited the Exhibition will doubtless recollect this curious specimen of goldsmith's work as one of the great attractions of the Chinese Court. It was taken from the Summer Palace of the Emperor by one of Fane's cavalry. The skull is placed on a triangular stand of pure gold, and rests on three very roughly shaped gold heads; the cover, also of pure gold, is richly ornamented with minute patterns in low relief, and is studded with small precious stones. The ornament itself presents nothing peculiar, the principal portion of it being formed of the usual Chinese conventional mode of representing clouds or sky, typical, perhaps, of the region to which the soul of the deceased had flown."—Waring's *Masterpieces of Industrial Art*, vol. iii., plate 291. This extraordinary and beautiful work was, after a spirited competition, knocked down to Mr. B. Benjamin, of Glasshouse-street, at the price of £327. Enamels.—126-8. A fine square vase, with landscapes and ornaments in colours, 16½in. high; a pair of beautiful square lanterns, with openwork borders and stands of enamel, 20in.; and a pair of curious pagoda-shaped lanterns, of perforated enamel, with coloured glass panels and pendant ornaments, 24in. high—£93 (Stempson). 136. A magnificent incense-burner, of ancient enamel, with flowers and animals in colours, on torquoise ground, the cover and upper part of pierced and chased metal gilt, on square rose-wood stand carved with masks and foliage—£50 (Wareham). Ancient porcelain.—154 and 187. A pair of very fine square pillars, beautifully enamelled with flowers on sea-green ground, in diamond-shaped medallions, 18in, high; and a fine vase, of ancient enamel, with ornaments and flowers in colours on turquoise ground—52 guineas (Mr. Jones Loyd).

THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S LINE TO JAPAN.—The *Corea*, a screw steamship, built and engined by Messrs. Gourlay Brothers, of Dundee, and purchased by the Peninsula and Oriental Company to run between Japan and Shanghai, left Southampton for that station on the 21st inst. The length of this vessel between perpendiculars is 226ft., 8in.; breadth of beam, 27ft.; depth from top of floor to spar deck, 15ft. 4in.; gross tonnage, 609. On her trial trip, which took place a few days since, the *Corea* realised a mean speed of 13·129 knots per hour. With a total weight on board of coals, water, stores, &c., of 404 tons, her mean draught of water was 12ft. 3in., and the engines, which are of 200-horse power nominal, indicated 1,044.

THE BURIAL OF THE LATE COUNTESS OF FALMOUTH.—The remains of the late Countess of Falmouth were, on the 7th inst., according to her own last wishes, interred in the family vault of the Earls of Falmouth, at Tregothnan, Truro, Cornwall, between the remains of the Earls, her husband and son. The funeral was attended by a large assembly of relations, friends, and tenants. The lamented Countess, since the death of the Earls, her husband and son, had lived in complete seclusion; but her charities nevertheless continued to be widely extended; not only the aged and dependent on the former properties of her noble husband, but many of the distressed inhabitants of the poorest quarters of London were in constant receipt of relief from her Ladyship.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES.—Mr. J. B. Smith: To ask whether the communications made by the American Minister at Peking, in a despatch to Mr. Seward, the Secretary of State at Washington, and dated the 20th of June, 1863, respecting the joint policy to be pursued in China by England, Russia, France, and America, is substantially in accord with a despatch addressed to Earl Russell, &c. Colonel Sykes: Copy of all Orders in Council or Consular ordinances in China at present in force, for the punishment of breaches of neutrality by British subjects.

Monetary and Commercial.

During the present mania for joint stock banks, we are not astonished to find that persons most interested in them should exert their skill in causing a rise or fall of the price of shares as may be desired, but it is a matter of regret that the names of such men as Harry G. Gordon, Esq., Chairman of the Oriental Bank Corporation, should figure in these affairs. A shareholder of the "British and American Exchange Banking Corporation," of which Mr. Gordon is a director, and Mr. Sam Gray, late of the Oriental Bank in China, is Secretary, has asserted that one or more of the directors have been guilty of extensive dealings in the shares, by which dealings the shares have been forced up from 5 to 25 per cent. The following is the statement referred to:—

"The ten directors, holding together like one man, have stated to you that they 'have not in any way, directly or indirectly, assisted in producing the late extraordinary rise in the premium on the shares.'

"I take leave, however, now to say that they have directly and indirectly assisted in producing the late extraordinary rise.

"I assert they 'beared' the shares, trying to force the prices down, and forced them up, trying to buy them back. I assert this, and let them collectively, the ten like one man, deny it if they can.

"I know the ten directors held for some time back 318 shares amongst them, and no more. I know that in this state of things one of their number sold 500 shares, and if he could only have driven the shares down to par, he would have made £3,000 to £4,000 by buying the shares back at a lower price than that at which he sold them. The letter to Mr. Slaughter, however, failed to effect this object.

"I believe the result of the 'bearing' was that it drove the *bona fide* holders into an opposite line of action, and that the 'bears' drove the market up, trying to buy back.

It has also been a matter very generally talked about, that Mr. W. W. Cargill, also a director of the Oriental Bank, has joined the boards of a large number of the new banks, and, in fact, this gentleman, to whom the Oriental owe so much during its earlier days, has earned the sobriquet of a "guinea-pig director."

At an extraordinary meeting of the shareholders of the Agra and United Service Bank, Mr. G. G. Macpherson in the chair, the resolutions passed on the 7th May were unanimously carried.

The Imperial Bank of China has advertised for managers for Calcutta, Bombay, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

The meeting of the shareholders of the Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China was duly held on the 17th inst. A report will be found in another column.

The new companies lately introduced to public notice have been as follows:—

The Scottish Fire Insurance Company, capital one million, in 50,000 shares of £20 each. The company is formed under the auspices of a provisional committee, composed of many of the most eminent mercantile names in Edinburgh, Leith, Glasgow, and the other chief towns of Scotland.

The Cadiz, Oporto, and Light Wine Association, capital £150,000, in 15,000 shares of £10 each. It appears that this company adopts the principle of purchasing wine direct from the vineyards, and making the "family grocer" the medium of introduction to the consumer.

The Worcester Engine-Works Company, capital £300,000, in 30,000 shares of £10 each. The object is to construct and maintain locomotive and other engines and machinery, and to sell, lease, or hire, the same. Arrangements have been made for the purchase of the works, machinery, plant, &c., of the firm of Messrs. McKenzie, Clunes, and Holland, of the Vulcan Works, Worcester.

The Ceylon Coffee Estates Company has been formed for the purpose of purchasing and working certain coffee plantations in Ceylon. The directors have contracted with Messrs. David Wilson and John Randon Worcester for the purchase of five valuable estates. The capital of the company is £120,000, in 12,000 shares of £10 each.

The Clyde Steamship Company. The object of the promoters is apparently to place Glasgow and the Clyde ports on an equality in point of steam communication with the other ports of Great Britain, such as Liverpool, Hull, &c., where a great extension of enterprise of this class has taken place during the last few years. The capital is £200,000, in 8,000 shares of £25 each.

The objects of the Floating Telegraph Station and Light-Ship Company are to provide and anchor ships near the ordinary track of vessels, such ships to serve as electric telegraph and signal stations, and also as safety beacons for navigation. The company's ships will be fitted up complete as telegraph stations. It is also intended to provide them with steam power and lanterns for displaying a powerful light. Day and night signals, steam whistles, guns, lifeboats, &c., will form part of their equipment. Steam tenders fitted up for the conveyance of passengers, mail

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specie, and merchandise, and capable of acting as tugs, will, moreover, be provided by the company, so that assistance can be rendered to disabled or derelict vessels. The stations selected for the first services of the company are off the Scilly Islands, and off Cape Race, Newfoundland. The capital of the company is £250,000, in 25,000 shares of £10 each.

The Torbay Hotel and Winter Garden Company, capital £50,000, in 5,000 shares of £10 each, of which £1 per share is to be paid on allotment. The company is formed for the purpose of establishing an hotel at Torquay on a scale commensurate with the growing importance of the town as a watering place. There is also to be a winter garden of considerable extent. Arrangements have been made for taking on lease a piece of land excellently situated in close proximity to the railway station, with a southern aspect,

The Freehold and General Investment Company, capital £250,000, in 10,000 shares of £25 each, of which the first issue is to be 5 000 shares. The objects of this company are to purchase from time to time such freehold or leasehold property in London and its neighbourhood as may present special capabilities for improvement as first-class houses, offices, and chambers.

The Hydraulic Tube Drawing and Steel Ordnance Company, capital £150,000, in 15,000 shares of £10 each, is formed for the purpose of purchasing and developing certain new and valuable patents for improvements in the drawing and shaping of metals, and for the machinery employed thereon. The patent has been experimentally worked in Paris for nearly two years, and as the Ordnance Department of France has reported favourably on it, negotiations are at present on foot for the supply of the Imperial Government.

The English, Swedish, and Continental Financial Company, with a capital of £1,000,000, proposes to assist agricultural, railway and other works.

The General Contract Company, capital £1,000,000, to take over the business of Mr. Rowland Brotherhood and his establishment, at the Great Western Railway station, Chippenham.

The Maritime Credit Company, capital £1,000,000, in 20,000 shares of £50 each, is formed for the purpose of making advances by way of mortgage or otherwise on shipping, wharves, ship yards, docks, warehouses, and every description of maritime securities, and will conduct the usual business of a Credit Company.

The London and Venezuela Bank, to which will be transferred the business of the "Bank of Caracas." The great and increasing demand for money for the cultivation of various staples, especially cotton, large quantities of which are now being exported to England, will find abundant employment for all its resources. The board of directors, as at present constituted, is composed of six directors in England, with power to increase their number, and of four directors in Venezuela without that power. The principal control of the bank is to be vested in the English board, who are to select and appoint the manager in Venezuela. The capital proposed to be raised is £500,000 in 10,000 shares of £50 each.

The Tyne Iron Shipbuilding Company, capital £400,000 in £50 shares. It is stated that the works now in operation are capable of turning out 30,000 tons of shipping per annum. A local demand for iron colliers is relied on. The company, furthermore, comes into possession of current contracts. There is a capacious graving dock and ground for a patent slip, which might be made a good source of permanent revenue.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Ceylon*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was:—In gold: To Alexandria, £3,000; to Madras, £645. In silver: To Calcutta, £15,000; to Penang, £3,080; to Hong Kong, £1,100; to Shanghai, £22,795; to Yokohama, £8,050. Total, in gold, £3,645; in silver, £65,025.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Busines done.
100	Agra and United Service, Limited	50	128 to 133 xn.	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	39 to 41	...
20	Do. New	15	18 to 20pm.	
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	69 to 71	...
50	London Joint Stock	10	47 to 48	...
100	London and Westminster	20	94 to 95	...
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	61 to 63 xn.	...
50	Union of London	13	57 to 59	...
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	6 to 7 pm. xd.	...
100	Do. New	8	6 to 7 pm.	...
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	3½ to 4 pm. xd.	...
20	Do. New	10	3 to 4 pm.	...
25	Bank of Egypt	All	27 to 29	...
100	Bank of London	50	173 to 176	...
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	2 to 2½ pm.	...
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 4	...
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	84 to 86	
50	Do. New	30	20 to 22 pm.	
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	...	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	...	...
2	Telegraph to India Company	2	¼ to ½ dis.	...
5	Bombay Gas	All	¼dis. to ¼pm. xn	...
40	E. I. and London Shipping B.	All	3 to 6	...
90	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	8	2 to 1½ dis.	...
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	par to ¼ pm.	...
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	20½ to 21	...
1	Oriental Gas	All	1¼ to 1⅝	...
1	Do. New	⅝	½ to ¾ pm.	...
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2¼ to 3¼	...
100	West India Steam Company	60	85 to 87	...
20	Ceylon Company	7	3½ to 4½ pm.	...
30	International Finance Society	5	6¼ to 6¾ pm.	...
40	General Credit & Finance Company	4	5¼ to 6 pm.	...
50	London Financial Association	15	12½ to 13 pm	...
20	Egyptian Com: & Trading Company	2	2⅝ to 3½ pm.	...
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	6	¼dis. to ¼ pm.	...
80	Hudson's Bay Company	All	19 to 19⅛	...
20	British Indian Tea	5	par to ¼ pm.	...
10	Upper Assam Tea	7½	2½ to 3½ pm.	...
10	Do.	All	14 to 17	...

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Business has continued only on a limited scale, although, owing to a belief that present prices are about the lowest likely to be established, there has, within the last week, been more disposition on the part of the trade to buy, whilst there have also been a few speculative purchases of blackish-leaf Congous; and, on the whole, we may quote our market rather firmer both in tone and prices; and as the quantity afloat is now very small, we hope to see a more general demand should money continue to fall in value Owing to the increase in the duties on teas imported into America, there has been a marked diminution in the demand for that quarter. Low and dusty kinds of Congou have been inquired for at the low prices established at the last public sales. Fair to good common have not been much in request. Fair flavoury kinds show no alteration, being still difficult of sale. There have been some purchases of fair blackish-leaf kinds at a shade better prices. The medium kinds remain much as before. Good to fine Kaisow, also Monings and Wopaks, are in moderate supply, and previous prices have been maintained There has been but little demand for export for the finest grades of either. Tayshans have sold at about previous prices. The new make Canton kinds show no alteration. Common Oolongs have been dull, owing to the absence of export orders. Other sorts have been steady at about previous rates. Flowery Pekoes and Souchongs remain as last advised. In Scented Teas there is no variation to notice. Sales to a moderate extent have been made both in Capers and Orange Pekoes at about previous prices. Uncoloured Japans have been less in demand, and prices are quoted rather easier. The public sales of Indian Tea went irregularly, but the chief reduction was in the commoner sorts. The new arrivals of Green Tea have been freely offered, and the sales made have been at full prices to 1d. per lb. advance for Gunpowders; Young Hysons realising about previous prices, whilst Hysons have been rather more difficult of sale in the absence of export orders. Canton made Teas show no alteration.

SILK.—Our market during the fortnight has been exceedingly quiet, but prices remain unchanged, holders of silk continuing very firm. The uncertainty as to the prospects of the European crop has caused buyers to hold off until something more definite is known of its probable result. An unfavourable feature is the still further falling off in the deliveries, which show a decrease even upon the miserable figures of the past six months. Deliveries from the 1st to 23rd inclusive:—China, 1,901 bales; Japan, 983 do.; total, 2,884 do. The prices current were:—Tsatlee: No. 1, 23s. to 23s. 6d.; 2, 22s. to 22s. 6d. Taysaam: Key-ing, No. 1, 20s. to 20s. 6d.; 2, 19s. to 19s. 6d. Mibash: No. 1, 23s. to 23s. 6d.; 2, 22s. to 22s. 6d.

SUGAR.—There was but a moderate business done on Tuesday, the 24th, in West India, but prices in some instances receded about 6d. per cwt. During the preceding week the business reported privately comprised 37,500 bags clayed Manila at 38s. 6d. to 39s. Of sales by auction reported on Friday, 10,032 bags clayed Manila were withdrawn above the value.

COFFEE.—The arrivals being again large, the upward movement in the colonial market has been checked, and the supply brought forward has not all been cleared off; prices, however, remain unchanged. Ceylon: 450 casks, 410 barrels and bags plantation, at public sale, were disposed of, fine ordinary to low middling, 79s. to 82s.; middling to good middling, 83s. to 85s.; fine, 90s. to 92s. Native meets less inquiry, and 340 casks, 1,950 bags, in auction, being held for previous prices, only a small proportion found buyers, good ordinary, 69s.; superior, 70s. 6d. to 71s. Mocha: 284 packages of undesirable quality were withdrawn. East India: At public sale, 41 barrels, 410 bags Malabar were partly sold at full rates, fine ordinary, 74s. to 75s. 6d. The monthly sale of the Dutch Trading Company, on the 18th inst., comprising 85,200 bags, went off ½ to 1 cent below the valuations; good ordinary Java, 43½ to 44 cents. No public sales took place on the 24th, and in the private market a few parcels of native Ceylon were disposed of at about former prices.

RICE.—8,546 bags new white Bengal, at public sale, on Friday, were chiefly bought in, Askooli 11s., good white 13s.; 2,783 bags cargo sort and Ballam were only partly realised, middling 8s. 6d. to 9s., fine 10s. to 10s. 6d.; 15,575 bags Rangoon were nearly all withdrawn at 9s. to 9s. 6d. Privately, 4,000 bags low red cargo Bengal have been sold at 8s. 3d. On the 24th, East India descriptions continued to command full rates.

COTTON.—Since the early part of last week there has been less animation in the market, but a firm tone has prevailed, and prices are unaltered. 5,400 bales have been sold on the spot, low middling to fully fair Tinnivelli Madras 17⅜d. to 22d., middling fair to fair Western 20d. to 21⅛d., ordinary to good fair Bengal 13d. to 17¼d., and fair to very good China 19⅛d. to 20⅛d. For arrival, 8,300 bales have been taken, China 19¼d. to 19⅛d., Japan 20d., and Bengal 17d. to 17¼d. per lb. On the 24th, the market was quiet, without change.

CAMPHOR.—Cheaper; 254 tubs and cases Japan at auction retired at £5 to to £5. 5s. per cwt. 100 subsequently sold at £5. Of 630 chests China, a small proportion sold at 90s. to 91s. for very dark.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—A recent importation, 1,000 boxes, sold readily at auction at 86s. to 93s. per cwt. for 3rd to 1st pile, being very full prices. Buds: Selling slowly at our higher quotation of £16.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Very quiet; and 300 bags at auction all retired. Dragon's Blood: Continues flat; and of 19 boxes at auction, a single one alone sold at £9. 5s. per cwt. for good lump. Galangal Root: Steady; 29 bags at auction sold at 21s. per cwt. for fair quality. Rhubarb: Firm, but with very little demand at present extreme rates, the highest quotation being 8s. 9l chests at auction all retired.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Fine qualities inquired for, and scarce. Of 222 cases Sumatra at auction, rather more than half sold at 31s. to 38s. per cwt. for low fourth quality, being dearer. Damer: Flat, and 101 cases at auction all retired. Gamboge: Steady, but 11 cases at auction were all retired.

GUTTA PERCHA.—In increased demand; 31 tons at auction all retired, but the bulk subsequently sold at full prices; a large quantity in all changed hands up to 2s. 6d. per lb. India Rubber: Some revival in demand, and sales of good quality effected to a fair extent, mainly at 1s. 5d. per lb. 302 baskets Penang at auction, all retired.

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HEMP.—Manila: £31 to £34. 10s. During the present week about 300 tons Ropiug are reported sold at firm rates.

HORNS.—Auctions confined to half a ton Penang buffalo horns, sold at 39s. 6d. per cwt., for 2¼lb. average.

JAPAN WAX.—Auctions have combined 116 cases. Saucers sold at 63s. to 63s. 6d. per cwt. for good, being 2s. to 3s. lower; and 398 cases block, all retired.

OILS.—Anniseed: Rather better; moderate business on the spot at the quotations of 6s. 8d. to 6s. 9d., and for arrival at 6s. 9d. to 6s. 10d. per lb. Cassia: Remains flat and without buyers, at 9s. 3d. to 9s. 6d.; 4 cases at auction retired. Cinnamon: Of 3 cases at auction one sold at 3s. per oz. for fine. Mace and Nutmegs: Nothing doing; small sales of paste at 1d. per oz.

SAGO.—Small grain is fully 6d. per cwt cheaper; of 1,185 boxes at auction, half sold at 22s. 6d. to 23s. per cwt. for fair to good small. Flour: again the turn lower, small sales having been effected privately at 14s. 9d. per cwt. cash. Tapioca: Of 1,220 bags Penang, the greater part found buyers, common to good middling 2d. to 2¼d. per lb.; good bought in at 3d.

SPICES.—Cloves: Penang steady; and 2 cases sold at auction at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 3¼d. per lb. for good. Amboyna and Zanzibar dearer; and 10 casks of the former at auction sold at 6d. per lb. for good; fair business in Zanzibar at 4d. to 4¼d. Mace: Steady; 3 cases Penang at auction sold at 1s. 10d. per lb. for fair palish. 3 cases Singapore, and 10 casks Batavia retired. Nutmegs: Steady; 16 cases Penang, and 4 cases Singapore at auction, mostly sold at 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d. per lb. for middling to fair bold, and 1s. 3d. to 2s. fair small to good medium. Pepper: Black remains very flat, transactions being nearly nil. Only 121 bags Singapore at auction, and those retired. White continues quiet, without change in value, and scarcely any trade.

TERRA JAPONICA. Cutch, Pegue: Market still very quiet. 1,169 bags at auction, all retired, but business to a fair extent accomplished privately at our higher quotation of 26s. 6d. for fine. Gambier:—Dearer; 230 bales good sold at auction at 23s. 9d. per cwt.; fair trade also privately up to 24s. 3d. on the spot, and 24s. 9d. for arrival.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Blacklead: Has sold irregularly, but of 709 barrels at auction two-thirds sold at 11s. at 20s. 3d. per cwt. for middling to very good lump, and 8s. 9d. to 10s. 6d. fair to fine dust. Galls: All kinds—Bussorah, China, and Japan—very scarce, and in strong demand. We quote Japan and China 80s. to 100s. per cwt. 10 cases China sold at auction at 90s. per cwt. for middling quality; and 60 cases fine Japan at 92s. 6d. Musk: very quiet, with the smallest trade, supplies increasing materially, and large sales advertised. Rattans: In more adequate supply, and cheaper; and 32,653 bundles Singapore and 7,000 bundles Penang at auction, mostly sold at 3s. 6d. to 6s. 8d. per 100. Sapanwood: Continues firm; and 39 tons Siam at auction, sold at £10 to £12. 5s. per ton for middling to good: 98 tons Manila sold at £7. 15s. to £8. 10s. old and weathered, and two tons Ceylon £8 to £8. 10s. Star Anniseeds: Not any stock in the market: much wanted. Sticklac, Siam: Cheaper, and of 872 cases at auction one-third sold at 42s. to 44s. per cwt. for fair, rather small, and woody.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £8. 10s.; nail rod, £9. 10s.; hoops, £11; sheets, single £12; Staffordshire bars, £10; nails, £7. 10s. to £7. 15s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £105 per ton; yellow metal, 8½d. to 9d. per lb.

TIN.—108s. for block; 109s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 30s. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £21. 15s. to £22; W.B., £23; shot, patent, £24; sheet, £22; spelter, £22. 15s. to £23; zinc, English sheet, £25; quicksilver, £8. 15s.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—Since our last Circular, 13th inst., there has been but little change in the aspect of our market. Iron remains stationary. For Copper there is rather more enquiry. Tin: English is in moderate demand, the price for Straits is now 106s. cash, Banca 110. Tin Plates are very quiet. Lead steady. Spelter is again dearer, transactions being reported at £22. 15s. spot, £23 for July delivery. In Quicksilver no alteration.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£141,225
Foo-chow-Foo	—	6,430
Hong Kong	£5,000	345,607
Amoy	—	—
Singapore	£3,750	115,675
Penang	—	99,295

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£36,276
Hong Kong	£31,568	81,520
Singapore	—	18,920
Penang	—	5 193
Foo-chow-Foo	—	1,000

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 8½
Silver in Bars	0 5 1
Mexican Dollars	0 5 2

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

Mr. Mendel's Circular states that prices are firmly maintained: Grey Shirtings, 7 lbs., 17s. 6d. to 18s.; 9 lbs., 23s. Cotton Yarns, 16-24, 2s. 7d. to 2s. 8d.; 28-32, 2s. 10d. to 3s. 6d. Maddapollams, 7s. 9d. Long Cloths, 20s. 3d. T-Cloths, 14s. 3d. White Spot Shirtings, 21s. 6d.; White Brocade do., 21s. 9d.; White Damasks, 37s. 6d.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
May 14	Marseilles	Alexandria	Said (str.)	
— 15	Deal	Batavia	Juno	Nicolay.
— 14	Off Torbay	Sourabaya	Hendrina	Van Breen.
— 15	Liverpool	Manila	Elias	
Apr. 30	Havana	Macao	Arizona	Belpardo.
— 30	New York	Canton	Hamilla Mitchell	
May 1	Boston	Manila	Dartog	Henry.
— 16	Deal	Japan	Louis Kniffler	Seeman.
— 16	Off Falmouth	Manila	Helvetien	Boyson.
— 14	Havre	Canton	Taffarette	Deroux.
— 12	Calais (B.)	Singapore, &c.	Etoile	Lachaud.
— —	Bordeaux	Do.	Hooghly	Veillet.
— 13	Do.	Do.	St. Michel	Fradin.
— 17	Deal	Shanghai	Thomas Dryden	Brown.
— 17	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Norwood	Bristow.
— 17	Brouwershaven	Tjilatjap	Isaac da Costa	Klein.
— 17	Liverpool	Shanghai	Ralston	Davis.
— 14	Texel	Sourabaya	Henrietta Geertruda	Coner.
— 16	Off Plymouth	Shanghai	Oliver Cromwell	Clark.
— 16	Off Dover	Banjoewangie	Cornelis Gips	Leyffert.
— 14	Texel	Samarang	Prins Carl	Bergman.
— 17	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Dolfyn	Gollards.
— 18	Do.	Do.	Annie Dathie	Matheson.
— 18	Do.	Singapore	Spanker	
— 14	Off Portland	Banjoewangie	Paul Johan	Kooy.
— 17	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Doorwyk	Heiman.
— 12	Cadiz	Manila	Margarita	
— 20	London	Kanagawa	Alexandria	Morris.
— 18	Off Plymouth	Pasarocang	Oscar I.	Thomson.
— 16	Off Scilly	Batavia	Tithuva	
— 4	New York	Shanghai	Hermine	Berg.
— 6	Do.	Do.	Thetis	Rohdin.
— 19	Cuxhaven	Maulmain	Batavia	Grell.
— 18	Texel	Banjoewangie	Neverheid	Schaap.
— 19	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Ridderkirk	Teerink.
— 19	Do.	Banjoewangie	Ida Wilhemina	Rutgans.
— 23	Deal	Shanghai	Fair Leader	Pearce.
— 23	London	Singapore	Early Dawn	Norrie.
— 23	Deal	Shanghai	Aurora Australis	Davidson.
— 23	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Bella	Turner.
— 21	Texel	Samarang	Watergeus	Grezen.
— 21	Do.	Banjoewangie	Laura and Adele	Lund.
— 21	Brouwershaven	Padang	Johanna Maria	Wilhemie.
— 19	Bordeaux	Singapore	Auguste Durin	Goyan.
— 9	New York	Shanghai	Capella	Timan.
— 16	Off Mount's Bay	Padang	Van der Palm	
— 22	Liverpool	Shanghai	Alice Tainter	Barnaby.
— 20	Hamburg	Sacio	Orion	uar.
— 22	Do.	Batavia	Nord	Lange.
— —	Quebec	China	Asia	
— 23	Deal	Hong Kong	Rio	
— 19	Texel	Banjoewangie	Sir Robert Peel	Lange.
— 8	Deal	Batavia	Wilhelmine Johanna	Anderson.
— 8	Falmouth	Macao	Orion	Suhr.
Apr. 25	New York	Shanghai	Elizabeth	Tryselius.
May 9	Clyde	Maulmain	Princess of Wales	
— 4	Texel	Padang	Koerier	Carst.
— 5	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Susanna Johanna	Peters.
— 8	Off Portland	Foo chow-Foo	Weymouth	Norris.
— 7	Off Dartmouth	Shanghai	Wagoola	Hay.
— 7	Do.	Do.	Lansdowne	Fooyey.
— 10	Deal	Foo-chow-Foo	Pak-Wan	Wawn.
— 9	Falmouth	Singapore	Emma	Arentzen.
— 11	Off Liverpool	Shanghai	Queensbury	Dunne.
— 10	Off Plymouth	Do.	Marquis of Argyle	Bellwood.
— 10	Deal	Batavia	Nord	Lange.
— 10	Do.	Maulmain	Batavia	Greil.
— 10	Off Plymouth	Foo-chow-Foo	Stuart Wortley	
— 9	Off the Start	Shanghai	Oithona	Holmes.
— 9	Do.	Do.	Egmont	Morgan.
Apr. 27	New York	Do.	Kate Carnie	Breckanridge.
— 27	Do.	Canton	Ceres	Laurence.
— 27	Do.	Shanghai	Annie Wood	Douglas.
— 27	Do.	Do.	Johanna	Christiansen.
— 27	Do.	Kanagawa, &c.	Sarah	Van Namee.
— 28	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Peep o'Day	Frantic.
— 29	Do.	Do.	Kahlamba	Gordon.
—	Off do.	Canton	A barque (not Amrcn.)	
May 10	Falmouth	Hong Kong	Windward	
— 11	Do.	Sourabaya	Sir Robert Peel	Lange.
— 13	Liverpool	Shanghai	Ranee	
— 13	Off Plymouth	Do.	Island Queen	Dickson.
— 13	Off Mount's Bay	Do.	Sir Harry Parkes	Chapman.
— 13	Off the Eddystone	Canton	Tamerlane	Logan.
— 10	Off Scilly	Batavia	Johanna Maria	
— 10	Off the Start	Canton	Cumberland	
— 14	Downs	Foo-chow-Foo	Herald	Storey.
— 11	Off Falmouth	Penang	Rockliff	Drew.
— 14	Do.	Sourabaya	Sophie Kon. d. Neder	Klein.
— 16	Downs	Japan	Istamboul	Bardoe.
— 16	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Koh-i-noor	Stoddart.
— 16	Do.	Singapore	Crusader	Green.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Apr. 30	New York	Hong Kong	Maribelle	
May 14	Shields	Shanghai	James	
— 13	Cardiff	Singapore	Wozlava	Malchin.
— 13	Off Dungeness	Java	Nova Zembla	
— 14	Shields	Hong Kong	Sophia	Whitesmith.
— 10	Off the Start	Singapore	Altenaar	
— 14	Shields	Do.	Johore, str.	St. Clair.
— 19	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Esmeralda	Brewes.
— 19	Do.	Manila	Ercilla	De San Vicente.
— 17	Do.	Singapore	Golden West	Jewett.
— 18	London	Shanghai	Anglo Saxon	Plummer.
— 16	Off Portsmouth	Batavia	Besoekie	Riekees.
— 16	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Loding	Martansen.
— 19	Liverpool	Do.	Curyscia	Hedley.
— 20	London	Cardiff and Shanghai	Amaranth	Hadcmp.
—	Off Dover	Hong-Kong	Louis and Emma	
— 21	London	Shanghai	Celestial	Robinson.
— 28	Newport	Do.	Princess of Wales	Barron.

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DEPARTURES—*continued.*

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
— 19	Do.	Hong Kong	Atlantic	Suhr.
— 18	Cardiff	Shanghai	Arthur	Matthews.
— 17	Liverpool	Singapore	Hoang Ho	Carrington.
— 19	Shields	Hong Kong	Daisy	
Apr. 8	Rio Janeiro	Singapore	Tuspan	Valbarch.
May 23	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Star of the North	Paterson.
— 20	London	Singapore	Moneta	Spicare.
— 21	Glasgow	Shanghai	Glenclunie	Turnbull.
— 21	Off Dover	Batavia	Johannes Lodewyk	Waal.
— 22	Sunderland	Shanghai	Congress	Drinkwater.
— 14	Off Beachy Head	Samarang	Brouwershaven	Huyser.
— 21	Southampton	China & Japan	Corea, str.	Chrisansen.
— 25	Liverpool	Singapore	Veteran	Brown.
— 5	New York	Shanghai	Lancaster	Forbes.
— 9	London	Do.	Sir W. F. Williams	Wilson.
— 6	Newport	Hong Kong	Atlantic	Suhr.
— 7	Liverpool	Shanghai	Jane Leech	Bingham
— 10	Do.	Hong Kong	Amazone	Nielson.
— 19	Do.	Penang	Fairy Belle	Roberts.
— 10	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Dilkhoosh	Purdy.
— 10	Do.	Newport & Shanghai	John C. Munro	Wood.
— 6	Off Dover	Macassar	Helena	Pill.
— 7	Cardiff	Shanghai	Cesarea	Dolbel.
— 7	Liverpool	Batavia & Sourabaya	Cherokee, str.	Forcanco.
— 6	Sunderland	Singapore	Impulse	Small.
Apr. 28	Texel	Batavia	Elise Henriette	Deterding.
May 10	Glasgow	Singapore & Penang	Osprey	Andrew.
— 12	Port Glasgow	Shanghai	Teen Chang, str.	Guillet.
— 12	Do.	Do.	Vulcan, str.	Neilson.
— 11	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Eliza Stewart	Osborne.
— 11	London	Singapore	Xanthippe	Rees.
— 11	Deal	China	Niagara	Krefting.
— 7	Off Beachy Head	Batavia	Kortenaar	Schuchard.
— 9	Cardiff	Shanghai	Spirit of Trade	Samson.
— 9	Liverpool	Do.	Hannover	Pieping.
— 10	Shields	Singapore	St. Oswin	Atkinson.
— 8	Off Lowestoft	Do.	Helena	Knudsen.
— 10	Cardiff	Shanghai	Palmerston	Williams.
— 9	Swansea	Hong Kong	Philip I.	Koch.
— 13	Liverpool	Do.	Gemini	Hertz.
— 11	Cardiff	Shanghai	Pillen Elena	Tomanovich.
— 11	Do.	Singapore	Schaldis	Bucke.
— 13	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Sydney Eggers	Richardson.
— 13	Newport	Shanghai	Analyst	Crosby.
— 16	Liverpool	Singapore & Shanghai	Conference	Reid.
— 14	London	Singapore & Penang	Moneta	Spear.
— 14	Do.	Newport & Shanghai	Clarendon	King.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa and Nagasaki: Norfolk, Velocidade, For Shanghai: Aurora Australis, Isles of the South, Tamerlane, Sir Harry Parkes. For Hong Kong and Canton: Sovereign of India, Pak-Wan, Mary Mildred. For Hong Kong: Maiden Queen. For Manila: Elisa, Angela. For Singapore: Coromandel. For Penang: Mangerton. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Heilige Liduina.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Sea Horse, Alice, Twilight. For Hong Kong: Falcon, Prince Arthur. For Hong Kong and Canton: Juanpore. For Singapore: Mount Vernon, Simoom, Prince Waldemar. For Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Spirit of the Sea. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Oceaan. For Sourabaya, Gazelle.

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore and Kanagawa: Stad Enschedi For the Cape, Singapore, and Hong Kong: Glengyle (str.).

At PORT GLASGOW.—For Bombay and Shanghai: Ta-pang-nyo.

SPOKEN.

THOMAS MITCHELL, of and from Glasgow, for Batavia, May 5, 40, N., 16W.
PROPHETE (French ship) Bordeaux to Singapore, Feb. 11.
ALTONA, Bordeaux to Hong Kong, April 4, 1 S., 22 W.
HELENA and ANNA, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 10, 4 N., 25 W.
MENTOR (Dutch barque), Amsterdam to Padang, May 10, 49 N., 8 W.
GEERTRUIDA MARIA, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 24, 28 N., 13 W.
LADY BIRD (?), Java to Rotterdam, March 10, 34 S., 22 E.
ORTELIUS, Java to Amsterdam, Feb. 14.
LAURENTIUS EMILIE, Shanghai to Montreal, March 15, 35 S., 23 E.
ISABEL (barque), Newport to Hong Kong, Jan. 20, 22 S. 28 W.
QUEEN OF THE EAST, Sunderland to Shanghai, April 11, 3 N., 25 W.
JULIA (Dutch barque), Rotterdam to Java, April 13, 2 N., 25 W.
OSCAR, Madeira to Rotterdam, April 19, 21 N., 44 W.
ELISABETH RONNEBERG, (barq.), Clyde to Sing., Mar. 26, 7 S., 30 W.
EDINBURGH CASTLE, Penang to London, April 1, 18 S., 3 W.
HARKAWAY, Sunderland to Hong Kong, April 13, 1 N., 21 W.
PATNA, Liverpool to China, } April 15, 1 N., 20 W.
CARISBROOK, for China, }
PRESTON, Shanghai to Hamburg, April 10, 1 S., 21 W.
ANTONIO LEWIS, New York to Shanghai, April 28, 26 N., 37 (?) W.
VARINA (?), Liverpool to Hong Kong, 47 days out, 5 S., 29 W.
ORANJE NASSAU, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 10, 4 N., 26 W.
NEDERLAND AND ORANJE, Amsterdam to Batavia, April 11, 3 N., 25 W.
LICHSTRAAL, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 9, 47 N., 10 W.
QUEENSTOWN, Shanghai to Liverpool, Mar. 17.
CASTOR, Liverpool to Singapore, April 17, 1 S.
BERNERR (?), (Dut. ship), Bat. to Rottm., 53 days out, Mar. 23.
G. H. AND Co. (Dut. ship), Sourabaya to Amsterdam, April 1.
PALMYRA (Dut. ship), Batavia to Amstm., Mar. 31, off St. Helena.
DONNA MARIA, Manila to Liverpool, Mar. 13, 33 S., 30 E.
ALLANDALE, Singapore to London, Mar. 17, 35 S., 21 E.
QUEEN OF NATIONS, London to Shanghai, April 12, on the line, 22 W.
ROYAL WIND (?), Foo-chow-Foo to New York, Mar. 8, 33 S., 32 E.
LAUREL, London to Shanghai, May 13, 47 N., 11 W.
RECIFE, Liverpool to Shanghai, April 12, 2 N., 25 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Governor Van Swieten, Cissy, Macedon, Nelly, Mary Shepherd, and Cymbeline. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, Forerunner, and Vampyre. At NEW YORK: Benefactor and Osborne.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Monarch, Belle, Annie Archbell, Stornoway, M. M. Peter, Wm. Thompson, Samuel, Sea Witch, Spirit of the North, Daybreak, Black Watch, Queen's Own, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Thomas and Rebecca, Robert Henderson, Magnus, Nelly, Josephine, Glaramara, Sappho, and Charles Davenport. At LIVERPOOL: Joshua Bates, Wm. Dawson, Cornelia, Inamhore, Alchymist, Isabella Hercus, Constantia, Nancy Bryssen, Thomas Royden, Regina, Victory, Bertie, Helena, Black Prince, Glengairn, Bristow, Cornelia Hendrika, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Veloz, Devonshire, Antelope, Bentinck, Polmaise, George Ruxton, Blackburn, Macassar, Berdinkha, Crest of the Wave, Patrician, Vanguard, and Ann Forster. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Encounter. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama, and La Plata. At HAMBURG: Johanna, Alt Mecklenburg, and Gravina. At NEW YORK: Lettice Catharina, Dorchester, Volunteer, Egean, Hermann, Haversham, Canton, Neuhof, Mecklenburg, Lord Collingwood, Silvercraig, St. Paul, Santon, and Mercara. At MONTREAL: H. E. Sassaune, Tycoon, Madura, and Romeo.

From MANILA.—At FALMOUTH: Maggie Lauder. At LIVERPOOL: Teide, Burdoes y Habana No. 1, J.A.U., Concepcion, Bella Gallega, Lyolla and Cervantes (via Cadiz). At COWES: Manila. At ROTTERDAM: Zanibar. At NEW YORK: Castilian, Surprise, Willy, Solo, and Argonaut.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Eliza Thornton, Oscar, Confiance, Najade, and Chili. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Centaur and Pearl. At LIVERPOOL: Bella, and Gallega. At FALMOUTH (for orders): Helene. At BORDEAUX: Salares. At NEW YORK: Caroline, Rudolf, and Harzburg.

From BATAVIA.—At LONDON: West. At FALMOUTH: Fredrika.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Edinburgh Castle, and Devonvale. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

On the Freight Market we have but little to report. Export business continues dull, and outward rates remain unaltered. Homeward rates are good, and vessels are already in request for next season's rice crop at 75s. to 85s. per ton from the usual range of ports.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: 38 to £40, and £1. 18s. For Shanghai: £50 to £52, and £2. 9s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £27. 10s., and £1. 5s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 34 tons light Government stores from the river Thames to Hong Kong, and have ordered the Mary Mildred to be surveyed for that purpose.

CASUALTIES.

The Thetis, Rohdin, which arrived at New York 6th May, from Shanghai, encountered on the 28th Feb., in 28 S., 36 E., a very heavy hurricane, commencing at E.N.E., round to W.N.W., throwing the vessel on her beam ends, carrying away part of bulwarks, and doing other damage.

A Portuguese brigantine, which arrived at St. Michael's 5th May from the Cape de Verds, had on board 15 of the crew of the Childe Harold, Gunnion, from Shanghai for Liverpool, before reported abandoned; she has proceeded on with them for Lisbon.

St. Helena, 14th April.—The Teide, of Cadiz, Becard, from Manila for Liverpool, put in here 1st April, making three inches water per half hour, and has been recommended to discharge a portion of her cargo to find out the leak.

The Zanzibar (barque), of Hamburg, from Batavia to Rotterdam, with only her mainsail set, having lost her foremast, main top-mast, jibboom, &c., and steering for Simon's Bay for repairs, was spoken 5th March, in lat. 27 S., long. 52 E.

AT ST. HELENA.—March 30, Rio (Swedish brig), Wallatz, from Hong Kong, and sailed, 31, for London; Fair Leader, Pearse, from Shanghai, and sailed for London; Alice Tainter, Barnaby, from Shanghai, and sailed for Liverpool; 31, Maria Catharina, de Bos, from Batavia, and sailed, April 1, for Amsterdam; Cornelia Hendrika, Straaten, from Hong Kong, and sailed, April 1, for Liverpool; Tycoon, Mutter, from Shanghai, and sailed for Montreal; Regina Maris, Ouwehand, from Sourabaya, and sailed, April 1, for Amsterdam; April 1, Manila, from Manila, and sailed for London; Teide, from Manila, and sailed for Liverpool; 12, Chili, from Singapore, and sailed, 15, for London; 15, H.M.S. Centaur, from China and the Cape, and sailed for England, March 31; Nederland, from Batavia, and sailed, 1, April, for Amsterdam; April 1, Rudolph, from Singapore, and sailed for New York; Henrietta Maria, from Batavia, and sailed for Amsterdam; 3, Ortelius, from Banjoewangie, and sailed, 4, for Amsterdam; 4, Admiral de Ruyter, from Sourabaya, and sailed, 5, for Amsterdam; Catherina Wilhelmina, from Banjoewangie, and sailed, 5, for Amsterdam; 5, Jedo, from Samarang, and sailed, 6, for Rotterdam; Capella, from Sourabaya, and sailed, 6, for Amsterdam; 11, Holland, from Java, and sailed, 13, for Amsterdam.

AT TABLE BAY.—March 23, Ramolino, Crowley, from Newcastle, and sailed, 30, for Hong Kong; 25, Kiu-Kiang, str., Taylor, from New York, and sailed, 31, for China; 30, Emilie, Lundstrom, from Cheribon, and sailed, April 2, for Stockholm; April 1, Yeun Tze-Fee, str., Stocks, from Glasgow, and left, 4, for China; 8, Countess of Yarborough, from Cardiff for China.

OFF ST. HELENA.—April 2, Devonshire, from Hong Kong for Liverpool.

SIMON'S BAY.—March 28, H.M.S. Pearl, from Hong Kong, and sailed April 5, for England; 31, H.M.S. Centaur, from Hong Kong, and sailed April 3, for England.

The Confederate steamer Alabama left Table Bay, March 25.

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CHARTERED
MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON, AND CHINA.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.)

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT of the COURT of DIRECTORS to the SHAREHOLDERS.

The Directors have the pleasure of presenting to the Shareholders the Audited Balance Sheet, and Profit and Loss Account of the Bank, for the year ended 31st December last.

After providing for all bad and doubtful debts, and defraying expenses of management at all points, the net profit amounts to £196,562. 2s., to which has to be added a sum of £4,269. 9s. 2d. undivided profit, brought forward from the preceding year, making a total of £200,831. 11s. 2d.

Out of the above total, £50,000 has been paid in two Half-Yearly Dividends, and £25,000 as a Bonus, making together 15 per cent. on the paid-up Capital of the Bank. A further sum of £50,000 had been added to the Reserve Fund. The unappropriated balance of £75,831. 11s. 2d. is carried forward to the Profit and Loss Account of the current year.

As will be seen by the Accounts, the premium on New Shares paid up to 31st December, amounting to £81,140, has been added to the Reserve Fund; the balance due in respect of same, £18,860, since received, has also been passed to this account, which, with the addition of £50,000 from the year's profits above referred to, makes a total at this date at credit of that fund of £250,000.

The Directors have purchased Freehold Premises for the Bank's Agencies at Bombay, Colombo, Singapore, Shanghai, and Yokohama.

Agencies of the Bank have been opened at Point de Galle and Newera Ellia in Ceylon, Tuticorin in Southern India, Hankow in China, and Yokohama in Japan.

The ten thousand New Shares have been all taken up by the Shareholders to whom they were allotted, and the sum paid up to this date on account of the New Capital amounts to £134,815.

The Directors retiring are Mr. GEORGE GARDEN NICOL and Mr. GEORGE PALMER ROBINSON, who, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election, and the Court recommend them accordingly.

The Shareholders will have to appoint Auditors for the current year.

GEO. G. NICOL, Chairman.

52, Threadneedle-street, 27th April, 1864.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON, AND CHINA

GENERAL BALANCE for the Year ended 31st DECEMBER, 1863.

LIABILITIES. Dr.				ASSETS. Cr.			
Capital paid up on original Shares		£500,000	0 0	Coin and Bullion		£1,477,464	4 11
Do. New Shares in course of payment		80,995	0 0	Cash with Bankers, and Money at Call		495,091	0 11
Current and Fixed Deposits		2,699,967	3 1	Government Securities		293,647	4 9
Bills Payable, Notes in Circulation, and other sums due to the Public		5,965,260	4 10	Reserved Fund Investment Account		100,000	0 0
RESERVE FUND.—Balance at 31st December, 1862	£100,000 0 0			Landed and House Property at Head Office and Branches		42,190	4 8
Premium of £10 per Share on New Shares in course of payment ...	81,140 0 0			Bills Receivable, Loans and other Debts due to the Corporation		7,194,801	3 10
		181,140	0 0				
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—							
Balance for year ended 31st December, 1863, after deduction of Charges, Income-tax for year to date, and bad and doubtful debts	£200,831 11 2						
Less Dividend paid for half-year ended 30th June, 1863 ...	25,000 0 0						
		175,831	11 2				
		£9,603,193	19 1			£9,603,193	19 1

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

To Dividend for half-year ended 30th June, 1863 ...		£25,000	0 0	By Balance of Undivided Profit from 31st December, 1862...		£4,269	9 2
„ ditto ditto 31st December, 1863		25,000	0 0	„ Net Profit for the year ended 31st December, 1863		196,562	2 0
„ Bonus for the year ended ditto ...		25,000	0 0			£200,831	11 2
„ Amount carried to Reserve Fund		50,000	0 0				
„ Balance carried forward		75,831	11 2				
		£200,831	11 2	1864, January 1. By Balance brought forward ...		£75,831	11 2

RESERVE FUND.

To Balance		£231,140	0 0	By Balance on 31st December, 1862		£100,000	0 0
				„ Premium of £10 per Share on New Shares received up to 31st December, 1863, as above		81,140	0 0
				„ Amount from Profit and Loss Account, as above ...		50,000	0 0
						£231,140	0 0
		£231,140	0 0	1864, January 1. By Balance brought forward ...		£231,140	0 0

D. T. ROBERTSON, Chief Manager.
J. M. REID, Chief Accountant.

GEO. G. NICOL, Chairman.
D. LARNACH, } Directors.
GEORGE MAY, }

LONDON, 27TH APRIL, 1864.—We have examined the several Statements transmitted from the Managers of the several Branches, and also the Books in London, upon which the above Accounts have been framed, and hereby certify to their correctness, according to such Books and Statements, to 31st December, 1863.

COLEMAN, TURQUAND, YOUNGS, & Co., 16, Tokenhouse-yard, E.C., Public Accountants.

LONDON, 27TH APRIL, 1864.—We have examined the Bills of Exchange, Local Bills discounted, and other Securities held by the Bank, against Loans, &c., and we are satisfied that they are available, and that sufficient deductions have been made from the profits of the year ended 31st December, 1863, for all bad and doubtful debts, according to the Statements received from the several Branches in India and China.

J. SMITH,
J. MURRAY ROBERTSON } Auditors.

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THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA. and JAPAN (Limited).

16, CORNHILL, LONDON.

Capital, Two Millions.

BANKERS.

Bank of England, The Alliance Bank of London and Liverpool.

Branches at Bombay, Calcutta, Hong Kong, and Shanghae.

Deposits received at 10 days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed periods, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued, and bills negotiated, payable in India, China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

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In support of these statements the following statistics are submitted:—

Total value of Exports and Imports.

1854	£268 210,145
1862	393,782,118
1863, upwards of	444,000,0. 0

Number and Tonnage of Registered Sailing and Steam Vessels (exclusive of River Steamers) of the United Kingdom employed in the Home and Foreign Trade.

	Vessels.	Tons.
1854	17,407 ...	3,729,093
1862	20.092 ...	4,473,294

Tonnage of British and Foreign Vessels Entered and Cleared with Cargoes only at Ports in the United Kingdom.

	British Tons.	Foreign Tons.	Total Tons.
1854	9,473 640 ...	6 296 638 ...	15 770,278
1862	13,922,108 ...	8,458,549 ...	22,450,657

Tonnage of British and Foreign Vessels Entered and Cleared with Cargoes only (coastwise) at Ports of the United Kingdom.

	British Tons.	Foreign Tons.	Total Tons
1854	12,762.107 ...	46,483 ...	12,808,590
1862	17,397,687 ...	72,673 ...	17,470 360

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It will be seen, from a consideration of the above statement, that the Directors of the Maritime Credit Company aim at the opening of a general credit in aid of Commerce in all its branches, being an Institution designed to meet, in a complete and comprehensive manner, not only the wants of the Marine carrying trade, but the requirements of our maritime commerce generally; and to secure thereby the safe, constant, and profitable employment of a large amount of capital.

The Articles of Association may be seen at the Offices of the Company.

Prospectuses and forms of application for Shares may be obtained from the Bankers, Brokers, and Solicitors, and at the Temporary Offices of the Company.

Application for Shares must be made in the form annexed to the prospectus, accompanied by the deposit of £1 per Share. If no allotment be made the deposit will be returned in full, and if a less number be allotted than is applied for, the surplus will be used towards the payment in allotment.

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Dated this..... day of .....1864.
Name in full .....
Firm (if any) .....
Business or Profession .....
Place of Business .....
Residence .....

THE MARITIME CREDIT COMPANY

(Limited).

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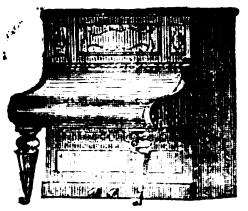

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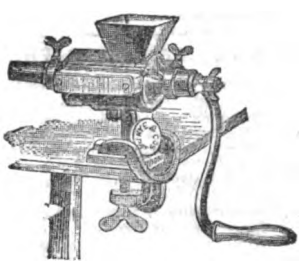

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COMMUNICATION by STEAM to INDIA, AUSTRALIA, &c., *via* EGYPT.—The PENINSULAR and ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY book Passengers and receive Cargo and Parcels at their London Offices for Gibraltar, Malta, Egypt, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, the Straits, and China, by their steamers, leaving Southampton on the 4th and 20th of every month. For Gibraltar Malta, Egypt, Aden, and Bombay by those of the 12th and 27th of each month; and for Mauritius, Reunion, King George's Sound, Melbourne, and Sydney, by the steamers leaving Southampton on the 20th of every month.

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On the 19th of every month a FRENCH MAIL STEAMER will be despatched from Marseilles, at 2 P.M., for ALEXANDRIA, corresponding with another steamer from Suez to India and China. Passengers will be booked and cargo received for conveyance to the following ports:—Messina, Alexandria, Aden, Point de Galle (Ceylon), Pondicherry, Madras, Calcutta Singapore, Saigon, and Hong Kong. In addition to the foregoing, the November steamer will receive passengers and cargo for Shanghai.

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CHINA, SINGAPORE, and EASTERN SEAS—Overland, 4th and 20th.

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To follow the "William and Jane," with quick despatch.

FOR COLOMBO and COCHIN, the nearly new clipper barque ELIZA LAING, A 1 eleven years, 441 tons register, T. LAING, Commander, now loading in the West India Export Dock. This fast-sailing Vessel, built under special survey in 1862, is strongly recommended to Shippers of fine goods. Has good accommodation for Passengers.

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To sail 20th June.

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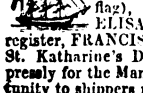
For Freight or Passage apply to PHILLIPPS, SHAW, and LOWTHER, 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, E.C.



MANILLA Direct (guaranteed first ship, and sailing under the Spanish flag), the splendid, new, Spanish clipper ELISA, A 1 at Lloyd's for ten years, 431 tons register, FRANCISCO RIVERO, Commander; loading in St. Katharine's Dock. This vessel has been built expressly for the Manilla line, and offers an excellent opportunity to shippers requiring despatch.

For Freight or Passage apply to CHARLES HINGSTON, 2, John-street, E.C.; or to BREMNER and Co., 20½, Great St. Helen's, E.C.

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FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the celebrated British clipper MARY MILDRED, 3 T. French Lloyd's, 460 tons register; C. J. FINE, Commander; lying in the London Docks. This beautiful vessel has superior accommodation for passengers, and sails very fast.

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A Regular Trader.

FOR COLOMBO, CEYLON (Direct), having a considerable portion of her Cargo engaged, the magnificent China Clipper WYNAUD, A 1 for 13 years; 521 tons register; CHARLES P. JONES, Commander; loading in the West India Docks. This splendid vessel has a very lofty cabin, with accommodations of the most superior kind for the comfort and convenience of passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to W. A. WINKLEY, 23, Birchin-lane, Cornhill, E.C.

To Follow the "Eliza Laing."
With despatch.

FOR COLOMBO (Direct), the fast-sailing Clipper-barque ECLIPSE, A 1 12 years; 404 tons register; JOSIAH HARRIS, Commander; loading in the St. Katharine's Docks. This beautiful vessel, built under special survey, is well known in the Ceylon trade for her uniform very rapid passages, and safe delivery of fine goods.

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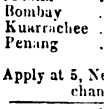
ROBERTSON and CO. will despatch the following first-class VESSELS to their respective destinations. They are well adapted for their several trades, and are confidently recommended to their friends:—

Destination.	Ships.	Docks.	To Sail.
Shanghai	Sir H. Parkes.	W.I.D.	With des.
Kanagawa & Nagasaki	Norfolk ...	W.I.D.	May 28.
Kanagawa	Cymbeline ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Manila	Angela ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Bombay	Tiverton ...	E.I.D.	May 30.
Kuarrachee	Victoria ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Penang	Mangerton...	W.I.D.	With des.

Apply at 5, Newman's-court, Cornhill, London; or York-chambers, 55, King-street, Manchester.



CHINA and SINGAPORE. The following splendid first-class Clipper Ships will be despatched as under:—

Port.	Ships.	Docks.	Last Shipping Day.
Shanghai	Isles of the South ...	E.I.D.	May 30.
Shanghai	Aurora Australis ..	E.I.D.	June 20.
Shanghai	Antipodes ...	E.I.D.	To follow.
H. Kong & Whampoa.	Pak-Wan ...	E.I.D.	With des.
Singapore	Early Dawn .	S.K.D.	With des.

For Freight or Passage, apply to KILLICK, MARTIN, and Co., 28, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, E.C.

FROM LIVERPOOL for CHINA.

Ships.	Tons	Class.	Destination.	To Sail.
Juanpore ...	481	A 1 ...	Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	June 1.
Prince Arthur	547	A 1 ...	Do.	With des.
Twilight ...	610	A 1 ...	Shanghai ...	„

For terms of Freight or Passage apply to MCDIARMID and GREENSHIELDS, Liverpool.

TOULMIN, LIVINGSTON, and Co will despatch the following splendid vessels:—

Ports.	Ships.	Docks.	Tons.	To Sail.
Colombo... ...	Pce. Llewelin	London.	286	May 31
Colombo... ...	Granville ...	W.I.D.	696	Withdrn.
Mangalore, Beypore, & Cochin	Syren ...	St Kath.	300	May 31
Cochin	Eaglet ...	Ditto.	392	June 15
Rangoon... ...	W. Kirchner	W.I.D.	325	June 20
Sydney	Sirocco ...	London.	1,246	June 6

31, Great St. Helen's, E.C.

NOTICE to SHIPPERS to YOKOHAMA and NAGASAKI.—The celebrated Aberdeen clipper VELOCIDADE A 1 thirteen years, 280 tons register, J. WYRILL, Commander, will receive goods in the West India Docks all Thursday next, the 2nd June.

Apply to PHILLIPS, SHAW, and LOWTHER, 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, E.C.

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AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

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Amoy, 1st January, 1861.

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HENRY TURNER, General Manager.

HONG KONG.—A Young Man, having to return to the above port by September, desires an ENGAGEMENT for himself and wife during the journey (overland or sea immaterial) to attend on a gentleman and lady; or the wife to take the charge of children. Salary no object. Address G. S., Post-office, St. Matthias-road, Stoke Newington green, N.

THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE FIFTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 28th December, 1863. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

Subscriptions and Advertisements received abroad by the following Agents:—

Penang	SANDILANDS, BUTTERY AND CO.
Bangkok	REMI SCHMIDT AND CO.
Batavia	HUNTER, HOUGHTON, AND CO.
Anjer—Straits of Sunda	G. SCHUIT, Anjer Hotel.
Manila	PHILLIPS, MOORE, AND CO.
Hong Kong, Canton, Macao, & Swatow,	JAMES GARDINER, Hong Kong.
Amoy	BOYD AND CO.
Foo-Chow-Foo	HEDGE AND CO.
Shanghai	H. FOGG AND CO.
Tien-Tsin	JAMES HENDERSON.
Nagasaki—Japan .	PIGNATEL AND CO.
Kanagawa	A. W. HANSARD.

OFFICE, 12, GEORGE-YARD, LOMBARD-STREET LONDON, E.C.

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 139.] LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Kanagawa			April 1
	Nagasaki			March 25
	Hakodadi			„ 16
CHINA—				
	Peking			„ 18
	Tien-tain			
	Hankow			April 14
	Shanghai	Feb. 26	April 15	„ 20
	Foo-Chow-Foo			
	Amoy			
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	March 10	„ 22	„ 26
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	Feb. 10		„ 8
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Touron			
	Saigon			„ 30
SIAM—				
	Bankok			„ 7
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			
	Sarawak			„ 14
JAVA—				
	Batavia			„ 26
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	No advices received.		
	Penang			

The next mails due here on the 13th arrived at Suez on the 3rd inst.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, 4th June, from Southampton.—To Singapore: Mr. F. G. Heron, Captain G. Mairis, R.M.A., Mr. J. Tyndall Woods. To Shanghai: Mr. S. Marcus. To Hong Kong: Mr. J. M. Hollingsworth, Assistant-Surgeon M. M. Magrath, R.N., Mr. R. Mearns, R.N., Lieut. C. C. King, R.M.A. From Marseilles, 12th June.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Bannatyne, Don Antonio Moruleda. To Shanghai: Mr. H. Bruynd, Mr. P. J. Batteke, Mr. J. F. Fahrensback. From Gibraltar.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. de Argaiz.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, June 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Paymaster W. E. Chown, R. N.

Per P. and O steamer Delta, June 4, from Southampton.—To Penang: Mr. R. Wilson. From Marseilles, June 12.—To Shanghai: Dr. A. Reid.

Per P. and O. steamer Isles of the South, to Shanghai, June 2.—Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Goddard, Rev. R. F. Fuller, wife, two children, infant, and Chinese servant, Mr. Alex. Price, Mr. Thos. Neil, Rev. R. F. Kingdon and wife, Mr. Henry Knight, Mr. Carl Rivers, Mr. H. A. Kirby.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

KANAGAWA.

The French mail steamer brings no later dates from the above port, though we are enabled to supplement the intelligence given in our last number, by the receipt of journals completing our files.

It appears that the existence of small-pox among the crews of the shipping in the harbour had been the means of exciting considerable alarm amid the foreign residents at Yokohama. The *Japan Herald* says:—

"For some weeks past it was no secret that we had that fell disease raging to some extent in the settlement—or, to speak more guardedly—in the harbour; for although two or three of the residents were known to have been seized with it, it had not spread in the settlement to any alarming extent. When, however, these cases began to increase, attention was drawn by ourselves, and afterwards by 'An Old Resident,' in our columns, to the fact of its existence to much more serious amount on board some of the men-of-war in harbour, and that a house, in a situation ill adapted for the purpose, that is to say, on the new Swamp Concession near the British Consulate, had been taken, and was being used as a hospital for small-pox patients removed from the fleet. On Monday a number of men affected with this infectious disease were seen to be carried through some of the most crowded of our streets, which drew from a considerable number of the heads of houses a letter to H.B.M.'s Consul, representing the fact, and suggesting that a Floating Hospital, as had once before been provided here, should be established for this and such other infectious diseases as endanger the lives of the community by being sent amongst them. The views of this letter were warmly backed up by a resident medical practitioner, who, after stating his belief that no case at present existing amongst the residents was mainly attributable to the fact that no expense had been spared and every precaution taken by the residents themselves to prevent the spreading of infection, went on to point out that the danger to the settlement arises from the present Small Pox Hospital being in a populous part of the foreign location, and then to suggest that a temporary building, erected on the eastern side of the canal, either on the Navy lot or on the Bluff, would answer the purpose of a Small-pox Hospital as well as the present site, with far less risk of infection spreading among the community and Japanese. We are happy to be able to state that the naval authorities are now pushing forward, with all possible haste, the erection of a building for this purpose on the Navy lot on the eastern side of the canal, which is, for many reasons, a very suitable spot, though one could have wished it had been a trifle further removed from the settlement."

Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B., H.M.'s Minister Plenipotentiary, had held a conference at the official residence of the Governor of Kanagawa, the "Tobe," with the following Japanese Ministers, viz., Inuye Kawatsi no Kami, Minister of State; Suwa Inaba no Kami, Vice Minister; Takemoto-kai no Kami, Governor of Foreign Affairs and the Governor of Kanagawa. The British Minister rode out to the "Tobe" accompanied by M. O. Flowers, Esq., Acting Japanese Secretary, and A. Von. Seibold, Esq., Interpreter, and escorted by his body-guard under command of Captain Applin. The conference was of a confidential nature, and the subject-matter discussed had not been made public.

From intelligence received by overland mail from Nagasaki, it was known that the steamers *Foh-kein* and *Scotland* were flying Japanese colours in that harbour, having been purchased by Prince Satsuma.

Our contemporary remarks on the last piece of intelligence:—"It will be recollected that we have lately had two steamers here under the name *Foh-kein*; one a vessel of 866 tons which left here for Hong Kong on Feb. 7th; the other of 204 tons, which left on Feb. 20th for Nagasaki. It was understood at the time of the latter leaving that she had been sold to Satsuma, and it is most probable that this is the vessel alluded to; indeed, there can be little doubt of it, as we have good information that only very recently the other of that name was in dock at Whampoa."

The *Japan Herald* continues its review of the Export trade of the port as follows:—

Of Tobacco, in the nine months ending 1st of March, we find that 2,822 packages have been exported. There seems no

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room for observation upon this, either as to its quality or the amount of production.

Of Oil, we note the export of 3,190 piculs of Fish-kind, and of 2,530 piculs of Rapeseed, during the year. 1,638 tubs of this were for London.

Of Wax, only 1,580 packages have been exported from this port during the nine months. In this article the port of Nagasaki far outsteps Yokohama.

Of Timber, 167,278 pieces have been exported during the nine months, principally in the spring and summer months, at prices ranging from $16 to $19 per 100 planks.

A small quantity of Flax has also been exported.

Of Sea-weed, 13,086 bales, principally of the broad sort, have been exported.

Dried Fish, Charcoal, &c., &c., exports entirely for the Chinese markets, have fallen off very rapidly, and are now of but little value.

Freights: Our port has been well supplied with tonnage, but, with the considerable amount of bulky freight we have exported, ships of a good class have experienced little difficulty in obtaining satisfactory rates. Freights have averaged about as follows:—

To Europe.—Silk: £6. 10s. per ton of 50 cubic feet.

To Shanghai.—Silk: $3 per picul; general cargo: $4 per ton of 40 cubic feet.

To Hong Kong: $7 do. do.

Mr. Consul Winchester's return shows the number of vessels arrived from all ports and places during the year 1863 to be 170. This faces the year 1862 with 121, showing an increase of 49 vessels.

The British shipping shows an increase of 35 arrivals—*i.e.*, 100 in 1863 against 65 in 1862; and in departures 48—*i.e.*, 100 in 1863 against 52 in 1862.

A third official return, of the Direct Trade in British vessels to Great Britain during the year ending the 31st of December last, gives the names of the vessels and the value of the cargo in each as follows:—

Wynaud, £66,127; Adelicia, £51,722; Ocean Gem, £26,352; Carausius, £30,384; Prudhoe, £11,747; Maravi, £4,707; Kent, £28,476; Medina, £24,616; Cambridge, £61,707; Broadwater, £35,025; Dolphin, £5,386; Ravensbourne, £24,275; Esperenza, £2,397; John C. Munro, £63,500; Scawfell, £22,500; total, £458,921. In addition to the above, three Dutch vessels, of 707 tons with general cargoes, were dispatched to Great Britain during the same period.

An estimate of the Imports and Exports at the port of Kanagawa during the year 1863 presents the following figures:—

Under what flag.	Imports in sterling at 5s.	Exports in sterling at 5s.
British	£635,731	£2,149,291
Dutch	72,671	171,734
American	70,458	161,702
Prussian	19,712	95,177
French	10,176	46,789
Russian	2,398	13,810
Total	£811,146	£2,638,503
Total amount of Imports and Exports as per above estimate		£3,449,649
Importation of Peking gold bars		225,351
Sale of British steamers to the Japanese during the year ..		175,000
Total		£3,850,000

CHINA.

PEKING.

There is no later news from Peking or Tien-tsin.

NEWCHWANG.

The following report is from the *Friend of China*:—

We now beg to hand you the price current for commencement of a new season, but as few buyers have as yet arrived, we feel confident that higher prices will be attainable when they come down. For exports, they are daily becoming more reasonable in their demands. We quote prices as follows:—

Grey shirtings, 6¼ catty, taels 4.2.0; 7 catty, taels 4.4.0; 7½ catty, taels 4.7.0; white shirtings, taels 4.0.0 to 4.2.0; T-Cloths, 36 in. taels 3.2.0; 32 in., taels 2.7.0; domestics, 72 yds., taels 8.0.0; white spots, taels 3.4.5; coloured spots, taels 3.8.0; white brocades, taels 3.5.5; coloured do., taels 3.9.0; drills, taels 6.4.0 to 6.5.0; cotton (Shanghai) per picul of 92 catties, taels 16.0.0; paper, taels 2.2.0 per pk.; nailrod iron, taels 2.2.0; bar iron (round and flat), taels 3.2.0; block tin, taels 24.0.0; lead, taels 5.5.0 per picul; glass 18X24, taels 3.6.5; white sugar, taels 8.6.0; ordinary do., taels 7.0.0; brown sugar, taels 4.5.0; ordinary do., taels 4.0.0; sugar candy, taels 8.0.0; ordinary do., taels 6.5.0; opium, taels 550 nominally.

EXPORTS.—Indigo, tls. 5.4.9; Tallow, tls. 6.6.2.; pea oil, tls. 4.5.0 per picul; bean cake, tls. 3.9.2 per 10 pieces; peas, tls. 3.5.0; millet, tls. 3,8.2; melon seed, tls. 12.8.3 per shik of about 350 catties, all free on board, and duty paid. Cotton (Newchang), tls. 18.0.0. per picul of 92 catties.

YINGTSE, April 5th.—Bean-cake and peas a few cents higher than quoted above.

SHANGHAI.

The mail of 26th February arrived out on the 15th April. The dates are down the 20th. We take the following items from the *Friend of China*. The files of the *North China Herald* and *Recorder* have not come to hand:—

"Reynolds and Thompson, two of the *Tsatlee* 'passengers,' who escaped from the U. S. Consular gaol the other day, were again captured the night before last, when taking some refreshment at the Bellevue Restaurant, nearly opposite our old office, here in Hongque. What took the stupid fellows so close to their old quarters, we cannot divine. Their presence was soon told of to Mr. Deputy United States Consul Lewis, and their manacling effected by the expert hands of Marshal Howard and Gaolor Williams. 'Justice Gull' being deemed unsafe, Reynolds and Thompson were then taken to the British Consular gaol, where no doubt they will be duly cared for. We are told that, in the height of their anger at being again taken, they uttered aloud some rare stories of the complicity of people in higher positions. Stories of this kind, however, should be received with caution—mud spattering being one of the easiest things imaginable, especially when no risk attaches to the utterance.

"Mr. Manning, whose freaks in connection with steamers and Consular courts in Shanghai are matters of notoriety, did not wait for the result of his appeal to the Hong Kong Court against the award to Day and others for saving the *William the Fourth*. Both money and credit are reported to have run out, and after raffling his watch he evanesced incontinently. It was well he did not stay for the appeal decision, because it went against him.

"The Harbour Master, on behalf of the Taoutai, has at last succeeded in getting a contractor in the person of Mr. Heustiss, to blow up the *Lord Lyndhurst*, and remove the junk on the Point. Sum payable, taels 9,300."

"Aking, the murderer of Mr. Dore, is to be beheaded in the Maloo on Tuesday next.

"A young man by the name of Wm. Scott, late second engineer of the steamer *Meteor*, was found in the water-closet on the premises of the S. S. N. Co.'s work shops, Hongque, with his throat cut. He had evidently been lying in that position for some time when he was discovered. There was no apparent reason for his committing this deed, as he appeared to be in good health, having only arrived from Japan a few days since, and paid off with about $500. At the time of his death, there were about $160 in his room, which, with his other effects, were taken possession of by an officer of the U.S. Consulate.

"We have received particulars of an outrage committed on a village in the neighbourhood of Shanghai, which surpasses in gravity any previous crime we have had to record, and indicates the existence of a formidable organisation among the scoundrels who abound in the settlement. A band of some forty or fifty Cantonese, armed with swords and led by two foreigners, ascended the Honque creek on Saturday evening, and attacked and looted a large native house and a few surrounding cottages, carrying off about $500 worth of property. No resistance was offered at the time by the villagers, but they seem afterwards to have recovered from their panic, and, as the burglars were returning, fell on them with their hoes and rakes and stretched three dead on the spot. Three others were so severely wounded that they remained on the ground, and were delivered the next day to the Che-hien. The intelligent vigilance of a policeman secured the arrest of one of the culprits on Saturday morning, but none of the others have yet been discovered. The individual in question was seen by P. C. Mumford, taking two bundles out of a boat, which were being carried off by two coolies, who also arrived in the boat, when the constable, whose suspicions had been aroused, arrested the three. Two swords were discovered in the bundles, which contained a quantity of clothes that have since been identified by the villagers as belonging to them, We believe that measures are being taken which, it is hoped, may lead to the identification of the European ringleaders, one of whom is also wounded."

COLONEL GORDON'S FORCES.

Colonel Gordon has again taken the field, and we find the best account of his proceedings in the *China Mail*:—

"Our advices state that Colonel Gordon attacked the rebels at a place called Wai-soo, at 10.30 A.M., on the 11th April. They were found strongly entrenched, and very numerous. After some shelling, their left flank was turned, and they hereupon precipitately retreated. The rear Imperial troops, who were

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acting in considerable force as auxiliaries to Colonel Gordon, pursued them and cut them up very severely. Wai-soo is reported to have been literally strewed with dead. The rebels numbered previously to the action some 15,000 strong, and the Imperialists some 8,000 to 10,000. The force under Colonel Gordon was only about 800 strong, the greater portion of his men being still in garrison at his last capture, Le-yang. Colonel Gordon had therefore halted at Wai-soo, leaving the pursuit to the Imperial commanders; and it was probable that he might move immediately upon Chang-chow-foo, the fall of which stronghold may be considered as imminent. This will leave Nanking and Hoo-chow-foo, to the south of the Tae-hoo Lake, as the only two places remaining in possession of the rebels.

"From the foregoing it will be seen that Gordon's return to active service has restored the prestige of the Imperial force. This is nothing new in the leadership of armies, one great European Captain of a former day being said to be worth 40,000 men when personally in the field. It is likely that the feeling operates more strongly among the Chinese, who are fatalists, and no doubt are strongly impressed with the idea that Gordon is lucky above all other leaders. It will be seen that he husbands his own resources carefully whenever the work to be done is within the capacity of the Imperial troops. In the present instance, finding the rebels strongly intrenched, he proceeded to disturb their situation by means of vigorous shelling, and having thus made the place too hot for them, he held the Imperial force of from 8,000 to 10,000 ready for pursuit. On the turning of the left flank, the retreat and pursuit were commenced with evidently good success to the Imperialists.

"From the accounts we received it will be seen that the rebels are becoming disorganised, and they cannot fail to be correspondingly disheartened. If they cannot stand up when strongly intrenched, they are not likely to do much good for themselves when broken up and dispersed in the open country. Cities and towns they have none, except Nanking, Chang-chow-foo, and Hoo-chow-foo. We have not heard of Kintang being taken, it is true, except in the form of a rumour that the inhabitants had shaved, and would have done so at Gordon's first appearance had not a strong force of the original rebels from Chang-chow-foo been thrown into the place as a garrison. It was their unexpected appearance and desperate bravery which caused Gordon's repulse, but the likelihood is that they have now left the place in order to meet the Imperialists again elsewhere. Since their departure the inhabitants may have determined to surrender according to the original plan.

"The three places we have named are cut off from communication with each other, and from the rebels now in the field; the Taiping territory is gradually being freed from the scorching grasp that has held it for so many years, and which might have now been holding Ningpo and Shanghai. Nanking, once a great commercial city, now a ruined place used as the head-quarters of the Taiping soldiery, is not likely to hold out long after the other two places are taken; and the policy of keeping it in check until the last cannot be doubted. It would be strange indeed, if, after Soochow and Hangchow, the Taipings should keep the Imperialists out of Nanking, and we do not anticipate much difficulty there. Should the present pleasing state of affairs continue, it will rather diminish the fancied importance of the Anglo-Chinese fleet, and must suggest to Captain Osborn that he was scarcely warranted in asking Colonel Gordon to serve under him. As matters have turned out, the fleet could have been of no use in assisting the Imperial cause, the inner wall of Nanking being beyond range, and there being no more coast towns in rebel possession. The crews, indeed, might have brought their artillery on shore, but a land force has been worked very effectively without them. What the Yang-tsze river wants is a steam police to overhaul suspicious craft and apprehend rowdies."

A meeting has been held for the purpose of forming a company to found an hotel at Pootoo, and run steamers to and from the island. Many influential members of the community were present. The object—a most laudable one—the establishment of a sanitarium for those overpowered by the heat and malaria of summer. At this meeting the original proposal—to form a company to be called the Shanghai Sanitary Company, for the purpose of providing steam communication with the island of Pootoo, or such other site as may be decided upon, with adequate accommodation there to meet sanitary requirements of this settlement—was negatived, and the two following resolutions passed:—

I. That a Sanitary Commission be nominated to organise weekly trips by steamer to Pootoo or some other more convenient island, during the summer, such trips being arranged to suit the departure of the European mail.

II. That Doctor Coghill, Messrs. Tyson, Johnson, Hanbury, and Cuthbertson, with power to add to their number, be appointed as a committee to carry out the foregoing resolution.

The Futai has surrendered the steamer *Tsatlee*, which he had manifested an inclination to confiscate. Messrs. Russell and Co. despatched the *Sycee* to Soochow, with a view to make a further endeavour to alter the Futai's decision; but the journey turned out to be unnecessary, as she met the *Tsatlee* on her way down. The Futai has further forbidden the receipt of any reward by the European officers who were concerned in her recapture. He deserves credit for this step, inasmuch as, had he been disposed, he might probably have raised objections to her surrender which would have taken some time to dispel. We are both surprised and gratified at being able to accord his Excellency praise for generosity, when we anticipated that extreme pressure would be required to induce him to pursue the course he has voluntarily adopted.

The murderer Bulkley was executed at the American Consulate gaol. He was accompanied to the scaffold by Father Le Jacques and Mr. Hamilton. A number of persons, among whom was the president of the Chinese defence committee, had assembled to witness the execution. Bulkley addressed the crowd in a few brief sentences, saying that he died at peace with all, and freely forgave those whose evidence had led to his conviction. He then walked firmly to the scaffold, the noose was adjusted, and the bolt was withdrawn at precisely ten minuter past ten. The drop was nearly seven feet, and death was almost instantaneous, as the neck was broken by the fall.

The *North China Herald* and the *Daily Shipping Report* give the following items on the rebellion:—

HANCHOW.—This city has at length fallen into the hands of the Imperialists. On the 29th March three assaults were made on it, all of which failed. Three hundred rounds had been fired by the artillery during the day without apparent effect; the only result of the day's efforts having been the capture of some forts and of two villages, which completed the investment of the city. On the 30th a well-planned attack by the Franco-Chinese and Imperialist troops showed the rebels the danger of their situation, and during the night the greater portion of the garrison evacuated the city; so that the assailants were able to enter it on the morning of the 31st without opposition. It is satisfactory that the Chekeang province has at length been nearly cleared of the rebels.

KIASHING.—We are glad to be at length able to record the fall of this important city. Several assaults had been made and failed; and the Imperialist General Ching had been obliged to return to Soochow severely wounded. On the 20th ultimo, however, a good breach having been made, his successor made another assault which was successful. A correspondent, writing from Kiashing on the 26th March, says that the rebels defended themselves with great bravery. They had constructed a citadel in the centre of the city, within which they retired after the Imperialists had gained the breach; and held out for three hours. After they had been driven out of this their last stronghold, great slaughter took place among them as no quarter was given.

NINGPO.—A Mr. Gardner, of Soochow notoriety, has published an attack on Colonel Cooke, the commandant of the Anglo-Chinese Contingent at Ningpo, which appears to us so unjustifiable that we deem it right to expose some of its absurdities. Mr. Gardner's statements will, we imagine, carry little weight with those to whom Colonel Cooke is personally known.

It appears that we are not alone in our disappointment at the non-receipt of papers. The Editor of the *Friend of China* states that he does not get two out of three of our outward issue of the *London and China Express*. Our publisher affirms that they have been regularly sent by post, and that he has had no complaints from other persons for the past six months. It would thus appear that they are appropriated in transit from the Post-office, Shanghai, to Mr. Tarrant.

LATEST NEWS.

The latest news from Gordon's front, before Chang-chow-foo, is to April 14th. The whole force was expected to be mustered before that city in five or six days. No serious attack was at that time meditated, though it was contemplated to try one or two of the stockades. There are no rebels now outside of

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Chang-chow-foo, Tayan, and Kintang; all the expeditionary force of rebels has been cut up. It is believed by some that the rebellion will be at an end in four months. Le-yang is probably garrisoned by Imperialists, and Colonel Gordon's older troops will thus be able to assist in the siege of Chang-chow-foo. We also learn that the bodies of Gordon's seven officers, who fell into the hands of the enemy some time ago, have been found and identified. General Ching is dead; he was one of the bravest soldiers and best generals in the Imperial army.

HONG KONG.

The dates are down to the morning of the 26th April. The English mail of 10th March arrived on the 22nd April.

The steamer *Sea King* is announced by Messrs. Johnson and Co. to load at Hankow for London, with a guarantee of the time of passage.

We gather the following items from the *Evening Mail*:—

The works of the Hong Kong and China Gas Company are fast approaching completion. The manager, in drawing attention to this fact, urges the five following advantages which gas possesses over oil:—

1st. It is safer than oil or candles, as there are no wicks or sparks.
2nd. No injury to carpets or furniture by the dropping of oil.
3rd. No waste by carelessness or dishonest servants.
4th. It is lighted, increased, diminished, or extinguished in a moment's time.
5th. The light from a gas-burner consuming 5 feet of gas per hour is equal to 12 candles, and will illuminate a room to the same extent. Houses can be either partially or wholly lighted at once, and can have extra lights affixed at any future time; the yearly cost being in exact proportion to the number of burners required.

We have not been able to see the new dollar, but have obtained an impression of it in wax. The size is precisely the same as the Mexican, and we believe that the intrinsic value of the piece is three 1,000-ths more, which is of course a difference on the right side. We may be sure that, on its first appearance, this coin will undergo the most rigid scrutiny on the part of Chinese shroffs, and, being found of full value, will take rank at once as a most acceptable currency. It will not, assuredly, be subject to defacement any more than is now the half-dollar, the half-crown, or the English shilling, which have always circulated undefaced. But should the dollars be defaced in any instances, or carried out of the colony, so much the better for the Mint. The coinage of a half-dollar is, we hear, also under consideration, either in the capacity of a token or of a legalised current coin.

An inquest was held upon the body of a European found dead on the hill. From the nature of the injuries, it appeared presumable that he had fallen into a crevice about fourteen feet deep, a portion of detached rock which was found beside the body having probably given way with him. Deceased seemed to belong to the class of destitute seamen; no valuables or money were found on his person, but this fact was not necessarily considered to argue that he had met with foul play. The jury brought in an open verdict of "Found dead."

The subject of banking is at present receiving attention in certain quarters, and, on the grounds that the high profits arising from the banking business in the East are flowing into the pockets of shareholders in England totally unconnected with Eastern trade and in no way directly influencing it, the idea has, we hear, been privately mooted of having a bank in Hong Kong with Hong Kong shareholders and Hong Kong receivers of dividends. The plausibility of the notion recommends itself to our judgment at the first blush. Everybody would want shares, and, getting them, would become constituents of the bank from that moment. Every shareholder would deposit money and buy bills of exchange with a view to swelling the amount of his own dividend. The picture is not a new one, but has been drawn many a time before, and nowhere better than in the "Newcomes," where the prospectus of the Bundlecund Banking Company is noticed. That concern proved a failure, but the prospectus was an undoubted success.

The steamer *Chanticleer* reports having arrived at the Prata Shoals, whither she had gone to the rescue of the British barque *Cornelia*. At one P.M., on the 18th April, she took on board 5,500 chests of tea, all in good condition, leaving the *Cornelia* 1,500 for ballast. She then took her in tow, and brought her safely into Hong Kong, about 4.15 this afternoon. The *Cornelia* has sustained but very little damage, having only unshipped her rudder, and is making no water.

Arrangements are on foot, we hear, for a garrison regatta, to come off early next month. These garrison sports are getting into favour both with the public and the soldiers, and their repetition at short intervals shows that the officers are satisfied with their good results. Liveliness and activity in garrison keep a great many men out of the hospital, and such sports maintain a general good-will among all classes, civil or military.

Mr. Black gave his entertainment of the "Adventures of Bonnie Prince Charlie." Like the former series, it was well attended and heartily applauded. The narrative was both interesting and truthful, and while it was happily illustrated by the songs which he sang, the songs themselves borrowed a fresh interest from the recital of the events. The second part consisted of various songs, both humorous and pathetic.

A serious mutiny, resulting in a loss of life, occurred at Stonecutters' Island, on the morning of the 21st April. On hearing two guns fired to indicate that convicts had escaped, Captain Quin despatched a body of forty constables, and afterwards followed these up with forty more. It turned out that a body of one hundred convicts had been set to work at a sea-wall out of sight of the hulk. After the roll was called they were told to fall in. This seemed to be the preconcerted signal, for they immediately made a simultaneous attack upon the seven men in charge (three European turnkeys, two European constables, and two Indian constables), took away their arms, which consisted of swords, revolvers, and muskets, and got into an empty barge which lay awaiting a cargo of stones. On crossing to the mainland they soon came in sight of the hulk, and a boat with some armed men moved out to intercept them if possible; the barge was fired into, but except the rowers all the others were lying down in the bottom and no one seemed hurt. Both parties got out on the opposite shore, but the convicts had the start and went right up the hill. They were again fired at by their pursuers and two men killed. When Captain Quin's men reached, some hours after, they went off on the trail of the scoundrels, which was recognisable by drops of blood, fragments of prison clothing, and bits of broken chain. The convicts were never sighted, however. One peasant said he had seen them to the number of seventy or thereabouts moving over the hills, and that they came to a spot where they all set off in different directions. Some of the turnkeys are badly hurt; one, it is feared, mortally. An Indian convict who tried to defend the turnkeys received a stroke across the spine, and was found in the water drowned, having, perhaps, been stunned and unable to crawl out. It is difficult to say who is to blame; the chains of the convicts are very easily broken, and a chisel was found on the body of one of those shot.

The *Scawfell*, from London, reports that on the 23rd March she passed close to the northward of a small coral shoal, —marked "Akbar, position doubtful," in the Admiralty Chart —with apparently very little water on it, though no breakers, as the sea was quite smooth. It appeared to be a narrow ridge of coral, about two cables' length north and south, and not half a cable's length in breadth east and west. The shoal is situated in about lat. 2.37½ S., long. 117.16 E. Passing two miles to the southward of St. Pierre Island, off the coast of Borneo, no ledge of rocks or breakers could be seen, as mentioned in "Horsburgh." Little St. Pierre is a ledge of rocks only six feet above water, as in "Horsburgh;" and a mistake might in consequence have been made, as the large island on a south and north bearing appears, and is, actually, two islands, about 100 yards apart—the easternmost one appearing like a haycock, and the westernmost and largest like a saddle, being lowest in the middle.

The report of the Colonial Surgeon, along with the numerous tables of "sickness and mortality," has been published.

The Governor has approved of the addition to Rule 13 of the Volunteer Regulations, by which the appointment of officers is modified or restricted.—James Whittall, Esq., has been provisionally appointed a member of the Legislative Council, in room of the Hon. Mr. Perceval resigned.—Staff-Commander Loney, R.N., has been appointed one of the Marine Surveyors. Philip Albert Myburgh is appointed Captain of the Hong Kong Volunteers, vice Kane resigned; and Lieutenant and Acting Adjutant John Dodd is appointed Adjutant. The amount of notes in circulation and specie in reserve of the several corporations is as follows:—Oriental Bank, notes issued, $671,049; specie and reserve, $250,000. Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China, notes $624,114; bullion, $250,000. Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, notes $71,958; specie, $150,000. Agra and United Service Bank (Limited), notes $271,307; specie,

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$100,000.—The Governor has recognised provisionally Le Vicomte O'Mahoney as Acting Consul for France, in the absence of M. Godeaux.

JAVA AND NETHERLANDS INDIA.

We have dates from Batavia to the 26th April. The present Resident there, Mr. D. F. Schaap, is about to resign his office and retire into private life. Mr. J. Graafland, Recorder at the Court of Justice, has been promoted to a councillorship at the Supreme Court of Netherlands India. According to an official statement in the *Javasche Courant* of the 22nd, the rice crops throughout the island were satisfactory. In some districts in Tagal, however, nearly 5,300 bouws of paddy had been destroyed by the Ama-Mirrha. An exhibition of the productions of the Dutch islands is to be held some time next year, and it is stated the affair is to be conducted on a grand scale. Mr. Cores de Vries has brought another steamer, the *Singapore*, on the line between Batavia and Sourabaya.

BORNEO (SOUTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICTS).—The works at the mines of Pengaron were being continued, and the yield of coal during February was 410 tons, making with the balance on hand 497 tons, of which 444 tons were sent to Banjermassing, leaving 53 tons at Pengaron on the last of February. The balance on hand at Bangermassing on February ult. was 917 tons. The bad weather continued to have a bad effect on the health of the miners. Thirty-eight persons were still under treatment in the hospital.

BANCA.—During the month of March 110,25 piculs tin had been delivered in the Government stores, so that the delivery since 1st January exceeded 3,000 piculs.

BILLITON (March).—The works in the mines were being proceeded with. The yield of tin is expected to be large this year. Since last year thirteen new mines have been opened in the districts of Boeroeng-Mandi and Singgang, and four or six more will be opened shortly. The yield of tin during the last three years amounted to 22,972 piculs or 3,000 piculs more than from 1853 to 1860. Business was brisk. Twenty-six large native vessels had arrived during the month. The principal articles imported were rice and Chinese goods; those exported were tripang, indiarubber, agar-agar, gum damar, garoe, wax, 112,332 piculs tin and 50,000 fr. specie.

AMBONIA (February).—The inhabitants had delivered the cloves produced in 1863, amounting to nearly one million pounds. A strong shock of earthquake, accompanied by subterranean noises, was felt at Saparoea on the 3rd of February, and another on the 4th. Both shocks were vertical, and the noises appeared to have proceeded from the south.

TERNATE (January and February).—On the 20th and 26th January the volcano of Ternate emitted much smoke and ashes, and a heavy report was heard during the eruption. On the 17th February the volcano again emitted ashes and small stones, and several reports were heard. It continued to smoke during the month. Much damage was done to the fields on the mountain slopes and an advance has consequently taken place in the prices of some articles of food. The Makian had also emitted smoke during the last fortnight. On the 23rd February a slight shock of earthquake was felt about 11 o'clock P.M. On the 18th previous, a strong shock had been felt about midnight at Dodinga (Halmaheira).

MACASSAR.—The Court of Justice here has sentenced Mr. H. M. Van Ryssen, Assistant-Resident of the northern districts of Celebes and dependencies, to fourteen days' imprisonment for having abused the power in his hands, in the punishment of one of his domestic servants, whom he suspected of having appropriated to himself some spirituous liquor belonging to him, and on whom he inflicted more than twenty-five lashes, and afterwards sent to hard labour for three months, without making an entry of said punishment in the police register at Maros.

SAMARANG.—The traction engine arrived on the 28th March at Kali Alang, about seventeen miles from this place, without further trouble. It was to take in a load of coffee there and return with it to Samarang, which has since been satisfactorily effected. With the works of the railway station everything is progressing satisfactorily. There are plenty of labourers; in fact, so many offer themselves daily, that large gangs are sent away, there not being sufficient work for all.

SOURABAYA.—H.N.M. steamship *Etna*, which was offered to public competition on the 2nd April, was purchased by Mr. Cores de Vries for f. 500. The court of justice has sentenced Raden Toemengoeng Poerwo Kesoemo, late Regent of Kangean (Madura) to be hanged, for instigating Hadjie Oemar and Bangkok to commit murder. The two latter have been condemned to undergo the punishment next to death.

BANDA.—The spice gardens had suffered much from the high winds and heavy rains which fell in the beginning of February. The number of nuts gathered is consequently very small. On the 6th and 9th February, 9,599 lbs. mace, and 161,531 lbs. nutmegs were stored in the Government warehouses. On the 3rd February, 47 barrels mace, 275 barrels nutmegs, and 5 cases nutmeg soap were shipped to Java, whilst 41 barrels oil, 172 barrels nutmegs, and 7 cases nutmeg soap were ready for shipment on the 29th of that month.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

We regret that we have no later papers from Singapore. The editors in that locality do not appear to recognise the French mail line. The dates, we believe, are up to the 4th of May.

The following are reports made by H.M.'s surveying vessel, *Rifleman*:—

RICHARDSON ROCK, DURIAN STRAITS.—This is a dangerous coral rock of small extent, lying off False Durian Island, on which the ship *Hurry Puddemsey*, Captain Richardson, struck in May, 1863. It has two and three quarters fathoms on it at low water spring tides, and is about a cable's length in extent. From it the Peak False Durian bears N. 78 W. 2.25 miles; Rocky Islet, S. 9 E. 0.27 miles; North Brother, N. 80 E. 2.75 miles; Middle Brother, S. 57 E. 4.02 miles. Round it, and between it and the shore are seven to ten fathoms.

ATKIN ROCK.—Is a pinnacle which uncovers at two-thirds ebb, and on which the brigantine *Bob Tail Nag*, Captain Atkin, struck in May, 1863. The rock is about the size of a ship's launch at low water, and has deep water all round it; when covered, unless the tide is running strongly, there is no indication of it. From it the south extreme of the South Allang-tiega Island bears N. 65, W. 85 miles, and the left extreme of the North Island is just shut in by the right extreme of the Middle Island.

LAMMERMUIR ROCK, GASPAR STRAITS.—The British ship *Lammermuir*, Captain Joass, from Shanghai to England, was lost on 31st December, 1863, at 2.20 A.M., in the Macclesfield Channel, Gaspar Straits, and from bearings taken by Captain Joass when aground, it appeared that the rock was in the centre of the channel, between the shoals off Jelaka Island and the Discovery Reef. The *Rifleman* anchored in the supposed position of this rock, and sounded the channel between the Jelaka Reef and Discovery Shoal, carefully, without discovering any sign of danger. The whole time we were searching for this rock (seven days), the current was running to the southward at from 1½ to 2½ miles an hour, and the depth of water in the channel being from 20 to 30 fathoms. I consider that had there been a rock or shoal in the position assigned by Captain Joass, we should easily have discovered it without soundings by the tide ripple; but as neither tide nor soundings gave any indication of the existence of shoal water, I am confident that Captain Joass was mistaken in his bearings, and that the *Lammermuir* was lost either on the Jelaka Reefs or Discovery Shoal, most probably the former.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

WISE—On 2nd inst., at Fulshaw-house, Wilmslow, the wife of John Wise, Esq., late of China, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

ADAMS—COBB.—On the 1st inst., at the parish church, Kensington, by the Ven. Archdeacon Sinclair, the Hon. Chief Justice Adams, of Her Majesty's Colony of Hong Kong, to Ellen Williams, eldest daughter of Edward Cobb, Esq., of Kensington. No cards.

BALDWIN—MORRISON.—On 19th April, at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. Gray, Consular Chaplain of Canton, John Charles Campbell Baldwin, of the firm of R. McGregor and Co., to Constance Anna, daughter of the late Dr. William Morrison.

CRAWFORD—STANFORD.—On the 1st inst., at East Dereham, by the Rev. R. G. Williams, Mr. Ninian Crawford, late of Hong Kong, to Ellen Matilda, eldest daughter of Mr. William Stanford, of East Dereham, Norfolk.

EXPORTS OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to March 31, 1864	2160943	45863601	51907604	2257092	13243039	1154723	39,085
Corresponding period last season	2368556	43235604	41334250	236208	23377883	110553501	67,239

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TO UNITED STATES.

		Piculs.
From June 1 to March 31, 1864	22543872	539
Corresponding period last season	18992776	1999

SHIPMENTS IN APRIL.

Ship	From	
Eva	Foochow	373,100

TO THE CONTINENT.

		Bales.
From June 1 to March 31, 1864	1259007	3271
Corresponding period last season	1124764	6532

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Tl. pkgs	
From June 1 to March 31, 1864	465286	...
Corresponding period last season	50061	...

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	51,022,600	...
„ 1845 to 1846	57,334,000	18,604
„ 1850 to 1851	63,972,000	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854	77,327,800	61,280
„ 1855 to 1856	92,240,300	50,480
„ 1857 to 1858	76,990,255	68,311
„ 1858 to 1859	65,789,792	83,136
„ 1859 to 1860	35,560,452	64,163
„ 1860 to 1861	90,066,160	70,644
„ 1861 to 1862	109,854,040	79,199
„ 1862 to 1863	121,273,580	...

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to March 31, 1864.	483446	24	14527	5240	368	1784

SHIPMENTS IN APRIL.

Ship.	From.	Cotton Pcls.
Advance	Shanghai	4,170
Simoda	„	4,680
Lauderdale	„	8,030

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to March 31, 1864.	3059	...	...	350	100	...

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to March 31, 1864.	48030	20523	2744	1400	5800	385

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to March 31, 1864	1078	17979	109255	8489	4930	324600

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to March 31, 1864	6	146	2737	2318	23400	...

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: April 15, Guinevere. From Sunderland: April 8, Fanny; 19, Bride of the Seas. From Newport: 16, Northern Crown.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—From London: April 21, Scawfell: 22, Whinfell. From Hamburg: 25, Kalimaas.

At BANGKOK.—None.

At BATAVIA.—From Glasgow: April 19, Alexander; 22, Majestie. From Rotterdam; 24, Cornelia and Nederland.

DEPARTURES.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: April 12, Ben Voirlich. For Liverpool: Express.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—None.

From BANGKOK.—None.

From BATAVIA.—For Amsterdam: April 23, Hollandia.

FREIGHTS.

SHANGHAI.—To London: Tea, £4. 5s. to £4. 10s.; silk, £4. 15s. To Liverpool and London: Cotton, £3. 15s. to £4.

BANGKOK.—Tonnage in good demand. The rates for rice to Ningpo and Shanghai are:—87½ to 95 cents, and to Hong Kong 62½ cents per picul.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—April 12, Little Edith, Cardiff to Shanghai, Byroniminus, Hamburg to Hong Kong, and Star of China, London to Hong Kong; 14, Banian, London to Hong Kong, and St. Jan, Rotterdam to Samarang; 15, Elina, Rotterdam to Singapore; 16, Whampoa, Rotterdam to Samarang, Allagonda Jacoba, Rotterdam to Batavia, Stad Leyden and Koning Willem II., Amsterdam to Batavia; 17, Northern Queen, Sunderland to Shanghai; 18, Siam, Bordeaux to Saigon; 19, Emprezar, Sunderland to Hong Kong; Blairmore, Hamburg (to order); Stirlingshire, Sunderland to Shanghai; and Sea Wave, Glasgow to Singapore.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—April 13, Zeenymph, Batavia to Amsterdam.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—April 12, Osborne, Japan to New York; 19, Cordelia, Sarawak to New York; and 21, Benefactor, Foo-chow to New York.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

DEPARTURES NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—June 2, from Shields, for Shanghai, Lalla Rookh; May 11, from St. Vincent, for China, H.M.S. Adventure; April 28, from Rio Janeiro, for Hong Kong, Promise (str.); 29, for Singapore, Alexandra; June 4, from Liverpool, for Hong Kong, Falcon.

SPOKEN.—Apolline, London to Shanghai, March 30, 28 N., 24 W.; Spey (Dutch ship), Amsterdam to Batavia, April 4, 16 N., 28 W.

PROGRESS OF THE FRENCH IN COCHIN-CHINA:

A significant question was put to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in the House of Commons, by Viscount ENFIELD, regarding the ratification of the treaty which the French have recently concluded with the ruler of the western division of Cambodia, tributary to Siam; wherein it was alleged that one of the stipulations tended to exclude all foreigners but themselves. In reply, Mr. LAYARD said information to that effect had reached Her MAJESTY'S Government, and the matter was brought to the notice of the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, who acknowledged that a treaty had been negotiated between France and Cambodia to which his Government desired to give the most liberal interpretation, and if such a clause was inserted, it must have been done by inadvertence. No copy, however, of the treaty accompanied this assurance, although it was stated that no privileges should be given to French subjects which were not equally extended to the subjects of all other nations.

Notwithstanding the Minister's diplomatic reserve concerning the exclusive articles of this treaty, enough has transpired to indicate the progress of Napoleonic ambition, by endeavouring to establish in the second Empire—what failed in the first, and during preceding dynasties—a "French East Indies." Not more than five years have elapsed since the capture of Saigon and the first treaty with the King of COCHIN-CHINA, which ceded that city and a large tract of the surrounding territory to the French. Since then TU-DUK and his wily mandarins have alternately professed peace or war against the invaders, just as it suited their internal state of affairs; breaking treaties and renewing them, each time being forced to augment their concessions to the French, until they have yielded up the Island of Pulo Condor, the cities and provinces of Saigon, Myt-ho, and Bien-hoa; which includes all that fertile region from Cape St. James in the east to the Great Lake of Cambodia in the west, and secures the mouth of the Cambodia under the walls of Myt-ho—a river navigable for ships of moderate burden for three hundred miles into Annam and Siam. At the first attempt to occupy Cochin China the admiral-commanders of the forces clung with pertinacious tenacity to Tourann and the country north of Saigon, in spite of its comparative unsuitableness for colonization, excepting the magnificent harbours on the coast. Now, a change has come over the spirit of the Imperial dream, since the naval force at Saigon has surveyed the interior navigation. To the West! is the watchword that leads the tricolour flag into the regions of Cambodia, where the ramifications of streams and lakes form a network of water communication unrivalled in South-Eastern Asia.

Of course the French have a perfect right to negotiate legitimate treaties with friendly native Powers contiguous to their colony in Cochin-China, on which so much life and treasure has been expended; but it will be a backward movement in their career if they cling to that exclusiveness which was one of the chief causes of their invasion of the country, and which they have apparently successfully

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broken down. Now that they are extending their influence into the hitherto little known regions of Cambodia, it would be a "dog in the manger" policy to secure all the benefits to be obtained exclusively to themselves. It is just possible, also, that this secret treaty may contain warlike clauses, offensive and defensive, as well as those of commerce, amity, and the "propagation of the faith," affecting the integrity of that rapidly progressive commercial country, Siam. Be that as it may, we know that last year, when this treaty was under negotiation, and the French steamers were exploring all the streams leading to Cambodia and the Great Lake, considerable alarm was felt at the Court of Bangkok, as well as that of Hue; for the authorities felt that their ancient enemies the Cambodians were the most likely native inhabitants to join the foreign invaders in extending or maintaining their conquests, provided they obtained assistance in throwing off the Siamese or Annamese yoke. It is satisfactory for those interested in these countries to observe that our Government has been on the alert in this matter of the treaty, and no doubt they will see that England is not exempt from any "favoured nation clause" secured by France.

While these symptoms of extending dominion are progressing in the neighbouring State, the local Government has issued a newspaper entitled the *Courier de Saigon*, which duly emblazons forth the perfect success and continued prosperity of the colony. We have no desire to impugn the testimony of our contemporary, but we learn through a little bird that sings among the monkeys in the trees on the banks of the Dong-nai that all is not gold that glitters in Saigon, neither is it the Agapemone of France in the East. Indeed, it is made no secret of, that the administration of affairs by a purely naval government is most unsatisfactory. And how can it be otherwise? An Admiral-Governor is bad enough, even in a British colony. Quarter-deck despots are generally narrow-minded tyrants on shore. As to legislative or executive adaptability of talent, your sailor is just like a fish out of water; he flounders about in all directions, incurring needless expenditure without the slightest heed for the revenue. Such is the case at present in French Cochin-China, and has been so, more or less, from the beginning. It was founded by a naval force; in five years four admirals have successively ruled it as governors; its executive administration is composed almost entirely of captains and lieutenants in the navy, and even midshipmen are sent into the interior as prefects or deputy-governors. It is the sailor's paradise, where he can revel in wanton authority at the outstations, committing all sorts of debauchery on the female inhabitants with impunity. Adding injury to insult, these officers are tax-collectors, who levy imposts upon the unfortunate Annamese within the ceded territory, and who, from dread of TU-DUK and his emissaries, pay a tax to him also. As to the trade of Saigon, it is almost entirely limited to the supply of provisions to the force, consisting of about twelve thousand men on shore and afloat. Among them are a large proportion of military, including several batteries of artillery. The officers of this contingent are disgusted with the administration of affairs, and grumble at being obliged to carry out land operations planned by a sailor. The missionaries murmur, not loud but deep, at the manner in which the native population have been treated; where their converts have fled from the domination of the French, as more intolerable than the yoke of TU-DUK. Instead of their flocking to Saigon and forming a native Christian colony, as was anticipated, the greater number have left for the middle and north provinces of Annam. That city and the surrounding country continues to be deserted by its former inhabitants. The extensive cultivated plains, formerly rice plantations, which supplied the north with a great part of this staple article of food, are now overgrown with rank vegetation. Villages, farmsteads, cottages, and cultivation have been abandoned. Moreover, it is alleged by those resident in the country that the treaty with France was not ratified by King TU-DUK in April last year. By an evasion his autograph was left out of the document, and the signatures of the plenipotentiaries inserted instead, who have since been disgraced by the KING. From these accounts, which we have obtained from authentic sources, it will be seen that, notwithstanding the flattering official reports that appear from time to time in the French journals, there is reason to conclude that the colony so far is a failure, and that it has already become a second Algeria, in being a burthen on the mother-country. What effect the return of the Annamese Ambassadors from France may have upon the policy of their KING, nothing had transpired, up to last advices, to indicate. Evidently the French themselves do not expect it to be pacific, as they still keep up their vigilance and armaments on the northern frontier. We may, therefore, safely conclude that for some time to come the French will find it as much as they can do to hold their own in Cochin-China. At the same time it is well that our Government continue to be on the *qui vive* in Siam and Cambodia, where the trade of British merchants in China and the Malacca Straits settlements is rapidly on the increase.

THE SETTLEMENT OF SHANGHAI.

(COMMUNICATED.)

Since the opening of the Yang-tze and other northern ports of China to foreign trade, no place in the world (excepting California, with which, to a certain extent it may be favourably compared) has so rapidly risen in commercial importance as the foreign settlement of Shanghai, which may now be considered the chief emporium for trade in China. A glance at the past few years' statistics of trade with Shanghai will at once prove this. Six or seven years ago a few small vessels and one steamer per month from Hong Kong calling at the open ports was all that was requisite to conduct the coasting business which at that time existed between Shanghai and the South. It is now vastly different; for, independent of sailing craft, the Yang-tze employs some forty steamers, of capacity varying from 300 to 2,000 tons each. The other northern ports and Japan, half as many more, and to and from the southern ports about ten others; and although, perhaps, no more may for the present be found requisite, there is every reason to expect a greater demand at no very distant period. No doubt as soon as the American war is ended and a subsidy granted by the Government, a line of steamers will be running between Shanghai and San Francisco, meeting the New York line, by which means (*via* the Isthmus of Panama) communications and light freight can be transmitted to and from New York as quickly to London as by the overland route. To American merchants this will be a great desideratum, especially for exchange operations, &c., doing business direct instead of through London, as at present. We may also look for a much larger extension of trade with the interior of China so soon as the rebellion be subdued (which appears decidedly on the decline), and other ports are opened; and should the Yellow River, Poyang Lake, and cities now in the possession of the rebels be free to foreign enterprise, the result would be as surprising as in the case of the Yang-tze river. In the event of such, Shanghai becomes the focus; particularly for exports to Europe.

In a place of such rising importance, with shipping numbering seldom less than 150 vessels in harbour at a time, and an aggregate tonnage for 1863 of nearly one and a half million tons, it is surprising that no better form of government exists. There are about 700 respectable residents in the settlement, to whose regret, large numbers of rowdies, discharged seamen, together with numerous others from the ships in harbour, infest the place. The present form of government is by far too weak, and it is high time the consular and municipal system were superseded by some more effective body. It is impossible H.B.M. Consul can at present thoroughly overtake the whole of the immense business which falls to his office. Fortunately we are well represented in this respect by Sir Harry S. Parkes.

It would be a great benefit to the community at large could the many disreputable characters which are to be found there be deported—all who could not show their calling to be legal and respectable, and those whose business call them into the interior, should be furnished with passports. Here again, however, the gaol accommodation is too limited for its present requirements, it being no uncommon thing for prisoners to be liberated after a few weeks' incarceration to make room for fresh delinquents. Unity of action by the various Consuls is absolutely necessary by representing to their separate Governments the true state of matters; unless they can, among themselves, organize some firmer and better management for the administration of justice and government that it may once more be known as the model settlement. In commercial importance Shanghai by far excels the colony of Hong Kong, which has its Governor and staff, Legislative Council, Chief Justice, Attorney-General, &c., while the former is without any such support. Those whose province it is to move in such matters would do well to take the matter into careful consideration, and use every endeavour to bring about some beneficial change.

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Literature.

Travels in the Central Parts of Indo-China (Siam), Cambodia, and Laos, during the Years 1858, 1859, *and* 1860; by the late M. HENRI MOUHOT, French Naturalist. London: Murray, Albemarle-street.—These two handsome octavo volumes are rather outlines of the journies they refer to than that full record of all the traveller saw and observed, which we must now deplore we are for ever deprived of by the unfortunate death of M. Mouhot, far away in the interior of the country, with none but his faithful Chinese servant to close his eyes. How much the reading public and the whole civilised world have to regret that they must be content with mere jottings and memoranda, when they would have gladly devoured a journal expanded to the most minute detail, they may judge from one of the very earliest pages of the book, explaining the extent of country covered by the deceased in his peregrinations, a large portion of which was before untrodden by European foot. In the memoir prefixed we are told—

M. Mouhot dedicated the last four years of his life to exploring the interior of Siam. He first travelled through that country, then through Cambodia, and afterwards reascended the Mekong as far as the frontiers of Laos; visited one of the savage and independent tribes inhabiting the district between those two countries and Cochin China; then, after having crossed the great lake Touli-Sap, he explored the provinces of Ongcor and Battambong, where he discovered splendid ruins, especially the temple of Ongcor the Great, which is nearly perfect, and perhaps unparalleled in the world. Passing from the basin of the Mekong into that of the Menam, he saw mountains of which the principal peak was more than 6,000 feet high. He returned occasionally to Bankok, the capital of Siam, in order to make preparations for fresh expeditions. The loss, by the wreck of the *Sir James Brooke*, of a very valuable collection, did not discourage him; but he set about at once to replace it. At the time of his death, which happened on the 10th November 1861, he was *en route* for the provinces south-west of China, when, having already penetrated into the interior, he was attacked by the jungle fever, and died after twenty-two days' illness. He set out for Louang-Prabang on the 13th October, and on the 18th halted at H——(the name is unfinished in the manuscript). The next day he felt the first symptoms of the fever to which he fell a victim. From the 29th October he wrote nothing. The last words in the journal, "Have pity on me, O my God," show the religious principles which had guided his life.

As a traveller, M. Mouhot will rest his fame on the fact of his first introducing to European notice the wonderful ruins of the Temple of Ongcor, which city was the capital of the ancient kingdom of Cambodia or Khmer. Of this long extinct empire the tradition is that it had twenty kings who paid tribute to it, that it kept up an army of five or six million soldiers, and that the buildings of the royal treasury occupied a space of more than 300 miles. The remains of the city and its temple are amply sufficient to evidence that they must have belonged to a powerful and civilised people, however much we may be inclined to treat the tradition just named as an effort of Eastern exaggeration. The admirable drawings of M. Mouhot, which are as admirably engraved, enable us to form a very definite opinion of the extent and magnificence of this temple—as to whose founder or period of erection nothing whatever is certain. Strange, that here again we have the same obliviousness, as to the architect and the intention, that prevails with regard to so many other relics of remote oriental antiquity.

THE RUINS OF THE TEMPLE OF ONGCOR.

What strikes the observer with not less admiration than the grandeur, regularity, and beauty of these majestic buildings, is the immense size and prodigious number of the blocks of stone of which they are constructed. In this temple alone are as many as 1,532 columns. What means of transport, what a multitude of workmen, must this have required, seeing that the mountain out of which this stone was hewed is thirty miles distant. In each block are to be seen holes 2½ centimetres in diameter and 3 in depth, the number varying with the size of the blocks; but the columns and the sculptured portions of the building bear no traces of them. According to a Cambodian legend they are the prints of the fingers of a giant, who, after kneading an enormous quantity of clay, had cut it into blocks and carved it, turning it into a hard and, at the same time, light stone, by pouring over it some marvellous liquid. All the mouldings, sculptures, and bas reliefs appear to have been executed after the erection of the building. The stones are everywhere fitted together in so perfect a manner that you can scarcely see where are the joinings. There is neither sign of mortar nor mark of the chisel, the surface being as polished as marble. Was this incomparable edifice the work of a single genius, who conceived the idea and watched over the execution of it? One is tempted to think so, for no part of it is deficient, faulty, or inconsistent. To what epoch does it owe its origin? As before remarked, neither tradition nor written inscriptions furnish any certain information upon this point, or rather, I should say, these latter are as a sealed book for want of an interpreter, and they may perchance throw light on the subject when some European *savant* shall succeed in deciphering them.

Another curious problem left for solution by the history of the past is touched on by our author in scattered references to the Isiampois (or, as we English would call them, the Isiampans). Some among the missionaries have been of opinion that this race is of Jewish descent, principally from their use of the peculiar rite of the Hebrews and their abstinence from the flesh of the pig. But, as suggested by one of them, there is also a probability of their being of the Abrahamitic, but not of the Jewish race—of being, in fact, a colony of Ishmaelites or Idumeans. This is a point often forgotten, seeing that we continually find travellers laying too much stress on a mere cast of physiognomy. M. Mouhot mentions that even among the Stiêns, a thoroughly wild tribe, he was struck by the Hebrew character of many of the faces. We may mention here that one great charm of the book is the number of striking portraits it contains of individuals of all ranks and races encountered by the author in the course of his wanderings. They impress one with the conviction that they are vivid likenesses, and in transferring them to paper the engraver must have rendered the original drawings with a spirit and fidelity worthy of all praise. The whole body of the inhabitants of these little known regions look like a more manly race than their neighbours of the Mongol type. But the Chinese are here, as throughout Eastern Asia, the only really industrious class to be met with. Indolence, in fact, seems to be the vice inherent in the composition of the three nations—the Siamese, Cambodian, and Laotian; and the other faults they possess are but the natural consequences of the first.

Under a settled and tolerably well-administered Government, the commerce of Siam and Cambodia with the adjoining countries and with Europe would soon grow to vast importance. Bankok, the capital of Siam, is already one of the most considerable markets in Asia. But then, at the time of M. Mouhot's residence, the First King was man of rare attainments. "He was familiar not only with all the dialects of Siam and Indo-China, but also with ancient Sanscrit and English, in which latter language he had written several treatises. The English journals at Hong Kong have been honoured by articles from his pen, and no one who reads them can be surprised that the august contributor should have been elected a member of the Asiatic Society in London." The Second King, also, is described as "a perfect gentleman, of a cultivated mind, writing and speaking English, and leading in his palace—which is arranged and furnished in our Western fashion—the life of a rich, noble, and learned European." This singular institution of a double monarchy is common to the three kingdoms, Siam, Cambodia, and Laos. M. Mouhot had interviews with the two Sovereigns of the second-named State, but found that the First King had mastered only one English phrase: he could point to a bottle, and say "good brandy." What commodities these countries could offer in exchange for foreign products will be seen from the following extracts:—

CAMBODIA.

The chief productions of Cambodia are tobacco, pepper, ginger, sugar, gamboge, coffee, silk, and cotton. The latter important article of commerce thrives here admirably; and, as according to report America is menaced with civil war, it is a question whether we can henceforth calculate on that country for the supply it has hitherto furnished. If that supply were even partially to fail, and thousands of workmen to be in consequence thrown out of employment, what a vast field might be opened on the banks of the Mekong and of Touli-Sap for European activity, industry, and capital. England, that great nation for colonies, could soon make of Lower Cochin China and Cambodia a vast cotton-plantation; and there is no doubt that if she set about it in earnest, with her Australian, East and West Indian, and New Zealand possessions, she might soon secure to herself the monopoly which America now has of this precious article. We [M. Mouhot is writing as a Frenchman] should in that case be obliged to buy from her. Why should we not be our own purveyors? The island of Ko-Sutin alone, in which the lands belonging to the Crown are let to the cotton-planters in lots for one pound per lot, may be adduced in order to give an idea of the profits realised from the cultivation of this plant. Each lot affords an income of more than 1,200 francs.

The forests situated on the higher grounds abound with justly celebrated timber; as also trees yielding resins and gums much esteemed in commerce, likewise the eagle-wood, and several species of dye-woods. The mountains contain gold, argentiferous lead, zinc, copper, and iron, the last two in some abundance. One is astonished to find these fertile lands furnish so little for exportation; but the Sovereigns and Mandarins enrich themselves by spoliation and extortion, and every abuse which can ruin a country and retard its progress. If these dominions were ruled wisely and carefully, with probity, and with a regard to the interests of the working classes, the whole aspect of affairs would be changed. The taxes now weigh solely on the cultivator and producer. The more he raises the more he has to pay. Disposed therefore to indolence by the influence of the climate, he has little inducement to combat this vice.

Before dismissing these most interesting volumes we cannot refrain from giving utterance to our feelings of admiration for that band of zealous devotees to the works of Nature, who are ever, like M. Mouhot, ready to run the risks of the deadliest climates and the fury of bloodthirsty savages, if they can but add one name to the catalogue of species, or introduce a

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new plant to the use or the ornament of our gardens. A magnificent shell and a gigantic beetle are the discoveries, it seems, that will transmit the name of our traveller to posterity in connection with the science he so fervently loved. On such matters, however does the naturalist rest his fame. M. Mouhot writes, after a fifteen months' absence from Bankok—

A new shell or insect filled me with a joy which ardent naturalists alone can understand; but they know well how little privations and fatigues of all kinds are cared for when set against the delight experienced in making one discovery after another, and in feeling that one is of some slight assistance to the votaries of science. It pleases me to think that my investigations into the archæology, entomology, and conchology of these lands may be of use to certain members of the great and generous English nation, who kindly encouraged the poor naturalist; whilst France, his own country, remained deaf to his voice.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CHINA.

(May 31st.) Mr. COBDEN, who, on rising to move a resolution on the subject of China, was received with cheers, said: The subject to which I venture to call the attention of the House has been introduced to our notice first by the noble lord the member for Cockermouth, and in the next place by the hon. gentleman the member for Northumberland, with very great ability, and it has also been referred to in another place by Lord Grey in a speech which displayed, I think, very great wisdom and forethought. That being so, I should not now trouble the House on the subject had the circumstances in connection with our relations with China remained unchanged or did they appear to be in a more satisfactory state than they were at the time when these motions were brought forward. I cannot, however, read our more recent despatches from that country without feeling that we are not entitled to consider that there is any prospect of any amelioration taking place in those relations. I have read attentively the last Blue-books, and I confess their perusal impressed me with a sense of great anxiety and uncertainty for the future. It seems to me that no one in China representing this country is satisfied with the present state of things. Our merchants are very much dissatisfied, and Sir F. Bruce, our Minister, appears to be in a state of despair because the policy recommended by him, or carried out there with his acquiesence, seems to have failed and broken down, so that he has no longer any policy —so far as I can understand his despatches—in hand. Then with regard to our military commander, in his last despatch of December he has advocated the complete abandonment of that policy which we were led to suppose was the sole means of restoring peace and the authority of the Imperial Government. We must all recollect that the mail now on its way to India carries out with it an Order in Council, revoking a former Order in Council, which allowed English officers to take service in the Imperial army—a step which, in my opinion, ought never to have been permitted. But we have it from Sir F. Bruce, that it is the foreign element in China which has gained all the late successes, and I cannot but apprehend that when the news arrives in China that those officers who led the disciplined contingent of the Chinese army are to be withdrawn from the service, renewed hope will be given to the insurgents, and, probably, the result of the interference of our Government two years ago in China may be to make things there in a more distracted state than they were. Such being the uncertain position of affairs, I think we should be wanting in our duty to the country if we shrank from expressing our opinion on this important question. Taking a review of our position in China, I ask myself what is our object in going to that remote region at all? It is simply trade and the profits of trade. The next question I put to myself is, have we pursued a course in China consistent with our interests and our honour? and I am bound to say that I think we have not consulted either in the line of policy we have adopted. It might have happened that we, with a great sacrifice of national character, might have achieved great success in our commercial undertakings in China. That might be urged by some persons with the view to reconcile us to the course we have pursued; but I confess for my own part that I should not be disposed to consider a satisfactory balance in the national ledger as sufficient to condone a course of conduct which I thought inimical to the national character. I am, however, sorry to say that the most unsatisfactory feature in our relations with China is the commercial view of the question. We have been carrying on large military operations, and making great efforts to extend our trade in that country, and I am prepared to show they have ended in the most unsatisfactory manner. This appears to me a subject in respect to which the greatest misapprehension exists, and nowhere does it prevail more apparently than in the mind of the noble lord at the head of the Government, for the noble lord a little while ago made a reference to our trade with China, to which I shall presently allude. I want, in the first place, to lay the foundation of the consideration of this question by showing the House what the nature of our trade with China is, and what it has been during the time we have been attempting to extend it by these warlike operations. It is a somewhat remarkable fact that it is only those foreign countries in which we have been systematically attempting to force a trade by violence and war, which really form exceptions to the progress we have made in all other directions in the extension of our commerce.

I moved for a return of the exports from this country to China and Hong Kong from the year 1835 up to the present time, thus including the whole of the period during which our trade with China has been carried on by private enterprise—I mean since 1834, when the monopoly of the East India Company was abolished. There is a peculiar characteristic in this trade. We have had three wars in twenty years, and whatever has been the apparent cause, the ultimate and undisguised object of those wars has been, to use a technical phrase, to open up China and to extend our trade with that country. The effect has been this—and it is curious to watch the progress of our trade with China—that whenever there has been a war our merchants, stimulated by a splendid market, have sent out there speculative stocks, and that their enterprise has invariably been followed by disappointment, collapse, and reaction. I am speaking in the presence of an hon. friend of mine, through whose house I believe one-third of the export trade to China goes, who, on one occasion, said to me, "The trade with China has been always a disappointing trade." If the House will allow me I will give it an analysis, in a very few words, of the returns for which I moved, and to which I have already alluded, which will serve to show how great is the misapprehension which prevails on this subject of our trade with China. In 1835, the first year of the open trade after the abolition of the East India Company's monopoly of the China trade, our exports to that country were £1,074,000. In 1836 they were £1,326,000, which was the highest amount they reached while the trade was confined to Canton. The opium war occurred in 1840, and by the peace of 1842 Shanghai and the other treaty ports were opened. For the following three years there was an increase in our exports—in 1843 they were £1,456,000; in 1844 they were £2,305,000; in 1845 they were £2,394,000. From this point they declined, and for the next ten years they remained, with the exception of one or two spasmodic efforts at recovery, at little more than half the amount of 1845. In 1854 they fell to £1,000,716, being less than in 1835, twenty years previously, when the trade was confined to Canton. In 1856-7, and again in 1859, the war arising out of the lorcha affair was carried on, and by the peace that followed several new ports were opened, and the great river the Yang-tze was made accessible to foreigners. A treaty opening Japan was also entered into, and the first exports to that country were sent through China. Our exports rose in 1859 to £4,457,000, and in 1860 to £5,318,000; but, following the invariable law, they fell in 1862 to £3,137,000. Last year, 1863, they amounted to £3,889,000. Speaking the other evening, the noble lord at the head of the Government informed us that, owing to the great expansion of our trade with China, the difficulties of our commerce in Lancashire had been nearly met, and that we were indebted to that increase of trade for our ability to bear as well as we had done the pressure of the American civil war.

Now, it amazed everybody connected with the trade of Lancashire to find that the noble lord made such a statement. The trade with China is almost the only one that has weighed on the business of Lancashire in consequence of the immense amount of stock which lies at Shanghai and Hong Kong, and China is the very last market that responded to the rising prices consequent on the cotton famine. A gentleman in business informed me that during the years 1862 and 1863, the very time when, according the noble lord, this market was relieving Lancashire from depression, there was such a glut of goods in China that it would have been profitable to have brought cotton goods from Shanghai and sold them in Manchester. I am astonished at the reckless assertions that I hear made at that table. I can account for it in no way but this—that noble lords and right hon. gentlemen who become Cabinet Ministers consider that they speak from a brief. They do not speak with the ordinary responsibility of private individuals. It is supposed that somebody else puts the figures into their hands and that they may say anything. I venture to say that there are more groundless statements made at that table to this august body—(hear. hear), by both sides (cheers and laughter)—when they are in office (hear, hear)—and they are made with such solemnity and with such emphatic blows on that box (renewed laughter), that all but the oldest and most obdurate members of this House are imposed upon; and as for the public out of doors they believe everything that is said by a Cabinet Minister. The noble lord, from his long experience, must be considered the most accomplished master of this, which I will call official, language; and if I was asked to point out the most promising of his pupils I should say that it was my hon. friend the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs. (Loud laughter.) It was, I believe, my hon. friend who misled his chief. They ought to understand each other better. Speaking on the lapsed debate upon the motion of the hon. member for Northumberland, the hon. gentleman read a tissue of the most fallacious statements to show the vast extension of our trade with China. He compared the trade of 1857 with that of the present time; he gave us the exports and imports of the treaty ports; the exports that went from an interior port to a coast port, and then the exports from that port to another; but he altogether left out of sight the fact that by Lord Elgin's Treaty in 1859 the trade in opium was legalized—that is, brought into the regular trade and into the statistics, in which it did not appear before, because it was a smuggling trade; and that generally amounts to three times as much as our legitimate exports. (Hear, hear.)

I have stated in general terms the facts with regard to our exports to China, but here is a statement which has been sent to me with regard to cotton goods which will fix upon the mind the extraordinary nature of that market, and the great depression which has existed in it, more than the statement of any money amount. My friend, who was surprised at the noble lord's statement, sent me these figures showing me the quantity of cotton goods exported to China and Hong Kong for the four following years:—In 1860 there were 222,963,000 yards, and in 1861 243,654,000 yards; that was during the time of excitement and speculation, when the hope that now at last there was going to be a large consumption in China was operating upon our merchants' minds. Now comes the recoil; in 1862 the exports fell from 243,000,000 yards to 80,000,000, and in 1863 it fell from 80,000,000 to 46,000,000 yards. So that the exports to China of cotton goods, which are really the chief article that we export to that country, fell in two years from 243,000,000 yards two 46,000,000 yards, or less than one-fifth, and that was during the time when the noble lord tells us that Lancashire was sustained by the great extension of our trade with China. (Hear, hear.) That is the character of the business that you are transacting with China. You have now tried it in every possible way. You have tried it by war; you have tried it by the extension of the treaty ports; you have tried it by going into the interior; and that is the character of your market in China. I do not pretend to say what is the reason why we cannot find a large consumption of our goods in China. Whether it is that one-third of the human race—as the noble lord told us the other night when he said, "Think of having free and unrestricted trade with one-third of the human race!"—whether it is because the Chinese are the most industrious, the most frugal, the most energetic and persevering people in the world, because their labour is cheaper than any-

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where else, and that you get for the cheapness of the Hindoo the quality of the Scotchman or the Swiss—whether it is in consequence of that that they can produce their own articles cheaper than even a steam-engine can do it on this side of the earth—whether it is that the opium traffic absorbs their means, and prevents their being in a condition to purchase other goods which we expect to sell, or whether it is that the revolution and civil war going on in China tend to destroy the cities and populations where the great consuming demand existed, I do not pretend to say; but this I do say, that from some cause or another you have arrived at this positive proof, that it is not by war or violence, or the increase of your treaty ports, that you are likely considerably to extend the consumption of your goods in China.

If you look back for the last thirty five years you will find that China is the only country that has disappointed you; that is, that the exports to China have not kept pace with the natural increase of your trade in other directions. Last year your exports to China were £3,800,000, your exports to the rest of the world £146,000,000; so that you only send 2½ per cent. of your exports to China. If you run your eye over the table of exports, you will find that China stands only twelfth in the list of your foreign customers, that it stands even below Egypt. This is the moral—that it is not by blood and violence that you are to extend your commerce. (Hear, hear.) That is the way to destroy trade, and not the way to create it. I hope that after all this experience we shall none of us again advocate any violent measure with the view of extending our trade either in China or elsewhere. (Hear, hear.) The noble lord told us truly that there is one-third of the human race—that is 350,000,000 or 400,000,000 of human beings—in China. They are but very small customers, but look at it in another way. If you are to follow that policy, which is peculiarly the noble lord's; if you are to break into the country, hold it, and be its police; if you are to make another Turkey of China, and if, in addition to meeting Russia and France, you are to meet the United States at Peking; if you are to trouble yourselves and future generations with governing and controlling and intriguing in China, recollect that you have a country of vast extent and prodigious population to govern, and that you ought well to consider whether it is worth your while to incur all these risks, and enter upon this policy with the proofs that you have that you are not likely to do more trade with that country than with Brazil or Egypt. We are too apt to forget what China is. China has ten times the population of France. It has eight times the surface of France. Having broken into Peking by the most flagitious means you have now a minister there who is undertaking to remodel that vast empire Read his despatches: what is he doing? Constantly advising the Government that they must change their mode of administration. They are to become a centralized Government. I can hardly speak of the tone of those despatches without expressing my feelings in unparliamentary language. Why! the idea of a man going to an empire that is now moving in the ruts created by 2,500 years of existence and of one civilization, a country which has probably transmitted to you very much of the habits and mode of living of the ancient Babylonians—to think of going to Peking and coolly recommending that the Government of Peking should absorb to itself the government of all the provinces—each province being as large as a European empire. What good can possibly come of that? It only shows the utter impossibility of our understanding the nature of the country with which we have to deal.

Sir F. Bruce forced his way to Peking expecting to find there a centralised Government and a great Power. When he got there he found a decaying capital and an Executive with very little power. It is very possible that it is owing to that circumstance that the empire has endured so long as it has (An emphatic "Hear, hear" from Mr. White, followed by a laugh) What is Sir F. Bruce doing? He is recommending the Emperor to withdraw the power and authority enjoyed by the local governors of the different provinces, and to assume their power himself at Peking. He is recommending a complete revolution in the mode of governing China. It seems, according to the experience that we have had, that there is very little centralised authority in that country, and that the power of the governors of departments is really almost independent of that of the central Government. Now, I think that what we have to do in China, if it be a great empire in ruins, is to avoid the fall of the ruins, just as you would keep out of the shadow of an old castle wall for fear it should fall upon you. The wise policy would be to have as little as possible political or social relationship with that country. That is the policy which I should recommend this House to consider. What are we doing now? We are actually doing our very best to break up the little authority that was left to that central Government, because we are carrying into that country habits of insubordination, and letting into that country wild and lawless men. And the very circumstance of our opening the door to what is called the extra territorial population is that we let in, not respectable merchants alone, but every kind of filibusters and brigands who can reach that country. There is nothing comes out so clearly in the late despatches as that you yourselves cause much of the disorder that is going on in China. (Hear, hear.) You opened up the great Yang-tse river—that is, you stipulated that foreigners should have the right to navigate that river. Well, that was an unusual thing, and we ought not to have done it unless with much better securities than we could possibly obtain. I believe it was done against the better judgment of Lord Elgin himself. What has been the effect? Read the despatch of Vice-Consul Adkins, who is placed in a consulate on that river, and who describes the population. He says, writing to Sir F. Bruce from Chinkiang, on the Yang-tse, on the 2nd of September, 1862 —

"I am well aware that the river is likely to be overrun by foreign blackguards, knowing no law, and under no control; the more so that the Chinese authorities themselves shirk the responsibility, and take no steps to protect their countrymen."

Writing again on the 23rd of September, and referring to outrages that had taken place, he says:—

"The Europeans who caused the disturbance were in Chinese employ. It is a common practice to hire a foreigner 'to take care of the boat.' By this is meant hoisting a foreign flag when passing a native Custom-house, and bullying any official who may get in the way."

Again, on the 27th of April, 1863, he says:—

"I very much fear that the foreigners trading on this river in sailing boats are almost without exception men without principle or character—outlaws, in fact, who have no regard for treaties or regulations, and who look upon the Chinese as made for them to prey upon. Their drunken and debauched habits have made an impression even on the Chinese."

And Sir F. Bruce, writing so late as July last to Earl Russell, speaks of the "constant scenes of blood and violence which have inaugurated the opening of the Yang-tse river." Can any one realize what this extra-territory means? You have stipulated that Englishmen who go into China shall not be subject to Chinese laws. You make a sort of effort to follow your fellow-subjects with your own law—that is, you set up consuls 200 or 300 miles apart on this great river. I believe there is a space of 500 miles on that vast river where we have no consuls at all. Your countrymen go there, and foreigners also. This system of hoisting flags is carried on in all sorts of surreptitious ways. Let us suppose that Chinamen came here, and could penetrate into Oxfordshire without being subject to our law—that they could commit every species of robbery and outrage upon the constituents of the right hon. gentleman the member for Oxfordshire, and that the local magistracy had no power to interfere with them beyond this, that they could not talk to them because they could not understand their language, but that they could seize them and carry them to the nearest consulate, there to be judged according to Chinese laws. They must be taken to London, the witnesses must be brought with them, they go before a foreign tribunal, and then, after all this expense, what chance would you have of obtaining law and justice? Why, such a condition of affairs amounts to a state of actual lawlessness for every European and American in the interior of that country. (Hear.) The law allows every foreigner, be he English, French, or American, to pass into the interior, and foreigners having treaty rights are exempt from the jurisdiction of the mandarins. You must bear in mind that the mandarins shirk the responsibility of meddling with these people; and why? Because they know very well that one war, or rather two wars—the wars of 1856-7—were caused by the lorcha *Arrow*. The same may be said of the war that followed the exchange of the ratifications; and there is not a Chinese authority that does not tremble in the presence of the English flag. The consequence is that for vessels under the English flag since that lorcha war there is a complete irresponsibility and lawlessness. Chinese capitalists buy European-rigged vessels; they get a foreigner to come on board, as they did in the case of the *Arrow*, to take care of the boat. When he is on board he claims to be the owner of the boat. He bullies the Chinese authorities, he passes the Custom-house, and defies them to fire upon him. Why, this amounts to an actual state of anarchy. (Hear.) These lorcha vessels are at the bottom of a great deal of this mischief. What says Sir F. Bruce in his despatch to Consul Sinclair at Ningpo, dated Jan. 24, 1863. He says:—

"I have to instruct you to execute strictly the treaty in the matter of clandestine and prohibited trade, particularly as against lorches and small sailing craft engaged in the coasting trade. The class of men who sail these vessels, and their lawless and violent proceedings, make peaceful progress difficult, and do much to keep up a feeling of alarm and aversion to foreigners among the authorities and population of China. You must be aware, from your experience at Ningpo, that is the employment to be found in these vessels which keeps up the class of lawless foreign adventurers which infest the ports, and is the hotbed of crime on the coasts of China."

Now you undertake the police of this vast region. You have got your gunboats on the Yang-tse river and the coast, but I am very much afraid that you are led into almost as much lawlessness and involuntary crime as the natives themselves, because a wholesale massacre and destruction of the native junks by our ships of war has been going on, attributable, no doubt, to our ignorance of their language. Such acts, however, reflect a very great discredit on the national character. We read of 200 junks at a time being destroyed by our vessels. They destroyed first the pirates, as they are called, and then the Government vessels. (A laugh.) There is a curious correspondence, from which I will trouble the House with only a short extract. It illustrates in a very short space the anomalous and discreditable relations to which I refer. Prince Kung sends a despatch to Sir F. Bruce, complaining that our force in the Yang-tse river had burnt three Government war junks for pirates, one of them having on board a mandarin, for the loss of whose personal effects a pecuniary compensation is demanded. In reply Sir F. Bruce says:—

"A short time since Captain Dew destroyed a fleet of 200 pirate vessels at Chusan at the request of the Chinese authorities, and in the case now complained of the officers of Her Majesty's ships, at the request of the people, destroyed these junks, which the popular voice, as well as the appearance of the vessels themselves, pointed out as Cantonese and piratical."

And he adds, in reply to a second remonstrance, that,

"As several respectable-looking villagers on shore averred that these junks had been plundering them for some time past (a statement corroborated by a small mandarin), the commander of the larger steamer caused them to be set on fire."

(A laugh.) That is not a thing to laugh at in a Christian assembly. (Hear, hear) You cannot realise such a state of things. There is an old saying that a man would sleep more soundly if he knew that the whole Chinese Empire would be totally destroyed in the night than if he knew he was to have a tooth drawn in the morning. We are becoming deeply compromised in the Chinese Empire. Here is the answer of Prince Kung, and I would rather have a broadside fired at me than have received such a communication:—

"Well-dressed and well-to-do people are not necessarily well-affected subjects, nor is a small mandarin necessarily a genuine mandarin. Who can say that in this case the parties complaining were not pirates in disguise, who, in their dread lest the Government vessels should arrest them, trumped up this story of the evil done by these junks with a view to inciting the commanders of British steamers to destroy them?"

And the Prince proceeds to say that for this act of violence in the summary destruction of these Government vessels he hopes that a penalty commensurate with the offence will be inflicted on the British officers.

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This is a most demoralising state of things when your forces are made the instruments of this brutal violence—when they destroy 200 vessels because they are denounced by a large mandarin, and then three Government ships because they are denounced by a small mandarin. (A laugh.) I say that such a state of things, if allowed to go on, would re-act prejudicially on our home politics and the character of our social life—(hear)—and it is our duty to put it down. Why are our vessels there to do the behest of the Chinese Government in putting down what are called pirates? At Chusan it was said that the 200 war junks destroyed were ready to join the Taipings. In the present state of things in China you can't draw a line between pirates and rebels, and yet these junks that are found ready to co-operate in the defence of the rebels—and these people had as much right to rebel as ever we had—are to be treated by our forces as a common enemy. Under what authority are such things done? I see in the despatches, Standing Order No. 10, from Admiral Kuper, he says:—

"Chinese vessels are on no account to be destroyed by Her Majesty's ships unless the officers in command are requested by a competent Chinese authority to aid in doing so; nor unless, on the sea coast of China, a pirate is caught in the act of piracy."

It was an old standing order of the Admiralty that our vessels of war were not to destroy even pirates unless they were found, or were proved, to have attacked a square-rigged vessel. I think I heard that standing order quoted by the late Mr. Hume some twenty years ago. It is not to be tolerated that our brave sailors are to be made the executioners of such a community as that. (Hear, hear.) Now, the question arises—what is the remedy for this state of things? If we were beginning afresh to-morrow to establish our relations with China we should not hesitate a moment as to what we should do. We should avoid all political and social contact with that country. We should, in fact, follow the example given us by a man who was not only a statesman, but essentially a philanthropist—Sir Stamford Raffles. He founded Singapore in 1819. He purchased an island about the size of the Isle of Wight, a bare, bleak island, covered for the most part with dense jungle, and gave no earthly advantage to the desert spot except the establishment of a complete freedom of commerce and complete security for life and property. What has been the consequence? That place has grown up from some 200 inhabitants to 100,000, and its exports and imports—which are genuine, and not fictitious, like those of my hon. friend—I have lately seen stated at something like £12,000,000 sterling. Well, why not do in your China trade what has been done in Singapore? You have only to establish free ports on the coast of China, and to withdraw yourselves altogether from political contact with that people, and you will have a trade greater than ever you can hope for by assisting to destroy their civilisation in the vain attempt to push your commercial relations. You have an example of what might be done in the case of Hong Kong. Hong Kong is a mere rock at the entrance of the Canton waters. You have made a free port of it; it has no productive nor consumptive power whatever, but by making it a free port, one-third of all the commerce which now goes on with China is carried on through that port.

While Canton is a desert quite out of the list of your export and import accounts, everything goes to Hong Kong, and there is no doubt if you get two other small islands—the smaller the better—one towards the centre of the coast and the other towards Shanghai, and merely establish them as free ports—I don't ask you to do more—they will draw all the trade of China, and will settle themselves without any more ado on your part. Well, then, having this example of what should have been done, we go on preferring a policy which is carried out at great loss to the national character and at great cost to the people of this country, because such a policy imposes a great charge upon the people, and the time may come when this country will be very impatient of this sort of mismanagement. I would exhort this assembly and the constituencies, since we are now beginning to view ourselves as a kind of privileged class and want to exclude five-sixths of our people—(hear, hear)—because we are supposed to have more forethought, more political wisdom, more philosophy in us, that something is expected from us. I will show you by the conduct of a great, a brave, and essentially a just man—the Duke of Wellington—what the course you have pursued during the last 30 years is as compared with what he would have done. A very curious incident brings in the Duke of Wellington as an authority. I may call to the recollection of this House that in 1834, after the opening of the trade with Canton to private enterprise, Lord Napier was sent out to that place. He addressed the officials there in the usual way, but they refused to have anything to do with him except in the way of trade. Lord Napier, after some angry correspondence, wrote home some despatches inciting our Government to coerce the Chinese by sending out a few regiments, and showing how easily they might be brought to submission. At that time the noble lord at the head of the Government was Foreign Secretary; but before Lord Napier's letters arrived, that curious interregnum, which those at the wrong side of 50 cannot but remember, took place, when the Whig Government went out and the Duke of Wellington held all the seals until Sir R. Peel should return from Italy. Those letters of Lord Napier's fell into the hands of the Duke, who then held the seals of the Foreign Office as well as the seals of the other Secretaries of State, and he wrote in reply a very brief despatch, which is the only one of the papers of 1840, and here is one of the sentences, which contains the pith of the whole. It is dated February 2, 1835:—

"It is not by force and violence that His Majesty intends to establish a commercial intercourse between his subjects and China, but by the other conciliatory measures so strongly inculcated in all the instructions which you have received."

(Hear, hear.) Now, I am bound to say, in justice to the noble lord at the head of the Government, that the instructions which were sent out by by him, being the King's ordinance by an order in Council for the management of our trade in China, were all dictated in a spirit of justice, moderation, and peace—(hear, hear)—and I can say I have never seen any despatches of the noble lord which have been addressed to China which have not always breathed that spirit of forbearance and justice. (Hear, hear.) But what I find fault with in the noble lord is this—if one of his subordinates in any part of the world commits any violation of those rules of moderation and justice, the noble lord backs him. (Laughter and cheers.) Now, I defy the noble lord in all his correspondence to show me half a dozen lines written with the courage, with the justice and propriety of those few lines of the Duke of Wellington. What we want is a Government here which can check its officials at the antipodes as well as the Government of President Lincoln can restrain its officials from wars with China. (This remark of the hon. gentleman excited some murmurs and subdued commentaries on the Opposition benches.) I understand what is passing among hon. gentlemen. Well, I come now to the point to which I was going to refer, and that is the Duke of Wellington's view of what should be our expenditure in China. After sending the despatch from which I have quoted to Lord Napier he sits down, and in a memorandum prepared for the Cabinet, which you will find in the same volume of the Correspondence up to 1840, he goes into the question of Lord Napier's difficulties with the Chinese. He says, "They refused to receive him at Canton; they had a perfect right to do so. For us to attempt to force the Chinese officials to receive an English official would be disgraceful." (Hear, hear.) "Disgraceful," that is the word; and he goes on to say, "If they don't want to receive an English minister with high-sounding titles, let us be content;" and at a time when Lord Napier was supposed to be a refugee at Macao, in a memorandum dated March 24, 1835, he fixes our establishment in China. He recommends, until trade has taken its regular peaceable course, a frigate and a smaller vessel of war for the protection of our trade with China; and he fixes the cost of the civil establishment there at £13,600 a year. (Hear, hear.) So that, according to the Duke of Wellington's principle, our trade was to be protected by a single small vessel, and our civil establishment was to cost only £13,600. Now, last year I saw a list of Government vessels in the waters of China and Japan, and they were 50 in number, and we have a little army at Hong Kong and another at Shanghai—(hear, hear)—and the expense of our establishments has enormously increased.

While our trade with China has increased only threefold during all that time, our trade with the rest of the world has increased fourfold, and all that has been done under the purest delusion that ever any people were under. We went to work with the Chinese to force our political connection on them—a course which the Duke of Wellington thought ought not to be followed at all. We have done so on the assumption that the Chinese could be traded with fully only if we established our political connection with them. But the Chinese, with an instinctive knowledge of their own interests, immediately came to the conclusion that their vital interests were at stake in excluding foreigners from all political and social contact with them. They felt that they could not co-exist on an equality in the same country with the English, and, while they have consequently resisted all social and political contact with us, we have been always acting under the delusion that a political and social connection was essential for the interests of our trade. That was the greatest delusion in the world, for the Chinese people were free-traders, while we were in the very mire of protection in this country. (Hear, hear.) The Chinese and Asiatics never understood or felt the question of protection to native industry. I remember quite well, when I advocated free trade in this country twenty-five years ago, repeatedly making use of the argument of the case of the Chinese, and showing what free-traders they were. They not only allowed rice to come into their country, but they exempted from port charges a ship bringing a cargo of that first necessary of life in China. (Hear, hear.) Some persons may attempt to answer me by saying that I am only speaking of exports to China, and that I say nothing of our imports from that country; but no one doubts that if we stayed at home the imports from China would still reach us. We have never gone to China to force the Chinese people to give us their produce, but to increase our exports to that country. It may be said that it is not a practical question to talk of withdrawing our present connection with China. I am not responsible for anything that has been done with respect to China, but we are in the midst of difficulties with that country, increasing every year in danger; therefore we cannot leave the matter alone, and if we cannot suddenly take that course which we might do if we had to begin again, we can at any rate move in that direction, and can apply the principle I advocate to Japan, where we have endeavoured to force ourselves on a reluctant people. The representatives of Japan are now in Paris, and they will come over to this country, and will, almost prostrate on the ground, ask us not to force ourselves on them, for if we should, they could not be answerable for the safety of those forced upon them, and civil war and strife might be the consequences. Now, I want to know whether we are going to receive the Japanese Envoys in the same way as we received those men who pleaded in the same manner with Lord Elgin. The communication which passed between the Chinese Plenipotentiaries and Lord Elgin, when they were opposing in every possible way the English forcing themselves on their country, was of a most affecting character. Are we to pursue the same course with respect to Japan? I trust not. I trust that we shall, in respect to that country, pursue the same principle as in Singapore and Hong Kong. Establish ourselves if we will on the mainland, but let us isolate ourselves, and not come in contact with the interior. (Hear, hear.) Let us take this precaution. We have had the death of one man in Japan—Mr. Richardson—and to avenge that we have thrown away the lives of many brave men.

We must observe, in our trading relations with the Japanese, precisely the same policy as we pursued when we received in former times those merchants from the Hanse towns who came here and were allowed to trade, but were obliged to keep themselves distinct from our people. The consequence was that those merchants settled in a distinct part, a place being set apart for them, and were obliged to keep themselves free from the foreigner simply because they were exempt from our laws. In the end we must come to the same condition of things in dealing with these people, and in order to carry on business with them in quietness, we shall have to establish free ports—if on an island so much the better, and if on the mainland we must keep our people to themselves. If Englishmen go out to these parts of the world, must they involve their countrymen at home in these wars because they will not confine themselves to five square miles for horse exercise? Why, our naval officers are content to be imprisoned on the quarterdeck, with the chance of an occasional walk of half a mile. Let our merchants submit to the same ordeal, and as a matter of duty to

(Continued on page 321.)

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ONE OF THEM.—We must refer our correspondent to our rule in requiring his name and address.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1864.

RAILWAYS FOR CHINA.

IT has been the subject of remark in professional and other journals in this country that the absence of railway communication, even on the smallest scale, in China is anomalous; especially where so much has been accomplished, through British, American, and French enterprise, in establishing lines of steamers at the chief ports from Canton to Tien-tsin along a seaboard not less than eighteen hundred miles in length. Those who are conversant with the foreign element among the people of that nation, know that this apparent backwardness in promoting the introduction of the locomotive and the iron road, with its attendant telegraph wire, has not existed. For the last twenty years the question has been discussed from time to time, and projected lines proposed, but these have been laid aside as being premature, chiefly on account of the unsatisfactory relations between England and the Imperial Government. It was not until the ratification of the Treaty of Tien-tsin that hopes of success were entertained for the introduction of steam afloat, commensurate with the extensive navigation opened up by its articles—a treaty which may be considered one of the most successful diplomatic achievements of modern times, and will redound to the memory of Lord ELGIN for his astuteness, humanity, and liberality towards all nationalities participating in its benefits. On this groundwork steam navigation has been not only introduced as a carrying power in the hands of foreigners, but the Chinese mind—always slow, but sure—has become alive to its paramount advantages over their own sluggish mode of traffic, so that they are investing their means in steam-boats, and taking shares in steam navigation companies. Nothing could be more advantageous than this to prepare the way for steam locomotion by railway, as it familiarised the people and Government to the wonderful power of this western discovery, of which their inventive genius had no previous conception. The time had arrived when the merchants in China deemed it favourable to mature their projects regarding the introduction of railways. Accordingly, a company was formed at Shanghai about the beginning of last year, to construct a line of railway from that port to Soochow, in anticipation of its recapture from the rebels. In the following summer they addressed a memorial to the Viceroy of the Province for permission to lay the line, which that functionary did not entertain in a very favourable manner. This, of course, was before the fall of Soochow, since when nothing has publicly transpired regarding the project, which was based upon the supposition that the wealthy and industrious refugees who fled from that city to the settlement and city of Shanghai would immediately return and restore that ancient mart to its former prosperity. This expectation has up to the present not been realised, even in a moderate degree, so that probably the promoters of the Shanghai and Soochow Railway Company are keeping their project in abeyance.

Meanwhile in the autumn of the year Sir MACDONALD STEPHENSON arrived at Hong Kong, the successful introducer of railways in India and Turkey. Immediately he placed himself in communication with the British Minister at Peking, under the auspices of Lord PALMERSTON and Earl RUSSELL, and addressed the leading foreign residents on the subject, from whom he received most interesting, and generally favourable replies to his proposed lines. He has now returned to England, and produced the result of his experiences in the shape of a voluminous "Report upon the Feasibility and most effectual Means of introducing Railway Communication into the Empire of China," accompanied with a map, more than four feet square, showing on a large scale the most comprehensive system of railways imaginable, stretching from Calcutta through Eastern India, Western and Central China to Peking. At the first glance this appears so gigantic, that one is inclined to view it as one of Utopian character, destined to go the way of all bubble schemes. Each point is, however, clearly discussed in his report, and where at one part some difficulty arises in the reader's mind, in a subsequent sentence this is satisfactorily discussed and met by sound argument. From the grand general project of uniting India and China by rail, as delineated in the Sketch Map, he confines his observations and correspondence to that comprised within the limits of China proper, and this is again reduced to the practical proposition of constructing at first a line of only fifteen miles. He starts with Hankow as a central terminus, from which radiates three trunk lines,—one South to Canton with branches to Fatshan and Hong Kong; a second Westward up the Yang-tsze River into Sze-chuen, and a third Eastward to Nanking and Shanghai, from thence to the North by Soochow along the line of the Imperial Canal to Tien-tsin and Peking—in all about 3,000 miles.

To deal with the project in detail is beyond the limits of our space, we shall therefore confine ourselves in this article to pointing out its principal features. These resolve themselves into the line from Canton to Hankow, and from Shanghai to Peking. Acting upon the recommendation of his correspondents,—who are nearly all residents in South China, and illness prevented him personally visiting the North—he advocates strongly the adoption of the first-mentioned line, and proposes that an experimental loop-line of fifteen miles be laid between Canton and Fatshan—the southern metropolis and Birmingham of China. This is undoubtedly the route for a trunk line when the system is once introduced, but we question the propriety of giving it the precedence of all others. From the admission of the correspondents who touch upon this point, and the remarks quoted from the Hong Kong press, it is apparent that the chief object in proposing it is with a view to restore that trade with the tea districts which formerly constituted Canton the great foreign emporium of China, and which has been transferred to Shanghai since the opening up of the Yang-tsze. We have no wish to retard that expected state of future prosperity, but it might nip the whole project in the beginning if the experimental line was laid where there are few or no foreigners to support it, with the prospective advantages of carrying it six or seven hundred miles into the tea districts. Moreover, it is here that the greatest engineering difficulty occurs in crossing the Meiling Pass that divides the north and south watersheds of the tributaries to the Yang-tsze and Canton rivers. On the other hand the line from Shanghai to Peking *via* Soochow and the route of the Grand Canal, on to Tien-tsin, is not only the most feasible, but presents the fewest engineering difficulties. In fact, here is the base of a track with dead-level gradients made to hand, if one of the banks of the canal be straight enough, between the three rivers, which will have to be crossed by ferry. Not many years ago, that section of the canal between the Yellow River and the Peiho was blocked up against navigation by a large portion of it filling up, so that the supplies of rice for the consumption of Peking and the northern provinces, which cannot produce this "staff of life," have been prevented from arriving by the old water communication. We may reasonably conclude, therefore, that the Government would hail with satisfaction the construction of a railway along this route that would bring these supplies regularly and expeditiously from the South. On this route it is proposed to have one or other of the short lines from Shanghai to Soochow, sixty miles, or Tien-tsin to Peking, seventy miles, constructed at the outset, to show its advantages to the Chinese authorities, and see whether or no it would pay. But we conceive there is a better and much shorter line pointed out by Dr. MURRAY, where he states:—"But the line that I would press on your attention, as "one to commence with, is that between Woosung and Shanghai, "a distance of only eight miles in a direct line, and free from "any engineering difficulties. Ships might then load and

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"discharge at Woosung, and be saved the difficult navigation "of the Shanghai River "(Wongpoo). Woosung is the natural sea-port of Shanghai, standing on a more salubrious site, and where anchorage and dock accommodation to any extent may be formed. The land intervening is nearly all in the hands of foreigners; it is quite level the whole way, although intersected by numerous small creeks, that could be easily crossed until arriving at Soo-chow creek, where the costliest piece of work in the shape of a good iron bridge is required, not only for railway, but ordinary traffic, which would be accepted as a boon by the inhabitants. When his plans are ready for maturity, we would advise Sir MACDONALD to bear Mr. MURRAY'S hint in mind. In the meantime we cordially wish him every success in the formation of a company to carry out his views; and consider the project worthy of public support, as eventually to turn out a profitable undertaking.

YET ANOTHER CHINA DEBATE.

THE celebrated free trader Mr. COBDEN brought on another debate on our policy in China, which will be found to occupy ten pages in our present issue. The Statistics of Trade which we published on the 7th March were quoted by Mr. LAYARD, the Under-Secretary of State, as affording good proof of our trade under the Government policy. We shall notice the debate more fully in our next.

PARLIAMENT—CHINA DEBATE.

(*Continued from page* 319.)

ourselves we are bound to enforce such a course of conduct on them. I have brought forward this motion because I think it right not to let this question be huddled up by a "count out," and a "count out" never takes place in this House unless the Government are in it—("Hear," and laughter)—and because I wish to give the opportunity to hon. gentlemen on both sides of the House to express their opinions on the subject. I think—and the thought occurred to me since I gave notice of submitting a motion on this question—that it would be the wisest course if this House should understand that, at the next meeting of Parliament, a committee would be appointed to inquire into our commercial relations with China and Japan. It may seem presumptuous, considering the uncertainty of human and parliamentary life, to say what should be done six months hence, but some steps might be taken in the interval of the recess to procure the necessary documents from China, and in the meantime hon. gentlemen on both sides of the House might express their opinions on the subject. After the debate is over, I attach very little importance to the fate of the motion; but it is important people should know in China that this country is dissatisfied with the present state of things, and is not prepared to endorse the conduct of any Englishman which may involve a repetition of our Chinese disasters. I hope that during the recess nothing will be done to give us greater cause to blush than now, or to increase the humilation which we must feel at what has passed, and that every man in that distant country, whether official or merchant, will bear in mind that, in dealing with an ancient but helpless people, it is our duty and interest to act in accordance with the mild character of Christianity. (Cheers.) The hon. member concluded by moving the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of this House, the policy of non-intervention by force of arms in the internal political affairs of foreign countries, which we profess to observe in our relations with the States of Europe and America, should be observed in our intercourse with the empire of China."

Mr. LAYARD observed that this question had been frequently before brought under the notice of the House, and he fancied that the large audience now present was owing not so much to the attraction of the piece as of the actor. The hon. member for Rochdale had made a speech characterised by great ability and moderation, and he would do his best to answer the statements which the hon. member had made. When on a previous occasion there was a difficulty in keeping together a House to listen to a debate on China, that arose, not from the Government being desirous of a "count out," but because the House felt that the proposition to call on the Government to reverse the policy they had pursued in China involved too great a responsibility for the House to undertake; and he would be able to show that disastrous results would have ensued from the adoption of the course then recommended by several hon. members, not only to the commerce with China, but to the interests of a large number of English merchants. But after those speeches either no resolution was put to the House, or the House was counted out in consequence of there not being 40 members present. He never very clearly understood what those hon. gentlemen meant. The hon. member for Montrose the other evening, after blaming the Government for their policy, concluded by wishing that they should continue to defend the Treaty Ports and to protect British interests in China. Why, that had always been the policy of the Government, and therefore, as between them and those hon. gentlemen, the question became one of degree and not one of kind. But now the House had a totally different state of things before it. His hon. friend the member for Rochdale had brought forward a new policy. He said the time was come when we ought to abandon the policy on which we had acted in China, and adopt another and a different one. That was an original view, and such a one as might be expected from his hon. friend—one displaying great capacity and knowledge on the part of the hon. gentleman; but he thought he should be able to show the House that it would be impossible to adopt it, and that to reverse our policy in China would be to give up our commercial position in that country.

His hon. friend had stated that China was the only country with which our trade had not increased; but he did not think even the hon. gentleman's own statistics bore out that view of the case, because in the end of his speech he said our trade with China had increased threefold within the last few years. He also said that the statistics quoted in that House on behalf of the Government were not trustworthy,—that the most reckless disregard of facts, accompanied by emphatic blows on the box, was exhibited at the table of that House. The hon. member characterised the noble lord at the head of the Government as the master of that proceeding, and paid him the compliment of saying that he was the most promising of the noble lord's pupils. (A laugh.) He should be proud of the past and hopeful of the future if the latter statement were correct, but he knew his hon. friend only paid him an empty compliment. He would now call the attention of the House to a few statistics which he had gathered from official returns laid upon the table from year to year, and if his hon. friend doubted them because they were official reports he would refer to reports given in China by persons not connected with the Government, but connected with trade, and who had no interest in misrepresenting the facts. He found from the returns headed "Declared value of British and Irish produce exported from the United Kingdom to various countries and British Possessions" these results relating to the exports to China, exclusive of Hong Kong:—That in 1854 the amount was £532,639; in 1855, £888,679; in 1856, £1,415,478. There was a gradual increase till 1861, when the amount was £3,114,157; but in the following year there was a sudden drop to £2,024,118, which was easily accounted for. It was owing to the cotton famine, and the consequent decrease in the cotton trade. The value of the imports into China was in 1854 £9,125,000; in 1862 it was £11,699,964, and the exports increased from £1,000,000 in 1854 to £5,451,557 in 1860. There could be no doubt whatever that those returns were accurate; but if his hon. friend should be inclined to question them he would refer him to returns published in a supplement of the *London and China Telegraph* for the 7th of last March. In that broadsheet it was observed:—

"The advance of the import trade from China is very remarkable, the value having doubled within the past two years. The imports of tea here have been very large—a considerable quantity now coming here for reshipment to the States of America, Russia, and other parts of the continent. Chinese wool keeps steady, although showing no very large increase, and a new item appears in the imports of cotton. Hitherto China has been an importing country, receiving large supplies from India, instead of an exporting country. The value of British exports to China has been rather on the decline of late years, but this arises in a great degree from the decrease in the shipped cotton manufactures, which is scarcely one-fourth of the amount of former years. Beer, coals, iron, lead, hardware, and other principal articles keep pretty steady."

Our imports of tea from China and Japan had risen from 75,000,000 lb. in 1859 to 134,000,000 lb. in 1863. In a former debate it was alleged the proceedings of the Taipings had caused no diminution in the export of silk, and his assertion that it had decreased while the export of other articles had increased was questioned by some hon. members, but in the same paper he found this statement:—

"The total export of silk from Shanghai during the year (January to December) 1862 was 84,983 bales, against 70,459 during the preceding year; but out of this increase 8,330 bales were Japanese silk re-exported, so that the increase on Chinese produce was only 6,194. A portion of this, too, may fairly be assumed to have been diverted from Ningpo, where the falling off during the last six months of 1862 was 6,620 bales; so that unless an increase be assumed at the latter port during the six months of Taiping occupation, the export of silk from the two ports has actually decreased. According to the annual circular of Messrs. Durant and Co. there was a diminished import here in 1863 of 21,400 bales of Shanghai silk, 800 of Canton silk, and 900 of Chinese thrown silk, but an increased import of 14,000 bales of Japan silk."

His hon. friend the member for Rochdale had said that on a former occasion he had quoted statistics of the accumulated trade in China, instead of those of the trade of China with this country; but it would be in the recollection of the House that he had quoted those figures, as returns of the accumulated trade, in order to show the good results that had followed from the protection of the treaty ports by the British Government with our French and American allies. His hon. friend said that, instead of having commercial intercourse with China in the towns of that country, we ought to conduct our trade with the Chinese in free ports, and the hon. gentleman pointed to Singapore in proof of the success of a similar policy. His hon. friend thought we ought to choose an island in the Northern Sea, and another in the Southern, and there establish free ports. We made Hong Kong a free port when it was ceded to us; but our doing so caused very considerable annoyance to the Chinese. They would not give their consent to the adoption of his hon. friend's plan, and therefore it would be impossible to adopt it, for it was only after a long war we obtained the cession of Hong Kong. (Hear, hear.) If we could not obtain those islands by negotiation, then, of course, we must go to war to compel the cession. There was no alternative. But there were other Governments in China besides ourselves who would ask for similar concessions, and it was impossible not to see that such a policy would get us into endless difficulties, both with China and foreign Powers. What had been our policy in China? We had obtained from the Chinese the right of trading at certain ports which had heretofore been closed against us. As soon as British and foreign trade was admitted into those ports an immense increase of commerce took place. Shortly afterwards the Taiping rebellion broke out. The Government had often been charged with having interfered in this domestic quarrel between the Taipings and the Chinese Government—(hear, hear)—but that was not the case. Our only interference had been to prevent the Taipings entering the treaty ports. We had nothing whatever to do with them until they approached the treaty ports, and they might have gone on fighting for centuries if they had not threatened those ports. There was not a diplomatic agent, a missionary, or a merchant in China who had not urged Her Majesty's Government to defend the treaty ports against the Taipings. Everybody concurred in asserting that the Taipings were utterly incapable of forming a Government; that they would not respect our treaties with the Chinese, and that if they were allowed to take the treaty ports British and foreign trade would be utterly annihilated. In the face of these representations what a responsibility would have rested on the Government

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if they had permitted the Taipings to enter the treaty ports! His hon. and gallant friend behind him was fond of quoting anonymous writers and newspaper extracts in favour of the policy he recommended—the other night he produced a string of newspaper columns as long as a tailor's measure; but he had never heard of any evidence given by any person of authority and knowledge in favour of establishing relations with the Taipings. When Admiral Hope went out he was exceedingly desirous to treat the Taipings as a Power equal to the Chinese, with whom we could treat in the same manner, and he paid a visit to Nanking for the purpose. But he failed altogether, and he was the last man in China to give up the idea that relations could be established with the Chinese. His hon. friend maintained that the Taipings were not destructive, and he was unwilling to accept the evidence of Ministers and Consuls to that effect. In fact, he, and some other hon. gentlemen as well, seemed to think that there was a perpetual plot going on in China to deceive Her Majesty's Government. (Hear, hear.) There was no doubt about it, however. Everybody who had seen anything of the proceedings of the Taipings concurred in so describing them. Nanking, Hankow, and other flourishing commercial towns were ruined the moment they fell into the hands of the Taipings. A great deal has been said about the thirty miles' radius, but no general principle had ever been laid down that there should be a thirty miles' radius from all the ports. At Shanghai that radius was the military line of defence pointed out by the military authorities. At other ports a ten or twenty miles' radius might be sufficient. It was altogether a military question. It was true that this thirty miles' radius had been passed on several occasions, and the officers were not always justified in passing it. In several instances the Government had condemned officers for passing it; in others they had acknowledged the force of the reasons on which they had acted. It was thought necessary on one or two occasions, in order to prevent the Taipings closing the roads which lead to Shanghai, to dislodge them from posts outside the thirty miles radius. The hon. gentleman had condemned Sir F. Bruce as one of the authors of this policy, but on other occasions it had been said that Sir F. Bruce had opposed the policy of the Government, and that the Government had gone against the recommendations of Sir F. Bruce. The hon. member for Montrose went so far as to say that the Government had suppressed a despatch, or, rather, a memorandum, signed by Sir F. Bruce and others, disavowing the policy of the Government, and another hon. gentleman said that an admission had been with difficulty extracted from him that such a memorandum had been received. That showed the reckless manner in which statements were made in that House—(an ironical cheer)—for there was not a single word of foundation for that statement. Sir F. Bruce communicated a despatch and enclosures to Mr. Burlinghame, the American Minister, who wrote to his Government to say that he had seen that despatch, and had a copy of it, but requested that it should not be published until the English Government had published it. He himself was the first to bring that despatch under the notice of the House. He quoted from it to show the entire concurrence of Mr. Burlinghame in the policy proposed to be pursued by Sir F. Bruce—(hear, hear)—and he also stated that that was the policy which had been followed by the Government. ("No, no.") There had never, he might add, been any difference between the Government and Sir F. Bruce as to the policy which he should pursue, and he had over and over again borne testimony to the great ability and tact with which that gentleman had conducted his communications with the Chinese authorities. He could not lay the despatch in question on the table because it contained observations on the policy of foreign States which it would not be conducive to the public interests to publish, but he would to-morrow or the next day produce extracts from it which would give all the parts to which allusion was made by Mr. Burlinghame. One extract which bore on the point at issue he might be allowed to read. It was as follows:—

"On the appointment of his Imperial Highness to the post of Prime Minister Sir F. Bruce had strongly urged Her Majesty's Government—firstly, by protecting the ports against the rebels; secondly, by aiding it in the organisation of a regular executive. The feeling of the British nation is always opposed to interference in the internal dissensions of other States. Sir F. Bruce had, notwithstanding, on his own responsibility authorised Her Majesty's army and navy stationed in China to defend the ports against the rebels; and it is entirely due to the allied forces that Shanghai and Ningpo are not now in rebel possession."

Then Sir F. Bruce himself suggested the employment of British troops in the defence of Shanghai, so that a distinct contradiction was given to the allegation that there was any disagreement between him and the Government on the subject. But be that as it might, was it, he would ask, or was it not, the fact that the position of China was improved? His hon. friend had quoted the correspondence relative to the destruction of certain junks by British officers, but it was perfectly clear that if a similar circumstance had occurred some years ago, instead of Prince Kung writing a diplomatic note to Sir F. Bruce, and negotiations taking place, war might have ensued between the two countries. Lord Elgin was, he also thought, perfectly right—and the result justified his conduct—in pressing on the Chinese the conditions to which he endeavoured to obtain their assent. Constant intercourse now took place between Sir F. Bruce and the Imperial authorities, and matters leading to irritating controversy were settled with comparatively little difficulty. With respect to our having entered into treaty engagements with Japan, his hon. friend seemed to forget that we were not the first to adopt that course; that a similar treaty had previously been concluded by the United States and Russia with that country, and that he himself would in all probability be the very first to condemn the Government if they had declined to follow in the same direction. His hon. friend, he would further observe, condemned the existence in China of a state of things which no longer prevailed in that country. There was no doubt still in China much which was to be deplored. The collection there of large numbers of idle persons, known as filibusters, was a great evil, and imposed on the British Government a great responsibility. Such a state of things could not, however, be avoided, unless we were prepared to withdraw from China altogether. What, under the circumstances, had we done? We had established that extra-territorial system, which he admitted was open to objection; but which, considering the cruel character of the Chinese, was necessary for the protection of our own people and to prevent them from being exposed to unduly severe punishments. The exertions of our consuls under the system had, he believed, already tended very much to check crime in China and to exclude from it idle and worthless persons. Nevertheless, acts were frequently committed by British subjects which deserved severe punishment, but in all these cases the offenders had been fairly tried, and entire satisfaction had been given to the Chinese authorities. It was all very well to say that we were supporting in China a usurping dynasty, but having spoken much on this subject with Mr. Lay, who was perhaps better acquainted with that country than any other living man, he had been assured by him that the present was a popular dynasty, that the people looked upon it as having conferred upon them great benefits, and were willing to remain under it, while they looked with horror on the rebellion. Those were facts which he had never heard contradicted on reliable authority, and he asked the House, with confidence, whether after the explanations which had been given it would be possible for the Government to change the policy which they pursued, an order in Council having been issued to the effect that British officers must no longer take service under the Chinese Government. Therefore, our exertions were now limited to the defence of Shanghai and the treaty ports. Those ports we must defend against the Taipings, for if we allowed the rebels to enter them, Europeans by thousands and Chinese by tens of thousands would be slaughtered. If Shanghai, that great emporium of trade, which, according to Sir F. Bruce, contained 1,500,000 inhabitants, was allowed to fall into the hands of the Taipings, and to become a desert like other great cities of China, a vast responsibility would fall upon the Government, from which they would never be able to escape. (Hear, hear.)

Lord NAAS, referring to the statement of the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs that he could not find out the meaning of those who condemned the policy of the Government in China, said that what they meant was that the Government ought to maintain a policy of absolute neutrality between the two contending parties in that country—(hear, hear)—and to require all their *employés*—whether diplomatic, military, or naval—to abstain from mixing themselves up with the internal affairs of the Chinese Empire. (Hear, hear.) That had not been the policy of Her Majesty's Government since about six months after the signature of the Treaty of Tien-tsin; and if they were now returning to the policy which Earl Russell laid down in his despatch about that time, it was because they had tried a different policy and it had failed. It was true that he and those who agreed with him in condemning the policy of the Government had always admitted the necessity of defending the treaty ports, and protecting the enormous amount of British property which was to be found in the towns and cities of China; but they had always maintained that our interference with the internal affairs of the empire endangered the safety of that property, and was calculated to defeat the objects which the Government professed to have at heart. Last year he showed that with regard to these particular matters the policy of the Government had been one essentially of interference, and he ventured to predict that on all these points it would be a failure. He was surprised to see how quickly his prediction had been fulfilled. The foreign Inspector of Customs had been ignominiously dismissed; the flotilla which went out under the command of Captain Sherard Osborn had been as ignominiously withdrawn and disbanded; the Anglo-Chinese force, which was under the command of a very gallant gentleman, Major Gordon, was at present in a most critical state, and its maintenance would be so fruitful a source of danger to our relations with the Chinese Government that he did not believe that the Ministry would long be able to hold it. (Hear.) The Under-Secretary of State having taken credit for the success of the Government policy in China, it was necessary that he should show the House what the Government really had done with reference to these matters. He would not go minutely into the history of Captain Osborn's expedition, but would refer to only one or two points to show with what carelessness and almost recklessness the Government went into that most wild and extraordinary scheme.

Before the expedition sailed last year he denounced it as impolitic and dangerous, and ventured to say that the Government had taken upon themselves, without authority from a foreign Government, to despatch to it a large armed squadron. The hon. gentleman the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs contradicted him flatly upon that point, and stated that the persons who had come to England to organise the expedition were armed with full and complete powers, and had satisfied the Government upon that subject. What were those powers? He found that Earl Russell very naturally suggested that Mr. Lay should produce some written authority from the Chinese Government before the consent of the Foreign-office was given to his request, or the orders in Council were repealed. Mr. Lay's answer was that he had received such an authority—from whom?—from Mr. Hart, his *locum tenens*. The Chinese Foreign Board had no doubt told Mr. Hart that if he could send them any vessels they should be glad to receive them, but there was no written authority from the Chinese Government stating on what conditions this force was to be raised, or what treatment it was to receive when it arrived in China. Sir F. Bruce himself said that, although the fleet left England in the winter, it was not until the arrival of Mr. Lay in China in the following spring that the Chinese Government had any intimation of the position of affairs, of the cost of the vessels, or of the nature of the undertaking entered into by Mr. Lay. Therefore if our Government was not in ignorance as to the intentions of that of China, the Chinese Government was in total ignorance as to the cost, the intentions, and the objects of this expedition; and yet the Under-Secretary of State assured the House that the Government knew all about it and were in perfect accord with the Chinese Government and with Mr. Lay, who had come to this country armed with full powers to negotiate. If that was not keeping the House in the dark he did not know what it was. There was a still more serious matter connected with these negotiations, to which he must call attention, because it showed how very suspicious was the nature of the whole affair. Mr. Lay and Captain Osborn made an agreement between themselves in this country which came to this, that Captain Osborn was to have the entire control of the vessels, and that he undertook to act upon all orders of the Emperor conveyed to him by Mr. Lay, but that Mr. Lay was not to give any orders unless he approved them himself. So that Captain Osborn was to be entirely under the control of Mr. Lay, and was to receive his

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orders from no one else, although nominally in the service of the Emperor of China. There was a sort of agreement between the Chinese Government and Mr. Hart, and it had been stated that Mr. Lay must have been conversant with an agreement that Captain Osborn should be associated with a Chinese officer of high rank, who should control all matters relative to the fleet. It was clear that Her Majesty's Government were entirely imposed upon by the representations made to them. So little indeed did they think of the importance of this expedition that they sent out no instructions to the Ambassador at China when the expedition sailed, from which Sir F. Bruce inferred that Earl Russell could have no intention of being a party to the engagement. It was entirely owing to the neglect of the Government and the carelessness with which the expedition was sent forth that British officers and the British name had been subject to such an indignity as the contemptuous dismissal of Captain Osborn.

It was impossible to continue these Anglo-Chinese expeditions, to which he took exception last year. The great difficulty in China is that the central authority was weak and the local authority strong, and he agreed with the hon. gentleman (Mr. Cobden) that the evils that afflicted the Chinese Empire were not likely to be remedied by these proceedings, and that no act of ours ought to increase them. These contingents had done more to weaken the central authority and strengthen the corrupt local government of the mandarins than anything else could have done in China. The House would be surprised to hear that Captain Gordon and his officers were not in the service of the Emperor of China at all. They were under the orders of the Futai of Shanghai, an almost independent Prince, who habitually set at naught the orders he received at Peking. Let him implore the House to consider the disgrace that was brought upon British names and British arms by any man wearing Her Majesty's uniform and in command of such a force. (Hear, hear.) He would remind the House that an act of the grossest treachery had been committed, contrary to the wish, but under the very nose of the officer commanding the force. An agreement for the capitulation of a town was made between the chiefs and Captain Gordon, but as soon as the Imperial General got them in his power he cut off their heads. In another disgraceful case seven Chinamen were tortured in the very camp and station occupied by Her Majesty's forces. It was impossible to continue this species of assistance without being mixed up in these abominable acts. Take the case of Colonel Burgevine, who succeeded to the command of the English contingent after the death of Mr. Warde. He was dismissed by the Chinese Government, in opposition to the opinion of Sir F. Bruce, who thought it safer that the force should be under the command of a foreigner than an Englishman. He deserted to the Taipings, where he shot his second in command. He then left the Taipings and returned to Imperial territory. Capt. Gordon thought it of great importance to get his name back into the Imperial service. What proposal did he make to Captain Gordon?—that as they were both tired of serving the Taipings and the Imperialists, it would be better for them to set up for themselves, and create an army and an altogether independent Power in China. (A laugh.) He then made a piratical attempt on a steamer at Shanghai, and was at last sent out of the country by the American Consul. The truth was that these Eastern waters were so infested by men of Burgevine's stamp that it was impossible to officer the Chinese forces without having recourse to their assistance. It was perfectly impossible that any course of action at all creditable to this country, or in accordance with the general feeling, could be carried on with such tools as were to be found at our disposal in China. (Hear, hear.) No wonder, therefore, that the Chinese Futai should have said that actions such as those of Burgevine and his comrades were altogether without the pale of civilisation. He wished to say nothing disrespectful of the English gentlemen who were engaged in those affairs. He believed many of them were gallant men and wished to serve their country; but daily contact with the people they had to do with, and with the scenes which they had to witness, would in the end blunt the finest sensibility. (Hear, hear.) He greatly feared in the case of Colonel Gordon that as a Chinese commander he had witnessed and participated in acts which the young engineer officer in the Crimea 10 years ago would have recoiled from with horror. (Hear, hear.) No doubt the temptation was very great, and very large sums were offered for the services of such men. By the blue-book upon the table it would be seen that Mr. Lay himself made upwards of £10,000 in the last year. Those temptations ought not to be held out to British officers, and he implored the Government to prevent British subjects from yielding to them whenever they could. (Hear, hear.)

But to turn to another subject—he was somewhat surprised at the repeated statements made by the Under-Secretary (Mr. Layard) as to the opinion of the best authorities in China upon the policy of the Government. The hon. gentleman had endeavoured, on various occasions, to show "that the policy of Her Majesty's Government had been approved by the merchants in the East, by missionaries, by naval and military authorities, by Sir F. Bruce, and Mr. Burlinghame, and he hoped it would be approved by the House." Now, he (Lord Naas) thought he could show that every one of those authorities had individually expressed his disapproval of that policy. (Hear.) With regard to the missionaries, taking as an instance Dr. Legg, who had spent the greater portion of his life in China, who was a ripe Chinese scholar, and whose personal predilections would incline him to a favourable view, he had condemned the policy of the Government two or three different times. Sir F. Bruce had pronounced an emphatic condemnation of that policy; he showed how impossible it was that the flotilla could succeed, and was delighted at having got rid of it, and his opinion of the contingent was equally unfavourable. He could not but express his astonishment that the hon. gentleman should to-night have repeated the statement which he had made on a previous occasion as to the views of the merchants in China with regard to our policy. The memorandum of the Chamber of Commerce of Hong Kong had been already read to the House. But the hon. gentleman said that was not the opinion of Shanghai merchants. But anybody that knew anything about China was aware that the Hong Kong merchants were intimately connected with Shanghai, and he had himself received a personal assurance on the subject from a gentleman who had large trading transactions with Shanghai. [Mr. Layard: "What I said with regard to the unanimous testimony of merchants and missionaries was with reference to the Taipings."] That was not what the hon. gentleman had stated, because he had his words there. (Hear, hear.) And, besides, they must take the rebellion as it stood, and when the hon. gentleman spoke of the policy of Her Majesty's Government in China they could not pick out this or that particular part of it. However, he (Lord Naas) distinctly affirmed that even the policy of the Government, with regard to the Taipings, had been disapproved by all the authorities he had quoted. (Hear, hear.)

The hon. gentleman had read a portion of a despatch from Mr. Burlinghame, the American Minister, as if he and the other representatives of the foreign Powers approved of the policy of Her Majesty's Government. He (Lord Naas) had taken the trouble to discover that despatch, and he found that instead of being favourable it was perhaps the strongest thing that had ever been written against the policy of Her Majesty's Government in China. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Burlinghame stated that he gathered together the representatives of the Foreign Powers in Peking, in order to come to some joint understanding, the principal object being to alter the policy which had been carried on by Her Majesty's Government and to return to the policy of total and absolute neutrality. (Hear, hear.) And first he quoted the opinion of Sir F. Bruce to the effect that he did not wish that any English officer should lead troops against the Taipings, he would much prefer that the Chinese should take men from the smaller States of Europe, and relieve England from being considered the bully of the East. (Hear.) Mr. Burlinghame said that he was for a change of policy, declaring that the course of policy which had been pursued was wrong. This was in the very despatch of which the hon. gentleman quoted a portion the other day to prove that Mr. Burlinghame and Sir F. Bruce approved the policy of the Government; and Mr. Burlinghame went on to congratulate his Government that he had been able to persuade Sir F. Bruce to write a despatch strongly disapproving the policy of Her Majesty's Government, and recommending an instant change. He trusted that that despatch would be published. It appeared also that Mr. Burlinghame wrote to his Government to the effect that if he had known the constitution and nature of Captain Osborn's force, he would have objected to its employment, unless commanded by a mixture of officers, and not placed entirely at the disposal of an English captain. No one could read these despatches without being of opinion that they were opposed to the sense in which they were quoted by the hon. gentleman the other evening. It was notorious that Sir J. Hope did not approve Captain Osborn's expedition; and, no doubt, Captain Osborn would have as strongly condemned, had his opinion been asked, Captain Gordon's contingent. He thought that he had now disposed of the various authorities which the hon. gentleman had quoted for his policy, and shown that they, one and all, concurred in strong condemnation of it. Any hon. member reading the blue-books—and particularly the last blue-book—must be struck with the absence of any explanation on the part of the Government as to the various important questions which arose. Perhaps European diplomacy had within the last six months overtaxed the powers of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. It was true that England was supposed to be a first-rate European Power, though the events of the last six months might perhaps have changed that opinion—(a laugh)—but in Asia England was all powerful, and its influence was paramount. England was in possession of an empire in India, by the side of which every other Asiatic Power was entirely dwarfed, and out of this state of things arose the relations of this country with China. They certainly seemed to be sufficiently important to justify the devotion to them of a large portion of interest and attention on the part of anyone presiding over the Foreign-office. When it was recollected that during the last twenty years much of English blood and treasure had been spent in China with little honour, it behoved those who conducted the foreign affairs of this country to be, at all events, careful that nothing was done in China without their special and direct authority; but he did not find in the blue-books any indication of any policy whatever on the part of Her Majesty's Government. (Hear, hear.)

The affairs of China were left to take their course, and the consequence was this country was drifted into difficulties and dangers in connection with that part of the world. This circumstance assumed importance when it was considered how necessary it was that, in dealing with a people so peculiar as the Chinese, the English should consistently endeavour to set them a good example. The Chinese were most jealous of foreign interference, and until lately they excluded all foreigners from China. Such being the case, the English ought to be particular to show the Chinese that they had no object of conquest or aggrandisement, and that national honour depended on the fulfilment of national obligations. He feared, however, that what had occurred since the treaty of Tien-tsin had impressed the Chinese with a totally different opinion, and had tended not to remove, but to increase old jealousies. There were three other Powers besides England who had distinct and very considerable interests in China. The interest taken by America in Chinese affairs was shown by the despatches of the American Minister. France had a missionary interest in China. French ecclesiastical establishments were springing up there, and Jesuits were engaged in preparing Chinese boys for those competitive examinations by which alone admission was gained to the civil service of China. (Hear.) Russia had still greater interests in China. By means of the telegraph St. Petersburg was now within fourteen days' connection with Peking, and it was highly probable that before the expiration of twelve months the connection would only take three days. There could be no doubt that Russia had ambitious views in the direction of China, and before long we might see a new Sebastopol springing up, which would be a standing menace to the trade of other nations with the Chinese. If we persevered in the course which we had taken, and availed ourselves of that influence which the employment of British military officers in that country would give us, we could not be surprised if before long we found French, Russian, and American contingents mixing themselves up in the internal disputes of China. (Hear, hear.) He was bound at the same time to express his opinion that the policy which the hon. member for Rochdale had indicated would hardly be possible at present. Ex-territorial jurisdiction was no doubt an evil, but in the case of China he believed it was a necessary one, for we could not hand over English subjects to the Chinese Courts. He was glad that the hon. member for Rochdale had rather intimated his intention not to take the sense of the House on his resolution. The time for resolutions about the policy of the Government in China had gone. The

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evils resulting from that policy were curing themselves. What the position of British officers serving with the Chinese now that the order in Council had been withdrawn was not very clear. Last year he ventured to say that the policy of the Government in China was such that success or failure was equally to be apprehended. His words had since been verified; and he could not think that any Government would preserve in a policy which had been attended with such consequences. (Cheers.)

Mr. B. COCHRANE thought the House were indebted to the hon. member for Rochdale for having given them an opportunity for the full discussion of this question. After the able speech of the hon. member and the eloquent remarks of his noble friend the member for Cockermouth, he should not take up the time of the House, only it was due to the hon. member that those who agreed with him should state their sentiments on this occasion. The Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in replying to the speech of the hon. member for Rochdale, quoted figures, the accuracy of which he for one disputed; but, assuming them to be correct, the hon. member treated this question too much as one of trade, and did not seem to regard it as one affecting the dignity, the honour, and the character of this country. (Hear, hear.) He felt that the honour, interests, and character of England had suffered by the policy which had been followed in the East. (Hear, hear.) Accounts had just been received that Colonel Gordon and his disciplined force had received a most severe defeat at a place some seventy miles from Shanghai, far away beyond the thirty miles radius; and what would be the effect, coming on that defeat, of the news of the revocation of the order in Council, and the consequent recall of Colonel Gordon? It would certainly be most disastrous to the *prestige* of England. He did not say that it was wrong to repeal that order in Council, but the effects which would certainly follow that revocation would be due to that meddling interfering policy which, mischievous everywhere, had never been so mischievously carried out as in China. (Hear.) It had been said that it was no use discussing this question because when instructions deliberately framed in this country had been sent out circumstances might have so altered in China that they would be no longer applicable. But that was in his opinion the very reason why the House of Commons should fully discuss everything connected with our Chinese policy, since when any course had been decided upon it was so difficult to reverse it. The Under-Secretary had referred to the great benefits conferred on this country by the extension of trade, but he should like to have added up all that the wars caused by this policy had cost the country, and then to make a debtor and creditor account, and see on which side the balance lay. (Hear, hear.) One effect to be feared from our policy was the demoralisation of a portion of the Christian inhabitants of those countries. Those best capable of understanding the state of things in China concurred in regretting the conduct of many of Her Majesty's subjects out in China, and, he was sorry to say, also of some of our merchants. Speaking to the merchants of Shanghai, Lord Elgin said:—

"Neither our own consciences nor the judgment of mankind will accept us. When we are asked to what use we have turned the opportunities, we can only say we have filled our pockets from among the ruins we have found or made. An eminent French writer has observed that it is one of the glories of Christian civilisation that it has caused a sentiment of repentance to find a place in the hearts of nations; let us hope that it will not be by pointing this moral that great Britain, when she comes to review her connection with the furthest East, will make good her claim to the title of a Christian nation."

A gentleman long resident in China wrote in 1860:—

"Our own advantage has been the regulating principle of our policy. We make exactions when it suits us, and do not exact them when inconvenient. Our diplomacy has resulted in confusion worse confounded. We shall probably now have to overthrow a Government we have been endeavouring to support. Had we been more considerate we should now have less to deplore."

The misconduct of our traders was not a matter of yesterday. Two hundred years ago Dryden wrote of them,—

"Industrious of the needle and the chart,
They rush full tilt to the Japonian mart;
Bereft of shame, and prodigal of fame,
Sell all of Christian to the very name."

And these lines were applicable to the conduct of too many of our merchants still. This was the language of Sir Rutherford Alcock on this subject:—

"We are threatened with the same dangers now, by persons wholly regardless of what may happen if they can only secure their own temporary advantage. But it is the business and the duty of all foreign representatives to prevent a few individuals thus endangering the relations and damaging the permanent interests of nations. It is better that there should be no trade than a trade carried on under such conditions as those which it has been attempted to impose. It is better that there should be no intercourse than relations of ill-will and conflict, threatening only war as a final result."

It certainly was very humiliating that periodically these lectures should be read to British merchants to teach them how to conduct themselves in their relations with foreign countries. The hon. gentleman said that Sir F. Bruce approved all that had been done in China, but such was not the fact. So far from Sir F. Bruce approving the policy of the Government, he had throughout conducted himself in a most able and proper manner, placed as he was in a most difficult position. Writing in one of his despatches with respect to the conduct of our consuls, he said:—

"I have also to observe that the Chinese Government in employing foreigners in its Custom-house is doing what foreign Powers have advised her to do, and following a system of improvement which in other countries has led to the best results. I expect Her Majesty's consuls to set an example to foreign communities of treating with respect the gentlemen who hold these important offices, and who are not inferior to them either in character or social position. It is your duty in this way to strengthen their influence with the Chinese provincial authorities, as it is to that influence that we must look for the peaceful execution of treaty privileges, and for the gradual introduction of progressive ideas into Chinese administration which will enable us to accommodate its maxims to the growing development of trade."

The hon. gentleman was, therefore, greatly mistaken in supposing that our policy had the approval of Sir F. Bruce, though it might have the approval of a great many subordinate officials in China, and of those who were prepared to take advantage of the confusion which they created in that quarter. Mr. Burlinghame, he might add, distinctly laid down, with Sir F. Bruce, the principles on which we were to interfere at all, which was simply to defend the treaty ports against the Taipings, but in such a way as not to make war on that considerable body of the Chinese people; and Mr. Seward, in reply to the despatch setting forth that policy, characterised it as wise and just towards the Chinese. And what, he would ask, was the cause of the rebellion in China? If the course which we pursued did not lead to it, it was, at all events, quite clear that by weakening and degrading the Government at Peking we strengthened the Taipings, and that we were thus indirectly contributors to the success of the insurrection. It was, however, said that our interference was based on the ground of humanity, but on reading the other day a very interesting work on the subject he found a very different account given of the Taipings from that which appeared to be generally accepted as correct. Mr. Forrest, in a work published in 1862, said of them:—

"It is impossible to live among the people a long time and not take an interest in them, and in a certain way to like them. I have met with not only civility, but actual courtesy from them, and shall never regret the time I have spent among them. Heaven forbid that England or France should ever make confusion worse confounded by interfering in the struggle now raging. After seeing a great deal of both parties, I must confess I have no better opinion of one than of the other."

Now, we might talk of a selfish policy and the necessity of pursuing a particular course in the interests of commerce, which seemed to consist in killing our customers; but let us not in support of such a policyt as that which we pursued in China invoke the name of civilisation and he interests of humanity. We seemed, in fact, to act on the principle of interfering everywhere, and our policy in the East was most ridiculous and inconsistent. One day we fought against a great Power in the East, and the very next allowed our fellow-countrymen to aid in strengthening it as much as possible. The plea of humanity was put forward in defence of the course which we took, but if that was the true ground of our interference in China how came it to pass that we did not interfere in the struggle which was going on at the other side of the Atlantic? On the same principle on which our officers were allowed to serve in China we might have permitted recruiting and interfered in the struggle in America. The reason of the difference which was made between the two countries was that America was a powerful and China was a weak one. If it was said that the Government had done what they had out of regard to the national honour and dignity, he replied that they might have interfered in a country nearer home, the sufferings of which had been caused by their foolish intervention and perpetual meddling. (Hear hear.) Allowing our men to go and fight in a quarrel in which they had no concern was nothing better than murder, and it was peculiarly disgraceful that we should adopt such a course at the very time when Switzerland, which in former times permitted its subjects to sell their blood to foreigners, had abandoned that practice. The hon. member merited the thanks both of the House and of the country for his clear exposition of the policy which we ought to pursue in China, and if it put an end to this objectionable and criminal intervention, not only our country, but the whole world and civilisation itself would be indebted to him. (Hear.)

Mr. LIDDELL said he must contest the accuracy of the statement made by the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs that if the policy of the Government had not been reversed disasters might have occurred. He maintained that disasters had already occurred. At the date of the latest advices Major Gordon was lying severely wounded in the interior of the country. He had lost a large proportion of his officers. His communications had been cut off, and there was too much reason to fear that the next advices would bring news of the loss of his whole force. The fact was that the Government had receded from their policy, but not before they had taught the Chinese to distrust their own native leaders, who were their natural leaders. The Taipings had also been taught the same lesson of the superiority of Chinese forces when led by European officers. At Shanghai plenty of adventurers were to be found, and there was nothing to prevent the Taipings from availing themselves of the services of foreign officers. He believed that if the civil war in China continued, bands of these adventurers would be opposed to each other. The Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs complained that the rebels would not observe treaties. He had always felt, on the contrary, a strong conviction that we ourselves had not observed good faith in our dealings with the Chinese. (Hear.) We had pledged ourselves to observe a strict neutrality between the contending parties, but how had that pledge been carried out? It was neither fair nor correct to state that the Taipings—ragamuffins as they were, according to the noble viscount—had failed to keep their engagements towards us. They might be people of low morality, but it was our duty not to lower the standard of our morality to their level, but to raise them to our own. (Hear.) He was sorry to say that, cruel as these people might be, their conduct to ourselves contrasted favourably with our conduct to them. The Government had raised a false issue on this question. Those who opposed their policy in China had never denied that it was their right and duty to defend the treaty ports. If they contented themselves with that, the rebels would never attempt to interfere with them there. But the Government carried their warlike operations into the interior of the country—into the very middle of the silk districts. Since we had carried war into those districts the silk supplies had fallen off. At Shanghai the supplies for a fortnight this year were but 350 bales, against 800 bales for the corresponding fortnight last year, and 2,000 bales for the corresponding fortnight the year before. We had supported the Imperial Government to the utmost of our power; the Taipings knew it, and if they were made implacable enemies, and ravaged the silk districts, we had only ourselves to blame. The present stock on hand was only 3,500 bales, against 8,000 bales which were on hand at the same time last year. But our whole policy in China had died a natural death, and yet the Government were taking a great deal of trouble in defending it. (Hear.) He wanted to know for certain what the effect of the repeal of the order in Council would be. He hoped the House would have a

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distinct statement that it was retrospective, and not merely prospective. Did it apply to Captain Gordon and Captain Cooke, and the other officers who had taken service under the Chinese Government? He wanted also to know, what he had never yet been able to ascertain, how Captain Gordon had been appointed, because every one of any authority in China condemned the appointment, and also whether he now, or at any time before, held a commission direct from the Sovereign of the country in which he was carrying on war; for, if not, he was simply a filibuster. (Hear, hear.) He hoped that once for all we had done with British interference in China. In conclusion, he begged to thank the hon. gentleman who had lent his high commercial authority, and his position as a statesman in that House, to a cause which was a cause of justice and humanity, and which the policy of the Government had been so well calculated to destroy. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. GREGSON said he had supported the hon. member for Rochdale in his agitation for free trade; but he could not concur in much that he had said with regard to our policy in China. The hon. gentleman had said truly that our object in China was simply commercial, and he (Mr. Gregson) would have been delighted that our relations with that country had never been otherwise. He concurred with the hon. gentleman that it would be desirable next Session to have a select committee to inquire into our commercial relations with China; but he could not agree with him in thinking that those relations were unsatisfactory. The hon. gentleman had said that we were the cause of the present state of things in China, and that we should drive that empire into anarchy. But it had been often stated in that House that China had been in a state of anarchy for a very long period, and it was not owing to us that anarchy had prevailed, was prevailing, and, he feared, would long prevail there. His hon. friend near him (Colonel Sykes) suggested to him that he ought to say a good word for the policy of the Government, as there was no one else to do so, and that was the reason why he stood up there to make a few remarks. He was afraid the suggestion made by the hon. member for Rochdale with regard to opening small free ports would be impracticable. In the first place, by so doing they would have to derange all the present establishments, and in the second place they would have to get the concurrence of the Chinese authorities. Now, Hong Kong had been established as a free port, but as compared with Shanghai it had not been at all successful. His hon. friend alluded to the recommendations made by the Duke of Wellington. Those recommendations might have been all very well for that time, but we had got far beyond that point now. The noble lord (Lord Naas), who had made a very able speech, had appealed to the opinions of the merchants in China. But he (Mr. Gregson) had taken great pains to ascertain from a large number of gentlemen connected with the Chinese trade what their views were, and he found them to be favourable to the policy of the Government. (Hear, hear.) The hon. gentleman then read extracts from letters of Chinese merchants to the effect that the Imperial Government ought to be supported, that the Taipings were only marauders, and that the limited supply of silk was owing to their devastations. The hon. member then referred to the increase which had taken place in the imports of tea and silk from China, and observed that last year the large quantity of 160,000 bales of raw cotton was sent from China, and relief was thus afforded to the manufacturing districts of England. The trade with China was, besides, of considerable importance to the revenue of this country, for the payment of the duty on tea yielded a revenue of about £4,500,000 a year, and during the last 30 years the enormous sum of £160,000,000 had been paid into the Exchequer from that source.

Sir J. ELPHINSTONE had refrained for the last two years from taking part in the China debates, because his predictions with respect to the policy of the Government had been completely verified, and because he did not see any way out of the difficulties into which that policy had led us; but little as he agreed in the course which the Government had adopted, still less could he agree with the hon. member for Rochdale in his plan for extricating us out of our embarrassing position. (Hear.) He had always held that our policy in China should be to support the Chinese chiefs in the provinces where we traded, to support their Government, and not to break in upon the much-cherished privacy of their capital and so destroy the *prestige* of the rulers of the country. Those bands of marauders who were now called Taipings, but who went under different names at different times, had long been the bane of China. When he first visited that empire, which was in 1820, he saw villages that those ruffians had set fire to, and the marks of their brutality on the bodies of those whom they had plundered. Brigandage was the normal condition of affairs in China. It was caused by the descent of hordes from the more sterile districts, in which the population became too numerous for the means of support; but somehow or another those hordes were kept down by the Government of China till we broke down its *prestige*. He did not believe the hon. member for Rochdale's plan of free ports on islands practicable in China. The treaty ports afforded the only means of carrying on our trade there, and we were bound to extend our protection to every one trading in those ports under the British flag. Besides this, in concert with our allies, we ought to adopt active measures to put down piracy in the Chinese waters, and there was no reason why we should not have a treaty in respect to that great navigable river in China which, under God, would, he believed, afford us the means of introducing European civilisation into the heart of the Chinese empire. (Hear, hear.) It was said in the theology of China that when making the world the Creator took a pair of bamboo compasses, and putting one leg into the spot where Peking now stood drew a circle, and so marked out the world, which was China. The hon. member for Rochdale drew a circle of which he made Manchester the centre; but his speech was a repetition of speeches that were delivered when the removal of the East India Company's charter was under discussion in that House. It had been found that the Chinese would not take our woollens. The reason was, Russia sent into China woollen material more suitable to the tastes and habits of the Chinese. He had never believed that the introduction of the opium trade was a disadvantage to China. The food of the lower classes of China—a great deal of pork, sour vegetables, and vinegar—was of a character to produce intestinal disorders, and the little whiff of opium which they took after their meals was of great benefit to them. It was perfectly impossible for a man to make a beast of himself on opium under £120 a year. He hardly saw his way clearly out of the position into which our policy in China had brought us. It certainly was impracticable to adopt the course recommended by the hon. member for Rochdale, but by taking up the matter with a strong hand and undertaking to curb the disorderly spirits who had been attracted to China by the love of gain and who plundered the poor Chinese, by establishing a police force of gunboats along the rivers, we might produce some effect. By no manner of means ought we ever to have anything to do with the Taipings, for a more bloodthirsty, horrible set of scoundrels never existed on God's earth. (Hear, hear.) Nothing had ever shown that they were likely to establish a form of Government. They had no idea of anything but rapine and licentiousness. Certainly he would be no party to recommending the Government to abandon the footing we had in China, but no doubt the committee suggested by the hon. gentleman opposite might be useful in devising a remedy for the evils of the present state of things. (Hear.)

Mr. WHITE thought the policy which had been recommended by the hon. and gallant gentleman must lead to a considerable augmentation in the expenditure we had already incurred in China. The hon. and gallant gentleman had certainly kept his constituents in mind. He had often told the House of the gunboats which were lying at Portsmouth doing nothing, and if his advice were adopted there soon would be plenty for all of them to do. [Sir J. Elphinstone.—They are all rotten.] (A laugh.) He could quite believe the hon. member for Lancaster that many gentlemen having a large stake in China praised highly the noble lord and his policy; but what the House had to consider was, not the interests of a single class of traders, but of the British taxpayers. At what cost had our trade with China been purchased? In his Budget speech of 1863 the Chancellor of the Exchequer told the House of Commons that they had to face a war expenditure of £8,800,000, of which in round numbers £7,000,000 was caused by the war in China, and our Chinese policy at the very lowest estimate cost us an extra half million yearly. If on one side were set the trade we had gained, and on the other the sum it had cost us, it would be seen that there never was a policy which gave such barren results for such an enormous expenditure. (Hear, hear.) The Under-Secretary would find on inquiry at his own office that his figures were ludicrously fallacious, and his facts were pretty much of the same value. At the same time, he could not altogether concur in the course recommended by the hon. member for Rochdale. At the time of the treaty of Nanking it was practicable, and he himself had urged it upon Sir Henry Pottinger at the time. The course which the Government ought to pursue was to dissociate British subjects as much as possible from all connection with the Chinese Government, to require that, within a certain area, Shanghai, Ningpo, Canton, and the other ports should be deemed free, and to leave the sellers of tea and silk to make their own arrangements as to duties with the Government. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. KINGLAKE said the noble lord opposite (Lord Naas) had used a phrase which might, perhaps, be understood in a sense very different from that intended. The noble lord spoke of the force under Captain Sherard Osborn having been ignominiously withdrawn. He felt assured that the noble lord in saying so meant only that the policy which had originated the expedition had totally failed, and did not express any condemnation of Captain Sherard Osborn personally. ("Hear, hear," from Lord Naas.) If there was any fault which a microscopic mind could discover in the conduct of Captain Osborn, it was that he might, perhaps, be deemed too scrupulous as to the point of honour, and too resolute in determining to escape from a position in which he might have been subjected to orders which he thought no British officer could execute without loss of reputation. (Hear.) Great credit was due to the gallant captain for his behaviour in that respect, and also for the success with which he had brought home his force—a feat which could not have been accomplished except by a man possessed of high personal qualities and ascendancy of character. (Hear, hear.) There lay before Captain Osborn and his men the prospect of much fame, and of wealth to a very large amount indeed; but these things could not tempt him, and such was his influence with his force that, of 500, less than thirty failed to return with him to England. (Hear, hear.) He was sure the noble lord would be glad of an opportunity to correct any misapprehension as to his meaning on this point. (Hear, hear.)

Lord NAAS said that nothing was further from his mind in speaking than to utter anything in the least disrespectful towards Captain Sherard Osborn. (Hear, hear.) His remark applied not to the commander, but to the expedition generally and the policy on which it was based. He thought the whole conduct of Captain Osborn, from the beginning to the end of the transaction, was beyond all praise. (Hear, hear.) He had shown an utter absense of selfishness, and a sense of what was due not only to himself as a British officer, but to the interest and honour of England. (Hear.)

Colonel SYKES complained that his hon. friend, the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs had tried to delude the House into the notion that the other Powers represented in China were pursuing the same policy as ourselves. On the contrary, while our policy was one of direct intervention on behalf of the Imperialists, the other Powers were resolved not to take any active measures, except in defence of the treaty ports when attacked, and not to allow any of their officers to serve under the Chinese. (Hear, hear.) His hon. friend had also described the Taipings as a sort of human locusts, who destroyed the fertility of the countries through which they passed. Since May, 1860, however, the Taipings had been in possession of the two great silk districts, embracing a vast area of country, and a population of upwards of 60,000,000 souls. (Hear.) He had, he might add, in his hand monthly returns of the exports of silk from Shanghai, and he found that while those exports amounted in 1860 to only 69,137 bales they went on increasing until in 1864 they amounted to 84,933. The hon. and gallant gentleman then proceeded to quote extracts from the evidence of European eye-witnesses to show that from Ningpo up to Way-ho-kow, which lay on the verge of the 30 miles radius of Shanghai, the country was flourishing and the inhabitants happy and contented, while within that radius its aspect was described as that of a desert. In relation to the case of Major Gordon, he went on to say that it was painful to find that anybody in Her Majesty's service should have exposed himself to the odium that was heaped on that gentleman in China. Other newspapers had also condemned the conduct of Major

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Gordon in speaking of him as an "unprincipled soldier," and another as a "mere mercenary," and he regretted that Major Gordon, who had felt his position to be so irksome that he had at one time tendered his resignation, had not adhered to his resolution and come home. That gallant officer, in a letter addressed to a missionary, said that if half the pains had been expended upon the rebels which had been wasted upon the Imperialists the country would have been at peace long ago; and Admiral Hope, who had been cited as the direct opponent of the Taipings, admitted that they had well observed agreements which they had entered into with him not to approach within thirty miles of Shanghai for a period of twelve months, and not to molest *bona fide* British vessels on the Yang-tse river. It was said that, if the insurgents came to Shanghai, there would be an immense destruction of human life and property; but the fact was that they were for five months in possession of Ningpo, and during the whole of that time they allowed trade to go on without molestation and inflicted no injury upon Europeans. The Taipings had repeatedly offered to us the hand of friendship, but their despatches had been returned unopened, and we had never taken the trouble to ascertain whether we could make any arrangements with them or not. Our motive for maintaining the Imperial Government had been the selfish desire to secure payment of the portion of the indemnity, about £1,300,000, which still remained unpaid. Our acts in China had been dishonourable and disastrous, and were likely to be still more so in the future. (Hear, hear.)

Lord PALMERSTON: I am anxious to say a few words before the House determines the question which has been proposed by my hon. friend the member for Rochdale. It is remarkable that while my hon. friend took a very wide view of the subject according to his notions, those who have followed him have taken a narrow and confined view of it, and have limited their observations chiefly to the recent transactions of the Government with regard to their policy in China. I will, in the first place, deal with the remarks made by the noble lord and those who agree with him. What they have blamed has been the course which Her Majesty's Government have taken latterly in regard to the expedition of Captain Sherard Osborn, the employment of Major Gordon, and the engagement of civilians to assist the Chinese Government in the collection of their Customs' duties and other matters of that kind. It was, I think, almost unnecessary that they should express their opinions with regard to the expedition of Captain Osborn, or the employment of Major Gordon and others, because we stated, on a former occasion, that the orders in Council under which those officers were employed had been revoked, and that there was no intention on the part of Her Majesty's Government to renew them; therefore that policy is at an end. (Hear, hear.) I differ entirely from those who condemn it. I think that we were perfectly justified in the steps that we took, because it is evident that the more we can contribute to the internal pacification of China, the more that trade which everybody agrees to be the main and proper object of our intercourse with China would flourish, and it is quite obvious that in proportion as the interior of China is laid waste by civil war and rebellion, in that proportion must our trade suffer impediment and obstruction. I am very glad that the noble lord had an opportunity of explaining the expression which he used as to the "ignominious failure" of the expedition of Captain Osborn. There was nothing ignominious either in undertaking that expedition, or in the grounds upon which Captain Osborn declined to continue his services. On the contrary, as was stated by my hon. friend, and admitted by the noble lord, the whole conduct of Captain Osborn, from beginning to end, did him the highest possible credit, and reflected honour upon the country to which he belongs. (Hear, hear.)

If by allowing British subjects to enter the service of the Emperor of China we had been the means of strengthening the hands of the Chinese Government and enabling them to put down the rebellion, or in any degree to diminish its scope, we should not only have been rendering a service to China, but should have been promoting those objects for which alone our intercourse with that country ought to be carried on. Those measures have failed. I am sorry for it. They have failed not from any fault of those who planned, not from any fault of those who were engaged in them, but from the effect of those national jealousies which are too apt to prevail in many countries, and which have peculiar force in China, owing to the long established feeling of hostility to anything that is foreign and does not belong to the country. So much for that part of the subject. Then I will take the more extensive view which was taken by my hon friend (Mr. Cobden). He blames the whole policy of England—not the policy of one administration but of all – in regard to our intercourse with China; and he finds fault with different wars in which we have been engaged. Now, the history of our intercourse with China is the natural history of the relations of a highly-civilised with a half-civilised people. (Hear, hear.) It invariably happens that where a highly-civilised race comes in contact with a half-civilised race you find that they act upon different rules of conduct. The highly-civilised race expects good faith, justice, fulfilment of engagements, honour, and an absence from wrong-doing. The half-civilised race, on the other hand, recognises quite a different rule of conduct, which the other cannot submit to. Hence quarrels arise; wars follow the quarrels; engagements, treaties, and conventions put an end to this war; the conventions and the engagements are broken; further quarrels arise; and in that manner relations are embittered, the superior strength and ascendancy of the civilised race assert themselves, and then the other nation, feeling that they cannot with safety or success practice their own rule of conduct, acquiesce in the regulations imposed upon them by their more powerful antagonists. And then comes a peaceful and a friendly intercourse. That has been exactly the course of the relations between this country and China. Now, was our intercourse with China sought for simply by the Government? If the monopoly of the East India company had continued up to this time, if our trade with China had been confined to this company, in all human probability none of these wars would ever have broken out, because the intercourse would have been very restricted, nobody would have gone to China except persons under the control of the company, and the policy of the company would have been to submit to any indignity which might from time to time be offered. (Hear, hear.)

There would have been no national honour at stake, no interest save that of the company would have been concerned, and it would have been thought better to submit to any little indignity and wrong than to break off commercial intercourse without after all having power to redress these injuries. If, therefore, I say the monopoly of the East India Company had continued, the trade to China might have been much less than it is, but we should have avoided the contests which have taken place between the two countries. (Hear.) But it was not in the choice of the Government of the day to continue that system. The whole country cried out against the monopoly of the East India Company. They said it was intolerable that such a trade should be monopolised by a single company, and that monopoly was therefore abolished. Well, then, there was a general feeling that in proportion as the industry and the wealth of the country increased, in that proportion we ought to seek for new markets and new customers. It was said that the nations of Europe were wedded to their protective system, that our intercourse with them must necessarily be limited, and that we must therefore go to other countries where the same impediments did not exist, and find out new markets, and enable the commerce of the country to acquire its full development. When the monopoly of the East India Company was abolished, there came a series of contests. Injuries were inflicted by the Chinese Government. Merchants were imprisoned and threatened with starvation in order to extort from them their opium. The representative of the English Government, Lord Napier, was cruelly treated, and may be said, indeed, to have been killed by them, for when he was attacked by a severe fever, the Chinese surrounded the junk on which he was living with other junks, on board of which, under the pretext of doing him honour, gongs were sounded every hour of the twenty-four, and he died in consequence of not being able to obtain the rest necessary for his recovery. One outrage followed another. Again there was war. Next came an agreement. That agreement was afterwards broken; a conflict ensued, and so, step by step, we arrived at the Treaty of Tien-tsin. My hon. friend the member for Rochdale was very sentimental as to the objections made by the Chinese Government to a British resident at Peking, and he said it was very touching to read the arguments of the Chinese Government against allowing this. But I take leave to say that if we had had a Minister at Peking at the outset of these disputes, none of these wars would have taken place. (Hear, hear.) It was because we were debarred from communication with the Government of Peking, because we were at the mercy of provincial governors, who committed acts of injustice, knowing that they could do so with impunity, and could render their own account of what passed, preventing all remonstrance with the central Government —it was on this account that we did not obtain redress and that wars arose. (Hear, hear.)

I venture to say nothing has been done of more importance, with a view to the maintenance of friendly relations between this country and China, than the admission of our Minister as a resident at Peking. Well, then, I think that this House and the country ought to consider, not the policy of one particular measure affecting our relations with China, but ought to consider the great features of our policy, commencing with the abolition of the monopoly of the East India Company, and ending with the residence of an English diplomatic agent at Peking and the establishment of direct diplomatic relations with the Chinese Government. The benefit resulting from this policy had been immense. We are told—and I agree with the statement—that our object in China is simply trade. (Hear.) We do not want conquest. (Hear, hear.) We want trade—but the trade must be protected by treaties. (Hear, hear.) Was the extension of our trade by means of treaties matter of indifference to the nation? Why, we all remember the pressure put upon the Government for the abolition of the monopoly of the East India Company, and we also remember the enthusiasm excited in this country by the treaty signed by Sir H. Pottinger, and the vast expansion of commercial intercourse which was anticipated from it. That treaty was made in consequence of instructions which it fell to my lot to draw up, and was concluded almost entirely in accordance with those instructions. One stipulation of importance, however, was omitted from the draught—the provision that if any dispute arose as to the interpretation of any article of the treaty, it should be settled according to the English and not according to the Chinese version. What happened? The Chinese inserted in their version a stipulation which was not in the English version, and thereupon disputes arose. This bears upon the proposal of my hon. friend the member for Rochdale that certain ports or certain islands should be occupied as places of free commerce, for the stipulation which the Chinese fradulently inserted into the treaty was that there should be no communication with Hong Kong except from the five treaty ports, that there should be no communication between Hong Kong and any other part of the Chinese coast. This very much diminished the value of Hong Kong, and showed that the Chinese would have been very little disposed to tolerate an English settlement like Singapore, free to communicate with any part of the Chinese empire, and unless it had that freedom its value would not be that which my hon. friend attached to it. (Hear.) But let me recall to the House the great delight of the country on the conclusion of the treaty signed by Sir H. Pottinger, and the great anticipation of commercial intercourse which would result from it. I recollect rather endeavouring to moderate the fervour of expectation in this House by reminding the House and the country that, though undoubtedly there was an ample field for the ultimate development of commercial intercourse between the two countries, the development would probably be of gradual growth, and that we ought not to be too sanguine of great results at a very early period. But trade has gone on increasing since then.

My hon. friend has quoted figures which have been disputed, but which are perfectly correct, and one remarkable fact is that the amount of our imports from China greatly exceeds our exports to China. In 1863, I think, the value of our imports was about £14,000,000, while the value of our exports was not above £3,000,000 or £4,000,000. The balance was of course to be made up by opium from India or by specie sent out. But how was that opium paid for? The Chinese did not send us £14,000,000 of goods without payment, and those who received those goods must have sent out commodities of some sort to India in order to get the opium by which the difference was to be paid, or to get the specie by which the balance of trade was to be redressed. Well, sir, I must say that I very much agree with the description of the Taipings given by my hon. and gallant friend (Sir J. Elphinstone), if he will permit me to call him so.

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There can be no doubt that a civil war waged under such circumstances of cruelty by both parties, though the balance of the crime is undoubtedly on the side of the Taipings, must place the country in a much worse state than would be the case if peace were established. Whether peace will be speedily established in China it is impossible for any man in this country to predict. We know that for 3,000 years China has been the seat of turbulent disorders, of revolts, and rebellions, and it is therefore rather sanguine to expect an entire termination of the war, though information did reach us not long ago that the rebellion would be subdued at an earlier period than might be supposed. It has been said that our objects in regard to China have been purely selfish, and, no doubt, they are so, taken in a national point of view; but those who view this question only in the aspect which it bears upon the interest of the particular merchants who export to China, and who have establishments in that country, take a very narrow and limited view of the question. Those merchants in reality only form the outlets by which the thousand rills of industry in this country find their way to the great ocean market of the world. These merchants are persons who convey to foreign countries the results of the industry of hundreds and thousands of our working classes, and those who wish to change the policy at present pursued, to narrow our foreign markets, and to stifle the development of our foreign trade are doing their best to take the bread out of the mouths of our working classes and to deprive them of their means of sustenance. ("Oh, oh!") I beg pardon, but what does your export trade do but carry your industry to foreign countries? and if access to those countries be debarred the industry of our working classes is checked, and they are deprived of the sustenance which they derive from the industrial operations of this country. (Hear.) For that reason I do not admit that our policy has been a selfish one in the sense in which the word is sometimes employed.

It is the duty of the Government to endeavour by every means in its power to extend the commerce of this country, not for the advantage of those particular merchants who may be engaged in trade with any particular portion of the world, but for the purpose of aiding in the development of the general industry of the country, and thus rendering those industrious classes who produce those different commodities happy and prosperous at home. Well, sir, I claim the credit of this view for the policy of the Government, and I do not claim it for the present Government alone, because the other Governments have been parties to treaties with the Chinese as well as ourselves. (Hear.) The policy which the Government of this country has pursued from the period of the overthrow of the monopoly of the India Company to the present time has been eminently successful. I am persuaded that having attained the great end of entering into friendly and direct relations with the central Government of China our position will not easily be shaken, and that the establishment of those peaceful relations will result in a large increase to our trade. I am also most firmly persuaded that if we can get an unrestricted commerce with so large a population as that which occupies China we shall have succeeded in effecting an object of great importance to the industry and prosperity of this country. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. BRIGHT: It appears to me, looking over the debate upon this question this evening, that hon. members who have taken part in the discussion have expressed nothing but general condemnation of all that the noble lord has done with regard to China for the last 30 years. The hon. member for Lancaster, who has exhibited a confidence in the noble lord which might have been reasonable in him 60 or 65 years ago towards any person older than himself, following the noble lord with a docility that was perfectly charming ("hear, hear," and a laugh), and I suppose with the view of supporting the policy of the noble lord, has been touting in the city for the opinions of China merchants who approve the policy of the noble lord. I understand there are about 120 to 150 English merchants in China, some of them having very extensive business connections. The policy of the noble lord, which the hon. member supports, requires that there should be at least one ship of war sent from this country to sustain each three of those mercantile houses. (Hear, hear.) That is not the state of things with regard to English commerce in other parts of the world (hear, hear), and I suspect that there is some radical error in this branch of our commerce or our politics with it which it is well worth the while of this House to consider. Now, the hon. member tells us that those gentlemen who have been writing these—I must term them uninteresting letters—(a laugh)—had a great stake in China. I am not at all sure that the hon. member did not supply those questions with the answers as well as the questions (a laugh), for they are so wonderfully alike. (Hear.)

I should not be at all surprised if he had sent them a kind of Treasury circular. No doubt it was true that these gentlemen had a great stake in China, but so had also the people of England; and looking over the last 30 years there is probably no part of our policy of which we have less cause to be proud than that portion of it which bears upon our relations with China. The hon. member for Portsmouth did not agree either with my hon. friend the member for Rochdale or with the noble lord. What the hon. gentleman had prophesied had come to pass, while none of the prophecies of the noble lord had seen their fulfilment. The hon. gentleman's defence of the Government was that they had got into such a state of inextricable confusion that it was hardly worth while to do anything to get them out of it. (A laugh.) The hon. gentleman proposed this incredible plan, that on the great river, which, as he states, is infested with every kind of ruffian who can make his way to it from all parts of the world, he would have I don't know how many of those gunboats which he says now lie rotting at Portsmouth. I suppose he would also establish a travelling assize, and appoint police magistrates similar to those in London who should go to every place where an American or European ruffian had established himself and carry out the law, not after the Chinese, but after the English fashion. We should thus be establishing tribunals for the administration of justice, having nothing to do with the institutions of China, and owning no allegiance to the Government of the country, but dependent altogether upon the Secretary of State for the Home Department in Downing-street. A more ridiculous—I do not wish to be offensive—but a more absurd, and, I venture to say, a more impossible scheme was never submitted to Parliament. We may, I think, come to the conclusion that the House, with the exception of the two hon. members to whom I have referred and the noble lord, universally condemned the policy which has been pursued. ("Hear, hear," and "No," from Mr. Kinnaird.) I beg pardon, I did not see the hon. member in his place. (Laughter.) An hon. member asked me in the dining-room if any one had risen to defend the policy of the Government, and my answer was that the hon. member for Perth was not in the House, and that, therefore, no one had got up. (Cheers and laughter.) Why, the policy has been condemned by men of every party in the House. (Hear, hear.)

Will any one say that there was anything in the speech of my hon. friend the member for Rochdale which exhibited party feeling against the Government or personal feeling against the noble lord? The noble lord the member for Cockermouth (Lord Naas) has made an exceedingly able speech, and one which does him infinite credit. He has placed the facts before the House in the clearest manner, and, as I believe, fully expressed the sentiments of the House, and yet his speech contained nothing of which any member of the Treasury bench could complain. The hon. member for Northumberland (Mr. Liddell) and Honiton (Mr. Baillie Cochrane) had spoken on the same side of the question, and other hon. members have expressed similar opinions without there being the slightest exhibition of party feeling, and yet from all parts of the House has come the condemnation of the policy we have adopted; and, I may add, lamentation at the faults which we have committed during the last 30 years. Even our Minister at Peking, Sir Frederick Bruce, has shown himself to be weary and disgusted with the policy he was expected to pursue, and we know that this policy is directly in the teeth of the most emphatic expression of opinion delivered a few years ago from this side of the House by the noble lord who is now the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (hear, hear), and it was condemned in terms, if possible, more emphatic still by the right hon. gentleman the Chancellor of the Exchequer. I think I can answer also for other members of the Government who, if they were not silent under the influence of their position in this House, would express themselves in language equally decided in condemnation of the course which the Government have pursued in China. (Hear.)

The Government appear to be in such a state of difficulty and embarrassment that no one knows what is to be done. The noble lord is on every occasion, as I think, reckless and unguarded in the statements that he makes about China, and every prophecy that he has made in past times has proved to be wholly baseless. He admits that everything he has done in his recent policy has been a failure. [Mr. Kinnard: "No."] The hon. member for Perth, I believe, did not hear the noble lord's speech. [Mr. Kinnaird: "I beg your pardon, I did."] The noble lord blamed the noble lord the member for Cockermouth for speaking about points that it was necessary to mention, since they had failed. I do not believe that the House has any reason to regret that the policy in question has failed. The failure is not a blame to the Government, but the conception of plans so absurd and impossible is a blame to them, and when they say that their plans have failed it is proper in this House to take notice of that failure, and to inquire what pretence there is to ask the House to trust the Government after a failure that is patent to all the world. I have no doubt the Chinese marauders—or rather the European marauders in China—would use the same argument as the noble lord. He says that the natural history of all contact between a highly civilised and a semi-barbarous nation is that unpleasantnesses will arise, that disputes will be occasioned, that wars follow disputes, and that after wars have been carried on to such a length that the highly-civilised nation has battered to pieces the semi-barbarious nation, then the semi-barbarious nation becomes entirely submissive, and nothing can be more harmonious than the relations of the two countries. (A laugh.) He did not tell us that one of the results of his policy had been to bring to a state of decreptitude, and almsot absolutely to destroy, the Government of the nation which enjoys the most ancient civilisation of the globe. (Hear.) At this very moment these horrors, of which so many members have spoken, originate mainly in the policy of the noble lord. (Hear.) And the hon. baronet the member for Portsmouth only said what was quite true when he stated that our insisting upon entering their great cities, and especially in breaking the seclusion of their capital city, and peeled off the mysterious and awful character that had prevailed in regard to their Government, and that, in point of fact, we had succeeded in shattering the whole political and social system of an empire comprising one-third or one-fourth of the population of the globe. If I were in the position of the noble lord I durst not get up either in this House or anywhere else and speak boastfully of the policy I had pursued, if results so grave and so disastrous had happened to so large a portion of the human race. (Cheers.) The noble lord had, I will say, an audacity beyond that; for he charged my hon. friend (Mr. Cobden) by implication with having no regard to the condition and interests of the industrious classes of this country. He attempted to persuade the House that the trade with China—the most miserable trade in the world when we compare it with the actual population—was of such great importance to the working classes of this country that it is worth while to persevere in the policy that has been carried on, and to encounter the great expense that has been incurred.

Now, I venture to say, on the contrary, that our trade with China for many years back—I believe for thirty years—has not left one farthing of profit (I speak of the export trade from England to China), if you pay out of it the cost of the wars, the intermeddling, and the military and naval force which is now apparantly permanently established there. (Hear hear.) There are fifty ships of war for the protection of an export trade of less than £4,000,000 a-year. If all our export trade required to be protected by an equal amount of naval force, we should want 2,000 ships of war to give that sort of guardianship to our foreign commerce which the noble viscount thinks necessary, and which we pay for our trade with China. (Hear, hear.) The people of this country manufacture cotton and other goods that are sent to China. They also pay taxes, and whatever interest they may have in regard to employment and wages it is at least counterbalanced by the excess of the expenditure of the Government and the taxes they have to pay for our policy in that country. I waited to hear what the noble lord would say about the future. He pointed to the past. He went to the East India Company, and told some imperfectly-narrated stories about transactions in China. He admitted that his policy for some years past had been a total failure. He does not deny now that the country is in a state of absolute anarchy. He has had English officers fighting out there, and says that orders have been sent

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that they shall fight there no longer. He maintains, notwithstanding, an army, the number of which I do not exactly know. He maintains forty ships of war—more than fifty ships altogether. And yet the noble lord had not a single hope to hold out that there would be any change in his policy for the future. Does he intend to fight until the Taipings are utterly put down; or if the Taipings should gain the ascendancy, will he join them in an endeavour to establish another Government at Peking? (A laugh.) What does he propose to do? Is it not clearly the opinion of this House that the policy of intermeddling in China is a policy of absolute idiocy? (A laugh, and "Hear, hear.")

Here we are, a small island on the opposite side of the globe, with a population so limited that we are told we have not an army that we could transport to Denmark—(hear, hear)—yet still we are somehow to take within our great ambition this vast empire of 300,000,000 or 400,000,000 persons; we are to influence the dynasty that shall sit on its throne; and, in point of fact, we are to direct the whole affairs of the country just as we should those of some small neighbour close to our shores. I do not know how such an idea ever got into any man's head, but having once entered in, and having taken absolute possession of the noble viscount, I suppose at his time of life he cannot get rid of it. (A laugh.) I protest against it, however, and the noble lord should take the advice recommended by several hon. members to-night of abstaining religiously from the slightest intermeddling between the two parties, of teaching—I will not say the merchants, but that other class which are not included in the list of British merchants—namely, those rude and unprincipled adventurers who abound in China, that it is not the intention of the English Government that the English army or navy should take any steps to defend them from whatever misfortune may happen to them. (Hear, hear.) It is a monstrous folly that the population of this country, so hard toiling and so suffering, in comparison with those who sit here, should be taxed year after year, as millions of them are taxed, to carry on a policy that for thirty years has covered us with discredit, and which has wholly failed, and that this policy should be carried on only to please the curious crotchet of the noble lord at the head of the Government—a crotchet which is not participated in, as I believe, by a single member of the Cabinet, which this House is willing wholly to repudiate, and which I believe in every society in England where it is discussed receives the condemnation that this House has passed upon it to night. (Hear, hear.) I hope that when the noble lord sees this entire failure of his plans and of his prophecies, he will for once come to the conclusion that he is not infallable—(a laugh)—and that the united good sense and wisdom that springs from discussion, and which has been shown by this discussion, ought rather to govern a great question of foreign policy like this than the prejudices which the noble lord has so passionately cherished for thirty years that at last they have got the better of his reason and his judgment. (Cheers.)

Mr. CORDEN withdrew his motion.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
May 23	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Tollens	Verhagen.
— 23	Do.	Padang	Van der Palm	Van Kubwyk.
— 23	Texel	Banjoewangie	Sophia Kon. der Neder	Klein.
— 24	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Cornelia Hendrina	
— 26	Do.	Shanghai	Veloz	Howard.
— 26	London	Hong Kong	Rio	Wallertz.
— 29	Texel	Banjoewangie	Regina Maria	Ouwehand.
— 11	New York	Foo chow-Foo	Santon	Cresswell.
— 12	Do.	Manila	Caduceus	Bolton.
— 25	Texel	Banjoewangie	Jan v. Schaffelaar	V. Duyn.
— 30	Falmouth	Akyab	Hugo and Otto	Osnabruck.
— 26	Copenhagen	Singapore	Emma	Arentzen.
— 29	Off Scilly	Batavia	Maria Catherina	
— 14	Montreal	Shanghai	Asia	Longmuir.
— 31	Falmouth	Macao	La Plata	Reynell.
— 30	Texel	Batavia	Nederland	V. Steenderen.
— 31	Brouwershaven	Do.	Kanagawa	Ouwehand.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
May 25	London	Sund'land & Shanghai	Weymouth	Norris.
— 23	Shields	Shanghai	Maid of the Tyne	
— 24	Newport	Do.	Analyst	Crosby.
— 28	Liverpool	Singapore	Prince Waldemar	Jacques.
— 25	Shields	Shanghai	Bertha	
— 25	Cardiff	Do.	Timavo	Sandrinelli.
— 25	Do.	Do.	Trieste	Protti.
— 21	Sunderland	Singapore	Dunedin	Robertson.
— 27	Deal	Shanghai	Constance	
— 30	Liverpool	Cardiff & Singapore	Florentin	Hagelstein.
— 29	Do.	Singapore	Simoom	Crennell.
— 31	London	Kanagawa & Nagasaki	Norfolk	Mogg.
— 31	Do.	Cardiff and Shanghai	Dolphin	Withers.
— 24	Off the Wight	Batavia	Johanna and Emilie	
— 26	Off Dungeness	Do.	Cortgene	Schur.
— 26	Do.	Do.	Jacoba Cornelia	Jansen.
— 26	Off Dover	Hong Kong	Cambridge	Dennison.
— 25	Cardiff	Do.	Venezuela	Piersdorff.
— 27	Shields	Singapore	Lancashire	Gething.
— 28	Newport	Shanghai	Princess of Wales	Barrow.
— 27	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Antagonist	Chapman.
— 28	Port Glasgow	Bbay., Singp., & China	Ta pang-uyo, str.	Grindle.
June 1	London	Shanghai	Isles of the South	Davidson.
May 31	Pill	Hong Kong	Equinox	Hogg.
— 10	New York	Shanghai	Anna	Herdman.
— 14	Do.	Do.	Jubilaum	Volker.
— 14	Do.	Do.	Guiding Star	Maas.
June 3	Liverpool	Do.	Sea Horse	Carty.
May 31	Cardiff	Do.	Hainan	Burmaster.
— 26	Gibraltar	Do.	Don Ricardo	Jeffery.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa and Nagasaki: Julia, Velocidade. For Shanghai: Antipodes, Aurora Australis, Tamerlane, Sir Harry Parkes. For Hong Kong and Canton: Sovereign of India, Oithona, Pak-Wan, Mary Mildred. For Hong Kong: Maiden Queen. For Manila: Elisa, Angela. For Singapore: Coromandel, Early Dawn, Alexandra. For Penang: Mangerton. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Heilige Liduina.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Alice, Twilight. For Hong Kong: Lodore, Virginia (via Cardiff), Falcon, Prince Arthur. For Hong Kong and Canton: Juanpore. For Singapore: Mount Vernon, Drache. For Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Spirit of the Sea. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Oceaan. For Sourabaya, Gazelle. For Manila: Jesus.

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore and Kanagawa: Stad Enschedi. For the Cape, Singapore, and Hong Kong: Glengyle (str.).

SPOKEN.

SOUBERG, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 11, 48 N., 7 W.
BATAVIA, Amsterdam to Batavia, May 10, 48 N., 8 W.
KORTENAAR, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 10, 48 N., 7 W.
PHILIP VAN MARNIX, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 8, 47 N., 10 W.
HELENE AND ANNA (Dut. ship), Rotterdam to Batavia, April 12, 22 W.
BARQUE, 3rd d.p., No. 5,481, London to China, May 11, 47 N., 9 W.
JOHANNES, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 12, 2 N., 23 W.
HUYDECOPER, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 13, 50 N., 2 W.
HENRIETTA MARIA, Batavia to Amsterdam, May 11, 35 N., 41 W.
ST. WILLIAMS (?), Cardiff to Manila, 43 days out, April 5, 5 S., 28 W.
TREBIZOND, for Singapore, April 2, 4 S., 107 E.
JANE AND ISABEL, Cardiff to Shanghai, April 5.
JOHANNA MARIA (Dutch barq.), Cardiff to Batavia, April 16, 1 N., 20 W.
VYF VRIENDEN, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 15, 22 W.
DE SOTO, Rio Janeiro to Straits of Sunda, March 20, 33 S. 17 W.
CONSTANTIA (ship), Hong Kong to L'pool, April 6, 36 S., 25 E.
CITY OF QUEBEC (ship), London to Shanghai, April 2, 37 S., 1 W
CASTILIAN, Manila to New York, April 24, 11 S., 49 W.
APOLLO, Shanghai to New York, Feb. 4, 34 S., 31 E.
A NEW ROSTOCK BARQUE, 152, bound to Singapore, May 21, 48 N. 10 W.
STALEY (?) ship, Sunderland to Shanghai, April 2, 2 N., 26 W.
COUNTY OF AYRE, Java to Rotterdam, April 20, 4 N., 23 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

(*Exclusive of this day's advices.*)

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Governor Van Swieten, Cissy, Macedon, Nelly, Mary Shepherd, Millbrook Meppel, Alexander, Ann Adamson, and Cymbeline. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, Forerunner, and Vampyre. At NEW YORK: Benefactor and Osborne.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Ethel, Monarch, Belle, Annie Archbell, Stornoway, M. M. Peter, Wm. Thompson, Samuel, Sea Witch, Spirit of the North, Daybreak, Black Watch, Queen's Own, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Thomas and Rebecca, Robert Henderson, Magnus, Nelly, Josephine, Glaramara, Sappho, and Charles Davenport. At LIVERPOOL: Fort William, Advancer, Simoda, Lauderdale, Berwickshire, Joshua Bates, Wm. Dawson, Cornelia, Inamhore, Alchymist, Isabella Hercus, Constantia, Nancy Brysson, Thomas Royden, Regina, Victory, Bertie, Helena, Black Prince, Glengairn, Bristow, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Devonshire, Antelope, Bentinck, Polmaise, George Ruxton, Blackburn, Macassar, Berdinkha, Crest of the Wave, Patrician, Vanguard, and Ann Forster. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Encounter. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama, and La Plata. At BORDEAUX: Johanna. At HAMBURG: Alt Mecklenburg, and Gravina. At NEW YORK: Eva, Lettice Catharina, Dorchester, Volunteer, Egean, Hermann, Haversham, Canton, Neuhof, Mecklenburg, Lord Collingwood, Silvercraig, St. Paul, Sophia, and Mercara. At MONTREAL: H. E. Sassaune, Tycoon, Madura, and Romeo.

From MANILA.—At FALMOUTH: Maggie Lauder. At LIVERPOOL: Aureliana, Teide, Burdoes y Habana No. 1, J.A.U., Concepcion, Bella Gallega, Lyolla and Cervantes (via Cadiz). At COWES: Manila and John Bawrfield. At ROTTERDAM: Zanibar. At NEW YORK: Castilian, Surprise, Willy, Solo, Argonaut and Ocean Eagle.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Eliza Thornton, Oscar, Confiance, Najade, and Chili. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Centaur and Pearl. At LIVERPOOL: Bella, Gallega, C. Chisholm, and Victory. At FALMOUTH (for orders): Helene. At BORDEAUX: Salares and Java. At NEW YORK: Caroline, Rudolf, Harzburg, and Reynard.

From BATAVIA.—At LONDON: West. At FALMOUTH: Fredrika.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Edinburgh Castle, and Devonvale. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

No improvement has taken place in outward freights, and there is still difficulty in placing ships either for coals or general cargo. Homeward rates continue satisfactory, and inquiries for vessels from the rice ports are becoming general; but little, if any, chartering has as yet been done.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £38 to £40, and £1. 18s. For Shanghai: £50 to £52, and £2. 9s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £26. 10s., and £1. 5s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

CASUALTIES.

The Loochoo barque, Warden, from Ardrossan for Shanghai, has been otally wrecked on the north bank of the Yang-tsze-kiang; three men eported missing.

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The Tricolour, Price, from Liverpool for Hong Kong, put back to Liverpool May 28 leaky.

CAPETOWN, April 20.—The Countess of Yarborough, Dumaresq, from Cardiff, which sailed hence April 16 for China, put back on the 18th, making 6 inches water per hour, having sprung a leak about 70 miles from this port, and will have to discharge part of cargo to be surveyed.

The Ramolino (barque), from Newcastle for Hong Kong, put into the Cape March 23 to discharge 40 or 50 tons of coal in order to lighten her, and sailed again on March 30 for her destination.

The Zanzibar, Maack, from Batavia for Rotterdam, put into Simon's Bay April 13 for spars, sails, &c., lost in a hurricane off Mauritius. The repairs required are extensive, chiefly masts and spars.

At ST. VINCENT, C. V.—May 9, Dumbarton Castle (str.), from the Clyde, and left 10 for China.

At ASCENSION.—March 28, No. 8,247, from Java, and sailed 30, for Rotterdam.

Off ASCENSION.—April 1, No. 9,134, from Foo-chow-Foo for London 10, Ortelius (Dutch ship), from Sourabaya for Amsterdam.

At ST. HELENA.—April 18, Alcyon Landweer, from Banjoewangie and sailed for Amsterdam; 21, Neuhof, Kross, from Amoy, and sailed for New York; 24, Wilhelmina and Elise, Priebe, from Cheribon, and sailed 25, for Amsterdam; 25, Medea, v. Teutem, from Batavia, and sailed for Rotterdam; Troas, Desborough, from Manila, and sailed for Boston; Mary Shepherd, Nichols, from Kanagawa, and sailed for London; Cymbeline, from Japan; Danube, Larson, from Batavia, and sailed for Rotterdam; 28, Eudora, Barker, from Ningpo, and sailed for London.

At TABLE BAY.—April 11, General Ward, Fuller, from Boston, and sailed for Shanghai.

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L. JOSEPHS, Secretary.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

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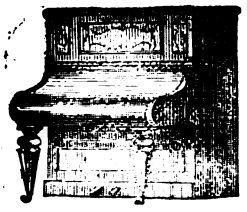

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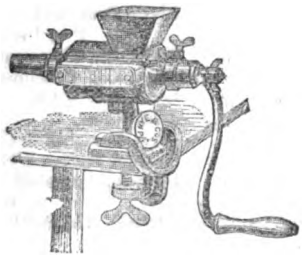

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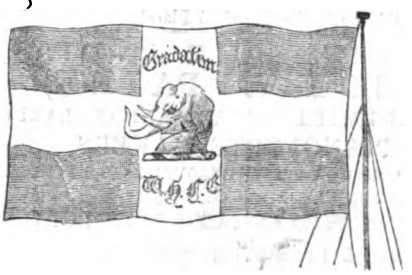

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

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Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Kanagawa			April 15
Nagasaki			„ 13
Hakodadi			
CHINA—			
Peking			„ 19
Tien-tsin			
Hankow			„ 16
Shanghai	Feb. 26	April 15	„ 23
Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 21
Amoy			„ 23
Swatow			
Hong Kong	March 17	„ 28	„ 29
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Feb. 26	„ 16	„ 20
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Touron			
Saigon			May 2
SIAM—			
Bankok			April 23
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			„ 13
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 29
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	March 26	April 29	May 7
Penang	„ 26	„ 27	„ 9

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, to Marseilles, per Syria, arrived June 11.—From Shanghai: Mr. Douglas and native male servant. From Hong Kong: Mr. Odell, Mrs. Marsh, and Mr. Cleverly. From Singapore: Messrs. Fussell, Mason, and Tidman.

To Southampton, per Ceylon, expected to arrive June 21.—From Shanghai: Mrs. Keppell and child. From Hong Kong: Mr. Keyworth, Capt. M'Nab, Messrs. Adamson, R. Adamson, Sherman, Pollock, Johnson, Arnould, Millett, Forsyth, and Dalrymple. From Singapore: Mrs. Watson, two infants, and two servants, Messrs. Mayphon, Schmidt, and M'Intosh, Mrs. Scott and child.

To Suez, per Simla, arrived June 3.—From Singapore: Mr. Solf. From Hong Kong: Messrs. Currie and Braddon, Mr. G. Cleverly.

Per last Bombay mail, to Marseilles, per Baroda, arrived June 4.—From Shanghai: Mr. Tyres.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, 4th June, from Southampton.—To Singapore: Mr. F. G. Heron, Captain G. Mairis, R.M.A., Mr. J. Tyndall Woods. To Penang: Mr. R. Wilson. To Shanghai: Mr. S. Marcus. To Hong Kong: Mr. J. M. Hollingsworth, Assistant-Surgeon M. M. Magrath, R.N., Mr. R. Mearns, R.N., Lieut. C. C. King, R.M.A. To Calcutta: Mr. Sevestre, Mr. W. J. Thomson, Rev. J. C. Nesfield, Miss Nesfield, Assistant-Surgeon Ringer, Mr. W. M. Peacock, and ten second-class passengers. To Madras: Mr. de Winton, Rev. C. Campbell, Mr. A. Ligertwood, Mr. W. D. Mills. To Ceylon: Miss E. Holden, Mr. Skene, Mr. Dalrymple, Mr. W. Bernard, Mr. A. Greig, Mr. Saunders, Miss F. Layard, Mr. W. A. Howie, Mr. G. Armitage, Mr. and Mrs. Gibbons, Mr. H. Rudd, and three second class passengers. To Alexandria: Mr. Herriott, Mr. J. Terrell. From Gibraltar.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. de Argaiz.

From Marseilles, 12th June.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Bannatyne, Don Antonio Moraleda. To Shanghai: Mr. H. Bruynd, Mr. P. J. Batteke, Dr. A. Reid. To Singapore: Mr. F. J. Fahrensbach, Mr. G. Waterworth. To Calcutta: Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Carter, Mr. W. H. Sandeman. To Madras: Capt. and Mrs. Hearn, Capt. Winscom, Mr. B. M. Holloway. To Ceylon: Messrs. Helmer and R. Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Bell and four children.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, June 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Paymaster W. E. Chown, R. N., Lieut. G. V. Philips, R.N. From Marseilles, June 29.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. J. Hassall.

Per P. and O. steamer, July 4, from Southampton.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. Turner,

Per Isles of the South, from London.—To Shanghai, June 3: Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Goddard, Rev. R. F. Fuller, wife, two children, infant, and Chinese servant, Mr. Alex. Price, Mr. Thos. Neil, Rev. R. F. Kingdon and wife, Mr. Henry Knight, Mr. Carl Rivers, Mr. H. A. Kirby.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

The advices from this port are to the 15th of April. The following highly important and satisfactory intelligence is from the *Japan Herald*:—

"We have rumours from Miako, but more or less requiring confirmation. They are to the effect that the Council of Daimios having agreed upon a peaceful policy in reference to the intercourse with foreigners, have now in great measure dispersed to their provinces, leaving the charge of that policy in the hands of Etzizen and other of their numbers, who continue at Miako. The Mikado has avowed that the representation of his will for expulsion of foreigners was made without authority, and that, though previously undetermined in his mind upon the subject, he is now in favour of more extended and free intercourse. The Tycoon will in all probability remain at Miako until he shall have fulfilled the duty now devolved upon him, of punishing Tsiosiu, but it is said that he will allow that rebellious Prince to escape more condign punishment if he makes ready obedience to the mandate which will remove him to a territory where his powers for mischief can be more easily restrained.

"There is no truth in the report of the 'resignation of the Mikado,' nor another report that 'he will accompany the Tycoon to Yedo and reside in his palace to give him advice!' The report that 'Stotsbashi has resigned his position as Daimio, and become *inkio*" is also untrue. We are perhaps incorrect in speaking of these as 'reports,' for we have heard nothing of them but in the columns of the *Commercial News*, upon whose editor some wag seems to have turned more than an usual amount of laughing-gas this week.

"It is presumable that in these days of many books and much writing about Japan every one who cares to know anything about the country, knows the vast line of demarcation between the Daimio and military classes, on the one side, and the merchants and traders on the other; a line so broad that the smallest two-sworded man of the former would seem to have regarded the wealthiest of the latter as one of an inferior race. How natural then is the universal wonderment that one of the haughtiest of the Daimios, the great Kokoshioo Satsuma himself, has rushed into the ranks of trade. The (comparatively speaking) large quantities of silk which have lately come into this market are, for the most part, a speculation of that Daimio, whose recent experiences of and intercourse with the English appear to have had the effect of inoculating him with the money-making propensities of the nation of shop-keepers (as Napoleon called us). It seems he has bought up every available bale of the staple in Yedo at the lowest prices, for the purpose of sending them in here for sale to foreigners. It is said that remonstrances lasting over some ten days were made against so unusual a proceeding, but without avail. Having tasted the sweets of the trade, they were found too good to be relinquished for a custom; the 'pigeon' was persevered in, to the considerable benefit of Satsuma."

In reference to Satsuma turning merchant, the *Commercial News* observes:—The effects of Satuma's interference with the interdiction of the exportation of silk by the Government is already being felt by the merchants of Yokohama. Some 150 bales under Satsuma's crest and protection have arrived, the merchants having paid for the privilege 72 itz. per horse load of four bales. Satsuma's bales are made up of three times the usual size of Yedo bales, so that we may look for at least two thousand bales before long.

The intelligence adverted to above, and treated by the *Herald* as mere "bosh," is given thus:—

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"Our political news is important, could our information be implicitly relied on—but of course though our Japanese correspondence is the best that can be had, our reports must be taken as we receive, and give, them—*cum grano*. With this proviso, we have to announce a very startling fact—the resignation of the Mikado. What are the reasons which have led to this step we have not yet learnt, but as the late Mikado has been the ostensible head of the anti-foreign party it is to be hoped that the Liberals have gained a victory in the Japanese Cabinet. In consequence of his resignation, the name of the dynasty has been changed from the time of the reign of the Mikado, from Bunkiu 3rd year to Genge Gonen, or Genji first year, commencing on Japanese 3rd month 2nd day, or April 7. The report is also, but it needs confirmation, that Stutbassi has also resigned his position as Daimio and become *inkio* (resigned), owing to his intrigues against the Tycoon not succeeding. As a natural consequence of the reported fall of the Mikado, it is asserted that the Tycoon, being now in greater power, rank, and position, will return to Yedo, that the former Mikado will accompany him and reside in his palace, giving advice, &c., to the Tycoon. The 264 Daimios are also to reside there with a large force. In partial confirmation of this we can positively state that the greatest activity is now manifest in Yedo, the retainers of the various Daimios being busily engaged in making hasty preparations to receive their masters and his Majesty the Tycoon, whose palace has large gangs of workmen employed upon it night and day. On the whole, we are inclined to think that better prospects are opening before us than we have seen for some time past."

"O Mowori" (the great Mowori), as the Japanese curtly style Mats'daira Daizen-no-Daiboo, the now famous Prince of Nagato, is, according to our latest advices (reports the *News* of the 6th April), reigning in his own territory, quite independent and wholly regardless of the remonstrances and threats of the Mikado and the Tycoon. His people heartily sympathise with him; and the result is, that for so far he has been able to treat with contempt all the commands which have reached him from those who assume to be the Government of Japan. In his determination to close the Suwo-Nada to foreign shipping, he attacks every foreign looking vessel that comes within range of his batteries, without regard to ownership; and in this way Satsuma has, we hear, come to grief a second time. The latter Daimio is greatly incensed at some of his officers having been killed on board one his ships which had been boarded of late by Mowori's men. Satsuma is determined to stand this treatment no longer; and his representations to the Mikado and the Tycoon have led to the appointment of Kiusiu (Hosokawa Etsiu no Kami?) and Thosa to control and punish Tsiosiu provided he does not lay down his arms and own allegiance. Already messengers have been sent by Thosa, &c., to Nagato, calling that Prince to a conference with them. Should Tsiosiu, behead the messengers, as is his custom, war will be declared and commenced at once; but should they be received and well-treated, the result will be, that Tsiosiu will be allowed to commit *hara-kiri* and so save his principality. No attempt will be made to pass through the Straits, where even native junks destined for Nagasaki are now stopped. Mowori will be surrounded, and, if with one hundred of his men he prove himself able to cope with 1,000 of the Government party, the latter will increase their forces by tens of thousands, and compel Mowori to surrender. Such is said to be the determination now formed; how far it will be carried into effect, and whether the alleged displeasure of the Mikado and the Tycoon at Tsiosiu's doings is not all a sham, remain to be seen. It is said that Thosa has been removed from his place as one of the guardians of the Mikado, and that Prince Etizen (Shoongakoo), under another title and with an additional revenue of 50,000 Kokoos of rice, takes Thosa's place. Japanese officials say the Tycoon has not yet returned from Kioto, but the people generally assert their belief that he is now in Yedo.

It is pleasant to see that many new shops and business places are being built in the native town of Yokohama. A proclamation or notification of the Gorojio is looked for by the end of this month, permitting natives to resume their business here. The *pseudo ronin* scheme has been, or soon will be, abandoned, and a greatly improved trade is expected. Since the new branch Custom-house at the eastern jetty has been opened to business, it has been found necessary to refer to the Governor upon many matters; and considerable delay in the transaction of business is thus occasioned. The novel idea of telegraphic communication between the two establishments has been started by some clever Japanese, and a magnetic telegraph, manufactured entirely by Japanese, is, we hear, in town, but there is not skill enough among the natives to erect and work it.

The circular following was issued to the British mercantile community on the 8th April, by Mr. Consul Winchester:—

"The undersigned has received the instructions of Sir R. Alcock, K.C.B., &c., &c., to make known the substance of a despatch received from the Gorojio on the 2nd inst., viz.—'On the list mentioning the articles (import) on which the duties have been reduced, porcelain has been omitted. This article must be classed among those which pay a duty of 6 per cent. It is, therefore, desirable to consider porcelain as included in the list above referred to.'"

The great boat race between the Japanese and foreigners, with foreign boats, came off on the 7th April. Much interest was manifested, and a large concourse of citizens and Japanese assembled at the wharves to see the result. The foreigners' boat was pulled by five men belonging to the *Bouncer*, and that of the Japanese by the crew of five belonging to the private house boat of *Kin-kee*. The distance run was over two miles, and ended in the *White Diamond* winning easily, the Japanese being in excellent condition.

CHINA.

TIEN-TSIN.

Dates are to the 19th April, per steamer *Nanzing*, arrived at Shanghai. The following is from a correspondent's letter to the *North China Herald*:—

Our correspondent at this port complains of very inclement weather; heavy gales from the north and west, with dust storms. Snow fell on the 7th inst. in considerable quantities. The health of the settlement, however, was excellent. Two considerable fires had taken place among the Chinese houses. Trade was entirely at a stand-still; and almost all the imports which arrive are on Chinese account, to the great disgust of foreign merchants. The good harvest made by the latter during the 1st and 2nd years after the opening of the port has now fallen to nothing, and, according to our correspondent, matters show no signs of revival. The country round is perfectly quiet. Some smuggling is said to have taken place, and complaints have been made to Mr. Bruce, who lighted on the wrong party. Jews of various countries are said to be the real culprits; and the consequence is, that no one can go to Peking without first obtaining Sir F. Bruce's permission, through the Consul. This restriction only applies to British subjects, who are thus punished for the faults of others. Sir F. Bruce was believed to be preparing to leave for England. H. P.M's *Gazelle* was in port."

NEWCHWANG.

The *Kaffir Chief*, the first vessel of the season, arrived at this port on the 25th March, at which date the river was first opened. But great inconvenience was experienced from the quantity of broken ice floating about, and the absence of cargo boats. Prices for all import goods ruled very low; while exports, on the other hand, were high. Twenty-three foreign vessels were in port loading, principally for Amoy and Swatow. The Prussian brig *Melita*, for Shanghai, with eighty chests of opium on board, was a total wreck outside Newchwang, just below Ying-tze; all the cargo was lost, but the captain and crew have escaped. The Danish brig *Iris* was also reported badly on shore.

SHANGHAI.

The present mail brings dates to the 23rd April, three days later than received on the 4th inst., per French Mail. No later mail had arrived from England than the 26th February, which we recorded in our issue of the 4th inst.

A well known medical gentleman on his return from a trip through the Shantung Province, gives the following account of the places he visited.—"We slept all night on the top of the famous Tai-shan mountain. The cold was excessive, and we were caught in a snow-storm which caused us great difficulty in reaching the bottom again. A road of steps extends to the very summit, and appears to me the most wonderful thing of all in connection with this celebrated mountain. The natives says that the height is 45 *le* from top to bottom, and the ascent is certainly very gradual. Temples and tea-houses are erected at intervals the whole of the way up. Thousands of pilgrims are constantly toiling up and down. At Chu-fow we saw the

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burial place of Confucius, with a temple erected to the memory of the sage—the largest building of the kind I have ever seen, and replete with interest. The grave is without the city, and is approached by a long avenue of fir-trees. The burial ground is twenty *le* (upwards of 6 miles) in circumference, (an area larger than that of the city itself) and contains the remains of all the descendants of the philosopher, as well as his own. One of his descendants, the present head of the family, has the title of 'Duke,' and has charge of everything relating to this place. The great man's tomb is a large mound with a simple tablet. The stone is devoid of all decorations, and is in striking contrast with those of a more modern date which surround it on every side, and which are covered with numerous barbaric carvings."

A case has been tried in the Consular Court, in which the owners of the *Ayrshire Lass* were plaintiffs, and the P. and O. Company defendants. The facts were as follows :—The *Ayrshire Lass* took up a berth on the evening of the 20th March at a distance from the P. and O. moorings, variously estimated by the plaintiffs and defendants respectively at 350 and 200 yards. At that time the *Pekin* was the only vessel at those moorings ; but on the following morning the *Nepaul* came up and was lashed alongside of the former vessel, though slightly projecting beyond her. When the two ships swung to the tide, the *Nepaul* fouled the *Ayrshire Lass* and occasioned damage to the amount of 500 tls., which was sued for in the Consular Court by the owners of the latter vessel. The P. and O. Company assert that the anchorage ground in question belongs to them ; but it is alleged that the permission to lay down the moorings at that spot is not to be considered as conferring on them an exclusive right to the anchorage ; and that the *Nepaul* was wrong in taking up a position unknown to the Harbour-Master, at so short a distance from the *Ayrshire Lass*. It is also said the collision would not have occurred but from the slackness of the P. and O's. moorings ; which, it is complained, is their usual state, from the too great strain put on them ; for they are intended for only one vessel, whereas it was not infrequent for two steamers and a number of cargo boats to be attached to them at once. The propriety of erecting a landing-place for P. and O. vessels is under discussion by the managers of the company, and it is to be hoped the decision will be favourable to the project. Now that the line has been extended to Japan, that accommodation is greatly required, both to facilitate the landing and discharge of cargo, and to relieve passengers from a long *sampan* excursion, in occasionally very inclement weather and very rough water.

The following account of the Anglo-Chinese force is from the *North China Herald* :—

SOOCHOW.—Colonel Gordon's force attacked the rebels at a place called Wai-soo, in the neighbourhood of Kiang yin, at 10.30 A.M., on the 11th instant ; they were found strongly entrenched and very numerous. After about an hour's shelling their flank was turned, and they precipitately retreated. The Imperialists, who were in great force, pursued them and killed several thousands. Wai-soo is reported to have been strewed with dead. The rebels numbered some 15,000, and the Imperialists from 8,000 to 10,000. Colonel Gordon, having only some 800 men with him, the remainder being still at Le-yang, left the pursuit to the Imperialists, but was prepared to follow up his success with a telling blow wherever it might appear to be most advantageous.

A correspondent at Soochow informs us that Ching, after suffering severely from his wound, died some days ago. His death was concealed for some time, on account of the discouraging effect it was feared it would have on the soldiery. In fact, even yet the occurrence has not been officially announced, and is only known to a few mandarins. His loss to the Futai at the present moment will be serious, as he was certainly the best mandarin general in the province. The Futai has gone to attack Yang-Sah. This is rather creditable to him, as it is unusual for a mandarin of his rank to take the field in person. Whatever may be Le Futai's short-comings, he cannot be denied the credit of having devoted his whole energies to clearing the province under his charge from the rebels. He has given up the pageantry natural to his position in order to economise, and has unquestionably devoted all the money which he could raise, whether legitimately or by squeezing the wealthy Chinese in the foreign settlement, to this all-important object. Guns and howitzers, shot and shell, have been substituted for the miserable jingals and native powder; muskets and bayonets for swords and spears.

The result has been most satisfactory, and has, in many instances, enabled the mandarin troops to do good service, whereas they were previously an expensive and utterly useless body. One of Le Futai's faults is that, although ready to avail himself of the assistance of foreigners, he is slow to recognise their merits. He carries this peculiarity even into his relations with his own countrymen, and has excited much jealousy among his subordinates and ill-feeling among his subjects, by appointing to many of the principal civil posts inhabitants of his native province, in preference to those of Kiang-su. These individuals are not remarkable for their intelligence, but have particularly distinguished themselves by their squeezing propensities, and established a dread of this latter peculiarity in the breasts of the peasantry little short of that inspired by their late masters, the Chung-maos. But in the case of Chinamen, Le Futai at least awards credit where credit is due; whereas in the case of foreigners he always arrogates to himself the success which the latter have achieved.

This has been frequently exemplified in the accounts which have appeared in the *Peking Gazette* of Gordon's victories, the principal credit for which was always given to Le Futai. However much his reforms in the armaments of his troops have conduced to their efficiency, they would not have enabled them to take the initiative against the rebels, with the slightest chance of success, without foreign aid. To foreigners alone does Le Futai owe the successes which have marked, last year, his government of Kiang-su ; but he lacks the generosity to give them more than the scantiest meed of praise. Macartney, too, in another way, has rendered him valuable service. A year ago Le Futai was induced, by his persuasions, to establish a shell factory, of which he undertook the superintendence. The project has been carried out most successfully through great obstacles, and the Soochow arsenal now supplies the greater portion of the ammunition used by the Futai's forces.

On the break up of the Lay-Osborn expedition, Macartney succeeded in obtaining a portion of the machinery which was brought out from England with a view to manufacturing ammunition for the Chinese fleet ; this has now been got into full working order, and is turning out shot and shell at the rate o from 1,500 to 2,000 a week. Besides shell, fuzes, and detonating tubes, several mortars have already been manufactured, and it is hoped that, before long, muskets and caps will be added to the list. It is impossible to overrate the importance to the province of an establishment of this nature, and great praise is due to Macartney for the perseverance with which, in spite of much discouragement, he has brought the arsenal to this advanced stage of utility. We hope that his efforts will be appreciated by the Futai, and that he will give credit to whom credit is due. We are aware that the arsenal has attracted the notice of the Peking authorities, and trust that in reporting its history to the Government his Excellency will give Dr. Macartney the credit which is fairly his, for originating and carrying out the scheme, instead of, as he has so frequently done, claiming honour and praise for himself, or for some Chinese official who has had no hand in the business for which he was rewarded.

NINGPO.—Our correspondent informs us that a portion of the French contingent has been detached, under the second in command, to undertake the siege of Hoochow. M. D'Aiguebelle, with the other portion, remains to garrison Hangchow. A large number of rebels are said to have been killed, when the latter city was evacuated. The Taotai received information that they were leaving, and attacked them early in the morning.

The Municipal Report, 1863-64 is published in the *North China Herald* of the 9th April *in extenso*.

The following is from the *China Mail* :—

"To all appearance the crushing of the Taiping rebellion is simply a work of time, and it has been affirmed that four months more will put an end to it. It need not be supposed, however, that the actual plague which these marauders have inflicted upon the country is entirely removed. The original rebels have been so long in arms and so much accustomed to pillage and bloodshed that they are not at all likely to resume industrious pursuits. The probability is that they will now begin to apply their devastating powers to the southern provinces of China, where the opposition to their rapacity and cruelty is not so strong. Those who are best informed, however, upon Chinese matters say that active measures will be taken to crush these marauders wherever they appear. The Chinese Government is no longer the weak thing it was once justly enough represented. The Taiping rebellion has done its work: It has awakened the

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governing powers to a sense of their duty; and the assistance rendered by England has had at once a moral and material effect upon the country and its rulers. For the expected happy consummation the Emperor of China will certainly have to thank Colonel Gordon; but, at the same time, he, or his Cabinet, will be duly made aware that China must do her own work in future. It is a mistake to suppose that we are likely to repeat our Indian policy in China. It would be easy were it absolutely necessary to upset the existing Government, but with foreigners it would be absolutely impossible to replace it. The present Cabinet is composed of men who are both energetic and intelligent, and we have reason to believe that they are not at fall negligent to the wants of the Empire."

HANKOW.

A meeting was held at the Club House on the 31st March, Mr. Mackenzie in the chair. The subjects discussed were:—The late detention of the steamer *Huqong*, and the enormous coast trade duty on teas for export. A full report of the proceedings appeared in the *North China Herald* of the 16th April.

KIU-KIANG.

The members of the Principal Council on their retirement from office have submitted to the land-renters their report of the expenditure and improvements connected with the roads, lighting, drainage, &c.

HONG KONG.

The dates are now down to the 29th April, three days later than received per French Mail. The French Mail, with dates from London to the 17th March, arrived out on the 28th April.

The immediate erection of a new post-office in Hong Kong has been decided on. The existing building has served its day and generation, and is among the many public works whose dimensions the community has entirely outgrown. So far as we can learn, the structure now in use will be pulled down and a new erection substituted. The plans are drawn out and have been designed with every regard to facility and accuracy in the despatch of business.

It is notified that Lieutenant C. K. Chatfield, H.M. 20th Regiment, has been appointed Private Secretary and Aide-de-Camp to His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, in room of Lieutenant H. A. Atkinson, of the 99th, resigned.

The following is from the *China Mail*:—

Joseph Hume was called—or called himself, we forget which—the watch-dog of the House of Commons. This was a somewhat distinguished position to occupy, though perhaps not an enviable one unless to men of certain temperaments. It is the part of a watch-dog to bark at everyone, friend or foe, and his bark is a means, at least, of drawing attention to whatever is coming. Mr. Hume was, to continue the simile, a much stronger and better-bred animal than some others who have yelped since his day, and among the latter we would direct notice to Colonel Sykes. The gallant Colonel has a shrill voice, and never misses a chance of making it heard. Rather than want an opportunity of gratifying his Aberdeen constituency by standing up in the House, he is at pains to obtain reports from China upon which he can base a telling representation to the House of Commons. These reports he professes to get in private letters from China, and we believe that he actually does correspond with one or two persons in this part of the East. In point of fact, we rather think we could lay our hand upon the shoulder of his Hong Kong correspondent, and as the matter is one of some little interest to the public both here and at home, it may not be amiss to draw attention to it at once.

Let us look at the report of the gallant and honourable gentleman's speech in the House on the 4th ult., on the subject of China. After speaking of the Futai's breach of faith with Gordon in the Wangs, the Colonel draws attention to the fact that General Brown had, by stationing troops at Taitsan and Quinsan, enabled Gordon's force to capture Soochow. Colonel Sykes says that his information was received in November last, and that his informant dated from Soochow. The date must have been some time in September, or just about the time that Burgevine was in Soochow with his rowdies, after having captured the Imperial steamer *Kiao-Chao*. These foreigners at one time threatened to become mischievous, and might have perpetuated indefinitely the Taiping pestilence, had not General Brown twice placed British troops in the rear of Gordon's little force—first at Taitsan, and then at Quinsan—and so disheartened the rowdies in Soochow that they saw their case was hopeless, and agreed to accept Colonel Gordon's clemency. Planting troops quietly beyond the radius was a neat move, just enough, and no more, to let the rowdies feel that Gordon had something at his back. There was little in the movement itself, the General probably not having the fear of Colonel Sykes before his eyes; it was simply the infant's touch that makes the evenly-balanced beam to kick.

The rowdies had been encouraged to believe that beyond a certain line British soldiers dared not go. They had strong newspaper articles on the subject which proved conclusively that the English Government were peremptory in their views on that score, and they had watchful journalists ready with theodolites and azimuth compasses to shriek out to the world the moment that a British uniform was seen outside of the charmed thirty-mile circle. Being thus taught to believe that they could safely work mischief at a given distance from Shanghai, they proceeded to do so. One of them, however, afterwards disclosed to the world in his published statement that they had all found themselves mistaken in this idea, and that their defection from the Taiping cause was mainly induced by a knowledge of the fact that British troops were stationed at Quinsan.

The following, on the Anglo-Chinese fleet, is from the *China Mail*:—

The luxury of having had a fling at Messrs. Lay and Osborn having been now fully enjoyed by the English Press, we may hope to obtain a hearing for one or two mild observations on the leading feature in their published correspondence. We call it the leading feature, not from its positive prominence in the progress of negotiations, but as affording a key to the temper in which the two gentlemen proceeded to work:—

From the heavy salaries paid to both, it is natural to conclude that pecuniary considerations were not quite inoperative on the minds of Messrs. Lay and Osborn. With great candour, however, the two honest men, rightly judging that their motives were liable to be wrongly judged, were most explicit in their statements that they were actuated by the very highest motives. Of course this settles the question and puts all suspicion to rest, and we cannot therefore be too grateful for an explanation that puts unworthy thoughts out of our minds. The best of it is that the excuse was made before the accusation, and that there was no time lost; and it puts us in lively remembrance of an English consul in Japan, who called a meeting of foreign residents to prove to them that he had not been accessory to the death of a Japanese.

Messrs. Lay and Osborn, then, who seemed destined to go down the stream of time chained to each other, having confided their joint cause to the opinion of the world, we, as representing an humble section of that world, may review their defence. When men are dragged into public notice it is often good taste to avoid criticising them, but when the appearance is voluntary, the thing is a kind of invitation to notice their case, and we shall now do so for Messrs. Lay and Osborn as briefly as possible. We shall, of course view only their joint action at present; and we quote the following as a key to the temper in which they proposed to begin their work:—

"We have to deal with Asiatics prone to deceit and falsehood, ready to evade any engagement directly it interferes with their views of monetary interests. We are about to afford them material military aid, and it behoves us to guard against its being misapplied, and thereby bring scandal upon ourselves and those who in Great Britain have promoted our views; above all, we are to take care that the great power and proportionate responsibilities conferred upon us by Her Majesty's Order in Council be not abused by us, by our successors, or by the Chinese authorities."

It will seen from the first of these sentences that the two good men take moderately high ground. Let us see how they occupy it.

The case may, nay must in fairness to both sides, be thus stated; and we do not, we assure our readers, at all enjoy the task of putting matters in their proper light. Indeed, we can confidently ask anyone, whether or not we ever spoke unfairly of these gentlemen; and whether, if we spoke from wrong information, we did not take the first opportunity of confessing our mistake. In the present instance, we surely cannot be wrong in basing our remarks on a *compte rendu* or minute drawn up by themselves and presented for general perusal.

The Emperor of China, desirous of pacifying his poor country and of policeing the waters of the Yang-tsze to protect his subjects against the advancing tide of foreign rowdies which the "opening" of that river admitted, thought he would employ a portion of his revenue for that most laudable purpose. A million taels of his own legitimate means was accordingly voted, and, with undoubted good sense, he determined to employ foreign material for his purposes. He was rightly enough advised that the money he was prepared to spend would obtain the articles he wanted. Shipbuilders consider the Emperor of China's money just as good as any other man's; and England has still many honest, brave, and restless spirits who will fight for money in a praiseworthy cause. Even Scotchmen are to be found who will draw a dirk or pull a trigger for hire, if the side on which they are to fight recommends itself to their judgment. The philosophy of this truth we can discuss at any time; but the fact stands.

Why should we make a parade of high motives in everything we do for money? It is generally, and correctly, assumed that Englishmen are not Italian bravos who will stiletto a man for half-a-crown. We require pecuniary inducement as a matter of course, but the employment must not be in any way disreputable. And, moreover, we can only dishonour ourselves by expressing contempt or disesteem for our employers. The Scotch have a proverb which enjoins her sons and everybody else never to speak ill of a man whose bread they may be eating; and we suspect that the maxim is more for the protection of the employed than the employer, as it is an open act of baseness to remain in the service of one for whom you cannot conceal your contempt. Even "servant-gals" and flunkies dismiss their employers now-a-days if these should reduce their style of living or give up orthodox carriages and pair.

Messrs. Lay and Osborn are not up to this elevation of character, but deliberately commence by saying that they are about to enter the employ of men "prone to deceit and falsehood, ready to evade any engagement directly it interferes with their views or monetary interests." To take a vulgar view of this statement we should say that no two men ever more plainly "wrote themselves down asses." Had they, like Colonel Gordon, despised pay and reward, it might have been competent for them to use such language. The Colonel has, for a good object, run the gauntlet not only of German ammunition discharged by a horde of the most despicable scoundrels that ever mutilated women or cut children's throats, but he has walked unharmed through a fire of the grossest newspaper scurrility that ever disgraced the Press. Lay and Osborn will have no such unction for their wounds. Men who sit down, "with deliberation," as they themselves avow, and agree to do a service, at good wages, for other men whom they, with still more deliberation, pronounce to be scoundrels, can never occupy a niche in the temple of fame, and are very much deserving of being ousted from the temple of English honour and honesty.

MACAO.

(*China Mail.*)

The improved state of Macao has been the subject of remark lately, and we accordingly visited that Brighton of the Far East

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on Saturday last, "doing" the whole trip in forty-six hours The physique of the Praya Grande has undergone a change for the better, and it forms a contrast to our own Praya which is not flattering to Hong Kong. The entire course of the Praya has been raised two feet, and evidently laid with very good "metal." The retaining wall has been correspondingly heightened and trees planted about five feet in its rear all along the course, so that a tasteful promenade may be expected in a couple of years' time. Between these trees and the parapet the road is flagged with good granite pavement, and the main road is ensured against becoming sloppy in wet weather by being bevelled in outline. The grass plot where the band plays has been enclosed, and Chinese are not admitted inside except in the cases of nurses in charge of children. Bamboo chairs are placed within this enclosure at the expense of a few public-spirited people, and these chairs are, for the time being, at the service of those who may find them unoccupied. The new Governor is said to be untiring in his efforts to improve the place, and is at any rate rendering Macao more agreeable to its residents and more attractive to strangers. We hear that he leaves for Peking and Japan very shortly in order to submit his credentials to the highest authorities of the Celestial Empire and the Rising Sun. We are glad to hear that the state of education is in a flourishing condition in Macao both as regards English and other foreign languages; and we may remind the Portuguese that a classical acquaintance with their own and our language tends vastly to improve their position and influence in China. Besides the improvements we have alluded to, there is a sort of *je ne scais quoi* improvement in everything about Macao. There is a liveliness and good-humour about the people that did not show so strongly before; the houses have put on their spring clothing, having in almost all instances been freshly coloured within the last few months. The Governor's official residence has been relieved of the curious pink garment which it formerly wore, and a blue-tinted coat has been substituted; indeed, all along the Praya, which seems to be the aristocratic quarter, a great deal of paint has been laid out, and in various hues, as is the wont of the Portuguese in dress and decoration. There is something in this, as rendering the place attractive to Hong Kong people in its capacity as a watering-place. Macao never wearies us, but is "ever charming ever new." But improvements such as these do not affect the root of a colony's prosperity. The time was when Macao might have been set off with a good fresh start as a thriving mart of business, but the refusal of the Portuguese Government to make the place a free port, and to allow foreigners to hold property, turned the flow of trade towards Hong Kong. Look at both places now. The one is poor and the other thrives. Macao drives an iniquitous trade in human flesh by exporting men to the Guano Islands, to the disgrace of humanity, not to say religion, which latter is evidently run upon if we may judge by the number of padres and sacred edifices with which the streets and squares of the holy city is dotted over.

There is still one strong practical measure that might probably bring trade to Macao; we mean the deepening and dredging of the harbour. If the Portuguese Government were only equal to facing the outlay we feel sure that the money would come back to them tenfold. At present the matter is a topic of conversation, as it has been, at various intervals, during the last few years. There are some places where improvements have to be detained a long time at the talking stage, and Macao is one of these. It is a most charming place for invalids, gossips, pleasure-seekers, and hard-worked Hong Kong men in search of change. But it should and could be made more. It is the mere empty shell of a commercial town. The lower stories of the houses on the Praya are furnished with strongly barred windows, but they protect no bales of goods or chests of tea. In many houses there is a strong room with an iron door and treble rows of stanchions, but there is no treasure to plunder in the inside. The needless precautions, however, tell of a time when they were necessary safeguards, and they savour of past commercial prosperity.

When the Governor has done trimming the trees we would recommend him to set about doing something that should send legitimate trade into renewed motion. Let one of the able writers in the local journal write out a few masterly essays on the subject in his most terse and trenchant style, so that serious inquiry may determine whether the whited sepulchre cannot be improved inside, and the dry bones made to shake. We recommend our readers to visit Macao frequently this season; all that meets the eye is pretty and pleasing, and the improvement since last year is very marked.

SIAM.

BANGKOK.

The steamer *Chow Phya* has completed her repairs, and resumed her station on the Singapore line. Dates are down to April 23. Nothing new.

COCHIN CHINA.

"There is a rumour," says the *Penang Gazette*, "that the French Government has agreed to return the three ceded provinces in Cochin China, with the exception of Saigon and two other ports, to the King of Annam, for a sum of forty millions of francs. The French also stipulate for the protectorate of Annam, and on the other hand the King is not to fortify any ports or places on the coast without permission of the French."

The above rumour (adds the *Free Press*) we believe to be well founded. A French gentleman, who will ultimately take up the appointment of Consular General in Siam, lately passed through this on his way to Saigon, charged with a mission to revise the French Treaty with the Cochin Chinese Government. It is contemplated to give back some of the provinces the loss of which the Annamese seem to feel so acutely. From what we can learn, the policy of the French Government appears to be to extend its territory and influence in the direction of Cambodia and Laos. The French claim to have succeeded to the rights of Cochin China over Cambodia, and have lately entered into arrangements with the latter State by which the protectorate of France is recognised. This brings them into collision with Siam, which also asserts rights over Cambodia. Some of these questions, we have heard, it has been proposed to refer to the arbitration of the King of Belgium.

SAIGON.

We learn that the French Government have established an opium farm in their territory in Cochin China, from which it appears that they derive a monthly revenue of $7,583. The Government, it seems, were at first averse to the introduction of the Opium traffic in Cochin China, but finding the great addiction of the people to its use, it was found quite impossible to prohibit it entirely, and there was nothing left but to tax the drug as heavily as possible and so restrict its consumption by every means in the power of the Government. At the same time they are endeavouring to raise the tone of morality among the people, by apportioning somewhat more than a tenth of the revenue to religious and secular education. It appears the farmers have received about 40 chests per mensem since the commencement of their contract, and their profit is said to exceed $20,000. It is urged upon the French Government that a much larger rent should be charged when the present contract is out, which will be in October of the present year.

It appears by the *Free Press*, that the consumption of opium in Singapore is about 60 chests per mensem, so that, notwithstanding the high rent of $33,660, the farmer clears a monthly profit of $13,000.

JAVA AND NETHERLANDS INDIA.

We have Java papers to the 29th April. The *Java Times* has commenced a weekly, instead of a fortnightly, issue, without any increase of price. It appears there are no less than fifteen newspapers published in Netherlands India.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

The dates hence are to the 7th May. The *Emeu*, with the mails from Europe of the 26th March, arrived on the 20th April.

The American steamer *Kiu-Kiang*, an incident of whose arrival at Table Bay is noticed in another column, reached Singapore also on the 29th April, and sailed for China on the afternoon of the following day.

A fresh difficulty (says the *Straits Times*) has presented itself in the way of the transfer to the Colonial Office. No account has hitherto been taken of the large sums deposited in the Treasury for intestate and trust estates. The money, it appears, has been expended according as the necessities of the State required, and not a tenth of the amount to the credit of these estates is now in hand. The Imperial Government refuse to take over the colony with this liability, and India will no

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reimburse. This is a subject which must be carefully investigated.

H.M. ship *Severn*, bearing the broad pennant of Commodore Montresor, was expected daily, and, it was understood, would remain on the station for some time. In the new arrangements lately made regarding the command of the Cape and East India stations, it was proposed to make Penang the terminus of the command, leaving Singapore under the flag of the Admiral on the China station. On a representation being made of the inconvenience likely to arise from having the Straits ports thus placed under two authorities, the Admiralty has made an alteration by which Acheen Head is made the limit of the jurisdiction of the Admiral in the Cape and East India waters, while the Straits ports are annexed to the China command.

The surveying steamer *Rifleman* having been joined by Capt. Ward, who came out to relieve Capt. Reed, has started to prosecute the survey of the China Sea, and will probably be away about four or six months. The following notice had been received from the Admiralty:—

With reference to hydrographic notice No. 10, China Sea, dated 4th February, 1864, where it is stated that H.M. gun vessel *Vigilant* had lost part of her false keel by passing over some supposed danger in lat. 13, 52 N., and long. 118, 36 E., it now appears from subsequent information received, that the shock felt on board, as if the vessel had grounded on a shoal, must have been that of an earthquake, for on her being docked at Bombay it was found she had not received the slightest injury either to her keel or copper.

Notwithstanding a few showers had fallen, the heat continued very great, and the drought was still severe. The wells in town were drying up, and there was a scarcity of wholesome water.

The *Free Press* contests the correctness of a statement made by the *Straits Times*, and hailed with delight by the Batavia *Handelsblad*, that "it would be difficult, from the information we as yet possess, to establish a ground of remonstrance against the Dutch." The *Handelsblad* says:—"The treaties, which were concluded by the Netherlands India Government with the several Princes on the Eastern coast of Sumatra must, according to the second section of Article III. of said treaty, be communicated to the English Government, and this obligation has certainly been carried out; and if, during all the time since it was informed of the contents of the treaties entered into by us, no reason has been found to cast reproach on the Dutch Government, it will not be subject to any doubt that all efforts, by which it is sought to provoke the English Government to active measures will end in nothing. It is also evident that the proceedings on the eastern coast of Sumatra may and can by no means be considered as encroachments." To this the answer is brief. In 1841 the Dutch Government communicated to that of Great Britain a treaty with Jambi as the model by which all the Dutch treaties with native States were framed. This treaty was characterised by Lord Palmerston as inconsistent with the third article of the treaty of 1824, and Her Majesty's Government called upon the Government of the Netherlands to abrogate without delay any articles of its treaties with any native States in the Eastern Seas which tended, by the imposition of unequal duties, to exclude British trade from the ports of such States. In the course of a discussion regarding the British treaty with Siak, entered into in 1818, Lord Palmerston made the following observations, which are equally applicable to the whole of the States on the east coast of Sumatra with which we have agreements:—

The treaty of 1818 with Siak contains no stipulation inconsistent with he 3rd article of the treaty of 1824, and therefore that treaty was not mentioned by the British Plenipotentiaries in their declaration; and therefore also that treaty of 1818 with Siak has been and will be maintained in the shape in which it was concluded, and Her Majesty's Government cannot be expected to remain indifferent to any proceeding on the part of the Dutch authorities in the East, which would tend to deprive British subjects of the benefit of that treaty, by destroying or encroaching upon the independence of Siak. For Her Majesty's Government can by no means admit that either the spirit or the letter of the treaty of 1824 went, as represented by Baron Verstolk, to establish the position that Great Britain abandoned all interest in the maintenance of the independence of the native states of Sumatra, and engaged not to interfere in support of that independence.

It will thus be seen that the *Handelsblad* is mistaken in thinking that the British Government has never taken exception to the Dutch treaties with the native States on the eastern coast of Sumatra. On the contrary, they were most strongly impugned, and in 1842 the Netherlands India Government abandoned several posts on that coast which had been occupied for some time, because Lord Palmerston protested against their establishment as being inconsistent with the maintenance of the independence of the native States.

Mr. C. P. Lalla, of Singapore, has made arrangements to open, at his own expense, some time next month (June) a public free school at Tanjong Paggar. A suitable building has already been secured, and a qualified teacher engaged. The scholars, who are invited from all classes of the native population, will receive all the elements of a plain English education. Mr. Lalla certainly in this matter shows an example of public spirit and private munificence which will not fail to secure him the respect of the English residents, and the gratitude of those who will be more directly benefited by his liberality. We have often had to regret the absence of public spirit in Singapore as compared with that in such places as Bombay and are glad thus to record some indication of its awaking.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

CAPEL—On the 31st May, at 25, Princes-square, Bayswater, the wife of Arthur R. Capel, Esq., of a son.

HOGG—On the 9th June, at 6, Grosvenor-road, Highbury New-park, the wife of Fredk. Hogg, Esq., of a daughter.

HOUGHTON—On the 4th June, at Leyton, the wife of Chas. J. Houghton, Esq., of twin. sons.

SANDILANDS—On the 1st June, at Alderney, the wife of Captain Sandilands, Royal Artillery, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

TURNER—CURNOW.—On the 28th May, at St. John's Church, Penge, Surrey, by the Rev. David McAnally, Henry Turner, Manager Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan, eldest son of Henry Newman Turner, Esq., of London, to Margaret Phillips, youngest daughter of William Curnow, Esq., of Alverton, Penzance, Cornwall.

WRIGHT—PHILLIPS.—On April 16, at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. Thos. Stringer, Alfred Wright, of the *Daily Press* Office, Hong Kong, to Elizabeth Phillips, both late of Greenwich, Kent.

DEATHS.

BOYD—On April 6th, on board the steamer Nanzing, while going up the Peiho, William Boyd, 3rd Engineer, from entanglement in the machinery, aged 27 years.

REID—At sea, on the 21st March, Henry Reid, late chief officer British schooner Vibilia, a native of Arbroath, aged 24 years.

REMEDIOS—At Macao, on the 23rd April, deeply and sincerely regretted by the whole Portuguese community of Macao and Hong Kong, Maria Francisca, the beloved wife of J. J. dos Remedios.

PORTER—On 24th April, at the Royal Hotel, Macao, W. Thomas Porter, aged 23 years, of the firm of Messrs. Foster, Porter, and Co., Wood-street, London.

WORDSWORTH—At the Seamen's Hospital, on 17th April, George Wordsworth, late of Shanghai.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—CANTON.—From the date of last report until within a few days since this market remained inactive, when, rather unexpectedly, the holders of Congous gave way and several settlements have since been made at a decline of from one to two taels, the greatest fall being on the finer descriptions, which have been brought within home rates. Some sales of new style Tysaans have been made at extreme rates. Of Scented Teas only two or three musters of new Capers have as yet been brought forward the new sales reported being of old. Some new Canton Gunpowder has been placed on the market, and has realised four taels above last season's opening rates. The sales of old Canton Greens reported below, were made for shipment to New York.

FOOCHOW.—The transactions of the fortnight have necessarily been small, the stock being all but exhausted and the season nearly over. The selection on the market is too restricted to indicate any alteration in the feeling or quotations. The following are the settlements reported since last mail:—Congous, 366 chests and 360 half do., at 14½ to 15 taels for good common to slightly preferable; Souchong, 571 chests at 21½ taels for good; Oolong, 902 half-chests at 15 taels for common cargo; Scented Teas, 400 boxes at 17 taels for common.

SHANGHAI.—Black: The market has again continued very dull, and only two settlements are reported at prices which show no decline on the previous quotations. In spite of the continued bad advices of the home market, the few chops which remain in stock are firmly held from Hankow and Kiu-Kiang have amounted to six chops. Settlements on the market, 2 chops, 743 chests Ooopacks, Oonhams, Ninchows and Hohows. Re-shipped on owners' account none, making total to date 393,782 chests. Stocks, waiting shipment and for re-sale, 8 chops. Second and third crop Oopacks and Ningchows are quoted tls. 25 to 28; do. Oonhams, tls. 20 to 25; do. Hohows, tls. 17½ to 21. Green: Settlements have been made both for the English and American markets, and the prices paid establish an advance of one tael on former quotations. Arrivals from Kewkiang have come forward very sparingly, and the market throughout the whole fortnight has been very barely supplied. A few Pingsueys and Shanghai packed have been taken at previous rates. Re-shipments and settlements for the fortnight—8,916 half-chests Fychows, &c.; 397 chests Pingsuey; 197 half-chests Japan and Shanghai packed—together, 9,510 half-chests, making total to date, 291,950 half-chests. Stock of Green Tea is estimated at 7,612 half-chests Fychow, &c.; 700 half-chests Shanghai packed Japan; 284 half-chests Pingsuey—total, 8,596 half-chests.

HANKOW.—There has been a fair inquiry during the past fortnight, holders displaying more anxiety to realise, and to return to the country to look after the coming season's operations. The settlements reported amount to three chops—say 2 chops common Oonam at 13½ to 14 taels, and 1 chop fair Oopack at 21 taels. The stock remaining on the market amounts to 6 to 8 chops.

KEWKIANG.—Green Teas: The dates extend to the 18th current. The decline in value mentioned in our last has induced an active demand, and all the finer descriptions had been bought up at stiffening prices. One chop had arrived from the country, but no further supplies were expected. Settlements amounted to 9,263 ½-chests Fychew and Moyune, while stocks were reduced to 4,500 packages, mostly Kewkiang packed teas.

YOKOHAMA.—Current prices show a decline of $1 to $1.50 on all sorts, and on fine and finest, perhaps $1 more may be considered as established. Looking at the state of the Home market, this reduction on rates, however, is barely sufficient to tempt purchasers to go in, while both European and American affairs appear so threatening to commercial prosperity. We are

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promised by native merchants musters of the new crop in from fifteen to twenty days, but these early arrivals will most probably consist of limited parcels.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—In the early part of the fortnight the market was very dull, and as the dealers became more desirous to realise, a reduction of about 10 to 15 taels per picul on Tsatlees, and 15 to 20 taels per picul on Hainings, was established, at which about 600 bales have been settled. This is a larger business than might have been expected from the late very unsatisfactory advices from Europe, and has been influenced by the now certain short crop for this season, with the probability of a further diminished supply for the coming one. There has been no silk brought down from the country, so that the stock is further reduced. From Japan 207 bales have been received, and in the Yokohama market, by last report, prices were declining, with rather more silk in stock. The transactions of the fortnight are estimated at 900 bales, against 1,000 bales corresponding fortnight of last year, and 2,500 bales the season before. The present unsold stock is called 3,000 bales, against 1,000 bales in 1863, 2,000 in 1862, and 6,000 in 1861. The following are the latest quotations:—Tsatlees, No. 2, $420 to $430 per picul; Taysaams, No. 1 and 2, 385 to 405.

YOKOHAMA.—Better supplies have reached us during the past week, but the native dealers are so firm as to greatly restrick business; prices are a shade lower, but the continued dull advices from Europe keep buyers out of the market. Ida, best, none; medium, 535; inferior, none; Mybash and Sinchus, best 540 to 550, medium 520 to 530, inferior 510 to 520; Coshios, best 495 to 510, nominal, none; medium 470 to 490, inferior 440 to 450; Oshios, best 530 to 545, nominal, none; medium 490 to 515, inferior 445 to 570; Sodai, none; Adsodgee, best, 410 to 420, nominal, none; inferior 360 to 390.

COTTON—HANKOW.—Is difficult to sell, there being few buyers on the market. The nominal rate is from 18 to 19 taels per picul. At Shanghai the supply of really good and dry cotton is limited, and the demand for Liverpool running generally on the best sorts, the settlements have been small, and prices on the whole firmly maintained. Within the past few days a superior parcel has been bought at 21½ taels per picul, which is fully 5 m. under the market.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—During the early part of the fortnight some inquiry was manifested for the higher numbers of Yarn, and slightly better prices than those given under date of last circular were obtainable, but the market is now dull and inactive. Sales are put at 567 bales. In Canton sales have been effected of 45 bales, at prices which show a slight improvement in the value of the medium and lower numbers. Grey Shirtings: An average amount of business has been transacted in these fabrics during the past fortnight, about 25,000 pieces having changed hands, principally taken by foreign purchasers. Nothing has been done in these goods in Canton, but from Fuhchau sales of 650 pieces 7½ lb. are reported at $5.75 per piece, and at Amoy 600 pieces have changed hands at $5.20 to 5.50. White Shirtings: A small sale of 3,500 pieces taken on foreign account, and 1,350 pieces Chinese re-sales, complete the transactions of the fortnight. T-Cloths: Are not in any request, and the fortnight's transactions are comprised in sales of 1,500 pieces. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: The sales effected of these goods during the fortnight amount to 600 pieces of the first-named, 500 pieces of white, and 500 pieces of coloured Brocades, prices remaining without material change. Damasks: There are not any sales of these goods to report. Chintzes: Have found buyers to the extent of 450 pieces. Handkerchiefs: Have been in moderate request, and the sales of the fortnight are estimated at 2,000 dozens.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies, and Habit Cloths: These goods have not met with any inquiry during the fortnight, and there are no transactions to report from this market. Long Ells: Have also been in but little request, and the sales effected since the date of last circular amount to some 250 pieces, purchased at about previous rates. Camlets remain much as before quoted, with sales to advise of 440 pieces. Lastings: Have not met with any demand, and there are not any sales to report. Blankets: Have found purchasers to the extent of 100 pairs.

METALS.—Iron, flat, &c.: The business of the fortnight has been confined principally to nail rod iron, and prices of all descriptions remain without material alteration to notice. Sales of all kinds are estimated to amount to 3,970 piculs. Nail rod iron again shows a trifling advance in value in the Canton market, where sales of about 400 piculs have been made during the fortnight. Lead continues very low in price, with but a small amount of business transacted in this colony during the fortnight, the total sales amounting to not more than 700 piculs. In Canton, where 3,000 piculs have changed hands, an advance in value of about 15 cents is noticeable. Tin: 140 piculs have changed hands, rates showing a decline of about 50 cents per picul. Tin plates have been in moderate request at about the prices previously current, and the sales of the fortnight amount to 1,200 boxes. Steel: There are not any sales of steel to notice.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.		6s. 4¼d. to 6s. 5½d.	6s. 5d. to 6s. 6d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 10d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 0d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 10d. to 4s. 10½d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 0d.
At Manila	6	ditto	...	...

At Shanghai: Bills on India, Rs. 302 to 303 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong: Rs. 226 to 227 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels. Hong Kong, 5 prem. Mexican Dollars at Shanghai, 75; and exchange Hong on Kong, 25 discount.

EXPORTS OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to March 31, 1864	2183303	45863601	45094926	2257092	13243039	114746001	43,185
Corresponding period last season	2368556	43235604	41334250	336208	23277883	110552501	67,229

SHIPMENTS IN APRIL.

Ship.	From	Tea.	Silk.
Anglo Indian	Kanagawa	6,420	29
Abbotsford	Do.	77,386	97
Benvoirlich	Shanghai	79,1820	17
Behar (mail str.)	Do. &c.	—	477
Osborne House	Do.	429,280	—
Bahia	Hong Kong	653,300	—
Cambodge (French mail)	Shanghai	—	74

TO UNITED STATES.

	Piculs.
From June 1 to March 31, 1864	22778560 659
Corresponding period last season	18992778 1999

SHIPMENTS IN APRIL.

Ship	From	
Eva	Foochow	373,100
Sophia	Canton	185,780

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Bales.
From June 1 to March 31, 1864	1289007 3271
Corresponding period last season	1124764 6332

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Tl. pkgs.	
From June 1 to March 31, 1864	463286	...
Corresponding period last season	50061	...

SHIPMENTS IN APRIL.

Ship	From	
Harvest Queen	Kanagawa	14,490

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	51,022,000	...
„ 1845 to 1846	57,334,200	18,604
„ 1850 to 1851	63,972,000	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854	77,327,800	61,280
„ 1855 to 1856	92,240,800	50,450
„ 1857 to 1858	70,990,255	68,311
„ 1858 to 1859	65,789,792	83,136
„ 1859 to 1860	85,560,452	64,163
„ 1860 to 1861	90,066,160	70,644
„ 1861 to 1862	109,854,040	79,199
„ 1862 to 1863	121,273,580	...

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to March 31, 1864.	483446	24	14527	5240	368	1784

SHIPMENTS IN APRIL.

Ship.	From.	Cotton Pcls.
Advance	Shanghai	4,170
Simoda	„	4,950
Lauderdale	„	8,030
Anglo Indian	Kanagawa	5,956
Berwickshire	Hong Kong	8,030
Abbotsford	Kanagawa	11,020
Express	Shanghai	8,020
Aunt Lizzie	Hong Kong	3,834

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to March 31, 1864.	3059	...	...	350	100	...

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to March 31, 1864.	48030	20523	2744	1400	5800	335

SHIPMENTS IN APRIL.

Sophia	500	92

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to March 31, 1864	1078	17979	109255	8489	4930	324600

SHIPMENTS IN APRIL.

Helios	311	1605

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TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1. to March 31, 1864	6	146	2737	2318	23400	...

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN.—None.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: April 15, Guinevere. From Sunderland: 9, Fanny; 19, Bride of the Seas. From Newport: 15, Canvas Back; 16, Northern Crown. From New York: 21, Moringa.

At FOOCHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From London: April 19, Tun-Sin (st.); 20, Scawfell; 22, Whinfell. From England: 17, H.M.S. Conqueror. From Hamburg: 25, Kai mass. From New York: 23, Vulcan (st.).

At MANILA.—No report.

At SINGAPORE.—From Cardiff: May 2, Trebezond; 3, Batavia. From Newport: May 1, Thusnelda. From Hamburg: April 26, Oscar: 27, Albertine; May 4, D. F. Webbersen. From Rotterdam: 5, Ellena. From New York: April 29, Kiu Kiang (Am. St.)

At PENANG.—None.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—For London: April 6, Abbotsford, 2, Anglo Indian.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: 13, Ben Voirlich, for Liverpool, Express.

From FOOCHOW.—None.

From HONG KONG.—For London: April 25, Bahai.

From MANILA.—No report.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: April 23, Eena; 24, Courante; 26, Eleanor. For Liverpool: 25, Ferris. For Bordeaux: 29, Spahis. For NANTES.—May 5, Suez. For Boston: April 23, Ceylon; 26, Aristides; May 5, Alexander.

From PENANG.—For London: April 23, Akbar.

LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Canton.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Keepsake and steamer Rajah. For Liverpool: Mayflower, Neville, Fanny, Cyclone, Elizabeth Nicholson, Helvellyn, and Unrivalled. For New York: Luzon and Anita.

At FOO-CHOW.—Flying Spur, Dora, and Nitherby.

At HONG KONG AND CANTON.—For London: Chandernagore, Belted Will, Rifleman, and Scawfell. For New York: Robert and Alexander.

At MANILA.—No report.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Tartar, Athalstan, and Prince of Wales. For Liverpool: Bombay. For New York: Ocean Home.

At PENANG.—None.

FREIGHTS.

JAPAN.—For London: Cotton £6, tea £5. 10s. to £6, and silk £7 per ton of 50 cubic feet.

SHANGHAI.—For Europe: A good inquiry for tonnage exists. The rates to Liverpool and London are £4 to £4. 10s.; to New York, £4, with upward tendency.

HONG KONG.—For Europe: The demand for tonnage is good; the following are some of the charters:—Rifleman, 371 tons, and Scawfell, 826 tons, £4. 10s. To London: Achilles (532 tons), Manila to Falmouth, £4. 15s., if to continent, 7s. 6d. extra. For New York: The Robert and Alexander is on the berth at £3. 8s. per ton.

MANILA.—To London: £4. 15s. per ton clayed sugar, and £5 to £5. 10s. for tobacco.

SINGAPORE.—A very fair inquiry exists for suitable sized vessels, principally for rice charters, viz.:—From Bangkok to Hong Kong, 52½ cents per picul; to the North, 80 cents; Penang to Hong Kong, 60 cents; to Rangoon and back, 45 to 50 cents. To Europe the rates are:—Sugar, £3. 10s.; measurement goods, £4. 10s. per 50 cubic feet.

PENANG.—To London: £3. 15s. for heavy freights, £4. 5s. light do., and £4. 10s. measurement; for China there is little demand.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—April 12, Little Edith, from Cardiff to Shanghai; Hijroniminus, Hamburg to Samarang; Star of China, London to Hong Kong; 14, St. Jan, Rotterdam to Hong Kong; 15, Eiliana, Rotterdam to Singapore; Banian, London to Hong Kong; 17, Northern Queen, Sunderland to Shanghai; Alexander, Glasgow to Batavia; 18, Siam, Bordeaux to Saigon; 19, Emperor, Sunderland to Hong Kong; 20, Blairmore, Hamburg (for orders); Stirlingshire, Sunderland to Shanghai; Sea Wave, Glasgow to Singapore; Maria, Toulon to Saigon; Majestic, Glasgow to Shanghai.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—April 22, Bristow, Hong Kong to Liverpool.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—April 12, Osborne, Japan to New York; 19, Cordelia, Sarawak to New York; 21, Benefactor, Foochow to New York; 22, Bernard, Singapore to New York.

CASUALTIES.

NEWCHWANG.

LOSS OF THE MELITA. STRANDING OF THE IRIS.

The Prussian brig Melita, from Shanghai, above port, with eighty chests of opium on board, was a total wreck outside Newchwang, just below Yingtze; all the cargo was lost, but the captain and crew have escaped. The Danish brig Iris was also reported badly on shore.

HONG KONG.

The British barque Cornelia, 374 tons, Capt. Burns, from Shanghai, bound to New York with tea, struck on Pratas Shoals on 18th April. Owing to thick weather the whole passage, the captain did not get a sight of the sun. There being little swell on the vessel did not break up and the crew remained with her until Thursday 21st, at 4 P.M., at which time the captain took a boat's crew and proceeded towards Hong Kong, leaving the chief mate and the rest of the crew in charge of the vessel, where he arrived on Saturday. The s.s. Chanticleer has been chartered and has gone down to the wreck. The Cornelia has on board 439,700lbs. fine Green, 3,800 Japan tea, and 16 pcls. Raw silk.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

SILK.—The Circular of Messrs. Waithman says:—Accounts of the European crop are bad, and although no doubt exaggerated to some extent, it appears certain that the result as to quantity will not be equal to that of last year, while the quality is expected to be inferior, and from the prices paid for cocoons, it is clear that the cost of both Italian and French silk will be much higher than last season. Deliveries from the 1st to the 8th inclusive:—China, 966 bales; Japan, 635; total, 1,601 bales.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—June 6th, in Channel, from Kanagawa, Mary Shepherd; 6th, off Dungeness, from Batavia, Ionia; 9th, off Falmouth, from Akyab, Johanne Lange; 7th, off the Lizard, from Sourabaya, James and Mary; 10th, in Downs, from Shanghai, Annie Archbell; June 10, at Deal, from Batavia, Hermann; 11, at Queenstown, from Maulmain, T. J. Roger; 10, at Deal, from Kanagawa, Cymbeline; 8, off the Start, from Java, Edouard and Marie; 12, at Falmouth, from Java, Emilie; at Deal, from Singapore, Chili; at London, from Penang, Edinburgh Castle; from Hong Kong, Alchymist.

DEPARTURES.—June 5, from off Plymouth, for Hong Kong, Rochelle; 7, from off the Start, for Batavia, Willemina and Clara; 3. Franz and Elise; 7, from Sunderland, for Singapore, Stafford; June 8, from off the South Foreland, for Batavia, Kosmopoliet; 10, from London, for Hong Kong and Canton, Sovereign of India; 12, from Glasgow, for Singapore and Kanagawa, Stad Enschedi; 6, from Sunderland, for Hong Kong, J. M. Joshua; 10, from Liverpool, for Hong Kong, Juanpore; 9, from Sunderland, for Shanghai, Weymouth; 11, from Deal, for Batavia, Robertus Hendricus; 4, from off the Goodwin, for Batavia, Vier Gezusters.

LAID ON.—At London, for Hong Kong, Annie Archbell.

SPOKEN.—Jason (Belgian), Rotterdam to Batavia, April 17, 7 S., 30 W.; County of Ayr, Java to Rotterdam, May 24, 41 N., 23 W.; Catharina Marie (Dut. barq.), Batavia to Holland, May 25, 49 N., 20 W.; Ortelius (Dut. ship), Java to Amsterdam, May 25, 49 N., 23 W.; Edward and Marie, Sourabaya to Rotterdam, May 17, 36 N., 33 W.; Jeddo, Samarang to Rotterdam, May 26, 49 N., 23 W.; Henry Darling, London to Singapore, May 5, 2 N., 25 W.; Troas, Manila to Boston, May 28, 40 N., 32 W.

ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

There was a very large attendance of members at the meeting of this society on the 7th inst., Mr. Crawfurd in the chair. The first paper was read by Mr. Dunn, "On the Influence of Civilisation on the Brain of Man," in which he contended that education and moral culture produce changes in the size and form of the brain, which was manifested by the conformation of the skull. By the influence of civilisation, he maintained, the skull of the negro may be altered from its original type, and may be rendered equal in its phrenological developments to the skull of a European. On the table were placed casts of the skull of an individual at different periods of adult life, to show the changes that had been produced in the course of ten years. A second paper, contributed by Mr. Crawfurd, was read "On the Sources of the Supply of Tin for the Bronze Tools and Weapons of Antiquity." There are but three principal sources from which the nations of ancient Europe could have derived tin—namely, Britain, the Malayan countries, and Northern China. The tin necessary for the formation of bronze would consequently be supplied from the West as well as from the East. The merchants would convey the commodity as far as it fetched a profit, until western and eastern met at a central point, where the two articles would be nearly of the same price. He named Egypt as likely to be that point. All the nations west of it would be supplied with the British, and all those east of it with Malayan or Chinese tin. The British tin would be conveyed by land to the Channel, and crossing it reach France, and through France find its way to Italy, Greece, and Egypt. With Sir Cornewall Lewis, Mr. Crawfurd said, he utterly disbelieved in the voyages of the Phœnicians to the Scilly Islands, and through which they are imagined to have supplied the eastern world with Cornish tin. When the Portuguese first visited Malacca, then close to the principal tin mines, the rich ores of Banca having been discovered two centuries later, they there found the native shipping of the Coromandel coast of India, and the junks of China, and even of Japan, the conductors of the trade between these countries and the Malayan Archipelago, and tin an article of their return cargoes. It was most probably by the same source that India and Southern China, with the countries adjacent to them, were from time immemorial supplied with the tin that enabled them to manufacture their bronzes and bell-metal. Mr. Crawfurd referred to an ancient work, entitled the "Periplus" of the Erythræan Sea, supposed to have been written by a Greek merchant of Egypt at the time of the Roman occupation, giving an account of the trade and trading ports between the Red Sea and the western coast of India, and which he considered confirmed his view of the manner in which India was supplied with tin. No hint of its origin was given, but it was named along with lead, brass, or bronze, cinnabar, and orpiment. None of those articles are products of India any more than tin; but they are all products of China, and exported down to the present time. In the course of trade, those and other commodities might have reached an emporium of the Malayan Archipelago, the tin of which being added to them, they would reach India together. The "Periplus" took no notice of copper, iron, or steel, from which it might be inferred that both India and Egypt were well supplied with those metals.

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A NOVEL SHIP FOR THE CHINA TRADE.—On the 4th inst. there was launched from Mr. Charles Lungley's Commercial Dock, Rotherhithe, an Alabama-rigged patent combination ship, classed A 1 at Lloyd's for 15 years, belonging to Messrs. Smith, Heming, and Co., merchants and shipowners, of 18, Leadenhall-street. She is of 650 tons burden, and is intended for the East India and China trade. She was built from the design and under the superintendence of Messrs. S. H. Harrington and Co., naval architects, of 27, Leadenhall-street, and in consequence of the novel mode of construction has excited much interest. She has been visited by Lord Clarence Paget, Mr. Reed, the chief constructor; and Admiral Robinson, Comptroller of the Navy. The result has been that the Admiralty have contracted with Mr. Lungley to build an iron-clad vessel of war on the same principle. They are about to adopt it in the construction of their new 4,000 tons troop ships, the estimates for which have already been passed. The mode of construction is this:—The frames of the vessel are, in the first place, constructed entirely of angle iron of the same weight as that used in building iron ships of a similar tonnage. Each frame is then riveted to a horizontal keel, stem and stern plate broad enough to fasten the garboard to. A middle line keel plate is then riveted between the upper and lower horizontal keel plates, by means of angle irons running longitudinally the whole length of the ship, forming therewith a strong girder of a similar construction to those used in railway bridges. The half-floor plates are riveted to the middle line keelson between doubling clips of angle iron, and carried up in the usual way to the turn of the bilge, and the reverse frames are riveted on across the floor heads and carried up to the stringer plates. Bull iron beams are then fixed, which makes the whole frame rigid and ready to receive the planking, the first coating of which consists wholly of teak, and is fastened to the frames by galvanized nut and screw-bolts from keel to gunwale. The wood keel is also brought on the iron horizontal keel plate, and fastened to it by means of iron screw-bolts from inside. The garboards are then rabeted in and fastened through the iron keel plate with galvanized iron nut and screw bolts. This first skin is 2¾ in. thick, and the seams are fitted close, and double fastened to the frames throughout. Diagonal straps of iron ¾ by ¼in. are then let in, and on this skin, crossed in squares of about 6ft., fastened through frames when they cross, and carried from keel to gunwale. A suitable composition of chunam is then used, and the outer skin of 2¼in. rock helm brought on to the turn of the bilge. Thence upwards 2¼in. teak is used. Each plank is fitted to overlap the inner seams (rendering it impossible for the vessel to leak), and then fastened with yellow metal clench bolts to the inner skin, all the holes being carefully bored free of iron frames or straps. By this means the planking of the vessels is tied together vertically as well as longitudinally; no copper bolts or metal sheathing are in contact with iron, and the vessel is felted and sheathed with copper in the ordinary way. The obvious advantage of that system is that there are no through seams, no risk of galvanic action, great longitudinal strength, increased buoyancy, and capacity over vessels built wholly of iron. As vessels of war, they will be able to go to any part of the world, where there are no facilities for docking—which is an absolute necessity to our present channel fleet three or four times in the year. These vessels also afford a greater security to life in the event of shipwreck, as they cannot break up so readily as iron ships.

CHARACTER OF LORD ELGIN.—The *North British Review* has the following on the character of Lord Elgin:—Wherever he went, and it was his fate that in the four different spheres in which his lot was cast the same relations were constantly reappearing, it was his fixed determination that the interests of the subject races should be protected from the impatience or violence of his own countrymen—the emancipated slaves of Jamaica, the French Canadians, the Chinese in their dealings with the European residents, the Indian population in its dealings with the Anglo-Indian conquerors. That he had no bloodshed on his hands was his pride in Canada. "No human power shall induce me to accept the office of oppressor of the people" was his sincere resolve in China. The order to burn the Imperial Palace at Peking was wrung from him by the severest sense of the necessity of the crisis. When in India, the protection of the Indians was the constant source of solicitude to him. The stern determination with which he carried out the execution of an English soldier for causing the death of a native, was of itself enough to mark his strong sense of what was due from the Viceroy of India to the interests of the conquered race. "His combination of speculative and practical ability," so wrote one with deep experience of his mind, "fitted him more than any man I have ever known to solve the problem how these subject races are to be governed." It may be that in these acts he merely served to represent the growing humanity and justice of the age; but it is a great boon to mankind when the best tendencies of the age find a congenial soul in which to take root and bear fruit; and such a soul, in every sense, was that of Lord Elgin. It might almost be said that the sense of responsibility for the classes confided to his charge, especially of those who were comparatively friendless, was to him a kind of religion—an expression of his sense of the justice and love of God for all his creatures. And it may be remarked how, from this religious sense of the duty devolved upon him, it came to pass that, if there was any subject which more strongly moved his indignation than another, it was the sight, whether in foreign lands or in our own, of Christianity invoked, or of the influence of the teachers of religion brought to bear, against the general claims of justice and humanity on behalf of those who might be regarded, in race, or religion, or opinion, aliens from ourselves.

VOTES OF CREDIT FOR CHINA.—On the 4th inst. the return moved for by Sir Stafford Northcote, showing the sums voted since 1857 on account of operations in China, was issued from the Treasury Chambers, Whitehall. The total net amount voted from the time stated up to the termination of the session of 1861 was £5,206,104, of which sum £4,586,836. 9s. 9d. had been expended up to the 30th April of the present year. The amount surrendered to the Exchequer as a saving was £526,104, and the balance remaining in the hands of the Paymaster General is £93,163. 10s. 3d. The items of the expenditure are as follows:—Excess expenditure by Department of Secretary of State for War, made good out of votes of credit (1852-60, 1860-1, and 1861-2), £1,846,863. 13s. 2d.; repayments to Secretary of State for India (1860-1, 1861-2, and 1862-3), £882,113. 16s. 2d.; excess naval expenditure defrayed by the Admiralty, £1,856,746. 8s. 6d.; and other expenses defrayed directly out of the vote of credit, £1,112. 11s. 11d.

P. AND O. STEAMER "CANDIA."—The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have received a letter, signed by several of the passengers on board the *Candia* Peninsular and Oriental steamer, strongly recommending to their lordships' notice the very excellent conduct of twelve engineer officers of the Royal Navy, who were also passengers in the *Candia*, on the 29th of April last, when the steamer encountered a very severe cyclonic gale, during which she was for some time in great danger. These officers were on their way to join the *Euryalus*, on the China station. Their names are Messrs. Pickles, Eckersley, Bennett, Pover, Trenham, Greaves, Page, Chase, Pattison, Lewthwaite, M'Intyre, and Brown. Their lordships have expressed their satisfaction at receiving such an account, and have favourably noted the praiseworthy conduct of the officers.

LAUNCH OF ANOTHER P. AND O. STEAMER.—The splendid steam vessel *Nyanza*, built for the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, at the Thames Ironworks, Blackwall, was launched in a most successful manner, in the presence of a large number of spectators. Her engines, of 450-horse power, have been manufactured by Messrs. T. and G. Rennie, and the following are her principal dimensions:—Length between the perpendiculars, 310 feet; length of keel for tonnage, 288 feet 5 inches; breadth for tonnage, 36 feet; depth to top of keel, 30 feet; burden in tons, 1,988.

PENSIONS.—A pension of £1,000 per annum has been granted to the Countess of Elgin, and of £500 to the widow of Sir John Inglis, the gallant defender of Lucknow. A vote of £20,000 has also been passed to Sir Rowland Hill on his retirement.

AMONGST the gentlemen who were presented to the Prince of Wales on behalf of the Queen we noticed Mr. George Staunton Morrison, on return from Japan, by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and Colonel St. John Neale, Secretary of Legation, on his return from Japan and appointment to be a Companion of the Bath, by Earl Russell.

THE wife of Captain Pearson, described as in the China trade, has applied for a restitution of conjugal rights.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, June 6.

The First Chamber of the States-General was reopened on the 3rd inst. Several Bills that have already passed the Second Chamber have been received and distributed to the different sections for preliminary investigation.

Mr. Thorbecke, the Prime Minister and Minister for the Home Department, who has been making a foreign tour, has returned to the Hague and resumed the duties of his office. He yesterday paid a visit of some length to the establishment of Messrs. Paul van Vlissengen and Dudok van Heel, where he examined with great attention and interest the turntables in course of construction for the Java railroads, and the stupendous iron dry dock for the use of H.N.M. ships in the East Indies. In this visit his Excellency was accompanied by Mr. F. van Heukelom, President of the Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures, and Mr. de Clercq, Secretary of the Railroad Company.

A detachment of supplementary troops, consisting of 12 non-commissioned officers and 140 rank and file, the whole under the command of Capt. P. Van der Putt, Rittmeester of the E.I. Cavalry, returning to duty from leave of absence to this country, and accompanied by the second leutenants of the E.I. Infantry, P. H. Oosthout and C. F. Ooykaas, has left the Colonial Recruiting Depot at Harderwyk and marched to Rotterdam, where they embarked on board the chartered transport *Kosmopoliet*, Capt. J. Koning, for Batavia.

From an official report presented to the States-General, it appears that during the year 1863 the Mint coined 27,753,085 pieces of money, of the nominal value of 10,965,976 fl. and 55 cents, which were all put in circulation.

H.N.M.'s steam frigate *Zeeland*, 51 guns, Capt. G. C. Pels Rycken, last from the Cape of Good Hope, arrived at the Texel on the 1st inst., and after exchanging salutes with the batteries and flag ship, anchored in the roads. All well on board. No orders have yet been received as to the future movements of this fine frigate, though reports are current that she is to remain for the present in commission to be in readiness to join the North Sea squadron that will be fitted out should further hostilities be recommenced between Denmark and Germany.

Lieut. A. W. Keuchenius, R.N., and the administrative officers P. F. van Wage and L. F. Seelking, lately serving in the squadron in the Eastern Archipelago, have been placed on the list of non-active officers.

H.N.M.'s steam corvette *Princess Amalia*, 19 guns, Capt.-Lieut. J. J. Wichers, which sailed from this country on the 18th of December last for the East India station, arrived at Rio Janeiro on the 12th of April. All well on board.

Mr. W. H. Read, H.N.M. Consul at Singapore, has arrived at the Hague and taken up his residence at the Oude Doelen Hotel.

Capt. G. A. Chomel, of the Marines, in command of the detachment of that corps at Nieuwe Deep, has received orders to embark the middle of this month for Java, to relieve Capt. P. Prins, now in command of the Marines on board the guardship at Batavia. The former will be succeeded, it is believed, by Capt. de Haan-Hugenholtz, of the Marines.

The number of vessels that arrived in this country from the East Indies during the month of May was 33, of which 16 discharged their cargoes at Amsterdam, 15 at Rotterdam, one at Schiedam, and one at Dordrecht. Seventeen brought cargoes for the Company, fifteen for the private trade,

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and one mixed. Ten came from Batavia, fourteen from Banjoewangie, one from Sourabaya, one from Passaroean, one from Probolingo, one from Samarang, one from Tjilatjap, one from Macassar, and three from Padang. Among other produce they brought 108,538 bags of coffee, 49,839 kranjangs of sugar, 15,056 bags of rice, 2,007 chests of tea, 108 chests of indigo, 213 casks of nutmegs, 26 casks of mace, and 195 bags of pepper.

The Netherlands Trading Company have chartered the following vessels to load cargoes of coal at Newcastle:—*Jeannette and Cornelia*, Capt. Romyn; *Schelde*, Capt. Hoefman; *Boni*, Capt. Moller; and *Constance*, Capt. Kimmerer—all for Sourabaya. *Scheveningen*, Capt. Annokee; *Abel Tasman*, Capt. Rycken; *Marinus Willem*, Capt. Buyzer; *Laura and Adele*, Capt. Lund; and *China*, Capt. Tofield—all for Onrust or Kuyper.

In token of recognition of signal services performed by the land army in Netherlands India during the war operations in the south and east districts of Borneo, from April to July, 1863, the King has created Capt. G. van Vuuren, of the E.I. Infantry, Sergeant P. J. Vis, and Corporal P. Kuipers, Knights of the Fourth Class of the Military Order of Willem. At the same time First Lieutenant Younker H. Bowier, and the Fusilier C. Benz are to be mentioned as specially deserving praise in the order of the day of every corps on home and foreign service.

An opportunity is again offered to lieutenants of Infantry in home regiments to exchange into the East India Army for a period of five years, retaining their date of seniority in the service, and receiving a bounty of 400 florins, with free passage out and home, and the other usual advantages.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

Per *Hollandia*, Captain Wap, at Rotterdam, from Banjoewangie: Captain van der Haas, E.I. Army, and family.

Per *Billderdyk*, Captain Victer, at Rotterdam, from Banjoewangie; Lieutenant Potasch, E.I. Army.

Per *Doelwyck*, Captain Hoefman, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia: Captain Thion, E.I. Army, and family; Captain Offermans, E.I. Infantry, and family; Mr. van Kervel, engineer; 7 passported soldiers on expiration of term of service.

Per *Isaac da Costa*, Captain Klein, at Rotterdam, from Tjilatjap: Mrs. van der Kaa and family.

Per *Ida Willemina*, Captain Rotgans, at Dordrecht, from Banjoewangie: Messrs. P. van Wage and L. F. Seelking, administrative officers.

Per *Ridderkerke*, Captain Teerling, at Rotterdam, from Batavia: Mr. and Mrs. Pacque and family, Mr. and Mrs. Smeets and 2 children, Mrs. Kruisinga, Messrs. J. A. Dinger, Keuchenius, and Varkevisser; 12 passported soldiers.

Per *French Mail Steamer*: Captain E. J. Weyland, E.I. Infantry, from Batavia.

Per *Hendrina*, Captain van Breen, at Amsterdam, from Banjoewangie: Mr. and Mrs. G. J. de Haan and child.

PASSENGERS OUTWARDS.

Per *Lichtstraal*, Captain Wierix, from Rotterdam to Batavia: Baron Rengers van Warmenhuyzen, Messrs. J. S. van Gunst, W. van der Jagt, J. B. van Neck, K. Hinlopen, and A. van Rasu.

Per *Frans and Elise*, Captain Niedfeld, from Amsterdam to Batavia: Rev. J. Meyer, Rev. A. G. Terwindt, and eleven Sisters of Charity.

Per *Willemina and Clara*, Captain Abrahams, from Amsterdam to Batavia: Messrs. Mayen, P. A. Cierenberg, A. and H. Burgemeestre.

Per *Landbouw*, Captain Kleyenburg, from Rotterdam to Batavia: Mr. and Mrs. H. Bloem, and Mrs. Heysen.

Per *Zephyr*, Captain Wemmerus, from Rotterdam to Batavia: Messrs. G. Veerman, P. A. Oetgens, Pancras Clifford, E. de Lang, G. Roessingh van Itersen, and Miss J. Groschel.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The result of the Company's sale has given general satisfaction and improved the confidence felt in this article. Orders to purchase continue to arrive from abroad, the execution of which imparts a lively tone to the market. For most qualities an advance of ¼ to ½ cent is willingly paid. The Company's next sale will be held on the 15th of this month at Rotterdam, and will contain 86,100 bags, of which 7,800 bags are Sumatra, and all the rest Java. Stock of coffee on Company's warrants end of April 91,991 bags, to which add 86,164 bags of the May sale, makes 178,155 bags. The deliveries in May were 65,296 bags, leaving stock of 112,859 on the 1st of June.

SUGAR.—The Company's sale went off flowingly, all being sold at 1¾ to 2 fl. above the valuations. The principal parcels sold as follows:—

			Valuation.	Sale Price.
No. 11	469 kranjangs		Fl. 37¼	Fl. 39
„ 12	3,458	„	38	40
„ 13	6,866	„	38¾	40½
„ 14	6,568	„	39½	41
„ 15	6,774	„	39¾	41½
„ 16	10,535	„	40¼	42
„ 17	12,862	„	40¾	42½
„ 18	15,073	„	41¼	42¾
„ 19	8,717	„	41¾	43
„ 20	1,161	„	42¼	43½

The greater part was taken by the home refiners and only about a fifth for export. Since then the market is calm, the only transaction reported being 1,377 kranjangs of Java, No. 16, per *Henriette Maria*, at 41 fl., to be received on board. The stock of raw sugar in Holland is 38,575,832 kilogr., against 34,238,944 kilogr. last year. Refined has given rise to large transactions at greatly improved rates. ASR No. now sells for 45 fl.

RICE.—Market quiet, prices unaltered.

SPICES.—Holders are not so much inclined to operate, and this has rather checked business. Pepper however meets a ready sale at good prices.

BANCA TIN is rather firmer. Some parcels have been sold at 67 fl., but no more is to be had at that figure. Present available stock 42,278 blocks; deliveries from the 1st of January to 31st May, 33,260 blocks. Stock of unsold in Company's warehouses, 137,688 blocks. The Company's usual sale is advertised for the 29th of June at Rotterdam, the quantity to be offered will be 138,100 blocks, which may perhaps be increased by 20,000 more if they arrive in time for the sale.

INDIGO.—Market looking up. About 50 chests of Java, and 37 chests at Rotterdam have been taken at a trifling advance of the Company's last sale prices.

GETAH GITANG.—This new substitute for gutta-percha is becoming more extensively known and duly appreciated. Since last mail 1,900 kilogr. have been sold at prices that did not transpire.

RATTANS.—No sales reported.

HIDES.—2,130 Java ox, ex *Maria Adolphine*, have been sold by tender. 720 Java buffalo, ex same ship, are advertised for sale by tender.

JAVA TOBACCO.—No business done since last mail. Stock, 4,720 bales. Result of public sales as follows:—By the Company: 28 bales of Java, 41½ cents; 22 bales Japan, 22½. By the private trade: 238 bales Java UGJ, average price 18½ cents; 514 bales KM, average 17 cents; 282 bales BK, average 15½ cents; 631 bales BHvH, average 16 cents; and 175 bales C from 17 to 27½ cents. All sold.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

INDIAN OFFICERS.

(June 6th.) Col. SYKES asked the Secretary of State for India whether the recent appointment or employment (except in emergent cases) of officers of the Indian armies with regiments to which they do not belong, in supersession of the regimental rights of the officers or usages of those regiments, had been approved by him. He contended that the order was contrary to the spirit of the Act 21st and 22nd of Victoria, cap. 106, which guaranteed that the military officers of the East India Company should be entitled to the same privileges and advantages as if they had continued in the Company's service; and urged the injurious effects of the measure, which had, he said, created dissatisfaction among the officers of the late Company, and which opened a door to favouritism.—After some observations by Mr. VANSITTART, Mr. TORRENS, and Captain JERVIS,—Sir C. WOOD defended the measure, which, he said, had been very carefully considered, and explained the circumstances which rendered it unavoidable.

RUSSO-AMERICAN LINE.

(6th.) Mr. WATKINS asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies if any application had been made to Her Majesty's Government, or to the local authorities, by, or on behalf of, Mr. Collins, the Concessionaire of the Russo-American Line of Telegraph, intended to pass *via* Behring's Straits, for permission to carry a portion of such line through British Columbia; and, if so, whether such permission had been, or was proposed to be, given.—Mr. CARDWELL said that such an application had been made, but it was not only an application to pass through British Columbia, but it was an application for an exclusive privilege. An answer was returned favourable to the right of passage, but disapproving that part of the application which referred to an exclusive privilege.

THE NAVIGATION LAWS.

(7th.) Mr. LINDSAY moved for copy of any correspondence between Her Majesty's Government and the Governments of Holland, France, Spain, and Portugal, from 1850 to 1863 inclusive, relating to the abrogation of the discriminating duties still levied upon British vessels and their cargoes trading with those countries. He prefaced his motion by a short statement of facts, showing the success which had attended our free trade policy, from which our shipowners must have been large gainers, and by remarks upon those States which had not reciprocated our policy, but had adhered to that of restriction and discriminating duties. He pointed out the loss which France, in particular, suffered by persisting in the maintenance of her navigation laws, which inflicted injury upon her population as well as her shipowners. He thought, if these facts were brought by the Board of Trade or the Foreign-office prominently before those nations, they would abandon or relax their restrictive policy.—Mr. M. GIBSON had no objection to the motion. He entirely agreed, he said, in the general sentiment expressed by Mr. Lindsay, who however, had not made due allowance for the difficulties encountered by the Government of France from the interests connected with a protective policy, and from prejudices which it would require time to remove. Her Majesty's Government had lost no opportunity in pressing upon foreign Governments the advantage of relaxing their navigation laws, and in inviting them to reciprocate our policy.—After a few words from Mr. W. FORSTER, the motion was agreed to.

PENSION TO THE COUNTESS OF ELGIN.

(9th.) Lord PALMERSTON, in moving a resolution that, in conformity with the recommendation of Her Majesty, a pension of £1,000 per annum be conferred upon the Countess of Elgin and Kincardine for the term of her natural life, in acknowledgment of the eminent public services of the late Earl, gave a short sketch of those services, enumerating the offices he had held, his missions to China and Japan, and noticing his success in difficult negotiations requiring a combination of firmness and conciliation, as well as his services in India, the Government of which, he said, had resolved to settle a pension of a like amount upon the Countess out of the Indian revenues.—Lord STANLEY said he cordially and entirely concurred in Lord Palmerston's estimate of the public services of the Earl of Elgin, and the resolution was agreed to *nem. dis.*

GOLD CURRENCY FOR INDIA.

(10th.) Mr. J. B. SMITH moved a resolution,—"That the increasing trade and commerce of India, and the consequent increasing demand for a portable circulating medium, requires that a gold currency should be established in that empire." He showed what was the state of the trade of India, which, with the great demand for silver there, to supply the currency, rendered such a measure necessary, India not being prepared for a paper currency, and being desirous of one of gold, which it once possessed. He discussed some of the theories as to the effects of the influx and accumulation of gold, and noticed their signal failure, observing that writers upon this question had not duly estimated the operation of an

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increased supply of gold in stimulating production, thereby preserving the relative value of the metal and commodities. In conclusion, he considered what would be the best and most convenient form of a gold currency for India.—Col. SYKES, after observing that the balance of trade between this country and India, in favour of the latter, had been long paid in silver, and that the vast influx of that metal into India was accompanied by a stationary production of silver, gave a short account of the various gold currencies in India. The natives, he said, were quite ready to accept a gold coinage of five or ten rupees, provided the metal be unalloyed; they would not receive our English sovereigns. He supported the resolution.—Sir C. WOOD said it would be difficult to effect a change in such a country as India, where the demand was chiefly for silver and copper coin. Although, he believed, gold would circulate in a certain degree, he did not think it would do so to any large extent. He gave details of the native currency of India—gold in the form of mohurs, and silver in that of rupees,—and as to the effects of a double standard, or a change of standard in that country, noticing the danger attending an extensive modification of its currency. It would be an advantage, he thought, if sovereigns could be got into circulation in India; but he could not express a decided opinion of what should be done till he learnt the decision of the Government of India, which had the subject under its consideration.

THE "KIU-KIANG" AND THE "ALABAMA."

The American steamer *Kiu-Kiang*, which left New York for China on the 9th February, had a narrow escape of the *Alabama*. The Cape *Argus* says:—"On Good Friday, the *Alabama* got up steam early, and prepared to leave on a cruize. About half-past nine the signalman on the Lion's Hill made down a paddle-wheel steamer standing in from the northward, and shortly afterwards announced that the vessel was an American. In the meantime the *Alabama* had hauled in her cable, and just about the time when the steamer was abreast of the first lighthouse, left the anchorage. The excitement amongst the different persons on the wharf, where a large crowd was collected, was considerable. It was supposed by some that Captain Semmes had discovered the character of the new arrival, and intended making her a prize, while others contended, and apparently with greater correctness, that the colonial code of signals would be unknown to the Confederates, and they would thus be in total ignorance of the vessel's nationality. Soon after leaving her anchorage, the *Alabama* was seen to change her course somewhat, and at the same time the other steamer was observed coming round Green Point. They rapidly approached each other, and when pretty close the Federal was seen to turn her head in the direction of the land. The vessels then passed closely, the *Alabama* going under the stern of the other, which stood into Table Bay. We learnt from the officers of the Federal—the *Kiu-Kiang*, bound from New York to China—that they took the *Alabama* to be an English gunboat, her ensign so much resembling that of St. George; and when informed by the port captain of her true character they could scarcely credit the fact of their escape. They say that had they seen the *Alabama* before they would have run down to her to learn the news, having spoken an English vessel of her build during the voyage out.

The *Anna Maria*, Portuguese man-of-war, was to go on the patent slip in Table Bay, to be thoroughly overhauled and repaired, and when refitted she will go on to China. Another Portuguese corvette was expected at the Cape, the officers and crew of which would be transferred to the *Anna Maria* for the China service, the old ones returning home.

THE TELEGRAPH TO INDIA THROUGH TURKEY.

Advices just received through Bagdad and Beyrout describe the causes of the delay in the transmission of intelligence through the telegraph to India, the submarine portion of which in the Persian Gulf was recently completed by Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart and Sir Charles Bright. It appears that 170 miles of the line from Bussorah to Bagdad are incomplete, and cannot be constructed on account of the disturbed state of the intervening country, the Arabs having revolted against their Turkish masters. The Porte undertook to construct this portion of the telegraph through the Pashalic of Bagdad, but in consequence of hostility from the Arabs not a Turk, it is said, dare venture into the district unless protected by a strong military force. These Arabs, however, it is affirmed, would permit the English to carry on the work; yet so jealous are the Sultan's Government of our doing anything within his territory that they would rather have this great undertaking indefinitely obstructed than permit us to act. The consequence is that messages must be conveyed over the incomplete portion on horseback, which causes a delay of about six days. It appears, also, that this is not the only present cause of interruption, a break having occurred in the route from Bagdad to Constantinople, one stage from Bagdad, "where the line is so wretchedly looked after, and the Turks are so slow about repairs, that it is impossible to say when it will be again in working order." The details thus given furnish a literal confirmation of all that was predicted seven years ago, when the English Government, after having encouraged the Euphrates Telegraph Company, which had been formed by Mr. Andrew, to incur a considerable outlay, suddenly abandoned the enterprise, in order that the Turks might themselves carry it out, and that our own resources might be expended on the Red Sea line, where a million of British capital has been hopelessly sunk.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

The forty-seventh half-yearly meeting was held on the 3rd June at the company's house in Leadenhall-street; Mr. P. Douglas Hadow, the deputy chairman, presiding.

The CHAIRMAN, after expressing great regret at the severe domestic affliction which prevented Mr. Anderson from taking the chair on that occasion, proceeded to state that the past half-year had been marked by the events which usually characterised their six months' operations. They had not been, and could not hope to be, entirely free from the ordeal which all companies working upon the sea had to encounter; but they had great reason for congratulation that from the accidents recorded they had come off so little scathed. The *Candia* had encountered suddenly a very severe cyclone, and the newspaper reports gave a very faithful and true account of the terrible trial to which she was subjected. The company had been building new ships, and it was necessary that they should continue to do so to keep pace with the times. Four as fine new ships as were ever built for any company had been launched during the half-year, the *Syria*, the *Baroda*, *Delhi*, and *Golconda*, and as he returned from Egypt in the *Delhi* he could speak from experience of the qualities of her performance, as well as of the efficiency of her officers and men. The *Simla*, as mentioned in the report, had gone to resume her station on the Calcutta and Suez line, and just before he came to the meeting a telegram was received from Suez announcing her arrival there at 6 a.m. that (Friday) morning, and that she was in good condition. The *Corea*, purchased for the Japan line, was built at Dundee, and was well suited to the requirements of the company. There was occupation for two vessels between China and Japan, and the traffic was growing, but he could not at present say what vessel would be associated with the *Corea* in that service.

With regard to the Australian service, he regretted that there was nothing more definite than the statement of the report to be communicated as to the progress of that line, but he might hazard the conjecture that a bi-monthly line would be established there before long. (Hear, hear.) They could not hurry Government departments, but he believed representations from the colonies would shortly bring about that result. Upon the subject of passage money, he observed that when the reduction took place in 1857 it was hoped that the company would be able to maintain it, but circumstances occurred under which they were reluctantly compelled in 1861 again to raise the charge, An alteration favourable for the public had, however, since taken place, and the directors felt bound to give the public the benefit by reducing their fares to what they considered a fair remunerative rate. The reduction amounted to about 12 per cent. upon the passage money generally.

With regard to the Egyptian deputation, as he was going out there on account of his health, he was requested to take in hand the negotiations with the Viceroy regarding the transit of passengers through Egypt. The company had been paying £7 for the transit of first-class passengers, including disembarkation and the carriage of all luggage, but the amount was still very high. An erroneous opinion had got abroad that the company was sharing this large sum, but he wished to be distinctly understood that not one penny of it came into the company's coffers—that the whole was handed over to the transit administration. The rate might have been a fair one at the time it was arranged, but it was very unfair now. Upon a representation to the Viceroy and his officials the justice of the demand was admitted, but at the same time they had been very much pressed by peculiar circumstances in Egypt, the great increase of traffic and former neglect of the line having put them to some expense, and they were somewhat reluctant at first to give effect to the views of the company with respect to the necessity of the reduction. He was happy to say, however, that with some degree of perseverance they had succeeded in their object, and after the 1st of October, instead of £7, the rate would be £4. 10s. for first-class passengers. (Hear.) They hoped also to make arrangements to secure the attendance of European guards to the trains, which in the case of ladies was especially desirable, for at present they were at the mercy of the railway officials there, and did not know where to go or where to ask for anything.

The Viceroy and all the officials had always treated the company with the greatest courtesy, and had shown a desire to do anything that was reasonable. With regard to their friendly rivals, the French company, he had had the opportunity in Egypt of seeing some of the officers connected with it, and they professed the utmost goodwill and readiness to help this company on all occasions. About two months ago one of the steamers of the French company broke down, and the Peninsular and Oriental carried their mails and some of their passengers on, and the next month a similar accident befel this company, when the French company did the same for them. (Hear, hear.) It was arranged under the circumstances that no charges should be made between the two companies, but that they should take what had passed as acts of mutual kindness. He moved the adoption of the report.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply to Admiral Coffin, observed that very complete and full instructions were given to officers in command of the company's vessels. There was no doubt captains of steamers were generally too fond of hugging the land, and very stringent directions were given on the subject. The accident to the *Rangoon* did not, however, arise from that cause, but from an error in judgment in "laying to;" the facts had been inquired into, and it had been decided that the conduct of the captain did not meet the approbation of the board. The captain of the *Candia* was well known as the man who rescued the *Sarah Sands*, and, in the case of the accident to his vessel, the glass fell so short a time before the intensity of the hurricane was felt that there was time to do nothing.

Mr. JONES was glad that the company was in a position to pay a dividend of 5 per cent. for the half-year, and to build new ships without calling for an increase of capital. He hoped that some arrangement would be made with the Viceroy for a reduction of the freight on goods, so as to give valuables the same privileges in passing from one side of the Isthmus to the other as Manchester piece goods, upon which there was a large profit. He also asked for some statement with regard to complaints in the *Egyptian Times*, that the company were trading in coals for the benefit of the Pacha, and that the coals they did supply were "rubbish."

The CHAIRMAN said that it was perfectly true that the Viceroy had asked them to procure coals for him, and they had done so, and would do so again if they were asked. (Hear, hear.) As to the allegation that the coals they supplied were not fit to burn, that was simply an untruth. They had also supplied the Viceroy from their own stores occasionally, just as they had supplied Her Majesty's Government, and would continue to do so. (Hear, hear.) He had endeavoured to obtain a reduction of freight of coals from Alexandria to Suez, and though, hitherto, such an arrangement had not been found possible, he had reason to believe that something would be done in that reduction when the line was doubled between Alexandria and Cairo.

The report was unanimously adopted, and, on the motion of the Chairman, a dividend was declared of 3½ per cent., with the additional payment of 1½ per cent. for the half-year, in accordance with the report.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, JUNE 13, 1864.

THE COBDEN DEBATE ON CHINA.

YET another debate on China this session. This time it is to serve the nostrums of the great free-trade oracle RICHARD COBDEN. All members of Parliament take most unwarrantable and unjustifiable liberties with China. At one time it served even to the discomfiture of the Ministry and a general election—not to serve China but party purposes—now we have Mr. COBDEN, a thoroughly honest member, attempting to prove to us that since Hong Kong was established as a free port the trade of Canton has dwindled down to nothing; and that if we established a few more such free-trade ports, we should at one blow annihilate all our troubles and expenditure in China. It is very unfortunate that honourable members will not take the trouble to ask of persons who have been resident in the country whether their opinions are correct, before propounding them in the House. Now, what are the facts of the case. From what period does the prosperity of Hong Kong date? Why, from the time of the rebels menacing Canton in 1851; until then it was a hard struggle to maintain Hong Kong, and, as Mr. COBDEN and other honourable members well know, yearly grants had to be made by Parliament for its maintenance. Before this period, land which was bought on the first establishment of the colony, in 1843, was in many cases surrendered to Government, with a loss of the improvements made thereon, rather than incur what appeared to be a useless and unprofitable outlay in the yearly ground-rent. So great was this loss and disappointment at the general progress of the colony, that the China merchants in a petition to the home Government asked for some measures to be adopted by which trade and the Chinese could be induced to come to the place. In this petition it was urged that a differential duty in favour of tea imported from Hong Kong would be the best and surest means of drawing the Chinese merchants to the colony. What will Mr. COBDEN say to this expedient for the free port. Of course Her MAJESTY'S Government were not so impolitic as to adopt such a violation of free trade. It is well known to all residents, at that time in Hong Kong, that the great burden of the despatches of the merchants and of Sir JOHN DAVIS, the then Governor, was that the respectable traders would *not* come to the place; and not until the rebellion set in did the steamers in the trade between Hong Kong and Canton give a good return to their owners. Even the goods which were landed at Hong Kong were afterwards transferred to Canton. The loss of the trade of Canton was, in the first instance, due to the rebellion, and in the second to the burning of the factories and the opening of the Yang-tse, whereby we import our teas direct from Hankow. It is very probable that the Chinese were deterred from settling at Hong Kong by the mandarins at Canton, who could see plainly that a departure of trade to that place would deprive them of the comfortable emoluments which they enjoyed; and we can assure Mr. COBDEN that his two free ports on the coast, which he proposes to establish, would share the same fate. Mr. COBDEN may know how to promote free trade in Europe, but he certainly is out of his depth when he stretches his hands to the Celestials in the Far East. It is a pity that Her MAJESTY'S Ministry cannot also be allowed the opportunity of proving the assertions of hon. members to be incorrect. We cannot blame Mr. LAYARD for not administering the knock-down-blow to Mr. COBDEN'S statements in reference to the free port of Hong Kong. We blame the system which compels a Minister "there and then" to answer hon. members. In questions of such import, it is of the last importance that the right answer should be given, and it is not reasonable to expect that this can be done off hand. The rules of the House should permit Ministers to reply to such attacks on the following evening. It is only fair that any reigning Government should have every opportunity of defending its actions, seeing that it has to stand against the enormous odds of the whole House. We do not mean as regards an adverse vote—there are ways of avoiding that—but we mean their general prestige; and to avoid their being induced to alter their policy on any question, when that policy is the best which can, under the circumstances, be adopted. Other points in the debate we shall notice in our next.

FRENCH POLICY IN CHINA.

AFTER the long and repeated discussions in Parliament and by the press of this country on the Government policy in China, the question naturally arises, what is that of our allies the French? On this head Lord NAAS, during the last debate, alluded as follows:—"If we persevered in the "course we had taken, and availed ourselves of that influence "which the employment of British military officers in that 'country would give us, we could not be surprised if before long "'we found French, Russian, and American contingents mixing "themselves up in the internal disputes of China." No further notice having been taken of this point, it would appear that the noble lord and other hon. members are oblivious of the fact that the French have drilled and officered a contingent of native troops, in the Ningpo country nearly as strong as that in the Shanghai district—which was originally raised by an American; and at present one-third of its officers are from the United States. Many years before a British soldier or an Englishman entered the Chinese service, not only were the subjects of France mingled up in the internal affairs of China, but French troops co-operated with Chinese at Shanghai, in 1854, when they bombarded the walled city held at that time by the Taipings, while the English forces kept aloof from the conflict. Apparently, the operations at Soochow and the vicinity by the Anglo-Chinese force has occupied the public mind so much of late, that the success of the Franco-Chinese contingent at Hangchow has been overlooked. Not so in France. When the news arrived reporting the fall of that city, by the same mail which announced GORDON'S reverse at Kintang, the French press was jubilant over the prowess of Colonel D'AIGABELLE and his disciplined native legion. That gallant officer belongs to the Imperial Artillery Corps, and with his brother officers from the French army in the native contingent, are on a similar footing in the Chinese service to that of British officers. The *Ministre de la Guerre*, not having followed the example of our Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, by rescinding the order permitting that act, there is every probability of D'AIGABELLE and his force taking the lead in the Taiping campaign when GORDON and his brother officers resign. Then if he is "in at the death of Taipingdom at Nanking, French *prestige* in the internal affairs of the country will again become dominant, and England will be nowhere. As if foreshadowing this state of affairs, the *Moniteur de l'Armee* publishes a significant letter from a correspondent at Tien-tsin, who mentions the circumstance of the Peiho river being closed with ice up to a later period than formerly, in consequence of an unusually rigorous winter. On the 15th March, when navigation was open, the first ships that entered the river were two gunboats, built in America, on account of the Chinese Government. These two ships of war are to be stationed at Tien-tsin. The Court of Peking is expecting more war vessels from America, in place of those built in England. When these ships arrive, operations on a ground scale are to be commenced against Nanking. A council of war was to be held at Peking towards the 15th April, at which the French Admiral JUAREZ was to assist. Such is the purport of this suggestive communication to the Government organ of the army. Query, had Prince KUNG this flotilla in view, to be under his untrammelled control, when he so coolly declined the SHERARD-OSBORN squadron? Are these vessels to be commanded by French naval officers? What England has rejected France may be nothing loth to accept, so that she may have the first finger in the China pie. Therefore Lord NAAS need not be surprised at finding the French contingent mixing itself up in the internal disputes of the country, for they have done that pretty well already; and the present policy of the Imperial Government is still more active in the same direction.

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THE JAPANESE AMBASSADORS IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.)

The Tycoon's Envoys are hard at work with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, with whom they have had several long and, it is said, very satisfactory interviews; and the belief is that Prince Ikeda and his companions are fully empowered to, and will succeed in, making such arrangements as will permit the intercourse between Europe and Japan to flow on without other obstructions than those which may arise unfortunately and inevitably from the ignorance or prejudice of individuals. Considering recent events on the one hand, and the resources and capabilities of Japan on the other, such a result will be amongst the most important of the age in a commercial point of view alone; but the establishment of a sound understanding with Japan must have, moreover, considerable moral effect, if only by way of example or warning to other people of the Far East.

It is generally believed that the negotiations between the French Government and the Japanese Ambassadors is virtually concluded, although nothing at present is known concerning it out of doors, and certain indications point to such a conclusion. The day before yesterday the Envoys gave a grand banquet at their hotel to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Drouyn de Lhuys, and the Marquis de Chasseloup-Laubat, Minister of Marine and of the Colonies. It was a magnificent affair in every way; the entertainment was got up in the very best possible manner, and the company was numerous and distinguished. Besides the Ministers already named, there were present M. Cintrat, Baron d'André, the Marquis de Banneville, M. Herbet, and M. de Billing—all holding important posts near the Minister of Foreign Affair; Admiral the Baron de la Ronciere Le Noury and M. Delarbre, chief secretary to the Minister of Marine; Baron Gros, the Marquis de Trevise, Chamberlain to the Emperor; General Bougenel and Count de Rayneval, representing Prince Napoleon and the Princess Mathilde; Baron Feuillet de Conches, Introducer of Ambassadors to the Emperor; and many other gentlemen attached to the Court and Ministry. There were present, besides, the directors of the Imperial printing establishment, of the works at Sevres, and of other public institutions which have been visited by the Japanese Envoys. The band of the Garde de Paris played during the dinner. When the dessert had been placed on the table, the first interpreter of the Embassy gave the health of Napoleon III., to which M. Drouyn de Lhuys responded by a toast in honour of the Tycoon and the development and consolidation of the relations between the two countries.

This banquet is remarkable from the fact that it is the first instance of the Japanese having acted as hosts with French Ministers for their guests, and it is admitted on all hands that nothing could exceed the urbanity, politeness, and attention exhibited by Prince Ikeda and the whole of the members of the Embassy. This young daimio has attracted great attention in all quarters, and one of the objects that was most remarked on the occasion in question was a bust of the Prince, executed by a French sculptor named Doublemart, which is considered very successful.

The other day the Ambassadors visited the Imprimerie Impériale, where they were met by a largen umber of officials, members of the Legislature, and one or two foreign Ministers. The famous founts of Asiatic types were duly examined, and a commemorative card, brilliantly printed in crimson and gold, with the following lines in the Japanese language, with a French translation, was printed in their presence:—

"Le 30 Mai, 1864,
L'Empereur Napoleon III.
régnant,
S. Exc. M. Baroche
étant garde des sceaux,
Ministre de la Justice et des Cultes:
S. Exc. Ikeda Tsicougo no Cami,
premier Ambassadeur;
S. Exc. Cawatsou Idzou no Cami,
deuxieme Ambassadeur;
S. Exc. Cawada Sagami no Cami,
troisieme Ambassadeur
de Sa Majesté le Taicoun du Japon,
ont honoré de leur présence
l'Imprimerie Impériale de France.
Le Conseiller d'Etat directeur,
Anselme Petetin,
a présenté a leurs Excellences
cette feuille, tirée sous leurs yeux,
en souvenir cordial de leur visite."

Specimens being, of course, handed to the visitors, who afterwards partook of a collation with M. Petetin and the company present, in the garden of the establishment, which, may be remarked in passing, occupies the site of the old Temple, where the miserable Louis XVI. and Marie Antoinette were confined during the early period of their imprisonment, and where the still more wretched Dauphin, "Louis XVII.," was murdered slowly by the fiends in human form, Simon the cobbler, and his virago of a wife.

As everything connected with the Japanese Ambassadors finds readers just now, of course the industry—and, just possibly, a little of the imagination also—of the caterers for the public are called into full exercise. There is a famous *Café Chantant*, known as the *Alcazar*, a magnificent temple of harmony, smoke, beer, and grogs, where a singer named Thérésa is chief priestess. This lady is just now one of the celebrities of Paris, she has the largest, blackest, and brightest eyes, and the loudest voice *out*. In short, the *Diva* of the Alcazar enjoys at the present moment a very enviable notoriety. Of course she has many admirers and some worshippers, but recently bouquets of the most exquisite kind have poured in upon her, and lately, one of these was accompanied by a magnificent ruby ring! Nobody could, or would, tell who was the sender of these, and *Diva Thérésa* was immensely fluttered and puzzled. Still later she received a sheet of scarlet paper with some extraordinary hieroglyphics traced upon it, and at last, with the aid of a professor of the Eastern languages, it was discovered that the crimson paper contained the name of one of the Japanese Ambassadors! Nobody can state for certain from whom it came, but all remember perfectly a young distinguished man who on many occasions listened to Thérésa's singing with a rapt delight; he is described as dressed in perfect European taste, but as having a decidedly Eastern expression of countenance. He never took anything but a glass of sugar and water, always paid in gold and refused to accept the change—a circumstance which must have been very embarrassing for the waiters! The stranger has disappeared from the Alcazar but the story remains, and the comment most generally heard concerning it is a natural one—"Well, you know, after all, the Japanese are but men!"

MR. COBDEN'S DEBATE ON CHINA.

(THE TIMES.)

Parliament has at last digested the only tough morsel which disturbed occasionally the quietude of the slumbering Session. Three times already there has been an effort to get rid of that China lump, which on each occasion produced a slight nightmare and a small struggle without any happy solution. Now it is all over. The unassimilated morsel is dissolved; China is clear out of the Parliamentary breast. Like a debt paid by a note of hand, or a broken promise healed by the homage of a plausible excuse, the claims of China have been handsomely recognised, and the topic may now fairly be struck off the Parliamentary list. Nothing, indeed, has been actually done; it was only a motion made and withdrawn; very few stayed to listen, because no one expected to have to divide; but it was something that China has at last escaped the ignominy of a count-out, and that a tolerable sprinkling of the first and second class speakers have submitted to be called up in debate. It was just such a demonstration as might be expected upon a subject which was at one time of immense interest, because of immense danger, but has now lost its interest because every one knows that all danger is past. No one ventures to treat it with open contempt, because it is in itself so vast and may at any moment become so important; but at the same time no practical statesmen care to adopt it as a subject, because all moderate men are not only agreed that the present policy is sound, but they see that it is successful. It has for the present lost its party importance, and is a bit of no man's land, on to which every "independent member" may ride his own particular hobby to caper and curvet.

At this moment the position of this country towards China is the very model attitude of non-intervention. Captain Sherard Osborn is come back with his squadron, the instructions to our naval officers confine them strictly to the defence of our Treaty Ports and a little breathing circuit round them, and the order is now on its way, if it be not already arrived, which will detatch Major Gordon from the service of the Imperial Government. Whether, as has been suggested, the Admiralty have issued instructions that Chinese pirates shall not be interferred with so long as they confine themselves to the plunder of native merchant vessels, we are not informed; but this far-strained application of the non-intervention principle to non-intervention between the robber and his victim was not wanted to show that we are now perfectly impartial between the Imperial Government of China and the hordes of plunderers who infest the country. All we do is to protect our own merchants, our own Treaty Ports, and our own commerce; and that policy thrives so well that everybody is satisfied with it. The amount of our transactions with the Empire of China is increasing yearly in a ratio that seems almost incredible, and although some of the old-world superstitions seem still to survive in the House of Commons, and although gentlemen who ought to know better seem to think with the Chinese that commerce is only valuable when the exports exceed the imports, yet the British public generally have learnt that it is a good thing to have large transactions with a great country, even if you have to pay for its produce in the silver and the gold you accumulate from your commerce elsewhere. To the general public it will be a matter of congratulation that tea has been imported from China in greatly increased quantities, and that silk has come over in greater abundance. The present

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generation has been brought up to believe that the more plentiful an article of general consumption is, the more attainable it is by the multitude who desire it, and therefore they rejoice that the commerce with China goes on doubling itself, even although it may be shown that the "balance of trade" is against us. In the increase of the commerceial movement at the Treaty Ports in China we do, therefore, recognise, and we believe the public in general recognises, the success of the modern policy pursued by our Government.

The closest reading of this debate will fail to discover more than one practical suggestion drawn from the speeches of the speakers. With that single suggestion it should not be our business to quarrel, for it is one which was first made in these columns, and was launched immediately the news of the failure of the Osborn expedition arrived. It requires no very great astuteness to discover that China has arrived at a point when she must be either cut up by conquest or eaten into by the gradual growth of Free Cities. This idea was the thought which pervaded the debate of Tuesday night, and which alone gave it vitality. We must protest, however, that our notion of a Free City is not that which was presented to the House of Commons in this debate. A Free City, such as we see in the future of China, is not a rock like Hong Kong, with its surrounding fleet, its Governor, its courts, and its wide jurisdiction. We do not recognise as a Free City the fortress of a first-class Power, existing as a menace to the neighbouring country. China has a fringe of islands which, if they became free in this sense, would advance the interests of commerce as much as the castles on the Rhine protected the ancient navigation of that river. Whether we bought or conquered them, such possessions as these could only be a curse to us and to the world. Hong Kong is, in itself, worse than useless, for the action of its Courts and the jurisdiction of its Governor are a standing nuisance in the Chinese seas. If we had a succession of Hong Kongs all up and down the coast, we must have a Governor and a garrison for each; we should but multiply our expenses and our chances of quarrel; and, as the example of Shanghai shows, such establishments never could compete with a really Free City. The Free Cities we hope to see are those which form of their own accord, and which arise out of the circumstances of an abundant commerce and an unsettled country. If the nations of Europe would agree to stand aloof, we should very soon see little commercial republics intrenching themselves and extending themselves upon the shores of China; just such cities as arose upon the coast of Africa, and in later history upon the coast of Italy, when similar dangers compelled traders to draw together for defence and self-government. We believe that our cheapest and our best policy is not to establish, but to favour the growth of such communities as may develop themselves into Free Cities. Nor can we expect that this development will be the work of a day, or that so great a ruin as that which is mouldering over the heads of one-third of the human race can fall, and be re-formed into modern habitations, without many clouds of dust and some terrible catastrophes. These speculations, however, are of very minor importance now we are all agreed that our interest is to force nothing in China, but to be content to defend our own and follow the course of circumstances. The active policy of obtaining possession of islands round the coast and turning them into fortified warehouses is not likely to find many advocates; the passive policy of holding our own and waiting is the policy which is now being pursued with a very general approval, and which, at any rate, has the advantage of a present success.

(DAILY NEWS.)

The debate in the House of Commons on our policy in China, although conducted with great ability, was deficient in one essential element of interest, and though relating to matters of high practical interest, it was too historical to be itself practical. A year or two ago, when the policy of intervention was in full swing, a discussion in the House of Commons, resulting in a manifestation of opinion like that of Tuesday last, would have been an event of far more importance than it is now, when that policy is dying a natural death. Many points of that policy have lately been abandoned, and the remainder are defended rather in self-defence than from any strong belief in their value, as must have been evident to all who heard Lord Palmerston's speech. Even if we had not recently been assured on confident authority that Lord Palmerston is the only English statesman who understands our interests in China, it would have been clear that the policy we have for a long time been pursuing there is the creation of a single mind, and rests on personal convictions. The measures which were prompted by it are now in course of abatement, and provided the process goes on the public may be satisfied without a more formal retractation. The great point is to return, as far as may be possible, to a position of neutrality between the parties contending for supremacy in China. Much has lately been done in this direction. Capt. Sherard Osborn's expedition is broken up, Major Gordon will not continue to serve under the Futai of Shanghai, and the Orders in Council under which British officers have been permitted to enter the service of the Chinese Emperor have been revoked, and are not to be renewed. Lord Palmerston continues to persuade himself that the policy by which those orders were prescribed was right, but in his own words, "That policy is at an end."

Lord Palmerston undertook, on Tuesday night, to describe the natural history of the relations of a highly-civilised with a semi-civilised people, of which our intercourse with the Chinese was an illustration. According to the Premier, each sets out with different expectations and different rules of conduct. On one side all is good faith, justice, probity, and honour; on the other, craft, treachery, and violence. The civilised and highly-virtuous nation will not acquiesce in the treatment it receives, and hence arise quarrels, and at length wars, then treaties, then breaches of treaty, always by the semi-civilised, then more wars, until the guilty party, being necessarily the weaker, is fairly beaten into reason and propriety. For the honour of our country and its veteran statesman let us, even if we have to forget something for the purpose, assume that this is a true representation of our relations with China. Still it would be admitted that the history is incomplete. Lord Palmerston stopped short in the series of consequences he undertook to develop. Another part of his speech, however, supplies the sequel. We have beaten the Chinese until the government of that country by the Imperialists has become all but impossible. Having thrown down the Emperor's authority, we have had to consider in our own interest how it may be set up again, but this is found to be no such easy matter. By weakening the Emperor we strengthened his domestic enemies. It was proposed to redress the balance of internal power by allowing British subjects to enter the Emperor's service, and help his government to put down the rebellion. But Lord Palmerston said, on Tuesday night, with reference to the steps taken for that purpose, "those measures have failed. I am sorry for it." And there the matter stands. The Premier's aims were worthy of his fame—he proposed nothing less than the pacification of China, which he says, "we know has been the seat of turbulent disorders, revolts, and rebellions of about 3,000 years." Far be it from us to affirm that Lord Palmerston would not have succeeded in reducing this ancient anarchy and chaos to rule and order, but we tremble to think what would become of the innocent British taxpayer in the meantime. The task was too great for us to add to our existing liabilities. Certainly no trade that we carry on, or can expect to carry on with China, can repay us the cost of such an enterprise. Indeed, if all our foreign trade were conducted under conditions as onerous as the with China—if the insurance we paid on it in the form of money expended in naval, military, and diplomatic establishments, bore everywhere the same proportion to profit as it does in that country, it would become a serious question whether we should not do wisely to send off our manufacturing population to the colonies, and settle down quietly to the cultivation of our fields. The best thing we can do is to take China as it is, and carry on the best trade we can with it, instead of attempting to create it anew in the hope of doing better. There are districts occupied by Imperialists, and others occupied by Taipings. We should bear ourselves as neutrals towards both parties. It is no doubt very desirable that one or the other party should either suppress its antagonists, or divide the empire with them, and that this should take place much sooner than is likely to happen. But even while the strife lasts we need not consider the country occupied by the Taipings lost to productive uses. Colonel Sykes, who so offends Mr. Layard by his citations of unofficial authorities, repeated on Tuesday the fact which he has often mentioned, "that since May, 1860, the Taipings have been in the possession of the two great silk districts, covering a vast extent of country, and having a population of upwards of sixty millions of souls, during which period the exports of silk from Shanghai have increased from 70,000 to 85,000 bales." The declaration of the Government, that it will in future confine its military measures to the defence of the treaty ports, and the protection of British interests, will satisfy the reasonable expectations of the public, provided it be fulfilled according to its ordinary meaning. But we must give up the ambition of becoming in any degree responsible for the Government of China, and be content with doing as much trade as we carry on, as traders, and not as Anglo-Chinese politicians and partisans.

(MORNING POST.)

Mr. Cobden suggested that our existing difficulties might be overcome, and an escape effected from an embarrassing situation, by the establishment of free ports and the confinement of our trading operations to places thus subjected to our own immediate jurisdiction. But, as Mr. Layard observed, Shanghai and Hong Kong are at the present free ports, and the establishment of others could only be effected by the cession to us of Formosa and some other islands in the China Seas. This cession would, however, be refused by the Chinese Government, for the very sufficient reason that the establishment of a number of free ports would enable us to absorb the entire of the external trade of the empire. But whether this were so or not, we should find ourselves obliged to adopt the same measures for their protection and for the maintenance of our commercial relations with the interior which we are now compelled to employ, nor could we ever hope to isolate ourselves completely from the country which would constitute the base of our operations. It has been more than once asserted that we are assisting the Chinese Government to suppress a rebellion, and thereby departing from that broad line of policy which we have for at least half a century prescribed to ourselves in respect to the internal dissentions of foreign States. This is, however, a grave error. To us it is a matter of indifference what dynasty rules at Peking. But we are obliged to recognise a *de facto* Government, and more especially so because it manifests a desire of keeping faith with us. The Taipings are in arms ostensibly for the purpose of subverting the existing Government, but in reality for the sake of plundering every town into which they can effect an entrance. No one affects to doubt what would be the consequences if Shanghai fell into the hands of the Taipings. It would be given over to indiscriminate pillage, and such of the inhabitants as remained in it probably put to the sword. If the rebels were actuated by the motives which in other countries not unfrequently lead a section of the population to resist the established Government, it might be an open question whether we were justified in aiding the Emperor of China to resist his revolted subjects, but under present circumstances no alternative is left to us but to co-operate with the authorities in resisting a common enemy. But we content ourselves with acting on the defensive. We have not sent an army to China to assist the Emperor in subduing the Taipings; we are satisfied with taking measures to prevent their encroaching on territory which, though not absolutely ours, we are justified in considering under our protection. Our position in China may be anomalous, and our relations with the Imperial Government may be peculiar, but the former could not be abandoned, nor the latter seriously modified without jeopardising the lives and property of large numbers of individuals who have taken up their residence and invested their capital in China in the belief that they were entitled to claim the protection of the British Government.

(DAILY TELEGRAPH.)

The rules and orders of the House of Commons will be found on examination to be based not only on the principle of preserving the constitutional rights of that assembly, but on good sense and convenience. In some of them, however, there seems a lack of precaution against the prevalence of boredom in members at large. It seems possible to discover a trace of this idea in those orders which prohibit a gentleman from speaking more than once in an ordinary debate, and which forbid a reference to any speech of a member made in the same session, lest he should be tempted to speak it over again. If we were to look at such regulations in an antiquarian spirit, we might imagine Hampden and Eliot contriving a new rule which would put a check on the iterations of Pym,

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and which might even curb the repetitions of Cromwell. Amongst the rules which the wisdom of the builders of our constitutional system have sent down to us is one decreeing that no bill dealing with the same subject should be introduced more than once in the same session. The custom does not technically extend to abstract motions, but in practice it has been unusual for even the most enthusiastic professors of parliamentary theories to force, by sheer reiteration, their speculations upon a reluctant House. This year a special exception has occurred in the case of China. Already that subject has been elaborated by Mr. Liddell, in a speech evidently the result of great industry and full inquiry, and illustrated by statuesque attitudes and almost impassioned language. Only a few days ago Mr. Baxter touched more lightly on the question, and, though cold and even dry in his mode of dealing with it, he was sensible and pointed, and contrived to put his case into a remarkably clear and comprehensive form. Then, too, Colonel Sykes has scarcely ceased to sprinkle the notice-book with small motions, mainly directed to develop his devotion to the cause and to defend the character of the Taipings. Still, parliamentary usage having failed to prevent any further formal raising of the Chinese question, the approach of a motion by Mr. Cobden was the signal for much lobby gossip, and the usual charitable criticism on the motives and intentions of independent members was rife. It was cynically remarked that excellent and sympathetic as he might be, the member for Rochdale was not exempt from the proverbial tendency of man to look with a certain pleasure on the embarrassments of his friends, and that there was lurking in his secret thoughts a desire once more to place Mr. Milner Gibson in a position the reverse of delectable whenever Lord Palmerston's China policy was the topic in hand. Mr. Cobden was supposed to feel a humorous satisfaction in indirectly quizzing that right honourable gentleman who, as a Radical member of Parliament, provoked a general election is 1857 on the Chinese question, and who in 1859 joined a Cabinet presided over by the guardian genius of the very course which he had induced the House to condemn; that same Cabinet, too, being tesselated with dukes and earls, and thus in its main components aristocratic. Truth to say, in his speech last night Mr. Cobden did make a sly allusion to this very matter, partly justifying the insinuation of those who sought to account for his coming forward to tell a thrice-told tale; and the presence of Mr. Milner Gibson on the Treasury Bench, with the well-known and indomitable smile upon his face, gave point to the allusion.

Beyond this, there went about rumours that Mr. Cobden was yielding to a less excusable sentiment, and desired to take an opportunity of venting on the Prime Minister an ill-humour generated perhaps by a sense of public duty, but now deteriorated into personal pique. Those who were most lenient in their conjectures were confident in their enunciation of a profound opinion that he was but following a political will-o'-the-wisp in attempting to impeach, far more to alter, the traditional policy of this country in China; and prophecies were current that the debate would be anticipated and disposed of by the ready device of a "No House." Whether it was curiosity to ascertain if even so practised a rhetorician as the member for Rochdale could give life and interest to an exhausted subject; whether the accident of a wet evening kept members of committees upstairs within the precincts at the witching hour of five; or whether a combination of these causes operated to produce the result—it is certain that since the night when Mr. Gladstone made harsh and crabbed finance musical in his great Budget speech, there has not been so large a muster as that which greeted Mr. Cobden with cheers when he rose. The Opposition benches were notably crowded, and there were symptoms of a debate, and even of an organisation, to support the motion on that side if it were pressed against the Government. This might, in ordinary cases, have operated to rouse the mover out of that moderation which he observed during the whole course of his argumentative and interesting speech. He had scarcely spoken ten minutes when every one felt that they had before them no exhausted subject, and no tiresome repetitions or crude reasoning. Full of facts and statistics, the speech was happy and even piquant in illustration; untinged by the expected personality, it caught its inspiration from a clear, decided conviction, and the evidently matured adoption of a principle. Nay, on this occasion Mr. Cobden emancipated himself from the trammels of a certain hardness and severity of style which were wont to characterise his "unadorned eloquence." Positively he was light and airy, when a light and airy tone served the purpose of the moment; yet he never parted from the weightier matter of his argument. In fine, he so comported as to disappoint the sinister predictions of those who had sneered at what they called his maladroit revival of a threadbare theme. The very best and most pointed compliment was rendered which the House can pay to a successful orator; for no sooner had he concluded than there was a rush to the lobby, although it was not much after six o'clock, and no doubt this circumstance, as well as Mr. Cobden's statement that he did not intend to press his resolution to a division, tended to compress Mr. Layard's remarks into the narrowest limits compatible with the duties of his position.

When the discussion passed into the custody of Lord Naas, of a surety the interest had palpably suffered collapse, and was not resuscitated. The noble lord was under a certain necessity for speaking, since, in a moment of rashness, he had plunged into responsibilities towards the Chinese question. Last session Mr. Liddell had the misfortune to be counted out while indulging his parliamentary emotions on the touching theme of China; on a subsequent evening he complained that the Government had not kept a House for him; and being received with scant sympathy, not to say with contemptuous coldness, Lord Naas grew somewhat irritated, and gave notice that he would bring on the same question at an early day. In redemption of this rash pledge, he has gone through the indispensable course of blue-books, until at last, by sheer force of drudgery, he believes himself to be master of the whole subject of Chinese policy, and last night he duly presented himself as its interpreter and illustrator. At least he succeeded in crushing the discussion under the dead-weight of blue-book. Meanwhile, whatever may be the divergence of opinion between politicians, diplomatists, and Mr. Cobden, the unprejudiced public will doubtless be inclined to think that, in raising in a pointed and statesmanlike manner a question the importance of which cannot be overrated, the member for Rochdale has at least shown that he retains that sense of patriotic duty which no man has yet ventured to impeach.

(STANDARD.)

The gratitude of the country is due to any man who induces the House of Commons or the public to think seriously and earnestly of British interests in China. Our relations with the Chinese signify our relations with nearly a third of the human race. For evil or for good they must largely influence our commerce, our wealth, and our rank among the empires of the world. Lord Palmerston, however, while adopting this view, curiously illustrates it by sketching a contrast between the duty of a wholly civilised towards a partially civilised people, contending that England was bound to assist in pacifying the interior of China, admitting that the obligation has, under pressure been repudiated, and thus abandoning a policy which he refuses to condemn. The simple question raised by his speech, and by every other apology on the part of the Government, is, what shall be our future course? That is the very information Ministers are unable or unwilling to supply. They vindicate the past; they recur to former wars; they regret the old East Indian monopoly, which, the Premier believes, would have preserved peace; and they boast of having brought themselves into direct communication with the central and supreme authority in China. But they do not tell Parliament how, in time to come, they are to hold the balance between a might rebellion and an Imperialism gradully crumbling away. Dr. Gutzlaff, years ago, predicted that if ever a European nation gained actual access into the heart of China the event would precipitate a revolution. That prophecy is fulfilling itself. We no longer see the Celestial realm with its entire face, social and political, torpid, stagnant, incrusted with stereotyped forms, and reflecting one ancient tradition. The deluge has broken through the invisible banks between which it had for ages accumulated. The Tartars are assailed in their citadels; all the eighteen provinces, each with the space, population, and opulence of an ordinary kingdom, are convulsed; and we desire to know whether it is the task of England to range her gunboats or engage her officers in a puny effort to resist one of the most tremendous forces ever set in motion by mankind, varying the destinies of so vast a portion of the earth? What is it that we wanted in China? Lord Palmerston answers—trade. Perhaps something more; yet we shall not secure even this by making war upon two-thirds of those aggregated millions, who are, beyond comparison, more friendly to us, and better inclined to be our customers, than their savage Imperialist enemies. Where it otherwise, we have no business to be crusading for a rotten dynasty on the Eastern side of the globe, and licensing Englishmen to associate themselves in acts of ferocity and heathenism perpetrated by bands of Manchou butchers.

There may be a difference of conditions in our treatment of an Oriental and our treatment of a European Power; but there can be no difference of morality. We have as much right to interfere in Hungary or Poland as to meddle with the internal politics of China. Lord Palmerston denies that we are meddling, upon the pretence that we are simply defending the treaty ports. Not one of the treaty ports has been attacked. Not an Englishman has been insulted or outraged by the rebels. We might surely wait, then, for an occasion of offence before commissioning an amateur flotilla to maraud upon the Yang-tse-Kiang or suffering British officers to enrol themselves in the brutal ranks of the mandarins. The Chinese, since our victories upon their soil, have been delivered from their old delusion that their Emperor was the one potentate of the world, the sole representative of human supremacy and the cynosure of creation; and being thus emancipated from the superstition of twice ten centuries they are making a colossal effort for themselves, Right or wrong, let us watch the game. Let us protect our own flag, our own subjects, and our interests. We have a minister at Peking, and we have a naval force in the Eastern seas. With the issues of the conflict between Imperialists and Taipings we have nothing whatever to do; and nothing could come of our intervention except disaster, disgrace, and confusion. The old Chinese party, we are aware, charge upon Europe, upon its imported ideas—religious, political, and ethical—the calamities of their civil war; they upbraid our merchants as the precursors of change and sedition; they wince under the new sense of weakness which has been inspired in them since the triumphal entry into their sacred capital; and they apprehend schemes of conquest—a second series, in fact, of such developments as laid India at our feet. Generally, they may not be at fault in the accusations they urge, which amount plainly to the truth that there is a prospect of the Chinese becoming ultimately civilised; and even with regard to plots of aggression, Captain Sherard Osborn's expedition was an aggression upon the Chinese people, if ever there was an aggression since the beginning of the world.

Never having encouraged that morbid jealousy of Russian progress, which amounts to a positive mania in some minds, we venture to contrast our own policy in China unfavourably with the Russian. Russia is not compelled to make war upon a costly scale every few years in defence of her Chinese trade. Her vast inland commerce was not purchased by bloodshed. The great fairs of Kiachta and Maniachen, on the Mongolian frontier, through which floods of imports and exports pour, were not the fruits of bombardments or battles. Russia has, by peaceful means, gained her grand necessity in the East, of free access to unfrozen seas, and opened wide gates upon the Pacific, without noise or brawl, or senseless and expensive meddling with the domestic affairs of the empire. Why cannot England, in another direction, arrive at the same results by a similar process? The English have a larger stake in China than even the Russians. They draw millions upon millions sterling annually from that immense and teeming region, which is endeavouring to regenerate itself; which, however industrial, no longer aspires to be self-sufficing; which has ceased to be exclusive, and which is agitated by perturbations beyond our capacity to comprehend and beyond both our right and our power to control. Lord Palmerston pleads necessity. Where is it? Was our trade falling off? Was our anomalous position on the southern coast endangered? Had our mission in the north been affronted? No; a secret arrangement between two or three irresponsible persons very nearly plunged us into the vortex of a deadly struggle between forces incalculably vast, and, having narrowly escaped the danger, we are without any guarantee whatever that it will not be risked again. Our policy has hitherto been a failure, in so far as we have promoted it by war; and whatever has been suffered by our commerce the suffering is attributable, not to the rebellion, but to our own system of murderous, ruinous, blundering, and dishonest intervention.

We may rely upon it that our wisest course would be to treat China as

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a nation, and only diplomatically as an empire. Its prodigious bulk is revolving upon the axis of our century, and moving into a new orbit, as it moved when its arms spread affright through Russia, when it gave that dreadful impetus to the Huns which sent them conquering to the walls of Rome, and when the Master of the West sued for a bride in the East, in the palaces of Peking. The country of ivory and lanterns, of porcelain and vermilion, which understood astronomy when the wise men of Greece were wrangling over the position of the sun, has yet, we firmly believe, to pass through many a phase of progress and development. It is not destined to be permanently ruled by a dynasty of Mantchous, who have failed altogether in keeping pace with the impulsive activity of the nation. China is rich; it teems with grain; it abounds in silk and cotton; it is full of mechanical art and industry; but, with all its natural wealth, it might be saturated with European produce, to the infinite advantage of our manufactories and our working classes, if only a policy were adopted, not of fighting with one half the nation against the other, but of studying its commercial wants and supplying them. China will come into our market, if it be properly stocked; but we had better keep our gun-boats out of her rivers.

(EXAMINER.)

According to Mr. Cobden, our trade with China has long been in a state of decadence. This result he brings about by considering our direct exports from this country only, but saying nothing of our imports, and wholly leaving out both the exports and imports of India and our colonies. In 1854 our direct exports were, he tells us, little more than £1,000,000, being a fraction less than they were twenty years before, when free trade with China was substituted for monopoly. In 1860, however, they had mounted up to £5,318,000, but again they declined, and last year they fell off, and amounted to more than £3,889,000. Now we think we can account for this oscillation in our exports to China, which, even in their diminished amount, are above threefold greater than they were twenty years ago, without ascribing the fall either to Lord Palmerston or the Taipings. Our exports to any country must be proportioned to the means of our customers to pay for them. Our large exports in 1860 arose, in a great measure, from the capacity of China to pay for them in raw silk, which, owing to the high price of silk in France, Italy, and Spain, produced by a murrain in the silkworm, came to be largely received from the Chinese, so that the value of our imports in that single article suddenly rose from about £1,500,000 to £3,000,000. In 1860 the value of our exports in cotton goods to China was better than £3,000,000, but that was when the raw material cost but 6d. a pound. In 1862 they fell to little more than £1,200,000, and one cannot be much surprised that the Chinese had less capacity to consume them when the raw material of which they were made had risen to 2s. and 2s. 6d. a pound. The difference in the value of this single article would more than make up for the fall in our Chinese exports, which Mr. Cobden ascribes to the evil deeds of Lord Palmerston.

The hon. member for Rochdale depreciates the value of our trade to China, by insisting that it forms but 2½ per cent. of our whole exports, being even lower than our exports to Egypt. Mr. Cobden has not exercised his usual perspicacity in making this assertion. Much of our export trade to Egypt consists of goods in transit to India and China, including the best part of the bullion, while by far the greater part of imports from that country are India and China goods in transit, as in the instance of raw silk, nearly all Chinese silk, and in 1862 of the value of better than £5,000,000.

Mr. Cobden will have it that the market of China is the most unsatisfactory with which the British merchant has to deal. The Chinese trade, in so far as the British exports to it alone are concerned, has certainly not advanced with the same rapidity as some other branches of our commerce, but the reason is on the surface. The Chinese are themselves, beyond all other semi-barbarians with whom we have dealings, a manufacturing people—far beyond Hindus, Egyptians, Red Indians, or Spanish-American Republicans, or Brazilian Imperialists, and consequently have less need of our manufactures than less advanced nations. It is no very long time ago since they furnished us with some cottons, all silks, and fine porcelain. In payment of the goods with which they furnished us they took, in preference to our manufactures, the opium and the raw cotton of India, finding them the more profitable. What these did not cover they took from us in silver bullion, which we had received elsewhere in return for our manufactures. We cannot state the amount of the supply we furnish either to India or China, because, going by overland route, our whole exports in gold and silver are put down to the credit of Egypt. The total amount, however, which in 1858 was but £5,200,000, has been gradually rising, and in 1862 amounted to £12,500,000. Certainly not less than one-third part of which went to China for the purchase of tea and raw silk. To give a fair view of our exports to China these millions ought to be added.

Mr. Cobden will have it that the market of China is at present glutted with British manufactures, and chiefly with those of Lancashire. We are sorry for this on account of the merchants and manufacturers of Lancashire, for they alone are to blame, since the very fact makes it evident that they have been misinformed and miscalculating. No one else finds fault with the trade of China, for in it great fortunes are realised and mighty emporia springing up, to which Peking itself is not comparable for wealth. At this moment the trade of Britain and her possessions with China is not under £40,000,000, which, in spite of Mr. Cobden's jeremiads, we must think respectable. A single Indian article alone is taken by the Chinese to the value of £7,000,000, and that article furnishes some £5,000,000, or about one-eight part of the whole Indian revenue.

It is surely something that our imports of tea have, in thirty years' time, increased from 30,000,000 of pounds' weight to 134,000,000, of the value of full £11,000,000, and that our imports in raw and thrown silk have increased within the same time from 2,000 bales to 90,000 bales, worth £3,500,000, while we are enabled to pay for the great property expressed by these figures in our own manufactures or in bullion received in exchange for them.

Upon the whole, we approve of the policy which our Government is pursuing in China, although, no doubt, some blunders have been committed. We think it was the inevitable one, and the very same which any English Administration must pursue, be it Whig or Conservative—nay, even if it were conducted by Messrs. Cobden and Bright. For a full half-century the Manchoo-Tartar Government of China has been in a state of decadence. Rebellion on rebellion have followed one another, and the rebels, always consisting of robber hordes of its own subjects, have only been quelled by bribing them in the manner in which the Roman empire in its fall bought the forbearance of the barbarians. The proceedings of the Taipings are but an aggravated form of previous rebellions, being only more extensive, more ferocious, and more destructive. It is now fifteen years since they came into existence, and in this long time they have evinced no capacity for administration, civil or military. At one time they reached within a few marches of the Chinese capital, but met with a disgraceful overthrow which nearly annihilated the invading army. A main object with them is to get possession of the European trading-places, to plunder and misrule them. Twice over they succeeded. Now these emporia extend from Canton under the tropic to Peking in the 40th degree of latitude. They must be defended unless we are to submit to loss of life and property upon a large scale, and to the insults of most ruthless robbers. For ten long years we observed the strictest neutrality between the Taipings and the Imperial Government, hoping for an enlightened Christian revolution in China, instead of which we have had rapine, incapacity, and blasphemy. As our last hope, we turn to the Tartar Government, to whom we are bound by solemn treaties. The insurrection of the Taipings has had a fair trial, and turns out to be no honest rebellion against bad government, but a rising of banditti and pirates, the common enemy of all civilised communities.

Mr. Cobden suggests that, instead of our present policy, we should have emporia along the coast of China, constituted on the model of Singapore. But in making this proposition, surely he abandons his peace-principles. Singapore is 1,500 miles distant from China, and the Chinese have no claim upon it. When occupied it was a desert, and for the desert we paid a handsome and satisfactory price to those claiming property in it. All the islands from which a trade with China could be conveniently carried on are on the coast of that country, and under its sovereignty, and inhabited by its subjects. One island we took by force of arms, and our possession of it has been an eyesore to the Imperial Government ever since. In order to seize the islands coveted by Mr. Cobden, it would be necessary to make a third war on China, and in that case I hope Messrs. Cobden and Bright would be the very first to complain that their own proposition had been adopted. Even in possession of the islands, we should still require fleets and garrisons to protect them. Mr. Cobden ought to have pointed out the islands to which he refers. For our own parts, we know of none, even if we had made up our minds to rob the Chinese. The Chusan Islands seemed the most likely, but they turned out on trial to be remote and inconvenient.

(ECONOMIST.)

Few among us will be disposed to dissent from the general doctrine which lay at the root of Mr. Cobden's argument on Tuesday night in reference to our Chinese policy. Fewer still, probably, would be inclined to go along with all the propositions he laid down in the course of his speech, or with the precise terms of the resolution with which he concluded it. As an expression of feelings and wishes, there was much in which we all concur; but, unfortunately, he failed in the practical part of his plan—in showing, that is, either that we could very well have acted radically otherwise than we have acted, or that his plans and principles of future proceeding would be wiser or more feasible than those of the Government.

It is unquestionably true, as Mr. Cobden explained, that our exports to China have increased since the opening of the trade by the abolition of the East Indian Company's monopoly, at an unprecedentedly low rate, when compared with the wonderful advance in the magnitude of our trade with most other countries. But he altogether failed in making good his charge that this difference arose from the warlike and quarrelsome character of our political intercourse with the Chinese. The disappointment which has unquestionably been felt on this score by our merchants and speculators was foretold at the time by the advocates of the Company, and is to be attributed to the circumstance often pointed out, viz., that the Chinese, like ourselves, are in an advanced though a peculiar state of civilisation, and, like ourselves, are an eminently fabricating people. They make at home and for themselves everything, or nearly everything, they want; and they make everything nearly or quite as cheaply as we can supply it to them. The most remarkable developments of trade are those that take place between a manufacturing country on the one side, and a country rich in raw produce on the other. But the relations between England and China can never have precisely this character. We want many things which they produce—especially tea and silk; and we can procure these things from China better or cheaper than elsewhere. But they really need nothing that we can send them, and they accept our goods, therefore, chiefly as payment for what they send us. If it were not for the opium and the specie which they obtain either direct or from India, it would not be easy for us to carry on as large a trade as we do. A glance at the figures of our trade returns will show this. In the thirty years from 1834 to 1863, our exports to China and Hong Kong averaged £2,011,000. Of the value of our imports thence we have no record till very lately. But in the five years 1858-1862,

Our exports thither were	£21,180,000
Our imports thence	46,600,000

It is undeniable, again, that in our dealings with China, as with Japan and any other Oriental nation, we should as carefully abstain from "armed intervention in their internal political affairs," as we do, or profess to do, in Europe, so far as this is possible. But, unfortunately, both experience and common sense combine to show that such abstinence, possible enough in Europe, is not possible in Asia. This was the weak point of Mr. Cobden's argument; and it would have been more candid at once to have admitted that the same principles and modes of procedure cannot, from the very nature of the case, be strictly applied to savage and semi-civilised as to highly-civilised nations. Civilised and European Governments have certain recognised and established rules of action by which their intercourse and that of their subjects is regulated; and they are able to enforce these rules. It may be broadly stated, as a general truth, that they can control their own citizens and that they abide by the treaties and engagements they have formed. When we trade with France, with Russia, or with

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America, our merchants need no protection except such as the Governments of those countries, when properly appealed to by our Government, can and as a rule do afford them. When the Governments of those countries enter into treaties with us, and yield us certain privileges, those privileges are as a rule secure, and those treaties are faithfully carried out. We do not require in dealing with such States to take the law into our own hands, to send out a force to protect our merchants, to govern and control our own citizens, or to coerce the Governments to stand by their engagements. In the East the case is notoriously different. It is notorious that our traders force their way into every quarter of the world; and that those who thus force their way in the first instance are the most adventurous and usually the least scrupulous and reputable of their class. It is notorious that when they have thus forced their way, they insist upon the protection and countenance of their own Government; and that it is our principle never to refuse this countenance and this protection. We do not choose our traders to be wronged, and we do not choose our flag to be insulted. It is impossible that commerce should grow up anywhere without leading to differences, to questions of right, to disputes, even to quarrels. Two separate cases of difficulty arise which bring us into collision with the Government of Oriental nations; and it is not easy to see how any action of ours, or any suggestions of Mr. Cobden, could preclude these. Sometimes the Asiatic Government does not choose to abide by its engagements;—and how, then, can we escape the obligation of compelling it to do so? Sometimes it is unable to do so;—and how then can we avoid the necessity of ourselves affording that protection to the lives and property of our merchants which the Asiatic Government has promised but is too weak to give.

Now apply these observations to the case of our proceedings in China at the present moment. We are not going to say a word in defence of the remote past. We were certainly wrong in the Bowring or "Arrow" war. We may have been partly wrong in the Elgin war. We have most assuredly been often and shamefully in the wrong in our Chinese policy. We need not, for the purpose of our present argument, discuss or pronounce upon any of these questions. The sole practical question before us at this time is this:—On the faith of solemn engagements entered into by the Imperial Government, and ratified by our own, our merchants have engaged in a vast traffic with specified portions of the Chinese Empire. They have settled with their families—perfectly legitimately—in the several treaty ports. They have accumulated in those treaty ports much valuable property—again in a perfectly legitimate manner. It is idle to say that these lives and this property are not entitled to protection, and must not receive it. Of course, in theory, it is the duty of the Imperial Government to afford that protection, and of our Government to call on the Chinese authorities to afford it. But it is idle to talk of theory in such a case. The Chinese authorities cannot protect the European settlers. They can scarcely defend themselves. They are engaged in a desperate struggle for something very like existence. The Europeans in China, therefore, must protect themselves, and, naturally enough, call for aid upon the British naval and land forces which are available. England has responded to the call, as it was evident she would and must do, and has said that the treaty ports and thirty miles round shall be defended against the rebels. It is difficult to say how we could have done otherwise. It is not clear that we could safely and wisely have done less. But this decision as to defending ourselves necessarily brings us into alliance with the Imperialists (who are also defending this territory), and into collision with the rebels (who are assailing it). Now, virtually—since the rescinding of the Order in Council permitting British soldiers and sailors to enter the Imperial service and the return of Captain Osborn's squadron—this is the amount and this the limit of our "armed intervention in the internal political affairs of China," which Mr. Cobden's resolution condemned. Would Mr. Cobden have us not go as far as this?

The truth and the extent of the truth may, it appears to us, be thus summed up. It is a great evil, a great annoyance, a great danger, the getting thus mixed up with the internal wars and police of a country like China. It may be a great pity that we should have any property or any merchants actually on the mainland to be protected. But if trade with China is to go on; if merchants are to be protected where they go openly and under treaty, and where they act honourably and decorously; and if the Government of the State, either from weakness cannot, or from dishonesty will not, afford the covenanted protection, there is no alternative but for the merchants to protect themselves, and for our Government to aid them in their efforts at self defence. What is clear—and this, we presume, is what Mr. Cobden was so anxious to enforce upon the British public—is that, in this case as in every other, there should be the minimum of interference; that we should never become a party to the internal struggles of any country with which we have commercial relations, except when our own safety and interests, and only so far as our own safety and interests, imperatively compel us; and that, warned by the past, we should be ever on our guard against the acquisition of territory or the formation of engagements which might sooner or later entail upon us the necessity of taking in hand the administration of a country with which we intended only to buy and sell. Further than this, we apprehend, Mr. Cobden would scarcely go in practical action. Thus far there are not many Englishmen who would not go with him. What this admitted *minimum* of intervention is must be decided by the facts of the case, the requirements of the hour, and no doubt in part also, and inevitably, by the temper of the nation and the character of the foreign Minister at the moment when the need for action shall arrive.

(SATURDAY REVIEW.)

The frequent debates or conversations on China in the House of Commons are conducted by very few speakers, and, with the exception of the official explanations, they consist principally of censures on the Government. Mr. Gregson was ridiculed by Mr. Bright on Tuesday evening because he disturbed the general harmony of accusation by interfering on behalf of the merchants who are concerned in the protection of their trade. It would be an entire mistake to suppose that the House concurs in disapproving a policy with which the majority of members are but partially acquainted. The large and silent jury which listens to the arguments on either side intimates, rather than returns, a verdict by expressing no opinion, or, in case of need, by retiring from the box. The unanimous indignation which results in a customary count out can scarcely be serious or formidable. Those who attend to the discussion find that Lord Naas differs almost as widely from Mr. Cobden as from Lord Palmerston, and that Colonel Sykes stands alone in his friendly admiration of the Taipings. There may perhaps be a vague suspicion that English dealings in China have not been consistent with perfect wisdom or with absolute justice; but few private members are disposed to think that they thoroughly understand the question, or are prepared to suggest an alternative mode of proceeding. It is not difficult to discover that the assailants of the Government are almost equally undecided. Mr. Cobden's harmless resolution was equivalent to an admission, either that he had no practical course to propose, or that he knew his opinions to be hopelessly unpopular. As no person or party maintains the abstract expediency of interfering in the civil dissensions of China, there is no use in affirming an undisputed proposition. It might also have seemed unnecesary, within a fortnight of Mr. Liddell's motion, to bring the Chinese question once more forward; but when Mr. Cobden announces a set speech, there is no danger that the House will be counted out.

Lord Palmerston's speech though it was not strikingly original, contained almost the only general truth which applies to the relations of England with China. A civilised State in contact with a lower form of civilisation is necessarily involved in misunderstandings and disputes. The Government and its agents can make allowance for the unavoidable difficulties of intercourse, but individual traders are more eager and less considerate, and it becomes necessary both to control European energy and to resist Chinese violence and frand. It is indispensable, notwithstanding Mr. Cobden's protest, to extend a certain anomalous protection to English residents in China, and to restrain them by an irregular and extra-territorial jurisdiction. The House of Commons is stirred to languid disapproval when the impropriety of interfering with the sovereignty of China is stigmatised by an eloquent speaker; but a feeling of different intensity would be aroused if, by the neglect or tameness of the Government, half a dozen English merchants had been subjected by a Chinese mandarin to torture or to death. It is idle to compare a Chinese province to an English county, and to suggest the impossibility of tolerating a foreign tribunal in Oxfordshire. It is because the laws and the administration of China are suited only to a backward social condition that all the States of Christendom insist on retaining their authority over their own subjects, even within the Emperor's dominions. The charges which are urged against the English Government affect, in a certain degree, all the Powers which are represented at Peking; for France, Russia, and the United States interfere to precisely the same extent with the territorial jurisdiction of China. Mr. Cobden himself can only devise the inconvenient alternative of retiring from every part of the Empire, except one or two trading ports, and he fails to explain whether he would allow the native Courts to deal with Englishmen within the restricted precincts of the settlements. If his precedent of Singapore were to be literally copied, other places in addition to Hong Kong would be occupied as independent English possessions, while the rest of China was absolutely closed to foreign traders. Mr. Cobden apparently forgets that Hong Kong was obtained in one of the wars which he deprecates, and that the Chinese Government would certainly refuse the voluntary cession of a single square foot of the Imperial dominions. It is true that Singapore has, within forty or fifty years, become a populous city instead of a jungle, but a similar improvement has been more rapidly effected at Shanghai, which still remains nominally a Chinese city. In the trading ports, the representatives of Europe and America have organised peculiar communities which have some of the characteristics of independent Republics; and thus far the common necessity of resisting Chinese encroachments has controlled the jealousies which might have been expected to divide the functionaries of the different nations. It would be less easy to govern ceded dependencies by joint action, and if England established posts on the coast of China, similar grants would be immediately demanded by all the great trading nations. The present owners of the soil would derive but a questionable benefit from the collisions which would probably ensue, and from the cessions by which they might be terminated or averted.

Some of the speakers in the debate recognised more candidly than Mr. Cobden the important distinction between responsible diplomatists or Consuls and individual adventurers. Sir F. Bruce is enabled, by his position at Peking, to discountenance and to restrain the pretensions of his countrymen; but if the mission were withdrawn to-morrow, and if all formal relations with China were dissolved, neither the regular traders nor the mixed multitude of Englishmen would follow the receding official tide. There might, as Lord Palmerston observed, have been neither a Chinese war nor an English population in China, if the monopoly of trade by the East India Company had continued to the present day. As soon as the restriction was removed, it only became a question of time when systematic measures should be adopted for the protection of English interests. There is a certain presumption in favour of unforeseen arrangements which have resulted from unpremeditated attempts to deal with actual difficulties. Even in theory, the direct intercourse which has been established with the Imperial Government seems preferable to the unsatisfactory communications which were formerly conducted with the Viceroy of Canton. Mr. Cobden's little Singapores along the coast would probably be excluded from all legal trade with the neighbouring ports, and although opium would still be exchanged for silk and tea, the legitimate commerce which now exists would become a vast smuggling system. Lord Palmerston appropriately mentioned the omission, in Sir H. Pottinger's treaty, of a provision that the English text of the document should possess exclusive authority. The ingenious Chinese negotiators had inserted in their own copy a prohibition of trade between Hong Kong and several ports which were to have been opened by the treaty; nor would the Chinese of the present day fail to make the same use of any similar opportunity. It may be true that the profits of the trade have, thus far, been in a great measure absorbed by the expense of three successive wars; but it would be a grave mistake to sacrifice all that has been obtained as a return for a heavy outlay, in the unfounded belief that what has been painfully extorted would be hereafter peaceably conceded. On the whole, Mr. Cobden's project is the least sagacious scheme which has yet been advocated in Parliament.

Since the refusal of the Chinese Government to accept Captain Osborn's

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services on his own terms, the English Government has determined to confine its efforts to the defence of the treaty ports. There is, therefore, nothing for the House of Commons to debate upon except the merits of a policy which has for the present been discontinued. The commercial evacuation of China which Mr. Cobden proposes will scarcely provoke serious discussion. Mr. Liddell and Lord Naas are, for the time, agreed in opinion, though not in principle, with Lord Palmerston. Political observers suspend their judgment until further experience has shown whether non-interference is likely to be permanent. The English Government seldom exercises an initiative where there is any room for private enterprise. Ministers have to follow the eccentric movements of traders and emigrants, with as little power to desert their charge as a shepherd boy possesses when he wanders over a common after his flock. New colonies have often been founded in defiance of official discouragement, and the Foreign Minister, like his Colonial colleague, must accept responsibilities which he would never have voluntarily incurred. The introduction of European modes of thought and action into the stagnant East, though it may involve many violations of formal consistency, is not altogether an unwholesome process. If it is uncontrolled, it will probably place the Chinese population at the mercy of adventurers like Burgevine, who, unless they are restrained by their own Governments, may perhaps carve out for themselves principalities after the fashion of conquering chieftains in many ages of the world. Their success may possibly lead to some beneficial results, but it seems safer and bolder to regulate, even at considerable cost and inconvenience, the relations which, under any circumstances, must exist between China and the civilised world.

Naval and Military.

The paddle-wheel steam sloop Centaur, 6, Commander John Creasy, from Hong Kong, January 11; Singapore, January 23; Anjer, January 29; Mauritius, March 6; Simon's Bay, April 3; Ascension, April 23; St. Vincent, May 10; and Madeira, May 19, arrived in Plymouth Sound on Friday night. The Pearl left Ascension April 21, for Portsmouth. The Centaur spoke May 26, off Cape Finisterre, the ship Melody, outward bound. She brings home 85 invalids, including Mr. Parker, late Master of the screw steam frigate Euryalus, 35; Acting-Commander Mayow, late of the screw steam gun vessel Sparrow, 5; and Mr. Inglis, late Master of the paddle-wheel steam sloop, Gorgan, 6. The Centaur was put in commission in September, 1859. She has been chiefly occupied in the East, and considerable changes have occurred in her officers and crew. Both the ship and her engines will require repair.

The Pearl, 21, gun screw corvette, Capt. John Borlase, C.B., arrived at Spithead on the 7th inst. from China and the Cape of Good Hope, last from Plymouth Sound. The Pearl is ordered into Portsmouth harbour to dismantle and pay out of commission. She was put into commission in August, 1859, and has been chiefly occupied in China. She was in the action at Kagosima, where 12 of her crew were wounded. Only seven of the officers originally appointed have returned in her; the remainder have either died or have joined other ships on the station.

A claimant for prize money at Canton writes:—"I know I am only one of the great many that would like to know what has become of the amount commonly known in China as the 'Seymour Fund,' but now ironically designated the 'See no more Fund.' The captures to which I allude were made during the time that Sir Michael Seymour was the commander-in-chief, and surely sufficient time has elapsed to have arranged the distribution of the proceeds.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.,—CANTON."

We are pleased to find that the officers of the late Anglo-Chinese expedition have, in token of the sincere regard they entertain towards Captain Sherard Osborn as a friend, and of the great estimation they hold him in as a high-minded officer, presented him with a service of plate.

Monetary and Commercial.

A curious proof of the value of newspapers occurred lately. The *Water Lily*, bound from Shields to Nagasaki, made a very long passage out, and after 173 days, put into Coepang (Timor). Her safety was considered very doubtful, and the underwriters at Lloyd's would not accept less than 35 guineas per cent. The committee of Lloyd's had not received any advices, nor had the Jerusalem; in fact there was no news of her, and she was supposed to have gone to the bottom. On the publication of the usual number of the *London and China Telegraph* on arrival of the mail, a full account was given of the sickness of her crew and of her arrival at Coepang.

An ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Labuan Coal Company (Limited) was held on the 31st May at the office of the company, Threadneedle-street; Sir J. D. H. Elphinstone, Bart., M.P., in the chair.

The report of the directors stated that the quantity of coal raised during the year 1863, although considerably in excess of the proportionate yield for the last nine months of 1862—the quantity in the twelve months being 10,807 tons, against 3,295 tons in the nine preceding months—has been prudently kept within certain limits by Mr. Sinclair, owing the great difficulty experienced in obtaining vessels on charter to remove it to the markets at Singapore, Saigon, and to ports now open to foreign trade in China, and the inconvenience and expense that would have attended the storage of too large a stock at the island, had it been allowed to accumulate. The difficulty referred to was aggravated during the latter part of the year by the visit of the *Alabama* to the Eastern seas, whose raids amongst the Federal shipping and destruction of a barque in the neighbourhood of Singapore led to a blockade of all vessels sailing under the Federal flag, and enhanced freights already high. The steamer *Stirling*, under charter to the company, only arrived at Labuan, as the shareholders will recollect, at the end of December, too late of course to contribute towards the realisation of the coal up to the date of the accounts now published. The lease of the mines in this company's favour was signed on behalf of the Crown on the 30th April, and confers upon the company the exclusive power of mining coal in the island of Labuan for a period of twenty-one years from the 29th of December last, at a royalty of 6d. per ton on the quantity raised for the first seven years, and of 1s. per ton for the remainder of the lease, with the privilege of cutting timber, and occupying, rent free, any land required for the construction of railways or tramways, and the right of acquiring unappropriated surface land to the extent of 1,000 acres, at the price of £1 per acre.

The Chairman, having moved the reception and adoption of the report, adverted to the improved position of the company consequent upon the agreement entered into with the China and Japan Steam Navigation Company, by which that company took a minimum quantity of 20,000 tons of coal annually, at one guinea per ton. The quality of the coal continued to be highly spoken of by all who used it. There had been, unfortunately, during the past twelve months, a scarcity of tonnage, owing to the number of Federal ships shut out from the trade.—Mr. Mackenzie seconded the adoption of the report. Having referred to the many difficulties that the company had had to contend against, he stated that he considered the chief obstacles were now at an end.—The report was received and adopted.—The retiring directors and auditors were re-elected.—A special resolution was passed increasing the capital of the company by the issue of 5,000 new shares of £10 each, to be offered rateably to existing shareholders in the proportion of one new share to two old.—The proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Advices from Alexandria state that the balance-sheet of the Egyptian Trading Company has been made up, and that a dividend of at least 10 per cent. will shortly be declared, to be followed by another of like amount as soon as the fusion with the Egyptian Steam Navigation Company shall have been completed. The latter company, it is said, will distribute more than 20 per cent. to its shareholders for the second six months, which, with 18 per cent. already paid, makes 38 per cent. per annum. It appears also that a concession has been granted of a Credit Foncier for Egypt.

The biddings for 30,00,000 rupees (£300,000) in bills on India took place, as usual, at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were—to Calcutta, 18,00,000 rupees; and to Bombay, 12,00,000 rupees. The minimum price was as before, viz., 1s. 11¼d. per rupee on Calcutta and Madras; and 1s. 11⅜d. on Bombay. The applications within the limits amounted to 214 lacs. Tenders on Calcutta, at 1s. 11¼d. receive about 78 per cent.; on Bombay, at 2s., about 15 per cent.; and all above these prices in full. No allotment was made to Madras.

Mr. Heaton Robinson (son of Captain Robinson, R.N.), many years in the London and County Bank, goes out by the next mail to assume the duties of accountant to the Asiatic Bank at Colombo.

A notice has appeared in some of the daily papers of a protest issued in Bombay by the shareholders in the Commercial Bank of India against the issue of 9,600 shares lately made in London at £10 premium and of 400 to the directors at par. It appears that at a meeting of the shareholders held in Bombay, these proceedings were duly sanctioned by a large majority, and that the persons who have signed the protest are mostly new members. The qualification for the directors is fifty shares, and the 400 were simply reserved to issue to the eight gentlemen who were asked to join the London board, against which no reasonable complaint can be made. We may notice that the shares issued here at 10 are now quoted at 16 to 17 premium.

The report of the Ceylon Company, to be presented at the annual meeting on the 14th inst., states the profit for the twelve months to have amounted to £30,498, out of which a dividend is recommended at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, with a bonus of 2½ per cent., making together 10s. 6d. per share. This, with the interim dividend paid in December, will absorb £14,358, leaving £10,000 to be applied to a reserve fund, and £6,303 to be carried forward. The 6,200 shares not yet allotted, are to be offered to the existing proprietors at £2 pm.

The Trade and Navigation Accounts for the month, and the four months, ending the 30th April, renew the gratifying prospect afforded by the preceding returns of the present year. Though the Exports for the month are a little less in value than those of March, yet the increase for the whole year more than maintains the rates of progress exhibited in the first three months of 1864, as compared with the two antecedent years. The following is the return of the total declared Value of British and Irish Produce exported:—

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For the month ended 30th April.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
All articles	£9,822,888 ..	£11,897,177 ..	£13,225,039

For the four months ended 30th April.

All articles	£36,246,651 ..	£39,458,381 ..	£49,892,420

The Exports to the countries and ports of the Far East, in regard to the articles enumerated, are returned as follows :—

CHINA AND HONG KONG.

For the month ending 30th April.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
Cotton yarn	422,180 ..	58,060 ..	87,800 lbs.
Cotton manufactures ..	12,948,863 ..	2,778,951 ..	5,126,790 yds.
Wool and worsted manufactures	244,696 ..	201,157 ..	127,094 yds.
Worsted stuffs	577,437 ..	308,267 ..	662,384 yds.
Lead	622 ..	963 ..	479 tons

Value for the four months ending 30th April.

Cotton yarn	£97,926 ..	£25,265 ..	£67,524
Cotton manufactures	595,876 ..	232,167 ..	517,664
Wool and worsted manufactures	87,303 ..	102,317 ..	88,498
Lead	42,153 ..	112,531 ..	44,101

The Export of cotton manufactures for the month ending 30th April is given thus :—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
Singapore	2,940,928 ..	2,121,309 ..	3,932,323 yds.
Java	4,121,283 ..	— ..	2,211,958 „
Philippine Islands ..	1,759,914 ..	1,555,604 ..	— „

Value for the four months ending 30th April.

Singapore	£251,847 ..	£109,663 ..	£375,964
Java	188,068 ..	32,444 ..	231,101
Philippine Islands ..	97,062 ..	77,242 ..	162,159

Of Cotton Yarn, 136,000 lbs. were exported to Singapore in April, against 238,200 lbs. in April, 1863, and 182,300 lbs. in 1862; the value for the four months of 1864 being returned at £51,426, against £37,785 for the same period of 1863, and £40,571 in the year preceding.

Of Sugar, the importation from Java and the Philippine Islands has been as follows, for the month ending the 30th April :—2nd quality (not equal to white, but equal to brown clayed), 2 cwt.; 3rd quality (not equal to brown clayed), as entered previously to 16th April, 5,678 cwt.; 4th quality (not equal to Brown Muscavado), as entered subsequently to 16th April, 1,195 cwt. The quantity of 3rd quality from the Philippine Islands entered for Home Consumption in the four months ending 30th April (previous to the 16th April) was 164,879 cwt.; of 3rd quality (not equal to brown clayed, but equal to Brown Muscadova), entered subsequently to the 16th, 23,023 cwt.; and of 4th quality (not equal to Brown Muscavado), entered subsequently to the 16th, 26,545 cwt. The value of the sugar imported from the quarter mentioned during the three months ending 31st March (all of 3rd quality) is given at £33,066, against £252,221 in the same period of 1863, and £99,712 in 1862.

The quantity of Hemp imported from the Philippine Islands during the month of April was 41,727 cwt., being nearly the whole importation of the year, as the quantity for the four months is but 44,735 cwt. The value of this article of import from these islands for the first three months of the present year is only £5,264, against £75,250 in the same period of 1863, and £51,734 in 1862.

The Declared Value of British and Irish Produce and Manufactures exported from the United Kingdom to the parts named below, for the three months ending the 31st March, was as follows :—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
Singapore and the Eastern Straits	£320,162 ..	£172,673 ..	£429,366
Hong Kong	241,165 ..	268,403 ..	382,047
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	536,200 ..	455,219 ..	637,865
Netherlands India (Java, &c.) ..	185,326 ..	61,597 ..	244,503
Philippine Islands	101,921 ..	64,465 ..	213,587
Siam	— ..	1,374 ..	—
Japan	— ..	31,255 ..	79,111

One peculiar feature in the Trade Returns of the present year is the importance assumed by the shipments of Raw Cotton to this country from China. The quantity imported for the four months ending the 30th April is set down at 210,118 cwt., against 36,863 cwt. in the same period of 1863, and 9 cwt. in 1862. The value of the import for the three months ending 31st March was as follows :—1864, £939,637; 1863, £182,368; 1862, £32.

The value of the merchandise imported from the places undermentioned for the quarter ended on the 31st March last, compared with the corresponding periods of 1862 and 1863, is stated thus :—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
Singapore and the Eastern Straits	£380,831 ..	£312,091 ..	£273,252
Hong Kong	48,460 ..	212,759 ..	355,541
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	3,501,920 ..	4,526,927 ..	3,344,248
Japan	185,047 ..	385,566 ..	80,732
Netherlands India (Java, &c.) ..	660 ..	3,041 ..	8,279
Philippine Islands	208,603 ..	344,615 ..	44,743
Borneo	2,349 ..	— ..	6,626
Siam	17,414 ..	16,778 ..	—
Cochin China, Camboja, and Tonquin	— ..	— ..	4

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Delta*, from Southampton on the 4th inst., was in gold :—To Alexandria, £2,000; to Madras, £849. In silver :—To Calcutta, £10,000; to Penang, £2,000; to Singapore, £45,450; to Hong Kong, £14,930; to Yokohama, £2,700; to Foo-chow-Foo, £540; to Shanghai, £6,050. Total, in gold, £2,849; in silver, £82,470.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Busines done.
100	Agra and United Service, Limited	50	130 to 133	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	39 to 41	...
20	Do. New	15	17 to 19pm.	
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	68 to 70	...
25	Commercial Bank of India and the East, issued at 10 pm.	2½	6¾ to 7¼ pm.	...
50	London Joint Stock	10	46 to 47	...
100	London and Westminster	20	94 to 95	...
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	59 to 61	...
50	Union of London	13	57 to 59	...
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	7 to 8 pm.	...
100	Do. New	8	7 to 8 pm.	...
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	3¼ to 3¾ pm.	...
20	Do. New	10	—	...
25	Bank of Egypt	All	28⅛ to 29⅛	...
100	Bank of London	50	173 to 176	...
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	1½ to 1¾ pm.	...
	MISCELLANEOUS			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	2⅛ to 8⅛	...
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	81 to 83	
50	Do. New	30	18 to 20 pm.	
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	...	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	...	...
2	Telegraph to India Company	2	⅛ to ¼ dis.	...
5	Bombay Gas	All	par to ¼ pm.	...
10	E. I. and London Shipping B.	All	3 to 6	...
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	8	2 to 1⅛ dis.	...
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	¼ to ⅜ pm.	...
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	20 to 21	...
1	Oriental Gas	All	1⅛ to 1⅛ xd.	...
1	Do. New	¼	⅛ to ⅜ pm. xd.	...
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2⅛ to 3	...
100	West India Steam Company	60	90 to 92	...
20	Ceylon Company	7	4¼ to 5⅛ pm.	...
20	International Finance Society	5	5⅛ to 5¼ pm.	...
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	3⅛ to 3⅜ pm. xn	...
50	London Financial Association	15	11⅛ to 12 pm.	...
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	2	2⅛ to 2⅜ pm.	...
20	Société Financiére d'Egypte	6	1 to ⅛ dis.	...
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	18⅛ to 19⅛	...
20	British Indian Tea	5	par to ¼ pm.	...
10	Upper Assam Tea	1¼	1¾ to 2⅛ pm.	...
10	Do.	All	—	...

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Importers seeing the quantity afloat now reduced to only about 5,000,000 lbs., have shown great firmness, whilst confidence has also been imparted to the trade by several speculative purchases of blackish-leaf Congous, and the result has been a larger amount of business than for some time past, and prices show an advance of ½d. to 1d. per lb. on red-leaf Congous, and 1d. to 1½d. per lb. on blackish-leaf kinds, from the lowest point of the market in May. The small quantity declared for public sale, without reserve, being only 5,950 packages, as compared with 38,150 packages in May, has also tended to strengthen the market, which closes with a steady although not active demand. Low and dusty kinds of Congou have been in fair request, and prices have advanced about ½d. per lb. Fair to good common remain much as before, export orders being limited. The fair flavory kinds have been more saleable, and may be quoted ½d. to 1d. dearer, also fair to good Kaisow kinds. Common to good blackish-leaf kinds have been taken on speculation, and prices have rallied 1d. to 1½d. per lb. from the extreme low point of last month. Good to fine Moning and Kaisow kinds continue firmly supported at full prices; in the finest kinds of both but little has been done. Tayshans show no material alteration; of the new make from Canton there have been no fresh arrivals. Oolongs remain much as before. In Souchongs there have been a few sales at about previous prices. Flowery Pekoes continue to sell at low prices, chiefly at public sale, without reserve. There has been more doing in Scented Orange Pekoes both from Canton and Foo-chow, and prices have recovered from ½d. to 1d. per lb.; some few purchases have been made on speculation. Scented Capers remain much as before; fine, of Canton make, are scarce, and command full prices. In the absence of general export demand for America, Uncoloured Japans have been less saleable, and prices must be quoted ½d. to 1d. per lb. lower. There have been no further public sales of Indian Tea. Green Teashave sold very readily, and prices for Gunpowders have advanced from 2d. to 3d. per lb. for the Ping Suey kinds, whilst Moyunes have been saleable at the extreme previous quotations. Twankays and Hyson skins have not sold so readily. Young Hysons have been fairly supported. Hysons have sold at full prices. Canton made Gunpowders have sold rather higher, also good to fine make Young Hysons.

SILK.—We have had on the whole a fair amount of business in China and Japan Silk during the past month, and notwithstanding the stringency of the money market, prices have shown a tendency to improve. The probable result of the European crop has absorbed the attention of the trade, and although for some time past complaints have been heard, it is only within the last few days that the accounts have been so unfavourable as to materially stimulate purchases. The reduction of the Bank rate from 9 to 8 per cent., and subsequently to 7 per cent., with every prospect of increasing ease, has encouraged buyers, hence we have at the present moment a somewhat excited market, and prices are fully 6d. per lb. dearer than they were a fortnight since. The Deliveries continue on the most meagre scale, being only 2,595 bales of China, and 1,317 bales of Japan. Bengal silk has continued in fair request during the past month, and certainly at present prices it appears to be relatively cheaper than any other class of silk. At New York the quotations are:—Canton re-reeled Cumchook, No. 1, $9 to

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$9. 75.; Japan, $8. 50. to $11.; Tsatlees, Nos. 1 and 2, $9. 1. 4 to $9. 75.; Taysaams.—Usual Reel, Nos. 1 and 2, $8. 25. to $9. 25.; ditto, Nos. 3 and 4, $8 to $8. 25.

	Ordinary, s. d.	s. d.	Superior. s. d.	s. d.
Tsatlee, No. 1 and 2	23 0 to 24	6		
„ No. 3 and 4	21 0	22 6	22 6	23 0
„ No. 5	19 6	20 6		
Ditto, Hang-Chow	20 0	20 6	20 6	21 0
Yuenfa	13 6	20 6	21 6	23 6
Taysaam	17 0	19 6	20 0	21 0
Ditto, skeins	16 0	16 6	17 0	
Ditto, long reel	17 0	18 0	18 6	19 0
Canton	11 0	16 6	17 0	17 6
Chinese Thrown	15 0	19 0	21 0	22 0
Maibash, dyepot Japan	21 6	23 0	22 6	24 6
Ida, bricks	18 6	20 6	23 0	26 0
Sodai „	19 6	21 6	22 0	23 0
Oshu, re-reeled	18 6	20 6	21 6	22 6
Koshu, Selé	19 6	21 0	21 6	22 6
Aechezan, slips	15 0	19 6	20 6	22 0
Mashtah „	17 0	19 0	19 6	21 6
Hatchojee, Tussah	17 0	18 6	19 6	

STATE OF THE WAREHOUSES.

	Sold Stock. June 1, 1864.	June 1, 1863.	Unsold Stock. June 1, 1864.	June 1, 1863.	Delivered. Jan. 1 to June 8, 1864.	Jan. 1 to June 8, 1863.
Bengal	1,296	989	5,582	3,328	2,229	3,075
China	7,687	9,441	6,670	12,522	12,269	22,197
Japan	3,675	4,189	4,803	4,340	7,925	7,533
Canton	577	1,314	208	913	1,366	1,645
hinese Thrown	377	804	417	857	425	902

SUGAR.—After a period of considerable animation, there has been latterly a return of general quietness, and a limited business has been done at some decline; but compared with those of the 9th ultimo (states the Price Current of Messrs. Carey and Browne) present quotations still show an average improvement of 1s. per cwt., and at the close a firmer tone is apparent. The limited supply of Penang in public sale has mostly found free buyers at relatively full prices. Clayed Manila, although not at all times meeting an active inquiry, has commanded a similar advance to that established on other sorts, and a rather extensive business has been done. In Unclayed moderate transactions have been effected, both on the spot and to arrive, also at improved rates. During the past month there have been sold:—200 tons Penang, good middling to fine brown, 38s. 6d. to 40s. 6d.; low and middling yellow, 41s. 6d. to 43s.; good middling to good grocery, 43s. 6d. to 44s. 6d.; 4,500 clayed Manila, commencing at 37s., and closing at 38s. 6d. to 39s.; 300 tons unclayed, at 35s. 6d. to 36s., chiefly the former price; and 350 tons to arrive, at 27s. 3d., for Liverpool. 80,400 baskets of Java, brought to auction by the Dutch Trading Company on the 24th May, were cleared off at an advance of nearly one guilder on the rates of March last, or 1 to 1½ guilder above the valuations.

COFFEE.—After extensive public sales, the value of Plantation receded about 1s. per cwt., at which decline there has lately been more inclination to buy, and rather stiffer rates have been paid. Native has, in general, been of slow sale, and being held with some firmness, transactions were restricted at about the former currency till recently, when a reduction of about 6d. per cwt. was established. Mocha has been but little inquired for, and with an indifferent supply, scarcely anything has been done. Only small quantities of other East India kinds have been brought to auction, which have met few bids, and been but partly realised. The total transactions of the month are, of Ceylon, 6,500 casks, 5,100 barrels and bags plantation, at first, fine to fine fine ordinary, 77s. to 80s., low middling and middling 81s. to 84s., latterly, fine fine ordinary to low middling, 78s. to 82s., middling to good middling, 82s. 6d. to 85s., fine 86s. to 92s.; and 800 casks, 7,500 bags native, good to real good ordinary, 68s. 6d. to 69s. 6d., fine ordinary to superior, 70s. to 71s.; also 700 bags fine ordinary Malabar and Cochin at 74s. to 75s. 6d.; 450 bags yellowish Singapore, 72s. 6d. to 73s. 6d., and 140 bags good Neilgherry at 88s.

COTTON.—There was only a moderate demand in the London market last week, and with a very dull market prices declined about ¼d. per lb. for Western, China, and Japan. Of sales for arrival there were 250 bales Japan, 19d. for March shipment, guaranteed fair. At Liverpool, prices for China have fallen fully ¼d. per lb. For delivery, the closing quotations were, China, July or August, 18¾d. Messrs. Whitaker, Whitehead, and Co. report that the state in which most of the cotton is landed is the reason why China is for the time out of favour.

RICE—During the greater part of the interval since the 9th ultimo, the market has had a dull aspect, and (excepting new Ballam, which has sold readily at full prices) transactions were but slowly concluded until the last week, when a report of the repeal of the duty on this article in France produced an inquiry from speculators, and a fair business has been done at a slight improvement. Common to fair Madras 8s. 6d. to 9s. 7½d., and old Rangoon 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d.

CAMPHOR.—Moderate business in China at 95s. per cwt., at which rate there are still sellers; and of Japan at 100s.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Transactions uninteresting. Buds: Continue to sell slowly at the higher quotation of £16 per cwt.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Steady; only 15 bags at auction sold at £5 per cwt., and there is a little more inquiry. Dragon's Blood and Galangal Root: Nothing of the least consequence doing in either. Rhubarb: Some inquiry, but upon lower terms; no auctions.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Fine qualities, both of Siam and Sumatra, wanted, and scarce. Only 38 cases Sumatra at auction, sold at 35s. per cwt. for low fourth quality. Damer: Remains flat; 40 cases at auction all retired. Gamboge: Steady; 8 cases at auction all retired at high prices.

GUTTA PERCHA.—The market has become flat, with sellers were there before buyers; supplies augmenting, no auctions. India-rubber: Not any auctions; private business very limited; no change in value.

HEMP.—Manila: Firm, and in demand; 20s. to 30s. per ton advance obtained on moderate sales.

JAPAN WAX.—Quiet, and without any business of importance to report.

OILS.—Aniseed: Firm, with limited business at 6s. 9d. to 6s. 10d. per lb. Cajaputa: None here; some inquiry. Cassia: Very large transactions have taken place at 9s. to 9s. 3d. per lb., and the oil is now firm at the higher figure; only 4 cases at auction retired at 9s. 4d. Cinnamon: A single case at auction, sold at 2s. 1d. per oz. for fair quality. Mace and Nutmegs: Two cases sold at auction at 2¼d to 2¾d. per. oz., being dearer.

SAGO.—In the early part of the month 500 boxes pressed for sale went at a depreciation of 6d. to 1s. per cwt., fair to good small Pearl 22s. 6d. to 23s., since which the article has been difficult to realize but at a further slight decline; of 1,063 boxes lately offered, 1,000 boxes were sold, middling small 21s. 6d. to 22s.; Borneo Company's fine small and small medium 22s. to 23s. 6d. Flour: There has been more demand, and with little offering, limited sales have taken place at an advance of 1s. per cwt. on the rates of the 9th ultimo. Tapioca: During the month, 1,258 bags fair white Penang were with difficulty disposed of at 2¾d. which was a decline of ¼d. per lb., and of the large amount (4,600 bags) in auction since, barely half has been realized, common to good middling 2d. to 2¼d., good 3d, siftings 1½d. to 1¾d., a few lots fine 3½d. to 3¾d. Pearl: Has advanced about 1s. per cwt., 300 cases good white having been taken at 23s. 6d. to 24s. 6d.

SPICES.—Cloves: Penang rather lower; and of 33 cases at auction, only one-fourth sold at 1s. 1¾d. to 1s. 2¼d. per lb. for good: in Zanzibar moderate business has been done privately at high prices; 25 bags at auction retired. Mace: Lower; and of 52 cases Penang, and 11 cases Singapore at auction, half sold at 1s. 7d. per lb. for low dull red to middling palish. Sales advertised. Nutmegs: Are on the average fully 1d. per lb. cheaper; of 254 cases Penang, 9 cases Singapore, and 17 cases Batavia at auction, the bulk sold at 2s. 7d. to 3s. 7d. per lb. for ordinary to fair bold, and 11d. to 2s. ordinary small and shrivelled to fine medium. Pepper: Black remains very flat, with limited business privately at rather lower prices; 1,679 bags Singapore at auction, all retired; and of 762 bags Penang two-thirds sold at 3¼d. per lb. White: Firm, 193 bags Singapore at auction sold at 5⅝d. to 6d. per lb. for fair to good; and 126 bags Penang sold at 5⅞d. to 6⅝d., for fair to fine.

TOBACCO.—Manila Leaf: The *Helvetien*, after calling at Falmouth, sailed for the Continent. Manila Cigars and Cheroots: Rather easier; the greater portion here is inferior. Japan: Sold at lower rates. Java: Good classes wanted; medium in fair request; inferior and musty parcels neglected. Quotations: Manila Cigars and Cheroots, 7s. to 7s. 6d; Manila leaf, none; Japan, 4d. to 8d.; Java, 6d. to 1s. 1d.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: This market remains quiet. 185 bags at auction sold at 25s. 6d. to 26s. per cwt. for good quality, private business has been limited, upon former currency. Gambier is again dearer; 508 packages good sold at auction at 24s. 3d. to 26s. per cwt. for block, and 28s. Cubes; a good deal of inquiry privately, with fair business up to 26s. 6d., both on the spot and for arrival; Cubes have realised 30s.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Blacklead: Steady; and of 738 barrels at auction half sold at 12s. 6d. to 21s. per cwt. for middling to fine lump, and 4s. to 10s. 9d. low to fine dust. Galls: All kinds—Bussorah, China, and Japan—are still scarce and in demand. We quote Japan and China 80s. to 100s. per cwt. 50 cases China at auction retired at 120s., and 12 cases Japan sold at 87s. 6d. Musk: Of 155 caddies Tonquin at auction, the whole sold with fair spirit at quite the average valuations; 23s. to 34s. per oz. for ordinary rough to very good selected; and 17s. to 20s. 6d. pickings: 3 tins Nepaul sold at 7s. 6d. to 8s., and of 5 tins Grain, 2 sold at 46s. 6d. to 48s. 6d. for good. Rattans: Are again rather cheaper, with ample supply, and 1,446 bundles Singapore, and 7,092 bundles Penang at auction sold at 3s. 11d. to 6s. 1d. per 100. Sapanwood: Held firmly, stock diminishing; 17 tons Siam at auction all retired; some inquiry. Star Aniseeds: We continue without any stock; much wanted. Siam Sticklack: No auctions held; limited sales effected privately upon previous terms. Elephants' Teeth: From £34 to £53 per cwt. for sound Siam ivory, which is always of very ready sale. Tortoise-shell: Of 5 cases Singapore at auction 2 cases sold at 10s. to 13s. per lb. for common; 2 cases Macassar retired; fair demand privately, and several cases sold. Turmeric: No China here, and nothing of any importance doing in Java. Vermilion: Quiet, 13 boxes at auction, retired at 2s. 10d. per lb.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £8. 10s.; nail rod, £9. 10s.; hoops, £11; sheets, single £12; Staffordshire bars, £10 rails, £7. 10s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £105 per ton; yellow metal, 8½d. to 9d. per lb.

TIN.—108s. for block; 109s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 30s. to 31s. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £21. 15s. to £22; W.B., £23; shot, patent, £24; sheet, £22; spelter, £23. 5s. to £23. 10s.; zinc, English sheet, £26. 10s.; quicksilver, £8. 15s.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—Notwithstanding the money market was much less stringent, business in metals did not improve during the past month. The disturbed state of political affairs on the continent, added to the uncertainty as to the duties payable in the Northern States of America, checks transactions of moment. Iron: Scotch Pig has not varied much the last few weeks, and speculative transactions have been inconsiderable. Welsh Iron is in moderate demand. Rails are steadily inquired for. Staffordshire is quiet. Copper is more inquired for. The second-hand parcels are gradually clearing off the market Foreign quiet. Yellow Metal is in better demand. Tin: In English few purchases have been made, excepting at from £2 to £3 per ton below official quotations. Smelters have been rather firmer. In Straits a speculative inquiry arose about a week since, and up to 110s. was paid at three months' prompt; but on the announcement of the Dutch Company's sale, for the 29th inst., when probably 150,000 slabs will be offered, the market became dull. The Dutch Company propose also to sell again in March, 1865, which considerably shortens the period for

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peculative operations. We quote Banca 112s.; Straits, 107s., cash. Tin Plates: The demand for Charcoal is moderately good, but for Coke very flat. The quantity shipped to all parts last month was about 118,000 boxes, against 77,000 boxes in May, 1863. Lead: The price is maintained, but the demand is not quite so active. Spelter has continued to advance; the last quotation was £23. 10s. for 25 tons on spot. The stock has increased during the month about 800 tons. Stock in London 12,448 tons, against 4,790 tons 1st June, 1863. Quicksilver is easier, £8. 15s. per bottle.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£147,275
Foo-chow-Foo	—	6,970
Hong Kong	£5,000	360,537
Amoy	—	—
Singapore	£3,750	161,125
Penang	—	102,095

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£38,245
Hong Kong	£31,568	81,520
Singapore	—	18,920
Penang	—	5,832
Foo-chow-Foo	—	1,000

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 3½
Silver in Bars	0 5 1
Mexican Dollars	0 5 2

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

Mr. Mendel's Circular states that there is an absence of pressure, and stocks keep very moderate: Grey Shirtings, 7 lbs., 17s. 6d. to 17s. 9d.; 9 lbs., 23s. Cotton Yarns, 16-24, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 7d.; 28-32, 2s. 10d. to 2s. 11d. Maddapollams, 7s. 9d. Long Cloths, 20s. 3d. T-Cloths, 13s. 9d. White Spot Shirtings, 21s. 6d.; White Brocade do., 21s. 9d.; White Damasks, 37s. 6d.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
May31	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Kanagawa	Ouwehand.
June 3	Clyde	Singapore	Spanker	Candlish.
May18	Halifax	Shanghai	Romeo	Fairbanks.
June 6	Deal	Kanagawa	Gouv. v. Swieten	V. Fagg.
— 4	Off Dover	Batavia	Maria Catharina	Boss.
May23	New York	Shanghai	Rudolph	Luders.
June 6	Falmouth	Manila	Manila	Alcatena.
—	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Constantia	Robertson.
May30	Gothenburg	Pasaroeang	Dygden	Ahrenberg.
June 4	Brouwershaven	Java	Maria L. Antoinette	Muysson.
May22	Boston	Manila	Castilian	Pike.
— 25	Montreal	Shanghai	Henriette E. Susanne	
June 9	Off Liverpool	Hong Kong	Devonshire	

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
June 2	Shields	Shanghai	Lalla Rookh	
May11	St. Vincent	China	H.M.S. Adventure	
Apr.28	Rio Janeiro	Hong Kong	Promise, str.	Bain.
— 29	Do.	Singapore	Alexandra	Tacherning.
June 4	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Falcon	O'Sullivan.
— 1	Sunderland	Shanghai	Oriental Queen	Walker.
— 3	Swansea	Singapore	Sud	Malchow.
— 2	Shields	Shanghai	Ensign	
— 4	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Lodore	Morrison.
— 4	Do.	Singapore	Spirit of the Sea	Maguire.
— 6	London	Cardiff & Shanghai	Stuart Wortley	Nicholson.
— 6	Do.	Cardiff & Singapore	Ocean Bride	Giffard.
— 4	Off Portsmouth	Batavia	Telanak	Popken.
— 4	Liverpool	Shanghai	Sea Horse	Carty.
— 7	London	Singapore	Coromandel	Spence.
— 7	Do.	Kanagawa & Nagasaki	Velocidade	Wyrill.
— 6	Deal	Batavia	Kon. Ned. Yacht Club	Zwart.
— 3	Do.	Do.	Pres. van Ryckevorsel	Vogelensang.
— 4	Off the Eddystone	Do.	Stadt	
— 3	Sunderland	Hong Kong	J. M. Joshua	Ferguson.
— 7	Deal	Singapore	Louis Kniffler	
May30	Channel	Batavia	Graafstroom	De Boer.
— 28	Off the Start	Macassar & H. Kong	Solide	Breems.
June 7	Newport	Shanghai	John C. Munro	Ward.
— 4	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Orion	Timme.
— 4	Do.	Do.	Wartberg	Geven.
— 5	Do.	Singapore	Marianne	Ugler.
— 7	Shields	Do.	Warrior	
— 6	Hartlepool	Do.	Queen of Commerce	Wilkinson.
— 8	Falmouth	Batavia	Nicolas Witsen	Portengen.
— 6	Sunderland	Singapore	John Ritson	
— 8	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Mary Mildred	Vine.
— 8	Do.	Batavia & Sourabaya	Heilige Liduina	Brink.
— 8	Do.	Manila	Elise	Rivero.
— 9	Liverpool	Hong Kong & Canton	Juanpore	Brown.
May18	New York	Shanghai	Eastern Light	Cruikshank.
— 19	Do.	Batavia	Oceannes	Dirksen.
— 16	Do.	Hong Kong	Caroline	Tricker.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa and Nagasaki: Julia, Seringapatam. For Shanghai: Antipodes, Aurora Australis, Tamerlane, Sir Harry Parkes. For Hong Kong and Canton: Sovereign of India, Oithona, Pak-Wan. For Hong Kong: Maiden Queen. For Manila: Angela. For Singapore: Early Dawn, Alexandra. For Penang: Mangerton.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Alice, Twilight. For Hong Kong: Virginia (via Cardiff), Falcon, Prince Arthur. For Singapore: Mount Vernon, Drache. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Ocean. For Sourabaya, Gazelle. For Manila: Jesus.

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore and Kanagawa: Stad Enschedi. For the Cape, Singapore, and Hong Kong: Glengyle (str.). For Batavia and Sourabaya: City of Lanark.

SPOKEN.

APPOLINE, London to Shanghai, March 30, 28 N., 24 W.
SPEY (Dutch ship), Amsterdam to Batavia, April 4, 16 N., 28 W.
RANGOON, Shields to Singapore, 28 S., 37 W.
STAR OF THE OCEAN, Cardiff to Hong Kong, 37 S., 7 E.
CATHARINA MARIA, Bat. to Hol., 123 days out, 25 May, 49 N., 20 W.
HENDRIKA, Sourabaya to Rotterdam, April, 11 S., 105 E.
VOLUNTEER, Shanghai to New York, April 17, 22 S., 76 E.
PEKING, Java to Amsterdam, 26 March, 33 S., 34 E.
CONSTANCE, Newport to Singapore, March 9, 37 S., 1 W.
KESTREL, London to Hong Kong, 31 days out, Feb. 8, 3 S., 24 W.
JASMI, ? Canton to Nantes, Jan. 12, 1 N., 22 W.
PHILIP 1., Swansea to Hong Kong, May 19, 47 N., 20 W.
JOHANNA, Samarang to Amsterdam, April 23, near Anjer.
GLIDE, Batavia to Rotterdam, April 5, 37 S., 25 E.
ROBUR (French ship), Antwerp to Singapore, June 4.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Cissy, Macedon, Nelly, Mary Shepherd, Millbrook, Meppel, Alexander, Ann Adamson, and Cymbeline. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, Forerunner, and Vampyre. At NEW YORK: Benefactor and Osborne.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Ethel, Monarch, Belle, Annie Archbell, Ben Voirlich, Stornoway, M. M. Peter, Wm. Thompson, Samuel, Sea Witch, Spirit of the North, Daybreak, Black Watch, Queen's Own, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Thomas and Rebecca, Robert Henderson, Magnus, Josephine, Glaramara, Sappho, and Charles Davenport. At LIVERPOOL: Fort William, Advance, Simoda, Berwickshire, Joshua Bates, Wm. Dawson, Cornelia, Inamhore, Alchymist, Express, Isabella Hercus, Nancy Brysson, Thomas Royden, Regina, Victory, Bertie, Helena, Black Prince, Glengairn, Bristow, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Antelope, Bentinck, Polmaise, George Ruxton, Blackburn, Macassar, Berdinkha, Crest of the Wave, Patrician, Vanguard, and Ann Forster. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Encounter. At FALMOUTH: Divina and Panama. At BORDEAUX: Johanna. At HAMBURG: Alt Mecklenburg, and Gravina. At NEW YORK: Eva, Lettice Catharina, Dorchester, Volunteer, Egean, Hermann, Haversham, Canton, Neuhof, Mecklenburg, Lord Collingwood, Silvercraig, St. Paul, Sophia, and Mercara. At MONTREAL: Tycoon and Madura.

From MANILA.—At FALMOUTH: Maggie Lauder. At LIVERPOOL: Aureliana, Teide, Burdoes y Habana No. 1, J.A.U., Concepcion, Bella Gallega, Lyolla and Cervantes (via Cadiz). At COWES: John Banfield. At ROTTERDAM: Zanibar. At NEW YORK: Surprise, Willy, Solo, Argonaut and Ocean Eagle.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Eliza Thornton, Oscar, Confiance, Najade, and Chili. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Centaur and Pearl. At LIVERPOOL: Bellad Gallega, C. Chisholm, and Victory. At FALMOUTH (for orders): Helene. At BORDEAUX: Salares and Java. At NEW YORK: Caroline, Rudolf, Harzburg, and Reynard.

From BATAVIA.—At LONDON: West. At FALMOUTH: Fredrika.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Edinburgh Castle, and Devonvale. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Outward freights remain quiet, and the tonnage on the different berths is more than sufficient for the present export trade. Coal freights from the outports are also without animation. Homeward freights are good; ships are in request for teak from Maulmain and Sarawak; and for rice from Akyab and the usual ports; and for general cargoes from the Malabar coast and Java. Small vessels can be easily fixed for time employment in the Eastern and China Seas.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: 36, and £1. 18s. For Shanghai: £45 to £50, and £2. 9s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £26. 10s., and £1. 5s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

CASUALTIES.

The Zanzibar, Maack, from Batavia for Rotterdam, put into Simon's Bay April 13 for spars, sails, &c., lost in a hurricane off Mauritius. The repairs required are extensive, chiefly masts and spars.

AT MAURITIUS.—May 5th, from Singapore, Pamellad de Noqueira; 6th, Urbane, Booker, sailed for Singapore; April 11, Kiu Kiang, steamer, from New York for Shanghai; 29th, Argonaut, Norton, from Manila for New York, leaky in her upper works.

STEAMERS FOR THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM COMPANY.—Messrs. Denny and Co., of Dumbarton, have launched a screw of 1,014 tons, named the *Punjab*: and Messrs. Simons and Co., of Renfrew, a screw of 800 tons, named the *Madras*, to be commanded by Captain Bowers, late of the China trade.

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Sold Retail—London: Joseau, Hannay. New York: Fougera, Gaudelet, Milhau. Gibraltar: Patron and Danilowich. Malta: Dr. Pirotti, A. Bugeja, Magri, and A. Rolando Esperanza. Alexandria: Bellamore, Galette, Perini. Bombay: Franjee Nesserwanjee and Co. Singapore: Martin and Little. Batavia: L. Platon and Co. Macao: J. D. Freita.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.—The most reliable intelligence from these colonies is given in the AUSTRALIAN and NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE, published every Saturday, price 6d., free by post.

London: F. ALGAR, 11, Clement's-lane, City.

THE CANADIAN NEWS and BRITISH COLUMBIAN INTELLIGENCER gives the latest intelligence from all parts of Canada and the new Gold Fields, also Original Correspondence from Canada, &c Price post free, 5d.

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(On Thursday Night).

PRICE—15 dols. per annum; Single Copies, 44 cents.

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3.—THE OVERLAND MAIL.
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Pickled Limes	1s. 6d.
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Tamarind Fish	2s. 6d. and 5s.
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Preserved Mangoes	2 [illegible] 3s.
Do. Jamaica Ginger	[illegible] 3s. 6d.
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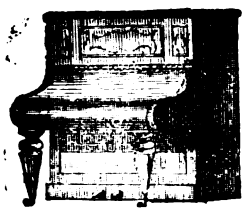

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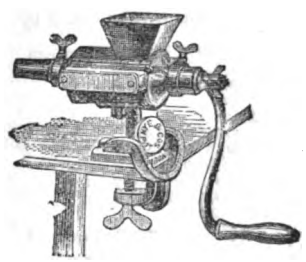

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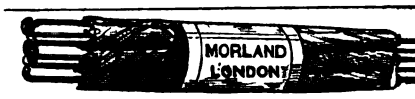

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3½ in. „ white	15 0	12 6	6 0
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12 Table Spoons	1 7 0	2 14 0	2 16 0	2 14 0
12 Dessert Forks	1 1 0	2 2 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
12 Dessert Spoons... ...	1 1 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
12 Tea Spoons...	0 10 6	1 4 0	1 4 0	1 8 0

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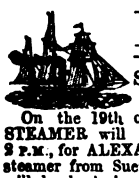

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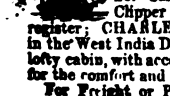

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Kanagawa & Nagasaki	Seringapatam	W.I.D.	With des.
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FOR SHANGHAI, to sail on the 20th June, the splendid Clyde-built Clipper TAMERLANE, A 1 12 years; 764 tons register; ADAM LOGAN, Commander; lying in the St. Katharine's Docks. This Ship has just made the passage from China in ninety-four days.

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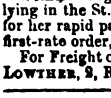

FOR YOKOHAMA AND NAGASAKI, to sail on the 25th June, the well-known clipper ship JULIA. A 1; 477 tons register; DAVID FORMAN, Commander; lying in the St. Katharine Docks. This ship is celebrated for her rapid passages in the China trade, and is now in first-rate order, being newly classed A 1 at Lloyd's.

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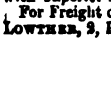

FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the well-known clipper ship OITHONA, A 1 thirteen years; 766 tons register; WILLIAM HOLMES, Commander; lying in the West India Docks. This ship has a full poop, with superior accommodation for passengers.

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JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE FIFTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 28th December, 1863. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 141.] LONDON, FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 13s. extra.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Kanagawa			April 27
	Nagasaki			„ 20
	Hakodadi			
CHINA—				
	Peking			„ 21
	Tien-tsin			„ 22
	Hankow			„ 30
	Shanghai	March 10	April 27	May 6
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 7
	Amoy			„ 9
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	„ 26	May 6	„ 13
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	„ 10	April 27	„ 6
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Touron			
	Saigon			May 2
SIAM—				
	Bankok			„ 10
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			April 21
	Sarawak			„ 5
JAVA—				
	Batavia			„ 16
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	March 26	April 29	May 21
	Penang	„ 26	„ 27	„ 23

The French Mail, with dates from Hong Kong to May 26, arrived at Suez on June 27, and is expected in London on the 7th inst.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, to Marseilles, per Delta, arrived June 29.—From Hong Kong: Mr. C. F. Davies. From Shanghai: Mr. Mayers. From Singapore: Mr. Wehle.

To Southampton, Per Syria, expected to arrive July 6.—From Hong Kong: Mr. R. Eyre, Mr. G. Woodcock, Mr. Smith's two children, J. Milne. From Singapore: Mr. Kyser. From Shanghai: Mrs. Crane and infant, Capt. and Mrs. Warden. Remained in Egypf.—From Hong Kong: Mr. E. H. Green.

By last Bombay mail.—To Suez.—From Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain and native servant. To Alexandria.—From Hong Kong: Mr. Haward.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, June 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. J. Hassall, Paymaster W. E. Chown, R.N., two second-class passengers. To Singapore: One second-class passenger. To Calcutta: Mr. Albert Weylands, Mr. A. F. Danill, Mrs. King, Mr. M. Chapman, Mr. J. A. Loch, Capt. J. George, Mr. Dyer, twelve second class passengers. To Madras: Colonel G. A. Baillie, two second-class passengers. To Ceylon: Miss J. Scott, Mr. J. L. and Mrs. Vanderspar and four children, Mr. C. E. Karslake, Mr. T. F. Lee, Surgeon-Major McDonald, Mr. W. Law, Mr. J. A. Franklin, Mr. and Mrs. Park, ten second-class passengers. To Alexandria: Prince Mohamed, Prince Abdoolah, and servant.

From Marseilles, June 29.—To Singapore: Mr. Reme. To Shanghai: Mr. Blekman, Mr. Blekman, Junior, and European male servant, the Japanese Embassy (18) and Suite (15), T. J. Jackson. To Calcutta: Mr. G. F. Hills, Mr. E. T. Ansell, Captain G. H. Elliott, Mr. W. Wynter, Captain Hale, Mr. J. D. Nichol, Mr. H. W. Harrison, Major D. P. Browne, Mr. Ridge, Mr. A. S. Carter. To Ceylon: Mr. Paul.

Per P. and O. steamer Baroda, July 4, from Southampton.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. Turner. To Hong Kong: Lieut. L. Geneste, R.N. From Marseilles, July 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. R. Stewart.

Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, July 20, from Southampton.—To Penang: Mrs. Smith, two Misses Smith. From Marseilles, July 28.—To Shanghai: Mr. C. Ziegler.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Nepaul*, with dates from London to the 26th February, arrived at Yokohama from Shanghai on the 24th April. The advices thence to the 27th of April are of considerable interest, as they render it clear that changes of great importance are going forward in Japan, which, we cannot but believe, will turn out to be favourable to the further extension of commerce and of friendly intercourse with the rest of the world. We subjoin the statements made by our contemporaries of the Island Empire of the East, who, as usual, contradict each other in all the details, but still leave enough certain to show that some event has lately occurred of so much import as, by the formal admission of the authorities themselves, to mark an era in the history of Japan. The *Daily Commercial News* of the 20th April, after preluding on the great difficulty of obtaining correct information in such a country, stating that the natives themselves are often divided on questions of fact, and that there "are contradictory rumours abroad concerning recent affairs at Miako," continues as follows:—

"The Nengo, or name of the era, was changed on the first day of the third moon, from Bunkin to Genji. There have been eight different Nengo since the year 1804. It is not easy to discover the occasion of these changes, in most instances. They are, however, always made on the first year of a new cycle of sixty. Sometimes they are significant of a change in the policy or administrative measures of the Government, at others of the accession of a new Emperor to the throne, and at others of some remarkable disturbance in the country, whether physical or political. We know not what other occurrences may give rise to the introduction of a new Nengo. Of the eight that have been made in the present century, we notice that three have been coincident with the arrival of foreigners in some part of Japan, viz: a Russian Envoy in 1804 at Nagasaki, an English ship at Uraga in 1818, and a Dutch envoy in 1844. Three were ordered in years of great earthquakes, or in the year following such a phenomenon, and one was introduced in the beginning of 1860, the year after the opening of the ports to foreign trade. The new Nengo of the present month, like that of 1804, marks the first year of a cycle. The intervals between the Nengo of the present century are of very unequal lengths, varying from fourteen to four years. We cannot suppose that these changes are to be attributed to the mere whims of His Imperial Majesty or his advisers. False and deceitful the Japanese authorities unquestionably are, but they are not fools; and unless the information which we can glean from retainers of the Tycoon and Daimios, as well as from other sources, is false, there is enough in recent movements at the capital to furnish a better reason for adopting a new Nengo than the mere fact that this year is the first of a cycle. We give our readers the substance of the reports which have been made to us, and they will be able to judge whether, granting them to be true, we have made too much of them.

"It is proposed at Miako (so say persons connected with the palace of the Tycoon), that the Imperial Court or Dairi be removed to the Eastward, that is to Yedo or its vicinity, and that all the Daimios be required to repair thither with their families, as of old. Whether this denotes that the sovereign is to abdicate in favour of one of his sons, and to come to Yedo to reside as an ex-Emperor, bringing the members of his household with him, or whether the 'Capital of the Tycoon' is to become the seat of the Imperial Government, it is difficult to determine from the wording of our correspondents.

"It would appear that Yedo is to be the seat of government if we may believe another statement, namely, that the Tycoon is to be raised to the position of a member of the Royal families; and by virtue of that elevation is to be relieved from the duties of the Shoogunship, which are hereafter to be per-

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formed by the Gosanke, or the heads of the three families in whose line the office of Tycoon descends. Thus Owari, Kiushiu, and Mito are to perform the functions of the Tycoon in yearly rotation. To this latter arrangement the Prince of Karga is said to refuse his consent, and that for this cause Stotsbashi has begged leave to retire from public life.

"Aidz is to be placed in command of the army, and Owari, Kiushiu, and Satsuma to be charged with the management of trade with foreign countries, and a congress of the Daimios is to assemble to decide upon the above-mentioned changes.

"If the half of all this should be done Japan would have, indeed, entered upon a new cycle in its history, as well as in its years, and the era of its commencement may well be called 'Genji,' or that of an initial or new Government. There can be no question that affairs in this country for some time past have been rapidly tending towards an important crisis of some kind, and those who are aware of the pressure of the various forces both within or without will not be greatly surprised at an organic change in the Government as great as that indicated by the reports we publish to-day

"Many of the difficulties which the trade with Japan has had to contend with have risen from the hostility of the great Daimios to the Tycoon. It wounds the pride of these Princes to see the Tycoon increasing his wealth, power, and dignity by means of the large revenue he derives from the foreign trade, while they receive no share in its profits, or at least no fair proportion of it. It is not strange that these men, who by hereditary rank are not inferior to the Tycoon, and are all but absolute monarchs in their own domains, should wince under such a regime, and plot against its author. The appointment, if true, of Owari, Kiushiu, and Satsuma to the superintendence of trade, certainly looks like a yielding to the pressure on the part of the Daimios, and an augury of less restricted commerce with Japan.

"The Tycoon's assumption of the treaty-making power, inherent only in sovereignty, has also been in all probability a grievance keenly felt by the feudal princes. The Tycoon is in no sense a monarch, and yet he assumed to be when he made the treaties, and is still receiving the honours of one, from all the Governments that have treaty relations with this country. It is not unlikely that he would be glad to get out of this false position, for the sake of his own peace and safety at home, and if he is elevated to a place in the Imperial family and relieved from the responsibilities of a Tycoon, and if moreover, the Imperial Court be removed to Yedo, or even if the actual Emperor still remain at Miako—the father-in-law of the Tycoon, as ex-Emperor, removing his household to Yedo—it will place the Tycoon in a better position with the Daimios, and he might have a better warrant for the exercise of the prerogative of a sovereign than he has ever had before."

The *Japan Herald* treats the whole of the above, fact and argument alike, as solely an effort of the imagination. It says:—

"In a number of the *Japan Commercial News*, published the other day, we observed a supremely ridiculous statement, to the effect that the Mikado, having abdicated, was about to come to Yedo with his friend the Tycoon, to aid him in his Government (!) &c., &c., &c. One can scarcely credit that any person could be found in Japan so utterly ignorant of its Government as to imagine such nonsense, or so very verdant as to submit to be plied with such a very palpable shave; but that it should find a place, as editorial intelligence, in any public print, is certainly beyond all comprehension, and would be beyond credence, had we not before witnessed similar instances of 'sensation' vending in Yokohama . . . .

"We cannot spare time or room here to discuss the lengthy subject of the very peculiar constitution of the two Courts of the Mikado (or Spiritual Emperor) and that of the Tycoon; nor is it necessary, for in all the books that have been written on Japan from the time of Kempfer to that of Sir R. Alcock, all, and much more than we profess to know upon the matter, will be found. Any one who has read any of these will see that to speak of the Mikado going to Yedo to aid the Tycoon in his Government, is not one whit more reasonable than it would be to state that his Holiness Pope Pius IX., having abdicated the chair of St. Peter, had consented to act as the Private Secretary of Victor Emmanuel II., King of Italy. The name of the Japanese Cycle, or Nengo, has been recently changed. In Japan, as China, since 3,000 years B.C., each cycle comprises sixty years, or 720 revolutions of the moon, and expires. The old cycle has just gone out, and the Emperor (in whom lies the superior power even to institute and change the cycles), in the fullness of his reliance that his recent good understanding with the Tycoon and powerful nobles will result in the establishment of peaceful influences for the future, has named the incoming era 'Gen-si,' or 'Eternal Peace.' This seems to be the little peg upon which our local contemporary has hung this huge load of sensation intelligence."

The *Commercial News* next made the startling announcement that all trade had been prohibited in Rice, Oil, Silk, and Wax. Its statement was that "the Japanese Customs officers had held a meeting at the Police Office, to take into consideration the propriety of forbidding certain articles of export to be sold to foreigners, on the grounds that they were wholly required for internal consumption, and the native merchants were summoned to attend with their books and papers in order to furnish a statement of sales for the information of their own Government. The meeting was, therefore, fully attended, and it was decided that the articles specified above should be immediately declared prohibitory, and the vending thereof to foreigners for exportation at once stopped."

The *Japan Herald* was again ready with its contradiction, and, as will be seen, the *News* was compelled afterwards to admit its information to have been incorrect as regarded the most important of the four commodities mentioned. The *Herald's* contradiction was as follows:—"We have heard, some time since, that the article *oil* had become exceedingly scarce at Yedo, and do not think it at all improbable that there may have been some talk amongst the Japanese as to the advisability of including this, as *rice* has long been included, amongst articles the exportation of which shall be prohibited; but every inquiry we have been able to institute assures us that there is no foundation for the statement so far as the staple *raw silk* is concerned—and it is this, of course, to which the *News* points when it speaks of 'silk.' On the contrary, within the last few days there have been further small arrivals, and several settlements in silk have been made; we hear further that some 300 more bales are hourly expected to arrive from Yedo. It is more than probable that manufactured piece silk goods may, like oil, be becoming short for home consumption, and a talk has consequently been had as to the propriety of putting them amongst the articles reserved from exportation; but, considering the very insignificant quantity of the manufactured silk exported hence by foreigners, and that there has been for a long time since only one shop in Yokohama where silk piece goods could be purchased, and that has been shut up for the last three months, this reduces the mountain-like significance of the 'intelligence' to the proportion of a very small mole-hill indeed."

The *Commercial News* gets out of its assertion with reference to Silk in rather a lame fashion:—

"In our daily issue of the 22nd inst. we had occasion to refer to one of the most recent moves in the game—the prohibition against certain articles being exported. We have to add another—*Pease*—to that enumeration, and we are credibly informed that their sale to foreigners is rigidly interdicted; of course not in violation of the *spirit* of the Treaty, but merely as a protection to the poor of Japan, who would suffer, say they, the trials of famine if their staples of consumption were to be sent out in any quantity. With such a prolific soil as this, very little credit can be attached to such argument. Their philanthropy indeed is so blunted, nay deadened, in other directions that we cannot concede them the possession of that virtue here. But judging from their general disposition towards us, we may not unreasonably infer that where a plausible excuse can be advanced, by so much will our trade be crippled. We must, however, modify our statement as regards Raw Silk; but only to add that the commodity must, in the first instance, be sent to Yedo—no matter at what inconvenience—and irrespective of the distance which the native dealer has to trudge to the capital. Arrived there, the silk is transferred to the custody of what may be termed the Silk Merchants' Association, a company of dealers to whom is confined the duty of adjusting the trade with Yokohama. They simply give receipts for the quantity made over by the owner, with the promise of payment at some specified time, six months or more after the sales are effected with foreigners, from whom they, however, take cash on delivery. But apart from the commercial considerations which attend such a circuitous traffic, despite the heavy duties and transport charges which should augment the original price before its sale here—so much, as perhaps to amount to prohibition—it is not quite certain that the 'Guild' at Yedo would forward on the stocks at all; at any rate they

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would retain a quantity equivalent to the supposed wants of the officials. There is no stoppage, exactly, of the silk trade in all this—no open prohibition—but what does it amount to? It discourages the Japanese trader, disappoints the foreign merchants, and compasses the ends of the government."

The *News* complains of the conduct of the Chinese who have been imported into Japan in the wake of the foreign merchants. It says:—

"The Chinese folk here have established gambling houses, to which the Yokohama Celestials regularly resort and pass the night 'dicing.' It seems that there are watchmen employed who are on the *qui vive*, and ready to give the alarm at any moment, and that the whole thing is systematically carried out as in China. We believe that gambling is strictly prohibited among the Japanese, and that hitherto they have not been tainted with that vice. But such is the proverbial fascination with which the fatal passion allures those who are once unguardedly drawn within its influence that the restraint of authority will in time be defied, and precautions against discovery will be multiplied as the extent of the danger increases, the end of which will be that Japan will rival China in this chief of vices. We consider, therefore, that those who have Chinese servants should look to it, and that the authorities also should inquire into the truth of the case. The Chinese would not be tolerated here as settlers, but only in virtue of their dependence on foreigners. This privilege will accordingly reflect unfavourably upon us if abused, and we hope that every exertion will be made, therefore, to nip this canker in the bud, before its blighting, desolating influence shall permeate the various channels of society in Japan."

There had been several fires about the middle of April, the most serious of which occurred at Yedo, where the destructive element raged unchecked for two entire days, causing an immense amount of loss in property, about 120 houses. The other conflagrations occurred at Toby and Otanghaia, in the vicinity of Kanagawa.

Her Majesty's steamer *Osprey* left Yokohama on the 16th April for Nagasaki, conveying to that port Mr. A. A. J. Gower of late attached to the British Legation. It will be recollected that Mr. George S. Morrison having been allowed to retire from the post of Her Majesty's Consul at Nagasaki, Dr. Myburgh was confirmed in the appointment. The Doctor is now coming home on leave, and Mr. Gower has been sent to Nagasaki as Acting Consul.

H.M.S. *Conqueror* left Hong Kong early in May on her passage to Yokohama.

NAGASAKI.

The dates from this port are to the 20th of April, but we have no public news to report. The steamer *Annette* was leaving for Hong Kong, and we may probably have some news by the French mail, expected here on the 7th inst.

CHINA.

TIEN-TSIN.

Mr. William Baker has been transferred from the Customs at Chefoo to this port.

Mr. Joseph Edkins, the missionary, has produced a second edition of the Mandarin grammar spoken of; and in what it is better than its predecessor of the first edition, we shall let the author tell in his preface, which we have much pleasure in reproducing below from a copy which has been sent to us from the Presbyterian Mission Press, where it has been printed under the critical eye of Mr. William Gamble.

CHEFOO.

Three of the residents at Chefoo lately took a trip through the Shan-tung province, in fact, over an extent of some 120,000 miles, during the month of March. The cold was intense. The inhabitants appear to have behaved very civilly.

NEWCHWANG.

A correspondent to the *Friend of China* writes, at the end of February:—

Meadows has gone to Pekin, and unfortunately his pistol went off and wounded him in the leg. Previous to his going, he had all the foreign community around him and told them that there was a large number of thieves near the place, and he would not be surprised if some fine morning we were all killed. So they immediately formed into a body, and agreed to appoint Mr. Huntington (a very capital appointment) as the Captain of the Yingtze Dragoon. Since then they have met regularly once or twice a week, and I would say they know how to handle a musket. Their uniform is rather spicy and shows taste. It consists of a hat, cap, wide awake or sloucher, all in red; jacket, of course, made according to the taste; belts various colours; trowsers, boots or shoes, to the taste of the wearer; but the best of all are their guns, from 2 feet long up to 6 or 8.

Of opium, not a chest has been sold by a foreigner since the port closed. We anticipate the ice will break and the river be clear about the 20th March.

CHIN-KIANG.

From Chin-kiang dates are to the 27th April. Business is dull but decidedly improving. The Bund of the Concession is finished, and the public roads nearly so. It is expected that new European hongs will soon begin to be built. Mr. Adkins remains as Consul; and an old joss-house on a hill is being converted into a Consulate, and being finished as fast as Consulate work at Chin-kiang usually is. The new Commissioner of Customs, Mr. C. Lord, appears very willing to give all reasonable facilities—we are quoting from a correspondent's letter—for the despatch of business, and is about to build the Custom House close to the Concession, very shortly; so that, in the course of a few months, both Custom House and Consular business may be transacted without going to Silver Island. The anchorage off Silver Island is bad. Some of the hulks, including the Customs', have anchored above the Concession; some remain in their old berths, in a good anchorage, on the opposite side.

SHANGHAI.

The London Mail of 10th March arrived here on the 27th April. The latest dates are up to the 6th May.

THE ANGLO-CHINESE FORCES.

After the victory at Wai-soo, Colonel Gordon advanced, driving the rebels before him, to besiege Chang chow. He arrived before that city on the 14th April, and at once commenced operations by attacking, in conjunction with the Imperialists, the stockades in possession of the rebels outside the west gate of the city. The attack was successful, and the stockades, twelve in number, taken. He commenced to place his siege batteries in position on the 24th, and the next evening, while superintending the operation, had a narrow escape from being shot by his own men, who mistook his party for rebels, and fired, killing Colonel Tapp and three others. Having completed his preparations and widened the breaches made by the Imperialists, he ordered an assault on the 27th; but the storming party encountered such desperate resistance, that it was compelled to retire, after a severe struggle, with a loss of 300 men and 27 officers killed and wounded.

The officers, we learn, displayed great gallantry, but the men hesitated to face the shower of missiles which was hurled on them, and the assault had to be abandoned. Gordon retains his position before the city, which is closely beleaguered on all sides, and will make another attempt to carry it at an early date. The rebels are now evidently fighting with the courage of despair. They have been driven out of Che-keang; they hold one town in Ngan-wei, and four in Kiang-su. After Chang-chow has fallen, Nanking will be their only remaining city which is likely to offer any serious resistance to the Imperialist troops, and its reduction is only a question of time. This time the rebel leaders will naturally endeavour to prolong by every means in their power, and we anticipate that the closing struggle will be the most severely contested that has yet been fought. The rebel chief who was in command of Tai-tsau at the time of Holland's defeat, and who was made Wai-wong for the capture of the latter's thirty-two pounders, surrendered with his troops to the Futai of Che-keang, at Haining. He is the same man who was in command at Tai tsan when Le Futai's brother was entrapped and so many of his men slaughtered. Yet he has been admitted to terms, and has been given a button. Verily the ways of Chinese are inscrutable. The Soochow wangs were decapitated for having defended themselves bravely; the individual in question has been rewarded for an act of gross treachery.

The *China Mail* says:—"We may expect to hear of something decisive being done in the course of a fortnight. Upwards of a hundred thousand men are now encamped about Chang-chow-foo; the place is closely invested, every gate being guarded, so that if the city be not taken by assault, the garrison must eventually surrender for want of food. In any case there will be much suffering and misery; but, unfortunately, that is only a secondary consideration to the suppression of a hideous rebellion which carried misery wherever it went, and whose leader proposed to carry it all over China,—and then to

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establish commerce and trade. With the fall of Chang-chow-foo the Taiping Rebellion will be crushed, as Nanking is invested by Tseng Kwo-fan's forces, and will soon be starved out. Other places in rebel possession are of minor importance, and only one or two in number. We are not, therefore, surprised to hear that Colonel Gordon intends to retire from the Imperial army after the fall of this city, disbanding, at the same time, the little force that has accompanied him through so many victories."

THE FRANCO-CHINESE AT NINGPO.

The mandarins contemplate reducing the strength of the disciplined contingents in Che-keang. No doubt, now that Hangchow has fallen, and the rebellion has been confined within such narrow limits in the province of Kiang-su, the danger of a fresh irruption of rebels into the province of Che-keang has become remote. But the mandarins would do wisely, in the present instance, if they would adopt the European maxim that "prevention is better than cure," and, acting on it, pursue the European plan of keeping always ready the means to repel attack, from whatever quarter. China is in little danger of aggression from without, and if she were, even her disciplined force would be perfectly useless to resist it; but no country in the world has more urgent need for a reliable standing army to repress internal disturbances.

Setting completely aside the influence which the existence of troops led by foreign officers must always give foreigners with the authorities of a province where disciplined contingents exist, it would be well if the consuls at Ningpo would impress on the mandarins in that province, for their own good, the folly of disbanding men who have done such good service, and on whom they can rely to quell disturbances of any nature that may arise. The wealthy merchants of Ningpo are averse to the contemplated measure, both because they consider it premature as regarding the rebels, and because the Anglo-Chinese Contingent has rendered efficient service in checking piracy in the neighbourhood of that port, which they well know would soon become rampant if that check be removed. Rowdyism has been almost as troublesome in the foreign settlement at Ningpo as at Shanghai, and far more so in the neighbourhood.

A detachment of the garrison has been constantly scouring the latter, and has frequently succeeded in arresting foreigners who were making a living by levying squeezes on boats passing to and fro with merchandise. A fortnight ago, for instance, three men who had committed a robbery of 2,170 taels at Yu-yao, were arrested by a detachment sent out for the purpose by Colonel Cooke, tried, and sentenced to one year's hard labour and subsequent deportation. A short time previously the same officer sent to Shanghai, for disposal, ten subjects of non-treaty Powers, who were found in the interior, armed and without passes. We mention these two instances, out of many, to show the utility of the force, and the short-sightedness of the economy, if economy it be, which would induce the mandarins to discontinue it. We suspect, however, that the insane jealousy of foreigners which the Futai of Che-keang and Foh-kien has always exhibited, is a more powerful motive than the desire to economise; as the native merchants, who pay for the force, fully recognise the danger to trade that will ensue on its removal, and are desirous that it should be continued at its present strength.

The maintenance of a garrison of disciplined troops at Hang-chow is important with regard to the rebels. If the defence of that city be entrusted to Imperialists it will, for a few months, be exposed to imminent risk of recapture by the rebels, and pillage by the hordes of pirates who infest the bay which bears its name. In the blindness of their folly, too, the mandarins are actually discarding, at a stroke, all the Cantonese war junks which have hitherto been employed at the siege of Hang-chow—in other words, pursuing a course which is certain to make them either desert to the rebels, or swell the bands of pirates. We repeat that it will be well if the influence of the foreign authorities can be brought to bear to dissuade the Che-keang mandarins from a course fraught with so much danger.

A large seizure of arms has been made at the Mariners' Home, in the American settlement, at the instance of Mr. Dick, the Commissioner of Customs at Shanghai. The police found 448 pistols, 32 swords, and 2 bayonets, which are at present in charge of the Customs authorities.

The French Municipal Council have published their report for the year ending 31st March, and budget for the ensuing year. They are able to announce important reductions in their taxes, it being proposed to abate 25 per cent. of the land-tax on European property by reducing the valuation to that extent; and, further, to encourage the Chinese by lowering the 8 per cent. tax to 6 per cent., as also making further minor reductions which are found to press too heavily on the native population. It appears that the Council actually commenced the collection of the 8 per cent. tax on rentals for his Excellency the Taoutai, but obtaining conclusive proof that the Chinese authorities were levying squeezes, in defiance of the terms of the agreement, they, with the approval of the Consul General, declared the agreement vitiated by such acts, and thenceforth null and void. The finances seem in a flourishing state; the receipts, during the year, amount to taels 103,451.89, and the disbursements to taels 101,383.24, leaving a balance in hand of taels 2,068.65. The payments, however, include taels 32,000 on account of a new municipal building, taels 8,838.55 repayment of loan, and some items for furniture, &c.

The Spring Races took place on the 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th April. The weather, on the whole, was fair, and the grand-stand was crowded on each day. The racing was good and attracted great interest. The race which caused the greatest speculation was that between Hadji and Forester for the Arab Cup, which was won by the former. These horses had before won a race each, so that now Hadji is the conqueror. The Challenge Cup, value 500 guineas, was won by Haddington, after a splendid race with Exeter, who seemed to have an equal chance till the horses reached the distance-post, when his opponent came away and won by several lengths. The Garrison Cup, a steeple chase, brought a capital field to the post, and was eventually won by Stockwell, who was well and steadily ridden throughout; Lawyer, who lost his chance early in the race by refusing at the brook, came in second; Hackney sprained his shoulder when going round splendidly with a lead of nearly a quarter of a mile. A full record of the races will be found in the *North China Herald* of the 30th April.

The new American steamer *Kiang Loong* has arrived from Hong Kong, and takes her departure for Hankow. Her build and general accommodation are much admired.

The case of the ship *Sebastopol* against the tow-boat *Defiance* resulted in the following verdict:—"The Court hold that the port hawser used in towing the *Sebastopol* on the 22nd of March last was not cut by any one on board the *Defiance*, and that the parting of the hawser is not attributable to negligence or improper conduct on the part of the defendants' servants."

Cases of considerable mercantile interest are fast multiplying. No sooner is that of the *Sebastopol* v. *Defence* disposed of, than we find another instituted—Gilfillan v. Glover and Co., of Japan, for a breach of duty as agents or factors, for the sum of $28,000 or £9,333. The facts of the case are simply as stated by the plaintiff's counsel there: Mr. Gilfillan sent the steamer *Chusan* over to the port of Nagasaki in Japan, with instructions to Messrs. Glover and Co. to sell her if possible for the sum of $100,000; this limit was ultimately reduced to $80,000, which it is alleged Glover and Co. refused.

Intelligence, which we hail as a veritable sign of the times with reference to the rebellion, reaches us from the mainland, to the effect that bodies of rebels have been observed on the Northern border of the Canton Province, and in the adjoining districts of Kiang-si. At the same time we learn from Shanghai that the scattered remnants of the Taiping forces who have been broken up by Colonel Gordon's recent successful advance, in combination with the movements of the Imperial army under the late General Ching, were known to be making their way through the Southern region of Ngan-hwei in the direction of the Kiang-si frontier. This is the natural conclusion, or rather perhaps the commencement of the end, of the insurrectionary movement, but it indicates a possible state of affairs in this part of China to which we have no doubt the Imperial Government is fully alive, and which we trust it will be prepared promptly to grapple with.

HANKOW.

It is stated that the adverse opinion formed on Mr. Macpherson's conduct in the *Huquang* steamer affair are now by subsequent events reversed.

HONG KONG.

The London mail of the 26th of March arrived out on the 6th of May. The dates are now up to the 13th.

The discussion in reference to Canton continues, and the following comments appear in the *China Mail*:—

We sent a reporter to Canton, and we regret to state that our worst fears are confirmed with regard to that port. This is a pity, for Canton

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people deserve to be encouraged, and we have at present no means at all of encouraging them. It is rumoured, whether truly or not we have no means of saying, that Messrs Dent and Jardine intend to remove their agencies from Canton. This can only be accepted as a sign of the times. Firms like those are rarely mistaken in what they do; and should they decide to leave Canton, it may be safely enough concluded that there is not much doing in that city.

Of course we must all regret this, because we have a partiality for the Canton people; but, at the same time, it is impossible to conceal the fact that Canton is rapidly declining as a place of business. Some weeks ago the idea was mooted by Sir Macdonald Stephenson of having a railway between Canton and Hankow. We see no necessity for denying that Sir Macdonald spoke to ourselves on the subject; and, as he appears to be a man of enthusiasm we should not be at all surprised if he should carry out his views. We hear from Canton that some of the Chinese authorities have obtained a model of the steam-engine, which they have naturally enough to set to work and very much approved of. This is encouraging. There cannot be any doubt, we think, but that the Chinese are opening their eyes to the merits of foreigners. It may be that they have borrowed their ideas, in this respect, from the Taipings, who, whatever may be said against them, have shown all along a most praiseworthy appreciation of Europeans and their appliances.

The *Government Gazette* of the 30th April assumes the dimensions of a miniature blue-book, from the publication in full of the Bankruptcy Ordnance, which extends to two hundred and one sections, and fills two-and-thirty pages. There is nothing else of any importance in the *Gazette* save two small formal notifications. The first intimates that the Hon. J. Smale, Esq., W. H. Alexander, Esq., Henry Kingsmill, Esq., and Wilberforce Wilson, Esq., are nominated Cathedral Trustees on behalf of the Government for the ensuing year; while J. C. Power, Esq., is nominated auditor. The two trustees nominated by the seatholders are the Hon. Charles W. Murray, Esq., and Edward Parry, Esq., with T. G. Linstead, Esq., as auditor. The second notifies the appointment of Wilberforce Wilson, Esq., as Acting Surveyor-General, and Shearman G. Bird, Esq., as Acting Assistant Surveyor-General, during the leave of absence of the Hon. the Surveyor-General.

A serious affray took place at West Point. The inmates of Mr. T. C. Ladd's house, Rice Mills, West Point, were alarmed by the report of a musket, which had been discharged by their watchman at a man whom he had seen stealing out of the domestics' rooms: it appears that he missed his aim, and quickly followed the man round the corner of the house. The thief, instead of attempting to climb over the wall, as the watchman had supposed he would, waited behind the corner for the watchman's approach. As soon as the pursuer's head emerged, he received a stab in the face, which happily glanced off, not doing him more damage than making a large gash across his nose. His cries soon brought Mr. J. Ladd to the verandah, revolver in hand, who found the thief making his escape over the wall. Mr. Ladd attempted to fire at him, but his revolver having lain long by had got rusty and would not act. The last that was seen of the rogue was when he was walking leisurely up the road. The servants had been paid off that morning, and how he got the information it is impossible to conjecture, unless one of the servants was his ally. There is no doubt but what he had some comrades outside who were both ready and willing to help him to carry off the booty or assassinate anybody attempting to defend their property. Fortunately he stole nothing.

A burglary was committed on the premises of Messrs. Holliday, Wise, and Co., by a gang of thieves. The alarm having been raised, however, by the watchmen on the premises, five of them were captured, along with the implements belonging to the professional housebreaker. They were all committed for trial.

The gas works are progressing satisfactorily. In another column will be found a notice of the meeting held in London.

LOCAL BANK RETURNS.

	Notes Issued.	Specie in Reserve.
Oriental Bank	$614.322	$250,000
Mercantile Bank	691,795	250,000
Bank of India, Australia, and China	368,805	150,000
Agra and U. S. Bank	358,134	158,000
Totals	$2,033,056	$800,000

COCHIN CHINA.

SAIGON.

We have the *Courrier de Saigon* of the 10th May.

A dry dock was inaugurated on the 26th April, by admitting the first-class gunboat *Avalanche* into it. This dock is more than 73 metres in length, and has been constructed for a sum of 70,000 francs. Many difficulties were met with, but the engineer, M. Antoine, Director of Naval Constructions, succeeded in overcoming them.

The Government has established a monthly line between Saigon, Pulo Condore, and Singapore, placing upon it the despatch boat *Echo*. It will carry freight and passengers at the rates that were formerly charged in the *Grenada*.

The officials at Pulo Condore lately had a narrow escape from being cut off by poison. The master carpenter of the House of Correction, at the end of his day's labour, was about to drink a glass of water when one of the prisoners snatched it from his hand. On being pressed for an explanation of this act, he confessed that the water and provisions of the Europeans had been poisoned, and gave the names of the culprits, four in number. These men, on being taken before the Commandant, confessed their crime. One of them, in the middle of the examination, cut his throat with a knife which he had managed to conceal on his person; and another swallowed some broken glass, dying some days afterwards in horrid torture.

JAVA AND NETHERLANDS INDIA.

We have dates from Batavia to the 11th of May. The Government had passed the following resolutions:—

"A regulation imposing a head-tax on the natives of Macassar, from which, however, the native chiefs, officials, honourably-discharged officials, and acknowledged clergy are exempted. The tax to be from 1 f. to 16 f. a head, according to the means of the native man, or single woman.

"Such native chiefs and officials who have hitherto been allowed to live on the support of their district people, to be paid a monthly salary of from 8f. to 50f. by the Government, who releases those district people from that duty.

"The owners of spice parks in the island of Banda to be exempted from the obligation of planting spices and delivering the crops to Government, as also from the obligation of returning the advances received by them from the Treasury, leaving them the free disposal of their property and liberty to dispose at discretion of the produce which they grow in their parks; the Government monopoly of the same being withdrawn on the following conditions:—1. That the owners of all spice parks waive all claim which they may assert to have in the assistance or interference of the Government for the procuring of labourers, the supplying of rice, piece goods, or other merchandise, and for subsidies for the repairs of dwelling-houses or otherwise. 2. That they take over all the obligations of Government proceeding from contracts with labourers working in the parks; binding themselves strictly to fulfil the same, the Government reserving to itself the right of superintending the fulfilment of this engagement. To such as accede to the above, and who desire to remain in the enjoyment of such grounds as may not belong to the spice parks, the same will be leased at a moderate rate.

The *Samarang Courant* has letters from Banjermassing which state that peace is not quite restored in that quarter. An under-adjutant and six men were lately murdered on the Barito river, and although petty chiefs are constantly coming in and making submission, they as constantly break out again. The authorities have prohibited the communication of intelligence regarding the state of affairs at Banjermassing.

A letter from Ternate communicates the following:—On the 13th March a Sangir prahu arrived in the roads here, laden with oil, and having six wounded men on board. This prahu was attacked by pirates close to the islands of Tyfore and Map, when three of the crew were killed. One of the six men wounded had since died from his wounds, which were inflicted by iron harpoons. Some days after the attack, some pirates were seen near Nakian. The steamer *Retch* had gone to search for these pirates.

The superintendent of the kina culture in Java, Dr. Franz Junghuhn, died at Lembang (Preanger Regencies) on the night of the 24th April. Dr. Junghuhn was a native of Prussia, and arrived in Netherlands India in October, 1835, as an assistant surgeon in the Indian army. In 1838, at his own request, he was transferred to the Government Physical Commission. In 1839 he was promoted to surgeon of the second class. In this capacity he was appointed to the West Coast of Sumatra, and executed a topographical and physical survey of the Batta country, the results of which he afterwards published in a work called "Die Batta-lander auf Sumatra." He was employed in similar researches until 1848, when he visited Europe for the purpose of publishing the results of his labours. In 1855 he returned to Java, and in 1856 the direction of the kina culture in Java was confided to him. Dr. Junghuhn's health had lately failed, and he had obtained a two years' leave of absence to Europe when death overtook him.

The *Java Times* says that another large firm has failed at Sourabaya. The liabilities are estimated at nearly three and a-half millions, which, however, it is expected will be paid in full.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates hence are to the 21st May. The P. and O. Company's

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steamer with the mails from Europe of the 10th April had not arrived.

Business generally had been much interrupted since the departure of the last mail in consequence of the failure ofseveral Chinese, one of unprecedented magnitude, which has created a complete want of confidence. The present system of conducting business is most unsatisfactory, and the enormous losses sustained since March prove the necessity of a radical change. The *Overland Free Press* remarks :—

"The commercial crisis in Singapore which began some months ago appears to have now reached its height. The failure of two firms with liabilities of over a million of dollars and largely indebted to Chinese traders of all kinds, has naturally reacted upon the latter, and they are now almost daily suspending payment. No doubt some are taking advantage of the opportunity to effect a composition with their creditors, when there is probably no necessity that they should do so, but the greater have been bona fide 'cleaned out.' This is not the first crisis of the kind we have had in Singapore, although it is probably the most severe, owing to the greater facilities which now exist for obtaining discount, and which has naturally led to overtrading amongst the native dealers. The system on which business is conducted here—the sale of goods on three months credit —has been frequently blamed as the cause of these disasters, but we think the system is not so much to blame as the manner in which it is applied. The real evil is the indiscriminate credit given to every one who chooses to start as a trader. It has often been said that a cooly has only to put on a clean *boju* and go to the European godowns, when he will obtain as much goods on credit as he wishes, and we believe there is considerable truth in the representation. In ordinary times these men manage to keep afloat and extend their business, but when any derangement of trade occurs and a pressure ensues, they collapse, and it is found that they have been carrying on business without any capital. The competition amongst the European houses to effect sales is too keen to allow of a proper discrimination in the selection of buyers being exercised, and in this lies the root of the evil. The only effectual remedy would be the adoption of cash sales, but this would so restrict business that few would be found willing to adopt it. The best palliative would consist in the banks restricting the amount of accommodation, and laying down a rule that, in the case of native traders, their notes will only be discounted to a certain moderate amount in each case, however good may be the names of the European firms appearing upon them. Unless some plan of this nature is adopted, we see no chance of the present hap-hazard system being amended, or any security being provided against a recurrence of these periodical smashes in the native trade."

The *Penang Gazette* informs us that the Foreign Office was too busy with American and German-Danish affairs to allow of its inquiring into the complaints that had been made from the Straits regarding Dutch encroachments on the East Coast of Sumatra. The *Gazette* adds :—"The latest news from the East Coast that we have received is, that the Dutch have been endeavouring to stir up the Malays of Batubara to attack Assahan, and should a war arise between these two States, it may afford an opportunity for our meddlesome neighbours to interfere with advantage to themselves. It will require all the vigilance of the local government to counteract these designs. The whole subject is full of importance, and if the welfare of Penang is to have a place in the consideration of its merchants, they will do well to be up and doing, if they are desirous to preserve the Sumatra trade." We may mention (adds the *Free Press*) that we have heard a report, though not from an official source, that an understanding has been come to between the English and the Netherlands Governments on the subject of the east coast of Sumatra. The Dutch are not to be interfered with so long as they do nothing to obstruct trade, which they undertake shall be allowed to follow the usual channels.

As regards the "transfer" of the Settlement, a notice will be found in another column of an interview had with the Secretary of the Colonies by a deputation that waited upon him in reference to the matter.

His Honour the Governor has been pleased to make the following appointment, with effect from the 1st May : Mr. T. A. Fox to be Commander of the Straits Government steamer *Pluto*, vice Eales, transferred to another appointment.

Captain Hardie, of the *Omar Pasha* of this port, committed suicide by blowing his brains out with a pistol, when two days out from Bangkok bound to China. No cause is stated for the act. The *Omar Pasha* put back to Bangkok.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

ANTROBUS—On the 21st June, at 65, Eaton-square, the wife of H. Lindsay Antrobus, Esq., of a daughter.

BOWMAN—On the 3rd June, at Grangrove, Eden-bridge, Kent, the wife of A. Bowman, Esq., of a son, stillborn.

MANUK—On the 4th May, at Hong Kong, the wife of G. J. M. Manuk, of a daughter.

TWYNAM—On the 13th June, at Bideford, North Devon, the wife of Captain Twynam, late Indian Navy, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BUSH—DODD.—On the 16th June, at Wanstead Church, Essex, by the Rev. W. P. Wigram, rector, Henry Edward Bush, Esq., of Newchwang, China, to Jeannette, eldest daughter of P. G. Dodd, Esq., of Cornhill, and New Wanstead, Essex. No cards.

MARTIN—LEGG.—On the 23rd June, at the parish church of St. Leonard's on-Sea Sussex, John Bell, eldest son of M. J. Martin, Esq., of Melville-street, Edinburgh (formerly of Singapore), to Ellen Francis, fourth surviving daughter of T. R. Legg, Esq., of Croom's hill, Blackheath, Kent, and Bermondsey, Surrey.

ROBINSON—SIMMONDS.—On the 18th June, at Holy Trinity Church, Bayswater, by the Rev. Charles Walsham, M.A., Heaton Boyd Robinson, Esq., son of Captain Charles Gepp Robinson, R.N., to Margaret Maria Serine, only daughter of Richard Simmonds, Esq., R.N., of the Admiralty, and Queen's-terrace, Hyde-park.

DEATHS.

BAYLEY—On the 11th June, in London, John Ritchie, son of Francis and Lucy Bayley, of Point de Galle, Ceylon, aged 11 months.

CLEASLEY—On the 23rd April, at Kowloong, Thomas Cleasley, private H.M. 20th Regt, aged 28 years.

DOUGLAS—On the 9th June, at Inchmartine, Perthshire, the seat of Douglas Vaughan Allen, Esq., Lady Douglas, widow of Lieut.-General Sir Neil Douglas, K.C.B., K.C.H., late Commander of the Forces in North Britain, aged 72.

GRIFFITHS—On the 3rd May, at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, Daniel Griffiths, private H.M. 67th Regt.

POMSON—On the 8th May, at the Seamen's Hospital, Hong Kong, Wm. Pomson, seaman of Prussian brig Typhoon.

PONKS—On the 11th May, at Hong Kong, on board H.M.S. Hercules, Wm. Ponks, Sapper, Royal Engineers, aged 32 years.

STEPHENSON—On the 11th May, at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, C. Stephenson, destitute seaman.

SECRETAN—On the 18th May, on board the schooner Nina, in Singapore harbour, Francis James Secretan, Esq., late of Ampanam.

TAYLOR—On the 6th May, at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, Henry Taylor, a destitute seaman.

ZELUTI—On the 6th May, at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, Frederick Wm. Zeluti, Acting-Usher at the Police Magistrate's Court.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—The quotations annexed do not show any material change upon those given under date of 28th ult., and the sales of the fortnight are estimated at 469 bales, and 20 bales of sea-damaged yarn moved off by public auction. Grey Shirtings are generally quoted a shade lower, and the business of the past fortnight has been restricted to purchases made by Chinese dealers only, foreign buyers being at the moment disinclined to operate; the total sales are estimated at 8,000 pieces, of which 1,000 have been moved off by public sale. Since the arrival of the Shanghai steamer a slightly better feeling has been manifested, and holders are now demanding higher prices. White Shirtings remain without inquiry, and the fortnight's settlements are restricted to a small sale of 500 pieces. T-Cloths remain without any inquiry, and there are not any sales to be reported. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: The sales effected of these goods during the fortnight amount to 300 pieces White, and 250 pieces Dyed Spotted Shirtings. White Brocades have not been in any request, but 250 pieces of Dyed Brocades have found buyers at the annexed quotations. Damasks: There are not any sales of these goods to report. Chintzes: 570 pieces have changed hands during the fortnight. Handkerchiefs have met with but little inquiry, and the sales of the fortnight are put at 460 dozens.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: The demand for these fabrics has again been very limited, and prices of Spanish Stripes are slightly lower, sales are put at 240 pieces. Long Ells have also been in but little request, and the sales effected since the date of last Circular amount to only 100 pieces at about the rates previously current. Camlets, without change to notice in price, these goods have met with a fair amount of inquiry during the fortnight, and the sales reported amount to 1,120 pieces. Lastings have likewise been in some request, and have found buyers since the date of last Circular to the extent of 350 pieces. Blankets have found purchasers to the extent of 300 pairs.

METALS.—Iron, flat, &c: A brisk demand, consequent on the tenor of the advices from Shanghai and Japan, was exhibited for most of the descriptions of iron imported, shortly after the departure of the last mail steamer, and quotations speedily advanced from 15 to 25 cents per picul. The article is not now readily procurable at the prices annexed. The transactions of the fortnight amount to about 7,200 piculs of all kinds. In Canton the transactions are confined to 2,100 piculs of nail rod, but the nominal quotations of all sorts of iron show some improvement. Lead shows a slight improvement in value, but the amount of business transacted has been upon a small scale, amounting (with some 2,000 piculs, sold prior to the departure of last mail but not reported) to 2,900 piculs. In the Canton market, where 1,700 piculs have changed hands, an advance of 15 cents per picul has been established. Tin: Has been sold to the extent of 809 slabs. Tin-Plates: Show some improvement in value, and have been placed during the fortnight to the extent of 1,230 boxes. Steel: There are not any sales of steel to notice from this colony, but 200 tubs have found buyers in Canton.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—The season is drawing to a close, the stock on the market, both of black and green being nearly exhausted. Prices continue to be well maintained until the last, the settlements of the past fortnight displaying an upward tendency. Regarding the new teas, the advices are, as usual, kept private at this stage. They will probably be a little later than they were last season, because the rates given then are much higher than can be given now, and consequently there will be a little delay in bringing the holders in the producing districts to terms. From Hankow advices come that the following vessels have been engaged to load there for London at the following rates :—The steamer Sea King at £15; the steamer Robert Lowe at £10. 10s.; the clippers Falcon and Challenger at £8. 10s. At Foochow no less than thirteen clippers are on the berth, or are proceeding thither to load. At Amoy, the new musters are coming in. This is all that can be said with certainty. The Messageries Imperiales are supposed to have made an arrangement as to the conveyance of new teas to England, in which case some may leave on the 26th of May.

CANTON.—Since the departure of last mail, the market has been cleared of all the Congous. A chop of "old refined" was taken by a native hong for sale by retail; two chops were taken "in barter" for shipment to New York; and six chops have been taken in the regular way for shipment to London. The small stock and varied demand en-

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abled the teamen to recover a great proportion of the fall last noted, which was principally in the finer qualities. Common description of blackish leaf have been, by comparison, the dearest purchases. Taysaan Congous of Kaison and Souchong makes have found buyers at extreme rates. The price of the leaf suitable for the manufacture of these teas has advanced considerably. In Scented Teas the operations have as yet been small, and for Pekoe have been confined principally to the extra fine. The new Capers appear to be generally of coarse make and defective in scent. Both Capers and Pekoes are dearer than they were last season, the Capers by 1½ to 2 lbs., the Pekoes by about 3 lbs. Of Canton Greens settlements to a moderate extent have been made.

MACAO.—New Tyshans: Arrivals during the fortnight amount to 2,680 bales making up for the season to date 7,280 bales, equal to about 10,000 half-chests; say 7,500 of Kysow make, and 2,500 of common leaf; deliveries of private contracts so far amount to 3,000 half-chests, and 3,100 boxes of the better kinds, with 200 half-chests of the common; sales on the market 1,000 half-chests of the latter quality at 18 taels, prices of private settlements have not transpired.

AMOY.—One or two musters of New Congous and Plain Orange Pekoes have been received, and teas will begin to be brought to market in about a week to ten days. The teamen report the first crop teas will probably be deficient in strength, owing to heavy rains having fallen whilst the leaf was being picked. Only a few first-crop Orange Pekoes will be received here this year as there is an active demand for native consumption at higher rates than shippers are likely to pay. From the Oolong districts we hear that prices for fine and finest have opened very high, but in other descriptions there has been very little doing as yet.

FOOCHOW.—The only transaction of the fortnight is the settlement of 190 chests Congou at 15½ Tls.

SHANGHAI.—Black: With continued bad advices by the last mail the market has remained very dull, and the settlement of a common Oonham at Tls. 18 and two small chops of Flowery Pekoe at Tls. 21½ are the only transactions reported during the fortnight, the former establishes a decline of fully two taels on previous quotations. Green: There is again to report a considerable business, and recent settlements have reduced unsold stocks to about 4,000 half-chests, which are principally composed of common and undesirable parcels, rates may again be quoted higher, and the recent purchases are fully one tael over last quotations.

HANKOW.—During the past fortnight 1 chop fair Oonam has been settled at 17½ taels, and 2 chops have been shipped on Chinese account to Shanghai. There is but one chop left on the market, and the season may be said to have closed. The total shipments of the present season have been 366,000 chests, against 286,000 chests last season.

YOKOHAMA.—Rather more business has been done during the past week. Prices continue unaltered. Settlements amount to about 650 piculs.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—Notwithstanding late disheartening advices from Europe, there has been a large business concluded during the fortnight, the transactions being estimated at 1,200 bales. Prices are unchanged, and in consequence of the recent activity, the dealers do not appear such willing sellers. Chop Tsatles have been sold at the quotations given below, but the bulk of the purchases have been made from Medium and Inferior Tsatles and Hainings, of which the stock is chiefly composed. There have been no receipts from the interior, so that the stock of unsold silk is reduced to a very small compass, being variously estimated at from 1,000 bales to 2,000 bales.

YOKOHAMA.—A few transactions have taken place almost daily in this staple at a trifle under last quotations, and prices may be considered weaker. Arrivals keep about equal pace with settlements, and there are between 500 to 600 bales in the market.

DRUGS, &c.—CANTON.—Rhubarb: 100 piculs are on the market, of a quality too common for shipment to Europe. China Galls: Sales, 250 pls. at $12.80 to 13.40; no stock left; the article is still wanted. Cassia Buds: The market has been swept by a purchase of 100 pls. Musk: No transactions; the stock on the market consists of 25 catties inferior. Cassia Lignea: $15.75 to 16; stock, 1,500 piculs; sales, 350 pls. The musters of the new crop exhibit an indifferent quality. Galangal: No settlements; stock, 200 piculs, held at $3.75. Essential Oils, Star Aniseed, and Turmeric: The market remains without supply. SHANGHAI.—Straw Braid: Fine Chefoo 30 to 35 taels, common 25 to 28 taels; little demand and small stock. Wool: Sales 400 piculs at $10 for very common to 18 for the best; stock 500 piculs. Rhubarb: Fine, 45 to 55 taels; common 12 to 18 taels; no settlements. Hemp: 3,000 piculs are on the market, for which is asked 12 to 13 taels for white, and 9.50 to 10 taels for green.

CAMPHOR.—Nearly 3,000 piculs have arrived from Formosa in the Salamander and steamer Union. The whole has been disposed of at $18 and 18.50 per picul unpacked, and more could probably have been placed at similar prices, the demand being good for the article. The Japan camphor is still held at prices above real market value.

COTTON.

HONG KONG.—The unfavourable advices from England have not influenced the market so much as anticipated, because supplies having been scant and native demand good, importers have not been dependent on the movements of shippers. The arrivals of the fortnight have been about 5,000 bags, sales to Chinese amounting to about the same quality—chiefly Japan at $33,50 to 34. To-days quotations are:—Shanghai, $29 to 31.50; Ningpo, $32 to 32.50; Japan, £33. The stock is estimated at 20,000 bales.

SHANGHAI.—Business done in this article has been very limited, rendered more so on the receipt of advices brought by the 10th March mail. No. 1, Shanghai denomination, is offering at tls. 19 to 19.50 without inducing buyers.

The Table of Exports, Tea, Silk, &c., will be corrected and given in our next issue on arrival of the French Mail about the 7th inst.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN.—From London: April 20, Patrician. From Plymouth: 21, H.M.S. Scylla.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: April 26, Brockham. From Newcastle: 23, Courier. From Cardiff: 27, Bonito. From New York: 24, Gondola; May 24, D. Jex; 5, Vulcan.

At FOOCHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From London: May 5, Glenaros; 8, Star of China; 9, Banian. From Sunderland: 9, Kelso. From Hamburg: 4, Preciosa: 7, Marco Polo.

At MANILA.—From Liverpool: April 24, Sales.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: May 10, Dewa Gu[illegible]hur. From Glasgow: 7, Sea Wave and str. Yum-Tye-Tse. From Newport: 1, Thusnelda. From Cardiff: 2, Trebizond; 3, Batavia; 10, Triton. From Shields: 17, Philip. From Bordeaux: 7, Malabar. From Hamburg: April 26, Oscar; 27, Albertine; May 4, D. F. Webersen. From Rotterdam: May 5, Ellina.

At BANGKOK.—None.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—None.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: April 22, Osborne House; 28, steamer Rajah. For Liverpool: 30, May Flower; May 4, Neville. For New York: 5, Luzon.

From FOOCHOW.—Netherby, for London.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—None.

From MANILA.—For Liverpool: May 3, Trafalgar. For Falmouth (for orders): 4, Canaan. For Cork (for orders): April 21, Victoria Cross, and for St. Thomas (for orders), Whirlwind. For New York: April 27, Morning Star.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: May 11, Athelstan; 16, Dunkeld.

From BANGKOK.—None.

VESSELS LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Canton, Patrician, W. W. Smith, and Yokohama.

At HANKOW.—For London: Steamer Robert Lowe, steamer Sea King, Challenger, and Falcon.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Keepsake, Cyclone Reigate and Eliza Shaw. For Liverpool: Fanny, Elizabeth Nicholson, Australia, Warwick Castle, Peerless, Helvellyn, and Unrivalled.

A FOO-CHOW.—For London: Elping Spur, Dora, Robin Hood, Tiba, Yang-tzse, Young Lochinvar, and Childers.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Chandernagore, Belted Will, Echo, Thos. Blyth, and Seawfell. For Liverpool: Edward Percy.

At MANILA.—For London: Alavesa, Abuera, Cambodia. For Liverpool: Barinaga. For Havre: N. Antoitre. For New York: Geo. Peabody.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Dewa Gungadhur, Princess of Wales, and Tartar. For Liverpool: Harry Paddomsey and Bombay. For New York: Gertrude and Ocean Home. For Boston: Magnet and Agnes.

At BANGKOK.—None.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

HANKOW.—For London, for new teas, £15 per steamer, and per clipper sailing vessel £8.

JAPAN.—To London, cotton and tea, £5. 10s. to £6; silk, £7 per ton.

SHANGHAI.—For London there is little freight offering, but for Liverpool there is more inquiry, with rather a scarcity of suitable vessels. For the coast there is but little doing. The following are the rates:—To London (new teas), £6; to Liverpool (cotton), £4. 10s.

FOOCHOW.—To London, £5.

HONG KONG.—The following, from George Holmes's Circular, are some of the settlements:—Echo (370 tons), Whampoa to London, £4. 10s.; Belted Will (812 tons), do., £4. 10s. to £5; Thomas Blyth, Whampoa and Macao to Falmouth (for orders). £3. 15s. to Great Britain, and £4. 10s. if to Continent; Edward Percy (879 tons), to Liverpool, £4. 10s.; Indiaman (999 tons), Manila to London, £4 for sugar, and £5 light freight. To Bangkok and back the rates vary from 45 to 55 cents per picul.

MANILA.—There is less inquiry for tonnage, with downward tendency. The Reigate is on the berth for London at £4. 5s; and for New York the Gleam and Bessie Stanton are loading at £4. 5s. per ton.

SINGAPORE.—The demand for tonnage is small. The rate for dead weight is £3 to £3. 10s., and for measurement goods £4. 10s.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—April 12, Little Edith, Cardiff to Shanghai; Hjroniminus, Hamburg to Hong Kong; 14, Si Jan, Rotterdam to Samarang; 15, Elima, Rotterdam to Singapore; 14, Banian, London to Hong Kong; 16, Whampoa, Rotterdam to Samarang; Allegonda Jacoba, Rotterdam to Batavia; Stad Leyden, Amsterdam to Batavia; 11, Koning Willem, Amsterdam to Batavia; 17, Northern Queen, Sunderland to Shanghai, and Alexander, Glasgow to Batavia; 18, Siam, Bordeaux to Siam; 19, Cornelia, Rotterdam to Batavia; Emperor, Sunderland to Hong Kong; 20, Blairmore, Hamburg (for orders); Sea Wave, Glasgow to Singapore; Maria, London to Saigon; Majestic, Glasgow to Shanghai; 23, Caractacus, Liverpool to Shanghai; May 2, Vigil, London to Shanghai, 3, Peronella, London to Batavia; 4, Robin, London to Shanghai; Kestrel, London to Hong Kong; 9, City of Quebec, London to Shanghai; Isabella, Newport to Hong Kong; Philomela, London to Hong Kong; 10, Jan Van Brakel, Amsterdam to Singapore; Assyrian, London to Shanghai; 11, Melta Argasta, Amsterdam to Kanagawa.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—May 5, Pluto, New York to Batavia.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—April 22, Bristow, Hong Kong to Liverpool; 24, Alexandra, Japan to London; 25 Queen's Own, Macao to London; May 6, Noord Braband, Batavia to Rotterdam; 7, Java, Singapore to Bordeaux; 9, Glengairn, Shanghai to Liverpool; 13, Carol Chisholm, Singapore to Liverpool.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—April 12, Osborn, from

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Japan; 19, Cordelia, Sarawak; 20, Benefactor, Foo-chow; 22, Benard, Singapore; 4, May Sophia, Hong Kong; 10, Egean, Shanghai—all to New York.

CASUALTIES.

SHANGHAI.

The Prussian man-of-war Gezelle is reported to have taken two vessels —one the Danish brig Danebrog at Chefoo, and the Danish ship Frederick VII. off Shanghai.

HONG KONG.

The brig Susan Douglas, from Hong Kong to Ningpo, has been totally wrecked on the Island of Samma Sanna, in the China Seas. Crew saved, excepting one Chinese.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.		6s. 4½d. to 6s. 4¾d.	6s. 5d. to 6s. 6d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 9½d.	4s. 10d. to 5s. 11d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 10d. to 4s. 10½d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 0d.
At Manila	6	ditto	...	...

At Shanghai: Bills on India, Rs. 302 to 303 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong: Rs. 225 to 226 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 114 taels. Hong Kong, 5 prem. Mexican Dollars at Shanghai, 76; and exchange on Hong Kong, 25 discount.

The circular of Mr. Sharp, of Hong Kong, states that about half a lac of silver has arrived, and about a lac and thirty despatched. Of Dollars, twelve lacs received, and nine exported.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

Sales of Mexican Dollars, 64d.; Bar Silver, 61⅛d.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—June 23, at Texel, from Padang. Padang Packet, from Tjilatjap, Zwaanstroom; at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Argo; at New York, from Manila, Surprise; 27, at Queenstown, from Rangoon, Ottoni; 26, at Liverpool, from Hong Kong, Vanguard; 25, at Texel, from Cheribon, Wilhelmina and Elise, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Eersteling; 24, at Antwerp, from Akyab, Anne Christina; May 21, at Callao, from Macao, St. Vincent de Paulo; June 29, at Liverpool, from Shanghai, George Ruxton, from Manila, J. A. U.; 29, off Plymouth, from Kanagawa, Macedon; 27, at Helvoet, from Padang, Karel August; 30, at Liverpool, from Hong Kong, Nancy Bryson; —, at New York, from Shanghai, Lord Collingwood, Lettice Catherine.

DEPARTURES.—June 27, from London, for Sunderland and Shanghai, Empress Eugenie; 28, from London, for Hong Kong and Canton, Prk Wan; 24, from Swansea, for Hong Kong, Isabel, from Sunderland, for Singapore, Diamant; 30, from Glasgow, for Batavia and Sourabaya, County of Lanark; 29, from Liverpool, for Shanghai, Twilight; 23, from Sunderland, for Singapore, Achilles; 27, from Cardiff, for Shanghai, Kin Lin (str).

SPOKEN.—No. 8,753, 3rd d.p. (ship), Cardiff to Hong Kong, May 15, 2 N., 22 W.; No. 9,850, 3rd d.p. (barque), Bristol to Singapore, May 18, 4 N., 22 W.; Albert Joebergs (?), Hamburg to Hong Kong, May 8, 10 S., 33 W.; 3rd d.p., No. 8,953 (ship), British Crown, England to Hong Hong, May 18, 1 N, 25 W.; Veronica, Liverpool to Hong Kong, May 9, 3 N., 22 W.; Helen Baird, London to Bankok, May 23, 6 N. Jannetje, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 20, 7 S., 4 W.; 4 Gebroeders, Rotterdam to Batavia, June 18, 48 N., 10 W.; Princess Amelia, Dutch ship, Amsterdam to Batavia, May 8, 16 S., 31 W.; Concepcion, Manila to Liverpool, 23 June, lat. 41, long. 27; Alice, barque, London to Japan, April 29, 22 S., 37 W.; Maria Catherine, Dutch barque, Samarang to Amsterdam, April 28, 32 S., 34 E.; Quintet, Amsterdam to Batavia, May 7, 16 S., 31 W.; Pegasus, Dutch barque, Banjoewangie to Amsterdam May 3, 25 S., 7 E.; Celebes, Banjoewangie to Amsterdam, May 15, 10 S. 11 W.; Sirius, Banjoewangie to Amsterdam, May 20, 4 N., 23 W.; a barque, showing, April 3, No. 8,941, Hartlepool to Singapore, May 18, 7 S., 23 W.; Cissy, Japan to London, May 14, off St. Helena; White Eagle, of London, New York to Hong Kong, May 2, 16 S., 29 W.; Congress, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 3; Canadian, London to Shanghai, May 22, 2 S., 29 W.; La Zingara (Dutch brig), Padang to Rotterdam, May 4, 15 S., 6 W., Laare (Dutch barq.), Sourabaya to Rotterdam, May 22, 4 N., 23 W.; Witness (barque), from Japan, May 23, 5 N, 23 W.; Mercara (barque), Shanghai to St. Thomas, off the Cape; Zwaan, Amsterdam to Sourabaya, June 23, 49 N., 8 W.; Regnado (?), Shanghai to New York; April 14, 31 S., 50 E.; Thomas and Rebecca, Shanghai to London, May 29, 2 N., 24 W.; Bentinck, Shanghai to Liverpool, April 6, 24 S., 65 E.; Rhine, Canton to New York, April 15, 29 S., 43 E.

LIVERPOOL, JUNE 25.—The Bessie (barque) for Rio Janeiro, dragged her anchors in the river on the 23rd June, and fouled the Gazelle (barque) for Sourabaya; the latter lost jibboom.

AT ASCENSION.—May 25, Avondale (barque), from Singapore, and sailed 26 for London.

Off ASCENSION.—May 14, Thomas Royden (ship), from Shanghai, for Liverpool; 16, Sarah Ralston (ship), from Foo-chow-Foo, for London; 26, West (barque), from Batavia, for London.

Off ST. HELENA.—May 13, George Ruxton, from Shanghai for Liverpool.

At ST. HELENA.—May 18, Cervantes, Aguire, from Manila, and sailed 19 for Cadiz; 19, Argo, Gesterkamp, from Batavia, and sailed for Amsterdam; 21, Maasluis, Post, from Macassar, and Aeolus, de Vries, from Banjoewangie, and both sailed for Rotterdam; Martin von Rossem, Gerrebrands, from Batavia, and sailed, 23, for Rotterdam; 23, Dionysia Catharina, Taski, from Samarang, and sailed, 24, for Amsterdam; 24 Eliza Thornton, Maxwell, from Singapore, and sailed, 26, for London; 25, Maria Anna, V. Monnom, from Batavia, and sailed, 27, for Rotterdam; 27, Claymore, Fernie, from Penang, and sailed, 31, for London; 29, H.M.S. Encounter, from China, &c.; 30, Sophia George le, Rosenkranz, from Penang, and sailed for London; Susanne, Vonck, from Sourabaya, and sailed, 31, for Rotterdam.

AT TABLE BAY.—May 2, Kalahome, McMillan, from Singapore, and sailed, 10, for London; 18, Mo. Yeune (str.), Briggs, from New York, and sailed, 21, for China; 9, Koophandel, Mooi, sailed for Batavia; 17, Countess of Yarborough, Dumasque, sailed for China.

At ALGOA BAY.—April 16, Emma, Haesloop, sailed for China.

Off NATAL.—April 16, Leading Star, Graham, from Batavia and sailed for Amsterdam.

CASUALTIES.—St Helena, May 28, The Teide, Becards, from Manila for Liverpool, which put in here April 1, leaky, has been surveyed after discharging nearly all her cargo, and has been recommended to be sold.

CAPETOWN.—May 21, the Olympia (Hanov. barque), from Buenos Ayres for Samarang, with a cargo of mules and horses, foundered 100 miles off Tristan d'Acuna; master and crew saved and landed at Simon's Bay, April 26, by the Waverley, Forsyth, from London to New Zealand.

THE Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 444 hhds. porter and a few combustibles, from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

STEAMERS FOR CHINA.

The screw steamer *Kinlin* has been despatched from the Clyde for China. The *Kinlin* was built by Mr. Seath, and her dimensions are as follows:—Length, 170 feet; breadth, 22; and depth, 12. On her trial trip she steamed at 12 knots. The steamer *Glengyle*, Captain Sullivan, will be despatched for Hong Kong in about a week.

THE STRAITS TRANSFER.

ON Wednesday, the 29th June, a deputation of the merchants of the Straits Settlements, accompanied by Mr. Gregson, the member for Lancaster and chairman of the East India and China Association, and by Mr. John Crawfurd, had an interview with Mr. Cardwell, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the subject of their transfer of these Settlements from the Indian to the Colonial Department. They were as courteously received by Mr. Cardwell as by the Duke of Newcastle, and that was saying a great deal. It appears that the Colonial office is ready to take charge of the Settlements at once; nor, indeed, does there seem to be any difficulty in any other department, such as existed at the Treasury and War-office having been overcome. An Act of Parliament of a few clauses is, however, necessary; and as, considering the lateness of the season, there may be some difficulty in getting it through the House of Commons during the present session, the transfer may be delayed until the commencement of the next.

THE FIRE AT NOVGOROD, SIBERIA.—A letter in *Le Nord*, dated Nijny-Novgorod, 18th of June, gives an account of the great fire which took place there on the 16th:—"The fire," says the account, "destroyed, the day before yesterday, the greater part of the buildings in which the famous fair of Nijny-Novgorod is held. The conflagration commenced at five o'clock in the afternoon, and was not mastered till three o'clock next morning. During these ten hours the flames laid bare an area of nearly a square kilometre. The fire was so fierce that the fire-engines could not be kept near enough, and some had even to be thrown into the river to prevent their being burnt. The town of Nijny is separated from the quarter of the fair by the River Oka, and all the town fire-engines went to assist those of the merchants' quarter. The English fire-engines alone, being able to act at a considerable distance, were used with some success. The engineer-in-chief of the railway, Wigel, assisted by four other engineers, arrived on the scene of the disaster with a steam fire-engine, and the whole of the *gastinoy dvor* along the canal was saved by this powerful engine. The market for hides, mats, and ropes, and the enormous stocks of wood have been consumed. The conflagration has also destroyed the theatre, the circus, twenty booths of mountebanks, eight photographic establishments, two cafés, 16 restaurants, eight taverns, 50 wine cellars, six hotels, one ice-house, six inns, two apothecaries' shops, seven counting-houses, four hairdressing saloons, three bathing establishments, 300 retail shops—total, 437 private establishments and 12 buildings belonging to the State. There have, besides, been gutted, without counting the depôts for timber, 40 commercial buildings, with 1,514 magazines, and 148 isolated buildings. The fair not having commenced, a considerable portion of the magazines were empty. Nevertheless, the losses are enormous, and amount to several millions. Only a few of the buildings were insured, the total hardly amounting to 800,000f. The cause of the conflagration is unknown. A commission of inquiry will be held to-morrow.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE CIVIL WAR IN CHINA.

(June 13.) Mr. LIDDELL asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs by whose orders and under what instructions Major Gordon was appointed to the command of the Chinese disciplined force now employed in the suppression of the rebellion in China, and empowered to conduct the recent military operations having for their object the restoration of

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Nanking to Imperial rule, inasmuch as Sir Frederick Bruce, in the enclosure of a despatch to Earl Russell, dated June 12, 1863, being copy of a memorandum addressed by him to Prince Kung on June 5, 1863, stated "that he (Sir Frederick Bruce) must decline to allow officers of Her Majesty's army to take any part in military operations further than may be necessary for the protection of British interests, and his first step, consequently, will be to desire that Major Gordon and others serving with him at Shanghai shall not pass the boundary described as the 30-mile radius." —Mr. LAYARD said the hon. member, on referring to the blue-book upon Chinese affairs, would see that the authority for Major Gordon to take command of Chinese troops was given by Brigadier Staveley on certain conditions. There was every reason to believe that the appointment was sanctioned by Sir F. Bruce, the paragraph quoted from the memorandum having its sense entirely altered by being detached. As standing in the original, it was a conditional threat.

THE LATE MARQUIS OF DALHOUSIE.

(20th.) SIR J. FERGUSSON put a question relative to a statement made by the hon. member for Inverness (Mr. H. Baillie) in a former debate. His hon. friend stated that Lord Dalhousie a short time before quitting India in the plentitude of his power, and with all the arrogance of office, told a native prince that he regarded him no more than the dust beneath his feet. That prince was the Nizam. That statement surprised him (Sir J. Fergusson), and he thought it right to ascertain at the India-office whether it was well-founded or not. As far as the knowledge of any of the persons at the India-office went, no such expression occurred in any of the documents of the office, and a few of those who were confidentially acquainted with the late marquis told him that to the best of their knowledge no such thing had taken place. Having thus taken all the trouble he could to ascertain the facts, and as the members of the late marquis's family felt pained at the allegation, he wrote to his hon. friend to ask whether he had any authority for such a statement, and whether he could mention where such a sentence had occurred. His hon. friend was unable to mention his authority, but said he would try to discover it. —Mr. H. BAILLIE said he had now to refer his hon. and gallant friend in the first place to a very able article upon Indian affairs which appeared in the July number of the *Quarterly Review* of 1853. The words which he used in the House would be found at page 265. Those words were published in the *Quarterly* during the time Lord Dalhousie was alive, and, as far as he knew, had never been contradicted. In the next place, he would refer his hon. and gallant friend to a more learned work, which had been lately published by Mr. Dickinson, a gentleman well versed in Indian affairs - a very interesting book upon the annexation of the principality of Dhar—and at page 27 he would find the statement repeated, and said to be on the very highest authority. [Sir J. Fergusson.—"What authority?"] It was stated to be on the very highest authority. The hon. and gallant officer, no doubt, would find that the despatch existed in the archives of Hyderabad.—Sir J. FERGUSSON asked whether the hon. gentleman, who had held a position connected with the Board of Control, had no other authority for making the statement.—Mr. BAILLIE conceived that when such a statement appeared in a publication like the *Quarterly Review*, and remained uncontradicted for some years, it might be accepted as authentic.

POSTAGE TO AUSTRALIA.

(21st.) Lord A. CHURCHILL asked the Secretary to the Treasury whether the rates of postage on letters between this country and Australia had recently been doubled; and, if so, whether, considering that our Australian colonies contributed one moiety of the postal subsidy required for this service, they had been consulted as to this increase, or had in any way expressed their opinion respecting it.—Mr. F. PEEL said the revenue derived from letters sent to Australia was not nearly sufficient to pay our moiety for transmitting that correspondence. It had consequently been decided from the 1st of next month to raise the charge on letters to Australia from 6d. to 1s., but the same regulation provided that the postage on letters sent by private ships should be reduced to 4d, with a view of meeting the case of poorer correspondents to whom economy was a greater object than expedition. Our postal arrangements with Australia were based on a Treasury minute of 1855, and it did not, as was supposed, form any part of that arrangement that the rates of postage should not be raised by either party without mutual consent. On the contrary, the minute contained the following passage:—"One of the advantages of the plan we have adopted will be that it will leave the House and the Colonial Government free to regulate the rates of postage in any way they may think fit." Due notice of the alteration had been given to the Australian colonies.

THE SOUTHAMPTON POWDER MAGAZINES.

(23rd.) Mr. ROSE asked the Under-Secretary of State for War what was the actual quantity of gunpowder stored at Marchwood magazine, and whether he had the opinion of competent military officers as to the safety of Southampton in the event of an explosion of that magazine.—The Marquis of HARTINGTON said the quantity of powder at present stored at Marchwood was about 50,000 tons. This was not all stored in one but in seven magazines, the largest quantity contained in any one store being about 28,000 barrels. Before the hon. member gave notice of his question, in consequence of some apprehension felt by the inhabitants of Southampton, a report was called for from Colonel Gordon, the commanding engineer, the officer commanding artillery, and the storekeeper, as to the security of the magazines at Marchwood. In their report they stated that, having examined the magazines very minutely, they were of opinion that there was no place in which powder could be stored with greater security. The distance was a mile and a-half from Southampton, the country round was not very populous, and danger was reduced to a *minimum* by the excellent arrangements. The only houses in the immediate vicinity were those occupied by Government officials (laughter), and much stricter regulations were enforced than would be possible in a private magazine.

THE "ALABAMA" AND THE "RESEARCH."

(23rd.) Sir J. HAY wished to ask the Secretary to the Admiralty whether the attention of Her Majesty's Government had been drawn to the report of an action which took place last Sunday between the United States' frigate *Kearsage* and the Confederate ship *Alabama*, and whether they had considered the report of the Commander-in-Chief at Devonport on the preparation for battle of Her Majesty's ship *Research*. With the permission of the House, he would read the report of the Commander-in-Chief at Devonport. It was as follows:—

"The space in the battery is so confined that the men have not room to work the guns with that facility that is required. 1. The battery is 33ft. in length by 32ft. in breadth inside; within this space are four heavy guns. upwards of 80 men. funnel, wheel, hatchway for supplying powder and shell. 2. There is a difficulty in traversing the guns from the broadside to the bow and quarter ports. 3. When the broadside guns were fired with extreme train, foremost ones to the left, after ones to the right, the captains of them could not stand to direct and fire them. These points being of great importance, I have considered it right to bring them before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty."

He would also ask whether, as the last-named report showed that this class of ship could not fight her guns with advantage, and the first-named report showed that she would easily be destroyed in action, Her Majesty's Government would continue to build ships which could not be expected either to fight or swim; and he would further ask, as the advantage of guns of large calibre had been so clearly shown in the above-named action, whether Her Majesty's Government would at once obtain a proper supply of large rifled guns for the service of the navy.

Lord C. PAGET: In answer to the question of the hon. and gallant officer, I have to state that the Admiralty have considered, as I suppose everybody else has done, the report of the action which took place last Sunday between the *Kearsage* and the *Alabama*, which, I may remark, however, has no reference whatever to the question of the *Research*. The Admiralty have likewise considered the report of the Commander-in-Chief at Devonport on the preparation for battle of Her Majesty's ship *Research*. That report goes to the effect that there is not room enough to work the guns, in consequence of the wheel, funnel, and other matters being within the battery. We are taking steps to remove them. These, however, are matters of detail, and in other respects I have no reason to believe that there is any dissatisfaction with the *Research*. A few days ago I was on board the *Research*, and I asked the captain—a young, active, and intelligent officer, whether he was satisfied with her fighting qualities. He replied that he was perfectly satisfied on that point. With respect to the comparison which the hon. gentleman has drawn between the *Research* and the *Alabama*, perhaps he is not aware that the *Alabama* is - [Several hon. Members.—"Was."]—was a wooden ship of light scantling, whereas the *Research* is armour-plated. Therefore, there can be no comparison drawn between the two ships. With regard to the further question, "whether Her Majesty's Government will continue to build ships which cannot be expected either to fight or swim," I must state that Her Majesty's Government have no intention to build ships that can neither fight nor swim. These vessels are undergoing a fair trial, and I ask for them fair play. I ask likewise fair play for another experimental ship going out in a few days—the *Royal Sovereign*, designed by a talented officer of the navy, Captain Coles. I shall be happy to make a frank statement in regard to her after she has undergone a fair trial. With respect to the third question, about the guns, the hon. member must be aware that the Government are taking steps to procure heavier rifled guns. The hon. and gallant gentleman was present at the trials at Shoeburyness, when the average weight of shot was 167lb., the average charge of powder was 30lb., and the heaviest charge was as high as 50lb. The weight of the heaviest shot was 300lb. The Admiralty have ordered a considerable number of 10½-inch guns, throwing 150lb. shot, smooth bore, and they have likewise ordered a large number of 7-inch rifled 100 pounders. The *Prince Albert*, the *Royal Sovereign*, and the *Minotaur* will go to sea carrying 12-ton guns, throwing 10½-inch shot. I think this will show that the Government are alive to the importance of the subject.

PAPERS ON CHINA.

(24th.) Colonel SYKES inquired why certain papers relative to China had not been laid on the table.—Mr. LAYARD apologised for not having laid the papers on the table before, but there were some doubts as to what the Consular orders were, and they had not them at hand. He hoped to be able to present the papers in a day or two.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, June 22.

Everything connected with the weal or woe of the Royal family finds a responsive sympathy in the breast of the loyal Dutch nation. No wonder, then, that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the marriage of the King and Queen on the 18th inst.—such anniversaries being known here as a "silver wedding"—called forth the accustomed display of loyalty by illuminations, fireworks, and a great show of national flags, not only at the Hague and in this city, but over the whole country generally. In addition to this domestic jubilee in the reigning dynasty, the day was also held as a national festival, it being the anniversary of the battle of Waterloo, in which the Dutch troops, under the then Prince of Orange, took an honourable part.

Since my last letter there has been considerable excitement throughout the country, in consequence of the general elections for one-half of the members of the Second Chamber of the States General, but without any irregularities or breach of the peace. The general result is that the balance of parties remains much the same as before. At the Hague the Liberal party have lost a seat; at Limburg two new Conservative

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members were elected *vice* two Liberals; at Winschoten and Breda the Liberals were victorious; and here at Amsterdam the result was as follows:—Mr. S. Cool was re-elected by an absolute majority (1,118 out of 1,752 votes), while the other candidates at the head of the poll not having an absolute majority (877 votes), a second election with relative majority must take place. These four gentlemen are Lieutenant-General van Zwieten (who polled 842 votes), Mr. C. van Heukelon (828), Mr. J. Heemskerk (789), and Mr. J. A. Santhagens (695). The other votes were split among thirty-one other different candidates. Mr. van Heukelom and Mr. J. Heemskerk were hitherto the sitting members. General van Zwieten has never yet been in Parliament. Two of these four candidates will be elected. In all the other electoral districts the old members mere returned.

With reference to the wonderful discovery of M. Hooibrenk for the artificial impregnation of fruit-bearing trees and vegetables, which I mentioned in a late letter, I am now enabled, by the courtesy of a gentleman connected with the Colonial Department, to give you some account of the experiments to be made this year in Java. Attached to the Government House at Tjipannas are some rice fields which the Governor-General, as possessor for the time being, cultivates by hired natives. An area of 20 *bouws* has been measured off for a trial of the Hooibrenk system, and the operations will be conducted personally by a controller in accordance with instructions contained in the work on the subject published by Mr. Rochussen, some copies of which have been sent out to Netherlands India. When the Governor-General was at Tjipannas in March this year, he had a conversation on the subject with the Resident of the Preanger Regencies, and it was further arranged that in the month of July, when the coffee trees begin to blossom, they should also be experimented on, the result of which is looked forward to with great curiosity and the most lively interest. In the meantime the well-authenticated result of a trial on a small scale has been received from Buitenzorg, made by order of the Assistant Resident of that district, and executed under the personal inspection of the Demang of Tjibaroessa. A large rice field was divided into two equal parts, each 114½ ft. long, and 36 wide, both divisions being planted with paddy at the same time and under exactly the same circumstances. When the proper time arrived one of the halves was operated on according to the Hooibrenk system by the Demang himself On Saturday, the 2nd of April last, the paddy was cut in both divisions of the field, also in the presence of the Demang, who took special note of the result, which was that the half fructified on Mr. Hooibrenk's principle produced 310 katties, whilst the crop of the other half was only 274. It thus appears that the advantage in favour of the new system is equal to 13 per cent., besides which the report states that the ears were all of one uniform size and full of large-sized grain. The Demang adds that till the rice was cut and weighed no distinction could be made in the appearance of the two crops, even by the closest inspection and by experienced observers. The result is considered satisfactory, and next season, it is understood, experiments will be made on a larger scale, both on the same ground at Buitenzorg and other rice fields in that neighbourhood.

The directors of the Billiton Company give notice by advertisement, dated the Hague, 8th of June, that in future all their tin will be sold by public auction at Batavia, in lots of 25 piculs or thereabouts, without limitation of price; that every year six such auctions will be held, at not less than the lapse of a month between them; that each sale shall be advertised a fortnight previously in the *Java Courant* and two other Batavia journals, stating the quantity to be put up at each, and the condition that the tin be delivered at Batavia on payment of the amount; and that should any alterations be made in future, due notice will be given to the trade.

The following twenty-one first-class vessels have been chartered by the Netherlands Trading Company to convey produce from Java, under the usual conditions, to the undermentioned ports:—

Margaretha Simonetta, Capt. Hoffman; *Presto*, Capt. Tekes; *Koninkl. Nederl. Yachtclub*, Capt. J. Zwart; *Hendrika*, Capt. de Groot-Stiffry; *Henriette and Geertruida*, Capt. de Boer; *Willemina and Clara*, Capt. Abrahams; *Herman*, Capt. Oosteroom; *Johanna Elizabeth*, Capt. Duinker; *California*, Capt. Leonhard; *Henriette*, Capt. Visser; *Goede Verwachting*, Capt. Hellenius; *Zeemanshoop*, Capt. Reinierse; and *Anna Dina*, Capt. Ouman—all for Amsterdam; *Mary and Hillegonda*, Capt. ——; *Tollens*, Capt. Verhagen; *Nyverheid*, Capt. Schaap; *Ridderkerk*, Capt. Teerlink; and *Johanna Maria*, Capt. Wilhelmie—all for Rotterdam; *Regina Maris*, Capt. Ouwehand, for Middelburg; and *Mercator*, Capt. van der Woude, and *Johanna Christina*, Capt. de Clercq, for Schiedam.

The Zoological Society (*Natura Artis Magistra*) of this city has made a present of 2,000 young salmon trout and a quantity of gold fish to the East India Military Asylum at Broubeck, for the purpose of stocking the fish-ponds of that establishment.

H. N. M. steam screw-corvette *Dommel*, 10 guns, Lieut. van der Kruysse-Pillar, last from the West Indies, has arrived at Helvoetsluys. All well on board.

Lieut. H. A. van Rappard, R.N., lately belonging to the guard-ship at Batavia, and now returned to this country by private ship, has been placed on the list of non-active officers of the navy.

Messrs. Visser, van den Heuvell, and van Santen, of the Hague and Leyden, have just published the second part of Major-General W. A. van Rees's "Recollections of the Life of an Indian Officer," in 2 vols., 8vo., with eight engravings, the first part of which work was so successful when it appeared.

At the usual monthly sitting of the Royal Academy of Sciences (Literary Department) the receipt of a work was announced lately published by Mr. P. D. Matthes, Corresponding Member at Macassar, containing a collection of legends at Macassar and Boegines, translated into Dutch by the above-named gentleman.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

Per *Nederland*, Capt. van Steenderen at Amsterdam from Batavia: Mr. A. C. van Maarseveen and family, Mr. P. A. le Mahieu, Administrative officer, Lieut. E. Simon, R.N., Mr. van der Aa, Mr. M. Brockhove and family, and Mr. J. Henry.

Per *Jedo*, Capt. van Rossen at Brouwershaven from Java: Mrs. Setten and family.

Per *Ortelius*, Capt. Groote, at Amsterdam from Banjoewangie: Mr. and Mrs. Butteling and six children, Miss Stoolman, Mr. Crevecoeur, Mr. van Notton, nine passported soldiers.

Per *Holland*, Capt. Gronbeck, at Amsterdam from Batavia: Capt. Bylon.

Per *Capella*, Capt. Kruisinga, at Rotterdam from Banjoewangie: Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Stevens and four children.

Per *Alcyone*, Capt. Landweer, at Amsterdam from Banjoewangie: Mrs. Bear and two children, Miss de Leeuw, Mr. M. H. de Vogel, and Master Ulriks.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per *Kosmopoliet*, Capt. Koning, from Rotterdam to Batavia: Mr. G. Royards, officer of the E.I. civil service, wife and three daughters, Rev. A. P. van Moorsel, R. Cath Priest, Messrs. J. L. Spengler, J. H. Schluter, and H. Becking, Miss E. S. Pieron, Capt. P. van der Putt, E.I. Cavalry, wife and son, Lieutenants P. J. Oosthout and C. F. Ooykaas, E.I. Infantry; 150 men, supplementary colonial troops.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The Company's Sale of 86,137 bags of Java and Padang went off very well, the whole quantity being sold, though about half-a cent lower than the brokers' valuations, good ordinary realising 42½ to 43 cents. The few small lots of the better descriptions fetched comparatively the lowest prices, fine brown valued at 59 selling only at 57½ to 57¾, and some light brown, valued at 53 to 54, went off at 52½. On the other hand, 8 numbers realised 1 to 1½ cents more than the valuations. The private trade sales that followed went off as follows:—5,000 bags of Padang, ex *Van der Palm*, partly sold and partly bought in at from 43 to 46 cents (the latter disposed of after the sale by private contract at the above rates); 1,200 bags of Java, ex *Maria Louisa Antoinette*, 300 bags sold at 37¼ to 41½, and part of the remainder subsequently placed at the same prices; and 362 bags of Bali bought in. The sales by importers included 3,800 bags of Padang, ex *Johanna Maria*, at 43 to 48 cents, and 1,000 bags of Java, ex *Marinus Willem*, *Insulanerin* and *Rudolf*, at 41½ to 43½ cents. The market is in a firm condition, and there is a considerable demand for favourite numbers, but no sellers without an advance.

SUGAR.—The raw article has recovered from the calm that ensued after the Company's sale, and prices have again crept up till they are now fully equal to those of the May sale. Among the transactions of the past week were 664 kranjangs of Passaroean, No. 16¼, of fine quality, but rather damp, at 41½ fl.; 952 do. of Cheribon, ex *Nyverheid*, No. 15¾, fine steam made, at 42 fl.; 1,200 do., No. 16, ex *County of Ayr*, fine though rather soft, at 42 fl.; and 4,436 mats of Manila, ex *Angelo de Alcatina*, No. 8, soft, at secret prices for shipment.

RICE dull, business being confined to the execution of a few small consumptive orders. Prices unaltered.

SPICES.—Some parcels of nutmegs and mace have changed hands at previous values for export—cloves neglected. There is some inquiry for Java Cinnamon No. 4, but sellers are not much inclined to operate.

BANCA TIN is lower, a few lots having been done at 65 fl., and the market is depressed.

INDIGO firm and looking up. There is a continued good demand, the sales amounting to 420 chests of Java at full prices. 124 chests of private trade have arrived, but are not yet in the market.

RATTANS.—In more request at former rates. Sales by importers 450 bundles (120 piculs). *Nederland*, and 453 bundles (100 piculs) ex *Regina Maris*. The announcement of the company's summer sale is shortly expected to be made.

JAVA TOBACCO.—Market quiet, but still the following sales by private contract are reported: 128 bales HZ, ex *County of Ayr*, 500 bales KL, 200 b. HZ, 99 b. Malang PA, all ex *Johanna and Oluffa*, just arrived; 329 b. L 249 b. K, 217 b. P, 212 b. BB, 952 b. PK, 200 b. Tikong, 168 b. D, 132 b. RAWL, per sundry vessels; 444 b. PK, and 85 b. D, ex *Hamstede*; and 795 b. KL, ex *Henriette Maria*. Stock 9,727 bales.

DRUGS.—At public sale, by importers, 197 chests of Japan Wax were bought in at 38 and 37 fl. for A and B; of 490 packages of Cassia Fistula, 200 were sold at 6 fl. 75 cents, and the rest bought in at 7½ fl.; 274 packages of Cassia Vera, sold at 19 fl., and 100 bought in at 16 fl.; 20 bales of Japan do. sold at 18 fl.; 14 chests of Gum Damar, sold at 22 fl.; 10 chests of Japan Soy, sold at 50 to 52½ cents; 3 chests of Sumatra Gum Benzoe, bought in at 45 cents; 3 chests of superior Siam do., sold at 302 cents; 63 bottles of Croton Oil, bought in at 4½ fl.; 2 chests of China Rhubarb, sold at 3 fl. 90 cents; and 5 bales of Indiarubber sold at 88 fl.

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Naval and Military.

We understand (says the *Army and Navy Gazette*) that Major-General W. G. Brown has resigned the command of the troops in China, and returns home to England immediately. He has only held the command since the early part of last year. Among those who are likely to succeed him may be named General Staveley, who held the command before General Brown. But no appointment will be made until the arrangement of the scale of pay and allowances to be given to General Brown's successor is determined.

The Pearl, screw steam-corvette, Capt. J. Borlase, C.B., was paid off at Portsmouth on the 19th inst. She was commissioned August 23, 1859, by Capt. Borlase, who, with several of the officers and men, have returned to England in her after most active and useful employment on the China station. Long service medals and gratuities were awarded to John Friend, the quartermaster; John Hawton, coxswain of the launch; and John Stone, captain of the muster. The Pearl is placed in the third-class steam reserve.

Captain John Corbett, late in command of the Scout, has been appointed Flag-Captain to Rear-Admiral Sir Lewis T. Jones, K.C.B., at Queenstown, vice Shadwell, appointed Captain Superintendent at Haslar and the Royal Clarence Victualling Yard.

ADMIRALTY, JUNE 21.—The following promotions, dated the 15th instant, consequent on the death, on the 14th instant., of Admiral of the White Sir A. Fanshawe, K.C.B., have this day taken place—viz., Admiral of the Blue the Hon. H. J. Rous to be Admiral of the White; Vice Admirals on the Reserved List R. A. Yates, C. G. Randolph, and E. R. Williams, to be Admirals on the same list; Vice Admiral of the Red Sir H. B. Martin, K.C.B., to be Admiral of the Blue; Vice Admiral of the White C. R. D. Bethune, C.B., to be Vice Admiral of the Red; Vice Admiral of the Blue H. J. Codrington, C.B., to be Vice Admiral of the White; Rear Admiral on the Reserved List R. Eliott to be Vice Admiral on the same list; Rear Admiral of the Red J. E. Erskine to be Vice Admiral of the Blue; Rear Admiral of the White J. J. Stopford to be Rear Admiral of the Red, Rear Admiral of the Blue F. Hutton to be Rear Admiral of the White; Captain T. S. Thompson to be Rear Admiral on the Reserved List; Captain H. E. Edgell, C.B., to be Rear Admiral of the Blue. The undermentioned officers on the Retired List to have the rank and title expressed against their names, but without increase of pay:—Retired Vice Admirals J. Pakenham, H. Litchfield, and W. Webb, to be Retired Admirals; Retired Rear Admiral A. Luckraft to be Retired Vice Admiral. And the following Retired Captains have been promoted to be Retired Rear Admirals, but also without increase of pay:—G. G. Burton, H. Layton, W. H. Kitchen, R. F. Gambier, Sir C. Ricketts, Bart., and W. H. Jervis.

RULES FOR STEAM ENGINEERS.—The following circular has been recently despatched to all commanders-in-chief, to captains and other commanding officers of Her Majesty's Navy, dated Admiralty, 18th May, 1864:—Until further experience has been gained of the working of surface condensers and superheaters, and the best means have been more clearly ascertained of obviating the evils which sometimes occur to engines and boilers so fitted; the following rules are to be strictly observed:—Superheater.—The heat is to be shut off from the superheater, wherever there are means of doing so, during the time the steam is being got up, and until the engines are set to work, and also whenever it may be necessary suddenly to open the smoke-box doors. When steam is being raised, the communication valves between the boilers and superheaters, also those leading to the engines, should be opened soon after the fires are lighted, so as to allow the steam as it rises to circulate through the superheater, thus preventing the tubes becoming unduly heated. The temperature of the steam at the cylinders is never to exceed 320°, unless after sufficient experience it should be evident that the temperature may be safely increased without risk of injury. Care is to be taken that the temperature to which the superheater is exposed be not improperly increased by unnecessarily urging the fires, by air leaks near the smoke-box doors, or by any other causes. Whenever priming occurs, the blow-through cock or other channel for clearing the superheater of water is to be opened, and on all occasions, whether the superheater be at work or not, care is to be taken that no water be allowed to remain in it, and that no soot be allowed to accumulate near it. Superheaters should always be carefully dried in every part, and painted, if possible, when not likely to be used for some considerable time. Boiler.—Any boiler, after having been at work for one week, although only at intervals, is to be entirely blown out, and filled with clean sea water; and the loss arising from the blowing of the safety valves, or from other causes, it is to be made good by salt water. No tallow is to be put into the boiler unless in the case of excessive priming. The interior of the boilers is to be carefully examined once a month, with a view of ascertaining the condition of the boilers, and whether there appears to be any corrosive action going on. Engines.—As little tallow is to be used as the good working of the machinery will admit of, for the expansion and slide valves, pistons, and stuffing boxes. Whenever time will permit, the expansion and slide valves and the interior of the cylinders are to be carefully examined, cleaned, and coated with oil. Condensers.—If blow-through valves are fitted, they should be used with great caution, a sudden rush of steam sometimes it is thought cracks the tubes of the condensers. The tubes of the condensers are to be drawn out, and the grease cleaned off them at least once in six months, unless the construction of the condensers admit of the tubes being effectually cleaned in place; in either case they are to be kept perfectly clean. If the condenser tubes are leaky, the sea-cocks of the circulating pumps should be shut when the engines are stopped, to prevent the water getting into the cylinders through the condensers. In addition to observing strictly the foregoing regulations, it is expected that the engineers of the ship will devote their best energies and judgment to keep in efficient working order the condensers and superheaters, as well as the machinery and boilers generally; and that by care and judicious management those parts which require more than ordinary attention, will not only be preserved from injury but kept in good working condition for a lengthened period.—By command of their Lordships, C. PAGET.

THE MUTINY ON BOARD THE OCEAN QUEEN.

An attempt at mutiny occurred on board the steamship *Ocean Queen*, on her way from New York to Aspinwall, which was immediately suppressed by the courage and decision of Commander Ammen, of the United States navy. The particulars were as follows:—

The steamship *Ocean Queen*, Captain Tinklepaugh, from New York, on the 13th May, with eight hundred passengers for California, and two hundred and twenty seamen for the Pacific squadron, arrived at Aspinwall on the evening of the 23rd. On the third day out from New York an occurrence took place on board that came near being a very serious affair, and which was only checked by the coolness and determination of Commander D. Ammen, U.S.N., in shooting two of the ringleaders dead upon the spot. The seamen that came by her are some of those transferred from the army. They were under charge of Commander Ammen, to be delivered in charge of the senior naval officer at this place, and, although some good men were to be found among them, still there was a majority disposed to be noisy, turbulent and desirous of "kicking up a row." Symptoms of discontent were visible soon after getting to sea, and they had to be closely watched; but on the third day they came aft and attempted to force the grating placed to separate the cabin from the steerage passengers, saying that they intended to dine in the cabin. Commander Ammen was immediately sent for, and, upon reaching the spot, told the three men who appeared to be foremost in the affray, in his usual calm and determined manner, that if they made any further attempt he would shoot some of them. To this remark one of them replied that he knew what that threat was worth; that he had been under fire and did not care a damn. As he made the remark the three made a rush, when the foremost fell instantly dead from a shot from the revolver in Commander Ammen's hand; the second shared the same fate, but the third dodged and escaped. This quieted them, and after the bodies were sewn up and thrown overboard, the other men were mustered and passed to the upper deck, one by one, and as they went up the worst characters were put in irons, and the balance had their knives taken from them. The passengers then held a meeting, and such as had arms volunteered to keep watch on the scoundrels, and did so, which kept matters quiet. On falling in with the convoy off Mayaguana Island—the United States steamer *Neptune*—the worst characters were transferred to her, and she then accompanied the *Ocean Queen* to Aspinwall, bringing the mutineers in irons. The *Neptune* will (says the correspondent) remain to convoy the *Ocean Queen* on her return, on account of the steamer *Tamar*, that arrived at Aspinwall on the 23rd, having been chased when off the east end of Jamaica by the rebel privateer *Florida*.

MONGAN V. GREER.—This was an action tried in the Court of Common Pleas, with a special jury, to recover damages for injuries sustained in falling down a staircase. Mr. M. Smith, Q.C., and Mr. Griffith appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Serjeant Parry and Mr. M. Lloyd for the defendant. The plaintiff was the English Consul at Tien-Tsin, in China, but was in this country upon leave of absence. On the 24th March last he went with his wife to the shop of the defendant, a furniture dealer at the corner of Museum street, Holborn, with the view of buying some furniture. They looked at a table which was standing on the top of two others; and soon afterwards the shopman left them to go into the counting-house, and fetch a catalogue of iron bedsteads. Whilst the shopman was away the plaintiff went to have another look at the table, and, passing round to the other side of it and stepping back, he fell down a staircase into a room below the shop. The result was that he broke both bones of his left arm and dislocated his wrist; and although he could now move his fingers, he could scarcely use his arm to any greater extent, and the doctor thought that it was probable that he would never recover the proper use of the limb. The question in the cause was upon whom the fault lay. The plaintiff's case was that the staircase was not properly fenced, and that he stepped into the unguarded opening without seeing it; whilst, on the other side, it was said that the staircase was of a usual and proper construction, and that if the plaintiff had used proper care the accident would not have occurred. The defendant's evidence was that he had, shortly before the accident, told the plaintiff to be careful of the stairs, and the reply was, "Yes, I see them;" and it was further stated that the plaintiff had some months before been down the stairs into the place below. The plaintiff in his evidence said that he had no recollection whatever of either of these circumstances having occurred. The jury were locked up from three o'clock until eight, when they were discharged without having been able to agree to a verdict.

SUICIDE OF AN INDIAN OFFICER.—On the 23rd Dr. Lankester held an inquiry at the Silver Cup Tavern, Cromer-street, Gray's-inn-road, respecting the suicide of Captain Frederick Lloyd, aged 33 years, late of the Bengal service. Mr. Skinner, 4, Mecklenburgh-street, said deceased had lived in his house for the last three months. On Tuesday last witness saw him with a pair of pistols which he said he was going to clean. The witness went out, and on his return found that the deceased was dead. He had sometimes said that he wished he was dead, as he had nothing to do. He was in very comfortable circumstances. The witness was not aware that he was about to be married. He used to go to the Haymarket to see Miss C. Hill perform, but the witness believed he had no correspondence with her, and that he had never seen her off the stage. A policeman who was called in asked him what made him do such a thing, and he said, "It is that blessed girl, Miss Hill, that has made me do it." The witness found a discharged pistol lying on a photograph of Miss C. Hill representing her as *Apollo*, in the play of "Venus and Adonis." Mr. Robert Mayer, of Haddo, said that the deceased was a captain of artillery. He served in India, and assisted in the suppression of the mutiny. He received a *coup-de soleil*, and had to retire on a pension. He was in comfortable circumstances. Mr. Skinner said he did not attach particular importance to the affair of Miss Hill. There were no letters. Deceased had also a photograph of Miss Bateman. The jury returned a verdict of "Suicide while in a state of unsound mind."

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1864.

BRUCE, GORDON, AND LAY.

Two communications have appeared in *The Times* without comment, which have been transferred to our columns, significant of the different motives that rule the conduct of our countrymen in China, whose names head this article. Sir FREDERICK BRUCE'S letter to Major GORDON is not more just and complimentary to that gallant officer than it is well deserved. His singleness of purpose and abnegation of self after the Soochow affair, and his subsequent action in the field with the disciplined Chinese, exhibit astute diplomatic qualities, as well as excellent generalship. We have not a copy of his own despatch to the British Minister at Peking, but we can gather from the reply of Sir FREDERICK that his reasons for resuming operations in the face of hostile criticism was to avert the "serious calamity and addition to our embarrassments in China" if he was compelled to leave his work incomplete, "and were a sudden dis- "solution or dispersion of the Chinese force to lead to the re- "currence of that state of danger and anxiety from which, "during the last two years, Shanghai has suffered." After expressing his views on this point so strongly, there is reason to conclude that if Earl RUSSELL'S despatch rescinding the Order in Council relative to British officers in the Chinese service leaves the Minister the smallest latitude in postponing its promulgation, he will do so in GORDON'S case until he has rendered his work complete; or, at all events, allow the continuance of his operations in the field, until the setting in of the summer heats compels the cessation of hostilities—if the campaign be not ended before then. And, be it remarked, that this consummation of the Taiping rebellion, if effected under GORDON'S command of the Imperial forces, will accrue as much from his conciliatory policy towards the misguided followers of an impostor, as his prowess in attacking their strongholds. To him, and he alone of all the leaders, native and foreign, who have endeavoured to quell this insurrection, have the Taiping chiefs surrendered, for they relied on his faith and humanity. It is true that the treachery of the Chinese Governor frustrated for a time this mode of pacification, and which was apparent in the reverse at Kintang, and the resistance at Chang-chow. While such is the case, we gather from this document that the Chinese Government sent a despatch to Sir FREDERICK, which states that "in "any future operations in which a foreign officer is con- "cerned, the rules of warfare as practised among foreign "nations are to be observed." This is an important concession to British policy as advocated by Her MAJESTY'S representative at the Court of Peking, and presents strong evidence of the success of that policy on the Chinese mind, which Hon. Members opposed to it should take into consideration. This concession in the cause of humanity, by a Government acting in obedience to a sanguinary and detestable code of laws, may be the precursor of reform in the native military administration equal in clemency. Thus the Soochow affair, so bad in the beginning, will probably have a more wholesome effect on the regeneration of China than any event which has yet transpired in its foreign relations.

The publication of this interesting document has elicited a communication from Mr. H. N. LAY—ex-Inspector-General of H.I.C.M.'s Customs—now in England. Its tenor, in the mildest acceptation, is in very bad taste, and exhibits evident *animus* against Sir F. BRUCE, ingratitude towards his late Chinese masters, and a fair display of egotism. He has no hesitation in declaring that the course pursued by H.M.'s Minister "is "dictated rather by considerations of personal comfort and "convenience than by a regard to the great interests of Eng- "land and China." An assertion of this nature advanced by some independent authority, untainted with selfishness, might have weight; but, coming as it does from a source where self-aggrandisement was more the rule than the exception, it sounds as hollow as it is mean. Was it for the "great interests of England and China" that Mr. LAY demanded from Prince KUNG a palace to reside in at Peking, and to live on the fat of the Chinese exchequer, without any "considerations of personal comfort and convenience?" In Sir FREDERICK BRUCE'S letter to Major GORDON there is a paragraph wherein he applauds him for the disinterested conduct he has observed "in pecuniary questions," which forms a strong contrast to the course pursued by the ex-Inspector-General, as shown in the last Blue Book on China. Now, being discarded by the Chinese authorities, forgetful of or ignoring all the pecuniary benefits he has received at their hands, he negatively disapproves of their receiving any assistance from our officers beyond the thirty-mile radius around Shanghai, which he, and all the employés in the foreign Protectorate of Customs, considered the very safeguard of their pecuniary existence. The case is altered now; and the bosom friend of the TAOTAI, the FUTAI, and other functionaries, having pocketed a princely consideration in taels from the REGENT, turns round upon the country wherein he has made his fortune, sides with COBDEN and the anti-China clique, and would rejoice, in all probability, if the Taipings overthrew the existing dynasty and reigned in their stead—when foreigners of easy political virtue could accept offices hostile to their former masters. We are none of those who echoed the cry of "mercenary!" got up by a section of the press in China, against the foreign officers in the Imperial Customs; for we knew that there were gentlemen in that department as little deserving of the appellation, in its offensive meaning, as any of the highest officials in H.M.'s Customs. But it would appear that the term was not inappropriate amongst a certain class of employés and *soi disant* friends of China. Instead of adding fuel to the fire of controversy on British policy in that Empire, it would be more becoming on the part of Mr. LAY to remain in silent obscurity.

RETURN OF COLONEL NEALE FROM JAPAN.

Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK having resumed his post as British *Chargé d'Affaires* at Japan, after an absence of eighteen months, his *locum tenens*, Colonel ST. JOHN NEALE, returns to England to settle down amongst the throng—like many other notables abroad—unnoticed. During the period he held that important office affairs of the most momentous character transpired in our relations with that strange people and their sanguinary institutions. Of these the RICHARDSON murder and its retribution was the most prominent, and forms an episode in the annals of that country which time cannot efface. On the first blush of that tragic affair and its attendant circumstances, as reported by the Japan and China press, we, in common with our contemporaries, held up Colonel NEALE'S course of action in the matter as open to censure and unbecoming the *amour propre* of an Englishman. Since then, however, his despatches on the occasion to the Foreign Office have been published; and on calm consideration we are of opinion that they amply justify the course he pursued, under circumstances involving no small degree of peril to British life and property in Japan. Had he at the time acted upon the excited resolutions passed at the midnight meeting of English and other foreign residents at Yokohama, demanding immediate satisfaction at the point of the sword, backed merely by an insignificant troop of horse, and petty detachments of marines and blue-jackets, in all probability the two-sworded Yaconins, having tasted the hated blood of the foreigner, would have attacked the whole community with unrestrained violence, and a general massacre would have ensued. While he acted calmly, and judiciously restrained all acts of violence or retaliation until the force at his disposal was strengthened from China, he bore with silent dignity the covert taunts and inuendos of the young and hot-blooded residents. Nevertheless, these despatches disclose the fact that he was uninfluenced by this temporary unpopularity in using his best endeavours for the punishment of the offenders and the future security of life and property. He continued to urge upon HER MAJESTY'S Government, and the military

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and naval Commanders-in-Chief inChina, that it was absolutely necessary to make a hostile demonstration, and, if need be, proceed to hostilities with all the forces available by sea or land, to demand satisfaction for RICHARDSON'S murder, and to maintain the *prestige* of England in the eyes of the Japanese. His requests were feebly met by Generals STAVELEY and BROWN, but warmly responded to by Admiral KUPER. The result of that bold course of action is now a matter of history—the bombardment of Kagosima, at which he was present; the payment of the two indemnities; and the resumption of pacific intercourse with the Japanese authorities under the most favourable auspices, after the severe lesson they had been taught. The recognition, also, of his services by Earl RUSSELL, and the bestowal of the Companionship of the Bath by his Sovereign, show that his conduct has been fully appreciated and rewarded where it was most capable of being judged. On his departure from the Far East, we observe that the Press generally commend his prescient attributes as a diplomatist, with his calmness and courage under trying circumstances. The old adage, "Better late than never," is peculiarly applicable in this instance of the Press making the *amende honorable* to a deserving public officer whose conduct was formerly misunderstood. Having classed ourselves in this category, we cordially join in congratulating Colonel ST. JOHN NEALE on the successful manner in which he has carried out British policy in Japan, and trust that his attainments will lead to higher duties in connection with the scene of his past labours.

RECALL OF THE JAPANESE AMBASSADORS.

(FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.)

A rumour was afloat some little time since that the Japanese Ambassadors would return home without visiting any other European country besides France, but it obtained little credence. It turns out, however, to have been well founded; theAmbassadors have had their final interview with M. Drouyn de Lhuys, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, have formally taken their leave, and are now on their way back to the East. No particulars have been allowed to transpire respecting what has passed between the Government here and the Ambassadors in question, the public being simply informed, in the usual stereotyped phrases, that the excuses offered for the past conduct of the Japanese and the promises made for the future are highly satisfactory. It is to be presumed that some explanation of the asserted recall of the embassy has been offered to the British and other Governments, otherwise the apologies made to France for the injuries done to Frenchmen leave the offences against the English, the Dutch, and the Americans more glaring by contrast! Possibly the negotiations which have been carried on in Paris have been with the knowledge and assent of the representatives of the other Powers; but if so, it would be satisfactory to know that such has been the case, and that the Japanese have determined to enter cordially into the family of civilised nations. But we have no information, no hint even, that such is the case; and as there is little hope that the world will be enlightened by any means, perhaps some member of the House of Commons will inquire of the Government whether the Japanese have contented themselves with giving satisfaction to France, and slighting all the other Powers, or whether some general arrangement or understanding has been arrived at. It is almost impossible to believe that the former is the case; but the relations between Japan and this country—especially when there is the slighest doubt about our relative treatment — is one of too much importance to be allowed to rest on hope or hang in doubt. The ways of Eastern nations are curious, and their peculiarities must be allowed for; but when any suspicion of favouritism is mooted, there is nothing for it but a plain straightforward question and an equally plain and straightforward reply, and if that is not to be obtained at Westminster it will be quite in vain to search for it elsewhere in Europe.

The interest taken in all matters connected with the Far East has increased enormously here of late, and one consequence of this is that all kinds of Chinese and Japanese curiosities are being forced before the public nose; the auction rooms are full of bronzes and porcelain, shops for the sale of these and other articles of virtu are springing up everywhere, and the very showmen are bitten with the Eastern fever. For instance, we are told that a dwarf Chinese princess—nothing less than a *princess* of course! —is being exhibited at Perigueux. She is described as being twenty years of age, weighing about twenty-two pounds, and otherwise emulating Tom Thumb. This miniature specimen of humanity whom one would suppose, according to the accounts, to have been taken off a fan or a tea-caddy, and as quite suitable for a chimney ornament, is said to be after all—princess though she be—only half-bred. Her father is declared to be English and her mother Chinese; and the young lady is described as partaking of the characteristics of both parents, having fair and peculiarly silky hair, blue eyes—"like all the English!"—but with the slope of the Celestial empire. Her skin is described as being of the saffron tint, her features regular and pleasing, her limbs well formed, her nose slightly *retrousse*, her teeth as developed as a woman of five-and-twenty, her feet and hands small and well made, and her height rather less than twenty-two inches. This wonderful dwarf is described as tolerably intelligent, and the only wonder is that Paris, "the capital of Europe," has not yet been honoured by her presence.

THE JAPANESE CONVENTION WITH FRANCE.

The outline of the arrangement, as it is called, made by the envoys of the Tycoon has just been made known. The document was signed on the eve of their departure from Paris by the Ambassadors and by M. Drouyn de Lhuys, the Minister of Foreign Affairs. It includes, in the first place, a satisfactory settlement of the difficulties which had arisen out of the hostile act perpetrated against a French Government vessel; secondly, it guarantees during the entire existence of the Treaty of 1858 the continuance of the reduced scale of import duties agreed to as compensation for the temporary adjournment of the opening of certain of the treaty ports. By this the duties on French wine and spirits, which before amounted to 35 per cent., and those on the other principal articles of French industry and commerce, which were twenty per cent., are all reduced to about 5 or 6 per cent. only. The envoys handed to the Emperor on the 3rd of May last a written expression of regret on the part of the Tycoon for the assassination of Lieutenant Camus. They have since paid the sum of 192,500 francs (£7,700) to the family of the murdered officer, by way of compensation, and they undertake that the Tycoon's Government shall take all necessary measures for the discovery and punishment of the assassins.

AMERICAN DESPATCHES ON JAPAN.

MR. SEWARD TO MR. PRUYN.

WASHINGTON, JUNE 6, 1863.

SIR,—Your despatch of 16th of February (No. 10) has been received. The President cheerfully leaves you to exercise your own discretion as to the waiver of any points that may arise between yourself and the Government of the Tycoon in regard to the change of the location in Yedo for the residence of our legation. You are, however, to confer, and if possible, agree upon the subject with the representatives of the other treaty Powers.

The letter of the Mikado to the Tycoon is ominous of serious disturbance of the relations which have recently been inaugurated with so much effect through the concert of the principal maritime Powers, and which has promised such great advantages to the general cause of progress and civilisation. You will represent to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs that it is not at all to be expected that any one of those Powers will consent to the suspension of their treaties, and that the United States will co-operate with them in all necessary efforts, and by the use of all necessary means, to maintain and secure the fulfilment of the treaties on the part of the Japanese Government. In communicating this determination, you will take care to avoid, as far as possible, any expressions which might be regarded as disrespectful or minatory, while you will, on the other hand, leave no room for the supposition that this Government can separate itself, in any way, from the interests of the other treaty Powers. The occasion is one of such great importance that I have thought it expedient to communicate to those Powers a copy of this paper, together with such portions of your despatch, as are necessary to its elucidation. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Robert H. Pruyn, Esq., &c., &c., Yedo.

WASHINGTON, June 29, 1863.

SIR,—Your despatch of April 10 (No. 15) has been submitted to the President. It is an occasion of sincere regret that the Government of Japan has not been able to guarantee the safety of foreigners sojourning in the country, and that it has thus been brought to the necessity of yielding to demands of indemnity under coercion. I am bound to believe that that crisis which you have informed me was approaching has now actually passed. I can give you, therefore, only instructions with reference to what may be expected to be the condition of affairs existing at the time when this communication shall have reached you. It is manifestly the interest and the duty of all the Western Powers to maintain harmony and good accord in Japan. We have not only a right, but also good reason for supposing that Her Majesty's Government will not seek any conquest or exclusive advantage in that empire as a result of any conflict which may have taken place. So long as the operations of the British Government shall be confined to the attainment of the objects announced in preliminary communications it will be your duty to lend to them all the moral support in your power. And the naval forces of the United States which may be present, while protecting the American lega-

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tion and American citizens sojourning there, will take care not to hinder, oppose, or embarrass the British authorities in the prosecution of those objects. The United States, having no grievances of their own to complain of against Japan, will not unite in hostilities against that Government, but they will, at the same time, take care not to disapprove of or censure, without just cause, the measures which great Britain adopts to obtain guarantees which, while they are necessary for her, must also result in the greater security of all the Western nations.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Robert H. Pruyn, Esq., &c., &c., Yedo.

WASHINGTON, July 7, 1863.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the reception of your several despatches bearing the dates and numbers following, namely—April 30, No. 16; May 1, No. 17; May 1, No. 18; May 1, No. 19; May 2, No. 20; May 3, No. 21; May 3, No. 22; May 4, No. 23. I have also received from George S. Fisher, the United States Consul at Kanagawa, two despatches, one of which, numbered 15, bears the date of May 7, and the other, written under the date of May 8, is marked 17.

Speaking in a practical sense, I may observe that all these papers advert to the critical condition of the relations between the Western treaty Powers and Japan, which has arisen subsequently to the demand upon the Tycoon for indemnities which has been made by the British Government, or, at least, that the various questions which the despatches present are to be considered in view of that extraordinary condition of affairs.

The leave of absence for six months, within the next year, which you have solicited, will be granted, if the political crisis that now exists in Japan shall, in the meantime, pass off without producing any change inconsistent with, or adverse to, the relations created by the treaty now existing between this country and that empire. * * * *

I have carefully read your two notes addressed to Mr. Neale, her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, in relation to the demand he has made upon the Tycoon's Government, and it gives me pleasure to say that I find nothing in them to disapprove. The counsel that you gave Mr. Neale was not obtrusive, and it seems to me to have been quite discreet as well as humane. On the other hand, this Government, if it were disposed to be querulous, might well complain of some injurious statements and reflections which have found place in Mr. Neale's portion of the correspondence. Nevertheless, the President permits me to pass them by, for two reasons: First. The goodwill of the United States towards Great Britain and all the other treaty Powers in regard to Japan, is impressed upon the records of our diplomatic intercourse with them. As yet it has not even been questioned; and it is not likely to be questioned by any one of those Governments, or by an agent authorised to speak in their behalf. Secondly. The common interests of civilisation and humanity require that there shall be concert and unity among the treaty Powers, in the present crisis, unobstructed by jealousy, or suspicion, or unkind debate of any sort. From all the papers before me I learn that this was the situation of affairs at Yedo on the 8th of May—namely, that the British legation had demanded indemnities, which must be conceded on or before the 21st, or else that the British fleet would proceed to hostilities against Japan. Secondly. That the French naval forces were prepared to act in concert and co operation with the British. Thirdly. That it was doubtful whether the indemnities would be seasonably conceded by the Tycoon Government. Fourthly. That if that Government should conclude to yield the indemnities, yet that, under the auspices of the Mikado and a combination of Daimios hostile to the foreign policy of the Tycoon, a civil war was very likely to break out. Fifthly. That a popular excitement was prevailing which rendered the continuance of peace uncertain in every event, and that foreigners were assaulted and put in jeopardy of their lives by armed bodies of Japanese, and among such foreigners were several Americans. Sixthly. It may be inferred from this circumstance that whatever claims the citizens of the United States might have to friendship, protection, or even freedom from danger, such citizens are likely to be confounded with all other foreigners in any uprising or disturbance of the public peace. Seventhly. The *Wyoming*, at the date of these despatches, had gone to Hong Kong for repairs. I learn here, however, that her repairs were completed on the 27th of April, and that she was then about to proceed to Kanagawa, so that she probably was there as early as the 21st of May, the day finally appointed for the decision of the Tycoon's Government to be communicated.

I shall now give you the President's opinion of your duty, and that of the commander of the *Wyoming*, in view of the situation which may be expected to be existing when this despatch shall have reached Japan. Your whole moral influence must be exerted to procure or preserve peace between the other treaty Powers and Japan, based, if necessary, on a compliance, by the latter Power, with the terms prescribed by them, inasmuch as it is not doubted that those terms will be demanded simply with a view to the necessary security of foreigners of all nations remaining in Japan.

Second. If the authorities of Japan shall be able to excuse themselves for the injuries which Americans may have suffered at the hands of Japanese subjects, and shall in good faith have granted adequate indemnities, or be proceeding to afford them, and also shall be able to guarantee the safety of American residents, the subject may rest; and while there the *Wyoming* will not commit any hostile act against the Japanese Government or Power. But, on the contrary, if in your judgment it shall be necessary for the *Wyoming* to use her guns, for the safety of the Legation or of Americans residing in Japan, then her commander will employ all necessary force for that purpose. If the members of the Legation, or of the consulates, find it at any time unsafe to remain in Japan, they will, of course, seek a safe retreat as convenient as possible, and will report to this Department. While executing these instructions you will, so far as may be in your power, continue to cultivate friendly sentiments on the part of the Japanese Government, declaring, however, to them and to the representatives of the other Powers, that in doing so you are seeking no exclusive or distinct advantage for this Government, but only the common interests of all nations in that extraordinary country.

The Secretary of the Navy will give all necessary instructions to the commander of the *Wyoming* in harmony with the views of the President expressed in this despatch. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Robert H. Pruyn, Esq., &c., &c., Yokohama.

WASHINGTON, July 10, 1863.

SIR,—I have just received your despatches of May 8 (No. 24), May 8 (No. 25), May 11 (No. 26), May 12 (No. 27). By these papers I learn the definitive propositions which had been submitted by the British and French legations at Yedo to the Tycoon previously to the 11th of May, and their purpose to adopt coercive measures in concert, after the 21st of that month, if these propositions should be rejected. I learn also from the same despatches the divisions and distractions there existed in the Japanese councils, and that the people were in an excited condition, which foreboded either the outbreak of civil war, or, more probably, the acceptation of a foreign war; and, most painful of all, the papers confirm the accounts which had before been received from the Consul at Kanagawa of unprovoked violence committed at that place upon American citizens by subjects of the Tycoon.

It is a source of much satisfaction that the *Wyoming* had returned to that port in the midst of these occurrences, as had already been anticipated by the Government here. On a careful review of all these facts it is believed that there is no necessity to modify the instructions which were given you in my despatch of the 7th inst. (No. 43).

In regard to the acts of violence committed upon the persons of American citizens, it is presumed that you have required that the offenders shall be brought to punishment by the Tycoon's Government without delay. It is left in your discretion whether, under the circumstances which shall be existing when this despatch shall reach you, it is expedient to insist upon pecuniary forfeitures, or compensation to be paid by the Government in addition to the punishment of the offenders. If you think it expedient, you are at liberty to say to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs that the President has reserved this question for consideration after the difficulties now existing between the Government of the Tycoon and the British Government shall have been adjusted, and the peaceful condition of affairs which prevailed before the disturbance occurred shall have been renewed.

The President is profoundly sensible of the inefficiency of the instructions you have heretofore received for your safe guidance in an emergency that was not foreseen, and could not be anticipated. When the instructions now given you shall have arrived, the condition of affairs in Japan may be such as to render them inapplicable. Under these circumstances, you must exercise a large discretion, governed by two primary considerations, namely: First, to deserve and win the confidence of the Japanese Government and people if possible, with a view to the common interest of all the treaty Powers; secondly, to sustain and co-operate with the legations of those Powers in good faith, so as to render their efforts to the same end effective. It may be not altogether easy to apply these two principles in the conduct of details. You will, however, make the best effort to do so, and will be permitted to judge which of them must give way in any case of irreconcilable conflict.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Robert H. Pruyn, Esq., &c., &c., Yokohama.

Department of State, Washington, September 1, 1863.

SIR,—Your several despatches have been received, which bear dates and numbers as follows: —

May 26, No. 29; May 26, No. 30; June 12, No. 31; June 15, No. 32; June 15, No. 33; June 16, No. 34; June 17, No. 35; June 18, No. 36; June 20, No. 37; June 22, No. 38; June 23, No. 39; June 24, No. 40; June 24, No. 41; and June 24, No. 42.

Due acknowledgments will be made to the French and British Governments for the hospitalities and sympathies which were extended to you by their respective Ministers on the occasion of your being driven from your residence in Yedo.

Your proceedings in relation to the claims of Switzerland, Belgium Austria, Denmark, Sweden, and Brazil, to enter into treaty relations with Japan, are approved.

Several very important subjects are presented for consideration in your despatches. First, the destruction by fire of the residence of the legation at Yedo. Secondly, your removal of the legation to Yokohama. Thirdly, the differences between the British Government and that of Japan. Fourthly, the order of the Tycoon, requiring foreigners to withdraw from the empire. Fifthly, the questions between Japan and the United States which have resulted from the occurrences thus brought under review. It will be proper to draw into connection with this last topic the violences which have been committed against some of our citizens, as reported to this department in your previous communication of the 12th of May last, No. 28, and which were commented upon in my instructions of the 10th of July last.

Having taken the President's directions I proceed to consider these interesting and important questions.

1st. The facts submitted by you raise a strong presumption that the act of firing the residence of the legation was committed by incendiaries, with a purpose at once political and hostile to the United States, and that the Government of Japan could probably have foreseen and prevented it, and that they have, at least, given to it tacit assent and acquiescence.

2nd. The President is satisfied that your removal of the legation from Yedo to Yokohama was prudent and wise, in view of the circumstances then existing in Japan, and the proceeding is approved. But it is equally clear that the Government of Japan ought to have so controlled those circumstances as to have rendered the removal unnecessary; and that it is bound to provide for your safe return to Yedo, and for the secure and permanent re-establishment of the legation in that capital.

3rd. Your proceedings in regard to the controversy which has arisen between the British Government and that of Japan appear to have been conciliatory, and to have been equally just and fair towards both parties, without at all compromising any rights of the United States, and they are approved.

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4th. It is with much regret that the President has arrived at the conclusion that the Government of Japan has failed to keep its faith, solemnly pledged by treaty, with the United States. This regret is rendered the more painful by the reflection that this Government has, from its first acquaintance with Japan, conducted all its intercourse with the Tycoon with the utmost sincerity, frankness, and friendship. The United States have constantly conceded, on their own part, and sought to conciliate other Powers in their intercourse with Japan. If our advice had been followed the dangers which now threaten the empire would have been averted, and Japan would have been able to profit by a peaceful yet free and equal intercourse with all nations. Even now, although the Government of Japan has done so much and suffered so much to be done to alienate and injure the United States, the President is still disposed to persevere in the same liberal and friendly course of proceedings which he has hitherto pursued in regard to Japan. But the friendship of this country cannot be secured by the Government and people of Japan, nor would it be of any avail, if the United States should fail to maintain their own dignity and self-respect in their intercourse with Japan with the same firmness which they practise in regard to all other nations.

1. You will, therefore, demand of the Government of the Tycoon prompt payment of a sum sufficient to indemnify all the losses which were sustained by yourself and other members of the legation on the occasion of the firing of your official residence.

2. You will demand that diligent efforts be made to discover the incendiaries and bring them to condign punishment.

3. You will demand proper and adequate guarantees for your safe return to Yedo, and the permanent re-establishment of the legation there without delay.

4. You will insist on the full observance of the treaties between the United States and Japan in all the particulars which have not been heretofore waived or postponed by this Government.

5. You will demand a reasonable indemnity, to be fixed by yourself, for the injuries which have been sustained by any American citizens from any acts of violence committed against them by Japanese subjects. And you will further demand that diligent efforts be made by the Tycoon's Government to bring the aggressors to justice, and to inflict upon them such punishment as will be calculated to prevent further outrages of the same kind.

You will employ the naval force at your command to protect yourself, the legation, and others of our countrymen, under any circumstances which may occur; and you will inform the Government of the Tycoon that the United States will, as they shall find occasion, send additional forces to maintain the foregoing demands.

So far as you may have occasion to counsel or act in relation to the controversy which is pending between Great Britain and Japan, you will be guided by the letter and spirit of previous instructions from this department.

You will send to me authenticated and verified accounts of the losses which have been sustained by yourself and other members of the legation by the burning of your residence in Yedo, to the end that an application may be made to Congress for an adequate appropriation for the proper indemnity.

It is hardly necessary to say that you will, so far as is possible, execute these instructions in no spirit of resentment, or even of anger; but, on the contrary, while exhibiting the necessary firmness, you will make it manifest to the Tycoon's Government that the novel and perilous circumstances which attend its situation are fully understood and appreciated by the President; and that he desires, with the utmost sincerity and friendship, to favour the interests of internal peace in Japan, and of peace between that country and the several Powers of Europe and America.

I am, &c., WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Robert H. Pruyn, Esq., &c., &c., Yokohama.

BRITISH POLICY IN JAPAN.

Lord Grey has given notice of the following resolutions for Friday, July 1:—

"1. That the relations between this country and Japan appear to this House to be at present in a highly unsatisfactory state.

"2. That it is shown by the papers laid before Parliament by command of Her Majesty that the treaty concluded between Her Majesty and the Tycoon of Japan on the 26th August, 1858, gives to British subjects in Japan rights and privileges which the Government of that country was avowedly reluctant to grant, and was only induced to confer upon them through dread of British naval and military power.

"3. That the Government of Japan has also been induced, by this same fear, to make with other European nations and with the United States treaties generally similar to that which it has concluded with Her Majesty.

"4. That under the above-named treaty British subjects are entitled to claim admission into certain portions of the territory of Japan without being subject to the jurisdiction of its Government, Her Majesty having taken upon herself the obligation of enforcing on their part good conduct and obedience to the law.

"5. That the reports of Her Majesty's diplomatic servants show that Her Majesty has not been able to fulfil this obligation; the provisions of the statutes authorising Her Majesty's Consuls to try and punish British subjects for offences committed in Japan, and the means available for carrying these laws into effect, have proved altogether insufficient to prevent gross outrages and insults from being inflicted on the people of Japan by British subjects and persons assuming that character.

"6. That the animosity against foreigners excited in the minds of the Japanese by these outrages and insults has increased the repugnance long felt by the most powerful classes among them to increased intercourse with European nations, and has led to the perpetration of some murders and several daring and desperate attacks upon foreigners, diplomatic servants, and other subjects of Her Majesty having been among the sufferers from these acts of violence.

"7. That the Government of the Tycoon has professed the strongest desire to prevent the commission of these crimes and to punish their perpetrators, but has declared itself unable to do so; nor does there appear to be any reason to doubt the truth of these declarations, since two Tycoons and a Regent of Japan have themselves been murdered; and one of the principal Ministers narrowly escaped the same fate, owing to the hostility they had incurred from being supposed to favour an increased intercourse with foreigners.

"8. That in order to enforce a demand made by Her Majesty's Government of redress for the murder of a British subject, it was found necessary to undertake hostile operations against one of the Daimios, in the course of which considerable loss was experienced by Her Majesty's ships, and a large and flourishing Japanese town was burnt to the ground.

"9. That this experience of what has already taken place leaves little hope for the future of its being possible to avert fresh collisions between Her Majesty's subjects and the Japanese if the existing arrangements for regulating the intercourse between them are maintained unaltered; and if such collisions should occur they must, sooner or later, lead to a war which would necessarily cost many lives and much money both to this country and to Japan, and would probably bring upon the latter the heavy calamities of general anarchy and confusion, from the destruction of its existing Government, while there would be no means of creating any other authority to replace it.

"10. That, apart from all higher considerations, the true interests of this country, and especially its permanent commercial interests, require that such calamitous results should not be risked by maintaining the existing treaty with Japan unaltered, and that it is desirable that the provisions of this treaty should be so modified as to place the future intercourse of the two nations on a better footing for the future.

"11. That it would therefore be advisable that Her Majesty's servants should without delay enter into friendly communication with the Government of Japan and with the Governments of other nations having treaties with Japan similar to our own, for the purpose of determining what changes it would be expedient to make in the provisions of these treaties.

"12. That an humble address be presented to Her Majesty to lay before Her Majesty the substance of the foregoing resolutions, and humbly to pray that Her Majesty will be graciously pleased to take the same into her serious consideration, with the view of adopting such measures as may be found best calculated to avert war between this country and Japan, and to promote an increase of trade and friendly intercourse between the two nations to their mutual advantage."

THE CIVIL WAR IN CHINA.

(To the Editor of *The Times*.)

SIR,—In behalf of an absent officer, whose conduct on a recent occasion has been severely animadverted upon in terms of censure, I beg to enclose the copy of a despatch from our Minister in China to Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon, in reply to my brother's statement, explaining his reasons for reassuming active operations; and I trust, with that ready sense of justice always afforded by you, you will give this enclosure (only received by me this morning) an early insertion in your journal.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, H. W. GORDON.

June 13.

"Peking, March 12, 1864.

"Sir,—I have received your letter of the 6th of February, stating the reasons that have led to your continuing operations in concert with the Governor of Kiangsoo. I informed the Chinese Government that I did not feel called upon to interfere with the course you have taken, but that my acquiescence was founded on the passage in their despatch to me, which states that in any future operations in which a foreign officer is concerned the rules of warfare as practised among foreign nations are to be observed, and that I should enclose you the extract of that despatch for your guidance, and as containing the arrangements agreed upon for the future.

"I have received the strongest assurance that it will be strictly adhered to, and that the Governor Le is to be instructed to that effect. I need not impress upon you how essential it is that there should be no repetition of the occurrence at Soochow.

"I fully appreciate the motives that led you, after the correspondence that has taken place, to resume operations at once, and to expose yourself thereby to hostile criticism. You might have limited yourself to a statement of the reasons which rendered the step expedient, and have thrown upon others the onus of decision before committing yourself to any action.

"But you appear to have felt as commander of a Chinese force and as the only person thoroughly acquainted with its composition and with the dangers to which this force, if indiscreetly handled, might give rise, that the decision must be based on your representations, and you therefore assumed its responsibility.

"This honourable and manly conduct on your part entitles you to a frank expression of my opinion on the subject.

"I think it due to you to state that my concurrence in the step you have taken is founded in no small measure on my knowledge of the high motives that have guided you while in command of the Chinese force, of the disinterested conduct you have observed in pecuniary questions, and of the influence in favour of humanity you exercised in rescuing Burgevine and his misguided associates from Soochow.

"I am aware of the perseverance with which, in the face of serious obstacles and much discouragement, you have steadily pursued the pacification of the province of Kiangsoo. In relieving it from being the battlefield of the insurrection, and in restoring to its suffering inhabitants the enjoyment of their homes and the uninterrupted exercise of their industry, you may console yourself with the assurance that you are rendering a service to true humanity as well as to great material interest.

"It would be a serious calamity and addition to our embarrassments in China were you compelled to leave your work incomplete, and were a sudden dissolution or dispersion of the Chinese force to lead to the recurrence of that state of danger and anxiety from which, during the last two years, Shanghai has suffered.

"Her Majesty's Government cannot be expected to garrison Shanghai indefinitely, and tranquillity cannot be relied on until a civil administration suited to Chinese ideas and habits is firmly established in the province, and until the disorderly and brigand elements which forms the force of the

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Taiping insurrection is either put down or so thoroughly repelled from its frontiers as to leave that unfortunate province in peace.

"To the force under your command we must look for that result, and to its efficiency and discipline your presence is indispensable. In a body so composed a state of inactivity is full of danger, and I approve your not awaiting the result of the inquiry into the Footai's proceedings at Soochow, provided you take care that your efforts in favour of humanity are not in future defeated by the Chinese authorities.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, "FREDERICK. W. A. BRUCE.

"Major Gordon, R.E., &c."

THE CIVIL WAR IN CHINA.

(To the Editor of *The Times*.)

SIR,—Permit me to draw attention to the letter of Sir F. Bruce to Major Gordon, published yesterday.

Sir F. Bruce approves the conduct of Major Gordon in passing over the treachery of the Chinese provincial authority, who succeeded in making Europeans a party to a cruel massacre at the capture of Soochow.

Our Minister sets forth at some length the grounds for his acquiescence in a return to action upon Major Gordon's part. They are in substance these:—That the force which has been organised at Shanghai under the authority of Sir F. Bruce is composed of elements so dangerous that a state of inactivity is fraught with peril, not only to the Chinese generally, but, be it observed, to the foreign settlement of Shanghai; that Major Gordon had actually been compelled to find the force immediate employment, its disbandment being considered too unsafe to be thought of. Upon these grounds Sir F. Bruce conceives he is justified in still supporting the Chinese governor, very many miles beyond the radius. Can there be any stronger condemnation of such a policy, if, indeed, as Mr. Cobden asks, Sir F. Bruce's course deserves the name, than the reasons which he himself furnishes in support of it? He seems to be swayed to and fro as circumstances appear to him to render expedient, but the result will be a condition of confusion, from which it may require direct intervention to extricate ourselves.

I have through my refusal to adopt the course pursued by Sir F. Bruce, endured no little misrepresentation and censure, but I adhere unflinchingly to my conviction that, as in the present instance, evidence will from time to time be forthcoming to prove how egregiously wrong is our present line of action in China, which I have no hesitation in declaring is dictated rather by considerations of personal comfort and convenience than by a regard to the great interests of England and China.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Reform Club, June 17. H. N. LAY.

THE CEYLON COMPANY.

The second annual meeting of the shareholders of this company was held on the 14th inst., at their offices, East India House Chambers, Leadenhall-street. Mr. LAWFORD ACLAND in the chair. The following is the substance of the report of the directors:—

"The net profit of £30 498. 9s. 4d. has been realised during the year. As the capital paid up, including the debenture capital, is considerably under the amount the company contemplate making use of, this result must be considered satisfactory. The directors propose a dividend at the rate of 10 cent. per annum, and a bonus of 2½ per cent. on the paid-up capital, amounting together to 10s. 6d. per share, be declared payable, free from income-tax, on the 17th instant; this, with the interim dividend paid in December, will absorb £14,358. 15s., and they propose to transfer £10,000 to the credit of a reserve fund, and to carry forward the balance of £6,303. 2s. 2d. less the directors' remuneration for the two years. The accounts received from the managers in Ceylon and Mauritius convince the directors they may safely recommend an increase of the paid up capital. The endeavours of the directors to raise capital on debentures have been eminently successful; and as the security they offer is undoubtedly good, they hope it will be unnecessary to make any further calls on the shares already placed, but they are of opinion that it is desirable now to increase the basis of their operations by issuing the 6,200 shares which have not yet been allotted, and they propose, in the first instance, offering them to those who may be shareholders on the 30th day of the present month of June, in the proportion of one to three of their respective holdings, at a premium of £2 per share. This premium will be carried to the reserve, and will raise that fund to £22,400.

The report having been taken as read,

The CHAIRMAN said he was anxious, before moving its adoption, to address a few observations to the meeting. The figures laid before the shareholders spoke, he thought, for themselves, and he hoped they would be deemed satisfactory by all parties. The accounts showed that the investments of the company, which last year had amounted to £87,000, were this year £319,000. The profits last year amounted to 9 per cent. upon the capital, but they were now 22 per cent., and the dividend which they proposed to pay out of them, if calculated from the dates of the payments of the calls, was equal to 14½ per cent. They had, too, set aside a considerable sum for the reserve fund, and although the amount so appriated might appear to some to be too large in comparison to their profits, yet considering, first the recent formation of the company, and, secondly, the way in which the credit of public companies was increased by the notoriety of their having a good reserved fund, he thought the shareholders would agree with him that the directors had acted wisely in setting apart such a large sum. The accounts which they continued to receive from the Mauritius and Ceylon showed them that there was still ample field for the labours of the company, and the directors on this side saw their way to investing the whole of their capital in a safe and profitable manner On former occasions they had spoken of the desirability of calling up £3 more on each share, but the question of increasing the working capital of the company had been since then under the consideration of the directors, and they thought it better to do so by issuing the shares as yet unallotted rather than by making any further calls upon those already issued. The number of shares at present on hand was 6,200, or one-third the number already issued, so that the new allotment could be made on the ratio of one to three. They would thus receive one new share for every three they at present held. As the directors could not raise on debenture a sum larger than that which remained unpaid on their shares, it must be clear to the shareholders that by means of the new issue they would extend the limits of their borrowing powers. The amount itself would be the same as that which they could obtain by a new call, that as the shares were to be allotted at £2 premium, that would give them £12,400 to be carried to the reserve fund. If this proposal met the approval of the shareholders the new issue would be made after the present month of June, and the payments on the new shares would be called up in three instalments. By means of this arrangement they would participate in the dividend to be declared on the 31st of March next.

Mr. ROBERTSON seconded the motion.

In reply to Mr. Borrodaile, Mr. Arbuthnot, and other shareholders,

The CHAIRMAN stated that several shareholders had paid on their shares in anticipation of calls, and thus the paid-up capital as given in the accounts appeared larger than would have been the case had the calls made been only those which had been paid up. That the sum of £86,000 represented the amount paid for estates purchased in Ceylon. That the mortgages held by the company were generally for a period of three years. That the advances against produce were generally made to the owners of the mortgaged estates. That the rates of interest varied from 8 to 10 per cent. That the outstanding balances did not represent bad debts, but were the amounts due for produce which had been sold in London and was not yet paid for. The company's debentures had been placed at rates varying from 5 to 6 per cent. The establishment of other companies in communication with the Mauritius, instead of operating prejudicially to the interests of the company, had tended to increase its prosperity.

The motion was then agreed to, and the dividend, as recommended, declared.

Mr. Ball was re-elected auditor, and voted £80 per annum for his services. The retiring directors were then re-elected, and a sum of £3,000 voted as their remuneration during the last two years, and £2,000 per annum as their remuneration for the future. The proceedings then terminated in the usual manner.

THE FRENCH MESSAGERIES IMPERIALES COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the *Services Maritimes des Messageries Imperiales* has been held in Paris.

After paying a well-merited compliment to M. Behic, for many years chairman of the company, but who has had to sever his connection with it in consequence of being appointed Minister of Commerce, the report glances at the extraordinary progress steam navigation has made in France. In 1851 steam navigation for commercial purposes was still in its infancy. The Messageries Company was then seeking a field of operation, and was in want of ships, officers, men—all that was necessary for such a complicated, delicate, and costly service It had only 16 steamers, which in that year traversed 105,000 maritime leagues, and carried only 33,000 passengers and 10,000 tons of goods. But now the Messageries Company has afloat or on the stocks 60 steamers (most of them built by French engineers), with a collective force of more than 18,000-horse power, and a measurement of 103,000 tons. It extends its operations to La Plata in the West, and to the Seas of Japan in the East. Its vessels traversed last year 450,000 maritime leagues, carried nearly 200,000 passengers and 150,000 tons of merchandise, made besides important transports for the Government in the wars of the Crimea and Italy, and have never refused it any co-operation it demanded. And the greater part of the merit of these grand results belongs, the report declares, to M. Behic.

The report then gives details respecting the situation of the company, from which it appears that the estimated value of the steamships afloat, and of the furniture in the same, and that of the ships on the stocks or being fitted out, was, on the 31st of December, 1863, 74.020,575f. 82c., which was 8,200,441f. 97c. more than at the corresponding date of 1862. The ships afloat on the 31st December last were 52 in number, of 15,870-horse power, and 87,808 tons measurement—an increase over the preceding year of four ships, 1,650-horse power, 11,816 tons. The number of steamers launched in the course of 1863 was six—*Tigre*, of 500-horse power; *Peluse* and *Mœris*, 400 each; *Dupleix*, *Labourdonnais*, and *Meinam*, each 280; but the real increase was only four, as stated, because two, the *Cephise* and *Jourdain*, were lost. The number of vessels in course of construction, at the end of last year, at La Ciotat, La Seyne, Bordeaux, and in England, was eight, of 2,450-horse power, and about 15,716 tons. The eight were—*Godavery*, *Emirne*, and *Mozambique*, each of 280-horse power; *Said*, of 400; *Nil*, *Menzaleh*, *Volga*, 320; and *Arethuse*, 250. Of the vessels launched, only two, the *Peluse* and *Mœris*, are destined for the Mediterranean, the others for the Indo-China lines; and of those in construction, the first three mentioned are specially intended for the Indo-China lines, the others either for those lines or the Mediterranean, as may be found desirable.

It appears that in the course of 1863 great progress was made with the extensive buildings for the construction and repairing of steam-engines and ships which are being raised for the company at Suez, and which, at the end of the year, covered a superficies of 13,250 metres; also with those at Saigon, in Cochin China. The company, moreover, acquired definite possession of a large piece of ground at Shanghai, in China, and constructed coal-sheds or other buildings at Aden, Pont de Galle, Calcutta, and Hong Kong.

Of the 450,000 maritime leagues which the steamships of the company ran in 1863 314 989 were in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, 53,100 in the Atlantic, and the rest in the Indo-Chinese Seas. The average speed attained was 9.54 knots per hour, and in 1862 it was only 9.35.

Taking the Mediterranean, Black Sea, and Atlantic lines, it appears that the expenses of working in 1863 were 19,831,270f. 53c., and adding thereto those of management, assurance, sinking fund, and interest on bonds, 24,503,863f. 24c. The expenses were 5.14 per cent. more than in 1862, and the increase was exclusively in the Mediterranean and Black Sea lines; in the Transatlantic Brazil and La Plata) there was a diminution. The increase was owing, says the report, to the augumented dearness of all things on the coasts served by the company's steamers, to the oscil-

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lations in the exchanges at Constantinople, the murrain in Egypt, &c. On the Mediterranean and Black Sea lines there was a decline in the number of passengers; it was chiefly in those between the different ports of Italy, and was owing to the extension of railways in that country. On the Transatlantic line the passengers increased, and on both it and the other lines there was an augmentation in the quantity of goods carried.

The receipts from the working of the Mediterranean, Black Sea, and Transatlantic lines were 19,717,833f. 3c., and were 893,141f. 67c. more than in 1862. But it will be seen that they were less than the expenses, and that, consequently, the company really needs the subvention the Government allows. On the whole, the situation of the said lines stood thus:—

	F.	C.
Recepts above-mentioned, subvention, and balance from preceding year	28,910,056	89
Deduct working expenses, assurances, &c., as above stated	23,503,863	24
Leaving	4,406,193	65
To be added as contribution from Indo-China capital	500,000	00
Balance to divide	4,906,193	65

Out of this sum were deducted 220,309f. 63c. for the reserve fund, and the directors recommended that 4,400,000f. should be distributed in dividend, the balance to be carried over to 1864.

With respect to the Indo-China lines, of which only those from Suez to Hong Kong, Point de Galle to Calcutta, and Hong Kong to Shanghai, are yet in operation, the receipts of 1863, including the subvention, amounted to 11,020,845f. 44c., and the expenses, including sinking fund and assurances, to 9,853,253f. 15c. There was consequently a balance of 1,167,592f. 29c., and 1,129,870f. 53c. of it were employed in paying interest on the capital raised for the lines.

The report says that, as is always the case with lines of navigation in a distant part of the world, various difficulties had to be encountered in 1863, and that the company had not had time to form a passenger connection. Nevertheless it carried not fewer than 3,445 passengers. Its vessels, it states, were favoured by the French, Dutch, Spanish, and even by the English, a considerable number of the passengers belonging to the higher classes of English society. This latter circumstance, remarks the report, "constitutes a success which is the more encouraging from the fact of its having been obtained in spite of the Peninsular and Oriental Company having for 24 years maintained lines of navigation beyond Suez, and being apparently likely, from the development of its lines and the number of its voyages, to leave only to the French company a small part of the traffic of British India, which it had previously carried on without any competitor." Notwithstanding this, the relations between the Peninsular and Oriental and the Messageries Companies are stated to be very friendly, and the same is said to be the case between the latter and the Royal Mail Company.

The Messageries Company, in its contract with the Government, undertook to establish a line of steamers between Saigon and Manila; but it found that it could not do so with advantage, unless the Spanish Government would alter the customs' system in the Philippine Islands, which is so contrived as to favour Spanish ships to the grievous injury of foreign. At its request, the French Government made representations to the Spanish Cabinet on the subject; but the latter refused any modification, and, in consequence, the company applied to and obtained from the French Government permission to abandon the projected Manila line, and instead to form one to Japan. An English company, which ran steamers from Hong Kong to Manila, had for the same reason to give them up. At Japan it is believed that the silk which is required for the manufactures of Lyons can be obtained on more favourable terms than at Shanghai.

Another line, which the company is under engagement to form, is from Singapore to Batavia, and it will be opened before long. The report expresses the hope that the Dutch Government will remove certain customs' restrictions which will impede its operations in the latter port. The line to Mauritius and Reunion, which was only to be a branch one from Aden, is to be formed into a main line, and so there will be no necessity for transshipments at Aden, which would have occasioned much loss of time and expense. These changes have necesitated new arrangements between the French Government and the company relative to the subventions, and they have been made on the basis that the latter shall be slightly increased, and that some accorded to the Mediterranean lines shall be transferred to those of Indo-China.

In definitive, the Messageries Company is to have:—

	Maritime leagues.
A main line from Suez to Saigon of	44,640
A branch line from Point de Galle to Calcutta	10,800
,, Singapore to Batavia	4,400
,, Saigon to Shanghai	13,720
,, Shanghai to Yokohama ..	8,280
Main line to Mauritius and Reunion	30,464
Total	112,304

The Mauritius line is to be immediately established; the Japan one on the 1st January, 1866.

The report concludes by saying that the sum set apart for dividend for 1863 will allow 55f. to be given to each share (of which 20f. have been already paid), and that the shares of the Indo-China lines, which have hitherto been kept distinct from those of the other lines, will, from the 1st January, 1864, be identified with them. On both points the meeting of shareholders expressed approbation.

Monetary and Commercial.

The directors of the Chattered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China have declared a dividend of 10 per cent. (free of income-tax) for the current half-year, payable to the shareholders on the London register on the 1st July, and to those on the Bombay register 15 days after receipt of the outward mail of the 18th June. A call of £7. 10s. per share is to be paid on the new capital of this bank by the 1st July.

The second annual meeting of the Ceylon Company (Limited) took place on the 14th inst., when a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum and a bonus of 2½ per cent. were declared, free of income-tax, making, with the interim dividend paid in December, a total of £14,358. The chairman described the operations of the company as very successful. Their investments in the first year amounted to £87,000, but this year reached £319,000, while their profit has increased from 9 to 22 per cent. The report of the meeting will be found in another column.

The directors of the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan have notified that business has commenced at the premises formerly occupied by the Oriental Bank Corporation, No. 8, Walbrook.

HONG KONG AND CHINA GAS COMPANY.

The second annual meeting of this company was held on the 30th June, when it was resolved to increase the capital. The balance-sheet from the formation of the company to the 31st March, 1864, shows the expenditure to have been £45,247. The following is an extract from the report:—

"The directors are glad to intimate that the price to be paid for gas, for public lights, has been finally and satisfactorily arranged, and that the lamps, posts, brackets, &c., ordered by the Government on the terms proposed by the company, are in course of shipment. A circular has been issued intimating the rates to be charged to the inhabitants for gas, meters, &c.; and the price is such as, it is presumed, will meet with general acceptance. This being the first introduction of gas into China, it is not anticipated that the whole of the producing powers of the works can at once be brought into requisition; and as the establishment expenses will be nearly the same whether a large or small quantity is used, the measure of profit to be realised will necessarily depend upon the quantity of gas consumed. The promotion and extension of this consumption, the directors will always endeavour to encourage by fixing prices at the lowest possible rates. The whole of the shares of the company are allotted and have been called up in full. Those reserved for Hong Kong were taken up immediately when offered, but by last advices the last two instalments had not been called in. The calls have been most satisfactorily responded to both at home and in the colony, and the desire evinced by the latter to obtain the company's stock, tends to show that in the opinion of the inhabitants the undertaking will prove of a very remunerative character.

According to the monthly Circular of F. M. Page, bullion broker, the export of specie during May was:—

	Gold.	Dollars.	Bar Silver.
China	£400 ..	£167,217 ..	£11,909
Straits and Java ..	— ..	73,280 ..	1,280

The totals from 1st January being, to China, £832,139, and Straits and Java, £294,116.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Business done.
100	Agra and United Service, Limited	50	130 to 132	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	38 to 40	...
20	Do. New	All	17 to 19pm.	...
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	66 to 68xd.	...
25	Commercial of Ind a and the East	All	—	...
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm.	2½	5½ to 6½ pm.	...
50	Imperial of China, India, and Japan	5	½ dis. to par.	...
50	London Joint Stock	10	46 to 47	...
100	London and Westminster	20	96 to 98	...
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	58 to 60	...
50	Union of London	13	57 to 58	...
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	8 to 9 pm.	...
100	Do. New	8	8 to 9 pm.	...
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	2½ to 3½ pm.	...
20	Do. New	10	—	...
25	Bank of Egypt	All	28 to 29	...
100	Bank of London	50	158 to 162	...
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	1½ to 1¾ pm.	...
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	2½ to 3½	...
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	78 to 80	...
50	Do. New	30	17 to 19pm.	...
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	...	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	...	...
2	Telegraph to India Company	2	¼ to ½ dis.	...
5	Bombay Gas	All	par to ¼ pm.	...
10	E. I. and London Shipping B.	All	—	...
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	8	2½ to 1½dis.xd	...
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	¼ to ½ pm.	...
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	19 to 20xd.	...
1	Oriental Gas	All	1¼ to 1½	...
1	Do. New	¾	½ to ¾ pm.	...
10	O. Inland Steam	All	3 to 3½	...
100	West India Steam Company	60	90 to 93	...
20	Ceylon Company	7	4½ to 5½ pm.	...
20	International Finance Society	5	5 to 5¼ xd.	...
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	3 to 3¼ pm.	...
50	London Financial Association	15	12 to 12¼ pm.	...
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	2	2½ to 2¾ pm.	...
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	6	1 to ½ dis.	...
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	17½ to 18xd.	...
20	British Indian Tea	5	—	...
10	Upper Assam Tea	1½	1½ to 2½pm.	...
10	Do.	All	14 to 17xd.	...

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The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Poonah* from Southampton on the 20th inst. was, in gold: to Madras, £618; to Calcutta, £330; to Hong Kong, £5,000. In Silver: to Calcutta, £2,400; to Hong Kong, £3,680; to Shanghai, £9,140; to Hobson's Bay, £125; to Sydney, £500. Total in gold, £5,948; in silver, £15,845. Messrs. Pixley, Abell, and Langley, state, under date June 23rd, that the *Poonah* took £9,640 in Mexican dollars, and that the market is now entirely cleared of that description of coin.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—There has been no speculative inquiry since our last report, and scarcely any demand for export, but prices are fully supported, except for common to fair blackish-leaf kinds of Congou, which may be quoted a shade easier. The public sales still show a marked reduction in the quantity offered without reserve. Low and dusty kinds of congou have been fully supported. There has been some inquiry for those with leaf of fair to good common quality, from 11d. to 1s. ½d. per lb. The late recovery in the fair to good flavoury kinds has been maintained, and they have been more saleable than for some time past. Fair to good Kaisow kinds remain as before. Common to fair blackish-leaf kinds have been difficult of sale, and prices may be called ½d. per lb. lower. Good blackish-leaf, as also second-class Monings and Wopaks, fully maintain the late advance. Fine to finest Monings, Wopaks, and Kaisows show no material alteration. Tayshans also show no change; some boxes of the new-make, from Canton, arrived overland, are reported sold at 3s. to 3s. 4d. per lb. Good to fine Oolongs have been in limited request; in the common sorts no transactions are reported. Souchongs have been sold at former prices. Flowery Pekoes have again sold at public sale, without reserve, at low prices. The business in Scented Orange Pekoes has been large at a further advance of fully ½d. per lb. Some purchases of common Scented Capers have been made on speculation. Good to fine of Canton make are wanted; the Foo Chow kinds remain very difficult of sale. Uncoloured Japans have been freely offered, and in the absence of export orders must be quoted 1d. per lb. lower. The public sales of Indian Tea went irregularly, fine qualities at extreme prices, but the commoner sorts at a further decline. Green Teas have been firmly maintained, owing to the moderate quantity on offer; Gunpowders especially commanding very full prices, other kinds showing no material alteration; good to fine Canton-made Gunpowders are wanted, but the fair qualities remain difficult to move; Young Hysons remain as before. The public sales of Indian Tea comprised 2,564 packages, of which about 1,800 packages were sold at irregular prices. The sales of China Tea, comprising 25,879 packages, of which 8,229 packages were sold, including 7,861 packages offered without reserve.

SILK.—The periodical public sales commenced on the 22nd, and are concluded. The quantity offered was about 2,300 bales Bengal silk, 3,700 bales China, and 1,600 bales Japan silk. The whole was allowed to pass rapidly without any biddings, the activity of the market having ceased the previous week. The accounts as to the European crop continue in the same strain, even the most sanguine not venturing to look for more than the quantity of last year, while the stock remaining of old silk is generally believed to be less. Our deliveries continue upon a very moderate scale.

COTTON.—Influenced by the unsatisfactory state of politics, the market was dull and depressed throughout the past week, and only a moderate business has been transacted at an occasional decline of ¼d. to ½d. per lb. We note sales of 600 bales China, 13d. for low, 18¼d. for fair, 18¾d. for fully fair, and 20d. for fine; with 50 bales Japan, 19¾d. for fully fair. From Liverpool the report is—China has further declined ¼d. to ½d. per lb. The transactions "to arrive," and for future delivery, are moderate, and at lower rates, particularly for China, the latest quotations being—for Egyptian, September delivery, 28½d.; China, ex quay, 18d., and June delivery, 18½d.

SUGAR.—Increasing heaviness prevailed in the market last week, partly owing to the unfavorable state of political affairs, but also in great measure attributable to the numerous cargoes now on the coast waiting orders, so that only limited sales have been effected at drooping prices, mostly 6d. to 1s. per cwt. lower than our last quotations. 4,259 bags Mauritius, offered by auction, met languid biddings, and only half was disposed of, common brown 35s. 6d. middling and good 36s. 6d. to 38s., the rest crystalized, being bought in at 44s. 6d. to 46s. By private contract 6,500 bags yellow grainy have been realised at 42s. 6d. to 44s. 3d. 959 bags Natal, in public sale, went off moderately, ordinary to fine brown 36s. 6d. to 43s., low and middling yellow 40s. 6d. to 42s. There are no sales of sugar from beyond India.

COFFEE.—The rather extensive public sales of Plantation Ceylon on Friday, amounting to 990 casks, 380 barrels and bags, went off at prices establishing a reduction of about 1s. 6d. per cwt. for the week; 160 bags good ordinary native realised 67s. 6d. to 68s.; 130 bales Mocha were withdrawn.

RICE.—The market was more active on Friday, and stiffer prices have again been paid. About 10,000 bags have been sold on the spot, white Bengal 10s. 9d. to 12s., Rangoon 9s. 3d. to 10s. 3d., and three floating cargoes, one of 750 tons Moulmein, for Liverpool, one 900 tons Nakrenzie, for London, both at 10s. 3d., and 1,600 tons, price not reported.

CAMPHOR.—At auction 140 cases China were retired, but subsequently sold at 95s. per cwt., at which figure some 500 chests have been placed during the past fortnight. Some inquiry for Japan in tubs.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Auctions confined to 170 chests, retired; and privately very moderate business only doing at the previous currency. Buds: Nothing doing.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Some inquiry, but nothing of great interest doing. Dragon's Blood: Steady; 11 cases at auction mostly sold at £8. 7s. 6d. to £9. 17s. 6d. per cwt. for good lump, and £6. 5s. fair. Galangal Root: Flat; 301 bags at auction, all retired. Rhubarb: Held firmly, but demand quite retail; and of 56 chests at auction, very few sold at 4s. 3d. per lb. for middling flat.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Quiet; 56 cases Sumatra at auction all retired. Damer: Steady; and of 275 cases at auction half sold at 32s. 6d. to 33s. per cwt. for fair sorts. Gamboge: Scarce and firm; only 5 cases at auction retired at very high prices.

GUTTA PERCHA.—At auction 18 tons all retired; business to a fair extent done privately, but at lower prices. India-rubber: Of 50 baskets Singapore and 50 baskets Penang at auction, the whole were retired; and of 400 baskets Assam, a few sold at 10¼d. per lb. for good ball. Private trade as restricted as possible.

HEMP.—Manila: This market has been flat; good roping offering at £35. 10s. with little or no inquiry: Lupez selling privately at £47 per ton. 331 bales at auction retired; since mostly placed at nearly that figure.

OILS.—Anniseed: Flat, with moderate trade at the lower quotation of 6s. 8d. No auctions. Cassia: Very firm at present at the higher figure of 9s. 3d., but without any known transactions. Mace and Nutmegs: Six cases at auction retired at 3d per oz.

JAPAN WAX.—Firm; and of 1,285 boxes at auction, two-thirds sold at 56s. to 65s. per cwt. for ordinary greasy to fine sauciers, and 64s. good block.

SAGO.—Small grain is 6d. per cwt. cheaper; 705 boxes at auction mostly sold at 21s. 6d. to 22s. per cwt. for fair small. Flour: 1s. 1d. per cwt. dearer; and 2,000 bags at auction chiefly sold at 16s. 6d. for fine.

TAPIOCA.—Of 914 bags Penang, about one half found buyers; good white, 3¼d.; middling to fair, 2¼d. to 2¾d.

SPICES.—Cloves: Nothing doing in Penang or Amboyna; Zanzibar firm, but 1,120 bags at auction only a few sold, at 3¾d. per lb. for middling dark. Mace: Steady, only three cases Penang at auction sold at 10d. to 1s. 7d. per lb. for inferior mouldy to middling palish. Nutmegs: Quiet, only 12 cases Singapore at auction, one-third sold at 11d. to 1s. 2d. per lb. for ordinary to fair small. Pepper: Black remains very flat, with most limited business privately at previous prices; of 1,377 bags Singapore, and 894 bags Penang at auction, about half sold, the former at 3⅝d., the latter at 3½d. per lb. White: Very quiet, and 175 bags Singapore at auction all retired.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: This market is steady; 1,657 bags at auction, sold at 25s. 6d. to 26s. per cwt. for fair Penang. Gambier has gone back fully 6d. per cwt.; and of 1,666 bales at auction, one third sold at 26s. to 26s. 6d.; the latest quotation for good, 26s., with very limited demand.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Blacklead: Firm; 255 barrels at auction mostly sold at 15s. to 20s. per cwt. for fair to very good lump, and 6s. to 9s. 6d. ordinary to good dust. Galls: We quote Japan and China 80s. to 100s. per cwt. 33 cases China at auction retired. Musk: Only 2 caddies Tonquin at auction, sold at 17s. 9d. per oz. for pickings. Rattans have brought about former prices, and 10,328 bundles Singapore at auction sold at 4s. 3d. to 6s per 100. Sapanwood: Steady; and of 17 tons Manilla at auction half sold at £7 per ton for damaged. Mother o'Pearl shells: Nothing of consequence doing: 100 cases Manilla at auction retired. Star Anniseeds: Supplies not yet on the market: 10 cases at auction retired. Sticklac, Siam: Of 760 chests at auction two-thirds sold at 56s. 6d. to 57s. 6d. per cwt. for good, 38s. 6d. to 40s. middling small, 34s. block, and 26s. dust. The market very quiet at the close. Tortoise-shell: Only 2 cases Singapore at auction, sold at 13s. 6d. and 18s. per lb.; and 2 cases Sydney sold at 18s. with hoof at 15s. 6d. Turmeric: No China here. Moderate transactions in Java, up to 19s. 6d. per cwt.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £8 to £8. 10s.; nail rod, £9. 10s.; hoops, £11; sheets, single £12; Staffordshire bars, £10; rails, £7. 10s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £100 per ton; yellow metal, 8¼d. to 8½d. per lb.

TIN.—108s. for block; 109s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 30s. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £21. 10s. to £22; W.B, £23; shot, patent, £24; sheet, £22; spelter, £23. 17s. 6d. to £24; zinc, English sheet, £28; quicksilver, £8. 12s. 6d.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—Since our last report we have had some fluctuations in Metals, and notwithstanding the easier money market the tendency has generally been towards lower prices. Iron: Scotch Pig has declined, the present quotation being 56s. 6d. g. m. b. for cash. In Staffordshire iron the full rates are barely maintained. Welsh iron is firm at quotations. Copper: Since the reduction declared on the 10th instant, the copper market has been more firm, although in some instances secondhand parcels have been offered a little below official rates. For yellow metal the market is now very firm, most of the manufacturers are full of orders. Tin: We have had no transactions of any importance to report in this metal. All parties waiting the result of the sale, fixed for the 29th inst., in Holland, when 146,921 slabs will be offered. In Tin plates we have no improvement. Lead: This market continues very quiet. Spelter has been very firm in price, and the present quotations are £23. 17s. 6d to £24. Quicksilver: A little business has been done at £8. 12s. 6d.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£156,415
Foo-chow-Foo	—	6,970
Hong Kong	£10,000	364,217
Amoy	—	—
Singapore	£3,750	161,125
Penang	—	104,495

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FROM MARSEILLES.
(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver
Shanghai	—	£38,245
Hong Kong	£31,568	81,520
Singapore	—	18,920
Penang	—	6,832
Foo-chow-Foo	—	1,000

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	—	£37,900
To Saigon	—	5,160
To Hong Kong	—	7,400
To Shanghai	—	79,900

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0	to 3 17 0
United States Gold Coin	3 16 3½	
Silver in Bars	0 5 1	
Mexican Dollars	0 5 3	

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
June 6	In Channel	Kanagawa	Mary Shepherd	Nichols.
— 6	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Tonia (?)	Bruiser (?).
— 9	Off Falmouth	Akyab	Johanne Lange	Lamcke.
— 7	Off the Lizard	Sourabaya	James and Mary	
— 10	Deal	Shanghai	Annie Archbell	Morrice.
— 10	Do.	Batavia	Hermann de Ruyter	Esink.
— 11	Queenstown	Maulmain	T. J. Roger	Day.
— 13	Deal	Kanagawa	Cymbeline	Lobey.
— 8	Off the Start	Pasuruang	Edouard and Marie	v. d. Kolff.
— 12	Falmouth	Java	Emilie	Lundstrom.
— 12	Deal	Singapore	Chili	Rutherford.
— 12	London	Penang	Edinburgh Castle	Inglis.
— 12	Do.	Hong Kong	Alchymist	Dennett.
— 12	Do.	Manila	Tetuan	Ansalbega.
— 12	Deal	Batavia	Henrietta Maria	Tjebbes.
May30	Quebec	Shanghai	Tycoon	Mutter.
— 1	Callao	Macao	Rosa and Carmen	Maristany.
— 29	New York	Amoy	Neuhof	Kross.
Jun.12	Off Portland	Sourabaya	Capella	
— 9	Off Plymouth	Java	Hellevoetsluis	
— 10	Do.	Do.	Medea	v. Teutem.
— 12	Channel	Do.	Johanne and Oluff	Petersen.
— 10	Cuxhaven	Macao	La Plata	Reynell.
— 10	Bremen	Akyab	Hugo and Otto	Osnabruck.
— 11	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Jeddo	Rossem.
— 11	Do.	Do.	County of Ayr	M'Nichol.
— 11	Do	Manila	Manila	Alcantena.
— 11	Zierikzee	Banjoewangie	Catharina Maria	Oomkens.
— 11	Do.	Do.	Haamstede	Marsch.
May12	Callao	Macao	Clotilde	Bollo.
— 12	Do.	Do.	Teiest	Sicardi.
Jun.11	Helvoet	Batavia	Danube	Larsson.
— 16	Texel	Banjoewangie	Alcyone	Landweer.
— 1	New York	Shanghai	Silver Craig	Cohn.
— 6	Montreal	Do.	Madura	Matthews.
— 6	Do.	Do.	Romeo	Fairbairn.
— 12	Off the Start	Batavia	Holland	Gronbeck.
— 15	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Catharina Wilhelmina	Kuyn.
— 19	Liverpool	Shanghai	Blackburn	Murphy.
— 19	Do.	Shanghai & Singpre.	Antelope	Hall.
— 19	Do.	Hong Kong	Crest of the Wave	Ellis.
— 20	London	Ningpo	Eudora	Barker.
— 7	Boston	Manila	Troas	Desborough.
— 20	Deal	Do.	Tyburnia	Coote.
— 16	Bremen	Akyab	Johann Lange	Lamke.
— 20	Queenstown	Do.	Europa	Hansen.
— 20	Liverpool	Shanghai	Polmaise	Butler.
— 20	Falmouth	Bassein	Javerland	Stillman.
— 20	Off Falmouth	Kanagawa	Nelly	Simpson.
— 20	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Patrician	Pain.
— 20	Deal	Foo-chow-Foo	Robert Henderson	Logan.
— 20	Do.	Shanghai	Stornoway	Tomlins.
— 21	Falmouth	Rangoon	Van Berg	Muller.
— 21	Off Falmouth	Akyab	Ostindia	Petersen.
— 21	Do.	Maulmain	Helen Finlayson	Finlayson.
— 21	Do.	Rangoon	Everhard Delius	Hohnholz.
— 23	Deal	Do.	Brothers	Kennedy.
— 20	Off Plymouth	Padang	Padang Packet	
— 20	Texel	Batavia	Electra	Wegman.
— 23	Liverpool	Manila	Jalawar	Carruthers.
— 22	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Admiral Piet Hein	Hazewinkel.
— 23	Off Falmouth	Singapore	Helena	Boysen.
— 23	Liverpool	Rangoon	Audubon	Matthews.
— 24	Falmouth	Batavia	Lammina Elisabeth	Rot.
— 24	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Black Prince	Inglis.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
June 5	Off Plymouth	Hong Kong	Rochelle	
— 7	Off the Start	Batavia	Willemina & Clara	Abrahamz.
— 3	Do.	Do.	Franz & Elise	Niedfeld.
— 7	Sunderland	Singapore	Stafford	Warner.
— 8	Off Sth. Foreland	Batavia	Kosmopoliet	Koning.
— 10	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Sovereign of India	Scott.
— 12	Glasgow	Singapore & Kanagawa	Stad Enschedi	Kirtschener.
— 9	Sunderland	Shanghai	Weymouth	Norris.
— 11	Deal	Batavia	Robertus Hendricus	
— 4	Off the Goodwin	Do.	Vier Gezusters	Otto.
— 15	Liverpool	Singapore	Conheath	Phillips.
— 6	Shields	Shanghai	Ensign	
— 12	Cardiff	Do.	Blackwood	Cuffon.
— 11	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Mantred	Scott.
—	Shields	Singapore	Warrior	Turnbull.
May 6	Callao	Manila	Hebe	Wilkinson.
Jun.12	Hartlepool	Singapore	Queen of Commerce	

DEPARTURES—*continued*.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
— 7	Off the Start	Batavia	Ystroom	Hansen.
— 13	Cardiff	Shanghai	Amaranth	
— 15	Newport	Do.	J. H. Ransom	Chapman.
May26	New York	Do.	Baltimore	Meyer.
— 30	Do.	Do.	Queen of the Seas	Ross.
Jun 16	London	Hong Kong	Maiden Queen	Smith.
— 13	Off Portsmouth	Singapore	Ophelia	
— 11	Vigo	Do.	Arab	Robertson.
— 16	Glasgow	Shanghai and Do.	Kin-Lin (str.)	Bramwell.
— 16	Deal	Batavia	Jacoba Helena	Swart.
— 14	Torbay	Singapore	John Vistin	
— 15	Cardiff	Do.	Florentina	Hagelstein.
— 18	London	Shields and Do.	Malvina	Schutt.
— 16	Cardiff	Shanghai	Star Queen	Shergold.
— 17	Shields	Hong Kong	Tusco	
— 7	Cardiff	Do.	Cheetah	Reed.
— 17	Liverpool	Singapore	Conheath	Phillips.
— 21	Do.	Do.	Dache	Petersen.
— 21	Do.	Sourabaya	Gazelle	Le Gros.
— 21	London	Shanghai	Aurora Australis	Hays.
— 21	Do.	Cardiff & Hong Kong	Attila	Brown.
— 0	Cardiff	Singapore	Eugine	Gardner.
— 17	Sunderland	Do.	Stafford	Myler.
— 26	Hartlepool	Do.	Commerce	
— 1	Amsterdam	Japan	Henriette	
— 16	Do.	Samarang	Cap Hoorn	Dik.
— 21	Cardiff	Singapore	Hawthorn	Swinburn.
— 21	London	Shanghai	Tamerlane	Hughes.
— 22	Shields	Do.	Thomas Dryden	
— 10	Madeira	Singapore	Johore (str.)	Sinclair.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa, Cymbeline. For Kanagawa and Nagasaki: Julia, Seringapatam. For Nagasaki: Swanley. For Shanghai: Antipodes, Egmont, Sir Harry Parkes. For Hong Kong and Canton: Annie Archbell, Oithona, Pak-Wan. For Manila: Angela. For Singapore: Early Dawn, Alexandra. For Penang: Mangerton.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Alice, Twilight, Queensberry, Bella. For Hong Kong: Virginia (via Cardiff). Prince Arthur. For Singapore: Mount Vernon, Ranee. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Oceaan. For Manila: Iberica.

At GLASGOW.—For the Cape, Singapore, and Hong Kong: Glengyle (str.). For Batavia and Sourabaya: County of Lanark. For Singapore: Kate Carnie.

SPOKEN.

KINDERDYK, Rotterdam to Batavia, June 6, 50 N., 9 W.
FEAR NOT, Newcastle to Shanghai, April 29, 15 S., 35 W.
VIER GEBROEDERS, Rotterdam to Batavia, June 11, off the Lizard.
H. VINCENTIUS v. PAULO, (Dut. bq.), Bat. to Ams. April 8, 32 S., 32 E.
ZAANSTOOM (Dut. ship), Bat. to Amsterdam, June 11, 37 N., 33 W.
ELECTRIC (Dut. ship), Batavia to Amsterdam, April 14, 34 S., 26 E.
PEKIN (Dut. ship), Java to Ams., April 18, 35 S., 20 E.
JOHN GUISE? (Dut. bq.) Sourabaya to Ams., June 4, 30 N., 4 W.
DOROTHEA (bq.), Foo-chow-Foo to New York, April 19, 2 N., 23 W.
JUANORE, Liverpool to Hong Kong, June 18, 48 N., 10 W.
QUICK, Cardiff to Hong Kong, May 9, 19 S., 30 W.
NUEVO LECOS, Hong Kong to Liverpool, June 15, 49 N., 19 W.
KANAGAWA, Rotterdam to Batavia, 48 N., 48 (?) W.
EUGENIA, Cette to China, May 19, 1 N., 27 W.
PRINCE ALFRED, London to Hong Kong, May 23, 6 N., 24 W.
THOMAS MITCHELL, Clyde to Batavia, May 23, 6 N., 24 W.
WIATKA, Batavia to London, May 31, 25 N., 43 W.
MERMAID, Liverpool to Shanghai, May 17, 15 S., 32 W.
VICTORIA, Dundee to Singapore, May 23, 1 N., 26 S.
FORERUNNER, Japan to London, April 12, lat. 26, lon. 56.
JUBILEE, London to Hong Kong, May 16, 4 S., 28 W.
SIRIUS (Dutch brig), Bali to Amsterdam, May 13, 5 S., 17 W.
PLADDA, Liverpool to Singapore, May 20, 4 N., 22 W.
COROMANDEL (ship), London to Singapore, June 18, 48 N., 9 W.
COSTA RICA (Dutch barque), Rotterdam to Batavia, June 2, 48 N., 8 W.
ALT MECKLENBURG, from Shanghai, March 6, 7 S., 105 E.
ARGO, Java to Rotterdam, June 5, 27 N., 44 W.
ELIZABETH ANN (barque), Penang to Bordeaux, June 10, 45 N., 17W.
JANNETJE, of Rotterdam, for Batavia, May 11, 3 N., 25 W.
VAUQUELIN, Chester to Hong Kong, Feb. 16, lat. 17, lon. 31.
GOOD HOPE, Cardiff to Hong Kong, Feb. 17, 37 S. 28 E.
HENRY DARLING, London to Singapore, May 5, 2 N., 25 W.
TROAS, Manila to Boston, May 28, 10 N., 32 W.
BONITO (schooner), Clyde to Shanghai, Feb. 18, 38 S., 86 E.
QUICK (?), of Jersey, London to Hong Kong, May 3, 10 S., 30 W.
HELENA AND ANNA, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 20, 8 S., 28 W.
PETRONELLA CATHARINA, Amsterdam to Batavia, 6 S., 32 W.
WILKIE, Sunderland to Singapore, 36 days out, April 13, 31 N., 24 W.
LANCASHIRE (ship), of N'castle, N. Y. to Shang., May 17, 40 N., 57 W.
OSCAR (?), London to Hong Kong, March 19, 28 S., 27 W.
CATHARINA WILHELMINE, Java to Rotterdam, May 29, 40 N., 33 W.
HOLLAND, Banjoewangie to Amsterdam, June 5, 49 N., 12 W.
KINDERDYK, Rotterdam to Batavia, 49 N., 5 W.
STAD MIDDELBURG, Middelburg to Batavia, June 7, 40 N., 9 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Cissy, Macedon, Millbrook, Meppel, Alexander, Ann Adamson, Abbotsford, and Anglo Indian At LIVERPOOL: Marion, Forerunner, and Vampyre. At NEW YORK: Benefactor and Osborne.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Ethel, Monarch, Belle, Ben Voirlich, M. M. Peter, Wm. Thompson, Samuel, Sea Witch, Spirit of the North, Daybreak, Black Watch, Queen's Own, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Thomas and Rebecca, Magnus, Josephine, Glaramara, Sappho, Charles Davenport, Bahia, and Osborne House. At LIVERPOOL: Fort William, Advance, Simoda, Berwickshire, Joshua

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Bates, Wm. Dawson, Cornelia, Inamhore, Aunt Lizzie, Express, Isabella Hercus, Nancy Brysson, Thomas Royden, Regina, Victory, Bertie, Helena, Glengairn, Bristow, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Bentinck, George Ruxton, Macassar, Berdinkha, Vanguard, and Ann Forster. At FALMOUTH: Divina and Panama. At BORDEAUX: Johanna. At HAMBURG: Alt Mecklenburg, and Gravina. At NEW YORK: Eva, Lettice Catharina, Dorchester, Volunteer, Egean, Hermann, Haversham, Canton, Mecklenburg, Lord Collingwood, St. Paul, Sophia, and Mercara.

From MANILA.—At FALMOUTH: Maggie Lauder. At LIVERPOOL: Aureliana, Teide, Burdoes y Habana No. 1, J.A.U., Concepcion, Bell, Gallega, Lyolla and Cervantes (via Cadiz). At COWES: John Banfield. At ROTTERDAM: Zanibar. At NEW YORK: Surprise, Willy, Solo, Argonaut and Ocean Eagle.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Eliza Thornton, Oscar, Confiance, Eena, Courante, and Najade. At LIVERPOOL: Bella Gallega, C. Chisholm, and Victory. At BORDEAUX: Salares and Java. At NANTES: Suez. At NEW YORK: Caroline, Rudolf, Harzburg, and Reynard. At BOSTON: Ceylon, Aristides, and Alexander.

From BATAVIA.—At LONDON: West. At FALMOUTH: Fredrika.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Devonvale. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The shipping business remains very quiet, the amount of tonnage available being more than sufficient for the present requirements of the export trade. Coal freights from the outports to China are difficult to procure, except at very low rates, but ships are wanted for Singapore. Homeward charters are offering from the rice ports at 80s. to 85s. to the United Kingdom or Continent, according to the size of the vessels. Ships are also in request for teak, and tonnage is wanted from Java and Maulmain.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £37, and £1. 18s. For Shanghai: £47 and £2. 9s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £26 and £1. 5s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

The Admiralty have ordered the Oithona to be surveyed for the conveyance of Government stores to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

Accounts from New York, dated June 9, state that the Pyramid (Br. ship), from that port and Bermuda, for Shanghai, had put into St. Catherine's, and was sold there by the master.

At ST. HELENA.—May 3, Mary, from Japan; 4, Tyburnia, Coote, from Manila, and sailed, 5, for London; 5, Thos. Royden, Smith, from Shanghai, and sailed, 7, for Liverpool; April 30, Padang Packet, Huidekoper, from Padang, and sailed for Amsterdam; May 4, Antelope, Hall, from Shanghai, and sailed for Liverpool; 5, Lettice Catherine, Evans, from Shanghai, and sailed, 6, for New York; 6, H. Vincentius Van Paulo, Bolck, from Samarang, and sailed, 7, for Amsterdam; 7, J. A. U. Soltura, from Manila, Celebes, Gille, from Java, and sailed for Amsterdam; 8, Prime, from Java, Isabella Hercus, Bremner, from Hong Kong.

VESSELS LAUNCHED AND INTENDED FOR THE CHINA TRADE.—Mr. Seath, of Rutherglen, has launched a screw steamer named the Kinlin, intended for a line trading between China and Japan. Messrs. A. Stephen and Sons launched from their building-yard at Kelvinhaugh a sailing ship of 810 tons, named the *Gossamer*. This ship is to be employed in the China trade, and is the property of the extensive shipowning firm of Messrs. Potter Brothers, Liverpool. A barque, of 460 tons, was recently launched by Messrs. Taylor and Scouler, South Docks, Sunderland. She is registered for ten years, is intended for the China trade, and is the property of Mr. Avery, of North Shields.

Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China.

NOTICE is HEREBY GIVEN, that the SECOND CALL of £7. 10s. per Share, on the New Shares in this Bank, is PAYABLE on the 1st day of July next, at the Banking-house, No. 52, Threadneedle-street, City. The Share Certificates must be left at the Bank for the purpose of having the call receipted thereon.

By order of the Court of Directors,
D. T. ROBERTSON, Chief Manager.
London, June 16, 1864.

Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China.

A DIVIDEND of 10 Per Cent. (free of Income-Tax) for the Current Half-year will be PAID to the Proprietors on the London Register on or after July 1.

The Transfer Books of the Bank will be Closed from the 21st to the 30th current inclusive.

By order of the Court of Directors,
D. T. ROBERTSON,
Chief Manager.
No. 52, Threadneedle-street, E.C.,
June 15, 1864.

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A. Morrison, Esq., Director of the Bank of Otago.
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Peter Rolt, Esq. (Peter Rolt and Co.), London.
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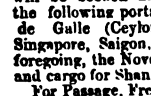

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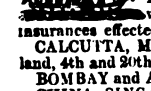

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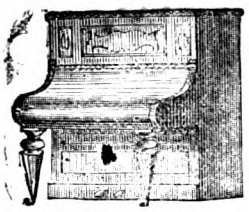

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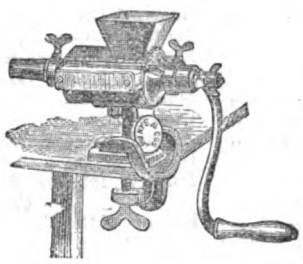

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"We feel no hesitation in saying, that there is no member of society by whom the book will not be found useful—whether such person hold the relation of a Parent, Preceptor, or Clergyman."—Sun, Evening Paper.

"Curtis on Manhood should be in the hands of young and old. It is an ably-written medical treatise on diseases of error and effects of climate."—Sunday Times, March 23, 1856.

"Dr. Curtis has conferred a great boon by publishing this little work, in which is described the source of those diseases which produce decline in youth, or more frequently premature old age."—Daily Telegraph, March 27, 1858.

N.B.—Agents in India—Von Lintzgy, Loll Bazaar, Calcutta; Athenæum office, Madras; Hunnam, Queen's-road, Hong Kong, China; Observer office, Colombo, Ceylon; Esperance, Bombay; Times office, Malta, price half a dollar or one rupee. Patients in India and the Colonies can be successfully treated by letter, by enclosing the consultation fee of £1, and medicines forwarded with secrecy and despatch. Consultations daily from 10 to 3 and 6 to 8.

London Agents:—J. Allen, 20, Warwick-lane, Paternoster-row; Mann, 39, Cornhill, London; and the booksellers in town and country.

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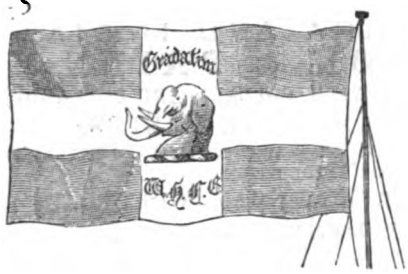
Elliot's British Line of Eastern Traders.



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VESSELS.

Names.		Tons Register.		When Built.	Master.
LAUNCESTON ...	... Ship ...	585	A 1 till 1869.	1852.	SPENCE.
ROYAL CHARLIE	... Barque ...	460	„	1851.	WEEKS.
OPHIR	„ ...	410	„ till 1865.	1852.	HEAN.
RAMOLINA	„ ...	383	„ 10 years.	1863.	CRAWLEY.
NORTHERN QUEEN ...	„ ...	383	„ 10 „	1863.	COATES.
COMUS	„ ...	377	„ 10 „	1863.	BLACK.
CARAVAN	„ ...	330	„ 9 „	1863.	TURNER.
ELIZABETH DAWSON ...	„ ...	319	„ 9 „	1860.	LEACH.
TRAFALGAR	„ ...	293	„ 10 „	1862.	HART.
BEN NEVIS ...	... Brig ...	270	„ 8 „	1859.	KIMMOND.
MADURA	... Barque ...	315	„ 10 „	1863.	MATHEWS.
MARY	„ ...	211	„ 9 „	1862.	PEVERLEY.
KUNG MOU ...	... 3 m. Schnr.	190	„ 10 „	1863.	WESTCOTT.
MARGARET CAMPBELL	„ ...	122	„ 9 „	1857.	PILE.
VIBILIA	„ ...	154	„ 8 „	1860.	MATHEWSON.
IDAS	... Schooner	145	„ till 1871.	1850.	PITTS.
JULIA ANN	„ ...	130	„ 9 years.	1860.	WHITWILL.
GITANA	„ ...	116	„ 11 „	1853.	DUGDALE.
CHILD OF THE OCEAN	„ ...	77	„ 11 „	1863.	MOOR.

STEAM TUG.

PRINCE KUNG	235 tons B.M.	100 H.P.N.	Pad. Str.	CARR.

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS," A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 142.] LONDON, THURSDAY, JULY 7, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Kanagawa			April 27
	Nagasaki			May 7
	Hakodadi			
CHINA—				
	Peking			„ 5
	Tien-tsin			„ 7
	Hankow			„ 12
	Shanghai	March 26	May 12	„ 20
	Foo-Chow-Foo			
	Amoy			
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	„ 26	„ 6	„ 26
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	„ 10	April 27	„ 6
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Touron			
	Saigon			June 1
SIAM—				
	Bankok			May 10
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			„ 15
	Sarawak			„ 18
JAVA—				
	Batavia			„ 30
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	April 26	May 30	June 3
	Penang	„ 26	„ 28	May 23

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Baroda, July 4, from Southampton.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. Turner. From Marseilles, July 13.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Hastings, Mr. J. Russell, Mr. D. A. Crombie.

Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, July 20, from Southampton.—To Penang: Mrs. Smith, two Misses Smith. From Marseilles, July 28.—To Shanghai: Mr. C. Ziegler.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

HAKODADI.

Our Hakodadi correspondent sends us the following:—

My last was dated the 13th April, per *Phillipine*, and the *Voltigeur* leaves for Shanghai. Vessels now in port:—*Voltigeur*, *Woodville*, and *G. C. Love*, two whalers, and the Dutch man-of-war *Djambi*, which will leave for Nagasaki with the Consul-General on board. We are now enjoying fine spring weather. There is really no news to report.

NAGASAKI.

Our *North China Herald* Nagasaki correspondent informs us that the Japanese have, as yet, done nothing to detect the man who assaulted Mr. Sutton about three months ago at that port. No doubt is felt that, if they chose, they could at once lay their hands on him; but now they have allowed so long a time to elapse, it is feared the Consul will not succeed in inducing them to bring him to punishment. H.M. *Osprey* had arrived in port on the 22nd April, bringing Mr. Gower, who succeeds Mr. Myburgh as Consul at Nagasaki. H.N.M. *Djambi* also arrived on the 29th, having on board H.N.M. Consul-General for Japan, and M. Polsbroek, who will shortly leave again for Yokohama.

The Japanese Government is widening the bund in front of the settlement (this does not look like expulsion), the owners of front lots each paying $500 to aid them, in return for which he gets eleven feet greater depth of frontage. Some few individuals have refused to pay, arguing that the Government ought to do it itself, without expecting any contribution from foreigners, as the latter pay quite enough already for ground-rent. They are also filling up a swamp situated between the foreign settlement and the Custom-house, and thus making eight new lots of ground, which are to be ready within twelve months.

A fair amount of business has been done in cotton during the past month, at $26 and $27. Most of it was shipped to Hong Kong. Freights have risen to $8 per ton to Hong Kong, and $3. 50 to $4 to Shanghai, and there are no unengaged vessels in port. The steamer *Lotus* is in port awaiting sale, and there seems a good chance for her. Our correspondent complains of the want of an agent for the local post-office, as at present the residents are dependent on the agents of ships for the delivery of their letters and papers. But often vessels arrive in port seeking, and the parcels remain on board unopened, as it is no one's business to look after them.

Vessels in port: The *Canton*, loading for Liverpool; the *Glendover* and *Water Lily*, for Hong Kong; the *Delaware*, for Shanghai; the *Trave*, for Hakodadi; and the steamers *Monitor* and *Lotus* for sale. Men-of-war in port: H.M.S. *Perseus*, H.N.M. *Medusa* and *Djambi*.

CHINA.

PEKING.

Dates are to the 5th May. The Shanghai papers record the barbarous murder of an English soldier, named Line. It appears that deceased was formerly Legation gatekeeper, and on the morning of the 19th April he was found barbarously murdered in a street in the Tartar city. Investigations have been jointly undertaken by the English and Chinese authorities, but up to the date of our advices little or no light had been cast on the affair.

From the earnestness with which the Chinese officials co-operate in the action of the English Minister, it is abundantly evident that the event, however sad, possesses no political significance; and the circumstances attending the discovery of the body lead us to the same conclusion. The most probable supposition is that the man had become intoxicated, and, while in that state, had endeavoured to obtain entrance into a native house. While thus employed, he may have been set on by a band of Mingho, or night robbers, who for some time past have invested the streets of Peking. In endeavouring to escape, it would appear that he lost his cap and one of his shoes, and that he had run for some distance before his pursuers came up with him. He had put on a pair of ordinary Chinese shoes, in order, probably, that no trace of his boots might appear on the ground outside his quarters, from the window of which he had made his exit. The stocking on the shoeless foot was excessively muddy, as though there had been a long run before the actual struggle took place. This is the more likely as the locality in which he was found (a suburb of the Eastern gate of the Palace) was not likely to afford the class of house into which he probably would have endeavoured to effect an entrance.

That the poor fellow fought hard for his life was evident by the pools of blood which covered a courtyard in which it

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would seem he had taken refuge. His assailants were, at least, three in number, as the wounds on his body had been inflicted by three different weapons. His head had been laid open by a sword, his left hand almost severed, apparently by a cleaver or small axe, and he had received several spear wounds in the back. A heavy club was also found, with which he may have attempted to defend himself, but which, it is more probable, had been used by his assailants. On the 21st an inquest was held by the Chinese authorities, and all the evidence attainable collected, but, up to the present, the affair has not been unravelled. We must look on it either as a case of unprovoked outrage, or of an unusual display of resentment at an injury either attempted or actually inflicted.

The Prussian Minister, Baron de Rehfues, has arrived at Peking, and has taken up his quarters at the French Legation.

TIEN-TSIN.

The report by telegram of the capture of the Danish vessels *Dannebrog* and *Frederick VII.* received at Lloyd's is not confirmed; but the following captures are announced:—On the 26th April, by the Prussian frigate *Gazelle*:—At Taku, Danish schooners *Falk*, *Caroline*, and *Catherine*. The Danish vessels *Bessie Searight*, *Therese Auguste*, and *Dannebrog* waited in port.

CHEFOO.

A lettter from this place, of 9th May, gives an account of the races, which went off very pleasantly. We extract the following:—

"The Tien-tsin ponies, represented by Magenta and Starter, were defeated by those purchased in our own neighbourhood, though the results might have been different, had not Magenta bolted in the second race of the first day's programme, not reappearing till late the same night.

"It will perhaps be gratifying to those who subscribed towards the Shanghai Cup, as well as those who are anxious to do so for our Autumn Meeting, to know that greater excitement was displayed amongst the spectators at the termination of that race than any other on the programme, with the exception, perhaps, of the Tien-tsin Cup.

"The Fates favoured us with fine weather, a good canon with 'spill' to follow, and three live visitors from Shanghai. We are, some of us, under the impression that these were the fastest pony races ever run in China. But as no one took the time and everyone took champagne, it may be but a pleasing illusion."

[By a printer's error in our last issue, the journey into the Shan-tung province was printed 120,000 miles, instead of 1,200.]

SHANGHAI.

The French Mail of March 17 arrived on May 7, and the P. and O. mail of 26th on May 12.

The following is from the *Daily Shipping News*:—

News has been received at the Taotai's yaman to the effect that Tanyang was taken by the Imperialists on the 13th of May. No particulars as to whether the conflict was or was not severe, or as to the mode of attack, have as yet reached us.

A large number of foreigners, and an immense crowd of Chinese, which we have heard estimated by persons well capable of judging, at nearly two thousand, assembled on the 18th May outside the South gate to witness the execution of the murderer of Mr. Dore. The execution had been fixed for ten A.M., and with a punctuality which surprised the foreign spectators, the judicial procession reached the ground at only ten minutes past the appointed hour. A small awning had been erected at one end of the execution ground, under which the Che-hien and Messrs. Alabaster and Johnston took their seats as soon as they arrived on the ground. The prisoner walked, with his hands tied behind his back, between two rows of spearmen and swordsmen, who drove back the crowd of Chinese, and formed a ring round the spot, in front of the awning, selected for the execution. They were not, however, equally successful in keeping away the foreigners, who pressed closely in. A short formula being read, the signal for execution was given, and the neck severed at a single blow, amid loud cries from the crowd. The whole was over within five minutes after the arrival of the procession on the ground. Considerable curiosity was manifested to obtain a sight of the head, the eyes and month of which worked in the singular manner which has often been remarked as usual under these circumstances. Directly after the execution, the authorities left the spot, and the attendants began to disperse the crowd of natives in a very unceremonious manner. A small body of Municipal police were present, including those who had been concerned in the capture of A-king; and we may mention for the satisfaction of those who may have shared in the apprehension we have heard expressed, lest another culprit should be substituted for the rear murderer, that there was not the slightest doubt as to his identity.

TAKING OF CHANG-CHOW BY GORDON.

We have received the following particulars relative to the capture of Chang-chow. It appears that the attack was directed against the south wall, in which two breaches were made, that at the eastern end being stormed by Ching's force under the leadership of Lew (Ching's successor), while Gordon, with the "Disciplined," and Ko-sung-ling at the head of the Imperialist soldiery, attacked the breach on the west. Wednesday, the 11th May (4th moon, 6th day), had been appointed for the assault. Works had been thrown up within eighty yards of the wall, and, accordingly, so soon as the signal was given, viz., at two o'clock P.M., a dense mass of Imperialists hurled themselves upon both breaches. There was some severe fighting at the eastern point of attack, but the western breach was carried in a rush, and five minutes sufficed to put the Imperialists in possession of the south wall. In half an hour the city was wholly in their hands, men having poured in from the stockades on the north, east, and west sides. The rebel loss was about 2,000, most of whom were Cantonese. Four Wangs, viz., the Gan Wang, Fu Wang, and two Yu Wangs were captured, and beheaded on the night subsequent to the attack. The above are the names of the beheaded Wangs, as reported by the Chinese since the capture, but before that event it had been understood that there were resident in the city the Hoo Wang (Chin), Tso Wang (Hwang), Teih Wang, and Tsoo-le Wang. The loss on the part of the Imperialists was comparatively trifling. During the week previous to the assault they had some two or three hundred men killed while throwing up the breastworks, but this constituted almost the total loss during the last attempt to secure possession of the city.

For some days a heavy fire had been opened at irregular intervals by the Imperialists. This, although harassing in the extreme to the garrison, was in all cases briskly returned, and with such accuracy as to show plainly that some excellent marksmen had ranged themselves on the insurgent side. Several long haired men came out of the city during the week previous to the assault. These were, for the most part, Kiang-pih men, who reported that the population numbered about 20,000, of whom 2,000 were Cantonese soldiery under the Hoo Wang (popularly known as "Cockeye"). It was arranged that in the event of an assault the Kiang-pih men were to wear white turbans, so as to save them from the indiscriminate slaughter to which the Cantonese had been doomed. The latter showed no desire to treat, and as they were, generally speaking, "old rebels," the Imperialist authorities were not sorry to have an opportunity of crushing them at a blow.

After the capture the soldiery were permitted to loot, but very little property of value was found. It is worthy of notice that Chang-chow was originally taken by the rebels under the Chung Wang Li, at 2 p.m. on the sixth day of the fourth month, while it was on the same day of the same month, and even at the same hour, that it was re-taken by the Futai Li.

The Garrison sports on the 18th and 19th of May were attended with most favourable weather, the ladies of Shanghai being present in considerable numbers. The course was in capital order, and the games went off satisfactorily. A Chinese athlete gave great amusement between one or two of the races, by a variety of extraordinary tricks, which must have convinced lookers-on of the extraordinary strength of his cranium and of the singularity of his internal organisation. His great feat was in throwing up thin pieces of stone and allowing them to fall and smash on his forehead. The races on the first day were chiefly foot-running and jumping matches; there were not many races on the second day, but the games comprised wrestling, putting the thirty-two pound shot, throwing a cricket ball, steeple chase, and a blindfold wheelbarrow race.

At a meeting of the shareholders of the Shanghai Club, held at the Club House on 14th May, G. B. Dixwell, Esq., in the chair, the rules as proposed were read to the meeting. Amendment proposed by W. Leman, Esq., seconded by P. H. Underwood, Esq.:—

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"That the committee under the rules be composed of nine shareholders, in place of seven." Having been put to the vote, this amendment was carried. The rules, as amended, was then put to the meeting, and adopted. It having been put to the vote who should be elected to form the committee, the following gentlemen were duly elected :—Messrs. R. C. Antrobus, H. W. Dent, W. Keswick, R. Jarvie, P. H. Underwood, G. B. Dixwell, L. Dunlop, J. Thorne, and R. Tyson.

A second explosion has been effected in the junk at Pootung Point, by which a further portion has been removed.

The steamer *Faust* was sold for 7,000 taels, by Messrs. Wainwright and Co.

The following has been published in the Shanghai papers :—

"We the undersigned passengers by the steamer *Kiukiang*, from New York to Shanghai, wish thus publicly to express our high estimation of the seamanlike and gentlemanly qualities of her captain, S. W. Taylor, whose conduct in the discharge of his duties, so far as it has come under our observation, has met with our entire approbation. We also hereby testify to the esteem in which we hold the other officers of the ship, without exception, and that so far as we are concerned, we have no fault to find with any of them, but the contrary, and while we take leave of him and them with regret, we cordially wish them every success in life.

"B. R. ABBE, ELIZA J. BRIDGMAN,
L. WALSH, F. R. TALBOT,
M. A. WALSH, FRANK REID.

"Shanghai, May 13th, 1864."

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The return of the import and export trade of Shanghai, for the year 1863, which has just been published, exhibits a large increase in the former, but a decrease in the latter, principally caused by the serious falling off in the silk trade. The result will be most clearly exhibited in the following form :—

	Imports.	Exports.
1863 ..	£29,709,575 ..	£12,227,153
1862 ..	22,863,953 ..	14,667,406
Increase ..	£6,845,622 Decrease	£2,440,253

But while an increase is thus shown of nearly four millions and a-half sterling, in the total trade of the port, the amount of duties paid fell from 4,172,019 to 2,526,621 taels, showing a decrease of 1,645,398 taels.

The tonnage of shipping shows a large increase, necessarily in consequence of the increasing imports. Thus we find the total outward tonnage for 1863 amounts to—

Tons	996,890
Against tons	723,279
Showing an increase of	273,111

Of these 554,716 were British, against 389,280 ; and 287,000 American, against 226,000 during the previous year.

The inward tonnage amounts to—

Tons	964,309
Against	724,138
Increase	240,171

Of this 530,921 was British, against 390,000 ; and 272,488 American, against 226,000 during 1862. The value of re-exports rose from £9,000,000 to £13,000,000, exclusive of treasure, which also increased from £2,000,000 to £5,000,000, the greater portion having been sent to Japan. Silk, we find, fell from 63,300 piculs in 1862 to 33,436—a decrease of 30,000 piculs, or nearly one half. Tea, on the other hand, has largely increased ; 69,026,952 lbs. left Shanghai in 1863, against 59,744,408 in 1862—an increase of nearly 10,000,000 lbs. We have only time to give the above brief summary of the report in to-day's issue, but will comment on it more fully on a future occasion.

HANKOW.

A Hankow correspondent informs us *(Daily Shipping News)* that the Governor-General of the provinces of Hoopih and Hoonan crossed over from Wu-chang to Hankow on the 8th May, in consequence of an order from Peking directing him to take the field against the rebels and banditti who are committing serious depredations in the latter province. This is the first time that His Excellency has crossed the river since he returned to Wu-chang after its recapture from the rebels, nearly eight years ago. He landed at a jetty which had been specially prepared for him, in front of the Rice Exchange, and proceeded thence to the Custom House, which is adjoining, between two rows of the high officials of Hankow. After remaining there about half an hour, he went on to the residence of the Commissioner, where he also remained a short time, and subsequently inspected the fortifications which are being constructed round the city. The next day he left for the scene of the disturbances, where his presence will, no doubt, conduce as much to the restoration of order as that of the Keang-soo Futai did to the capture of Chang-chow.

COCHIN-CHINA.

Messrs. Segassie and Co. not having observed the conditions on which they held the Opium Farm, their contract has been rescinded and the farm will, in the meantime, be carried on by Mr. Salnave, merchant at Saigon, under the control of a Government officer. The farm will be put up for sale on the 4th June, for a term of six months from 1st July.

On the subject of the proposed modifications of the treaty with the King of Annam, the *Courier de Saigon* makes the following observations :—"If it is desired to introduce modifications into the Treaty of 1863, it is only perhaps for the advantage of all parties. Saigon is the only port of the Cambodian peninsular which is accessible to European vessels ; the rich products of Lower Cochin-China and Cambodia will therefore be concentrated at this point, and be availed of by European enterprise. The native producers will find in this traffic remunerative prices, which will stimulate production and spread prosperity, riches, and civilisation over all the country ; on its part, European commerce will find at Saigon lucrative freights and valuable cargoes. Such is the object proposed by the French Government, and whatever be the impediments it may encounter in the prejudices of the routine of the natives and, above all, the bad faith of the Annamite mandarins, it is certain that nothing will cause it to deviate from the end proposed—the grandeur of France in Eastern Asia. Let us then have confidence, and patiently await the result of the negotiations which are about to commence. Let us trust that the Court of Hué will understand the reasons which have determined the French Government to apply those wise modifications to the last treaty, which ought to open to the people of Annam and to the commerce of Lower Cochin-China an era of prosperity and profound peace so ardently desired by all the world."

The specimens of tobacco sent to France from Cochin-China have been very favourably reported upon, and orders have been given to the colonial authorities to encourage as much as possible its cultivation.

JAVA.

The Governor-General has been pleased to appoint Mr. de Kock van Leeuwen Resident of Batavia in the place of Mr. D. F. Schaap, resigned on a pension. Mr. v. L. has held this post before ; the situation will therefore not be new to him.

BANDA (March).—The spice parks were in an unsatisfactory condition. During the first three months of the present year, the nutmeg crops were smaller than they had for years been known to be. During the month of February 2,247,050 nuts were gathered which produced 5,722 lbs. Mace, and about 17,976 lbs. Nutmegs. On the 6th and 9th March 5,722 lbs. Mace and 45,102 lbs. Nutmegs were delivered in the Government stores; and on the 4th March 41 barrels of Mace, 172 barrels of Nutmegs, and 7 cases Nutmegsoap were shipped to Java, leaving a balance on the 31st of that month of 24 barrels Mace, 328 barrels Nutmegs, and 8 cases Nutmegsoap ready for shipment.

The *Samarang Courant* has letters from Banjermassing which state that peace is not quite restored in that quarter. An under-adjutant and six men were lately murdered on the Barito river, and although petty chiefs are constantly coming in and making submission, they as constantly break out again. The authorities have prohibited the communication of intelligence regarding the state of affairs at Banjermassing.

A letter from Ternate communicates the following :—On the 13th March a Sangir prahu arrived in the roads here, laden with oil, and having six wounded men on board. This prahu was attacked by pirates close to the islands of Tyfore and Map, when three of the crew were killed. One of the six men wounded had since died from his wounds, which were inflicted by iron harpoons. Some days after the attack, some pirates were seen near Nakian. The steamer *Retch* had gone to search for these pirates.

The superintendent of the kina culture in Java, Dr. Franz Junghuhn, died at Lembang (Preanger Regencies) on the night of the 24th April. Dr. Junghuhn was a native of Prussia, and arrived in Netherlands India in October, 1835, as an assistant

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surgeon in the Indian army. In 1838, at his own request, he was transferred to the Government Physical Commission. In 1839 he was promoted to surgeon of the second class. In this capacity he was appointed to the West Coast of Sumatra, and executed a topographical and physical survey of the Batta country, the results of which he afterwards published in a work called "Die Batta-lander auf Sumatra." He was employed in similar researches until 1848, when he visited Europe for the purpose of publishing the results of his labours. In 1855 he returned to Java, and in 1856 the direction of the kina culture in Java was confided to him. Dr. Junghuhn's health had lately failed, and he had obtained a two years' leave of absence to Europe when death overtook him.

The *Java Times* says that another large firm has failed at Sourabaya. The liabilities are estimated at nearly three and a half millions, which, however, it is expected will be paid in full.

HYDROGRAPHICAL NOTICES.—H.M. steamship *de Berkel* left Macassar on the 28th March for the Malambeang Bank off the island of Tannankeke, with the intention of placing a beacon on the same. On arrival at the place, it was found that where the shoal was thought to be, there were twelve to thirteen fathoms of water, the heavy current having apparently washed it away. H.M. steamship *Linge* has discovered a rock on the west coast of Borneo, in about 10 feet water. It lies in lat. 0. 59 south, and long. 109, 10.20 East. H. M. steamship *Sindoro* gives the following bearing of a reef on the coast of Borneo, lately discovered, and having 1¼ fathom of water on it:—Raboe Island, N.W. by W. Pandjang Island, North. Darawan Island, E. ½ S.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are down to the 3rd June. H.M.S. *Ringdove* arrived from China *via* Labuan *en route* to England on the 2nd June. The London mail of 26th April arrived out on the 30th May. The mail of 11th April, transferred from the P. and O. steamer *Candia* after the cyclone at Aden, arrived with the French mail of 17th April on 18th May. The file of the *Singapore Daily Times* is filled with extracts of English news. In the *Straits Times* of 28th May is a notice of the opening of the gas works and lighting of the town on the Queen's birthday, 24th May. The Chinese residents were amazed and delighted. There was on the same day a review, and many other amusements, the day being kept as a general holiday.

We find the following in the *Government Gazette Extraordinary*:—

"With reference to Notification No. 23, dated 12th February, 1864, his Honour the Governor has been pleased to declare that applications for export of arms to ports in China are, in future, to be accompanied by a declaration to the effect that they are not intended for the use of Chinese Insurgents.

"2. The order contained in Section 2 of the above-named notification, is cancelled."

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1863-64.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to April 30, 1864	2308272	46387636	52937601	2257092	13896339	117786941	44,878
Corresponding period last season	2368556	42662450	44384313	336208	25413313	115164810	71,118

SHIPMENTS IN MAY.

Ship.	From	Tea.
Neville	Shanghai	47 970
Rifleman	Canton	446,665

TO UNITED STATES.

From June 1 to April 30, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	2213696	Piculs. 578
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	..	20761189	1184

SHIPMENTS IN MAY.

Ship	From	
Luzon	Shanghai	495,620

TO THE CONTINENT.

From June 1 to April 30, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	1289007	Bales. 3271
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	1121764	6532

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

From June 1 to April 30, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	Tl. pkgs. 483936	Boxes. 64
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	52260	...

SHIPMENTS IN MAY.

Ship	From	
Derby	Hong Hong	450
Lizzie	Shanghai and Foochow	3236

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to April 30, 1864...	550810	24	10548	1400	438	1784

SHIPMENTS IN MAY. Piculs Cotton.

Ship.	From	
Neville	Shanghai	5950

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to April 30, 1864...	3059	...	...	350	100	...

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to April 30, 1864...	48030	20615	2744	1400	5800	336

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to April 30, 1864...	1078	17979	109255	8489	4930	324600

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to April 30, 1864...	6	146	2076	2318	25200	...

Ship.		SHIPMENTS IN MAY.
Lottie Maria	416	178

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: May 19, Fychow; 11, Coulnakyle. From Cardiff: 6, Pudsey Dawson. From New York: 5, Vulcan.

The following vessel are reported by telegram:—

At SHANGHAI.—Taiping (steamer), Mackinnon, from the Clyde, Jan. 29; White Adder, Bell, from London, Downs, Jan. 12; Wild Deer, from Liverpool, Jan. 17, Lisbon, April 6.

At FOO-CHOW-FOO.—Previous to May 21, Flying Spur, Dora, Ziba, Yang-tsze, Serica, Childers (Freight for clippers £5).

At HONG KONG.—Yuen-tze-fee (str.). from the Clyde and Cape, Margaret Mitchell, from Newport, Nov. 17, Racehorse, Matthews, from Sunderland Feb. 2, (105 days).

At BATAVIA.—May, Salatiga from London, Guurtje and Maria, from Shields.

At ANJER.—May 9, Isabella, Newport to Hong Kong; Philomela, London to Hong Kong; 10, Ukko, Grimsby to Shanghai; Assyrian, London to Shanghai; Egean, Shanghai to New York; 13, Caroline Chisholm, Singapore to Liverpool; 14, Lauderdale, Shanghai to Liverpool; 22, Far East, steamer, from London for Hong Kong (85 days from the Downs).

At SINGAPORE.—From Liverpool, May 29, Bolden Lawn; from Bordeaux, 30, Prophete.

DEPARTURES.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: May 7, Keepsake. For Liverpool: 10, Unrivalled; 13, Helvellyn; 18, Eliza Nicholson; 19, Australia. For New York, 5, Luzon, and 12, Anita.

CASUALTIES.

SHANGHAI.

We have received news of the total loss of the British three-masted schooner Idas on the North Saddle Island on Saturday night (14th May) during a dense fog, and the sea running very high after the gale. The captain, his wife, and crew succeeded in making a landing, with the exception of one man who lost his life in the attempt. The sea at times breaking over the rock on which they landed, they were with difficulty rescued by a Ningpo boat, which brought them on to Shanghai, after having suffered considerable privations. They had barely sufficient time to save their lives before the vessel broke up, which occurred fifteen minutes after she struck, and of course left them completely destitute of clothing and common necessaries.

Steamer Sir Harry Parkes, Captain Cull, left Taku on the 8th May, and had fine weather across the gulf to Chefoo, where she arrived on the

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following day. She started for Shanghai on the 12th, and after a very favourable run, anchored in the Wongpoo on the evening of the 15th. She brings a large cargo of cotton principally for Hong Kong. The following gentlemen arrived by her:—Lieut. Col. Moody, R.E., Messrs. G. F. Seward, J. J. McKenzie, E. Wadman, Cross, and R. A. Jamieson, together with one hundred and sixty native passengers. On the evening of her arrival in Shanghai, the first class passengers unanimously tendered a vote of thanks to Captain Cull and the officers of the Sir Harry Parkes, in token of the high value set upon the kindness and consideration experienced during the trip at the hands of these gentlemen.

The British barque Lucknow, left Singapore, March 11, had squally weather and calm in China Sea. In lat. 29.30 N., and long. 123.44 E., on May 4th, had a heavy gale of wind from N. Eastward which lasted till the 7th, split nearly a whole suit of sails, decks filled with water. On May 11, arrived at Chinhai, and on 12th, left for Shanghai, had very bad weather during the passage from Chinhai to Gutzlaff, on 13th, strong gale from eastward and heavy sea, split jib.

In our Tien-tsin news will be found reports of captures by the Prussian frigate *Gazelle*.

FREIGHTS AT SHANGHAI.

TO LONDON.—Tea £4. 5s. to £4. 10s; silk £4. 15s.

LONDON AND LIVERPOOL.—Cotton £3. 15s. to £4 per ton of 50 cubit feet.

TELEGRAMS OF THE INCOMING MAIL.

THE CALCUTTA, CHINA, AND AUSTRALIAN MAILS.

ALEXANDRIA, JULY 6.—The *Euxine* and *Poonah*, with the above mails, left here at 10 a.m to-day. The former may be expected at Marseilles on the 12th, and the latter at Southampton about the 18th inst.

JAPAN.—The expedition to re-open the Straits of Shimonoseki has sailed.

CANTON, MAY 30.—The markets are unchanged. The total export of tea to this date amounts to 111,000,000 lbs. Exchange on London, 4s. 9½d.

SHANGHAI, MAY 23.—Tea and silk unchanged. Total export of silk, 39,125 bales. Exchange on London, 6s. 6d.

PAPER ON CHINA, BY SIR JOHN F. DAVIS.

At a meeting of the Royal Asiatic Society, Sir John Davis read a paper "On the Rise and Progress of Chinese Literature in England during the first half of the present Century." Taking as his starting-point Earl Macartney's embassy to Peking at the close of the last century, when not an Englishman could be found who knew anything of Chinese, and two native missionaries had to be engaged as interpreters, he gave an account of the successful labours and career of Sir G. Staunton, who, when yet a boy of twelve years of age, had been attached to that mission as page to the ambassador. Another labourer soon appeared in the person of Morrison, who proceeded to China as missionary about the year 1807, and remained there as interpreter to the East India Company until his death in 1834. His dictionary, in six large quarto volumes (on the printing of which, between its commencement in 1817 and its completion in 1823, the East India Company expended some £10,000,) still remains as the greatest monument of literary labour in the cause of the Chinese language. It formed a wonderful improvement upon the meagre helps that existed for learning Chinese when Sir J. Davis went out in 1813 to join the same station with Sir. G. Staunton. After briefly adverting to the labours of Marshman and Milne, and to the new and practical turn that was given to Chinese studies in consequence of Lord Amherst's embassy to Peking in 1816, the lecturer proceeded to review the further philological aids to the acquisition of the Chinese language, such as Dr. Medhurst's dictionary, in four volumes octavo, completed in 1848, the Chinese and Portuguese dictionary of Padre Gonçalves, Dr. Morrison's dialogues, the "Two Hundred Chinese Moral Maxims," translated and edited by himself in 1823, Mr. R. Thom's translation of Æsop's and other Fables into Chinese, &c. Before doing so, however, he entered more fully into the question of the *roots*, their composition and their influence on the meaning of every word in the language, showing how they serve the three distinct purposes—1. of supplying, in their simple and uncompounded state, the place of an alphabet for lexicographic arrangement and reference; 2. of indicating, when combined, the derivation and meaning of compound words; and, 3, of constituting the heads of different *genera*, under which compound words are ranged like *species*. As the purport of Sir John's lecture did not extend beyond the first half of the present century, he merely mentioned the later Sinologues whose works have greatly contributed to the facilitation of the study of the Chinese language amongst us, *e.g.*, R. Morrison, Medhurst, Meadows, Wade, Parkes, Lay and Summers. Passing over to the earlier translations from Chinese literature, which he classed under the two heads—1, classical and historical, including their sacred books; and, 2, *belles lettres*, or drama, poetry, novels and romances; he noticed among the former the so-called four books and the five King, or canonical works of Confucius, the Sacred Edict, and other classical, educational and historical works, which constitute the basis of Chinese morals and politics, and then went on to the more attractive lighter literature of China. He gave an account, occasionally interspersed with extracts, of several works of the latter class, both plays and novels, *e.g.*, "The Orphan of Chaou," "The Heir in Old Age," "The Chalk Circle," "The Story of the Two Cousins," "The Fortunate Union," "White and Blue," &c.; and after discoursing on the style and character of Chinese poetry, which possesses the qualities of accent, measured numbers, and terminal rhymes in common with other languages quite differently constituted, and on the refined amusement somewhat resembling what the French call "bouts-rimés," he adverted in conclusion to the many useful services rendered in the cause of Chinese literature by the *Chinese Repository*, a monthly periodical published at Canton during the twenty years from 1831-1850, which had become the common receptacle for contributions from China scholars of all countries. Copies of the different works under consideration, as well as various curiosities mentioned in the course of the lecture, such as letters, coins, &c., had been laid on the table and were circulated among the audience.

THE "TIMES'," CORRESPONDENT ON REBELLION.

SHANGHAI, May 5.

The Taiping rebellion is now almost at its last gasp, and the rebels are fighting with the courage of despair. They only retain four or five cities, and are evidently determined to sell them as dearly as possible to their assailants. The most important among these, next to Nanking is Chang-chow, which Gordon is now besieging, and before which he has just experienced a severe reserve. Following up the success at Wa-soo, which I recorded last week, he ordered up the whole of his force from Le-yang, and advanced against Chang-chow, driving the rebels before him. They, as I anticipated, contrived to penetrate the *cordon* which had been drawn round them by the Imperialists, but only after suffering severe loss. In the several engagements which have taken place more than 10,000 of the 40,000 who issued from Chang-chow two months ago have fallen, without accomplishing any of the objects of their expedition. It was, nevertheless, well conceived, and, with a less active opponent than Gordon, might have succeeded—partially at least. Chung-wang hoped, by a sudden dash, to secure Kiang-yin and Chiang-zu, and possibly also Quinsan, while Gordon's whole force was employed the other side of Soochow, at a distance of several days' march from the cities named. Had he succeeded it would have become necessary to raise the siege of Chang-chow, and concentrate all the Imperialist troops for the purpose of driving the rebels from their new position. The same movement was tried during the siege of Soochow, but with equally ill success. Had either of the attacks which were made on Wo-kong or Chiang-zu during that period succeeded, a large portion of the Imperialist troops must have been withdrawn from the siege to watch the rebels in these cities, otherwise the road would have laid open to them all the lately-recovered portion of the province. However, it seems likely that the rebels have now made their last effort, and that at Wa-soo Gordon has gained the last battle he is likely to have to fight in the open country. He has still, however, a serious task before him at Chang-chow, notwithstanding the large force by which the city is invested, and has already incurred a crushing defeat in an attempt to carry it by storm. He arrived before the city on the 14th, and found the Imperialists, about 30,000 strong, intrenched on the north, east, and south; they had destroyed a considerable portion of the parapet, and breached the wall itself in several places, but had not ventured on an assault. They were every day receiving reinforcements, and it is estimated that, at present, they have nearly 70,000 men at or near the city. Gordon at once directed his attention to the earthworks still held by the rebels outside the west gates, and with the aid of these mandarin troops captured each in succession until, on the 26th, the garrison was completely beleaguered On the same evening he commenced to plant his batteries with a view of widening the breaches, and while so engaged had a very narrow escape from death at the hands of his own men, who mistook him and his escort for rebels, and fired into them at point-blank range. As it happened, Gordon was able to shelter himself behind some ruins, but four of his escort were killed and five wounded by this unhappy mistake. The night was dark, and they were within 100 yards of the walls, so the error was not extraordinary. European troops would, of course, have challenged, but that is a refinement of discipline to which the Chinese have not yet attained. All preparations having been completed, an assault was made on the morning of the 28th, but the storming party encountered a desperate resistance. For nearly half-an hour the fight continued in the breach with the utmost fury, and at the end of that time the disciplined troops were repulsed with a loss of 27 officers and 360 men killed and wounded. This is a serious blow to Gordon, who has been deprived at one stroke of the services of more than half his available officers, including his commandant of artillery, Col. Tapp. The defendants were principally Kwang-si men, all old rebels. They exposed themselves recklessly in the breach, and were mowed down by hundreds by the artillery and musketry of the Imperialists. The few of Gordon's men who gained the summit of the breach state that the dead lay piled in heaps around it. A simultaneous attack was made on another portion of the wall by the Imperialists; but they could not make up their minds to the desperate hand-to-hand conflict which, it was evident, awaited them. They stood at the foot of the breach and exchanged volleys of musketry with their opponents, who were sheltered behind the parapet, and thus enabled the greater part of the garrison to concentrate at the point where Gordon's men were attacking. The latter is now advancing by regular engineering approaches, and intends, I believe, to sap the wall.

A terrible picture is drawn of the desolation of the country and the misery of the inhabitants around Chang-chow. Hundreds of gaunt, starving wretches, with hardly any other means of sustenance than human flesh and the few scraps of refuse they can pick up from the Imperialist troops, wander hopelessly about, more dead then alive, amid the ruins of their villages and of the suburbs. The living are too weak to bury the dead, and the latter lie about on the ground in every stage of decomposition, tainting the air and horrifying the beholder. A correspondent, writing from the camp to one of the daily papers, says,—"It is horrible to relate; it is horrible to witness. To read that people are eating human flesh is one thing; to see the bodies from which that flesh has been cut is another. No one can eat a meal here without a certain degree of loathing. The poor wretches have a wolfish look that is indescribable, and they haunt one's boat in shoals in the hope of getting some scraps of food. Their lamentations and moans completely take away appetite which the horrors one has witnessed may have left one. I ought to be tolerably callous by this time, but no one could witness unmoved such scenes as these." The rebels have evidently swept up everything edible, and left the unfortunate inhabitants to

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choe, but it is completely isolated, and may be recovered at any moment. Kiang-soo is the only district where they retain a semblance of power, and here four cities only—Nanking, Chang-chow, Kin-yong, and Ta-yang—remain in their possession. The three former are all besieged, and their fall may be looked for shortly. Thus it appears that at last our Government may look forward to being relieved from the much vexed question of interference or neutrality. It would be well if those who have advocated the latter course so persistently, though fortunately with so little effect, will at length cease from their useless remonstrances, and allow, without cavil, the final stroke to be given to a rebellion which has probably caused more misery and deserved less sympathy than any similar movement that has ever taken place.

die. It is to be hoped, however, that these scenes of horror are now drawing to a close. The rebellion is on its last legs, and within the next two months it may fairly be anticipated that Nanking will be the only city still owning allegiance to the Tien-wang. If a report which is current among the Chinese be true, that Hoochow has fallen into the hands of the Imperialists, the province of Che-keang is now completely clear of rebels. In the adjacent one of Ngan-hwey they still hold Kwan-ta-

Now that the Che-keang province has been cleared of rebels the Taotai is beginning to reduce the foreign contingents, probably as a preliminary to abolishing them altogether. The Anglo-Chinese force has already been ordered to be reduced one-half, and the Franco-Chinese are shortly to undergo the same fate. This is a very precipitate and very foolish measure. In the first place the rebels, although driven out of the province and reduced to extremity, are not so completely crushed that the mandarins can afford to dispense with the only effectual protection they possess against a fresh inroad; and in the second, directly the Anglo-Chinese contingent is disbanded, the rowdy foreigners will resume the piracy which its commandant has now nearly suppressed. The mandarins are utterly unable to do their own police, where foreigners are concerned, and until Colonel Cooke took the matter in hand, a number of scamps used to gain a livelihood by "squeezing" all the boat loads of produce which passed up and down the principal creeks in the neighbourhood. Lately he has kept detatchments scouring the country, and has arrested many and frightened off other of the marauders. When the contingent is reduced, it will all be required to do garrison duty at Ningpo. Again, by reducing the foreign contingent the mandarins throw away the only force they possess capable of dealing with the pirates who infest every creek and islet in Hangchow Bay, and at the same time that they deprive themselves of the means of repression, they are actually adding to the piratical fleet by discarding at a stroke all the Cantonese war junks which they have hitherto been employing at the siege of Hangchow. These, deprived of regular employment, will at once turn pirates.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

JAPAN.

(July 1st.) Earl GREY, in rising to move the resolutions of which he had given notice on the subject of Japan, said that the question to which he was about to draw their lordships' attention was one which had on more than one occasion been under the consideration of the House. Up to the present moment, however, no decided opinion had been pronounced by their lordships as to the policy which had been pursued in Japan by Her Majesty's Government, and the time was, he thought, come when they ought to be asked to deal more seriously with the matter. Before he proceeded further, he might be allowed to observe that his resolutions were not intended to imply any censure on the Government, not because he approved their policy—far otherwise,—but because that which had been done could not be undone, and because to ask their lordships to pronounce a vote of censure might interfere with that expression of opinion which it was desirable to have with regard to the future. The resolutions began by setting forth what were the effects of our intercourse with Japan, and proceeded to state the inferences which he thought ought to be drawn from the facts narrated in the papers which had been laid before the House. He might quote from those papers, as well as from Sir R. Alcock's well-known work on Japan, numberless passages distinctly showing that the treaty had been entered into by compulsion. He was, however, unwilling to trespass on their lordships' attention unduly, and should therefore forbear from making those quotations. It was clearly the interference of England which led to the conclusion of the treaties between Japan and the other Powers. Our operations in China, for instance, enabled the Government of the United States to conclude a treaty with that of the Tycoon. That was the substance of his third resolution; and his next proceeded to say:—

"That under the above-named treaty British subjects are entitled to claim admission into certain portions of the territory of Japan without being subject to the jurisdiction of its Government, Her Majesty having taken upon herself the obligation of enforcing on their part good conduct and obedience to the law."

That provision of the treaty was distinctly a step of reciprocity between the two countries; but, unfortunately, on neither side had the obligation been fulfilled, as neither party was practically able to carry it into effect. The next resolution which he was about to submit to their lordships stated "that the reports of Her Majesty's diplomatic servants show that Her Majesty had not been able to fulfil this obligation," and if their lordships had read attentively the papers which had been laid on the table they would, he thought, arrive at that conclusion. In a despatch of Sir R. Alcock, dated the 23rd of November, 1859, he described the drunken sailors who went on shore at Japan day after day, offering violence to the Japanese. In the same despatch he described the conduct of others as almost equally bad. In his work on Japan Sir R. Alcock stated in much stronger language than in his official despatches his sense of those evils. Such was the testimony of our own Minister, and he feared that the feeling naturally produced in Japan by such a state of things as he described was not likely to be allayed by the conduct of the higher classes of Englishmen in showing a contempt for the prejudices of the natives. Our diplomatic agents themselves, he was afraid, were not exempt from that charge, inasmuch as he had seen it stated that notwithstanding a prohibition against firing off arms within a certain distance of the Tycoon's residence, some members of the body had gone to shoot within the prescribed limit. Their lordships would find that Sir Rutherford Alcock recorded in his own book an act of the greatest violence committed by himself. Sir R. Alcock found a private road, leading to the residence of one of the Daimios, stopped by a barrier; it was guarded by two sentinels, and he stated that if he had not used force he should have been unable to pass. *Why, under such circumstances, the sentries might have shot Sir R. Alcock on the spot; and if he had been shot on the spot he would have got what he deserved.* (A laugh.) It was acts like that which raised such a feeling in Japan against Englishmen and other foreigners. Such acts had a stronger effect in a country like Japan than they would in countries where a different system of social life prevailed. Their lordships were aware that for many centuries Japan had been ruled by a feudal system. In Japan an insult to an individual could only be washed out with blood. It was illegal to draw a sword there except in self-defence; but the person who did draw it in self-defence was punished with death if he put it in the scabbard again without having despatched his adversary. (A laugh.) The only alternative left him was that of suicide in whatever form it might be prescribed. It was scarcely to be expected that a people so sensitive of their honour would submit to outrages at the hands of Europeans. Accordingly, as every one knew, very dreadful crimes had been committed by Japanese in revenge for what they had suffered in that way. The English Embassy had been attacked, and a number of British subjects had lost their lives. He thought that would justify his next resolution, which was:—

"That the animosity against foreigners excited in the minds of the Japanese by these outrages and insults has increased the repugnance long felt by the most powerful classes among them to increased intercourse with European nations, and has led to the perpetration of some murders and several daring and desperate attacks upon foreigners, diplomatic servants and other subjects of Her Majesty having been among the sufferers from these acts of violence."

In proof of what that resolution asserted, he might refer to despatches of Sir R. Alcock and to an admirable report on the State of Japan by Admiral Hope, dated in 1862. The gallant admiral said that a gross attack made by Japanese could be distinctly traced to outrages which had been committed on the people of Japan by foreigners resident in that country. The murder of the secretary of one of the Embassies was traced to the fact that the servant of one of the Daimios had been struck by a person connected with the Embassy, and the person who received the blow had been reproached for not having instantly avenged the insult. The next resolution which he had to submit to their lordships stated:—

"That the Government of the Tycoon has professed the strongest desire to prevent the commission of these crimes and to punish their perpetrators, but has declared itself unable to do so; nor does there appear to be any reason to doubt the truth of these declarations, since two Tycoons and a Regent of Japan have themselves been murdered, and one of the principal Ministers narrowly escaped the same fate, owing to the hostility they had incurred from being supposed to favour an increased intercourse with foreigners."

He could refer to the whole correspondence in order to show that the Japanese Government were not anxious to protect persons who had been guilty of outrages on Europeans and other foreigners. He maintained that the correspondence showed the very contrary. It showed there was the strongest possible desire on the part of the Japanese Government to afford protection to Europeans, to prevent the commission of outrages upon them, and to punish those who had been guilty of such outrages. Colonel Neale testified to that fact. It was quite true that the Government of Japan was not able to effect those objects in all instances; but that this was an inability for which we should not be too ready to blame them was evident from the facts referred to in the resolution which he had just read to their lordships, facts which were shown by official documents. The abandonment of forty miles of highway by the Japanese to foreigners was a strong proof of the friendly disposition of the Government. Suppose we had been asked to give up forty miles of the Great Western road to foreigners and go to the expense of making a new road for our own people in order that they might not be exposed to meet these foreigners? The old law and practice of Japan was express that no person should remain on horseback in the presence of the Daimios. Our countrymen, however, claimed the right, not only of not getting off their horses, but of riding along the road when they were coming. He did not pretend that the notions entertained by the Japanese were consistent with civilised ideas; but if Englishmen for their own purposes chose to go to Japan and found among the people certain opinions and certain prejudices which had existed for centuries, he thought we were bound to consider those feelings and prejudices in our treatment of that people. (Hear.) What made our proceedings more offensive was, that the Japanese had by long tradition the lowest opinion of persons in trade. In Japanese society the lowest workman and handicraftsman ranked far higher than the richest merchant; and, therefore, when our merchants met these Daimios in the way he had described, great offence was taken by the Japanese. That our countrymen did so ride along the roads, without regard to the feelings of the people, was established upon the highest authority; and the Japanese might very fairly have said that in order to prevent collisions it was our duty to execute our treaty obligations, and compel British subjects to respect the law. It was in riding along a road and meeting one of the greatest princes of the land that Mr. Richardson was murdered. He was far from denying that this was a violent outrage; but, in his opinion, the demands made by the Government for redress, and the measures taken to enforce redress, were contrary alike to the law of nations, to the plainest principles of amity and justice, and to good policy. But he was willing to accept the past, and in this spirit called upon the House to affirm his resolution:—

"That in order to enforce a demand made by Her Majesty's Government of redress for the murder of a British subject it was found necessary to undertake hostile operations against one of the Daimios, in the course of which considerable loss was experienced by Her Majesty's ships and a large and flourishing Japanese town was burnt to the ground."

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About these facts there could be no dispute whatever; and if the facts were correct, he asked whether they did not necessarily lead to the conclusions which he proposed to draw from them in the resolution which followed:—

"That this experience of what has already taken place leaves little hope for the future of its being possible to avert fresh collisions between Her Majesty's subjects and the Japanese if the existing arrangements for regulating the intercourse between them are maintained unaltered; and if such collisions should occur they must sooner or later lead to a war which would necessarily cost many lives and much money both to this country and to Japan, and would probably bring upon the latter the heavy calamities of general anarchy and confusion from the destruction of its existing Government, while there would be no means of creating any other authority to replace it."

Of course, if demands where made upon the Japanese Government they must be enforced, and, accordingly, in November, 1863, the Foreign Secretary informed the Admiralty that, in any case of injury sustained by British subjects, the British representative in Japan would call upon the admiral commanding our fleet there to resent such outrage, and in such cases the Admiralty were to authorise the naval officer in command to act in compliance with this requisition as far as the means at his disposal enabled him to do so. When a similar question was discussed under a former Government, a very strong opinion, and, he might add, he believed a very just one, was expressed by the late Duke of Wellington as to the principle of intrusting in the hands of Her Majesty's servants abroad the power of making war without communication with the Government at home. That power was in reality one of far too dangerous a character to permit of its being intrusted to the discretion of any subordinate officer. He need hardly remind their lordships of the danger attaching to such a power, for it was only necessary to remember the influence which local circumstances must have, and the feelings with which Englishmen were too often apt to regard semi-civilized nations with whom they were brought into contract to perceive how little advisable it would be to lodge this Power in the hands of resident officers. Her Majesty's Government had already seen the effects of granting such power to subordinate officers, for only lately they had had a specimen of its working on the coast of Africa. It was but right that Her Majesty's Government should consider the consequences of a war with Japan. He was afraid that it would entail more serious consequences than were generally imagined. At all events, he felt certain that the services not of 500 nor even 5,000 men would suffice to carry on the operations which would be deemed necessary. The House, too, should remember that the Japanese race was of an entirely different character to the Chinese, and that a war with them could not be judged of by any experience that we had had of the latter. The Japanese were a high-spirited people, always accustomed to carry arms, and those of the most dangerous description, and they had shown that a slight provocation was sufficient to induce them to risk their own lives in gratification of their revenge. In our operations, too, with the Japanese, it would be impossible to afford protection to the English subjects in the country, or to defend them from the midnight assassinations to which they would be liable. The war, therefore, must in any case prove a very serious affair. It should also be borne in mind that the disasters of the war, in consequence of the practice of building the forts and the towns in the neighbourhood of each other, would chiefly fall upon the unarmed population, whose dwellings would most certainly be destroyed. It was difficult to see either what advantage would result from the war. After having destroyed the garrison and burnt the towns on the coast, was it our intention to advance into the interior in pursuit of the enemy, who would undoubtedly retire to the mountain fastnesses of the country, and lose no opportunity of carrying on a harassing and disastrous warfare? The war could not but be attended with great expense, especially when they remembered that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had stated that the cost of two months' operations in China was £8,000,000. We had no right to regard a war with Japan as one in which every superiority was certain to be on our side. The Japanese had learnt to construct steam engines; they had purchased European arms, and they had, he believed, at that moment agents in America who were employed in obtaining rifled artillery, in order to enable their nation to be prepared for any emergency which might arise. We knew already from the defence of Kagosima that a battle with the Japanese would prove no child's play, and that we must expect to meet with serious loss in the course of our operations. We ought, therefore, to pause before incurring the hazard of a costly and ruinous war with that country. It might, moreover, be asked if the war would not be one in which success would be even more calamitous than defeat. It was not merely the direct consequences of the war which we ought to regard; we ought also to take into consideration results which, though indirect, would still be found to be important. If we succeeded in overcoming the resistance of the Japanese, the result would in all probability be the exaction of a new treaty imposing more onerous conditions upon the people of that country than they had hitherto laboured under. It was well in considering the question to glance for a moment at the effect of such treaties. What had been their operation in China? When our first relations were opened with that country 25 years ago we found the empire peaceful and prosperous, its provinces in a high state of cultivation, and supporting a numerous and a happy population. But by the indirect effects of our wars the authority of the Government in China had been completely broken down, and a state of anarchy had been brought about which had caused the deepest misery throughout that vast empire. Provinces which, on our first entrance into China, were rich and flourishing, were now utterly ruined, hundreds of thousands of human lives had been sacrificed, and in the newspapers of that day he found the last accounts from China stated that some provinces were so completely ruined that the inhabitants had been driven to support life to that last and most dreadful resource, cannibalism. The same process was now in its first stage in Japan. If our present policy were persisted in, it would not be many years before all the authority of the Japanese Government was entirely destroyed, and we should not be in a position to substitute an authority in its stead to maintain order throughout that extensive empire. Such were the grounds upon which he submitted to the House that it was our duty to avert these evils, and therefore he proposed a resolution,—

"That, apart from all higher considerations, the true interests of this country, and especially its permanent commercial interests, require that such calamitous results should not be risked by maintaining the existing treaty with Japan unaltered, and that it is desirable that the provisions of this treaty should be so modified as to place the future intercourse of the two nations on a better footing for the future."

No one could deny that that was true, and if so, he thought there could be no objection to the next resolution which he proposed:—

"That it would therefore be advisable that Her Majesty's servants should without delay enter into friendly communication with the Government of Japan and with the Governments of other nations having treaties with Japan similar to our own, for the purpose of determining what changes it would be expedient to make in the provisions of these treaties."

In that resolution he had not ventured to prescribe what modifications should be introduced into the treaty, as he did not consider that it fell within the province of Parliament to do so, it being rather a subject for the decision of the Government. In making any alteration in the treaties with Japan, it would be well to have an understanding with other civilized Powers, and especially with France; and after the experience of our power which the Japanese had recently had, there would be little difficulty in obtaining their concurrence to any modifications of the treaty which might be suggested. But, although he had not thought it right to describe in his resolution what modifications should be introduced into the treaty, because upon constitutional grounds he thought it was beyond the province of Parliament to prescribe them, yet he did not think there was any impropriety in his stating what were his own views upon that point. The first modification, he thought, should be made in what was called the 30-mile clause, which exempted British subjects in the ports of Japan, and for a considerable distance beyond them, from the control of the native authorities. He would venture to say that such a system could not possibly be worked in Europe. If English sailors at Havre or New York, or American and French sailors in Liverpool, were exempt from the interference of the police, and if they could only be dealt with by their own consuls, it would be impossible for a single day to maintain order and peace in these towns. It was exactly the same in China and Japan, where we had no machinery to control our own subjects. Indeed, without taking the government of those countries into our own hands, it would be impossible to have an efficient police or proper tribunals for the maintenance of order or the administration of justice. If it should be thought necessary to retain the exemption at the ports, surely there was no reason why it should not be confined within the narrowest limits possible. He did not mean to say that British subjects should be prevented from going beyond the ports. It was well known that Mr. Fortune and other gentlemen who had gone into the interior of Japan for scientific purposes had met with perfectly good treatment, and that would, no doubt, be the case generally if parties were more circumspect and careful to avoid collision with the native population. With respect to those engaged in trade, they ought to be most cautious in their intercourse lest they not only incurred great hazard to themselves, but provoked an outbreak which might involve the country in war. The evils which must necessarily spring from the absence of police had not yet been developed in Japan. To judge of their extent they should look to China. He referred to a trade report from Shanghai, which described the population as in a state of utter lawlessness; and the evils of such a state of things were greatly increased by the mutual jealousies of the consuls. There were other points on which he should have wished to touch, but he was ashamed of having so long occupied their lordships' attention. He would, therefore, only state generally what appeared to him a wise policy to pursue. In the first place we ought to restrict as much as possible the number of treaties we imposed upon Japan. Then it was most desirable that we should reduce and simplify as much as we could the stipulations of our treaties in order that the Government of that country might not be tempted to break them, and thus impose on us the necessity of applying coercion. Then he contended that it was on every account in the highest degree desirable that we should be able to reduce the very large force we had in China and Japan. It appeared from the papers produced that it had been found necessary to order 1,000 additional men to China, and in addition to the land forces he found on reference to the naval papers that we had at this moment in Japan or China no fewer than 35 vessels of war—all steamers, including gunboats. This was a very large force, kept up at great expense to the country, and on the principle of his noble friend we ought to reduce these demands on our resources as much as possible. This was advisable also for another reason; the maintenance of so large a force kept up the feeling of suspicion in the minds of the Japanese. The Bishop of Victoria stated that the people were quite aware of the origin and history of our connection with India. They knew we had gone there as traders, and ended by subduing all the native princes and powers of India. They were very much afraid of the same fate themselves, and most anxious to maintain their independence. It appeared to him that a really profitable trade between the two nations could never be carried on unless goodwill and friendship were established. It was in vain to go on as we were now doing. So long as their object was to thwart or cripple our trade, they would always find out some new means of accomplishing it, apparently within the letter of the treaty. But if we went on the opposite principle—if we made them feel the value of that trade; if we endeavoured to remove their just suspicions and just fears as to the consequences of what was now going on;—if we did that, the commerce was so mutually advantageous that we might rely on it the people and Government of Japan would learn to see its benefits, and gradually relax their restrictions upon it. He had it upon the authority of his noble friend himself that it was the misconduct of British subjects, their overbearing and lawless behaviour, which had been the source of all these evils. It was the knowledge that they were backed by the force of this country which led them to adopt such a line of conduct, and nothing would have so good an effect in inducing them to alter their behaviour as the withdrawal or diminution of the force at their command. He might remind his noble friend how well this policy succeeded in China during his administration. Almost immediately after his noble friend and himself acceded to office in July, 1846, the Government received intelligence of an expedition which had been directed against the Chinese to punish

(*Cotinued in page* 389.)

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, THURSDAY, JULY 7, 1864.

PROGRESS OF GORDON'S CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE TAIPINGS.

ACCORDING to the last accounts from Shanghai, it is evident that the Taipings are in their death-struggle with the Imperialists and the disciplined Chinese under GORDON. The oldest Changmaous are engaged in battling against the progress of the campaign for their very existence. Hitherto the wily leaders of this desolating rebellion kept themselves well back from the brunt of battle during any desperate engagement, forcing to the front the new levies whom they had pressed into their service unwillingly at the edge of the sword, often cutting them down in attempting to retreat. The consequences were that comparatively few of the original band of Taipings from the South provinces met with the fate they richly deserved. In all the engagements within the thirty-mile radius around Shanghai, when the British troops and blue jackets drove them from every stronghold, it was rarely that they encountered the Quang-si and Quan-tung men who originated the movement, although it was well known that they were the chief directors of the hordes marched into the fertile provinces of Kiang-soo and Che-kiang. It was the wretched impressed inhabitants of the latter provinces who chiefly fell on their own soil, as they were goaded on by their inhuman taskmasters. Of course it was impossible, during the many conflicts that occurred in 1862, to distinguish between the rabid Taiping and the pressed man, but after each engagement Admiral HOPE and General STAVELEY carefully separated them among the prisoners. Now it would appear that the forced levies who remain in the Taiping ranks are held back, and the long-haired fighting men of twelve to fourteen years' service are brought by their brave leader the CHUNG-WANG to the last struggle in the cause of "The Heavenly Kingdom of Great Peace." We unhesitatingly designate this leader *brave*, as every account of his actions in the field point to him as possessed of great prowess as a soldier and skill in generalship. But for his strategic movements, the TIEN WANG'S hordes might have been conquered long ago. Should he fall into the hands of GORDON, we have no doubt but that gallant officer will extend to him the ægis of British protection, notwithstanding the recent repulse before the conquest of the city of Chang chow. From the details of that affair, it would appear that the besieged were a match for the besiegers; and it may be said with justice that the Chinese on both sides displayed the elements of soldierly courage that would astonish the troops of Western nations. Nor must we omit to notice the gallantry of GORDON'S European and American officers, who led their men up to the deadly breach and renewed the assault from time to time until one-half of them were killed or wounded. After this sanguinary repulse, Chang-chow was completely invested by an Imperial force of 70,000 men, and GORDON had to sap the walls of the city. As he is an officer of the Royal Engineers, he brought into the field with his other military attainments as a general, a practical knowledge of that important branch of the service in reducing fortifications. Under these circumstances it will be seen from the detailed accounts given in another part of our columns, that the capture of this stronghold was accomplished. Now that this important victory in the campaign is effected, we may look for Major GORDON'S retirement from the Chinese service of his own accord, just about the time that the despatch of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs would arrive requiring him and all British officers to return to their former posts in Her MAJESTY'S army.

DEBATE ON JAPAN IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

WHILE the session has been remarkable for the numerous and lengthened debates in the House of Commons on topics concerning British policy and relations in the Far East, the House of Lords has been comparatively silent. This reticence was broken on the first of the present month when their lordships spent a night among the Japanese under the political ciceroneship of Earl GREY. That noble lord opened the debate with quite a formidable list of resolutions, having reference to almost everything and everybody in Japan, to discuss which would have taken several nights; and to notice, more space than we can afford. But the peers do their Parliamentary "pidgin" comfortably and concisely; so, after an admirable reply from Earl RUSSELL, and a short sederunt, the twelve resolutions were rejected, and existing relations with Japan left undisturbed. Nothing new of interest was imported into the debate, for the mover made political capital out of what had transpired during previous discussions in the Lower House. Amongst his salient points he echoed the senseless cry of snubbing the merchants engaged in the commerce with that country and China. It has become the fashion of late amongst certain noble and hon. members of Parliament—some of them aspirants for office, to detract from the position of British merchants in the extreme East, and rejoice over the circumstance of native traders being held in a degraded position by the officials of their country. These shallow-minded legislators would apparently have a pleasure in seeing our merchant princes completely under the thumb of our officials in Japan. But they have a different class to deal with; and one, as far as education and mental calibre goes, will compare favourably with that of the aristocracy. This cry against our enterprising sons of commerce in the "Isles of the Rising Sun" was originated by Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, who in a measure truckled to the prejudices of the Daimios, by drawing a line of social *status* between the merchant and the diplomatic *employé*, to show that in England there were privileged and unprivileged classes. This injudicious step was the chief cause of all the acrimony amongst the British residents that scandalized the community for several years, and in a great measure led to the assassinations which have cost both sides so much blood and treasure. We trust that in resuming his duties Sir RUTHERFORD will eschew this offensive line of conduct, and endeavour to raise the merchant in the esteem of the Japanese, as the laws of his country have done in avenging the murder of her enterprising sons. But this contempt for merchants and mercantile pursuits by those who are called the privileged classes, recoils upon themselves both here and in Japan. There is scarcely a legislator in the Palace of Westminster but takes fees and derives profit from some commercial enterprise; while it is notorious in Yokohama and Nagasaki that the members of legations and consulates make a trade in selling their privilege of exchanging dollars for itziboos, and resorting to means for extending their gains that legitimate merchants would scorn to imitate. Earl RUSSELL showed also that these Daimios themselves were greedy after foreign trade, and it was not its introduction they found fault with, but that the TYCOON had monopolised it, and secured the lion's share of profit. Therefore, instead of commerce and commercial men being the subjects of disparagement for debates in Parliament, they ought to receive the highest credit for being the direct means whereby England has attained the unexampled degree of prosperity she now enjoys.

THE ANGLO-AUSTRALIAN AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

SINCE the notice of this undertaking, which appeared in our issue of May 28, the directors have decided on raising first the capital necessary to lay down the line from Rangoon to Singapore. The distance is 1,200 miles, and the estimated capital required £450,000, a portion of which has been already privately subscribed. The annual receipts have been computed on the same scale as that adopted on the Malta-Alexandria line, and show that a dividend of 12 per cent. can be relied on after putting aside 10 per cent. for a reserve fund. According to the returns lately presented to Parliament of the working of the

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Malta and Alexandria line, it appears that in the first quarter of 1862 the gross receipts were £6,853 ; in the last quarter of that year they were £11,958, or nearly double ; again in first quarter of 1863 the gross receipts were £12,047, and in the last quarter £21,560, being at the rate of nearly 20 per cent. upon the cost of the line. The net receipts are not given, but they may be taken to have been at the rate of 16 per cent. in the most favourable quarter. In consequence of Egypt being in hourly and direct telegraphic communication with London and Liverpool, and India being only in weekly communication, messages being conveyed partly by post and partly only by telegraph—Egypt supplied two-thirds of the total number of messages, India and the East only supplying one-third ; the proportions would, of course, have been more than reversed had India enjoyed the same advantage in this respect as Egypt.

The trade between Europe, Singapore, Java and China will be greatly facilitated if efficient telegraphic communication is established between Europe and India before the proposed line is completed, although even without relying on the lines through Asia Minor and Persia, the India and Singapore telegraph will enable Java and China news to be telegraphed to Galle and Bombay in connection with the mail steamers. Notice of a question to Sir C. Wood has been given by Sir Stafford Northcote asking whether the Anglo-Australian and China Telegraph Company have not informed H.M. Government that they are prepared to establish telegraphic communication between Rangoon and Singapore without any financial assistance from H.M. Government, and whether H.M. Government view the undertaking with favour and will facilitate the carrying out of the work. The answer to this question has not yet been given.

STEAMERS FOR CHINA.

A screw steamship of 605 tons, named the *Luzon*, has been launched by Messrs. Alexander Stephen and Sons from their building-yard at Kelvinhaugh. This vessel has been constructed on the principle of iron frames and wooden planking, is fastened with yellow metal throughout, and sheathed with copper on bottom. She is intended to run between Manila and China. She has been built for Messrs. Ker, Bolton, and Co., of Glasgow, and is classed fourteen years A 1.

THE FRENCH MAIL SERVICE.

Messrs. Horne, of Moorgate-street, the London agents of the Messageries Imperiales, have issued the following circular :—

We beg leave to inform you that on the 9th of September, and thenceforth on the 9th of every month, a mail steamer of the Messageries Imperiales will be despatched from Marseilles to Alexandria, corresponding with another steamer from Suez to Aden, Seychelles, Reunion, and Mauritius.

PARLIAMENT—*Continued from page* 387.

them for certain offences which they were said to have committed. With the full assent of his noble friend and the Cabinet he addressed to the Governor of Hong Kong a despatch containing a severe reproof for this unauthorised exercise of power, and followed it up by greatly reducing the strength of the garrison of Hong Kong. That had the very best effect in producing a conciliatory disposition on the part of the British authorities, and for six years there was no quarrel between them and the Chinese. No sooner, however, was the Crimean war at an end than an additional force was sent to Hong Kong, and in a very short time the governor picked a quarrel with the Chinese, which led to a war, all the ill consequences of which had not yet been fully experienced. The last resolution proposed that a humble address should be presented to Her Majesty setting forth the substance of the preceding ones. He must express his earnest hope that his noble friend would not regard this as a censure upon the policy of the Government. Although he recommended a change of policy, he did not think that the responsibility of that which had been pursued rested entirely with Her Majesty's Government. It rested in part at least with Parliament, which had tacitly approved that policy. He asked the House to pronounce no censure ; he only asked it to express an opinion that our experience of the working of the treaty concluded six years ago with Japan had shown that it was desirable that that treaty should be revised and its terms amended. If Her Majesty's Government were inclined to take that course, it was most desirable that they should have the declared support of Parliament, because it could not be done without provoking some clamour out of doors. He trusted that their lordships would agree to the resolutions which he was about to move. He had asked for their support only upon the ground that our commercial interests rendered desirable the course which he was recommending, but he was persuaded that their lordships would agree with him that this question involved far higher considerations than that, and that we were bound to consider not only what was for our interest, but what was consistent with our notions of right and wrong. Even if it could be proved—which it could not—that it was necessary to adhere in Japan to a system by which we should inevitably become involved in a war with the Japanese, we should be bound to abstain from taking a course so contrary to the plainest rules of justice and right. The noble lord concluded by moving the resolutions which stood in his name, and the substance of which he quoted in the course of his speech.

Earl RUSSELL said : After the long and able speech which my noble friend has made, I am, I confess, somewhat disappointed to find that he should have sat down without pointing out how our relations with Japan might be amended. He thinks it desirable that there should be an increase of trade with Japan, but he did not show by what means that desirable object was in his opinion to be effected, although he was profuse in his censure with respect to the existing state of things. He began his speech by finding fault with the manner in which our intercourse with Japan was begun, and here I must remark that, both on this subject and on the subject of what our policy should be, he aimed at subverting our policy not only in that country, but in China, and with regard to all Eastern nations. In the case of China the treaty of Tien-tsin was brought about by our entering the Peiho with a considerable force ; but my noble friend is hardly correct in the assertion which he made in reference to Japan. Lord Elgin went to Japan with one steam frigate and two gunboats, which is hardly such a force as could be fairly said to have so intimidated the Japanese as to have compelled them enter into a treaty. There were, I may add, other treaties made before that time. There was one entered into between Japan and America on the occasion when Commodore Perry went to that country with a considerable force, and I cannot see that Sir R. Alcock was so much to blame because he went with a frigate and two gunboats to make a similar treaty. Other nations have followed the same policy, and one of those Powers which have intimidated Japan is Switzerland, which my noble friend will, I think, hardly contend is a Power calculated to inspire the Japanese with such fear as to force them to conclude a treaty of commerce. That being so, the foundation of my noble friend's argument falls to the ground, for it appears that it was not by intimidation that we obtained the treaty, and that, even if it was obtained by force on our part greater force had been employed on the part of other countries. But what, let me ask, have been the fruits of these treaties? They have been that, in the course of a few years, there is a commercial intercourse of foreign nations with Japan to the value of £7,000,000. What, let me ask, is that but the intercourse of friendship—an intercourse whereby the Japanese obtain what they want from foreigners, and foreigners what they want from them, to the mutual benefit of both. Is that the friendly intercourse which my noble friend wishes to stop ? Why, he declares himself that he wishes to increase the trade with Japan. But, then, he says that the Japanese having been induced to make the treaty, we entered into a stipulation that British subjects should be entitled to obtain admission to certain portions of the territory of Japan without being under the jurisdiction of the Japanese authorities. He complains of the law called the "extra-territorial law." But what I would ask, has been the whole course of our intercourse with Eastern nations? What is the history of our intercourse with China and with Turkey? Have we not entered into arrangements with China of this very character? Would we be justified, then, in adopting an entirely new plan in regard to Japan, saying that the Japanese laws should be allowed to prevail in the case of any British subject who might be accused of having committed an offence against them? Your lordships must bear in mind that the Japanese laws are most sanguinary. What can we say if a young English merchant, being brought before the Japanese tribunals, subjected to torture, put to death, being disembowelled, and, in short, suffering all the horrid tortures which the code of the country inflicts? What can we say, further, if all his relations living at Yokahama are put to death? Is it desirable, under those circumstances, that we should abandon a plan which has now been acted upon for three centuries, in accordance with which, when we enter Oriental nations, we carry with us our own tribunals? When Japanese subjects commit an offence against the English we ask them to punish their own criminals, but when an Englishman commits an offence we do not surrender him up to be dealt with by the Japanese laws. In that respect we can, I think, make no alteration without incurring great danger. If we were to make a change, the probability is that disputes with the Japanese authorities would be promoted, and I cannot therefore admit that so far as that point is concerned my noble friend has pointed out any course which it would be advantageous to adopt. Great benefits are derived from our trade with Japan, but that trade is undoubtedly accompanied by great abuses on the part of Englishmen themselves. (Hear, hear.) Their manner and demeanour, when living in those Eastern countries, is not always what it ought to be. (Hear, hear.) I this very morning received a letter from Sir F. Bruce, written in the same admirable tone and temper as so many others, in which he laments the insolence and disregard of Chinese customs, the want of courtesy, and the improper behaviour in many respects towards an inferior race which characterises some of our countrymen, and which, he says, is a disgrace to several who go apparently for the purposes of trade to China. The same thing, I am sorry to think, may be said in the case of Japan ; nor is it confined to these two among Eastern nations. All that we can under the circumstances do is that which men like Sir R. Alcock are disposed to do—that is, to refuse to take up the cause of any of those men who have brought trouble on themselves by their own misconduct, and thus to show them that it is not because they belong to a powerful nation that they are to be countenanced in the course which they pursue. (Hear, hear.) I know of no particular regulations which could be introduced which could remedy the present state of things, and we can only hope that while the commercial intercourse itself with Japan is productive of great benefit the abuses which attend upon it will be in time removed by the exhibition of better conduct on the part of our own countrymen, who have the remedy entirely in their own hands. (Hear, hear.) I would add that the Government of the Tycoon has shown every disposition—being fairly treated on our part—to do all that is necessary on their side to improve the trade between the two countries. But in spite of our policy there are great dissentions in Japan. There are the Prince of Satsuma, the Prince of Nagato, and many of the others of the high feudal aristocracy—one of them said to have 200 000 men under his command, and immense revenues—whose privileges and feudal powers were secured to them some two or three centuries ago. There is, besides, the Mikado, a sort of spiritual chief, and there is the Tycoon,

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who is said by the best authorities have the treaty-making power. How can we prevent these different authorities from quarrelling among themselves and from being jealous of one another? The Daimios say, and perhaps with truth, that the Tycoon has managed, in providing that certain ports shall be the ports at which English ships shall enter, to take the greater part of the profits to himself, and to prevent the ports which belong to the Daimios from being the places of commerce for foreign merchants. If that be so, as it is well-known that the profits of this trade are enormous, it is no wonder that these Daimios wish to have some share in it, and that many of them wish, in conjunction with the Mikado, to overpower the authority of the Tycoon. But that is not a matter with which the English are concerned; that is not a result for which British power is responsible. (Hear, hear.) It is a matter that may at any time produce civil war—civil war not brought about by England, but by the dissentions and jealousies of the Japanese themselves. (Hear.) A noble earl opposite, who brought forward the question of Japan last year, concluded—as, sitting in opposition, it was, perhaps, natural for him to conclude—that we were about to do everything that was foolish upon this subject—that the Government were going to punish the Tycoon, as the Tycoon was our friend, and that the Daimio, who was our enemy, we intended to leave alone. Now, the fact is that we were quite as wise as the noble earl opposite. (A laugh.) We did say, no doubt, that the Tycoon ought to pay a considerable fine because he had allowed a public road to be the scene of a disgraceful murder on the part of one of the Daimios; but we called upon the Daimio himself to bring the murderers to justice, and pay his share of the fine. We did not, therefore, commit the folly that the noble earl supposed we should commit. My noble friend who brought forward this question to-night meant, it seems, to be particularly civil (a laugh), but he told us that our conduct with respect to the murder of Mr. Richardson was against all principles of international law, against all principles of justice, and against good policy. For a particularly civil person, this, I think, was rather hard upon the Government. (Laughter.) But I do not see the matter in that light. Here were three or four English people, one of them a lady, riding upon a road which was assigned by treaty as a road upon which British subjects were able to pass on foot or on horseback when they pleased. Being there when one of these great Daimios passed, they stood on one side of the road, where one of them was murdered, the lady and the others being attacked, and escaping with many bruises and wounds to Yokohama. We thought that was an injury which required some reparation, and we did not think it was contrary to the law of nations to ask for reparation. We said that the murderers ought to be tried, and as the Prince of Satsuma refused any redréss, we sent ships to his harbour and took by way of reprisals two of his vessels. The Prince of Satsuma, I must say, behaved in one respect with great humanity, for he sent a notice to his own people that there would probably be some action, and advised them to leave the town. The batteries of this town fired upon our men-of-war. What were our men-of-war to do? Were they not to return the fire? Were they to go off immediately as fast as they could without returning the fire, and with all the appearance, and, indeed, the reality, of running away from the forces of the Daimio? What would have been the consequence of such conduct? Why, my lords, how unsafe would have been the life of every Englishman in Japan! (Cheers.) The admiral who was in command of the British squadron ordered fire to be opened. It was opened against those batteries, the batteries were in a great degree silenced, but as a high wind was blowing at the time, and the houses were entirely built of wood and paper, the town caught fire and great part of it was burnt. Well, I think, though this was a lamentable occurrence, that a great deal too much horror was expressed at it. In consequence of the notice that had been given hardly any persons were killed except the soldiers in the batteries; there really was not that great mortality which has been so much lamented; the town has been since rebuilt, and people say that it is a handsomer town than it ever was before. I cannot believe, then, that that proceeding was of the character which my noble friend states, and certainly with regard to the followers of Prince Satsuma, it was a good lesson for them, for they owned that they did not know that the English were so strong; that they should beware how they offended them again; and the Prince of Satsuma himself has shown since that time the most friendly disposition towards us. (Cheers.) My noble friend says that these collisions must lead to war. But is it more likely that war will result by inflicting some punishment upon the murderers of our people, or by allowing those murderers to go unpunished? My belief is that the taking notice in this way of such an injury as a horrible murder is the way not to lead to future collisions and war, but rather to prevent them. (Hear, hear.) We know very well what has happened with regard to the French. One of the Japanese Princes, the Prince Nagato, as a French ship was passing through a narrow strait, fired upon it and inflicted considerable injury. The French Admiral thereupon attacked the battery, the Japanese soldiers ran away, the battery was destroyed, and every gun was made useless for the future. Here, then, according to my noble friend, would have been the origin of a great war between France and Japan. But Japan thought better of it, and sent an Embassy to beg pardon for the outrage, and a new treaty has been made between the French and the Japanese Government. (Hear, hear.) Such was the effect of an order very similar to that for which I am so much blamed in the case of the Prince of Satsuma. I quite agree with my noble friend that these Japanese are most ingenious people. This Prince of Satsuma himself has more than once bought steam vessels; and I am told that the Japanese would buy a foreign steam vessel in a port, and that, the European crew being out of it, they would put their own crew on board and steam out of the port at once, with complete command of the machinery, as if they had been taught the use of it from their earliest youth. Nay, more, in another case one of our officers was receiving two Japanese officers of rank, and immediately they came on board they began discussing the merits of the Armstrong and Whitworth guns, showing great knowledge of all the mechanism of those guns. (Hear, hear.) I am in hopes that, so far from leading to the stoppage of further intercourse between us, so far from leading to hostilities, the policy of Her Majesty's Government will lead to the maintenance of friendly relations with the Japanese; that their display of the more than ordinary anxiety found among Eastern nations to profit by European intercourse will establish that intercourse on a footing of mutual advantage; and that, though there may be on the part of some of the Japanese a good deal of murmuring, like the rumbling of distant thunder, the advantage of commercial relations between the two countries will gradually be seen in Japan, and will gradually insure a friendly and a peaceful intercommunication. (Hear, hear.) Coming to the last resolution of my noble friend, I must say I had expected from him information and instruction as to the way in which we should improve our relations with Japan. Had he pointed out any mode by which we could effect that object, Her Majesty's Government would have gladly availed themselves of my noble friend's suggestions; but when he came to that part of his speech, after he had thought fit to blame every part of the policy of the Government of this country—not only of the present, but of former Governments—he said he should be much obliged to us to point out the way in which an improvement could be effected. (Hear, hear.) Now, my lords, I think if we were to say to the Japanese that we should modify our treaty—that we were prepared to make new arrangements,—I think the effect would be that which such a course would have upon other Eastern nations. We should only inspire the Japanese with the idea that we were afraid of their hostilities, and that we were ready to conciliate them by needless and unworthy concessions. (Hear, hear.) I don't see, therefore, that we should gain by any measures of that sort. I am not at all reluctant to enter into some friendly relations with the Japanese, though I must remind your lordships that friendly relations have been going on between the Government in this country and the Government in Japan, and also between our Minister in Japan and the Ministers of the Tycoon. Mr. Rutherford Alcock was prepared to do everything that was courteous towards the Tycoon, and he showed himself ready to do anything which our laws enabled him to do in order to punish any young Englishman who went beyond the rights to which British subjects were entitled according to the terms of our treaty. (Hear, hear.) I am quite aware that this country can do great hurt to other countries; but I do not let out of sight that other countries may do some hurt to us. I own that I contemplate not only with repugnance, but disgust, such a state of things as boasting of nothing but the injury which we could do to other countries, while they, on the other hand, should be boasting of the injury which they could do to us. Certainly, that is not a pleasant subject of contemplation; but we know we have power—all foreign nations know we have by our naval and military forces power to inflict great hurt on any nation attacking us. My noble friend says that as regards this country and Japan we are not behaving according to the laws of nations. I am afraid that for a very long time to come it will be necessary to keep a considerable naval force in those seas of Japan. There are, as I have said, various parties in Japan, and one of them is very likely to say they will not permit foreigners to come there any longer, and that they will drive them from Japan. That, no doubt, might lead to scenes of bloodshed, but I cannot see that we ought to retire from Japan for that reason, or forego those rights which are of great benefit to us and at the same time of great benefit to Japan. (Hear.) My belief is that we should endeavour to behave justly, and on every occasion repair any wrong of which the Japanese may have reason to complain, but at the same time seek redress for any wrong which may be done by them to British subjects. Under existing circumstances, that is all I can say, while, of course, I should be glad that our relations with Japan could be closer and more secure. (Hear, hear.) But we must recollect that this is a new commerce. The treaty only dates from, I think, 1858, and there is much to be smoothed away in regard to our relations with a people who for a long time would not admit foreigners. At the same time, the commerce between the two nations has been in many respects rapid. During the first four years after the treaty of Nanking our imports of silk from China amounted to 20,000 bales; in the first four years after our treaty with Japan our imports of silk from that country have been 25,000 bales. (Hear, hear.) That shows a considerable willingness on the part of the Japanese to enter into commerce, and to establish those relations with us which may tend to the promotion of trade. (Hear.) It is impossible for us who have such commerce in every part of the world not to see that in Japan, as elsewhere, some misunderstanding may arise; and all the British Government can do is not to modify or alter those treaties which we have with the Japanese—not to say we will give further concessions in addition to those which we have already made. Last year we engaged to put off the opening of two ports, which were to have been opened this year, for seven years more, and we have shown every disposition to agree to any concession which the Japanese could reasonably ask for; but it appears to me that it would be more advantageous for all parties to go on steadily and quietly, but maintaining our rights, rather than to inaugurate a new system and policy, more especially if that new system and policy were in contradiction of all we have ever done in our dealings with Eastern nations from the time when we first had intercourse with them. (Cheers.)

The Bishop of OXFORD expressed his thanks to the noble earl (Grey) for having brought this subject before their lordships and the country. He had attended to the tone of the noble earl's speech and resolutions, and it appeared to him that the noble earl's object was rather to turn their lordships' attention to the future with its dangers, and the mode in which those dangers might be averted, than to advert with anything like unnecessary recrimination to events which had already taken place. (Hear, hear.) He had also watched with anxiety to hear what might be said by the noble earl the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, feeling confident that everything which he might say would be said with that terse and telling eloquence which the noble earl always used. But he confessed he had heard with great disappointment the answer of his noble friend. So far from removing from his mind those apprehensions which the views of the noble earl opposite (Grey) had given rise to, he thought the answers given to the noble earl were not conclusive. As he understood the Foreign Secretary he maintained that the noble earl opposite objected to the system by which we undertook on our part to exercise our own laws against our own people in a distant country, leaving it to the Japanese to put their laws in force against their own people. His noble friend said that had always been our custom when dealing with Eastern nations, but that the noble earl would sweep it away, and then he (Earl Russell) went on to ask how we should feel if we heard of the lives of

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our countrymen being sacrificed in consequence of our trusting to the Japanese Government. But he had distinctly understood his noble friend opposite to guard against any such supposition. (Hear.) He understood him to say that at the principal ports—at the factories where we had our goods—at places where we should be able to enforce on our people reasonable obedience to the Japanese laws, there we should maintain that principle. (Hear, hear.) But his noble friend said that we should not undertake what we could not perform—that we should not throw the ægis of security against Japanese justice over British subjects in places where we could not exercise control over them, and thereby lead them to break the laws of the Japanese, where we had no power to prevent a breach of those laws, and no means of punishing British subjects who did break them. The noble earl argued that the two obligations were correlative; that where we undertook to protect our own people and try them by our own laws we were bound at the same time to show we had sufficient power to make them obey those laws which, by going into that country, they made themselves subject to. (Hear.) Therefore, he said, the answer of his noble friend the Foreign Secretary to his noble friend opposite was not satisfactory. Then the noble earl at the head of the foreign department denied that our treaties with Japan had been brought about by intimidation. Why there was no other point on which Sir R. Alcock was so explicit and emphatic as he was in his declaration that those treaties had been brought about by intimidation. He said that the American Ambassadors went to Japan and told the Japanese what we were doing in China, and so alarmed their minds that the statements made to them of our intentions and the news of our success in China made them look upon the presence of a small flotilla in the Japanese waters as the *avant courier* of the power of this country; so that, against the will of the whole population, the treaties were made entirely through fear. He said, "I know that it is alleged that there is a party in the country who are in favour of progress, who desire to see the foreigner admitted and foreign trade encouraged;" but he went on to say that he had never been able to find them nor even to ascertain their existence. He said that there were, as everywhere else, two powers—one more extravagantly attached to what they considered to be their natural habits, and the other less so, and he had described them as existing in Japan under the name of the toad-in-the-well party and the non-toad-in-the-well party. He also said that the most liberal party he had been able to find were strongly averse to the abolition of the restraints which prevented foreigners from coming among them. He stated that whereas foreigners were at first received into the houses of the poor, if not with welcome, at all events, with hospitality, he could not say that that treatment was any longer extended to them. (Hear, hear.) Therefore, what was originally begun with intimidation was, according to his statement, continued with increasing disgust on the part of the Japanese only through the terror of external violence. Again, they were told by the noble earl that the burning of Kagosima had led to the better behaviour of the Daimio. When they, however, knew that the Japanese were so eager for the expulsion of the foreigners, and that they were purchasing rifled cannon for the blow which they hoped to strike, they could not consider that this change was so much extorted by violence as it was the quiet preparation dictated by that desire for vengeance which was so distinguishing a characteristic of the Japanese nation. (Hear, hear.) That he believed to be the strength of the statement made. The perpetual complaint of the more thoughtful Japanese had been, "You are hurrying things too fast. We grant you it may be well, as you tell us, that the country should become a trading community, that our wealth may become increased if we deal with the nations of the West, but there must be time for the trade to grow up. At present it is but injury to us at every turn. You take our vegetable wax and do not even leave enough for our own people. You have tricked us as to our gold, which you have exported in masses in spite of the treaty to the contrary. You have suffered your people to set up a shadowy reason in order to evade the stipulations of the treaty, and all this you have done because you will hasten to a degree which we, as a people, cannot bear, the time to introduce your merchandise and your commerce." The burden of these representations must, he believed, reach the heart of everyone. What they in reality said was, "If you are to be enriched by this sudden traffic, have you no regard for us? Can you not feel for our sufferings? Is it just to force this upon us that you may a little sooner acquire so much more wealth?" His noble friend did not attempt to answer the allegation of the noble earl, because he evidently felt the statement to be unanswerable, that we were running great danger of absolutely destroying the internal Government of Japan by the course we were pursuing. (Hear, hear.) Could it be the intention of the Government to reduce that country to the miserable state of an ungoverned anarchy? And yet that must be the result if we shook the existing power without furnishing any efficient substitute. They had heard that night that there was a great deal of jealousy existing between the Daimios and the Tycoons. There was a continual tendency among the Daimios to resist the power of the Tycoons when that power appeared to them to be used in a manner which would commit the country to steps fatal to its welfare; and so every step in the treaty had been written in the blood of successive Tycoons. Would that fact show that it was a treaty gladly entered into by the Japanese? Did it not rather tend to prove that it was forced upon them by intimidation? The result of our continuing our present policy would be the breaking down of the central controlling authority by which alone the feudal chieftains could in any measure be kept in awe. Was it our object to occupy the country in order to administer its revenue, its justice, to reform it laws, or to make it a dependency of this country? What would become of our trade if we left the country in anarchy? How were we to maintain a sufficient force among a hostile people, aided in their opposition to us by the nature of the country? How were we to overcome those obstacles except at an expense which he did not believe the people of Great Britain were willing to incur? It was upon those points that it seemed to him that the speech of his noble friend opposite had really exhausted the subject, and he felt with him that having passed through those considerations, which he might term considerations of expediency, they came to the still higher ground based upon the principles of right, and he maintained that we had no authority in the sight of Him who governed the universe, by force of arms to thrust upon an independent people a commerce which they refused. (Hear, hear.) He maintained that, having established that commerce, we had no right whatever to undertake engagements as to our own subjects which we could not fulfil—(hear, hear)—and that the treaty as it was now constructed did engage that this country should undertake to make its subjects do what it was not in our power to make them perform. When he read what was stated by Sir Rutherford Alcock, he found that a request which was made by the authorities, that the road by which the Daimios were passing should not be made use of for three days, in accordance with the law of the country, was violated in the very face of the authorities, although the use of the road was not necessary for the purpose of either business or pleasure. (Hear, hear.) And he, for one, believed that the introduction into the commerce of this country of such doubtful, he would venture to say unjust, principles would not lead so much to its extension as to its final ruin. There was a result connected with the extension of national prosperity founded upon injustice which, by a law more certain than the return of any mercantile adventure, would avenge the cause of right and justice upon the people by whom those principles had been violated. It was written, and it would be fulfilled, "Woe unto him that buildeth his house by unrighteousness and his chambers by wrong." (Hear, hear.)

The Duke of SOMERSET did not think it was necessary to go back to the origin of the treaty with Japan, but he would remind the House that the treaty was made in the first instance with the American Government, and all that we and other nations asked was to be placed in the same position as the Americans. He quite agreed with the noble earl opposite as to the importance of our showing forbearance and moderation in our dealings with the people of Japan, and he concurred in his expression of regret for the misconduct of many Europeans in that country. It was a subject of deep regret that acts of gross tyranny had been perpetrated towards the natives of Japan, not only by Englishmen but by other Europeans. But that was a question quite separate from that of the treaty. The noble earl advised the Government to make a new treaty, but as he said that the Tycoon had no power to enforce the treaty already made it was difficult to understand where would be the advantage of a new treaty. He objected to the resolutions, and their effect, if carried out, would be to render war almost certain. The noble earl complained that the English and French Admirals had objected to the erection of battteries at Yokohama; but there were good grounds for their objections. The House would remember that when Admiral Hope went to the Peiho, batteries were insidiously raised, and his ships, being allowed to come in close were suddenly fired into. If we had allowed batteries to be raised at Yokohama the lives and property of all the British subjects and of other Europeans in the place would have been at the mercy of the Japanese, and the English and French Admirals feeling that, thought it their duty to resist the construction of such batteries. The right rev. prelate thought English subjects were protected wherever they went in Japan. That was not the case. What was done was to protect British subjects at Yokohama and along a road which by the treaty they had a right to use? (Earl Grey.—"25 miles.") He was told by persons who came from Japan that they were kept, as it were, in a prison, and could only go by that road for exercise. The noble earl said that persons seeking exercise or pursuing the study of botany were allowed by the Japanese to pass through the country, but that was not the fact. He had himself sent a gentleman who had a taste for botany to Yokohama, but, although he was willing to obey in all things the directions of the Japanese authorities, he was not allowed to pursue his researches, but was sent back. The noble earl said that the Daimios entertained great objections to trade. That was quite wrong (hear); in fact, the noble earl's speech was full of errors from beginning to end. (Laughter.) Prince Satsuma said that the Tycoon was appropriating all the trade to himself, and that he ought to share it with others. (Hear.) The noble earl's resolution proposed "that the provisions of the treaty should be so modified as to place the future intercourse of the two nations on a better footing for the future." But why should that be done if the Japanese Government possessed no power to enforce the treaty? It would be much better to keep to the treaty already made, and by firmness on the one hand, and forbearance on the other, its provisions might be fairly carried out. We had certain rights under that treaty, and these rights were admitted by the Japanese. Prince Satsuma's people themselves admitted that we were right to punish them for the murder, and, so far from the burning of their town having had an ill effect, it had had really an excellent effect, as they were afterwards quite ready to enter into a treaty with us. They did not care about the burning of their town, which they could rebuild in a few days. A gentleman recently arrived from Yokohama told him that he saw a great fire in that town, which burnt down a great establishment for the education of Japanese young ladies. The fire happened on the Monday, and to his surprise it was rebuilt on the following Friday. He very much regretted that Admiral Kuper should have been attacked for his conduct. (Hear, hear.) When that gallant officer heard of the motion in Parliament upon the subject of Kagosima he wrote a letter, in which he expressed his regret that the subject should be discussed in his absence. The Admiral also expressed his regret that in firing at the batteries his guns should have destroyed the town, but in writing his despatch he had omitted to express that regret as distinctly as he ought to have done, but that he wrote that despatch in haste and at a time when his feelings were much excited by the death of two friends who were killed by his side. The Admiral further said that he had since frequently declared his regret that the town should have been injured, and had also avowed his admiration for the Japanese people. With respect to the people themselves, they were quite willing and desirous of trading with Europeans. The last letters received from Japan informed him that people had been put to death by the Daimios because they had traded with Europeans. At Nagasaki and other places many persons had been murdered for trading with us; but, notwithstanding, they continued to send their goods to the ports. He had acquainted their lordships with the effect of Admiral Kuper's letter to him, and he could assure them that that gallant officer had been actuated by no other feeling than a desire strictly to perform his duty. The noble earl opposite seemed to think that when the batteries fired upon our ships of war we ought to have run away. (Earl Grey: "No.") Then if the batteries did fire, were our ships to fire again? (Hear.) It was, however, difficult to understand exactly how to deal

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with a people whose habits and prejudices were so strange, and it was next to impossible to avoid occasional outbreaks. Unless we came away altogether from Japan, he could not see how we could avoid enforcing our rights. The French, Russians, Dutch, and other nations took right under the same treaty, and if we gave up our rights, were we to ask those nations to give up theirs? One great use of the large force we had there was to keep a check on our own population. He believed the best course we could adopt was to adhere faithfully to the treaty, practice all forbearance and moderation towards the people; but while exercising a spirit of kindness towards the people, to hold the Government strictly to the fulfilment of their obligations. (Hear, hear.)

The Earl of CARNARVON observed that a great part of the speeches of the noble earl and the noble duke had been directed to the disinterring of the old question of Kagosima, into which his noble friend had not entered. He quite admitted the very great difficulties of the treaty with Japan. The class of traders that had grown up there of late years were very different from those that formerly existed on those coasts. In former years the traders there were for the most part large firms—houses of immense wealth and responsibility—but now the traders on those coasts were in many cases of small calibre, sometimes reckless in character, and lived there solely by the prospect of enormous profits. These were the men who went inland in defiance of treaty obligations, and established houses for the purpose of contraband and illicit trade. The noble earl said he lamented these outrages; but what were we to do? how were we to prevent them? The papers on China showed that the consuls themselves, those who were placed there for the purpose of exercising judicial authority and maintaining fair dealing between man and man, often acted far more like partisans than judges. His noble friend would place greater authority in the hands of the consuls or some local authority. The system which had prevailed in China was extending itself to Japan, and to a great extent it had its origin in what he might call ex-territoriality. He must express his complete concurrence in everything that fell from his noble friend on that subject. The system was mischievous to all concerned. It sapped and undermined the native authority, and did not establish a complete or satisfactory jurisdiction in its stead. Its direct result was the extension of political still more of territorial right, and every morsel of ground annexed involved a fresh body of troops. They were drawing on their resources as regards men; and when they calculated their army in India, in the colonies, and in England, he must say he would be a bold man that would say those resources were unlimited and inexhaustible. While acknowledging all the difficulties and abuses that existed in China, and which, indeed, could not be denied, they seemed deliberately involving themselves in precisely the same difficulties in Japan. The state of things was almost identical in the two countries, with this exception that while in China they had to deal with a nerveless, weak, tame-spirited people, they had in Japan to deal with a military, warlike, and vigorous race, second probably to none in the East except the Sikhs. There was also the same condition of things, the same lawlessness, the same powerlessness of the consuls to restrain outrage, the same difficulty with regard to export and import duties, the same aversion on the part of the natives to receive us, the same determination on our part to force ourselves upon them, by means of treaties extorted from them which they accepted for the moment, but with the distinct determination to violate their engagements when the first opportunity offered. He remembered reading in one of Sir F. Bruce's despatches a statement to this effect, that "the conclusion of a treaty with an Oriental nation was not the termination, but really the beginning of the difficulties with which they had to deal," and that was the precise truth. They had found this in China, and would find it in Japan; and Sir F. Bruce went on to say that "even measures of a beneficial and progressive character, extorted by force against the will of the population in such countries, were of little avail." Well, the noble lord said matters after all were improved. Kagosima had been burned down, and the noble lord seemed to make rather merry over it. (A laugh.) It was true that Kagosima had been burnt down, and that for the moment there was peace, but he defied any one who had read the papers upon this subject to say that it was more than a temporary breathing space. All through the correspondence matters went from bad to worse, fresh murders and fresh acts of incendiarism were committed, the very legation was in a state of siege with stockades, guards, and camp fires lighted at night; in fact, the state of things was something between peace and war. The noble earl did him the honour to allude to some observations which he made last year, and said that he spoke as might have been expected from a member of the Opposition. Now, much as he valued party Government, he regarded this question of Japan as much too grave a one to be treated as a party matter. It was one of the most serious questions that could engage the attention of Parliament, and he thought it unfortunate that the country was not thoroughly alive to its importance. The noble lord complained of his having said that the Government were putting a pressure upon the Tycoon, who was their friend. It was true that he did say that, and he maintained that that was the real state of the case. The only person whom the Government were touching was the only one in the State who was favourable, and who they acknowledged had, so far as he could, dealt fairly with them. He was at variance with a great many of the Daimios who were continually attempting to subvert his authority, and thus the Government, by the course which they were taking, were playing the game of their enemies. It was perfectly clear that a great constitutional revolution was going on in Japan. About two centuries and a half ago the consitution was altered. Since that time the power of the Mikado had been in abeyance, the power of the great Diamios had been neutralized by their factions, and consequently the power of the Tycoon had been supreme. Now, for the first time, there was a change. The Mikado, who was a young and ambitious man, was recovering some of his former power; of the Daimios some were making common cause with him, and others were bitterly and vehemently opposing the Tycoon, who, on account of the favour which he had shown to foreigners, had become probably the most unpopular man in Japan. From all these causes we were, by interfering, as we had done, in danger of pulling down about our ears the whole fabric of the existing Government in Japan, which, bad or good, was at least a Government, and of having to undertake the responsibility of governing the country ourselves. That was a danger from which the Government had escaped in China owing to circumstances which they could not have anticipated, and for which they have not themselves to thank. (Hear, hear.) He agreed substantially with everything which had fallen from the noble earl and with all his resolutions. The only one about which he entertained any doubt was the last but one, which proposed that our Government should enter into friendly communication with the Government of Japan and other Powers for the purpose of revising the treaty. If he thought that that resolution was intended to compel the Government to take instantaneous action he could not support it, but as he believed that that was not its meaning he had no hesitation in accepting it according to the spirit rather than the letter, and agreeing to it as well as to the others. (Hear, hear.)

Earl GREY, in replying, was understood to say that his noble friend had rightly interpreted the meaning of his 11th resolution. Throughout the discussion the members of the Government had not contested these two facts—that the treaty being reciprocal, we were bound to enforce good conduct on the part of our own subjects in Japan, and that we had utterly failed to do so. (Earl Russell made a gesture of dissent.) That was established both by the statement of Sir R. Alcock and by the despatches of the noble earl himself. The noble duke charged him with inconsistency because he asked that as the treaty could not be enforced it should be revised. There was nothing inconsistent in his proposal. There were parts of the treaty which neither the Japanese nor ourselves could enforce, and therefore, he proposed that they should be modified. (Hear, hear.) The noble earl had complained that he had suggested nothing for the future, but in another part of his speech he said that he had suggested too much

The House then divided. The numbers were,—

Contents	11
Non contents	30
Majority against the motion	—19

The report of the County Constabulary Superannuation Bill was agreed to.

The Public and Refreshment House (Metropolis, &c.) Bill was read a second time.

The House adjourned at 5 minutes to 9 o'clock.

THE DEBATE ON JAPAN.

(*The Times.*)

Lord Grey proposed in the House of Lords yesterday a series of Resolutions on Japan which rather expressed a sentiment than indicated any definite policy. Nothing can invite sympathy more than the zeal with which feeling and conscientious men attempt the defence of those half-civilized races with which the adventurous spirit of commerce brings the Englishman into contact. The tale is always the same. On the one side are pride of race, the insolence of power, the contempt which strong and active natures feel for the more inert Asiatic, the recklessness of giving offence, which is due partly to an insular inability to comprehend the manners and the habits of thought of a strange race. On the other hand, there is a cherished antipathy ill concealed by the fair words which fear or self-interest dictates, there are the ever-recurring acts of revenge, the whispering and plotting which are always being directed against the intruders from beyond the seas, with the occasional outbreak of massacre or insurrection. We fear that the tendency to this mutual antagonism has not decreased. In these days more than ever the Englishman, when brought in contact with the feeble stationary races of the world, is likely to wrong and be wronged. In India and in China, however just the official class may be in their dealings with the native, there is reason to believe that the bodies of fortune-seekers whom trade attracts to the Far East are not likely to raise our character for courtesy and moderation. In Japan we see the beginning of what has attained a large development elsewhere. An island empire, which but a few years ago was able to avoid almost all communication with the world, has been surprised into mercantile intercourse. In an interval of the Chinese War a British Plenipotentiary appeared off the Japanese coasts, and demanded to negotiate with the inhospitable Government. The walls of Japanese exclusiveness fell at his summons. All that he asked—far more than he could have expected—was granted with a readiness which appeared in strong contrast with the world-renowned jealousy of the people. The trade, which had been hitherto confined to one port and one nation, was now thrown open with a liberality so complete as to be almost suspicious. Let us assume that the Tycoon and his grandees were suddenly converted to a belief in the benefits of foreign trade, and that the warlike deeds of the British fleet in the China seas had nothing to do with the concessions which were made to Lord Elgin. But even in this case there were not wanting reasons for the watchfulness of our philanthropists at home. Every account described the Japanese as an amiable and simple people, far advanced in certain arts, and possessed of a kind of civilisation which it was quite natural for them to desire to preserve. They were courteous to their visitors, full of curiosity, but inoffensive in their demeanour, though their Government and their feudal institutions might be expected to create in certain classes of them a disinclination to submit to any such slights as too often fall to the lot of Asiatics in their intercourse with Europeans. In short, there was a not unnatural feeling among sober people at home that our officers and traders had to deal with a very strange but, on the whole, an estimable nation, and that there was great danger lest they might abuse their position.

One unhappy event has come to strengthen these suspicions, and was, no doubt, the principal motive of the speech and Resolutions of yesterday. Our Consular system was established in Japan, our conventions were made, commerce began, and prospered fairly; any fears that the Japanese might have had at first were passing away; they had begun to recognise, as their Chinese relatives had long recognised, the value of European customers; our countrymen were, on the whole, behaving well, and all was going on smoothly, when the unfortunate affair occurred which led to the murder of Mr. Richardson. In this matter we cannot, with all our wish to respect the prejudices of the natives and to restrain Englishmen from outraging them, believe that there was any serious blame due to Mr. Richardson and his party. "A party of English, one of them a lady, were riding upon a road upon which British subjects were able to pass on foot or on horseback when they pleased. Being there when one of the grea

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Daimios passed, they stood on one side of the road, where one of them was murdered, the lady and the others being attacked, and escaping, with many bruises and wounds, to Yokohama." This is Lord Russell's account of the affair, and this unhappy incident, the cause of the attack on Kagosima, and of whatever ill-will may have arisen between English and Japanese of late, was entirely the fault of a proud noble and his lawless retainers. Of the affair of Kagosima itself we need not speak here. The burning of the town was a misfortune, and nothing but the actual necessity of securing the persons of our countrymen from violence in a strange land could justify a proceeding which necessarily confounded the innocent with the guilty. We are happy, however to believe that this has been but an unfortunate episode in the relations of the two nations, and that, whatever may be the tendency to quarrel, arising from English recklessness on the one hand and Japanese prejudice on the other, there is no reason for saying that the work of Lord Elgin has proved a failure.

Lord Grey complains—perhaps with justice—of the noisy behaviour o certain Englishmen in the seaports. He goes back to a despatch of Sir Rutherford Alcock, dated nearly five years ago, in which that gentleman describes the drunken sailors who went on shore day after day offering violence to the Japanese. Now, though this is an outrage which is perpetrated probably every day at Wapping, we have no desire to deny its heinousness. Nor can we justify that "showing contempt for the predudices of the natives" with which Lord Grey charges "our diplomatic agents," their offence being that notwithstanding a prohibition against firing off arms within a certain distance of the Tycoon's palace, some members of the body had gone to shoot within the prescribed limit." But it is rather too much to make these things the ground for demanding that the very necessary stipulation of the treary which places Englishmen in Japan under the jurisdiction of their own authorities should be given up. To rescind this part of the treaty and to give the Japanese the right of dealing as they please with drunken sailors and sporting Attachés, or with English travellers who, belonging to the base order of "merchants,"—a class of people, it seems, looked down upon in Japan—venture to pass a Daimio on the road, would, according to Lord Grey, be a judicious policy. We think there will be few found to agree with him that the lives of Englishmen can be safely trusted in the hands of a people who, whatever their good qualities, are as yet only half civilised, and are ruled by an aristocracy full of the fiercest prejudices. Lord Grey speaks as if such agreements as to jurisdiction were unheard of; but he must know that the practice of considering the native of one country as subject to the jurisdiction of another, so long as he is upon its soil, is confined to Christendom, and that even the great Empire of Turkey has for centuries maintained "capitulations" with the chief European Powers. We have our own courts in the dominions of the Sultan and of his vassals, and it was certainly no invasion of another nation's rights that we asked the same privilege in the newly-entered monarchy of Japan. It is not by reserving the right to try our own offenders, but by omitting to fulfil the correlative duty, and failing to punish them when they are guilty of an outrage, that the true injury will be done to the people of Japan. If Her Majesty's Government make it known to the Consular authorities that all breaches of good faith with the natives, all insolent violations of their usages, must be severely visited, we have no doubt that any misconduct of which the Tycoon or his subjects have to complain will before long cease.

There is, however, one part of Lord Grey's speech which deserves serious attention—that in which he condemns the alleged tendency of officials on the spot to resort to hostile operations against the people among whom they live without the previous assent of the home Government. Though, no doubt, it is necessary that the authorities in these distant regions should have a discretion, and not be forced to wait for leave to act until the time for action is over, yet it cannot be denied that the country is always in danger of finding itself involved in war by some hot-tempered General or Admiral, Governor or Consul, and that to inculcate habits of forbearance on this important class should be a duty never forgotten by the Government at home. If we exercise so much forbearance and labour so anxiously to keep the peace of Europe merely to find ourselves provided with ready-made wars by officials on the other side of the globe, surely our self-dènial has been in vain. But this is an object which must be attained more by the good sense of the authorities both here and abroad than by any legal limitation of their power. No one will fail to agree with Lord Grey's views as to the great calamity of a war with Japan, but it will be better avoided by informing those on the spot that they must reform their habits and restrain their passions than by absolutely forbidding an Admiral to give them protection. With good sense and good manners, the treaty as it stands will, we believe, work very well; with an insolent behaviour to the natives, no mere formal agreement, however favourable to Japan, could long keep the peace between the two nations.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

ALLAN—On the 7th May, at Penang, the wife of John Allan, Esq., of twins—a son and daughter.
JARVIE—On the 1st July, at 13, Park Circus, Glasgow, the wife of John Jarvie, Esq., of a son.
MONTEIRO—On the 19th May, at Shanghai, the wife of J. X. Monteiro, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

ALLAN—On the 21st May, at Claremont House, Penang, Harriett Scott, wife of John Allan, Esq.
BRADFORD—On the 23rd March, at Hakodadi, Japan, Emma Louise, daughter of Mr. Loren J. and Mrs. H. A. Bradford, aged three months and one week.
BRYAN—On the 14th May, at Shanghai, H. P. Bryan, aged 27 years.
CUBBINS—At Shanghai, Wm. Cubbins, pilot.
DO ROZARIO—On the 10th May, at Shanghai, Cypriano, the infant son of C. Do Rozario.
FAYLOR—On the 12th May, at Shanghai, Mrs Faylor.
ROBINSON—On the 8th May, at Honque, Elisha Wood Robinson, pilot, aged 46.

BAR SILVER.—The *Daily News* has the following:—"There is still an almost entire absence of demand for silver for the East, and the market is vere flat, at 5s. 1½d. per oz. for bars. Some of the mercantile letters from India state that the enormous supplies of silver which have been despatched from Europe for some years past are believed to have been to a large extent hoarded by the natives all over the country, partly from a want of confidence in the stability of the Government. This distrustful feeling, however, seems to be gradually disappearing, and their material position has been greatly improved by the European demand for cotton."

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Jun.23	Texel	Tjilatjap	Zwanstroom	Schaap.
— 23	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Argo	Ankringa.
—	New York	Manila	Surprise	
— 27	Queenstown	Rangoon	Ottoni	Balke.
— 26	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Vanguard	Coote.
— 25	Texel	Cheribon	Wilhelmina & Elise	Pribee.
— 25	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Eersteling	Bagchus.
— 24	Antwerp	Akyab	Anne Christina	Tonnesen.
May21	Callao	Macao	St. Vincent de Paulo	Perez.
Jun.29	Liverpool	Shanghai	George Ruxton	Brodie.
— 29	Do.	Manila	J.A.U.	Soltard.
— 29	Off Plymouth	Kanagawa	Macedon	Summerfield.
— 27	Helvoet	Padang	Karel August	Meermans.
— 30	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Nancy Bryson	Thorn.
—	New York	Shanghai	Lord Colingwood	
—	Do.	Do.	Lettice Catherine	
— 15	Do.	Canton	Resolute	McGilvery.
— 17	Do.	Fow-chow-Foo	Doretto	Schumacher.
—	Do.	Shanghai	Alt Mecklenburg	
— 28	Hamburg	Singapore	Helene	Boysen.
— 29	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Lammina Elizabeth	Pot.
— 28	Palais B L.	Akyab	Tamatave	Bernard.
— 20	Boston	Singapore	Pearl	Sparrow.
July 2	Liverpool	Shanghai	Bentinck	Thomas.
Jun.29	Texel	Banjoewangie	Sirias	v. Rees.
— 26	Sandham	Batavia	Emilie	Lindstrom.
July 6	London	Yokohama	Cissy	
— 4	St Nazaire	Manila	L.B.	
— 4	Bordeaux	Saigon	Malabar	

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Jun.27	London	Sund'land & Shangha	Empress Eugenie	Collins.
— 28	Do.	Hong Kong & Canton	Auk-Wan	Wawn.
— 24	Swansea	Hong Kong	Isabel	
— 24	Sunderland	Singapore	Diamant	Krause.
— 29	Glasgow	Batavia & Sourabaya	County of Lanark	Battersby.
— 29	Liverpool	Shanghai	Twilight	M'Callum.
— 23	Sunderland	Singapore	Achilles	
— 27	Cardiff	Shanghai	Kin-Sin (str.)	Bramwell.
July 1	London	Do.	Sir Harry Parkes	Chapman.
— 2	Liverpool	Cardiff & Hong Kong	Virginia	
Jun.30	Caroiff	Shanghai	Dolphin	Arthur.
July 5	Liverpool	Do.	Queensberry	Binnie.
— 2	Sunderland	Singapore	Eastern Queen	Milburne.
— 6	Liverpool	Do.	Tanee	Pattie.
— 4	Cardiff	Singapore	Insulaneren	
— 4	Do.	Do.	Ocean Bride	
— 2	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Virginia	

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa: Cymbeline, Macedon. For Kanagawa and Nagasaki: Julia, Seringapatam. For Nagasaki: Swanley. For Shanghai: Antipodes, Egmont, Alexandrina. For Hong Kong and Canton: Annie Archbell, Oithona, Arab Steed. For Manila: Angela. For Singapore: Early Dawn, Alexandra. For Penang: Mangerton.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Alice, Queensberry, Bella. For Hong Kong: Prince Arthur. For Singapore: Wm. Dixon, Mount Vernon. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Oceaan. For Manila: Iberica.

At GLASGOW.—For the Cape, Singapore, and Hong Kong: Glengyle (str.). For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: County of Renfrew. For Singapore: Kate Carnie. For Shanghai: Gossamer.

SPOKEN.

MARGARET LUTHER (?), Newport to Hg. K., Apl. 12, in the S. of Sunda.
BRISTOW, Hong Kong to Liverpool, April 20, in the Straits of Sunda.
GLENCAIRN, Shanghai to London, April 23, 2 N., 107 E.
BERWICKSHIRE, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Apl. 25, in the Gasper Straits.
ANN FEARLESS, Manilla to Quesnstown, May 1, 9 N., 110 E.
WHITE ADDER, London to Shanghai, May 3, 11 N., 113 E.
AMSTERDAM, Batavia to Amsterdam, May 3, 24 N., 30 W.
ROMOLINO (barque), for Hong Kong, Feb. 20, 24 S., 32 W.
NEDERLAND EN ORANJE, Amsterdam to Batavia, May 3, 25 S., 30 W.
SCOTLAND, Penang to London, April 24, 29 S., 42 E.
ADAGE BREAI (?), Shanghai to Liverpool, June 5, 14 N., 32 W.
VICTORIA (barque), of Dundee, for Singapore, May 28, 12 S., 32 W.
A MECKLENBURG SHIP, Shanghai to New York, June 15, lat. 35, lon. 73.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

(Exclusive of this day's advices.)

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Cissy, Millbrook, Meppel, Witness, Alexander, Ann Adamson, Abbotsford, and Anglo Indian At LIVERPOOL: Marion, Forerunner, and Vampyre. At NEW YORK: Benefactor and Osborne.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Ethel, Monarch, Belle, Ben Voirlich, St. Rajah, Neville, Netherby, Sarah Ralston, M. M. Peter, Wm. Thompson, Samuel, Sea Witch, Spirit of the North, Daybreak, Black Watch, Queen's Own, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Thomas and Rebecca, Magnus, Josephine, Glaramara, Sappho, Charles

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Davenport, Bahia, and Osborne House. At LIVERPOOL: Fort William, Advance, Simoda, Berwickshire, Joshua Bates, Wm. Dawson, Cornelia, Inamhore, Aunt Lizzie, Express, Isabella Hercus, Mayflower, Thomas Royden, Regina, Victory, Bertie, Helena, Glengairn, Bristow, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Bentinck, Macassar, Berdinkha, Vanguard, and Ann Forster. At FALMOUTH: Divina and Panama. At BORDEAUX: Johanna. At HAMBURG: Alt Mecklenburg, and Gravina. At NEW YORK: Eva, Dorchester, Volunteer, Egean, Hermann, Regnago, Haversham, Canton, Mecklenburg, St. Paul, Sophia, Mercara, and Luson.

From MANILA.—At FALMOUTH: Maggie Lauder, Canaan. At LIVERPOOL: Aureliana, Teide, Burdoes y Habana No. 1, Concepcion, Bella, Trafalgar, Gallega, Lyolla and Cervantes (via Cadiz). At COWES: John Banfield. At CORK (for orders): Victoria Cross. At ST. THOMAS (for orders): Whirlwind. At ROTTERDAM: Zanibar. At NEW YORK: Willy, Solo, Argonaut, Ocean Eagle, and Morning Star.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Eliza Thornton, Oscar, Confiance, Eena, Courante, Najade, Athelstan, and Dunkeld. At LIVERPOOL: Bella Gallega, C. Chisholm, and Victory. At BORDEAUX: Salares and Java. At NANTES: Suez. At NEW YORK: Caroline, Rudolf, Harzburg, and Reynard. At BOSTON: Ceylon, Aristides, and Alexander.

From BATAVIA.—At LONDON: West. At FALMOUTH: Fredrika.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Devonvale. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

But little has been done in chartering for coals to the East, as ships do not offer readily at existing quotations. In berth freights there is little or nothing stirring. According to advices received from the East by last mail, homeward freights were rather duller, except from Java and Manila, where tonnage is scarce and rates well maintained. On this side, however, there are charters in the market from the rice ports, Maulmain and Java, at good figures.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £37, and £1. 18s. For Shanghai: £47 and £2. 9s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £28 and £1. 5s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

The Admiralty have ordered the Oithona to be surveyed for the conveyance of 444 hhds. porter and a few combustibles, from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

PERNAMBUCO, June 15.—The Rocket (American barque), Freeman, from Boston to Batavia, came to anchor in the roadstead June 11; master sick.

According to advices received at Amsterdam July 2, the Pauline Constance Eleonore, v. Haften, from thence to Japan, which had put into Manila with damage, had been condemned at that port and sold.

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Lucknow (sweet), do.	1s. 6d. and 3s
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Tap, do.	1s. 6d.
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Essence of Chillies	1s. 9d.
Tamarind Fish	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Balachow	1s. 6d.
Genuine Cayenne	1s. and 2s.
Nepaul Pepper	1s. and 2s.
Guava Jelly	2s 6d. and 5s.
Preserved Mangoes	2 jars 5s. 1
Do. Jamaica Ginger	jars 3s. 6d.
Do. Chinese Ginger	...jars 5s. and 10s.

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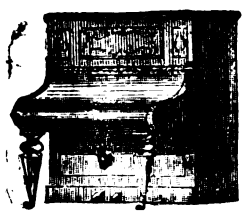

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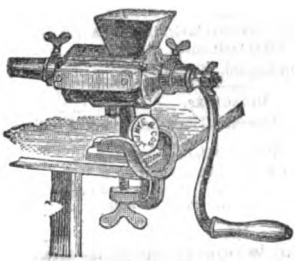

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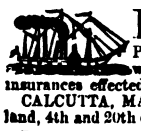

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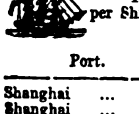

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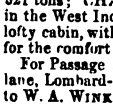

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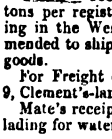

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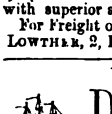

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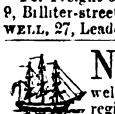

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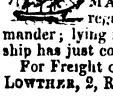

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Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 143.] LONDON, THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Kanagawa			May 15
Nagasaki			„ 7
Hakodadi			
CHINA—			
Peking			„ 5
Tien-tsin			„ 7
Hankow			„ 12
Shanghai	March 26	May 12	„ 22
Foo-Chow-Foo			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	April 11	„ 29	„ 30
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	„ 10	April 27	„ 6
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Touron			
Saigon			June 1
SIAM—			
Bankok			May 10
BORNEO—			
Labuan			„ 15
Sarawak			„ 18
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 31
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	April 26	May 30	June 8
Penang	„ 26	„ 28	May 23

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per Euxine, arrived July 12.—From Hong Kong: Mr. Wright, Dr. Heard, Commander D. O. de la Hoy and European male servant, Gen. E. P. de la Fanosa and European male servant, Capt. O. L. Lopez y Garcia and European male servant, Mr. John Flynn. From Shanghai: Messrs. H. Dickenson and J. Maltby. From Penang: Mr. J. Lamb.

To Southampton, per Poonah, expected to arrive July 18.—From Hong Kong: Mr. Lockhart, Capt. Kroll, Messrs. Dunlop and W. Pincomb. From Singapore: Mr. D. Coutts. To Gibraltar.—From Hong Kong: Capt. de la Rosa and two children, Mr. and Mrs. D'Almeida and infant, Mr. Correio, Mr. Ferreira, Mr. Segueira.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Baroda, July 4, from Southampton.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. Turner. To Calcutta: Mr. Warner, Miss M'Lean, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard, Mrs. Patterson and child, Messrs. J. A. Briggs, J. C. Douglas, S. W. Gerrard, E. Townsend, J. W. Scott, A. S. Hinds, J. J. Dooley, J. M'Kelvey, G. J. Leeson, A. H. Curling, Brookes, and C. Abbott. To Madras: Messrs. J. H. Goldie and R. Wight, Mrs. R. Murphy and infant, Mr. W. F. Hudleston. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Milbank, Miss E. Monsell. To Alexandria: Mr. Scott. To Suez: Comr. T. Stackhouse.

From Marseilles, July 13.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. Hastings, J. Russell, and D. A. Crombie. To Calcutta: Messrs. A. R. Pollock and Phear, Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Fergusson. To Madras: Mr. Smith. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Mr. C. Tatham. To Alexandria: Mr. A. D. Evans. From Suez.—To Madras: Mr. A. C. Vertue.

Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, July 20, from Southampton.—To Penang: Mrs. Smith, two Misses Smith. To Hong Kong: Lt. T. M. Magnay, R.N. From Marseilles, July 28.—To Shanghai: Mr. C. Ziegler.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, August 4, from Southampton.—To Singapore: Mr. C. Wood. From Marseilles, August 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. D. Crawford, Mr. Maurice Brussel.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, August 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Adams, Miss. Brown. From Marseilles, August 28.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. A. Taylor.

Per Antipodes.—To Shanghai: Mrs. Robinson, child, and servant, Dr. Wells, Messrs. Johnson, Bennett, Davis, Warrick.

Per Pak-Wan.—To Hong Kong: Rev. Mr. McGregor and wife, Misses Suss, Mr. Jarvis, Mrs. Godby.

The last issue of the *London and China Telegraph* was published, on the arrival of the French mail, on the 7th inst.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Our dates hence are to the 15th May. We find nothing in them to confirm the statement received, through Mr. Reuter, which appeared in the London morning papers of the 7th inst., under date "Shanghai, May 23," that "the expedition to re-open the Straits of Shimonoseki has sailed." The operation in question would appear to be in contemplation, but cannot, we conceive, have taken place at the date named. The *Commercial News* of the 11th May states:—"It is generally reported that, on the arrival of the *Conqueror* from Hong Kong with troops, Admiral Kuper will proceed to open the Suwo-n-ada or Inland Sea to foreign commerce, and that Sir Rutherford Alcock, Minister Plenipotentiary, will accompany the gallant admiral for diplomatic purposes."

It will be recollected that the Dutch have a score to settle with the Daimio who insists on keeping that passage closed, for firing into one of their ships of war. The journal just quoted says also:—"We learn that H.N. Majesty's steamers *Medusa* and *Djambi* are to leave Nagasaki for Yokohama on this date, and may be expected towards the close of this or the commencement of next week. Several other of H.N.M.'s vessels of war may be looked for from Batavia some time next month."

The *Japan Herald* of the 14th May, however, repeats a paragraph, from one of its former numbers, to the following effect:—

We are informed that it has been stated in the *Japan Commercial News* that Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B., H.B.M.'s Minister Plenipotentiary, is about to proceed with the British fleet into the Inland Sea. We are by no means prepared to state that this is not true, but we have no hesitation in asserting our conviction that there is no authority for the statement. Sir R. Alcock is certainly not the man likely to let any important plans of such a character ooze out through a local print. Even if we had any information tending to such an idea, we should have thought it highly injudicious to place it in print without distinct authority to do so.

The same warlike rumour, accompanied by the assertion that Sir Rutherford "had determined to hoist his flag at the Legation in Yedo on the 16th May," comes to us from Hong Kong, but our Yokohama advices are of an entirely different spirit. It has been long known that the Dutch were resolved to punish the offending Daimio for the outrage referred to above, and it will be seen that they are assembling a powerful force in Japanese waters, which it may be supposed can be intended only for that purpose. There is every reason to discredit the idea that England is about to undertake any operation of an hostile tendency. Everything is at present quiet. The latest Market Report speaks of "a general revival of business, in both the import and export branches of trade." Indeed, to avert any encounter with the foreigner, the Tycoon and some of the most powerful Daimios are determined, if we may believe the *Japan Herald*, to punish the guilty party themselves. That authority says:—"We hear from our own Japanese correspondent that the affairs of Thioshiu, related to have been happily adjusted last month, seem not yet settled. There are reports of the Emperor's calling him to justice. Consequently the Government have sent Ongasawara Ukio-no-Taya with a message to him to that effect. The princes of the several provinces are daily calling out forces for this purpose. I-i-kamon-no-kami is to command the first detachment. Satsuma is to be the great commander, and will follow after him. The Kiushiu Daimios are to protect their own provinces. Kanga-Chiunga-ngou is to protect the eight provinces belonging to Yedo. The Government is to protect Miako, with the additional help of Owari and Kiuchiu."

Mons. de Bellecourt, the Minister from France, left Yokohama on the 6th May per H.I.M. steamer *Tancrede*. He arrived in Japan in September, 1859, as Consul-General, and was promoted in June, 1860, to the dignity of Consul-General and

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Chargé d'Affaires. In September, 1861, he assumed the post of Minister Plenipotentaire, Chargé du Consulat-General. His successor is H. E. Mons. Leon Roches, who arrived on the 27th April, per *Tancrede*.

One of Nelson's heroes has been undergoing hard treatment from the Japanese, but as he had forsworn allegiance to Britain, Her Majesty's representative cannot interfere. The American Minister, we are told, has had no less than three long interviews with Governors from Yedo, in the case of George Horton, a man of 84 years of age, whom the Japanese brought here last June, under the pretext that he boarded a Japanese whaler at the islands with a piratical intent. He was brought before the American Consul for trial, with another man from the islands. This old man, who fought under Nelson at the battle of the Nile, and in other engagements, and who had been left at the islands by Commodore Perry in 1854 or 1855, on account of ill-health, was brought into court with his hands tied behind him with ropes, and there being not a shadow of evidence against him, with the consent of the captain of the Japanese vessel, and other officers who accompanied him, he was at once set at liberty. The American Minister very properly demanded that the Government should restore him to his property and home at the Bonin Islands. This they utterly refused to do, and subsequently among other claims presented by the Minister against the Japanese Government, he demanded that they should pay Mr. Horton $2,000 for his houses and lands at the islands. Three times the governors, or members of the Gorojio, have been here to meet the American Minister on this subject, after at first having refused to entertain the question of indemnifying the decrepid man, who is thrown upon the United States' Government after being robbed of his property when more than fourscore years old. The old man was brought before the members of the Gorojio on one occasion, that they might have ocular demonstration of the falsity of the charge under which he was brought away from the islands, without so much as being allowed to get his clothes, or anything else that belonged to him. His manifest infirmity would demonstrate this, were there not an entire absence of all testimony in proof of the charge. But after all these interviews and discussions the Government has, up to the present time, persisted in refusing to do this simple act of justice. The United States Government insists upon the demand being paid, and we are glad to know that not a jot of it will be abated, and, if need be, the requisite means to enforce it, with all other demands, will be forthcoming.

By the arrival on the 3rd May of the American barque *Abigail*, Capt. Nye, from the Bonin Islands, intelligence was received that the *Lady Leigh*, Capt. Shields, which left Shanghai on the 1st of August last, bound to Bonin Islands on a fishing expedition, encountered a typhoon which compelled her to run into Nagasaki for repairs. On her way thence to the islands she was found to be leaking badly, and it was necessary on her arrival at the islands, October 22nd, to heave her down in Ten Fathom Bay in order to stop the leak. While lying there it was discovered that her bilge planks had started and she was otherwise unseaworthy, and she was accordingly condemned. The islanders showed much kindness to the ship's company, freely sharing with them the limited variety of subsistence which the islands produce. Since the withdrawal of the Japanese colony last July, two English, three Portuguese, two French, and three Americans, with about forty Kanakas constitute the population.

On the 24th of December Captain Shields, against the advice of his friends, embarked in a boat left there by the Japanese, with the chief mate, the cook, two seamen, and a Chinese boy, intending to go either to China or the coast of Japan, as might be most practicable. From the severity of the weather after their departure the islanders have had much apprehension they were lost at sea, but advices have been received of their arrival at Hong Kong. The super cargo of the *Lady Leigh*, and the remainder of the crew were kindly brought to Yokohama by Capt. Nye, at the risk of loss on his cruise by the diversion of his ship from her intended course. The Japanese profess to have abandoned the islands, on account of the rumours of threatened war between Japan and the Western nations last summer. Doubtless they found this experiment at colonisation an unprofitable speculation.

The harbour and climate are well spoken of; but the soil appears to be very barren, producing little save potatoes and onions, and only a very small portion being cultivable. Turtle and venison appear to be the principal food of the residents, but though very seducing occasionally, the shipwrecked crew seem to have become heartily tired of them after a long experience. It is to be regretted that no attempt is made to describe the occupation of the islanders; but it appears clear from the above account that they can only be making a living by hunting and fishing, and cannot contemplate establishing a trade with the mainland. The life of the ten Europeans must be sadly monotonous, and resembles more nearly that led by the mutineers of the *Bounty* and their descendants, than anything which has been recorded of more recent colonial experiences. The total available area of soil for cultivation, on the island on which the *Lady Leigh* was abandoned, is estimated at fifty acres, so it is evidently totally unfitted to support a people who, like the Japanese or Chinese, live principally on rice.

JAPANESE AMUSEMENTS.

The feats appear to have been those of strength rather than of agility, and to have consisted in wielding some warlike weapon. Thus we find Kanai-yujiro, aged 21, one of Mito's retainers, handled an iron bar 6 feet long, and weighing 112½ catties, or 150 lbs. What he did with the bar the reporter does not say, but if he flourished it to any considerable extent, he may be counted as having performed no trifling feat of strength.

Yamada Gehi, of Chikungo Yanagawa, aged 39, performed the same exploit.

But hurrah for the ladies! Here comes Miss F'kui, 20 years old, beating the air with a bar of the same material and length, but weighing only 100 lbs. Next appears a servant of Hosokawa, 28 years of age, distancing his predecessors while he brandishes an iron shillelagh (shall we call it?) of the moderate weight of 266 lbs. Hosokawa seems to have a goodly number of such worthies among his retainers, for we are told that two others on the same day, aged respectively 18 and 17, handled iron bars of 150 lbs. weight, with a dexterity that elicited the Tycoon's commendation. One of Okubo Kangaino Kami's retainers, wielded a similar weapon on horseback, that weighed 175 pounds.

Kondoo Goruba, a servant of Aidzu, won applause by the manner in which he wielded a broad axe, of the same weight as the preceding.

Doctor Yamada, a retainer of Matzdaira Yamato no Kami, handled a long sword or spear, that would have served Goliath of Gath, weighing 175 pounds.

But the woman that next entered the list deserves more eclat, for she, Seki by name, aged 33 years, a servant of Satsuma, used the same weapon, weighing with its iron handle or staff, 146 pounds.

Nari Kawa Hayato, aged 58 years, a servant of Ikamon no Kami, took up a gun weighing 390 pounds, and held it in position for firing across his knee.

Cho-kai no Kami, a Minister of the Prince of Kanga, picked up a cannon ball weighing 300 pounds, as if to load a gun, and again, his daughter, 18 years of age, flourished a long spear weighing 150 pounds.

Natai Yuzo, aged 17 years, a servant of Kanga, did the same with a sword of 150 pounds weight.

Another of Kanga's servants carried off the palm for bending a bow one inch and eight tenths in thickness.

A retainer of Satsuma's, Niino-Genzaimon by name, at the goodly age of 111 years, used a war-fan weighing 50lb.

Tsrumi Kiukichi, a man of 78 years, proved that he could hit a man with a chain and ball at the distance of 108 feet.

A youth of 18, one of Hosokawa's servants, showed how he used a hoe weighing 66 pounds at his daily labour.

Mention is made of a man who blew a conch shell whose capacity was 1,665 cubic inches. While another man, one of Satsuma's retainers, displayed the powers of a voice that can be heard at the distance 2 ri or 5 miles nearly. Could Homer's Stentor beat that?

SHANGHAI.

The dates are down to the 22nd of May, only two days later than received per French mail. We find nothing to add to the details of the capture of Chang-chow, given in our last issue of the 7th inst. The latest London mail to hand was of the 26th of March.

We are glad to learn that the case of the Oriental Bank Corporation *versus* Yung-cheong, which was heard at Hankow on the 14th and 16th May, has been decided in favour of the former. It will be remembered that the action was brought by the bank to recover the sum lost through the defalcation of A-keen, the compradore at the Shanghai Bank, for whom the defendant was surety. The case was tried before J. A. Webster, Esq., H.M.'s Acting Consul, and J. Ashton and H. R. Mackenzie, Esqrs., Assessors. Judgment was delivered to the following effect:—"That the guarantee is binding on the defendants, and that they pay to plaintiffs the sum of S. taels 68,323; each party to pay their own costs." We understand that the decision has been appealed against to Sir Frederick Bruce.

The French police have again been brought into notoriety by the act of one of their body. A few days since an unoffending Chinaman was thrown from his pony in consequence of a blow administered by one of the guardians of the peace, who, to punish what was in reality his own offence, confiscated the pony, and led it away in triumph. This was an act arbitrary enough, it is true; but it was cast into the shade by the further

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confiscation of a pony whose rider alighted to render aid to a prostrate fellow-countryman. The policeman marched off with the captured ponies, but what he eventually did with them we have not discovered. The act seems to us one which might indeed be explained, were it proved to be a freak committed by a man in a state of intoxication. But policemen should not, as a rule, be either given to intoxication or to practical joking, at least while on duty; yet how we are to account for the eccentricities of the French police, unless we admit one of the above impeachments, we are at a loss to discover. We have on former occasions drawn attention to the peculiar action taken by the French policemen in cases where subjects of other Powers are concerned. The difficulties which have hitherto occurred have probably arisen from the mixed character of the force, and from the small number of competent men who Present themselves for enrolment. We may expect an altered state of things when a body of "agents de la sureté publique," whose approaching arrival is announced by the Municipal Council, shall have put in an appearance, and introduced a new and healthy element into the present system. The following letter contains a statement of the outrage to which we have referred above:—

(To the Editor of the *Daily Shipping and Commercial News.*)

Shanghai, May 18, 1864.

Sir,—While yesterday riding quietly over the bridge leading from the old north gate of the city, a French policeman came up, and struck my pony a violent blow with his baton or whip. The animal, frightened, at once took head, and bolted, throwing me to the ground and hurting me severely, so that I could not rise. The policeman seized the pony, and held it until another Chinaman on horseback came up and alighted to raise me, when the policeman seized the latter's pony also, and carried both away with him.

I beg to ask whether Chinamen are forbidden to ride, or whether there is any law which excuses an outrage because the perpetrator is vested with an undue share of power?—With respect, FENG-TZU-LAN.

(Translation.)

The following notifications have been published:—

The interest and responsibility of Mr. Frederick William Laurence in our firm ceased on 30th ultimo. Mr. Samuel Hubbard Clarke is this day admitted as partner. Mr. George Richards Laurence is authorised to sign our firm.—Bull, Purdon, and Co.

The interest and responsibility of the late William Henry Green in our firm ceased on 4th August, 1863. Mr. Edmund Henry Lavers is this day admitted a partner in our firm.—Gilman and Co.

The interest and responsibility of Mr. Robert Reid in our firm ceased on the 30th ultimo, and Mr. Ludovic Grant Dunlop was admitted a partner on the 1st instant. The partnership now consists of:—James Worthington, William Seton Brown, Ludovic Grant Dunlop.—Birley, Worthington, and Co.

The following items are from the *Friend of China*:—"The *Recorder* records the changed appearance of the British Consular Court since the return of Sir Harry Parkes to his post. Sir Harry (the Editor tells us) does all the judicial work; that is to say, he takes down all the notes, evidence, &c., arising in each suit, himself, the principal duties of the Clerk of the Court being the swearing of witnesses, numbering and docketing of cases, &c. And there is a reporters' table now, and there are lawyers' tables, the order of the day being hard work. In short (says our contemporary), the neck is broken of cleansing the Augean stables—a simile the poetry of which we have a difficulty in appreciating. No doubt there is a change in the way consular duties are performed just now, and we rejoice at seeing Sir Harry in the seat of justice in every case, his experience of bench duties being pretty extensive; but we are bound to say, in justice to Messrs. Markham and Lay, that our contemporary is not justified in using such words as "cleansing the Augean stable' in any such connection; while, from the constable to the chief, the work, far from being heavier or better performed, must now be a little lighter than it was before."

"When reporting the fall of Chang-chow-foo, we forgot to say that Tan-yang was evacuated at the same time; news of the events reaching Shanghai at the same moment. Those at Tan-yang who had reason to hope for consideration at the hands of the Imperialists, were busily engaged for many hours before they approached in shaving their heads and plaiting new tails, one great lack being black or any kind of silk for what Chinese call the *tscen*, or fag end."

"QUINSAN.—Gordon was busy at arranging a settlement of claims, and would be off on a reconnoitering expedition about Nanking at the earliest moment. The *Friend of China* earnestly hopes the Taipings may catch him on their ground out of this province—they would be fully warranted in executing him with short shrift. If they shave his head, however, and brand him "the King of the China Barbers" it will be quite enough for the London clubs."

HANKOW.

The steamer *Sea King* arrived at Hankow on 15th May ready to load with the new teas at £12.

The *Challenger* had left Shanghai for Hankow in tow of a steamer.

FOO-CHOW.

Several clippers were in port for the new teas, and we hear that, owing to competition, not more than £4 to £5 will be obtained.

HONG KONG.

The dates are down to the 30th of May. The London mail of the 11th of April, which broke down in the *Candia*, in the Red Sea, arrived on the 29th of May, with the French mail of the 17th of April.

One of the most daring and long-planned robberies which has taken place for some time past was discovered on the 16th May. At three o'clock, A.M., a light was observed in the jewellery department of the house of Douglas Lapraik, Esq., by the Chinese watchman, who at once gave the alarm. The inmates were quickly roused, when a hole in the floor was found almost wide enough for the entrance of an ordinary sized man, and through which a boy could pass with ease. On examination it was ascertained that the burglars had dug a large hole about ten feet underground, starting from the side-drain, and going under the foundation of the building. In this excavation housebreaking implements of various descriptions, with small Chinese lanterns, Chinese clothing, and ropes were discovered. A document was also found which proves the careful and professional premeditation of the burglars; it was no less than a division of the spoil which was to have been carried off between the gang of fifteen whose names were appended to the paper. There is no doubt but that this is the work of a gang thoroughly organised; and the digging—we might almost say quarrying—must have been the work of at least a fortnight. One remarkable fact connected with it is, that the police made a special inspection of the drains about three weeks before, when this one was found to be quite secure. The value of the property carried off amounts to between seven and eight hundred dollars; but when we consider the large amount of moveable valuables on the premises, it is certainly very fortunate they did not succeed in taking away a quantity of much greater value. None of the thieves have as yet been discovered; but the police are on the look-out for them, and we hope will prove successful.

THE CITY HALL PUBLIC MEETING.

The public meeting called to consider the site and other matters connected with the proposed City Hall was held in the Club House. Instead of the usual seven or eight which generally constitute a public meeting in Hong Kong, about four times that number of gentlemen were present on the occasion.

The Hon. C. W. Murray, having been called to the chair, expressed his satisfaction on behalf of the committee at the unusual number of gentlemen present, thus showing the warm interest felt in the movement. Having spoken of the great advisability and growing necessity for a City Hall in this colony, he proceeded to give a sketch of what had taken place from the first meeting in October, 1861, up to the present time. The first site, by side the cliff on which stands the house of Augustine Heard and Co., was found to be much too small, and a second application was made to Government for that on which the Harbour Master's office now stands. Both the Home and local Governments had certainly shown a commendable readiness to assist in the undertaking, and granted every facility to forward the wishes of the committee, for which they deserved the thanks of the community. At first, the committee, fearing that sufficient funds could not be raised to build a hall worthy of the colony, had thought of restricting their views in some measure; and they had agreed to be content with the necessary condition of providing accommodation for the Harbour Master's office in the building. This was objected to by many at the time, on the ground that it would both encroach upon the accommodation at the committee's disposal and destroy its entirely municipal character, which it was generally felt ought to be retained; but the committee were shut up to the conclusion, had not a great accession of funds come in just at that time, and enabled them to enlarge their borders. They now proposed, with the aid of the Government, to reconstruct that portion of the Praya between the Military and Lindsay and Co.'s wharves, which would give them space on which to build a new Har-

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bour-Master's office, apart altogether from the City Hall, and still leave space for a compound at the back of the Hall. The front would thus also be greatly improved by space being afforded for a carriage approach and a compound in front, which, having the fountain presented by Mr. Dent in the centre, would be a great improvement. The committee also proposed to provide free accommodation for the libraries of the Morrison and Royal Asiatic Societies and of the London Mission; and he (Mr. Murray) expressed a hope that this step might lead to the formation of a public library, which was a want much felt in the colony.

As to funds, they had in hand $15,500, the eight banks would make up other $4,000, which, with $500 from Mr. Campbell, made a total of $20,000 of donations. He was sorry to say that the appeal which was made was most unsuccessful, $284.50 being the whole amount received, scarcely as much as would pay the printing, had it not been done for almost nothing. The usual liberality of Mr. Robert Jardine, however, had fully made up this. On communicating with Mr. Jardine on the subject, that gentleman offered to support the undertaking to the amount of $50,000, either as a loan or as shares; and it was thought that the most simple way would be to take it in the form of shares. It was proposed to raise the remaining $30,000 in shares of $100; and it would be a standing reproach to the people of Hong Kong if, after the munificence of Mr. Jardine, they failed to do so. With regard to the shares of Mr. Jardine, the committee would also submit a resolution to the meeting that they ought to be held as preferential shares at 5 per cent. interest, or more if the receipts could afford it. The progress of the colony during the two years which the Hall would occupy in building almost insured a dividend of seven or eight per cent.; and it was but right, the committee thought, that Mr. Jardine should get the advantage in preference to all other claims. He (Mr. Murray) had been informed that the Chamber of Commerce intended to give a donation of $2,500; and there was no doubt, after the favourable aspect the project was now assuming, that more donations from home, as well as from the colony, would soon be forthcoming. As is often the case in the building of churches, our friends at home could send donations in the form of pieces of the building and fittings, and such like, which would be quite as acceptable as money. The rough estimate of the cost of building amounted to fully $80,000, so that not less than $100,000 would require to be raised.

Mr. Murray concluded by stating that as the committee, of which he was chairman had discharged their functions, they would now resign their office; but, if it was the desire of the meeting they had no objection to continue their duties in the undertaking they had so much at heart.

The following resolutions were then proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed to.

I.—Proposed by Mr. Whittall, seconded by Mr. Gibb,

"That the retiring committee be re-elected, with power to add to their number and to supply vacancies; and that they be and hereby are authorised to take all necessary measures for the completion of the undertaking."

II.—Proposed by Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Ruttunjee,

"That the committee be and hereby are authorised to use their own discretion in regard to accepting the proposal of Government for the reconstruction of a portion of the Praya, and the erection of a new Harbour Master's office apart from the City Hall, and, if satisfied of the expediency of the measure, to execute the necessary works.

III.—Proposed by Mr. Brand, seconded by Mr. How,

"That whatever funds are required in addition to the donations that have been and may further be obtained in aid of the undertaking, shall be raised by the issue of shares of one hundred dollars each, under the management and direction of the committee. The liability of shareholders to be limited to the amount of their shares."

IV.—Proposed by Mr. Maclean, seconded by Mr. Schmidt,

"That, in consideration of the important aid rendered to the undertaking by Mr. Robert Jardine, in offering to take shares to the amount of $50,000, such shares shall have a preferential claim on the receipts of the City Hall to the extent of $2,500, or five per cent. per annum; and that no dividend shall be made to the other shareholders until Mr. Jardine's claim for five per cent. on the amount of his shares be satisfied; but that, should the receipts of the institution permit of a larger dividend than five per cent. being paid on the entire amount raised in shares, Mr. Jardine shall be entitled to participate in such larger dividend."

V.—Proposed by Mr. Wieser, seconded by Mr. Booth,

"That the committee be and are hereby authorised to arrange for the plans and estimates of the intended building, and for the execution of the works on such terms as to them shall appear expedient."

VI.—Proposed by Mr. Maclellan, seconded by Dr. Kane,

"That the committee be and hereby are authorised to arrange terms with the Chamber of Commerce for the permanent accommodation of that institution in the building, and to reserve free accommodation for the libraries of the Morrison and of the Royal Asiatic Societies and of the London Mission."

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

On Her Majesty's birthday the Volunteer Artillery Company turned out to honour the occasion with a royal salute. The weather was most dismal, torrents of rain descending the whole day. Each of the six guns fired three rounds to begin with, while one round from half of the battery completed the royal salute of twenty-one. The band immediately played the National Anthem in excellent style; the commandant ordered three cheers to be given for Her Majesty, which order was duly responded to. The corps then quickly limbered up, and marched back to quarters at double-quick time.

The Dutch brig *Candati* was attacked in the Ly-e-moon by pirates, but succeeded in beating them off.

A fire broke out in Taipingshan, when six or seven thousand dollars' worth of property was destroyed; but had it not been for the promptness of Captain Quin and his officers, with the admirable working of the fire-plug, the loss might have been much heavier.

The Judge awarded the master, crew, and owners of the steamer *Chanticleer* $55,000 as salvage on the cargo of the *Cornelia*, lately stranded on the Prata Shoal; while £1,000 was given for the salvage of the vessel.

The *Government Gazette* contains the census of the colony for the year 1863. The entire population of the colony is 124,850; 1,644 of which are Europeans; 1,336 Portuguese, Indians, and mixed blood; 100 aliens, or temporary residents; leaving 121,770 Chinese. The total number of public and private buildings is 6,350, 588 of which are untenanted or unfinished. The number of every description of boats plying in the harbour and bays shows a total of 4,019, with a population on board of 16,233 men, 6,529 women, 4,901 male children, and 2,884 female children, or a total of boat population amounting to 30,537.

The Order of Council revoking the two former orders connected with the Lay-Osborn affair is also published.

A report is given of the Registrar-General's relative to the working of the new ordinance for compulsory licensing of chairs and chair-coolies. The report states that the ordinance has worked very satisfactorily, 430 chairs, and 858 chair-coolies having been registered; and the tin badge difficulty seems to have been overcome. The Registrar-General suggests a new stand might be appointed between Old Bailey-street and Union Chapel.

The Hon. Mr. H. J. Ball, and Mr. W. H. Alexander, are appointed Commissioners for compiling a new edition of the ordinances of the colony; and Mr. Walter Meredith Deane, and Mr. Henry John Heard Tripp, both of the Hong Kong Volunteers, are appointed to be extra aides-de-camp.

From the criminal returns, we learn that no less than 178 cases were tried during the year 1863. 23 persons were convicted for burglary during the year; 7 more burglary with wounding; and for robbery from the person, 33. For theft from dwelling houses 14 were convicted, while 23 were convicted for piracy. These figures, along with 24 convicted for escaping from gaol, are the principal items in the long list of 211 persons found guilty of criminal offences during the past year. It is so far satisfactory to state that the entire number of the pirates, and the greater proportion of those engaged in the robberies, appear in the column headed "penal servitude." The total number of cases brought before the Police Magistrates' Court during the year was 5,015, the chief items of which are—Assaults, 758; at large without passes, 274; breach of registration ordinance, 215; thefts, 879; vagrancy, 196; burglary, robbery, &c., 67; with 2,034 for unlawful possession of property, breach of the peace, &c.

We (*China Mail*) feel bound to draw attention to the approaching publication of Dr. Legge's third volume of the Chinese Classics. How the two first volumes have gone off we do not know, but if we might judge by their own merits they ought to have sold well. The works both of Confucius and Mencius are evidently the result of careful deliberation on the part of those two sages, and we should not consider any persons to be fully educated who had not perused both volumes. With regard to their merits, it may be questioned whether or not the learned translator is himself aware how much benefit he is conferring on the world by his arduous labours. Be that as it may, the translation of these Chinese Classics is a benefit conferred upon every man who understands the English language. If we had merely desired to puff Dr. Legge's books we might have done so long ago, but this is not our intention; the

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Chinese Classics will, we dare say, get on without any help of ours. It is impossible to peruse these works without feeling that wisdom did not die with Solomon, for every page of them contains maxims and aphorisms worthy of being written in letters of gold. It is not always that such writing can be gleaned from Asiatic sources. The Indian sages are somewhat tame in their writings, besides being altogether too superstitious; but the same cannot be asserted of the Chinese philosophers. In their works we find rules, by no means valueless, for the guidance of statesmen in every country of the globe. We also find directions for the social affairs of every position in life, whether it be the relation between father and son, husband and wife, or citizen and magistrate. To take up one of these volumes which have been translated by the learned and talented Dr. Legge, and to read it carefully through is half an education, and we cannot do better than advise everybody to obtain a copy of the works referred to.

The steamer *Annette* had returned from Nagasaki without meeting a sale.

The *Lotus*, noticed in our last as up for sale, we hear was fixed at $120,000.

The double-screw *Far East* had not arrived up to the latest date.

BORNEO.

LABUAN.

The following letter has been forwarded by Lieut. Burn, Master Attendant at Singapore, to be published for general information. The danger alluded to, not having before been reported, should be carefully marked on their charts by all shipmasters.

LABUAN, 30th April 1864.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that on the 27th inst. the steamer *South Western* struck on a small coral patch not marked on the charts, about 30 miles N. N. W. of the north end of this island, having less than one fathom water on it. The latitude by account, after a run of only four hours from Labuan, was 5 deg. 54 min. N. The longitude by observation, sights having been taken only half an hour before the ship struck, was 115 deg. 4 min. 30 sec. E. May I request you to give public notice of this danger. I have the honour, &c.,

C. C. DE CRESPIGNY, Harbour Master.

SIAM.

BANGKOK.

Sir Robert Schomburgh, for many years the British Consul at this place, returns to England by the present mail. Until a successor is appointed, Mr. Knox—who, while here eighteen months ago (says the Singapore *Daily Times*) sent home to the Foreign Office his opinion on the conduct of our local Government on the bombardment of Tringanu—will act as British Consul at Bangkok. The appointment of consul at Siam has been one of considerable importance—an importance which will increase as time goes on; it is also liberally paid, and we have no doubt but that the Imperial Government will send out a gentleman of high character and ability to fill it.

JAVA AND NETHERLANDS INDIA.

We have dates from Batavia to the 31st of May. The intelligence is of no interest.

MACASSAR.—From trustworthy reports, we learn that the *Lucky Star*, of Siam, and bound for Ningpo, was lost on the 26th of January last, about six miles off the Island of Wango-Wanga. Five Europeans, supposed to belong to the Danish ship *Jupiter*, Captain Lorenzen, lost in the Straits of Saleyer on the 23rd of January last, have been murdered by the natives of the Island of Loeking Loe, north of Saleyer.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

The dates hence are to June 8. The English mail of April 26 arrived on May 30.

Though in commercial circles a considerable amount of anxiety is felt, and many failures are taking place, the fortnight has been one decidedly indicative of advancement.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

CAMERON—On the 6th June, at Lochiel Lodge, Singapore, the wife of John Cameron, Esq., of a daughter.

CARGILL—On the 4th July, the wife of William Walter Cargill, Esq., M.P., prematurely of a daughter, stillborn.

COGHILL—On the 13th May, at Hong Kong, the wife of J. G. Sinclair Coghill, M.D., prematurely of a son, stillborn.

JARVIE—On the 1st July, at 13, Park Circus, Glasgow, the wife of John Jarvie, Esq., of a son.

MURROW—On the 15th May, at Hong Kong, the wife of Y. J. Murrow, of a daughter.

MONTEIRO—On the 19th May, at Shanghai, the wife of J. X. Monteiro, of a daughter.

SOUTHESK—On the 29th June, at 34, Moray-place, Edinburgh, the Countess of Southesk, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BUTCHER—GARDNER.—On the 9th July, at St. Mark's, Notting-hill, by the Rev. James Connell, M.A., vicar of Hammersmith, assisted by the Rev. Townly Gardner, B.A., brother of the bride, the Rev. Charles H. Butcher, M.A., Fellow of Univ. Coll., Durban, and Consular Chaplain at Shanghai, China, to Margaret, youngest daughter of the late John Lawrence Gardner, Esq., of Preston, Lancashire.

MOSS—WALL.—On the 1st July, at St. George's Church, Hanover-square, by the Rev. George Eastman, Charles, second son of John Moss, Esq., Didsbury, to Helen, second daughter of George Wall, Esq., Colombo, Ceylon.

HAFFENDEN—FOWERAKER.—On the 23rd May, at the Presbyterian Church, Singapore, by the J. Matheson, John Haffenden, jun., to Eliza Jane, eldest daughter of James Fowerakер, of Budleigh, near Exmouth, Devonshire.

SMITH—CALLAHGAN.—On the 14th May, at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. I. J. Irwin, Colonial Chaplain, Thomas M. Smith, Overseer of Water Works, to Elizabeth Bridget Callahgan.

TYERS—MORRIS.—On the 2nd July, at Christchurch, North Brixton, by the Rev. Jas. M'Connel Hussey, M.A., incumbent, William T. Tyers, Esq., of Shanghai, China, to Louisa Duce, eldest daughter of James Morris, Esq., of Mornington House, Clapham-road. No cards.

DEATHS.

ALLAN—On the 21st May, at Claremont House, Penang, Harriett Scott, wife of John Allan, Esq.

BRYAN—On the 14th May, at Shanghai, H. P. Bryan, aged 27 years.

BEFORE CHANG-CHOW-FOO.—Col. Morton, Capt. Smythe, Capt. Rhodes Lieut. Greenlaw, Lieut. Williams, and Lieut. Brown, all officers of the Quinsan force, Capt Murphy.

CASTLE—On the 15th May, at Hong Kong, found drowned, George Castle, boatswain, British ship Seawfell.

FERNANDES—On the 13th May, at Hong Kong, Louis Fernandes, Indian Usher and Process Server of the Police-court, aged 66 years.

JOHNSON—On the 6th July, at 17, Robertson-terrace, Hastings, Katherine Bulkeley, the beloved child of Francis Bulkeley Johnson, Esq., of Shanghai, China, aged one year and nine months.

M'KENZIE—On the 10th May, at Shanghai, of small-pox, Capt. M'Kenzie, late of the Hellespont.

PARSONS—On the 4th May, at Shanghai, of fever, Henry Arthur, eldest son of Henry Parsons, Esq., of Blenheim-crescent, Notting-hill, in his 18th year.

TWYNAM—On the 29th June, at Bideford, N. Devon, Francis Frederick, the infant son of Captain Twynam, late Indian Navy.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—With the termination of the season, the usual exhaustion of stock has occurred. The remark applies with peculiar force and effect to the season now about to close, for the exhaustion (with the exception of a bagatelle) both at the ports and in the producing districts is complete, whether of black or green. As for the new teas, some have arrived at Amoy and at Foochow, and business appears to be going on apace at the producing districts. The advices as to quality and price are, as usual, conflicting, but there appears no doubt about the quantity being full. Several steamers and a large number of first-class clippers are either engaged or awaiting to load with the new Congous for London, so that large supplies will go forward early. The first shipments will be contract teas, of which there are not many this season. There may be some delay in opening the market, for last year's rates cannot be given by the exporters, and as it seems their rule, in the producing districts, there should be a struggle at the ports between the dealers and the buyers.

CANTON.—Scented teas are much higher than they were at the opening of last season. The prevalence of rainy weather having injured the flower used for scenting, fine qualities are scarce. Canton Greens have been dealt in to a moderate extent at high rates; latterly buyers have become more cautious, but holders are extremely firm. The stock on the market is thus given. Tayshaans Congou 1,400 hf ch. Powchong 2,500 hf.ch. Oolong 1,200 hf.ch. Scented Orange Pekoe 6,000 boxes. Scented Caper 7,000 boxes. Canton Greens, 15,000 boxes.

FOO-CHOW.—The only settlements we hear of are:—Congou, 600 chests at taels 14 to 15½ for common to low flavory. Stock 1,700 chests. Oolong, 1,000 ½-chests at taels 8.5 for very common. The first sample of new teas was shown on the 12th instant, being three days later than last year, and to date only 3,200 chests (of which part are contracts) have arrived. It is therefore to soon too give an opinion as to the quality of the new crop.

SHANGHAI.—Black: Settlements of the fortnight, 2 chops Oonam (2,070 chests) at 16 to 18 taels, and 500 chests Japan Oolong at 23 to 29 taels. Besides which, 830 chests Congou have been transshipped on owner's account. The above rates for the Oonams display a fall of fully one tael on last quotations. The stock on the market is reduced to 2,000 chests Congou. Green: Transactions and rates are quoted slightly easier, both which effects are traceable to the same cause, namely, the poor assortment on offer, which are almost entirely of common Kewkiang packed teas. At that port there is not a chest on the market. Reports are to hand from the Pingsuey districts, which state that the price of the leaf has opened very high in consequence of the competition caused by foreign contractors. Good teas are not likely to be laid down under 44 taels.

HANKOW.—The market for new teas reported open in the Yung-low-toong and Hip-ca-see districts. The weather had been very unfavourable for tea picking, but a few lots of leaf were said to have been settled at 500 cash per catty, which would lay down finest chops in Hankow at 34 to 35 tls. or about two tls. higher than last year; the quantity bought, however, was so small the market could scarcely be said to have fairly opened, and these figures could not be taken as a criterion of what prices will be. Small musters of unprepared leaf had been shown, but as they were evidently picked samples, no opinion could be formed of the crop. Supplies were not expected to arrive before the first week in June.—Total export for the season 683 chops or 366,300 chests, against 286,391 chests last year.

KEWKIANG.—Green Teas: The market had been cleared of the stock left at the date of our last, and the supplies from the interior having been exhausted the season is closed. Exports show a falling off of 39,272 half-chests, which, including 5,300 half-chests of old teas stated in this season's export, exhibits a total deficiency in the yield of about 50,000 half-chests as compared with the previous season. Export to date 231,549 half-chests. Against season 1862-63, 270,928 half-chests. Black Teas: Advices had been received of the opening of the market for new leaf in Ningchow at 280 cash, and of the advance in two days to 320 cash per catty—equal to taels 27.5 in Kewkiang—with higher prices anticipated. At Hohow the market had not yet opened, and lower prices were expected. The rebels had been compelled to take a more southerly direc-

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tion which had enabled the pickers to return to their work. Export to date 112,437 chests. Against season 1862-63, 52,275 chests.

NAGASAKI.—Little or none offering. Samples of the new season's crops have been exhibited, and parcels are expected in the market shortly.

YOKOHAMA.—We can now report a few new season's musters offering, but we hardly believe that they represent parcels. The prices asked are very high, $30 to 32 being the general sale for teas similar to what were bought last season at $18 to 20 and 22 per picul. No business is likely to be done at these rates, and we imagine by the time that supplies of any amount are to hand the merchants will become more reasonable in their ideas.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—The business of the fortnight has amounted to about 600 bales of Tsatlees and Hainings, at prices showing no alteration on those last quoted, but as the rate of exchange has advanced, the laying down cost has been somewhat increased. The reports from the interior with respect to the coming crop are so far favourable, but there appears little doubt that the total yield will again be a very small one. The unprecedentedly low price of mulberry leaves (usually $1 to 2 per picul), now selling at 200 cash per picul, argues in favour of the Chinamen's reports of a scarcity of worms, but if we may judge of the coming crop by a small hank new Sewhing just received, it would appear that the quality and colour will be good. The dealers are again talking of high prices, especially for Taysaam sorts adapted to the requirements of the local consumption. Hank musters of Tsatlees and Taysaams are expected down before departure of next mail. From Japan 503 bales have come forward. Prices there have declined $10 to 15 per picul, and with larger arrivals the stock has increased to about 600 piculs. The transactions of the fortnight are reported at 1,300 bales, against 1,000 bales corresponding fortnight of last season, and 1,500 bales the season before. The present unsold stock is 1,500 bales, against a still smaller quantity last season, and about the same the season before. The following are the latest quotations:—Tsatlees, No. 1 chops 440 tls. per picul; No. 2, 420 tls. per picul; No. 3, 400 tls. per picul.

CANTON.—A few musters of new Canton silk came to hand shortly before the departure of this mail, and a few parcels have lately reached this, and been taken for India at prices which are considerably in advance of last season. The silk of the first crop was reported by the brokers just prior to last mail's departure as likely to be abundant, this is now generally confirmed, and the quality of the silk appears good. The 2nd crop is stated to be progressing very favourably, and the silk may be looked for in about three weeks time, when it is hoped that a more abundant supply will have the effect of causing a considerable decline in the prices now asked. The settlements reported to have been lately made by the Indian houses—the only buyers—consist of a few bales Loong-Kong at $430 per picul, and Kow-Kongs at $397, altogether some 50 piculs are said to be going forward per present steamer for India. As the extravagant rates paid for Bombay do not constitute a fair market price, quotations given are regarded as merely nominal, and are not likely to be maintained —viz.: Loong-kong, No. 1, $425 to 430; do., No. 2, $410 to 415; Kow-kong, $395 to 400; re-reeled Cumchuck, $480 to 483 (a few boxes settled for America).

YOKOHAMA.—We have no particular alteration to report in this market. A few parcels have been sold, among which are some very inferior Hatshogees, at $320 to 330. The stock, amounting to about 800 bales, is composed almost entirely of hank silk, for which there is but little demand, our prices being still too high, compared with the European markets.

DRUGS, &c.—CANTON.—Cassia Lignea: $15.50 to 16; no settlements reported; stock, 2,000 piculs, only a small portion whereof is new. Cassia Buds quoted $54½; stock, 40 piculs. Essential Oils: None on the market. China Galls: 100 piculs have been taken at $13.60, and a like quantity is still on the market, held at $13.75. Rhubarb: Still no supplies, and none fit for shipment to Europe or United States on offer. Musk: The stock consists of 25 catties of an inferior description. Galangal: No settlements; 200 pls. held at $13.50.

HONG KONG.—Since the arrival of telegraphic advices from London to 11th April, a good business has been done, both foreigners and Chinese buying in expectation of an advance. The settlements of the fortnight amount to 15,000 bags, principally Japan, which has been in full supply. In the early part of the fortnight this description was quoted $32, but has now advanced to $33.50.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—The lower numbers of Yarn show a decline in value of about $1 to $1.50 per picul, while the higher grades remain without change to notice. The sales reported during the fortnight amount to 212 bales. In Canton, where the lower grades have also declined, 150 bales have changed hands. Grey Shirtings: There is not any alteration to notice in the quotalions given for these fabrics, which remain at the prices given in last report. The business transacted during the fortnight is comprised in sales of 2,800 pieces reported to be purchased by Chinese dealers and foreign buyers in equal proportions. 1,000 pieces of 8¼ lb. fabrics have been taken in Foochow at $5.50 per piece, and from Amoy the sales advised amount to 1,100 pieces of a similar weight at $5.50 to $5.60. White Shirtings: The settlements of these goods reported in this market amount to 700 pieces, while from Amoy sales of 500 pieces 64 reed at $5.65, and from Foochow 970 pieces, 64 to 66 reed at $5.70 to 6 are advised. T-Cloths met with but very little inquiry in Hong Kong, and the settlements effected amount to only 1,650 pieces. From Foo-chow sales of 4,100 pieces are reported at prices ranging from $3.65 to 4.10 for 6lb. to 7lb. goods. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured, have not been in great request, and sales during the fortnight are limited to 500 pieces of Dyed Brocades taken at $5.25. Damasks are without sales to report. Chintzes: The sales of these goods effected in Hong Kong amount to 250 pieces sold by auction. Handkerchiefs have been placed in Hong Hong to the extent of 800 dozens, in addition to which some 1,400 dozens have been moved off by public sale.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: All these fabrics have remained without any inquiry both in this market and that of Canton during the fortnight. Long Ells: There are not any transactions to report in Long Ells since the date of last report from Hong Kong, but in Canton, where prices had declined about 20 cents per piece, sales of 1,700 pieces have been effected. Camlets remain as before quoted, with sales in Hong Kong to the extent of 240 pieces. Lastings: 60 pieces have changed hands during the fortnight. Blankets: Have found purchasers to the extent of 300 pairs, in addition to which 1,050 pairs have been moved off by auction.

METALS.—Iron Flat, &c.: The prices of almost all descriptions of Iron again show a material advance upon the quotations current on the departure of last Mail steamer, and the amount of business transacted during the fortnight both in this market and Canton has been upon a fair scale, amounting to 6,000 piculs, and 2,000 piculs for each port respectively. Lead remains at previous quotations, with sales in Hong Kong to the extent of 450 piculs. In Canton there have not been any settlements. Tin: 1,408 slabs have found buyers in this Colony. Tin-plates have declined in value both here and in Canton, with sales during the fortnight to the extent of 750 boxes. Steel: Without change to notice in quotations has been sold to the extent of 500 tubs. In Canton rates have advanced 10 to 20 cents, but there has not been any business transacted in the article.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN.—None.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: May 11, Coulnakyle; 19, Fychow; and 20, White Adder. From England: 13, Fokelin, (str.). From Cardiff: 6, Pudsey Dawson. From Clyde: 19, Taiping.

At FOOCHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From England: May 24, Yuentse-fee (str.). From Sunderland: 20, Race Horse; and 21, Emperor. From Newport: 20, Margaret Mitchell. From Hamburg: 15, Dorothea; and 20, J. H. Bockleman. From Bremen: 21, Hohenstanffen. From Boston: 21, Madelia.

At MANILA.—From Liverpool: May 6, Patriot King.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: May 24, Alice Mary; and 26, Benvenue. From Liverpool: 22, Invincible; 26, G. H. Wappans; and 29, Bolden Lawn. From Glasgow: 23, Lockleven Castle; and 24, Majestic. From Bordeaux; 30, Prophete. From Amsterdam: 21, Jan Van Brokel. From New York; 26, Constance.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—For London: 26th April, Lady Ebrington; May 5, Harwood; and 14, W. W. Smith.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: 7th May, Keepsake. For Liverpool: 10, Unrivalled; 13, Helvellyn; 18, Eliza Nicholson; and 19, Australia. For New York: 12, Anita; and 20, Gleam.

From FOOCHOW.—None.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: 20th May, Chandernagore. For Liverpool: 19, Glenlee.

From MANILA.—For London: May 17, Alavesa. For Falmouth, 15, Der West.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: 22nd May, Tartar; and 22, Princess of Wales. For Liverpool: 28, H. Puddemsey; and 31, Bombay. For Boston: 29, Magnet.

From PENANG.—For Cork: 4th June, Ceylon. For Bordeaux: 23rd May, Suphis.

LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Canton, Patrician, and Yokohama.

At HANKOW.—For London: Robert Lowe and Sea King (strs.), Challenger and Falcon.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Brockham, Guinevere, Silver Eagle, Taiping, Eliza Shaw, and Knight Templar. For Liverpool: Fanny, Daniel Jex, Cyclone, Reigate, Esk, Surrey, Warwick Castle, Peerless. For New York: Bessie Staunton.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Fiery Cross, Flying Spur, Dora, Min, Serica, Yangtsze, Robin Hood, Young Lochinvar, Childers, Holmsdale, Ziba, and Ellen Rodger. For Liverpool: Ziba.

At AMOY.—For New York: Samuel Russell.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Kelso, Banian, Glenaros, Belted Will, Thos. Blyth, and Scawfell. For Liverpool: Edward Percy. For New York: Robert and Alexander.

At MANILA.—For London: A. de Winter, Albuera, and Cambodia. For Liverpool: Alicia Annie, Barinaga, and Sales. For Falmouth: Achilles. For New York: George Peabody, Nor' Wester, and Tropic.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Dewa Gungadhur. For Liverpool: Invincible. For England: H.M.S. Ringdove. For Falmouth: Daniel Rankin. For New York: Gertrude (via Padang) and Ocean Home. For Boston (via Penang): Agnes.

At PENANG.—For London: Rothwell Castle, Salvador Packet, Zingra, Sea Wave, Ferozepore, and Bristolian.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

JAPAN.—To London: Silk £7; Tea, £5. 10s. to £6.

SHANGHAI.—Several fine clipper vessels are waiting for the new Teas, which they will take at £4. 10s. to £6 per ton of 50 cubic feet; for Liverpool the rate is £3. 5s., and to New York £4. 5s. There is a fair inquiry for the coast.

FOOCHOW.—With so large an amount of tonnage in harbour it is hardly to be expected that the rates for the new Teas will exceed £4. 10s. per ton. One or two vessels have been circulated for freight at £5 and 10s. extra for first arrival, but we do not learn of any engagements having been made.

HONG KONG AND CANTON.—The vessels in harbour are numerous, but owing to the rise in the Rice Market at the north numbers have found employment, but not at very remunerative rates. Geo. Holmes's circular gives the following:—Kelso to London at £3. 15s.; Banian and Glenaros, on the berth at Canton for London, £4. 10s.; Peerless (777 tons), to a port in Java, to Falmouth for orders to U. K. £4, if to Continent 5s. extra; Edward Percy (879), on for Liverpool at £3. 10s; Peveril of the Peak (713), Manila to Liverpool £4 for sugar and £5. 10s. hemp; Congo (435), to Bombay $3,700 in full. To Bangkok and back the rates are 40

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to 45 cents per picul, if on to North 27½ cents extra; to Ningpo and Shanghai 27½ to 35 cents.

MANILA.—The "Alicia Annie" and "Patriot King" were fixed for Liverpool shortly after departure of last mail, at £4. 15s. for Unclayed Sugarand £5. 10s. for Hemp.

The "Nor' Wester" (Amer.) loads for New York, at $15 currency, per 4 bales hemp.

SINGAPORE.—Little inquiry exists, except for the rice posts and China. The following are some of the settlements:—Mary Whitridge (972), to Hong Kong, at 35 cents per picul; Music (444), do., at 45 cents; General Nowell (1,500), to Hong Kong, at 27½, to Shanghai, 45 to 50 cents; Falcon (337), to Ningpo, 70 cents per picul; Sea Wave (316), to load at Penang for London, £3. 12s. 6d., dead weight, light freight £4. 10s.; Majestic, to load in Java (two ports) cargo of sugar to Holland, £6, 50 lay days.

PENANG TO LONDON.—£3. 15s. dead weight, light freight and measurement at £4 to £4. 5s. per ton.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—May 9, City of Quebec, from London to Shanghai; 9, Isabella, Newport to Hong Kong, Philomela, London to Hong Kong; 10, Assyrian, London to Shanghai; 12, Corea, London to Hong Kong, Ocean Spray, Newport to Hong Kong, Wavering Bell, Sunderland to Hong Kong; 14, Launceston, Cardiff to Shanghai; 15, Invincible, Liverpool to Singapore; 15, Salatiga, London to Batavia, Three Bells, Glasgow to Batavia; 17, Helene, Bordeaux to Batavia; 18, Maggie Leslie, Newcastle to Hong Kong, G. H. Wappans, Liverpool to Singapore, The Cedars, Newport to Hong Kong; 20, Sailora Home, Newport to Hong Kong; 22, Far East, London to Hong Kong; 23, Romelino, Shields to Hong Kong, Guurtie Maria, Falmouth to Batavia; 24, Great Western, Cardiff to Shanghai; 25, Winlow, Sunderland to Singapore.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—19, Daniel Draper, Boston to Hong Kong, and Nabob, New York to Hong Kong.

From CHINA &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—13, Caroline Chisholm, from Singapore to Liverpool; 14, Lauderdale, Shanghai to Liverpool; Spirit of the North, Shanghai to London; 21, Ann Adamson, Japan to London; 23, Ferris, Singapore to Liverpool, Hindostan, Singapore to London.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—8, Egean, Shanghai to New York; 9, Eva, Foo-Chow to New York.

CASUALTIES.

SINGAPORE.

The Neth. Ind. schooner Chieftain, Captain van Suchtelen, struck on a reef off the Thousand Islands, on the 15th May.—The steamer Tjiliwong went to her assistance with prows and saved the crew and cargo.

BULLION TO THE FAR EAST.

According to the Circular of Mr. F. W. Page, bullion broker, the export of specie during May was:—

	Gold.	Dollars.	Bar Silver.
China	£5,000 ..	£30,200 ..	£21,572
Straits and Java ..	—— ..	92,623 ..	16,432

The totals from 1st January being, to China, £888,911, and Straits and Java £403,171.

TREATY BETWEEEN THE VICEROY OF CAMBODIA AND THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.

AUGUST 11, 1863.

This Treaty having been duly considered and concluded between the Admiral on the part of the Emperor of the French and the Prince of Cambodia, in order that Cambodia may be in peace and prosperity [with Lower Cochin-China], and as the two nations are contiguous, the Cambodians must not be on unfriendly terms with the French. For this reason the Emperor of the French commanded the Commander-in-Chief, Vice Admiral de la Grandiere, Governor of Saigon, to consult with the Prince of Cambodia, to make it publicly known that the Emperor of the French will assist to protect Cambodia. For carrying into effect this object the Commander-in-Chief, Admiral de la Grandiere, Governor of Saigon, and the Somdetch Phra Maha Uperat, Governor of Cambodia, have concluded the following treaty:—

Art. 1. The Emperor of the French will assist to protect Cambodia.

Art. 2. The Emperor of the French will appoint a French officer as consul to reside near the Prince of Cambodia, to enforce the observance of this treaty by both nations. This French officer will be under the orders of the Commander-in-Chief at Saigon. The Prince of Cambodia will appoint a Cambodian officer to reside with the Commander-in-Chief as Consul.

Art. 3. If a French officer reside in Cambodia in the above mentioned capacity, he is to be considered as a noble of high rank, and to be respected and feared as such.

Art. 4. If any other Foreign nation desire to appoint a Consul in Cambodia, the Prince of Cambodia and his chief nobles will consult with the French Commander-in-Chief at Saigon, and if all agree, then that Foreign nation can appoint a consul. If the Prince of Cambodia and his nobles will not consent to allow any foreign nation to appoint a Consul in Cambodia, the Admiral Commander-in-Chief at Saigon will also refuse his consent. If the Prince of Cambodia and his nobles consent to the appointment of the Consul, the Admiral Commander-in-Chief will also consent.

Art. 5. If any French subjects desire to travel about for the purposes of trade, or to build houses in Cambodia, they must inform the Cambodian authorities, who will provide them with documents to enable them to do so.

Art. 6. If any Cambodian subjects go to the French territories they shall have like privileges and power.

Art. 7. If French subjects and Cambodians have disputes together they must complain to the French Consul, and if after investigation the case is not settled, the Consul and the Cambodian officers will consult together and arrange the matter justly. If Cambodians and Cambodians have disputes, the French Consul will not interfere in the matter. If French subjects have disputes among themselves the Cambodian officers will not interfere. If foreigners, natives of Europe, have disputes with the French, the French officer will settle the case. If a French subject, having committed an offence, fly to Cambodia, the Cambodian authorities will assist the French Consul to convey the defaulter to the Commander-in-Chief at Saigon for judgment. If there be no French consul or officers in Cambodia, the French Commander-in-Chief will have power to act for the Consul in arranging such matters.

Art. 8. If a French subject wish to reside in Cambodia he will register himself at the French Consulate, and the French Consul will inform the Cambodian authorities of the circumstance.

Art. 9. If a Cambodian wish to reside in French territory, and there is no impediment to his doing so, he will be registered by the Cambodian authorities themselves, or by the Cambodian officer appointed by the Prince of Cambodia to reside at Saigon.

Art. 10. If traders bring merchandise of any description from foreign ports with the exception of opium, for sale in Cambodia, and they have a pass from the Saigon authorities permitting them to come, the Cambodian Custom-house must not levy any duty, but if the traders bring opium, the Cambodian authorities can levy a duty on it.

Art. 11. All articles of commerce which traders take from Cambodia to Cochin-China, if the Cambodian Custom-house officers have already collected the duty on them, and the "Tangkau" has a pass from the Cambodian authorities, which will be countersigned by the French Consul, will be permitted to be sold in the French territory free of duty.

Art. 12. If any French subject in pursuit of science come to Cambodia, he must inform the Cambodian authorities, who will render assistance for his safe conduct.

Art. 13. If French ships or junks be plundered by pirates anywhere within the Cambodian territory at any time, and the Cambodian authorities of that place are informed of the circumstance, they will examine the matter, seize and punish the robbers according to law, and the property recovered will be restored to the owners or to the French Consul, who will deliver it over to the owners. If the robbers are not found, and no property recovered, and if the Cambodian authorities have made every search without success, the said authorities will not be held responsible. The above is also applicable to the property of French subjects in Cambodia.

Art. 14. If Cambodian ships or junks be plundered by pirates in the French dominions, the French authorities of the nearest place on being informed will search for the robbers, seize and punish them according to law, and the property recovered will be restored to the owners; if the owners be absent, to the Cambodian officers for transmission to them. If after making search for the robbers and property the French officers do not find them they are not to be held responsible. If Cambodian officers in French territory be plundered of any kind of property the above is also applicable to them, and if the French officers have done their utmost to find the robbers and property, but without success, they will not be made answerable.

Art. 15. All French bishops with authority to teach religion throughout the territories of Cambodia, the Cambodians will place no impediment to their doing so. If they wish to build churches, schools, or hospitals, they will inform the Cambodian authorities, whose consent will be necessary.

Art. 16. The Emperor of the French recognises the Prince of Cambodia as a legitimate Prince and agrees to assist him in preserving peace and friendship, and to protect Cambodia from her enemies and from the oppression of other countries. The Emperor of the French honestly will assist the Prince so as to enable him to collect duties from the traders and to enable them to proceed to sea.

Art. 17. In order that the foregoing article may be easily carried into effect the French Commander-in-Chief, Governor of Saigon, desires some land at "Charvey Chung" to build houses for coals and godowns for rice for the French vessels. The Prince of Cambodia to give the said land at "Charvey Chung," viz., from the north of the fort and stockades upwards of 15 seu (1,800 feet). If any Cambodian temple ground intervene it must be avoided, and such ground to continue to remain and belong to the said temples. If the French Commander-in-Chief desire any more land anywhere the Prince and his nobles if after consideration find a piece suitable they will grant it on the same conditions as at "Charvey Chung."

Art. 18. In order to show their gratitude for the protection afforded by the Emperor of the French for the purpose of promoting the peace and prosperity of the country, the Cambodians agree that if the French wish to cut timber in the Cambodian forests for the purpose of building the ships of the Emperor of the French they shall be permitted to do so upon informing the Cambodian authorities, who will send instructions to the Governors of the Interior to that effect. On the part of the French they agree to pay all expenses incurred. If the French buy any merchandise in Cambodia they will be permitted to do so with facility, the price of such merchandise to be arranged between the purchaser and seller.

Art. 19. This treaty being concluded, requires only the Emperor of the French's consent by placing his seal on it; three copies have been made. The Prince of Cambodia Somdetch Ong Phra Naradom has signed and sealed them, together with the French Commander-in-Chief.

Dated Udong, 11th August, 1863.

Her Majesty has issued an order, dated the 9th of July current, making further provisions to prevent the participation of British subjects in acts of war or rebellion against the authority of the Emperor of China. We shall give this in our next issue.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A REGISTER is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the FAR EAST and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, *and other parts of the* FAR EAST, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

Subscription 54s. per annum, including Postage. Export Supplement 12s. extra.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1864.

THE FRENCH TREATY WITH CAMBODIA.

IN May last we took occasion to notice a question put by Lord ENFIELD in the House of Commons to the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs relative to the treaty recently ratified by the Emperor of the FRENCH and the Prince of CAMBODIA. The purport of that enquiry was to ascertain if the current report had any foundation that the said treaty excluded other foreign nations from its benefits. Mr. LAYARD replied that the French Government had been communicated with on that point, and an evasive answer received, if such a clause was inserted it must have been by inadvertence. We then pointed out that no copy of the treaty accompanied the quasi-assurance "that no privileges were given to French subjects which were "not equally extended to the subjects of all other nations." Now at the time this subterfuge was perpetrated by the minister who holds the Foreign Portfolio, M. DROUYN DE L'HUYS, we know, from facts which have come to our knowledge since then, that a special plenipotentiary had just been sent to Siam and Cambodia with this most exclusive treaty ratified by the EMPEROR; a translation of which, *in extenso*, we produce in this issue, and which we believe is published for the first time, or its nineteen articles brought under the cognizance of Her MAJESTY'S Government and the Houses of Parliament.

On reference to this document it will be seen by Article first that "The Emperor of the FRENCH will assist to protect "Cambodia." In fact, this means that the French have assumed a protectorate over the former tributary state of Cambodia as it existed under the Cochin Chinese Government; which tribute they claim to inherit by right of conquest, so that TU-DUK, the King of Upper Cochin-China and Tonquin, no longer possesses power, according to the French interpretation of VATTEL'S "Law of Nations" bearing on treaties, but not supported by that eminent authority. However, as the reception of tribute is not in accordance with the spirit of European civilisation, the French substitute for it this convention, including special privileges and cession of territory. But then the King of SIAM is a joint receiver of tribute from Cambodia, and its present viceroy was appointed by him, consequently he demurred to the newly-assumed power of the French over that dependency. This point was easily overcome by M. AUBARET, the new *Charge d'Affaires* for Siam, who was instructed not to interfere with the rights of the Twin-kings and Government, but to recognise the payment of tribute as formerly; proposing at the same time to erect Cambodia into a distinct kingdom, and crown the present ruler, the Somdetch ONG PHRA NARADOM, king. This proposition was at once acceded to by the Siamese Government and kings, who appointed two of the principal Ministers of State, with four nobles, and a retinue of fifty retainers carrying the insignia of titles and honours, to repair to Udong, and there, in conjunction with a body of French dignitaries, to perform the ceremony of coronation with the customary eastern magnificence. These officials arrived at Saigon from Bangkok in April by the French war steamer *D'Entre Casteaux*, accompanied by M. AUBARET, and were to proceed to Udong in the same vessel with Rear-Admiral de la GRANDIERE, Governor and Commandant of French Cochin-China, and other French functionaries, when the coronation would take place on some auspicious day in May. From this it will be seen that not only is the treaty a *fait accompli* of the most exclusive character, but the French have established an indisputable protectorate over Cambodia by erecting it into a separate kingdom, and forming a defensive and offensive alliance with its king, created at their own hands. At the court of this new sovereign there is to be a French plenipotentiary, who will have the veto of excluding the representatives of any other nation; while in the capital they are to have a large tract of land ceded for the ostensible purpose of building houses and stores, but which, no doubt, will, be turned soon into a naval arsenal and military station as at Saigon. In all these concessions on the part of Siam and Cambodia no doubt their Governments are actuated by the spirit of an alliance against the common enemy, TU-DUK and the Annamese Government, who are the natural foes of both Cambodia and Siam, and who are ignored by this compact of the three Powers from ever interfering in the affairs of their former tributary prince. It is just possible that this usurpation of his authority may rankle in the mind of the proud Annamese King, and hostilities again break out against the invading French and seceding Cambodians. In that case there would in all likelihood be a union of forces, and the former gain an immense accession of strength from the latter, who are reputed as excellent raw material for disciplined troops; and a contingent of Siamese braves might be sent to protect and maintain the integrity of the new kingdom. Although, hitherto, the relations subsisting between France and Siam have not been of the most friendly character, nay, the reverse, yet it would appear that this astute act of diplomacy has cemented the two Governments in the strongest bonds of political intimacy, which promises to increase the power of the French at the Court of Bangkok beyond that of any other nation who have representatives there. At present they are in accord with each other, but how long may this last? The very circumstance which has brought them into close connection may ere long be the cause of quarrel, and the invasion of Siam by French forces. The consideration of what may result from this unholy alliance is creating uneasiness in the minds of British and other foreign residents at Bangkok; while the native authorities are desirous of having stronger and more direct diplomatic relations with England. It is in contemplation to establish a consulate of that power in this country, so that the interchange of commercial relations as well as diplomatic may be facilitated. As far as trade is concerned, England has the greatest interest of any foreign nation in the external relations of both Siam and Cambodia. For a very long period there has been an increasing traffic between Bangkok and Kampot with Singapore, Penang, and Hong Kong, not only in native craft but in ships of European build, commanded by Englishmen. Indeed, at Bangkok, English is not only spoken by the kings and officials, but the former can write very fairly in it as well as many of the latter, while French is so far unknown that in the documents interchanged with that consulate they are written in our own language. This will serve to show how intimately we are socially and politically connected with these new-born states; and it behoves our Government to make further inquiry into the nature of the convention made between the Emperor of the FRENCH, the Viceroy of CAMBODIA, and the King of SIAM.

It requires no editorial pen to point out the importance of this treaty as evincing the rapid progress of French influence in Indo-China and the neighbouring states, for this is abundantly manifest; but it is our duty to inquire how far that influence will prejudice British relations in these countries, where our commercial interests are vastly more important than those of France. Ever since the invasion and conquest of Lower Cochin-China, this journal has consistently represented the insidious progress of the French to the westward into Cambodia, and up the great river Me-kong, which penetrates to the confines of Eastern India and Western China, with a view evidently to secure by demonstrations of their naval and military strength exclusive privileges in these territories, as shown by the tenour of this Cambodian Treaty. From time to time we have pointed out the necessity of securing the right of communication through the countries which command the route from our Burmese possessions to Western China and Tonquin. In this treaty we see the first step accomplished towards that consummation being exclusively obtained by our more active neighbours. They have forestalled all other western nations in this important business, and from their success in the negotiation we may consider it the precursor of others with

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Siam, Annam, and the Laos States, that in time will extend the "French East Indies," with its protectorate over fifty millions of people, from Saigon to the confines of Burmah. Already the prospects of unlimited power in the Far East are dawning upon the Imperial mind, as will be seen in the communication of our PARIS CORRESPONDENT, wherein he states that the Ministerial journals are at present much occupied with the subject. The purport of their articles verify what we have stated, although, for obvious reasons, they are not in possession of all that has come to our knowledge, and none of them publish the terms of the Treaty. We trust that Lord ENFIELD will again put his question to the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and elicit this time a more satisfactory reply.

GIGANTIC TELEGRAPH WORKS.

We have noticed in previous issues the American projects of Mr. Collins. It appears that a Committee of the Senate has been inquiring into the matter at Washington and Mr. Secretary Seward, being called upon to state his views for a line connecting the Russian system of telegraphs with those of America, reports that throughout Mr. Collins' negotiations with the Russian and British Governments for leave to pass through their American possessions he has been acting under the instructions of the American Government, and that his application to Congress for a right of way across the public lands and the use of a national vessel is reasonable. Mr. Seward proceeds to say that the line which the Russian Government is constructing, or has undertaken to construct, from St. Petersburg to the mouth of the Amoor, is but a small part of the stupendous work which the Emperor has begun.

His Imperial Majesty's design embraces also a telegraph wire from the mouth of the Amoor, over the islands of Sakhalin and Jerro to Jeddo; also, from the Amoor, along the bank of the Usuri, to Viadi Vostok on the coast of Tartary, Viadi Vostok being selected by the Emperor for his naval station on the Pacific coast; also a wire from the Irkoutsk telegraphic line, through the vast territory of the Mongols, to Peking; and American citizens in China are soliciting, with good prospect of success, permission from the Chinese Government to extend this line to Nanking, Shanghai, Amoy, and Canton. Further, the Russian scheme comprises a telegraphic wire from the main Continental-Russian line at Omsk, near the southern boundary of Asiatic Russia, through Mongolia, China, Turkestan, Bokhara, and Cabool, to meet the telegraphic system of India in the Punjaub, and connect it with Europe; and also a wire from Kazan on the main central Russian line, passing along the shore of the Caspian Sea to Teheran and along the banks of the Euphrates to the Persian Gulf, there to be connected with the telegraph system of India.

Mr. Seward, however, confines his remarks chiefly to the line immediately in question, connecting America with Russia through Behring's Straits. He submits to the Senate that it is impossible to over-estimate the direct effect of such works in the development of the resources of the American States, or to assign limits to the increase of national influence which must result from such new facilities for extending throughout the world American ideas and principles of public and private economy, politics, morals, philosophy, and religion. The telegraphic wire is at present, he says, timidly employed and clumsily handled, with a very imperfect knowledge of the fulness of the power which resides in it; he anticipates that telegraphic communication will become far more practically effective. He trusts that an Atlantic wire will soon connect Cape Clear and Cape Race, thus completing with the proposed line through Russia a telegraphic circuit round the earth between 42 and 65 deg. of north latitude; but he holds it to be certain that the great interests of society will, at a very early period, require more than one, and more than even two transoceanic world-encircling telegraphs.

THE JAPANESE AMBASSADORS.

(FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.)

The Japanese Ambassadors, as you know, left for the Far East by the *Euxine;* they staid two days at Marseilles, occupying their former apartments at the Grand Hotel—nobody ever stays anywhere now-a-days but at a grand hotel. The Ambassadors left marks of their munificence at each step of their route, presenting all who came in contact with them with cuttings of rare stuffs resplendent with gold and silk of every hue, and other proofs of Japanese art, and Japanese courtesy and policy. The servants at the hotels are full of admiration now for the Tycoon's emissaries, on the principle of "Handsome is, that handsome does." It is a pity that they should have carried back a vast amount of the magnificent presents intended to be placed elsewhere, but we shall soon see them again I opine!

The Ministerial journals are much occupied now with questions relating to the Far East, which the Government is intent on cultivating. As regards Japan, reference is made to recent news concerning the Tycoon's arrangements with the Mikado, and the inference is drawn, perhaps a little hastily, that the former has become the real Emperor of Japan, and has completely succeeded in concentrating all power in his own hands, and destroying the feudality of the Daimios. It is taken for granted in some quarters, though not in all, that the Tycoon will at once establish a regular army, commanded by European officers, an effective steam navy, railroads, the electric telegraph, and gas. It will be judicious to wait a little for the proofs of the Tycoon's ability to carry out this grand programme. The official *Moniteur de Soir* speaks with great confidence of the effect produced on the mind of the Tycoon by contact with Europeans as evinced in the whole tone and bearing of the ambassadors who have just quitted the shores of France, and believes that he "will take energetic measures to render effective the opening of the Straits of Simonosaki, in favour of *our* navy and of *our* commerce, as provided for in the last arrangement made between the Japanese Ambassadors and M. Drouyn de Lhuys."

Previous to quitting Paris the Ambassadors paid a visit to Nadar, of baloon celebrity, who has produced a capital photographic group of the three envoys in all the splendour of their state costumes and insignia, the first Ambassador being distinguished by a long stick, ornamented spirally throughout its whole length, and which certain wags persist in declaring is nothing but a miniature barber's pole.

The same journals give glowing accounts "from private sources" of the progress which is being made by the representatives of France in Cochin-China; we are told that since the little affair of Bahria, "all the provinces of Lower Cochin-China have enjoyed the most perfect tranquillity"; that "the Court of Siam has received the explanations given respecting the treaty which placed Cambogia under the protection of France in good faith, and that the understanding with the two kings is perfect. The French Government has decided that besides the service of the *Messageries Imperiales* an intermediate one shall be established between Saigon, Poulo-Condor and Singapore, to meet the English mail at the latter place. The despatch boat *Echo* is appointed for this service. The plans for the Grand Canal, central market, Bourse and Cathedral of Saigon have been approved by the Government here. Lastly, we are told that the Emperor Tu Duc has been greatly impressed by the reports of his Ambassadors, who recently visited Paris, and has determined now to rely entirely on France in the most absolute manner, and will before long agree to fresh and important concessions.

The Emperor Louis Napoleon, you will remember, undertook, some time since, the task of arbitrating between the Viceroy of Egypt and the Suez Canal Company; the award has not yet been made, I believe, but the purport, or supposed purport of it has appeared in some of the Paris papers, and is as follows:—The company to give up the clause of the treaty which bound the Viceroy to find 24,000 native workmen; or, in other words, the employment of forced labour has fallen before the expression of public opinion in Europe; to resign all claim to the lands lying on both sides of the canal, with the exception of such as is actually necessary for the works themselves; to make over to the Egyptian Government the fresh water canal, for the sum of twelve million francs; and, lastly, the Viceroy is to pay seventy-two millions more by way of compensation for the former concessions, making in all a sum to be received by the company equivalent to £3,360,000, which, perhaps, will set it upon its legs again.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, July 8.

Now that the elections are properly finished, except in the district Hoorn or Haarlem, where the same candidate, Mr. Van Nierop, is elected, every party cries victory, the Liberals as well as the Conservatives. The first because the position of

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the Cabinet will be reinforced by the voting of five or six members, the second because the defeat was so insignificant, that there was a moment that the Opposition believed that it could cry victory. The Liberals, however, have decidedly won by the second election. The struggle at Amsterdam ended in their favour. Mr. C. Van Henkelom and the Lieut.-General van Swieten procured a small majority. The replacement at the Hague of the member Mr. W. T. Gevers Deynoot by Mr. T. P. P. Baron van Zuylen van Nyevelt (now), *pur-sang*, Conservative and ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs. When this gentleman, who is an excellent orator, ceases to be governed by his revengefulness for Thorbecke, who forced him to resign, he will be, doubtless, a great reinforcement for the Conservatives; meanwhile, it is feared that the debates, at least, at the first session, will be more personal than national.

The Liberals, who are disconsolate for the defeat of Mr. Gevers, intend to proclaim this gentleman candidate for Haarlem or Hoorn. Indeed, it would be very unhappy for him that he should have lost his seat, just now that he has voyaged in the Far East. He thought that his voyage would be a letter of credit for his re-election, and certainly his supposition would have been in the right, when Mr. Vanzuylen, like Mr. D. de Brauw, had not made a league with the entire revolutionary party; a league, however, which will cause much disagreement.

On the 24th of June a general rural economical meeting assembled at Haarlem, which was not without interest for your readers. Many authorities were present to discuss some points concerning the Indian agriculture. In the first place was deliberated, "If steam power could be applied with great advantage in the tropical regions." No one opposed, but it was generally regretted that the engines were too high in price to be of common use. A general discussion took place on the question of the cultivation of cotton in Java, and, generally, the conviction seemed to be settled that there existed difficulties which hardly could be surmounted; large advantages were also not to foresee. As to the cultivation of indigo, all were of the opinion that this was exhaustive, as well for the population as for the grounds, and, therefore, the majority thought it desirable that this cultivation should be decreased as much as possible. The manuring of sugar-fields with guano, which has given such favourable issues on the grounds of the sugar factory *Wono Pringo*, was supposed to be desirable for the grounds of certain regions, but the cost of application was too high! Mr. T. T. Rochussen, Minister of State and ex-Governor-General of Netherlands India, gave an account of the experiments made in India with the discovery of Mr. Hovibreaak, viz., artificial impregnation of fruit-bearing trees and vegetables.

Within the next few days some French functionaries are expected at the Hague. They will successively visit Holland, Belgium, and England, to deliberate with the respective Governments to project a common action on the sugar industry. The difficulties which they will have to overcome are many in number, and generally it is expected that they will not succeed in their mission.

Some weeks ago it was said that the Emperor and Empress of the French would make a visit to our country. This *on-dit* has not been confirmed. The times of Napoleon's predomination are not yet forgotten; to prove this I have only to say that the Rear-Admiral H. Wipff was forced to resign because he refused to give the usual salutations to the Imperial yacht at Flushing. Our Prince of Orange is not of the same opinion as the people. He made some days ago another excursion to the capital of France. The Imperial family, or Paris, at least, has many charms for our Prince.

The jubilee of the Royal Silver Wedding is suddenly changed for sorrow by the death of the King of Wurtemburg, the father of our Queen. Her Majesty returned with the Prince on the 5th from her sorrowful excursion to Stuttgard. She was not present at his death.

The tramway lately laid down by an English company from the Hague to Scheveningen (the seaside) has been opened to the public. Eight trains go each way daily, the fare being 30 cents first-class, and 50 cents return tickets. There is a project also to construct a tramway to connect the two railway stations in Amsterdam.

The Palace of Industry (Paleis voor Volksvlyt) at Amsterdam will be opened in the first days of August. On the 30th of June the Royal Academy at Delft was annulled.

P.S. Dr. Winkler Prins, elected for the district Winschoten, has announced that it is impossible for him to accept the post.

H.M. corvette, *Prinses Amelia*, Capt. T. T. Wichers, was, on the 7th June, still in the docks of Rio Janeiro. She would be ready within a few days to sail for Batavia.

H.M. frigate *Zeeland* will start for Java after being repaired at Nieuwe Diep.

The First Lieutenants G. C. Munters, W. H. Voorman, T. W. E. Schadee van der Does, and W. Q. E. Vetter are detached to the E.I. Army.

A detachment of supplementary troops, of 150 soldiers, under the command of Capt. R. N. Bar, returning to duty from leave of absence to this country, and accompanied by the Second Lieutenants E. T. C. Heyligers, Thr. T. L. N. Calkoen, has left the colonial recruiting depot at Harderwyk, and embarked here on board the *Mary* and *Hillegonda*, Capt. P. Walters, for Batavia. Next year the contingent of supplementary troops will number 1,500 men.

H.M. King Leopold has been pleased to appoint A. Cateaux as Consul for Belgium at Singapore, in replacement of Mr. H. Hinnekindt.

The Netherlands Bank has opened a branch at Rotterdam. Messrs. T. van der Hoop and T. L. de Bie are appointed as directors, and Mr. Mirandolle as secretary.

The Senate of the Free and Hanseatic city of Hamburg has appointed Mr. J. H. Bandow to be Consul for that republic at Bassein.

By Royal Patent, dated Copenhagen, the 20th June, the King of Denmark has appointed Mr. Robert Simpson Scott to be His Majesty's Consul at Bangkok.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Some inquiry, but nothing of great interest doing. At private auction were sold 1,735 bags Java at 39½ to 43½c.; and 1,635 bags do. at 38 to 38¼c.; retired were 2,052 bags. Besides 500 bags Java ex Capella were sold at 41½ to 43½c., and 1,700 bags do. ex Maria Catherina at 42¾ to 43½c. By the Netherlands Trading Company 86,900 bags Java will be offered at auction on the 13th. Stock 1st July, 417,900 bags N.T.C.; 39,200 bags part.

SUGAR.—The market very dull. Increasing heaviness prevailed, partly owing to the unfavourable state of political affairs, but also to the lower prices at London. Only 550 kran. Java "to arrive" were sold at ¾f. to 1f. under the May prices. Private Stocks, 5,398 kran. Java. The N.T.C. will sell by auction on the 22nd 73,300 kranjangs.

RICE.—Dull, and no sales. No lots are offered. Stock, 50,400 bags.

SPICES.—Nutmegs: Still animated, with buyers for export and speculation. No 1, 1860-63, was paid with 86 to 87c.; No. 2, 78c.; No. 3, 48c.; and No. 4, 36c. Mace D, 65c.; E, 63c. Cloves No. 1, 30c.; No. 2, 29c.; No. 3, 28c. Pepper, 1,600 bags, ex Danube, sold at 20¼c. Stock 5,550 bags. The market is in a firm condition.

COTTON.—The market was rather more active. Several lots of E. Indian were sold for exportation.

BANCA TIN.—The 146,921 blocks offered at auction by the N.T.C. are sold at 61¾f. No sellers without an advance of ¾f. to 1f. on the auction price. Stock N.T.C. 5,717 blocks.

TOBACCO.—There is scarcely any demand for Java. Only 318 bales S. and 600 bales V.S. were sold at 53½ to 61½c. The 1,224 bales Manilla (Cagayan) offered by auction were nearly wholly retired. The quality was inferior, the prices too high, and great quantities are to arrive. Stock on the 7th July 11,414 bales Java.

INDIGO.—Business to a fair extent done privately at full prices. A.o. lots 124 chests ex Danube were sold.

TEA.—The business is confined to the execution of a few small orders for consumption. China Congo 95c. to 105c.; good to fine 130c. to 130c.

HIDES.—Without important transactions. Only 844 p. Padang, 600 p. Java ex Johanna Maria, and 500 p. Java ex Van der Palm, we sold. Prices unknown.

ARAK.—80 casks ex Oscar]I., and 59 do. ex Nederland, have been sold at prices that did not transpire.

MONEY.—Easy. Discount 4½ per cent. Open market 4½ per cent. Exchange London, fl11.85. Three months fl11.67. N.W.S. 2½ per cent., to 62½, do. 3 per cent., 74⅜, do. 4 per cent., 98¼ to 98½. Handelmaatschy 147.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.
June 23 ..	Brouwershaven ..	Banjoewangie ..	Argo.
— 23 ..	Texel ..	Padang ..	Padang Packet.
— 23 ..	Do. ..	Tjilatjap ..	Zaanstroom.
— 23 ..	Do. ..	Banjoewangie ..	Admiraal P. Hein
— 25 ..	Do. ..	Cheribon ..	Wilhelm. & Eliza
— 25 ..	Brouwershaven ..	Banjoewangie ..	Eersteling.
— 27 ..	Hellevoet ..	Padang ..	Karel August.
— 29 ..	Brouwershaven ..	Batavia ..	Lammina Elizab.
— 29 ..	Texel ..	Banjoewangie ..	Sirius.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	Ship.	For
June 29 ..	Hellevoet ..	China ..	Java *via* Newcastle.
	Do. ..	Scheveningen ..	Do.
July 2 ..	Brouwershaven ..	Sus. Johanna ..	Sourabaya.
— 7 ..	Texel ..	Anna Digna ..	Batavia.
— 7 ..	Do. ..	J. Roggeveen ..	Do.
— 7 ...	Do. ..	C. Hendrika ..	Do.
— 7 ..	Do. ..	Presto ..	Samarang.
— 7 ..	Do. ..	M. Adolfina ..	Singapore.
— 7 ..	Do. ..	Nyverheid ..	Batavia.
— 7 ..	Do. ..	Tjielingsee ..	Do.
— 7 ..	Do. ..	Min. V. Hall ..	Kanagawa.
— 7 ..	Do. ..	Juno ..	Batavia.
— 7 ..	Do. ..	Azia ..	Do.

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LOADING.

At AMSTERDAM.—For Kanagawa and Decima: Adriana Johanna, Yokohama, Engel. For Padang: Padang Packet. For Batavia: Johanna Elizabeth, Jocobaz, Christina, Regina Maris, Herman de Ruiter, Nederland, Hendrina, Gebroeders, Quartet, Admiraal de Ruyter, Guede Verwachting, Jan van Schaffelaar, Cornelis Gips. For Samarang: Henrietta, Zaanstroom, Kykduiss, Theodora Mechtelda, Marinus Willem, Californie, Sindbad. Cape of Good Hope and India: Concordia, Kaapstad Packet.

At ROTTERDAM.—For Batavia and Cheribon: Bilderdyke. For Batavia: Doelwyk, Eva Johanna. For Sourabaya: Johanna Maria, Wilhelmina Johanna, Edouard Marie. For Samarang: L. J. Enthoven. For Padang: Isaac da Costa. For Singapore: Maria Louisa Antoinette, Jan van Galen. For Hong Kong: Singapore.

READY TO SAIL.

At TEXEL.—A. R. Falck, v. d. Plas, Samarang.

At BROUWERSHAVEN.—Johanna Christina, C. Clercq, Batavia; Zeemanshoop, Reiniersen, Samarang; Generaal Michiels, Visser, Singapore; Mary and Hillegonda, Walters, Batavia; Alblasserwaard, Zack, Batavia; Voorwaarts, Kerkstra, Batavia; Susanna Johanna, Pieters, Batavia; India, Vonck, Batavia; Europa, Lupcke, Batavia.

At FLUSHING.—Burgemeester van Middelburg, Hock, Batavia.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per Axia, Capt. Molenaar, from Amsterdam to Batavia: Mr. G. P. T. Ockerse and family, Mr. T. van Varelen and family, Mr. H. L. v. d. Waarden, Mr. W. Bedier de Prarie, Miss M. Monnier, and Miss M. Fuscher.

Per Europa, Capt. Lupcke, from Rotterdam to Batavia: Mr. N. Graafland and family.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

Per Electra, Capt. Wegman, at Amsterdam from Batavia: Messrs. Termytelen and family, Mr. Thieme and family, Mr. Rawson and family, Mr. v. d. Veer and family, Miss Canneman and brother, Miss Bakhuis.

Per Padang Packet, Capt. Huidecoper, at Amsterdam from Batavia: Mr. Boon and family.

Per Argo, Capt. Ankringa, at Brouwershaven from Java: Mr. T. Beyerinck.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THE ANGLO-CHINESE FORCE.—Mr. Liddell asked the First Lord of the Treasury whether any official information had been received of Major Gordon's retirement from the command of the Anglo-Chinese disciplined force, in compliance with the terms of the order in council of March last, or whether any "secret orders," or reservations, or discretionary powers were conveyed to Major Gordon or any other English officer in China along with such order in council, and, if so, whether there was any objection to state the nature of such secret orders or reservations, and under what circumstances such discretionary powers were to be exercised? Mr. Layard said the order in council which revoked the previous order was dated the 1st of March, and left this country on the 10th. Her Majesty's Government had informed General Brown commanding there that if he could place Colonel Gordon under his own orders, and not under the Chinese orders, he might withdraw him altogether from the Chinese service, and still retain his valuable services within the thirty miles radius.

DIVORCE COURT—ROUTH V. ROUTH AND LE MEASURIER.—Dr. Wambey and Dr. Tristram appeared for the petitioner; Dr. Spinks for the respondent, and Dr. Swabey for the co-respondent. The marriage took place at Brussels in April, 1847. The petitioner was then a cornet in the 16th Lancers, but he afterwards sold out and became an engineer. In 1854 they went to Australia, and they afterwards proceeded to India, where they made the acquaintance of the co-respondent, who was employed upon an Indian railway. After staying for a few years in India they returned to England. The petitioner afterwards went to China, leaving his wife in London with her family, and subsequently he again went to India and obtained a situation as surveyor upon the same railway as the co-respondent, with whom he was on the most friendly terms. In 1861 the co-respondent came to England, and renewed his acquaintance with Mrs. Routh. An adulterous connection was formed between them, and they went together to Paris and Genoa, passing as husband and wife. She had given birth to a child, of which the co-respondent was the father.—Decree *nisi*, with costs against the co-respondent.

The *Narcissus* frigate, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Sir Baldwin Wake Walker, K.C.B., is hourly looked for at Spithead. She will there land the admiral and his family.

Monetary and Commercial.

The amalgamation of the Oriental and General Marine Insurance Company with the Albert Office has now been completed. The Albert being an old-established office for Life, it has been deemed best to retain that title. The business of the Marine department will be conducted on the old premises of the Oriental in Finch-lane, City, and Mr. Secretan remains as the under writer. The agencies in India and China will be found detailed in our advertising columns.

The Land Mortgage Bank of India have invited subscriptions for £500,000 mortgage debentures, bearing 5 per cent. interest, redeemable within 30 years by a sinking fund of 1½ per cent. per annum. The price of issue will be 95, and the amount may be paid at once or by instalments extending to the 1st of January next. The issue of debentures by this company is always to be limited to the sum held by them in mortgages on real property, or in Government funds, in addition to which the subscribers will have the security of the capital of £2,000,000, on which £400,000 is paid up.

The Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company have contracted for steamers to carry out the contract made by Mr. Robinson.

BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS.

The Trade and Navigation Accounts for the month and the five months ending the 31st May in the present year, repeat and augment the gratifying results presented by the similar returns published at the close of each preceding menstrual period of 1864. As compared with the two antecedent years, the total Declared Value of British and Irish Produce Exported stands thus:—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	For the month ended 31st May.		
All articles	£11,298,587	£11,284,289	£14,176,640
	For the five months ended 31st May.		
All articles	£47,545,238	£50,472,670	£64,069,060

The Exports to the countries and ports of the Far East, in regard to the articles enumerated, are returned as follows:—

CHINA AND HONG KONG.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	For the month ended 31st May.		
Cotton yarn	556,084	121,520	266,400 lbs.
Cotton manufactures ..	14,845,612	6,455,026	11,513,490 yds.
Worsted stuffs	1,159,318	1,023,188	1,550,922 yds.
Wool and worsted manufactures	323,624	202,435	208,780 yds.
Lead	1,628	1,798	1,493 tons
	Value for the five months ended 31st May.		
Cotton yarn	£128,931	£37,027	£97,423
Cotton manufactures	820,201	387,622	835,699
Wool and worsted manufactures	127,756	142,660	126,208
Worsted stuffs	154,370	229,807	326,397
Lead	75,957	150,838	77,567

The Export of Cotton Manufactures to other quarters east of British India is returned thus:—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	For the month ended 31st May.		
Singapore	4,965,900	2,639,069	1,582,764 yds.
Java	6,862,495	2,808,053	3,722,803 "
Philippine Islands ..	1,060,452	—	4,651,404 "
	Value for the five months ended 31st May.		
Singapore	£328,975	£170,682	£420,378
Java	305,699	100,948	326,344
Philippine Islands ..	120,021	77,242	286,059

Of Cotton Yarn, 43,008 lbs. was exported to Singapore in May, 1864, against 185,776 lbs. in May, 1863, and 173,400 lbs. in the same month of 1862; the value for the five months of 1864 being returned at £58,126, against £55,906 in the similar period of 1863, and £49,459 in the year preceding.

IMPORTS.

Of Sugar, the quantity imported from Java and the Philippine Islands under the new duties which came into force on the 16th April in the present year, is as follows, for the month ended 31st May:—2rd quality, 8,508 cwts.; 4th quality, 26,042 cwts. The value of the Unrefined Sugar imported from the same quarter during the four months ended the 30th April in the present year was £42,959.

The quantity of Hemp imported from the Philippine Islands in the month of May, 1864, was 13,599 cwts; and for the five months ended the 31st May, 58,334 cwts., against 122,397 cwt. in the same period of 1863, and 68,664 cwt. in the previous year. The value of the import of this article from the Philippine Islands for the four months ended the 30th April, for the year 1864, and two preceding years, is given as follows, placing the present year first:—£79,568, £84,536, £78,589.

Raw Cotton is shown by these returns to be forwarded from China in surprising quantities, considering that the trade in this article from thence is so very recent in its origin. The comparative quantities and values are as follows:—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	For the month ended 31st May.		
Quantity	6	31,750	90,046 cwts.
	For the four months ended 30th April.		
Value	£32	£254,064	£1,806,422

The Declared Value of British and Irish Produce and Manufactures exported from the United Kingdom to the quarters mentioned below, for the four months ending the 30th April in the present and two preceding years is stated to be as follows:—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
Singapore and the Eastern Straits	£425,818	£310,899	£579,837
Hong Kong	437,522	318,997	476,430
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	714,095	647,236	849,444
Japan	—	37,146	79,205
Netherlands India (Java, &c.) ..	284,464	72,931	314,280
Philippine Islands	151,609	125,169	213,587
Siam	—	1,374	11,253
Cochin China, Camboja, and Tonquin	—	35,000	—

The biddings for £300,000 in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were to Calcutta £163,200; to Bombay, £120,000; and to Madras, £16,800. The *minimum* price was as before 1s. 11½d. per rupee on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11¾d. on Bombay. The

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applications within the limits amounted to £1,710,000. T ders on Calcutta and Madras at 1s. 11¾d. will receive about 31 per cent., on Bombay at 2s., about 24 per cent., and all above these prices in full. These biddings compared with those on the last occasion show a slight diminution of demand.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Co.'s steamer *Baroda*, from Southampton on the 4th inst., was—In gold, to Galle, £500; to Madras, £607; to Hong Kong, £5,000. In silver: To Singapore, £9,980; to Hong Kong, £2,112; to Yokohama, £8,600; to Shanghai, £300. Total, in gold, £6,107; in silver, £20,992.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Recent sales of low and dusty kinds of Congou show a decline of about ½d. per lb. Fair to good common leaf remain scarce at about previous prices. Fair to good flavory kinds have been less saleable, and prices in some instances have given way ½d. to 1d. per lb.; good Kaisow kinds show no material change, the supply being moderate. Common to fair blackish-leaf kinds remain dull at the decline last quoted. Good qualities maintain former value. There is no change to notice in fine to finest Monings, Wopaks, and Kaisows, sales of which are made in limited quantity. Tayshans and new-make Canton Congous remain as before. Fine Oolongs have been inquired for; other sorts are not much in request. Souchongs are only saleable in small quantities at about previous prices. Flowery Pekoes show no improvement. Scented Orange Pekoes have been steady at the late advance, but without activity in demand. Scented Capers have been saleable to a fair extent at previous prices. There is some inquiry for common to good uncoloured Japans at from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d., but holders generally require higher prices than buyers are willing to pay. The small public sales of Indian Teas went at extreme prices for good to fine qualities. In Green Teas business has been less active, and the extreme rates lately current have been barely maintained. Some parcels have been returned from America, owing to the great advance in the rate of exchange. Gunpowders under 3s. 3d. per lb. continue very scarce, and are fully supported. Hysons have been in full supply, and sales more difficult to make. Young Hysons must be quoted rather lower. Canton-made Teas show no material alteration. The public sales have comprised 28,267 packages, of which 575 packages were Indian Tea, and 7,385 packages were printed without reserve; of these about 9,623 packages sold, including the Indian Tea.

Messrs. Sheppard, Harrison, and Rehden, in their Circular, state that the deliveries for the six months ending 30th June are the largest on record, and stand as under:—

	1864.	1863.
Home consumption for London from 1st Jan. to 30th June	27,950,000 ..	25,710,000
Exported do.	15,401,000 ..	10,113,000
Sent coastwise, do.	15,110,000 ..	16,330,000
	58,461,000	52,153,000

The last French mail steamer brought 200 boxes of Canton district new leaf made up as Kaisow, and although the quality was not first class, it fetched 3s. and 3s. 4d. per lb. The steamer which arrived at Marseilles on 5th inst. has 1,260 packages on board, but we question if there will be much competition for them, as most buyers prefer waiting the arrival of the bulk of the new season's Kaisows, by the regular sea route. For export there have been very few purchases, although considerable shipments have been made to the Baltic ports of teas bought during the Spring; to other parts little has been sent, whilst 2,000 packages Green have been received from New York. The quantity afloat is 6,367,211 lbs., against 15,580,000 last year.

SILK.—We had a very extensive business in China and Japan Silk during the early part of last month, and prices experienced a considerable advance; latterly the market has been more quiet, though the advance has been fully maintained. The deliveries, as might be expected from the amount of business done, are larger than they have been for some months past.

	Ordinary, s. d.	s. d.	Superior. s. d.	s. d.
Tsatlee, No. 1 and 2	24 0 to	25 6	23 6	
„ No. 3 and 4	22 0	23 6		
„ No. 5	20 6	21 6		
Ditto, Haug-Chow	20 6	21 6	22 0	
Yuenfa	14 6	21 0	22 6	23 0
Taysaam	17 0	21 0	21 6	22 0
Ditto, skeins	16 0	16 6	17 0	
Ditto, long reel	17 0	18 0	18 6	19 0
Canton	11 0	17 6	18 0	19 0
Chinese Thrown	15 0	19 0	21 0	22 0
Maibash, dyepot Japan	22 0	24 0	24 6	26 0
Ida, bricks	20 0	22 6	23 0	26 0
Sodai „	20 0	22 6	23 6	24 0
Oshu, re-reeled	19 6	21 6	22 6	24 0
Koshu, Selé	20 6	22 0	22 6	24 0
Aechezan, slips	19 0	20 6	21 0	22 6
Mashtak „	19 0	20 0	21 6	22 6
Hatchojee, Tussah	17 0	18 6	19 6	20 0

STATE OF THE WAREHOUSES.

	Sold Stock. July 1, 1864.	July 1, 1863.	Unsold Stock. July 1, 1864.	July 1, 1863.	Delivered. Jan. 1 to July 8, 1864.	Jan. 1 to July 8, 1863.
Bengal	2,922	935	3,793	3,427	3,137	3,374
China	8,056	8,039	4,692	12,515	14,629	25,018
Japan	3,986	4,002	3,426	4,677	9,538	8,662
Canton	529	1,137	—	839	1,644	1,970
Chinese Thrown	376	722	335	844	524	922

SUGAR.—Owing to heavy arrivals and the uneasiness produced by political affairs the market continued dull until within a few days since, previous to which a few transactions with difficulty took place. A little more firmness is now shown. The sales have been:—140 tons Penang, middling to fine brown, 38s. to 40s. 6d.; low to good yellow, 41s. to 44s.; 100 tons clayed Manila have been sold, first at 38s. 6d. to 39s., but afterwards at 37s.

COTTON.—China Cotton has been rather neglected. The damaged condition of most of the bales is a cause of much annoyance to buyers. Fair quality, after declining to 18d. per lb., has advanced to 18¼d. which is to-day's quotation.

COFFEE.—The arrivals have been heavy and a general dulness prevails, although the Dutch Trading Company's sale went off tolerably well, amounting in all to 86,100 bags. Good ordinary realising 43 to 43½ cents, 230 bags fine ordinary pale Manila at 73s. to 73s. 6d., and 330 bags Cochin, chiefly pickings, at 40s., is all the sales we have to report.

RICE.—During the greater part of the past month the market has been firm, and sales took place at advanced rates, but less inquiry now exists. 95,000 bags were sold on the spot. Bengal, low and middling sort, at 8s. to 9s., middling to good old white, 10s. 6d. to 12s.; 1 cargo 750 tons Moulmein for Liverpool realised at 10s. 3d.

CAMPHOR.—At auction 107 cases were retired. A limited business has been done privately at £4. 10s. to £4. 12s. 6d. per cwt. Japan firm at £5.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Of 1,170 chests offered at auction nearly half were sold at 86s. to 93s.; the remainder retired at high prices.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: A limited business has been done at £5. 10s. Dragon's Blood: Fine seed realised £17 at auction; 2 cases sold; other kinds, no demand. Galangal Root: Flat; 120 bags at auction all retired. Rhubarb: Nothing of consequence doing; 12 cases at auction retired.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Quiet; 2 cases at auction sold at £24 to £26 per cwt. for second quality block. Sumatra: 42 cases were offered at auction, about a quarter of which were sold at £6. 2s. 6d. to £6. 5s. for first thirds. Damar: Steady; of 376 offered, two-thirds sold at 42s. 6d. to 43s. per cwt. for fair picked. Gamboge: Scarce and firm; nothing of any consequence doing.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Quiet; 11 tons were offered. The little that was sold fetched 2s. per lb.

INDIA-RUBBER.—Dull, 91 bags Singapore at auction retired. 229 bags Mauritius sold at 1s. ½d. to 1s. 1d.

HEMP.—The Manila market is decidedly better, and the finer qualities 10s. to 15s. per ton higher. 439 bales at auction mostly sold readily at £34. 15s. to £36 per ton; private sales very limited.

OILS.—Anniseed: Dull, no auctions. Cassia: Very inactive, 10 cases at auction retired at 9s. 3d. per lb. Mace and Nutmegs: Nothing doing, 14 cases paste at auction, all retired.

JAPAN WAX.—Steady—of 1,076 boxes at auction a small quantity sold at 63s. to 65s. 6d. per cwt. for good to fine saucers.

SAGO.—Very little doing, prices for most kinds have declined 6d. per cwt. 1,956 boxes were offered at auction, about half of which sold at 21s. 6d. to 22s. for fair to good small, and 20s. 6d. to 22s., middling to good medium.

TAPIOCA.—Penang attracts but little attention, but 1,220 bags in public sale were principally disposed of, good white, 3¼d.; middling to fair, 2¼d. to 2¾d.; low, 1¾d. 50 cases indirect Singapore were sold at 1¼d. to 1¾d. per lb.; and 64 cases Taipoca flour (in tins) at 4¼d. to 4½d. per lb.

SPICES.—Black pepper: flat, a few parcels sold at easy rates—Singapore 3⅝d., Penang 3½d. to 3¾d.; 210 bags common Penang recently sold at 3½d. to 3⅝d. Zanzibar Cloves were purchased in small quantities at firm prices until within the last few days, when 340 bags were forced off at Auction at a decline of ⅜d. to ½d. per lb.; Common to fair 3⅞d. to 4½d. 43 cases Penang chiefly sold at lower rates, good quality, 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 0¾d. per lb. Mace: Nothing doing. Nutmegs have been in good demand at an advance of 1d. to 2d. per lb.; 200 cases at auction were all sold, small and middling, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 6d.; good middling, 1s. 7d. to 2s. 2d. Terra Japonica, Cutch, Pegue: The market is very flat and inactive; 293 packages at auction all retired.

TOBACCO.—Manila: The long scarcity of stock of this growth in our market is coming to an end. At the sale on 29th June only two lots found buyers. Cigars and Cheroots: Those free from musty smell are rather firmer in price; inferior neglected. Of Java good parcels in demand. The quotations are: Manila leaf, 1s. to 3s. 6d.; Cigars, 7s. to 7s. 6d.; Japan, 4d. to 6d.; Java, 6d. to 1s.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Black Lead: Steady; of 446 at auction, half sold at 14s. 6d. to 16s. 6d. for fair lump, and 7s. to 7s. 3d. ordinary to good dust. Galls: 1 case China retired at 80s. per cwt., and 45 cases Japan at 80s. to 90s. Recent arrivals of Tonquin and grain brought to auction, and realised as follows, viz., 118 caddies of the former, of which four-fifths found buyers at 33s. 6d. to 35s. per oz. for fine picked; 22s. 6d. to 29s. 6d. inferior to good; and 21s. to 22s. pickings; and 9 tins of the latter, of which 8 sold at 41s. to 51s. 6d. fair to fine, and 21s. inferior. Rattans: Steady, of 2,942 bundles Singapore at auction two-thirds sold at 4s. 3d. to 6s. 4d. per 100. Sapanwood: Firm, 19 tons Manila at auction sold at £7 to £9. 10s. per ton. Mother-o'-Pearl Shells: Nothing doing. Star Anniseed: 100 boxes brought to auction and about half were placed at £7 for good, and £6. 5s. for mouldy. Sticlac, Siam: Very quiet, 490 boxes were brought to auction, all retired. Tortoiseshell: Nothing doing, fine quality, 22s. to 26s.; sorts, 13s. to 20s.; inferior, 10s. to 12s. Turmeric: Of China 40 bags at auction were retired at 40s. per cwt. Nothing of any consequence doing in Java.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £8 to £8. 10s.; nail rod, £9. 10s.; hoops, £11; sheets, single £12; Staffordshire bars, £10; rails, £7. 10s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £100 per ton; yellow metal, 8½d. to 8½d. per lb.

TIN.—104s. for block; 105s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 30s. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £21. 10s. to £22; W.B., £23; shot, patent, £24; sheet, £22; spelter, £24 to £24. 10s.; zinc, English sheet, £28; quicksilver, £8. 12s. 6d.

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0 to 3 17 0
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4
Silver in Bars	0 5 1½
Mexican Dollars	0 5 4½

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MANCHESTER MARKETS.

Mr. Mendel's Circular states that, after some days of marked activity in sales at full and advancing prices, both spinners and manufacturers, forced by the position of the cotton market, now demand higher values, sufficiently so to check buyers in their operations. The feeling is one of confidence in favour of present or even higher rates than now current. Grey Shirtings, 7 lbs., 18s. to 18s. 6d.; 9 lbs., 25s. Cotton Yarn, 16-24, 2s. 10d. to 3s.; 3s. to 3s. 2d. Maddapollams, 7s. 9d. to 8s. Long Cloths, 21s.; T-Cloths, 14s. White Spot Shirtings, 21s. 9d.; White Brocade do., 22s. White Damasks, 37s. 6d.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
July 4	Off the Start	Samarang	Peking	
— 7	Off Falmouth	Rangoon	Denmark	Rollo.
Jun.25	New York	Shanghai	Heversham	
July 9	Bremen	Macao	Magnus	Noring.
— 11	Liverpool	Shanghai	M. M. Peters	

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
July 7	London	Kanagawa & Nagasaki	Seringapatam	Wyeth.
— 7	Newport	Shanghai	J. H. Ransom	Friends.
— 5	Cardiff	Do.	Stuart Wortley	Nicholson.
— 6	Newport	Do.	Nicolo Barabina	Rienci.
— 8	London	Newcastle & Singapore	A. O. Anderson	Stromberg.
— 6	Cardiff	Singapore	Redbreast	Dent.
— 8	Liverpool	Do.	Ranee	
— 11	London	Penang	Mangerton	Metcalf.
— 12	Do.	Kanagawa & Nagasaki	Julia	Forman.
— 9	Off Dover	Kanagawa	Minister v. Hall	De Haas.
— 9	Do.	Batavia	Anna Digna	
— 9	Cardiff	Singapore	Marie and Helene	Stoffregsen.
— 9	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Tjielingsie	Ouwehand.
— 10	Do.	Do.	Johanna Christina	
— 10	Do.	Do.	Europa	Lupcke.
— 11	Do.	Do.	Mary H. Hillegonda	Walters.
— 8	Off the Eddystone	Sourabaya	Susanna Johanna	Peters.
— 8	Clyde	Cape, Singp., & H. Kg.	Glengyle, str.	O'Sullivan.
— 13	London	Shanghai	Antipodes	Coles.

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa: Cymbeline, Macedon. For Kanagawa and Nagasaki: Julia. For Nagasaki: Swanley. For Shanghai: Antipodes, Egmont, Alexandrina, Cissy. For Hong Kong and Canton: Annie Archbell, Oithona, Arab Steed. For Manila: Angela, Tetuan. For Singapore: Early Dawn, Alexandra. For Penang: Mangerton.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Alice, Bella. For Hong Kong and Canton: Prince Arthur. For Singapore: Wm. Dixon, Mount Vernon. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Oceaan. For Manila: Iberica.

At GLASGOW.—For the Cape, Singapore, and Hong Kong: Glengyle (str.). For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: County of Renfrew. For Singapore: Kate Carnie. For Shanghai: Gossamer.

At LONDON.—For Batavia and Samarang: Stad Assen. For Shanghai: John Norman.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Manila: Espana. For Penang and Singapore: Zizine.

SPOKEN.

JANNETJE, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 20, 7 S., 4 W.
4 GEBROEDERS, Rotterdam to Batavia, June 18, 48 N., 10 W.
PRINCESS AMELIA (Dutch ship), Ams. to Bat., May 8, 16 S., 31 W.
CONCEPCION, Manila to Liverpool, June 23, lat. 41, long. 27.
ALICE (barque), London to Japan, April 29, 22 S., 37 W.
MARIA CATHERINE (Dut. bq.), Samarng. to Ams., April 28, 32 S., 34 E.
QUINTET, Amsterdam to Batavia, May 7, 16 S., 31 W.
PEGASUS (Dutch barque), Banjoewangie to Ams., May 3, 26 S., 7 E.
CELEBES, Banjoewangie to Amsterdam, May 15, 10 S., 11 W.
SIRIUS, Banjoewangie to Amsterdam, May 20, 4 N. 23 W.
A BARQUE, April 3, No. 8,941, Hartlepool to Sing., May 18, 7 S., 23 W.
WHITE EAGLE, of London, New York to Hong Kong, May 2, 16 S., 29 W.
CONGRESS, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 3.
CANADIAN, London to Shanghai, May 22, 2 S., 29 W.
LA ZINGARA (Dutch brig), Padang to Rotterdam, May 4, 15 S., 6 W.
LAABE (Dutch barq.), Sourabaya to Rotterdam, May 22, 4 N., 23 W.
WITNESS (barq.), from Japan, May 23, 5 N. 23 W.
MERCARA (barque), Shanghai to St. Thomas, off the Cape.
ZWAAN, Amsterdam to Sourabaya, June 23, 49 N., 8 W.
REGNADO (?), Shanghai to New York, April 14, 31 S., 50 E.
THOMAS AND REBECCA, Shanghai to London, May 29, 2 N., 24 W.
RHINE, Canton to New York, April 15, 29 S., 43 E.
EMIGRANT, Shanghai to New York, June 17, lat. 28, long. 65.
D'ELMINA, Brouwershaven to Batavia, April 30, 16 S. 33 W.
PRIMA (French), Java to Belle Isle, June 6, 38 N., 38 W.
ÆOLUS, Sourabaya to Rotterdam, May 23, 12 S., 10 W.
WEST, Batavia to London, May 27, 6 S., 16 W.
PETRONELLA, Amsterdam to Batavia, May 21, 7 S., 30 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

In berth freights there is little or nothing stirring. Cargo is still scarce, and the loading brokers are accepting very low rates in order to fill up. There is a prospect, however, of an improvement in the freights for coals, which will lead to a beneficial reaction in berth freights. Homeward freights are rather duller, but there are charters in the market from the rice ports, Maulmain and Java, at good figures.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £40, and £1. 18s. For Shanghai: £50 and £2. 9s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £28 and £1. 5s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

The Admiralty have ordered the Oithona to be surveyed for the conveyance of 444 hhds. porter and a few combustibles, from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

At MAURITIUS.—May 28, Glengairn, Garrick, from Shanghai, for Liverpool. June 3, Mo-Yuen (str.), sailed for Singapore.

The screw steamship Columbian, which recently returned home from India, where she has been employed some years in the Peninsular and Oriental Company's service, left for glasgow in charge of Capt. T. Jamieson, she having been sold to Mr. John Scott, her builder.

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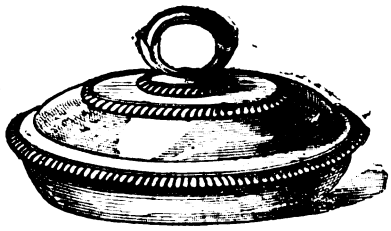

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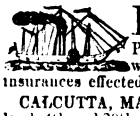

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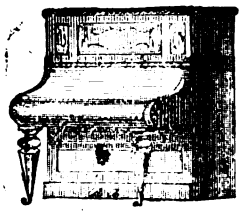

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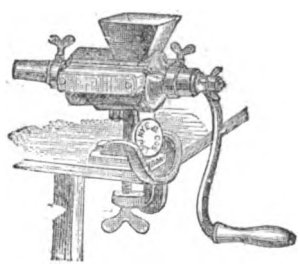

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THE FIFTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 28th December, 1863. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.
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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS," A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 144.] LONDON, TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Kanagawa	March 26	May 18	May 26
	Nagasaki			June 4
	Hakodadi			
CHINA—				
	Peking			May 25
	Tien-tsin			
	Hankow			„ 28
	Shanghai	April 17	June 4	June 6
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 6
	Amoy			„ 7
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	„ 26		„ 13
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	Feb. 26	„ 16	„ 6
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Tonron			
	Saigon			
SIAM—				
	Bankok			„ 20
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			
	Sarawak			
JAVA—				
	Batavia			„ 15
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	May 17	June 24	„ 26
	Penang	„ 10	„ 9	

The above mails received this day are overdue five days, owing to an accident to the machinery of the steamer Orissa on the passage from Hong Kong to Singapore. In consequence of this delay, the Orissa did not call at Penang.

The incoming French mail arrived at Suez on July 28, and will be delivered in London on the 7th inst.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, to Marseilles, arrived July 31.—From Shanghai: Mr. E. Wadman, Rev. — Bardon, Mr. R. Reid, Mr. E. Fuche. From Hong Kong: Dr. James Dewad, Mr. H. Severs, Mr. P. Sweetzen. From Singapore: Mr. Monters, Mr. J. Myrtle, Mr. E. Barnett.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, July 20, from Southampton.—To Singapore: W. C. Fisher. To Penang: Mrs. Smith, two Misses Smith. To Hong Kong: Lt. T. M. Magnay, R.N., Miss Harper, Messrs. Gray and M'Leod, C. F. Carpenter. To Shanghai: Messrs. F. Gibson and M'Culloch. To Calcutta: Capt. and Messrs. Orman and two infants, Capt. Mayne, Messrs. W. M'Cleery, W. Quarry, R. C. Anderson, R. H. Tulloh, R. D. Falkner, I. M. Algie, W. P. Heath, C. H. Ringwood, H. W. Hughes, G. Murray, and J. H. Bengough, Miss E. Smith, Robt. Anderson, E. A. Gillon, Miss H. Jewell, Miss I. Russell. To Madras: Lieut. W. Irvine, three second-class passengers. To Ceylon: Messrs. J. Cowell, F. W. Hill, and W. Stoddart, three second-class passengers. To Alexandria (and back to Marseilles): Two Misses Falvey, nine second-class passengers.

From Marseilles, July 28.—To Shanghai: Mr. C. Ziegler. To Hong Kong: Madame C. Guirca. To Singapore: Messrs. Hissink and Rutger. To Calcutta: Lieut. G. H. Heaviside, Mr. I. B. and Mrs. Reutiers, Messrs. T. B. Fowler and D. A. Smith, Capt. Cherry, Mr. J. H. Arathoon, Herman Stickel. To Madras: Capt. P. Holmes. To Alexandria: Mr. Duffus.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, August 4, from Southampton.—To Singapore: Mr. C. Wood. To Hong Kong: Mr. S. G. Bird. From Marseilles, August 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Maurice Brussel. To Singapore: Mr. S. Young. From Gibraltar.—To Singapore: Mr. R. and Mrs. Barras, Mr. M. Tavora.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, August 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Gatton, Mr. and Mrs. Adams, Miss. Brown. From Marseilles, August 28.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. A. Taylor. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. D. Crawford.

Per P. and O. steamer, Sept. 4, from Marseilles.—To Shanghai (via Bombay): Mr. Wm. Jackson, Mr. J. Webster. To Penang (via Bombay): Mrs. Rodyk and infant.

Per P. and O. steamer, Sept. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Miss Manuel, Miss Pagden, Mr. I. P. Mollson, Col. and Mrs. Gray, Miss P. Plumridge, Miss Longstaff, Mr. P. Bird. To Shanghai: Mr. E. Iveson, Rev. C. H. and Mrs. Butcher, Mr. F. Stokes, Miss Nelson.

Per P. and O. steamer, Sept. 28, from Marseilles.—To Singapore: Mr. P. C. Keake.

Per P. and O. steamer, Oct 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Preston and infant. To Shanghai: Mrs. Jarvie. From Marseilles, Oct. 12.—To Singapore: Miss Cooke and servant. To Shanghai: Mr. Gorden and friend.

Per P. and O. steamer, Oct. 28, from Marseilles.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. Tait. To Shanghai: Mr. A. Schultze. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Wood and lady friend.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

The dates hence are to the 26th May. The *Nepaul*, with the London mails of the 26th March, arrived from Shanghai on the 18th May.

Sir Rutherford Alcock, Her Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary, went up to Yedo on the 16th May in the *Coromandel*, but was back at Yokohama on the 18th A military guard left by land for Yedo to serve as escort to the Minister. This was a very necessary measure of precaution, if it be true, as stated, that the Gorojio warned his Excellency he would run the risk of being assassinated if he went to Yedo. Some anxiety had been felt from the fact of a body of some 150 *ronins* having quartered themselves in the environs of Yokohama, without any apparent let or hindrance from the Government. "It would be idle," remarks the *Commercial News*, "to ignore all consciousness of their presence, for in a country so notable for espionage, where even domestic incidents are secretly noted and removals from one street to another subjected to discussion and the pleasure of the authorities, such a circumstance as the visit of predatory freebooters *en masse* could not escape attention."

In reference to Sir Rutherford's request for troops, it is stated that a plot had been discovered, organised by some hostile Daimios, for the murder of the foreign residents at Yokohama, and that the Governor in giving notice of it to the British representative, said that it would be out of his power to afford them protection. The latter replied that it would soon be no longer required, as a body of troops were daily expected from Hong Kong. He accordingly wrote down to Hong Kong to expedite the departure of the *Conqueror* with the reinforcement of Marines, and to request that the 20th Regiment might also be sent over as soon as possible. When those troops arrived, it is generally current that the fleet would proceed to open up the Inland Sea, still closed against traffic by the Prince of Tsiosie, who fires on every vessel that passes Shimonoseki Bay.

The *Japan Herald* of the 26th May states that the main object of Sir Rutherford's visit to Yedo was to complete arrangements for the location of the men expected by the *Conqueror*, which vessel was looked for daily.

On the 20th M. Leon Roches, the French Minister, and suite, went up to Yedo on board H.I.M.S. *Dupleix*. This was a complimentary visit merely, and his Excellency returned the following day. The Consul-General for the Netherlands arrived at Yokohama on the 15th May, per H.N.M.S. *Djambi*, from Nagasaki.

The *Japan Herald* notices the general aspect of affairs in the following terms:—

"We cannot advise by this mail a continuation of the same satisfactory feeling in respect to the political aspect of affairs, which we last reported;—not that any events of great moment have occurred, but rather a combination of trifles which, in the sum, have tended to convey an idea that a feeling of uneasiness is attempted to be thrown upon us. It seems open to but little doubt that the Japanese continue to be eager to foster at least an idea of uncertainty. Such we take to be

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the purpose of representations made recently at Yedo;—such the end very probably aimed at in reported inroads of ronins upon Yedo; such very possibly the purpose of a new move—the attempt to restrict the resale of exchange itzibus by the incarceration of the small merchants trading in them;—and such is most probably the real cause of the appearance the other day in a local print (in which Japanese sensation news always finds ready admission) that '*Tsiosiu was on his way up from the south en route for Yokohama with a considerable body of men.*' These are all as clouds in the horizon; do they portend coming showers,—or do they indicate those passing away? These are the important questions which the most weatherwise in Japanese political questions seem at present at a loss to answer;—which will probably only be answered by the event."

According to the *Commercial News*, the Japanese Government who have the foreign newspapers regularly translated for their information, have experienced considerable annoyance at finding certain information published therein which it would have desired to withhold; and have come to the conclusion that it has been imparted by Japanese teachers in foreign employ. The Government have, therefore, ordered that in future all teachers employed by foreigners shall receive certificates from the Yokohama Custom House authorities, who will register their names, and take other precautions to ensure their secrecy. Those already engaged have been intimidated and warned to be cautious. Domestic servants are also to be re-registered.

The summary of events for the week ending the 26th May contains one very sad item,—notice of the decease of Mr. Henry Hubbard, the last newly admitted partner of the house of Dent and Co., which occurred on board the P. and O. S. *Nepaul*, the day before her arrival in port.

The main part of the British squadron continues in the harbour, in which also there was one French and two Dutch men-of-war. H.B.M.S. *Racehorse* left on the 21st May for Hakodadi, C. A. Winchester, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul for Kanagawa, being passenger by her. Marcus Flowers, Esq., Vice-Consul, has assumed acting charge of the British Consulate during his absence. The *Rattler* left for Nagasaki on the 25th. The *Pelorus* arrived from Hong Kong on the 16th.

The health of the Settlement was in a very satisfactory state. We hear of no more cases of small-pox on board the fleet, and but one or two slight cases on shore.

Very unambitious in its ideas of amusements, Yokohama has been enlivened during the fortnight by a couple of boat races. On the 19th of May a match for $50 a side came off between two favourite gigs, Messrs. George Barnet and Co.'s Sin Fa, and one belonging to W. McDonald, Esq. The Sin Fa crew were the following amateurs—1, Captain Blount, 20th Regt.; 2, E. J. Spence, Esq.; 3, H. Cope, Esq.; stroke, J. W. Murray, Esq., D.A.C.G.; coxn., H. H. Dyke, H.M.'s *Euryalus*. The other crew were Japanese, five men being allowed, to compensate for the boat being a little heavier. Distance 1¼ mile; a good race half the way, when Sin Fa went ahead and won easily by some fifteen lengths. The other was a match between the very excellent Japanese crew of E. M. Van Reed, Esq., in his fine whale-boat, against the gig's crew of the captain of the *Nepaul*, the Nippons running away from their Celestial brothers with ease.

There had also been a rifle match, at 500 yards' range—First prize, Captain Mears of the 20th, 2nd and 3rd, Captain Alexander, R.N., and Captain Applin, Mounted Escort.

The 24th, the Queen's birth-day, was so wet and stormy as to be almost entirely unsuited for out-door demonstrations, which were principally confined to the salutes from H.B.M.'s ships in harbour, and to their decoration in full bunting, which latter compliment to the day was also paid by the French and Dutch men-of-war, and all the merchant shipping in harbour. There was a gathering of the officials and some of the residents at the British Legation in the evening.

NAGASAKI.

We have dates hence to the 24th of May. The foreign residents had celebrated the Queen's birthday by an unusual "jollification." Her Majesty's ship *Perseus* fired a salute at noon, and was followed by one of the shore residents, who kept up a brisk, if not heavy fire for some short time. The thirst for amusement had been by no means subdued, for we hear that a grand theatrical performance was to come off on the 26th, on board Her Majesty's ship *Perseus*, while the 25th had been appointed for a regatta.

CHINA.

TIEN-TSIN.

A correspondent, writing under date of the 27th May, mentions that the two Danish vessels seized by the *Gazelle*, the *Caroline* and the *Catharina*, have been released, and now sail under Prussian colours. The *Falk* has been unrigged and is lying off the British settlement. The *Gazelle* left on the 18th May for Chefoo.

SHANGHAI.

The English mail of 10th of April arrived with the French mail of 17th, on 4th June. The dates are now down to the 6th.

The force under command of Major Gordon has been disbanded, and no longer shows a trace of its existence as a disciplined contingent within the walls of Quinsan, if we except the continued residence of the gallant major, the medical men, and the wounded still in hospital. The artillery branch have been taken over by the Futai, and are now proceeding from Soochow to Woochufoo, under command of Majors Doyle and Baily, which city is expected to capitulate and surrender with the usual shaving of heads and bending of tails. For once the Futai has behaved liberally, and has bestowed compensation varying from 200 dollars to junior officers of the late force newly joined, to 4,000 to those who have borne the heat and burden of the day, and many of whom, covered with wounds, have on every occasion distinguished themselves before the enemy. Amongst these we may mention Colonels Kirkham, Williams, Howard, Rhode, &c., most of whom leave our shores by the outgoing mail to recruit their shattered bodies and impaired health, the effects of wounds and arduous service in the field.

The artillery arm of Gordon's force is, we learn, to retain its present organisation after the disbandment of the infantry, and will remain in the Futai's service, under the command of Major Doyle, one of its present officers.

Tan-yang was evacuated by the rebels without attempt at resistance, and at once occupied by the Imperialists. It is believed that the whole of the open country in this province is now clear of rebels, and that Li Futai will soon march with his forces to join in the siege of Nanking, which is likely to be assaulted at the end of the hot season. The Imperialists hold a strong position at present, but are nearly inactive.

The Franco-Chinese and Imperial forces are encamped some distance from the city of Avochow, and had not, up to the 18th May, had any engagement with the rebels. The latter, who were strongly posted amid some heights in the neighbourhood, showed a disposition to advance. The Futai of Keangsoo is about to despatch 40,000 men to aid the Che-kiang troops in the siege.

An Imperial decree has appeared in the *Peking Gazette* of the 21st May, conferring on Gordon the rank of Ti-tu, and an honorary distinction equivalent to the English G.C.B.

The various actions since Colonel Gordon took command of the disciplined force we recapitulate, from a memorandum furnished by one of his late officers. Capture of Fushan, 4th of April, 1863; capture of Taitsan, 1st of May, 1863; capture of Quinsan, 31st of May, 1863; capture of Wokong, 27th of July, 1863; capture of Palachiaou, 29th of September, 1863; action at Wokong, 13th of October, 1863; capture of Walungchiaou, 23rd of October, 1863; action at Wokung, 26th of October, 1863; capture of Leekee, 1st of November, 1863; capture of Wanti, 11th of November, 1863; capture of Fusignan, 19th of November, 1863; unsuccessful attack on the Lowmun of Soochow stockades, 27th of November, 1863; capture of Yesing, 29th of February, 1864; capture of Leyang, 9th of March, 1864; unsuccessful attack on Kintang, 23rd of March, 1864; Chang-chow-Foo, 11th of May, 1864.

From Soochow we learn that the state of the city is improving in many respects. Business is carried out on a larger scale than formerly, and the appearance of the surrounding country, which is being gradually brought under cultivation, proves that agriculture is not neglected. The peasantry are content for the present to live in mat huts until they can afford to build more comfortable habitations. Large quantities of provisions are brought in every day, but in order to guard in the most effectual manner against the ingress of spies, each one who enters is stamped on the cheek with a chop, which is borne until the hour of closing the gates, when all visitors are excluded. A few days ago a rebel head-man was discovered riding in Mandarin dress through the Chá mun. On being searched, the small flag which is the symbol

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of authority and shows the authenticity of any order given, was found hidden in his horse's hoof. The broken wooden bridge outside the Lo-mun has now, in its place, a firm and ornamental one, and the granite bridge near it, which was very much damaged, has been repaired. The larger creeks in the city have been cleared of the filth which filled them during the rebel occupation, and the smaller ones, over many of which it was possible to ride, are now undergoing the same cleansing process. In addition to these improvements, postal communication has been established with Shanghai. A small official goes about to the houses of the principal mandarins and shopkeepers every morning, to collect their letters. The Futai has exerted himself to bring about these improvements, and will soon see the effect of his efforts in the growing prosperity of the city and its inhabitants. From the front, our advices extend to the 20th inst. The rebels did not make even an attempt to defend Tan-yang, but evacuated it immediately on the approach of the Imperialists, by whom it was re-occupied. Now, that the whole of the open country in this province may be considered free from insurgents, it is supposed that Li Futai will go to assist at the siege of Nanking, which will probably be assaulted at the end of the summer. The Imperialists are doing nothing at present; but hold a strong position.

The close of the theatrical season has not put an end to the amusements to be found here. Mr. Black, a new candidate for public favour, gave the first of a series of entertainments entitled "Evenings at Home," which seemed to afford universal satisfaction. His second and third performances were equally successful. The games came off on Saturday afternoon at the Ningpo Joss house, and were kept up with great spirit. In consequence of the death of Mr. Gray, R.N., the men of H.M.S. *Leopard* did not attend; although this was no doubt a drawback to the pleasure derivable from such a trial of strength and agility, both the performers and spectators enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

The weather in Shanghai has been fine. There has been considerable mortality caused by cholera; although chiefly among the shipping, a few cases have also occurred on shore.

The surveying expedition sent from Shanghai to the mouths of the Yang-tsze, was working fair progress. The last account was to the effect that the officers engaged were getting on satisfactorily, but were much inconvenienced by the loss of the junks which accompanied them at first, but left unceremoniously after a short time. The *Hardy's* rudder became damaged during a storm which set in last Sunday, and she has accordingly returned to Shanghai for repairs. The efforts made to discover the whereabouts of the Yang-tsze beacon have hitherto proved unsuccessful.

A general impression (says the *North China Herald*) prevailed before Sir Harry Parkes' arrival at Shanghai, that he would take office with the higher title of Consul-general, and much surprise and disappointment were expressed when it became known that he would only assume the simple rank of a Consul. There is probably no other place in the world at which a Consul is called on to exercise so many and various functions as at this port. Besides the ordinary duties incident to his position, a Consul at Shanghai—especially an English Consul—finds himself frequently called upon to discharge those both of a governor and a diplomatist. He is the natural referee to whom the Municipal Council have to look in all cases of difficulty, and the real decider of most, if not all, questions that may be referred to the Minister at Peking, who must be mainly guided by his opinion.

Two attempts have been made to break up and remove the wreck of the *Lord Lyndhurst*. On account of the force of the tide, it was found necessary to work at slack water only. Accordingly, at 8.30 A.M. on Saturday, the 21st May, a blasting charge was sunk in the forehold, and exploded. At 2.30 P.M. a similar attack was made on the main hold, a charge heavier than that which was used in the first case having been introduced. The effect was extraordinary. A column of water about twelve feet in height was thrown into the air, the deck-house was forced above the surface of the water, the mainmast was snapped about four feet below the cap, and the keel completely shattered. An explosion in the forehold will, it is hoped, in a few days, complete the work, and again leave that part of the river free from obstructions.

HANKOW.

The tea season opened on the 26th of May with 7 chops, settled at taels 36.50 to taels 38.25 per picul. On the following day a further settlement of 8 chops were made. Highest prices, taels 38.50. With few exceptions the musters are equal to last year's, and in cases where inferiority is detected it arises probably from the wet weather which set in at the commencement of the picking season. The latest sales in Shirtings are reported at taels 4.20 (high). San-ko-lin-sin has entered the Huquang province at the head of an army, in obedience to an Imperial order desiring him to assist in suppressing the rebels. He is now about a hundred miles from Hankow. Liang-hung-chun, another general, who was deputed some time ago to suppress the disturbances a short distance from Hankow, has fallen into disgrace. After capturing a small town from the insurgents, he not only permitted, but encouraged his troops in maltreating and outraging the country people. It is feared, however, that he will be screened from the punishment he deserves, as he has many influential friends among the mandarins of the province, and is a great favourite of the Futai, who will do all in his power to protect him.

The following is the *Shanghai Record's* letter from its correspondent in Hankow:—

HANKOW, May 22, 1864.

Since last, the following clippers have arrived,—the steamer *Sea King*, steamer *Robert Lowe*, and ship *Challenger*. They are all laid on for London at high rates of freight. It is quite a relief to the eye to see these beautiful vessels moored off the foreign settlement; however welcome the river steamers may be, one gets tired of the eternal beam-engine and castle of houses *a la American*. We have had cases of small-pox, one being fatal. Thanks to the unremitting attention and skill of Doctor Faulkner, the disease has in most instances been baffled; really we are lucky to have such a skilful "medico" amongst us; his time is so much taken up that he is getting out an "assistant."

About fifty or sixty dead bodies floated past the police-station yesterday morning; most of them had been decapitated, and others with arms and legs cut off, &c. The Chinese here say a great battle has been fought between Neinfi and Mandarin soldiers, a long way up the Yangtse; this will account for the corpses.

A number of encampments (without Knights Templars) are situated on the opposite shore on the hills; they drill daily, and go through their manœuvres in true Chinese style. For the past fortnight we have had very pleasant weather, but during the last two days a little too hot.

The "Band" is nearly finished, and when hardened will add materially to the beauties of Hankow. It is a pity we have not a good photographic artist here to photograph our houses, settlements, etc., etc.

The "Customs" remove into the Hong recently occupied by Messrs. Fletcher and Co., on the 1st of June; this will facilitate trade; the establishment being in the centre of Hankow and next to the S.S.N. Co.'s premises.

SHIPPING. — Hardy, H.M. Gunboat; Sea King, British screw steamer; Robert Lowe, British screw steamer; Challenger, British ship; Chekiang, American steamer; Wrecker, American schooner; Cracker, American schooner; Knagawo, American lugger; Flirt, American lugger; Surprise, American lugger; Que Que British lugger; Cæzar, British lugger; Amelia, British lugger; Prince Eugene, French lugger; twelve Chartered junks loading for Chinkiang by Barraud and White, Junk Agents.

NINGPO.

The rapid breaking away of the granite sea-wall in Hang-chow Bay is likely to produce the most serious consequences. Formerly this wall was the object of great care to the Imperial Government, and was then properly attended to, but it has for some years been neglected, and the Government excuses itself on the ground of the pecuniary difficulties caused by the rebellion. The rice districts in the vicinity of Ningpo have already suffered from the salt water which fills the creeks. Starvation must follow, and the effects will not only be felt in Chekiang, but, in consequence of the failure of those large supplies of rice which have been brought yearly from Ningpo and Hang-chow, the inhabitants of Kiangsu will also be seriously affected.

HONG KONG.

The English mail of 26th April arrived out on the 7th June. The dates are down to the 13th June. The double screw steamer *Far East*, Captain Jones, arrived out on the 7th. The following report is published in the Hong Kong papers:—

The *Far East* left the Thames on the 25th February, and discharged her pilot off Portsmouth on the 26th, getting out of

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the Channel on the 28th. She then encountered strong gales from the southward, with the usual high sea of the Bay of Biscay. These winds continued up to the 8th of March, when on that evening the wind backed to south south-west, and blew a hurricane, laying the ship down with topgallant sail under water, and carrying away gaffs and jackstays of steelyards. The lifeboats were also washed away, and everything on decks; the barometer during the time falling to 28.90. The wind, however, veered to the westward, where it continued and moderated, and from that time to her arrival the weather has been fine, and the winds have been unusually light, never reaching a reefed-topsail breeze, even down in 43 degrees south. The vessel during the passage has been under steam forty days, and was latterly short of coals; while, owing to the builders having directed in loading the placing of all heavy weights on the water line between decks, she became so crank after burning much coal that she would not stand up to her canvas with a side wind. The masts, yards, and rigging stand well, and the ship sails very fast, staying readily and steaming well. On the 30th May, in lat. 7.6 N., long. 106.50 E., at 6.30 A.M, she passed a large bamboo buoy, carefully moored, with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co.'s flag hoisted on a pole. She lowered a boat, when a 5-inch rope was observed to be attached to the buoy with a becket, wrought as if to lift some heavy weight. She was in company with the British brig *Woodbine*, from London, bound to Hong Kong at the time. On the 31st, in lat. 8.14 N., long. 108.6 E., she signalled the ship *Corea*, from London to Hong Kong, with loss of mizzen mast.

The following is from the *Daily Press*:—

The storm of Sunday night and Monday morning last inflicted vast injury in this colony. We should say, at a rough guess, that if the damage done to public and private property were estimated at half a million of dollars that it would be within the mark. In addition to the destruction of property, there has been a considerable loss of life among the Chinese. We would suggest that the well known beneficence of this community should be directed towards the alleviation of the misery caused by this catastrophe. Many Chinese have lost their homes, together with all their goods and chattels, and others whose houses have been spared have lost all their worldly effects.

How many times did we prognosticate that Wyndham-street would be torn up by the next following rains? Year after year did the catastrophe which we predicted, occur—thousands and thousands of dollars were year after year expended on the miserable patch-work, the whole of which money was misappropriated simply because not a cent of it was ever voted. It is excusable in any man to make a mistake, but for an engineer to make half-a-dozen attempts to construct the self-same work, and for all of them to fail, is a sheer absurdity Yet this was the case with Mr. Cleverly in his attempts to construct the drain down Wyndham-street. The Government allowed him to botch and blunder away, succumbing to his supercilious assumption of authority, and never calling in the advice of the military engineers who were available almost by the dozen, some of whom to our certain knowledge derided the modes adopted by the Surveyor-General, and utterly condemned them.

Wyndham-street would have defied the Surveyor-General to the end of time, had not a happy idea struck him. This was a catch drain up the hill, which shoots a great portion of the water into the military nullah.

How many times did we prognosticate the downfall of the gaol wall in Chancery-lane, and how many times were we right? At last Mr. C. H. Storey devised a plan of construction, and obtained the services of a sapper to overlook its execution; our dismal prognostications ceased, and the wall has since stood.

Many a time and oft have we designated the drains which were constructed to carry the water from the hill as mere agricultural ditches; again and again we have pointed out their frailty and their faultiness, and have ever prognosticated that they must burst to the first heavy rains which occurred, as they have hitherto invariably done.

The Surveyor-General's excuse was that he was overworked, and this pretext was good and valid whilst the man was allowed at the same time to be on the Legislative Council, to be the architect for the Consulates, to be a land speculator and house builder on his own account, to be a public architect, to attend to the laying down of buoys in the harbour, to construct floating police stations, to equip the convict hulk, and to do all sorts of things.

A deputation of the community should call on the Governor, and request him to have the damage surveyed by the military authorities.

Whilst on the subject of the storm we should state that, strange to say, although it lasted so long, it was purely local. At Canton and Whampoa it was not felt at all; the passengers per *Kinshan* on Monday night met it half way down. At Macao it was felt but slightly. On Monday afternoon, however, a water-spout descended near Whampoa, drowning about two hundred Chinese.

The following account is from the *China Mail*:—

The heavy rains which fell on Sunday night and during Monday have done more damage to the streets and to private property than was to have been expected in so short a time. Old residents say that they have known much heavier showers do less damage than the late rains have done; and we suppose that the destruction now visible in certain parts of the town is mainly owing to the ground having been prepared by the rain of a week previous, and so rendered easily assailable by the lashing torrents of Monday morning. We are as yet without information as to all the damage done, but a glance at that part of the city which lies eastward from the large water-tank presents a pitiful sight. Behind the tank a large portion of the road has resolved itself into silt, and disappeared from view, having been carried down the hill by the torrents of water. Coming eastward, we arrive at Mosque Terrace, where the road is also gone, and nothing but a yawning abyss remains in its place; the road leading to the castle is now only the track of a mountain torrent. Caine road has suffered badly, and has, just behind Captain Heaton's bungalow, burst in such a way as to throw down the retaining wall and inundate the house below with floods of water and silt. Shelley street, from top to bottom, looks like a skeleton from which the bones have been picked. At the sides of the street may now and then be seen the hollow shell of a footpath, whose hard chunam-work had resisted the water, projecting like a snow-wreath during a thaw. In fact, the damaged roads have all more or less the appearance which snow-covered land presents on the approach of fresh weather. Arrived at the foot of Shelley-street the torrent has turned to the left, and cut up the road most effectually, turning sharply round and forcing a channel for itself along Lyndhurst-terrace, again making a turn to the left and burrowing deep into Gage-street, with an overflow into Cochrane street, which did damage. But all the while another tremendous torrent had been hurling its whole momentum from Mosque-terrace down the whole length of Peel-street, as also down by the London Mission-house, where a portion of the eastern wall came down by the run. The whole of Graham-street, from the New Union Chapel site to Queen's road, is denuded of mould, and looks like the bed of a mountain stream. Chinese houses in the western part of the city are in many cases destroyed, and a good few lives lost.

We notice that convicts are at work repairing the damage, but as the chasms are only being refilled with soft earth, the remedy can only be temporary, lasting until the next heavy rains.

JAVA AND NETHERLANDS INDIA.

We have dates from Batavia to the 14th June. The steamer which arrived from Singapore on the 3rd June with the Europe mails of the 26th April, brought the remaining portion of the previous mail which had been left behind.

A slight disturbance of some importance had taken place in the vicinity of Batavia. A notorious horse-stealer of the name of Arbie, having raised a band of some one hundred marauders, committed serious depredations on the adjacent Tangerang estates. His career was but a short one. Troops most promptly sent to the infested district were soon on his track. He was pierced by several balls in the attempt to capture him. The actions of the man had not the slightest political colour, but were simply the results of his wish to revenge himself upon the *Schout* (police officer) at Mauk, who once before had delivered him to the authorities at this place upon a charge of horse stealing. He belonged to a tribe of men to be found in the *Kampongs* (villages) on the borders of the residency, and, unfortunately, only too numerous.

His Excellency the Governor-General left for Samarang on June 13 to lay the foundation stone of the railway-station at

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that port. Cholera has suddenly commenced its ravages there, and would appear to be peculiarly virulent, felling its hundreds daily. The victims are, however, for the most part of the native population.

The number of arrivals under the Dutch flag in Netherlands India from foreign ports during 1863 was, according to the *Javasche Courant*, ninety-one vessels, measuring together 26,854 lasts, of which thirty-six were in ballast. The departures were twenty-five vessels, measuring 7,448 lasts.

The news that the Bill for fixing the estimates of India by the Legislature had passed the Upper Chamber (remarks the *Java Times*) and thereby had become law, was but very coolly received here, the idea being predominant that India has little to gain by the change, and probably much to lose. Until it will have appeared in approaching sessions how the new regulation works, the Bill in question will be looked upon with unqualified suspicion. India, delivered over to the tender mercies of men with whom parsimonious economy is a virtue, is not a pleasant prospect for those who believe that only a profuse expenditure of capital can properly develope the unbounded resources of these islands. A great part of this capital should come from Government, but the explication given to Art. 7 of the Bill (see *memorie van toelichting*) discourages the idea of a more lavish expenditure for the future. The greater publicity which Indian affairs will enjoy under the new *regime* is, however, a boon which cannot be too highly appreciated.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates hence are to the 26th June. The London mail of the 10th May reached by the steamer *Malta* on the 11th June, making the transit in two days less than the contract time. The Messageries steamer *Erymanthe*, with dates from London to the 17th, and from Marseilles to the 19th May, reached on the morning of the 19th June. The steamer *Orissa*, which brought on the present mail, did not arrive at Singapore till the morning of the 26th June, having been detained five days beyond her time by the breaking of the screw shaft on the passage down from Hong Kong. The shaft, however, was repaired at sea, and the *Orissa* proceeded to Galle at two o'clock on the afternoon of the 26th, and it was expected would reach there in time to catch the Calcutta boat. She was not to call at Penang.

The principal interest of the fortnight has been of a commercial nature. In our last (says the *Overland Journal*) we reported that several extensive traders had given way, with liabilities amounting in the aggregate to nearly a million and a half of dollars. Since then, one very large house and one of long standing, carrying on partly an import and partly a local trade business, has had to suspend, with liabilities amounting to about a million of dollars. This failure has been followed by a few more among the Chinese dealers, and they together bring the gross amount of insolvency since the 1st of January this year up to somewhere about three millions of dollars—a large sum certainly. But still, more than half of the debts in all cases are to secured creditors, and as the dividends likely to be realized will probably reduce the balance by a third, not more than a million of dollars will be the amount actually lost; and this sum scarcely amounts to 2 per cent. on the yearly trade of the port, if the value of imports and exports are taken as the index of that trade.

The failure referred to is the following, thus noticed in the *Straits Times* of the 9th June:—

"The old and much-respected house of D'Almeida and Sons, owing to recent heavy losses, and to the unfavourable state of business, had to call their creditors together yesterday to deliberate upon the best course to adopt in their difficulties. According to a preliminary statement which had been drawn up, the liabilities of the house were set down at 912,000 dols., of which 487,000 dols. are to covered and 425,000 dols. to uncovered creditors; to meet the claims of the uncovered creditors there are assets to the estimated value of 313,000 dols.; but the great tightness in the money market, and the generally bad condition of business, may prevent their realising their full value." On the 25th of June, however, the same authority states:—"The firm of Jose D'Almeida and Sons, whose suspension of payment we have already noticed, have found it advisable voluntarily to place their estate in the Insolvent Court. It was found from the large number and value of foreign creditors, that under the directorship very little power would be given to act, and that many interests might be sacrificed. The present arrangement will therefore be the most satisfactory for all parties, and chiefly for the foreign creditors."

The steamer *Arracan*, which arrived on the 16th June, brought the following officers and men, namely—Lieut. McCarthy, Lieut. Lavie, Staff Assistant Surgeon Ashton, with No. 6 battery of the 17th Brigade Royal Artillery. Battery No. 2 of the same brigade, which has been here for a considerable time, will proceed in the *Arracan* to Penang, accompanied by Captain Marshall and Lieut. Weston. The *Arracan* will take to Madras the few Native Artillery that are here and at Malacca, as also the Local European Battery at Penang, accompanied by Captain Hitchins and Lieut. Bright. Lieut. Rolland, who was in charge of the Native Artillery at Malacca, rejoins his battery here. The stay of the *Arracan* is uncertain, as she is loading with ordinary stores and awaiting arrival of the steamer *Rainbow* from Labuan, with a detachment of ordnance people from Madras.

Official Notifications.—M. Mege has been appointed to assume charge of the office of the Consul for France at Singapore, during the approaching absence of M. C. Troplong. His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council is pleased to recognise the appointment of Mr. Alexandre Conighi as Provisional Consul for Austria at Singapore. Mr. J. Bennett, Special Assistant Engineer, assumed charge of the Penang division from Major Helliard on the 9th May. Mr. W. W. Williams, Collector of Stamps, has been appointed Commissioner of Stamps, including postage stamps, at Singapore. Mr. George Norris has been confirmed in his appointment of Assistant Stamp Collector. Mr. Isaac Stone has been appointed Consul for the United States at Singapore.

Captain Grant, and the crew of the British brig *Morning Star*, who arrived at Singapore on the 20th June in a Dutch schooner from Billiton, report the loss of the abov vessel in Gaspar Straits on the Alceste Reef, on the 29th May. The *Morning Star* was bound on a voyage from Manila to New York. Her cargo consisted of hemp, sugar, and cigars. No lives were lost, and the cargo was partly saved, but in a damaged state. The cause of wreck is attributed to the greater extent of the reef to the Northward than that laid down on the chart. The following cross bearings were taken after the wreck:—Small island east of Puloh Liat, S.E. by S. ½ S. do. West side, Puloh Liat bearing S.S.W. Dry sand bank north end Puloh Liat, viz., South 2 miles distant: all way bearings.

On Saturday, the 4th June, a numerous and influential body of gentlemen interested in the cause of education met at the school-rooms, Tanjong Paggar, at the invitation of Mr. C. P. Lalla, to witness the opening of the "Cama Free School." Mr. Woods, who was placed in the chair, said the district of Tanjong Paggar was highly favoured in school matters; for some years a Malay school had been carried on at the sole expense of Mr. Guthrie, an old resident; and now the same district was blessed with the present school, founded by the Cama family, and intended for all creeds. There were already 56 Chinese boys, comprised in five classes; and the monthly expenses of the school—about one hundred dollars—were entirely defrayed by Mr. B. H. Cama. Mr. Woods concluded by declaring the Cama Free School open, and invited the friends present to accompany him to an adjoining room—where refreshments were provided—and there drink success to the undertaking. This having been done in champaign, Mr. Lalla's health was drunk with three cheers. The scholars sang a school song, showing that they had already derived some benefit from their new teacher, and the guests departed apparently well satisfied with their entertainment.

It was expected that the second King of Siam would visit Singapore at the latter part of June or the beginning of July.

The Chinese have long been acknowledged to be an ingenious people, and unfortunately their ingenuity is not always applied to completely legitimate purposes. They make good mechanics and first-rate lock-pickers. A somewhat novel display of Celestial ingenuity has been disclosed before the police magistrate. A Chinaman was brought before him charged with smuggling chandoo tin boxes let into the soles of each of his shoes. The shoes in question were produced, and it was found that into the soles of each shoe a tin box was fitted with great nicety. The two boxes contained together about $7 worth of illicit chandoo. The ingenious smuggler had been caught boldly walking along South Bridge-road. He was fined $100.

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PENANG.

It deserves to be noticed, says the *Penang Gazette*, that there are no less than six vessels at present loading here for London, representing 2,968 registered, or 4,500 tons of carrying capacity. We believe such an occurrence has never before been seen in Penang. Certainly there was a great want of tonnage some time ago, and produce, therefore, accumulated; but no one, probably, had the least idea that there was so much elasticity in Penang as to give employment to so many ships at one time, and bound home to the same port.

Recent arrivals from the Pedier coast (reports the *Penang Argus* of the 2nd June) mention that Lim Yeong, a merchant of Penang, has been murdered on that coast about three miles from Timeang. It appeared that Lim Yeong, was returning to Penang, in his trading prahu, about 12 coyans burden, with a cargo of black pepper, hides, and gutta-percha, when two Malay sampans, with about twenty men, boarded his vessel, and after killing him and all on board, they removed into their sampans what they could find and set the prahu adrift. A few months ago a trading prahu belonging to another Chinese merchant of this island was gutted by the Rajah of Timeang. It is time that the local authorities take steps for punishing these misdeeds, and adopt some measures for the due protection of British trade carried on by our merchants and traders with the adjacent islands.

TRINGANO.

The Sultan of Tringano, says a correspondent from that State to the *Straits Times*, received a few days ago a bronze medal of the Great Exhibition of England, with a very kind letter from the Governor of the Straits, also a certificate signed by Earl Granville, Chairman of Her Majesty's Commission. It was brought here by a Tringano prow, but his Highness, hearing the name of her most Gracious Majesty the Queen mentioned in the letter, ordered it to be received with the greatest honour. The next day thousands of his nobles, &c., took it with them to the harbour, and from there brought it back to his Highness's palace under a royal salute of the guns of the Pabean. It was an impressive sight to see the happy faces of the people, at hearing that their beloved Radja was rewarded so well by the Queen's Commissioners.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BARLOW—On the 18th July, at Torkington-lodge, near Stockport, the wife of Thomas Barlow, of a son.

CARTWRIGHT—On the 17th July, at 3, Clifton-place, Lady Elizabeth Leslie Melville Cartwright, of a daughter.

DENT—On the 21st July, at St. Omer, France, the wife of Commander Charles B. C. Dent, R.N., H.M.S. Edgar, of a son.

FAGAN—On the 22nd July, at Cheltenham, the wife of Capt. C. S. Fagan, Madras Staff Corps, and Commandant 1st Regt. Infantry, H.C., of a daughter.

HOWELL—On the 20th July, at The Hurst, West Moulsey, the wife of W. G. Howell, of a son.

SAUMAREZ—On the 12th July, at The Firs, St. Lawrence, Jersey, the wife of Capt. Thomas Saumarez, R.N., of a son

SHORT—On the 12th June, at New Harbour, Singapore, the wife of Sep. Short, Esq., of a daughter, stillborn.

UNDERDOWN—On the 8th July, at Claremont, Higher Broughton, Manchester, the wife of Mr. R. G. Underdown, of a son.

WALLER—On the 2nd June, Mrs. William Waller, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

CLARK—COOPER—On the 19th July, at St. Matthew's, Oakley-square, by the Rev. C. Phillips, M.A., incumbent, Captain Clark, late of Shanghai, China, to Sarah, youngest and only daughter of Thomas Cooper, formerly of Kendal. No cards.

LOVE—HENRY—On the 9th June, at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, D.D., Colonial Chaplain, Joseph Love, jun., of Shanghai, to Miss Lucy Sarah Henry.

MAYERS—MCKENNA—On the 20th July, at the parish church, Barnes, Surrey, by the Rev. Robert Carrington, Frederick Mayers, Esq., of H.M.'s Consular Service, China, to Jeannie Cecilia, daughter of the late Hugh Malcolm McKenna, Esq., of New York.

POTTER—IRWIN—On the 7th June, at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, Frank Potter, Capt. H.M.'s 99th Regt., to Mary Elizabeth Irwin, daughter of the Rev. J. J. Irwin, Colonial Chaplain.

DEATHS.

CHOAKE—On the 1st June, at Kowloong, Ernest Blenheim, infant son of Sergeant Choake, H.M. 99th Regt., aged 9 months.

CLEMENTS—On the 4th June, at Hong Kong, Sarah, wife of Capt. William Clements, ship Passing Cloud.

GRAY—On the 28th May, at Shanghai, of cholera, Henry Gray, Esq., Paymaster H.M.S. Leopard, aged 39.

HAVILAND—On the 27th May, at Kiu-kiang, Jacob C. Haviland, of Pokeepsie Duchess County, New York, U.S.A.

HUBBARD—On the 17th May, on board the Nepaul, on the voyage to Yokohama, Henry Hubbard, a partner in the firm of Messrs. Dent and Co.

SMITH—On the 6th June, at Hong Kong, George Smith, gunner Royal Artillery, aged 31 years.

WALLER—On the 6th June, at Shanghai, the wife of Mr. William Waller, aged 26 years

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.		6s. 7d. to 6s. 7¼d.	6s. 7d. to 6s. 8d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 9½d. to 4s. 10d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 10d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 10d. to 4s. 10½d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 0d.
At Manila	6	ditto	4s. 9d.	4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.

At Shanghai: Bills on India, Rs. 315 to 316 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong: Rs. 226 to 227 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, taels. Hong Kong, 7 prem. Mexican Dollars at Shanghai, ; and exchange on Hong Kong, 27 discount.

From Mr. Sharp's Exchange Circular:—

GOLD.—The market for this bullion has been very steady during the fortnight, but very little fluctuation occurring from day to day—the extensive agency now at work for beating the gold into leaf secures a ready market for all kinds of gold, whether in bars, coin, or dust. The amount received since last report is two hundred and ninety thousand dollars value, and that exported, including the sum by the *Emeu* on 30th May and excluding that to leave by the *Orissa* on the 13th, is two and a half lakhs.

SILVER.—Two lakhs and a quarter have been received, and one lakh and a quarter has been sent away. This latter is exclusive of an amount to leave by the *Granada* to-morrow, which in the case of Silver Bar and coin will be included in next account. The value of Bar Silver has increased within the last day or two.

DOLLAR CURRENCY.—Receipts, nine hundred and four thousand; exports, thirteen hundred and thirty-one thousand, of which over twelve lakhs have gone North. A certain degree of caution is beginning to be manifested in reference to receiving in large amounts the very mutilated coin which comes from Canton and the Coast. Clean coin have receded in value upon the Shanghai advices.

DISCOUNTS AND MORTGAGES.—Bank bills have been done at six for short, private at eight, and advances upon produce have been made at nine per cent.

EXCHANGE.—Notwithstanding the heavy shipments of treasure to Foochow and Shanghai, there is but little improvement in the rate for buyers of sterling. Rupees have been at a very good price, but close at lower rates. The hatful of bills expected from Foo-chow seems to have been bought up there, and but few have been put on this market.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—CANTON.—Little or no new Congou is expected this season; 40 chops are talked about; their coming is doubtful. A few Tayshan have been placed at full rates. A fair business has been done in Scented Teas, the rate for Capers tending downwards. Canton Gunpowder continues saleable at previous rates. Young Hyson tending up.

AMOY.—Arrivals this season commenced later than usual but are now beginning to come down freely. The market has not yet opened; so far buyers evince no wish to operate except at a far lower range of prices than the Teamen will as yet concede. Congous: Most of the teas which have arrived prove inferior to last year's both in quality and strength, but more attention appears to have been paid to the make of the leaf than in previous years. Arrivals at market, 5,591 half-chests. Contract, 2,156 half-chests and 61 boxes.

FOOCHOW.—The market for Congous was opened on May 25th, by purchases of Suey Kut and Kien Ning kinds, at taels 32 to 34: being about taels 1½ to 2 lower than last year. Yung Hows and Hap Yangs were at first neglected, but three days later were freely taken at 27 to 29 taels, being 3 taels lower than last season. Finest Kisows (which had not arrived when the market first opened) began at the same time as Yung Hows, at 36 taels; and each chop has been eagerly bought on arrival at advancing prices, 37 and 37½ having been paid for favourite chops. On the other hand, Hap Yangs and Yung Hows have declined 2 to 3 taels on opening rates. The quality of the crop is in general better than last year's, the teas being stronger and heavier. In many cases, however, the condition has been much injured by the wet weather. This was particularly the case with the earlier arrivals of Yung Hows. The true Kisow teas are very fine, much better than last year's; and we think, even finer than, though scarcely so strong as, those of season 1862-63. The settlements reported are 42,261 chests, 33 000 hf-ch. and 5,200 boxes. New Congous; say Inferior (mixed with old tea) 2,734ch., 3,800 hf-do. and 800 boxes at 21½ to 28 taels. Second class Kisows, 16,800 ch., 15,000 hf-ch., and 1,100 boxes at 32 to 34 taels. Good to fine.—13,300 ch. 12,350 hf-ch. and 3,300 boxes at 35 to 37 taels. Finest, 6,400 ch. and 1,000 hf. do. at 38 to 39 taels. Also 4,700 hf ch. and 200 boxes Oolong, fair cargo to superior at 24½ to 32 taels. The supplies of new teas to date amount to 85 000 ch. Congou, 840 ch., Souchong, 7,200 hf-ch. Oolong, and 1,200 boxes Scented, against same time last season, 98,700 ch. Congou, 2,700 ch. Souchong, 400 ch. Pekoe, 3,350 hf-ch. Oolong, and 3,150 boxes Scented. Three clippers with new teas have sailed for London and two others are under despatch.

SHANGHAI.—Black: Settlements of 1,600 chests common Congou are reported at 15 to 21 taels, leaving only 320 chests of old tea in stock. There have been no arrivals of the new crop, but supplies are daily expected. The total shipments of Congou from Shanghai for the season just closed amount to 435,000 chests (inclusive of 35,000 direct from Hankow) against 294,000 the previous season. Green: But a small business has been done.

KIUKIANG.—Green Teas: The market is swept of last season's teas. The intelligence regarding the coming crop is varied. The Fychow district was reported clear of rebels, and the gathering of the leaf was proceeding apace. The Moyune district was threatened, and the rebels were in its vicinity; the consequence was that the communications were disturbed, and a great lack of confidence the result. Of Taipang leaf little is expected, and that only of inferior quality. The extent of the coming crop is of course only matter of conjecture; but it can hardly be expected to exceed the supply of the season just closed, short as that supply was.

YOKOHAMA.—Very little business has been done during the fortnight. There have been a few inconsiderable transactions in the Old Teas, and the stock is very small. From 200 to 250 piculs of New Teas are reported in the market, but the teamen are asking extreme rates, no settlements are made.

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NAGASAKI.—Little or none offering. Samples of the new season's crops have been exhibited, and parcels are expected in the markets shortly.

RAW SILK—SHANGHAI.—There has been very little done, and prices remain unchanged. The settlements of the fortnight are estimated at 70 bales only, and holders are by no means anxious sellers. Little can be said regarding the prospects of the coming season. Hank musters of Tsatlee and Taysaum have been received, but until the bale musters (expected in a few days) shall reach, no reliable opinion can be given. The dealers appear indisposed to make contracts, and none are reported. The coming crop is believed to be deficient, and the general impression is that rates will rule high.

YOKOHAMA.—There has been a fair inquiry during the last fortnight, and about 600 bales have been settled at a small reduction upon previous prices.

NAGASAKI.—None offering.

DRUGS, &c.—Canton: Cassia Lignea dull and drooping; sale, 400 piculs, at $15 to 15.50; stock, 2,000 piculs. Cassia Buds: Quiet at $54.50; 40 piculs offering on the market. China Galls: 100 piculs reported at $13.50 to 13.75; 200 piculs are on the market, held for the higher quotation. Vermilion: $43 to 44 per box. Rhubarb: No transactions. Musk: Of inferior quality only is being offered. Galangal is quoted $3.50, with a stock of 200 piculs, but is quite neglected. Essential Oils: None on the market.

CAMPHOR.—HONG KONG.—New supplies of about 1,500 piculs have arrived from Formosa a few days ago, but no sales have yet been reported. Holders are asking $19 to $19½ per picul unpacked and do not seem anxious to realise. A lot of some 600 piculs Japan, held five or six weeks for prices above market value, has been shipped to Liverpool.

RAW COTTON.

HONG KONG.—A fair amount of business has been done during the last fortnight, on the strength of the favourable accounts received from England. Supplies of Japan staple continue to come forward freely, and being preferred to Chinese descriptions, it meets with a ready sale. The transactions of the fortnight are stated at 7,000 bags China Cotton (Shanghai at $30 to $32, Ningpo $31½ to $32) and 5,000 bags Japan at $33½ to $34. The stock is estimated at about 27,000 bags. The present quotations are—Shanghai, $29 to $31.50, Ningpo, $30 to $32, Japan, $33.50.

SHANGHAI.—Prices are nominally the same, say Tls. 19.50 to 20.00 per picul for No. 1 Shanghai denomination; transactions are to a very limited scale. This may be accounted for from the absence of good staple on the market, the parcels offering being nearly all of very inferior description; and the smallness of stocks. The private telegrams brought by the *Fok-hien* from Hong Kong to the 11th April, via Bombay, had some little effect on the market, but buyers soon resumed their previous inactivity, preferring to wait the arrival of the mail here, by which seven days later intelligence is looked for. We have not heard of any further transactions for the new season's crop during the past fortnight. Advices by this and the ensuing Mail will no doubt very materially affect the early quotations, if not give a tone to the season's sales. Should the report of the Liverpool market, brought *via* Bombay, be verified, we may expect an active inquiry for new season's cotton. Our market here will be entirely dependent on advices from home; the crop, no doubt, will be much larger than that of last year, but this will not affect price. The experience we have gained of the Chinese proneness to false packing, and the suggestions they must have received from Europeans as to the poverty of staple and quality generally, may conduce to a better description of article being brought forward. At present there are about 10,000 bales of all descriptions in Shanghai, the bulk of which is of so unmerchantable a quality as to render dealers and speculators alike shy of operating at any price.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—There is not any change to notice in the value of cotton yarn as compared with the quotations given under date of 28th ultimo, and the transactions of the fortnight are limited to a sale of 55 bales, and 50 bales purchased on foreign account for shipment coastwise. Grey Shirtings also remain without much alteration in price, and the business of the past fortnight is comprised in settlements of 3,500 pieces purchased by the native dealers, and 700 pieces of damaged fabrics disposed of by public auction. Sales of 500 pieces lbs. 7.8 are reported from Foo-chow at $5.10 per piece. White Shirtings: The settlements of these goods reported in the Hong Kong market amount to only 1,000 pieces, taken at about previous quotations. T-Cloths: Have met with a moderate amount of inquiry in this market during the past fortnight, but the value of the lighter descriptions of goods to which settlements have been mainly confined is slightly below the quotations given in last circular. The sales effected since the commencement of the month amount to 10,062 pieces. There has not been a single sale made of any of the above-mentioned descriptions of imports in Canton, although prices are nominally quoted as under the date of last report. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: Have continued without inquiry, and the only sale reported during the past fortnight consists of 500 pieces of Dyed Brocades. Damasks: Are without sales to report. Chintzes: Have likewise continued without any inquiry. Handkerchiefs: The sales of these goods in Hong Kong during the fortnight amount to 2,250 dozens, there being no change noticeable in their value.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies and Habit Cloth: There has not been any inquiry manifested for those goods, either in this market or in Canton since the date of last advices, and prices remain nominally as then quoted. From Foo-chow a small sale of 96 pieces at 86 cents per yard is reported. Long Ells: The only sales of long ells to be noticed forthe present mail is one of 100 pieces. Camlets: Neither have these goods met with brisk inquiry, the sales of the fortnight being limited to 250 pieces. Lastings: There are not any sales of these goods to report. Blankets: Nothing doing.

METLS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: Prices remain without change both in this market and in Canton. The settlements effected in Hong Kong have been upon a small scale, and do not exceed 2,500 piculs of all kinds. From Canton there are not any sales to report. Lead: Also remains at previous quotations, with sales of 580 piculs reported in this Colony. The Canton market remains without change in value or settlements to notice. From Foo-chow we hear of 520 piculs having been placed against Tea, at $7 to $7.50 per picul. Tin: Some 1,200 slabs have found buyers in Hong Kong. Tin Plates: Remain as before quoted, with sales of 200 boxes in this Colony. Steel: Without sales to notice.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN.—None.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: June 2, Pegasus. From Liverpool: May 23, Southern Cross, and, 31, Caractacus. From Cardiff: 27, Jane Isabella; 29, Nicolitre. From Sunderland: June 1, Sherlington.

At FOO-CHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From London: June 7, Far East (str.), Philomela, Corea, and Kestrel. From Liverpool: 8, England and Everest. From Newcastle: 5, Jessie Beazley; 6, Melanie; 10, Maggie Leslie. From Newport: 8, Everest, The Cedars; 9, Isabella. From Sunderland: 8, Yeavering Belle; 10, Chanticleer. From Cardiff: 3, Malabar, and, 12, Good Hope. From Hamburg: 3, Alexander. From New York: 9, Pluto (str.); 11, Nabob. From Boston: 9, Daniel Draper.

At MANILA.—From Hamburg: June 1, Voladora.

At SINGAPORE.—From London; June 9, James Paton. From Liverpool: 21, M. Lauder and Brami. From Sunderland: 9, Miss Nightingale; 10, Hjalmar; 14, Winlow. From Shields: 16, Rangoon. From Glasgow: 17, E. Ronneberg, Figaro, Dunnikier, and Cleroloph Donneberg. From Antwerp: 13, Casilda. From Boston: 9, General Ward.

At BATAVIA.—From London: Salatiga. From Glasgow: Three Bells.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—None.

From SHANGHAI.—For Liverpool: May 25, Cyclone and Fanny. For New York, 20 Gleann.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: May 29, Fiery Cross; June 1, Flying Spur; 2, Serica; and 4, Young Lochinvar.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: June 3, Belted Will. For England: 9, H.M.S. Vulcan.

From MANILA.—For London: May 25, Cambodia. For Liverpool: 28, Alica Annie; 30, Barinaga. For Falmouth: 24, Albuera. For Havre: 17, Nouvelle Antoinette. For New York: June 2, Tropic and George Peabody.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: June 11, Dewa Gungadhur. For New York: 12, Ocean Home, and Gertrude.

From BANGKOK.—None.

LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Patrician, Natal, Merse, and Yokohama. For Liverpool: Red Deer. For Falmouth: Twee Corneliessen.

At HANKOW.—For London: Robert Lowe and Sea King (strs.), Challenger, and Falcon.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Brockham, Coulnakyle, Guinevere, Silver Eagle, Taeping, Eliza Shaw, Knight Templar. For Liverpool: Pegasus, Fychow, Highflyer, Reigate, Esk, Surrey, Warwick Castle, Peerless.

At FOO-CHOW.—For London: Robin Hood (cleared), Min, Yangtzse, Dora, Ellen Rodger, City of Aberdeen, Childers, and Holmsdale. For Liverpool: Zibu.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Kelso, Banian, Marlborough, Glenavos. For Liverpool: Edward Percy and Geologist. For New York: Roslin Castle.

At MANILA.—For London: A. de Winter, Labrador, and Seaforth. For Liverpool: Frederika, Indiaman, Kathay, Patriot King, Sales. For Falmouth: Achilles, Fagel, and Peveril of the Peak. For New York: Guletia and Norwester.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Bonanza and Miss Nightingale. For Liverpool: Invincible. For Falmouth: Daniel Rankin. For Boston: Constance.

At BANGKOK.—For New York: Eastward Ho.

At BATAVIA.—For Amsterdam: Nicot. For Rotterdam: Fred Warren, Whampoa, Balaklava, Adriana Petronella, and Robert Dixon.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

JAPAN.—To London: Cotton and Tea, £5. 10s. to £6; Silk, £6. 10s. to £7 per ton of 50 cubic feet. To Hong Kong: Per sailing vessel $8, per steamer $9 per ton of 40 feet.

HANKOW.—To London: The Sea King is loading at £12. 12s., and the Robert Lowe at £9 (both strs.), per clipper vessels £8.

SHANGHAI.—The Eliza Shaw is the only vessel on the berth for new teas, and has been partly engaged at £6, but as there are plenty of fine vessels waiting to be taken up, this rate can hardly be expected to be maintained, for the coast business is but limited.

FOO-CHOW.—The Fiery Cross loaded at £5. 10s. per ton of 50 cubic feet, and 10s. per ton extra if first ship to arrive in England. The other clippers are and have been loaded at £5 per ton, and 10s. per ton extra if first ship home.

HONG KONG.—For the coast and rice ports there is but little enquiry. The following from Geo. Holme's circular will show the principal charters:—Marlborough, 890 tons, to London, £3. 10s. per ton; Geologist, 854 tons, to Liverpool, £3. 10s. to £3. 15s.; Margaret Michell, to load at a port in Java, to Falmouth, for orders, £4 if to United Kingdom, if Continent, £4. 5s. per ton, 2s. 6d. per ton extra if loaded at two ports; Roslin Castle, on the berth at Whampoa, for New York, £3. 10s. per ton for teas, and £4. 10s. for silk. To Bangkok and back the rates are 40 to 47½ cts. per picul, and 15 to 20 cts. extra if to northern ports.

MANILA. To London: £4 to £4. 5s. per ton for unclayed sugar; clayed, £2. 15s. to £3; hemp, £5. 5s.

SINGAPORE.—To London: Dead weight £3, and measurement £4 per ton.

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PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—May 30, Ina, Newport to Hong Kong; 30, Royal Mint, Sunderland to Shanghai; Northland, Sunderland to Hong Kong; June 1, Horsa, Liverpool to Hong Kong; Simoda, Liverpool to Shanghai; 4, John Stanton, Bristol to Shanghai; 6, Solent, London to Shanghai; 7, Azhelstan, London to Singapore; Cathafa, Cardiff to Hong Kong; Prince Kung (st.), Falmouth to Shanghai; 8, Yaratilda, London to Shanghai; Bedford, Sunderland to Hong Kong; 9, Comus, Sunderland to Shanghai; 13, Glenisla, Glasgow to Batavia.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT: May 27, Ethel, Hong Kong to London; 27, Abbotsford, Yokohama to London; 30, Diadem, Manila to Liverpool; Rajah (st.), Shanghai to London; June 7, Canaan, Manila to Falmouth.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—June 1, Baron Kulmer, New York to Hong Kong; Leopoldina, Bauer, New York to Shanghai.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—None.

CASUALTIES.

SHANGHAI.

... reports that she saw a large ship, apparently of about 900 ... The Coro... ...reste Reef, with bowsprit and two lower masts standing. ...tons, on the Ai... ...n the reef, she appeared to have been bound home. From her position ...

HONG KONG.

...t into Hong Kong, having been in collision with the Russian frigate Gaze... ...le. The former reports as follows:—

On the morning of the 2nd, at about 3.50 A.M., a large vessel was sighted on our port bow, but no ligh... ...s were visible, and the officer of the watch thought she was steering the sa... ...ne course as ourselves, but afterwards found we were closing on each o... ...her, and consequently put his helm to port, to clear him; whereupon the fri... ...ate put her helm to starboard to cross our bows; our engines were then stopped and backed, but it being inevitable that a collision was to take place, our helm was shifted and we struck her on the starboard bow abaft the foremast, carrying away our jibboom, bowsprit, figure head, and bulging in our iron plates forward; but I am glad to say no damage was done below water line. She appeared to have come in for a large share, as when we passed yesterday afternoon she was still repairing damages. This notice is sent that vessels, and steamers more particularly, may know that the frigate cruises under steam with her lights screened, a very dangerous practice these dark rainy nights; when we struck her there was not a light to be seen, nor for some time after; I have no doubt this is done that she may catch her prey more easily.

2. As I am writing this the Gazelle has arrived with sch o oner a pr in tow.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

A prospectus has been issued of a new bank for India, the Eastern Archipelago, China, and Japan, which will be found in our advertising columns.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Aug. 1, at Deal, from Singapore, Eliza Thornton; at London, from Penang, Scotland; from China, Berdinkha; July 28, off the Wight, from Batavia, Dionysia, Catharina; 28, off St. Maws, from Batavia, Johannes Hendrikus; 27, at Helvoet, from Banjoewangie, West Kapelle; 28, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Maria Anna; 30, at Deal, from Sourabaya, Maria Adriana; 27, at Cuxhaven, from Bassein, Nordstern.

DEPARTURES.—July 26, from Sunderland, for Singapore, Charmer, Thurso; 27, from Liverpool, for Batavia, Oceaan, for Singapore, Mount Vernon; 29, for Hong Kong, Prince Arthur, Tricolor.

At ST. HELENA.—July 2. Hollandria, from Batavia, and sailed for Amsterdam; she had experienced a heavy gale off the Cape, June 13, when she lost sails, &c.

SPOKEN.—Johannes Martinus, Rotterdam to Singapore, June 7, 16 N., 23 W.; A. R. Falck, Amsterdam to Samarang, July 15 47 N.; Catharina Maria, Zierikzee, to Batavia, July 19, 49 N., 6 W.; Devondale, Penang to London, June 12, 15 S., long. 6; Maria Agnes (Dutch barque), Java to Amsterdam, 104 days out, July 9, 33 N., 40 W.; Henrietta Gertruida, Amsterdam to Sourabaya, June 15, 8 N., 21 W.; Norden, Banjoewangie to Amsterdam, May 26, 16 S., 5 W.; Anna, Amsterdam to Sourabaya, June 10, 7 N., 25 W.; Herman, Amsterdam to Padang, June 11, 6 N., 26 W.; Ouderkirkaan den Amstel., Batavia to Amsterdam, July 4, 12 N., 28 W.

LAID ON.—At London, for Shanghai, Norwood; for Nagasaki, Millbrook; at Liverpool, for Singapore, Richard Cobden, Bentinck; for Manila, Thomas Roydon.

Naval and Military.

Colonel Guy, C.B., now commanding at Colchester, has been selected to succeed Major-General W. G. Brown, in the command of the troops in China. He has been forty years in the service, and commanded the first battalion 5th Fusiliers through the Indian Mutiny. Lieutenant T. M. Magnay, recently appointed to Her Majesty's ship *Princess Charlotte* at Hong Kong, proceeds by next mail.

The screw steam corvette Encounter, 14, Captain Roderick Dew, C.B., arrived in Plymouth Sound on the 21st inst. She left Yokohama on December 29, Nagasaki on January 12, Shanghai on the 20th, Ningpo on the 26th, Amoy on the 29th, Hong Kong on March 8, Singapore on the 23rd, the Cape of Good Hope on May 14, St. Helena on June 4, Ascension on the 8th, and Fayal on July 7. The Encounter has been in commission nearly five years.

The new military arrangements suggested by the Colonial Office for the Australian Colonies, exclusive of New Zealand, have been made public. It is proposed to allot in future 15 companies of infantry, consisting of one entire regiment, and the head-quarters wing of another regiment, in the following proportions:—New South Wales 4 companies, about 19 officers, 340 men; Queensland 1 company, about 3 officers, 88 men; Victoria 5 companies, about 22 officers, 423 men; Tasmania 3 companies, about 11 officers, 249 men; South Australia 2 companies, about 6 officers, 166 men; being a total strength of 1,327 of all ranks. The four companies in New South Wales and the single company in Queensland will probably be a wing of a regiment, of which the other wing will be in New Zealand. Another regiment will in that case furnish the ten companies in Victoria, Tasmania, and South Australia. The colonists have been asked to contribute a payment of £40 per man actually maintained up to this strength; but the scheme still remains uncompleted, owing to a hitch on the part of the Colonial Parliament.

Vice-Admiral Sir Michael Seymour, G.C.B., Naval Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth, accompanied by his flag captain, Captain Scott, C.B., aide-de-camp to the Queen, embarked in the Fire Queen steam yacht, Staff Commander Paul, and, proceeding out to Spithead, paid a visit to Vice-Admiral Edham Pasha, the admiral commanding the Imperial Ottoman squadron now lying at Spithead, on board his flagship, the Paik Nusrett, 92 guns, Captain Ari Bey.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to signify her intention to confer the decoration of the Victoria Cross on the undermentioned officer of Her Majesty's Indian forces, whose claim to the same has been submitted for Her Majesty's approval, for his gallant conduct during the operations at Umbeyla, on the north-western frontier of India, as recorded against his name, viz.:—Bengal Staff Corps—Lieutenant Henry William Pitcher, Adjutant 4th Punjaub Infantry—For the daring and gallant manner in which, in the course of the recent operations against the frontier tribes, on the 30th of October, 1863, he led a party of his regiment to the re-capture the Crag Picket, after its garrison had been driven in by the enemy; on which occasion sixty of them were killed in desperate hand-to-hand fighting.

The experiments at Shoeburyness have resulted so far in showing the superiority of the Lancaster gun over its competitors rifled on the French, the Scott, and other systems. The shooting of the 600-pounder gun has given great satisfaction, the accuracy of its aim being as remarkable as the length of its range, while as the gunners get used to it they can handle it much more effectively, and load it much more quickly than was at one time supposed to be possible.

The Himalaya, screw troopship, Captain E. Lacy, arrived at Portsmouth from Quebec, whence she sailed on the 6th inst., with troops and invalids on board.

On Wednesday, the 21st inst., a Royal review of the troops at Aldershott was held. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, accompanied by Prince Louis of Hesse and the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, arrived at Farnborough Station shortly after nine o'clock, and at once proceeded to Cove Common, where the division was formed up in lines of brigade, with the Royal Horse Artillery and the field batteries massed upon the left, on the high ground opposite the Queen's Hotel. The three brigades of infantry were drawn up in three lines, the third brigade in front, the second in the centre, and the first in the rear. The six regiments of cavalry were divided into two brigades, light and heavy, the right of the latter being occupied by the 2nd Life Guards. The Royal Engineer Train and pontoons, and the two battalions of the Military Train, were formed in rear of the artillery. Precisely at 9.30 A.M. their Royal Highnesses and suite rode on to the ground, where they were received by Lieutenant-General Sir John L. Pennefather, K.C.B., commanding the division, and the whole of the divisional staff, the troops presenting arms and the bands playing the National Anthem. The troops, after the march past, formed echelons of regiments in the hollow, immediately below the hill. They then advanced from their right by battalions, the whole front being covered by skirmishers from the 60th Rifles. As they advanced, two batteries of artillery kept in reserve were brought to the front, and the officers commanding desired to take any ground that might be considered suitable for maintaining the action against the supposed enemy. On nearing the canal the 3rd Brigade, under General Russell, took the Eelmore-bridge, and the 1st Brigade, under General Brook Taylor, on the right of General Russell's brigade, crossed the pontoon bridge. The cavalry, which had been sent a long distance away, and through Cove village, took the enemy on the right by the pontoon bridge. As soon as the canal was crossed and the neighbouring heights above gained the enemy was supposed to be defeated and the review terminated. His Royal Highness the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief then sent the infantry home and ordered the cavalry to remain for extra manœuvres, the marching past of some of the cavalry regiments, and particularly of the 2nd Life Guards, causing his Royal Highness some dissatisfaction. The attendance of spectators was unusually numerous, and the spot selected for the marching past and the manœuvres generally being entirely covered with heath was comparatively free from dust. On the conclusion of the review their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, Prince Louis of Hesse, and the Duke of Cambridge and suite, proceeded to the quarters of Sir J. L. Pennefather, K.C.B., where they partook of dinner, the band of the 14th Regiment playing a selection of music under the direction Mr. Doorly.

Literature.

The Chinese and Japanese Repository for June is a number of unusual interest. It comprises a continuation of Mr. Lockhart's "Medical Missionary Practice in Peking in 1861-2;" an article on the Situation of Peking, abounding in curious and interesting details; another chapter of the "Story of Han-wan and the White Serpent," a tale which well deserves the honour of separate publication; and further instalments of the other articles that have been in course of reproduction in this periodical. Great astonishment has been often expressed at the vast distances to which immense blocks of stone must have been transported by the ancients. We shall have many of these wonders explained as we know more of the interior of China, where the practices and arts of antiquity will be found still in vigour, in a way that will illustrate many things told us by the historians of Greece and Rome that we still continue to esteem as scarcely credible. We read—

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Some time ago a block of white marble, 15 feet long by 12 feet thick, and 12 feet broad, and computed to weigh 60 tons, was dug in these quarters [distant about 50 miles from Peking], and carried along a road 100 miles long, constructed for the purpose, to the Eastern tombs of the present reigning dynasty, to be cut into the figure of an elephant for the tomb of the late Emperor, Heen-Fung. The block of marble was placed on two ponderous trucks, made of large beams of timber lashed and clamped together, moving on 16 wheels, and drawn by 600 mules and horses to the tplace of its destination. It was an extraordinary sight, and almost all the foreign residents went to see it as it passed near the city tothe tombs.

The *British Army and Navy Review*, a first number of which is before us, is a spirited attempt to establish a new monthly shilling magazine for the large classes interested in military and naval affairs. The contents include an excellent original paper on Lee's Second Year of Campaigns in Defence of Richmond, by Capt. CHESNEY, R.E., Professor of Military History at Sandhurst College, relating principally to the invasion of Pennsylvania in June, 1863; also articles entitled "The Story of Major André," by JAMES GRANT; "The Volunteers, Prospect of the Force in its Fifth Year," by the author of "Tom Brown's School Days;" "The Navy of the Confederate States—the *Alabama*," by Commander BEDFORD PIM, R.N., &c., &c. The number also includes tabular information as to the stations of the army and navy at the present time.

Messrs. Hurst and Blackett publish this week *Life in Java, with Sketches of the Javanese*, by WILLIAM BARRINGTON D'-ALMEIDA. The work will be in two volumes, with illustrations, and shall receive a notice in our next number.

De Homœopathische Huisvriend, door E. GUERNSEY, M.D. London: Turner and Co., Fleet-street.—This neat little volume is a translation into Dutch of the "Homœopathic Domestic Practice" of Doctors Guernsey and Thomas. The reputation of the original is so well established that there can be no doubt of a large sale of the translation wherever the Dutch language is spoken, and those who are converts to the system of medicine to which the book is adapted will have reason heartily to thank Mr. Turner for furnishing them with a manual that must have long been a desideratum.

"THE TIMES" SHANGHAI CORRESPONDENT.

The Custom House returns of import and export trade of Shanghai during the past twelve months have been published during the past fortnight. There is a large falling off in exports, owing to the deficient arrivals of silk from the interior; but almost every other article of commerce, with this exception, shows an increase, and the value of imports is £6,845,622 higher than during the previous year. The exports of silk fell from 68,300 piculs, valued at about £7,000,000. This falling off is, of course, attributable to the disturbed state of the country. There has been a gradual diminution in the arrivals from the silk district since the first year that they fell into rebel possession, although proportionately to the crop produced the quantity sent to the foreign market had never been so large. All the silk produced which was not required for their own consumption was sent by the rebels to Shanghai, so that the actual deficiency in the crop was greater than the apparent falling off, as judged from the quantity which reached the foreign market. During the past year, however, the silk districts, which had been rapidly overrun by the rebels, and conquered with comparatively little fighting, had been reconquered by the Imperialists, and consequently again looted and desolated worse than before. The defeated rebels carried away with them in their retreat all the property on which they could lay hands, and impressed the inhabitants as coolies, while the advancing Imperialists again looted what little was left, and this, judging from the accounts that have been received of the state of the recovered districts, can have been little indeed. Thus the production of silk during the past year fell off to a serious extent, and it is to be apprehended that during 1864 the crop may be still smaller. So far as regards the trade of Shanghai, however, I have no hesitation in asserting that the local Government has been the only sufferer through the falling off, on account of the reduction in duties. Merchants have been saved by it from heavy losses. Almost every shipment of silk which has been made to England during the present year has shown a loss, and it is logical to infer that if the shipments had been larger the prices realised would have been lower and the losres heavier. The increased demand for cotton for exportation had the effect of nearly quadrupling the arrivals from the interior, the quantity exported being valued at three millions and a half sterling, instead of one million during 1862. The exports of tea also during 1863 exceeded those of the previous year by more than 10,000,000 lb. With the exception of an increase of £700,000 in the value of opium, and £1,000,000 in treasure imported, the increase of six millions and a half which is shown by the return in the total import trade of the port is referable rather to a general increase than to any particular article. The tonnage of inwards shipping in 1863 exceeded that of 1862 by 240,000 tons, and that of outward vessels by 273,000. Of this increase about 150,000 tons were in British, and 50,000 in American ships. Thus it will be seen that, notwithstanding the falling off in the silk trade, the general increase in the trade of the port has been satisfactory, and now that the rebellion has been so nearly extinguished a still greater rise may be looked for—not in 1864, probably, because the struggle which has been going on in the two provinces of Keang-soo and Che-keang must have had a depressing influence on the trade of Shanghai. But if, as may be expected, this year witnesses the extinction of the rebellion, a great improvement may be looked for in 1865.

INDIA.—PAST AND PRESENT.

The annual statement of the Indian Budget presents a gratifying picture of progress, economy, and improvement. Whichever way we turn we meet with the most convincing proofs that we have at last hit upon a plan which is destined to develop to the utmost the industrial capacities of India, and to preserve the wealth which she creates for the purposes of reproduction. Within the last five years India has exchanged a deficit of fourteen millions for a surplus of several hundred thousand pounds, and that in spite of a deficiency in the article of opium alone of no less than £1,600,000. The Income-tax is, indeed, a failure. The Indian trader is not proof against the temptation which the virtue of the English trader has not been altogether able to resist, and it is announced that the tax is to be abolished as a part of the general revenue, and only retained for the purposes of local taxation.

Whatever be the injuries that the American war has done to Lancashire, it has unquestionably regenerated India; but this process would not have been so sudden nor so complete had not a wise and provident Government prepared the way for this new burst of prosperity by piercing the vast interior with railroads, by putting the finances in order, and by employing persons able not only to adapt English institutions to Indian use, but to invent new principles to meet Indian wants when the principles already known seemed not to be fit for the purpose. The picture of foreign policy in India is as gratifying as that of domestic improvement. We have at last learnt in India that indifferencef which we are endeavouring to learn in Europe. Three sons of Dost Mohammed Khan are fighting for the possession of the Affghan throne, and we in former times should have had our favourite and our enemy, and been busy with intrigues to support the one and supplant the other. As it is, we look on with perfect indifference at the unnatural conflict, ready to enter into friendly relations with the conqueror, and to give the conquered, if he escape the sword or the bowstring, an asylum within our dominions. Surely, this is much better than the costly folly of five-and-twenty years since. We have unintentionally excited the jealousy of one Hill Tribe while chastising another, and suffered severely in consequence, while in the wild and mountainous region of Bhootan our Envoy has been insulted and our complaints scornfully rejected. Time was when this would have led to a war, but now we content ourselves with occupying the passes by which Bhootan is connected with the rest of the world, and trust to this kind of land blockade to bring our refractory neighbours to reason. Such is the outline of the Indian Budget. Its statements are not only gratifying in themselves, inasmuch as they tell of peace and prosperity, but also from the promise they give that our Government will be conducted on principles which will render that prosperity durable.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

DESPATCH OF TROOPS TO JAPAN.

(20th.) Mr. S. FITZGERALD asked the noble lord the Under-Secretary for War whether it was the case that a regiment had been ordered from Hong Kong to Japan on the requisition of Sir Rutherford Alcock; and, if so, whether he could explain for what purpose these troops were wanted. —The Marquis of HARTINGTON said a despatch had been received from General Brown at Hong Kong, stating that a requisition had arrived from Sir Rutherford Alcock for the remaining companies of the 2nd Battalion of the 20th Regiment, then stationed at Hong Kong, to be sent to him at Yokohama. General Brown said that the requisition would be complied with as soon as transports could be obtained.—Mr. S. FITZGERALD asked whether there was any statement in the despatch as to the object for which the troops were required in Japan. (Hear, hear.) The Marquis of HARTINGTON said that Sir Rutherford Alcock spoke only in general terms of the state of affairs at present existing in Japan.—Sir J. PAKINGTON: How many men are going?—The Marquis of HARTINGTON: Six companies.—Mr. COBDEN said he did not understand how many men were to be sent to Yokohama.—The Marquis of HARTINGTON could not speak exactly as to the number of men; but he believed that there were two companies already in Yokohama, and the remainder of the troops would be six companies, or probably about 800 men.

JAPAN.

(21st.) Lord NAAS, in the absence of Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald, asked the Secretary to the Admiralty whether a force of marines had been sent from this country to Japan, of how many men it consisted, and when it was despatched from the country.—Lord C. PAGET stated in reply that on the 21st of December last Her Majesty's ship *Conqueror* was sent to Japan with a limited crew and 500 marines.—Lord R. MONTAGU asked whether the troops and marines who had been sent to Japan had been sent there on the authority of the Cabinet or only by the order of some subordinate officer. In the latter case a grave constitutional question would arise, because the Crown alone had authority to do what might amount to an act of war against a foreign Sovereign. He wished, also, to know whether, before the debate which was fixed for to-morrow, the Government would lay on the table the despatch from General Brown.—Lord PALMERSTON: The troops which were sent from Hong Kong were sent in consequence of a requisition from Sir R. Alcock in Japan, and not in consequence of orders from the Government here. The troops were sent to Hong Kong in order to be in readiness in case they might be wanted, but the immediate cause of their removal was a requisition from Sir R. Alcock. The noble lord asks whether the despatch will be laid on the table to-morrow in time for the discussion. That I am not able to say. I cannot say whether that despatch by itself is one which should be laid upon the table without other accompanying despatches, but I will inquire.

THE INDIAN BUDGET.

(21st.) Sir C. WOOD made his annual statement of the finances of India. He began by observing that the favourable anticipations he had made in past years had been confirmed, and the hopes he had held out had been more than realized. The result was that, after an equilibrium of revenue and expenditure in one year, there had been a considerable surplus in three successive years. £8,313,000 of debt had been paid off, and there was a balance in the Treasury of upwards of £19,000,000. There

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had been a steady increase, he said, in all the items of revenue, the augmentation of the land revenue having resulted from the large quantity of land taken into cultivation. He went over the other sources of supply to the Indian Exchequer, explaining, as he proceeded, the nature of each and the modifications they had undergone, remarking that most of them were derived from internal taxation, falling upon the people of India. He then adverted to the expenditure, to the increase in the price of commodities and in the rate of wages. He entered very fully into the state of the cotton cultivation, showing that there had been a progressive increase in the production and in the importation of East India cotton, and stated the measures taken to check its adulteration. He read statements of the augmentation of the exports of other articles of Indian produce—coffee, indigo, jute, woods, tea, and cinchona bark. He gave details respecting the state of public works in India, where there was now an excessive demand and competition for labour; the railroads, telegraphs, &c.; and he then, after remarking that tranquillity prevailed within our own territories in India, traced the origin of the late operations against the fanatical tribes beyond the Punjab frontier, from the time of the Mahomedan schismatic, Syed Ahmed, to that of the Akhoond of Swat, their present head, and adverted to the quarrel with the chief of Bootan and his treatment of Mr. Eden, indicating the inexpensive measures to be adopted to bring the chief to reason, by occupying the passes of his territory, and cutting off his communications and supplies. In conclusion, he reviewed some of the leading measures of the Indian local Government during the past year, and vindicated the policy and administration of the home authorities. He concluded by moving the first of a series of resolutions on the financial condition of the several Governments of British India.

The resolutions presented the following result:—

The total net revenues of the several Presidencies for the year ended the 30th of April, 1863		£36,662,867
The total charges		24,968,240
Surplus of Indian revenue		£11,694,627
Interest on debt	£3,351,680	
Charges defrayed in England	6,515,601	
		9,867,281
Surplus of Indian income		£1,827,346

Mr. H. Seymour considered the statement, on the whole, highly satisfactory; suggesting, however, the more ready sale of waste lands in India in fee simple by the Government.

Mr. J. B. Smith complained that the Indian Budget was not brought before the House at an earlier period of the Session, and that it was not accompanied by the explanations of the Finance Minister in India. He complained likewise that so little attention was paid to opening out the internal navigation in that country. He, however, congratulated the House upon the satisfactory character of the report given of the finances of India.

Sir J. Elphinstone said they were now assembled on the 21st of July to enact the solemn farce which last year was performed on the 23rd of July. At the close of the session, passed in laborious duties, the fragments of the House of Commons had met to deliberate upon the Government of 200,000,000 people. In his opinion a more scandalous sight could not be presented to the British nation than the situation of the House at that moment, when the welfare of the 200,000,000 confided to their care was being muttered over to empty benches. The statement of the right hon. gentleman was to some extent encouraging, as it showed that the natural resources of the country, assisted by that providential interposition which generally came to our aid when we committed great blunders, had raised the revenue of India to a paying point. He trusted that the Government of India would feel inclined to treat the services in India with more liberality than they had hitherto displayed. By a formal decision of the House it had been declared that those services were entitled to consideration, and he gave the right hon. gentleman fair warning that if something was not done before Parliament met next year the decision of the House would again be taken on the subject. The revenue and expenditure of India which they were now discussing were matters of history, and debates of this kind simply converted the House of Commons into a debating society for expressing opinions upon India in general. He was glad to find that the recommendations of the committee for the transport of troops was about to be carried into effect, and that the troops were in in future to be transported by way of the Red Sea. The only matter of surprise was that, as a question of economy, the Government had not made such an arrangement at a much earlier period.

He should be glad, however, to learn from the right hon. gentleman whether the expense of transporting the troops from England to Alexandria would be defrayed by the Home Government or by the Government of India. In order to avoid the fevers which set in in Egypt when the waters began to fall he thought no troops should be sent from this country from the 1st of June until the 1st of November. Now that the railway system was being largely extended in India, it was the duty of the Government to consider seriously whether a reduction in the Indian establishments might not be effected. According to Sir Sydney Cotton, a most able and experienced authority, it was possible to govern India with 30 per cent. fewer troops than were now employed; but that could only be done by the abandonment of the old system of cantonments, which was now entirely obsolete, and by availing themselves of the facilities afforded by the extension of the railway system. He recommended the Secretary of the Colonies to consider whether a similar course might not be advantageously pursued in the colonies for the development of railway communication. There was, however, one point to which the attention of the Government of India did not appear to have been sufficiently turned. The whole of our efforts for the last few years had been directed to the development of the internal traffic of India. No doubt that was of paramount importance, but in order to render it effectual it was also necessary to give increased facilities for the coasting trade of India.

It had been stated by the right hon. gentleman that the labour-market of India was difficult to manage, but if the Government afforded proper facilities for conveying labour from one part of the country to another all the difficulty would cease. Three years ago he obtained a committee of that House for the purpose of inquiring into the practicability of deepening the channel between the Indian Continent and the Island of Ceylon, so as to enable large ships to go through that passage instead of going round the island. The canal to be dug for that improvement was not more than 4,000 yards, and when completed they would carry the coasting trade of India by a route 360 miles nearer than the one it now took. From the most unexceptionable engineering evidence given before the committee, it was clear that an outlay of £100,000 or £150,000 would suffice to make that channel fit to admit a line of battle ship. It was most important that such a work should be executed out of the surplus revenue of India, and he wished to know whether any steps had been taken for that object.

Another point on which he desired to have information was as to who paid for the British navy in India. The coasts of India extended over 4,000 miles, and the whole police of those seas was now managed by the Royal Navy. One of the first acts of the right hon. gentleman was to extinguish the Indian navy, which comprised more scientific men in the aggregate body of its officers than any other service that he knew of, excepting, perhaps, a strictly scientific service like the Royal Engineers. Whether employed as ambassadors, diplomatists, linguists, explorers, or seamen, those officers had maintained a position of the highest respectability and honour under the East India Company, and they had performed services of the greatest value and importance. But they had now been swept away with scanty thanks and justice. He would therefore suggest to the right hon. gentleman that with his overflowing budget he should extend to the older members of that profession some of the advantages which he was now conferring on the black inhabitants of that country which they had saved from anarchy, confusion, and despotism. These men had been replaced by the Royal Navy; and he would ask whether the taxpayers of England were to send out a navy to do the business of the right hon. gentleman, and enable him to come down to the House with a flourishing statement about the revenues of India. Instead of the old rule by which an officer's Indian allowances began when he passed the Cape, an ideal line had been drawn which did not exist in fact, and which would operate with practical inconvenience and injustice towards this country. He wished to know how the right hon. gentleman intended to deal with that matter.

He understood, also, that an important alteration was about to take place with regard to the Straits Settlements; and he would be glad to know in what that change was to consist. Since Singapore had been established and guaranteed as a free port it had undergone the most marvellous development. The whole trade of the Eastern Archipelago had been centred there, and the progress of the settlement had been mainly due to its immunity from all port charges; but he now learnt that there existed a design on the part of the Government of India to impose regulations upon Singapore. He wished to know whether or not that was really the intention of the Government, because, if so, that opportunity might be obtained in the next Session which was denied him in the present one of opposing a policy likely to be so mischievous.

Sir C. Wood said no alteration in the position of Singapore was intended; but questions had been raised by the Singapore Chamber of Commerce as to harbour-masters, and also as to moorings, and it was stated that no objection would be made to the levying of some small duty by the Indian Government if those alterations were made. He believed that he had noticed all the points that had been raised, and had only further to thank the Committee for the patient attention they had given to his statement, and to thank hon. members for the suggestions which they had made, and which he could assure them should receive his most careful attention. (Hear, hear).

JAPAN.

(22nd). Lord Naas, in reference to his motion respecting the despatch of a military force for Japan, said he should not bring it on at that advanced hour of the night, and wished to know what was to be the course of business next week, as he was anxious for an opportunity of submitting the subject of Japan to the House as soon as possible.—Lord Palmerston said the House would sit certainly on Monday and Tuesday next. He thought the noble lord would have an opportunity of submitting his motion on Monday after the resolution of which he (Lord Palmerston) had given notice was disposed of. The House would meet on Monday at three o'clock and continue the sitting without interruption.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Rotterdam, July 24.

The re-elections, which took place a few days ago, were not decisive, because no one of the candidates obtained an absolute majority. At Winschoten Professor J. A. Jonckbloet polled 182, and T. Borgesius 98, of the 499 votes; and at Hoorn Baron van Goltstein polled 535, Mr. W. T. Gevers Deynoot 464, of the 1,201 votes. It is now very probable that Messrs. Jonckbloet and van Goltstein will be finally elected members of the Second Chamber of the States-General.

Since my last it has been stated by the *Moniteur du Soir* that the officials who formed the commission which was recently sent by the Government of France on a mission to England, Belgium, and Holland, to resume the negotiations commenced in Paris last year, with a view to fix a uniform drawback on the exportation of refined sugar, have returned to Paris well satisfied with the result of their journey. The conciliatory disposition, says the *Moniteur*, which they met with at Brussels, the Hague, and London, leads us to hope for the proximate conclusion of a permanent international arrangement, which, by placing French, English, Belgian, and Dutch refiners upon an identical footing in foreign

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markets, will put a stop to the considerable sacrifices which the system of premiums now in force imposes upon each of the States interested in the question.

At the eighty-seventh meeting of the Netherlands Society for the Improvement of Industry, held at Middelburg, Messrs. C. F. M. de Grys, Vice-Consul of the Netherlands at Amoy, and H. de Bruin, director of the public works at Batavia, were chosen honorary members.

Mr. Dirk Donker Curtius, ex-Minister of Justice, and late Minister of State, died on the 20th of July, at Spa, at the age of 72.

The revenues of the State, during the six months ending June last, amounted to 30,608,379f. 27c., against 29,351,341f. 6½c. in the first half-year of 1863.

The annual general meeting of the Missionary Society has been held here. The report proved that the results during the past year were satisfactory.

Messrs. W. C. Van Vollenhoven and L. A. Bienfait, of Amsterdam; H. T. Lõhnis, J. C. F. Nolet, of Rotterdam; J. W. D. Pape, and M. G. Van Heel, of the Hague, have been elected commissaries of the Netherlands Trading Company.

The following four first-class vessels have been chartered by the Trading Company to convey produce from Java, under the usual conditions, to the under-mentioned ports:—*Vrede*, Capt. D. van Duyvenboden, and *Herman de Ruyter*, Capt. W. L. Esink, for Amsterdam; *Sonia*, Capt. H. G. Haasloop Werner, jr., for Rotterdam; *Van der Palm*, Capt. J. van Katwyk, for Schiedam.

His Majesty has superseded, at their own request, Lieuts. of the East India army J. H. De Fremery and C. G. J. Barnaart.

The following officers of the royal navy have been placed on the list of non-active officers:—Lieuts. J. F. van Kervel and A. J. van Mansvelt.

His Majesty has been pleased to appoint Lieut. J. L. Klynsma to the *Prins Maurits der Nederlanden*; Lieut. J. B. A. de Jong to the Guardship at Amsterdam; Capt.-Lieut. C. L. d'Amecourt, commander to the *Prins Maurits*; Capt.-Lieut. W. F. L. de Vriese, commander to the *Dommel*.

His Majesty has been pleased to appoint the following medical officers to the East India army:—F. Rogier, W. F. H. Greup, A. H. Rombouts, L. van der Straaten, and F. P. G. van Loenen.

His Majesty has approved of Messrs. J. D. Ruys, J. M. Jacobson, and W. J. Jacobson as consuls for Hesse, at Sourabaya, Samarang, and Padang.

His Majesty's ships *Adolf van Nassau* and *Watergens* will start for Batavia within a few days.

At the Government wharf at Amsterdam the keel of a screw-frigate, to be named *Van Galen*, and armed with twenty heavy guns, has been laid down.

The chartered East India troop ship *Electra*, Captain P. H. Landweer, will embark at Neuwe Diep, on the 16th of August, 100 soldiers from the colonial recruiting depot at Harderwyk, under the command of Lieuts. G. C. Munters and W. H. Voorman.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The market is very calm. Some inquiry, however, exists for the numbers quoted 41 to 42½ c. 907 bags African were sold at 37 to 39 cents.

TEA.—1,050 chests congou, imported via London, were eagerly bought by one house. On the 3rd of August 512/4 and 221/8 chests Congou, and 70/4 and 110/12 chests Souchou will be offered at public sale.

SUGAR.—Before the Company's auction very quiet. The public sale of 72,274 kr. went off very dull, all being sold at 1½f. to 2½f. under May prices. Five-eighths of the above were taken by our home-refiners and only one-eighth for export. The value at this moment is:—No. 5, 30½f., 6, 31½f., 7, 32½f., 8, 33½f., 9, 34½f., 10, 35½f., 11, 36½f., 12, 37½f., 13, 38½f., 14, 39f., 15, 39½f., 16, 40½f., 17, 41f., 18, 41½f., 19, 41¾f., 20, 42f. Stock of raw sugar 42,006,147 lb., against 52,526,351 lb. in 1863.

RICE.—Dull. No lots offered.

SPICES.—Rather firmer, after it was known that the Company would sell, on the 24th August, 1,410 casks nutmegs, 740 casks mace, 70 casks cloves, 1,378 packages Java cinnamom, 3,707 casks black pepper. Cloves are in much demand; No, 2. 1863, fetched 33 for consumption. Nutmegs: No transactions, as there are no sellers without an advance, No. 2, 1860, 1863, 84c. Mace: D 87c. to 89c. Pepper: In much demand. Stock: Nutmegs, 5,600 casks; mace, 1,836 casks; cloves 2,923 casks.

TOBACCO.—Market quiet. Only 132 bags Java Kawi were sold, 254 bags Tjibaroussa were retired. Stock, 5,719 bags Java. Manila Cigars at auction were sold 15,000, 2 a Cortado, 1861, at 35f. to 37f.; 60,000, 2 a Habana, 1861, at 30½f. to 33f.

COTTON.—In much demand at higher prices for export and consumption. 1,800 bags E.I. were sold.

BANCA TIN.—1,500 bdls. sold at 61¾f. The market has become rather flat, with sellers where there were before buyers.

HIDES.—No sales to report.

HEMP.—At public auction, 100 bales Manila were sold at 67f.; 300 bales do. retired at 68f.; 50 bales since sold at 67f.

INDIGO.—No lots offered. Confidence in this article highly improved by the result of the public sales at London.

CURCUMA.—A great quantity of E.I. was sold for export at 11f.

MANILA.—8 chests Java, 360 lb. cases, offered at public sale, were partly sold at 2½f. (damaged) to 9¾f., and partly retired from 6f. to 7¼f.

ARAK.—100 casks Batavia ex Duisburg and 168 casks do. to arrive per Baron van Heimstra sold at secret prices.

RATTANS.—59,809 offered at public sales were all sold. Bandjermasing at f.12.80 to f. 15.30; Padang at f.13.20 to 17f., Koetie f.15 15.30f.

MONEY.—Very easy. Bank rate, discount, bills 4½.: Acceptances 5 per cent. Open market, discount 4¼ per cent; N.W.S., 2½ per cent. 62 5-16; 3 per cent. to f.74¼; 4 per cent. 97½. O. T. Ly frente 97; Exchange on London, 3 months, 11.67, short, 11.83½, on Paris, 3 months, 46.30. short 47.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per Doelwyk, Captain Hoefman. The captain of the R.N. Chomel, and the 1st lieutenant Courier dit Dubekart.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.
July 9 ..	Texel ..	Samarang ..	Peking.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	Ship.	For
July 9 ..	Brouwershaven ..	Tagal ..	Batavia.
— 9 ..	Do. ..	India ..	Do.
— 9 ..	Do. ..	Europa ..	Do.
— 9 ..	Do. ..	Rudolf ..	Do.
— 9 ..	Do. ..	Johanna Christina ..	Do.
July 9 ..	Do. ..	Alblasserwaard ..	Do.
— 9 ..	Do. ..	Mary & Hillegonda ..	Do.
— 9 ..	Do. ..	Bilderdyk ..	Do.
— 9 ..	Do. ..	Zeemanshoop ..	Samarang.
— 9 ..	Do. ..	Generaal Michiels ..	Singapore.
— 9 ..	Hellevoet ..	Voorwaarts ..	Batavia.
— 10 ..	Texel ..	A. R. Falck ..	Samarang.
— 10 ..	Brouwershaven ..	Tollens ..	Batavia.
— 10 ..	Flushing ..	Burgem v. Middelburg	Do.
— 12 ..	Brouwershaven ..	Wilhelmina Johan. ..	Soerabaya.

The following vessels had also sailed:—For Melbourne and Java: Minister Pahud. For Batavia: Catharina Maria, Constantia, Doelwyk, Kykduin, and Ridderkerk.

READY TO SAIL.

At TEXEL.—Johanna Elizabeth, Batavia; Hendrina, Batavia; Goede Verwachting, Batavia; Theodora Mechtelda, Sourabaya; Jacoba and Christina, Batavia.

At BROUWERSHAVEN.—Java, Batavia; Isaac da Costa, Batavia via Melbourne.

LOADING.

At ROTTERDAM.—For Batavia: Eva Johanna (when arrived); for Batavia and Samarang: L. F. Enthoven vander Palm; for Batavia and Sourabaya: Johanna Maria, Medea, Eersteling, Stad Dockum; for Singapore: Maria Louisa Antoinette, Jan van Galen; for Padang: Maarten van Rossem; for Macassar: Bengalen; for Kanagawa and Decima: Nipthon.

At AMSTERDAM.—For Kanagawa and Decima: Adriana Johanna, Yokohama, Engel, Maria: for Padang: Padang Packet; for Batavia: Zaanstroom, Ortelius, Ymuiden, Electra, Gebroeders, for Samarang: Quartet, Admiraal de Ruyter, Jan van Schaffelaar, Cornelis Gips, Vrede, Henrietta, Herman de Ruyter, Californie; for Sourabaya: Sindbad, Regina Maris, Nederland.

FREIGHTS.

For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya 20f. to 30f. and 15 per cent. per tun of 2,000 kilogrammes; iron, when great quantities, 15f. and 15 per cent.

HAMBURG.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

JULY 23.

Mr. Consul Wiesse has arrived in this city from Hong Kong and Singapore, and taken apartments at the Hotel de l'Europe. The following gentlemen have been appointed Vice-Consuls for H.M. the King of Sweden and Norway in China, under the jurisdiction of the Consulate-General at Shanghai:—Mr. Francis P. Knight at Newchwang; Mr. S. H. Porneroy, jun., at Tientsin; Mr. J. D. Thorburn, at Chefoo; Mr. J. H. Bohrstedt, at Ningpo; Mr. D. O. Clark, at Foo-chow, and Mr. David King, jun., at Canton.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—In spite of the advices from Rio, announcing a considerable fall in the prices, this market has not been influenced and the values of all descriptions are firm and steady. Sales of the week 15,000 bags.

SUGAR.—The raw market was not so active as in the previous week, and prices inclined slightly in favour of buyers. Among the sales were 14,000 bags of brown clayed Manila for delivery on arrival. In refined a fair amount of business was done, 10,000 loaves having found purchasers at full values.

RICE firm, and all attempts to depress the market are in vain. In rough grain 8,200 bags of Arracan per *Julia* expected, and 3,300 bags of Rangoon, part of the cargo of the *George*, also expected, have been sold for delivery on arrival.

TERRA JAPONICA.—At public sale 215 bags were taken at 16¾ to 17 marks Banco.

SPICES.—Confidence is increasing for mace and nutmegs, and prices have somewhat improved. Cloves continue to attract attention and have a tendency to rise. Pepper finds a moderate consumptive sale at full prices.

CAMPHOR dull, and prices rather lower.

SHIPS LOADING AT HAMBURG.—For Singapore and China, Maria Wilhelmine; for Batavia and Hong Kong, Leopold; for Hong Kong, St. Thomas; for Singapore and Hong Kong, Marie Lucie; Macao and Whampoa, Ino.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A Register is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the Far East and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in China, Japan, Singapore, *and other parts of the* Far East, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the Far East.

Subscription 54s. per annum, including Postage. Export Supplement 12s. extra.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 1864.

RE-INFORCEMENTS FOR JAPAN.

Hitherto the British military force in Japan has consisted only of two companies of infantry, and about twenty mounted troopers of the military train; acting more as a guard of honour to the Legation and Consulates at the open ports, than for the purposes of warfare. The hostile operations recently effected, and so successfully carried out, were entirely at the hands of the naval service—of course including the gallant marines, who encountered their share of danger on shore at Yedo. It has not been for want of their presence as a land force that no British soldiers were present during the recent operations, for Colonel Neale requested General Staveley to send him reinforcements of infantry and artillery before making the attack on Kagosima, but the request was not complied with, as their presence could not be spared from Shanghai where they engaged in the operations against the Taipings. Now that this is no longer necessary, and the garrison at Hong Kong is far in excess of its requirements, we observe that General Brown has acceded to the request of Sir Rutherford Alcock, to forward an additional force from the 2nd battalion of the 20th Regiment, comprising six companies, and making in all about 800 troops at the disposal of the British Minister. We observe that a question was asked by Mr. S. Fitzgerald of the Under-Secretary for War, for what purposes they were wanted. In reply the Marquis of Hartington said that "the requisition would be complied with as soon as trans- "ports could be obtained." A conversation followed in which some hon. members anxiously inquired what Sir Rutherford Alcock wanted them for, but no definite reason was given. We take it to be the necessity he sees for having a land force at his disposal, in order to aid the Tycoon's Government should it be necessary to take hostile measures against that refractory Daimio, the Prince of Choshiu, who persists in closing the Strait of Shimonoseki, which is to be opened to foreign ships, and that, in all probability, will be followed by the free navigation of the Sea of Japan. Beyond this we are of opinion the warlike tendencies of Sir Rutherford do not extend, if even they go so far. As it is reported, he intends taking up his residence at Yedo, no doubt he deems it necessary to be provided with a stronger guard than heretofore, in order to do without the presence of native guards, who have been a body of spies, and useless against assassins. There need be no apprehension of a warlike policy in our relations with Japan as long as Sir Rutherford Alcock retains the helm of affairs. Apart from the hostile appearance of this movement of troops from China to Japan, it will have a most beneficial effect on the health of the fortunate corps. Indeed, it is only a sanitary step to do so occasionally with all the troops in China who suffer from exhaustion and disease in that unwholesome climate, and who soon become reinvigorated in the salubrious insular climate of Japan. So far, therefore, the change will be welcomed by the 20th, and we have no doubt but all friends of the soldier—stationed at unhealthy localities on foreign service—will approve of this movement of our gallant men from China to Japan.

THE HONG KONG MINT.

By the *Oithona*, leaving in a few days, some heavy iron work, such as strong-room doors, forges, engineers' tools, &c., has been shipped, to be followed in a week or two by another shipment of engines, boilers, &c. The rolling mill, engines &c., have left in the *Prince Arthur*.

It is decided to make the new dollars more perfect by placing a legend round the outer edge, to act against the prevalent system of the Chinese in placing base metal between the surfaces. It is desirable to have the letters in relief, which renders it necessary to construct very intricate, and, at the same time, powerful machinery. We have seen a sample of the new dollar, which is a very attractive coin. On the obverse there is an ornamental border, with the words "Victoria, Queen." The bust will be somewhat similar to the English florin, and the reverse has a border of the same pattern, and within are the words "One Dollar, Hong Kong, 1864," in bold black letters. The centre of the coin is formed by four shields, placed in the form of a cross, with the translation in Chinese of the above inscription. At present the words forming the legend round the outer edge are not decided on. In consequence of the great demand for the smaller coins sent out per *Robin Hood* there will be shortly shipped twenty tons of mils, twenty tons 1 cent pieces, together with a quantity of 10 cent silver coin, the latter now being at a premium. In addition to this, as soon as the new dollar coin is ready, 2½ million dollars are to be coined and shipped monthly to Hong Kong until countermanded, to meet the requirements of the Government in China and Japan. With this supply it is to be hoped that the enormous items of "loss by exchange" in the Government accounts will disappear. The erection of the mint has been undertaken chiefly on this account. The departure of Captain Kinder and staff depends upon instructions from his Excellency Sir H. Robinson. We were in error in stating that Mr. Inglis was foreman to Messrs. Rankin; it should have been formerly of the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich. Mr. Inglis has sailed in the *Prince Arthur*.

CONSULATES ON THE YANG-TSE.

We have been favoured by a resident at one of the Consular ports with the following corrected list of officers at the respective consulates:—

Hankow.—Consul, W. H. Medhurst (on leave); Acting-Consul, J. A. Webster. Acting Interpreter, W. E. King (on leave); Acting Interpreter, J. A. Webster; Assistant, Edward D. Jones, M.A. (Cantab).

Kiu-Kiang.—Vice-Consul in Charge, P. J. Hughes; Assistant, George P. Thomson, M.A. (Aberdeen).

Chin-Kiang.—Vice-Consul in Charge, Thomas Adkins.

THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

In our Parliamentary columns it will be seen that in the debate on the Indian budget Sir J. Elphinstone asked if it were correct that it was intended to introduce imposts into the Straits Settlements, which would destroy their character as free ports. Sir Charles Wood stated it was only intended to levy a tax for the purpose of defraying the expense of some improvements to the harbour. This, Sir Charles stated, was proposed by the Singapore Chamber of Commerce. This we very much doubt. We believe that the merchants of Singapore would rather promote a levy on themselves, and inhabitants generally of Singapore, than that the port should be burthened with any duties. Such a policy would be suicidal in the extreme.

Our readers will understand that this subject is in no way connected with that of the transfer question, which we believe to be in the position described in a late issue—viz., that all the obstacles having been overcome, it remains only to get a Bill passed through the House next Session to carry into effect this long agitated matter.

Since writing the above, we see that Mr. Read, of Singapore, has, in a letter to *The Times*, which we append, fully confirmed our view as to the impost of taxes. We gladly welcome Mr. Read's assistance during his residence here in promoting the interests of the settlements, and exposing the errors which exist. Surely no better proof can be wanted that the transfer is urgently needed.

(To the Editor of *The Times*.)

Sir,—I have to request that you will allow me to correct a statement made by Sir Charles Wood when replying to Sir James Elphinstone in the House of Commons yesterday evening.

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According to the report in *The Times* of to-day Sir Charles Wood said "that no alteration in the position of Singapore was intended; but questions had been raised by the Singapore Chamber of Commerce as to harbour-masters and also as to moorings, and it was stated that no objection would be made to the levying of some small duty by the Indian Government if those alterations were made."

This is not strictly correct. The facts are these, viz. :—It was the local authorities who proposed levying a tonnage due to meet the expense of a harbour-master's establishment. The opinion of the Chamber of Commerce having been sought by the Governor of the Straits Settlements, the members unanimously rejected the proposal as an infringement of the liberty of the port, and have ever since energetically protested against the measure.

The Indian Board will best meet the wishes of the Chamber of Commerce by leaving the port in the full enjoyment of that freedom which was guaranteed by Sir Stamford Raffles and confirmed by the Imperial Government.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, W. H. Read,

Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce at the time the proposal was submitted by the Governor of the Straits.

Oriental Club, Hanover-square, July 22.

AFFAIRS IN FRENCH COCHIN-CHINA AND CAMBODIA.

Fresh complications are gathering around the French in their colony of Lower Cochin-China, and in their relations with the neighbouring tributary state of Cambodia, through their recent interference with the government and internal affairs of that country, in consequence of the treaty with the Somdetch Phra Naradom, and acceded to by the King of Siam. From information just come to hand, on which we place the utmost reliance for its authenticity, we are in a position to state that this treaty, instead of being the result of friendly negotiations between Admiral De la Grandiere and the Viceroy of Cambodia, was made "under compulsion," when that naval officer appeared unexpectedly at Udong, as the Governor of French Cochin-China, with a treaty, all cut and dry, backed by an armed retinue from on board a war-steamer, in which he unceremoniously spied the interior of Cambodia. The original treaty was so exacting in its terms, that the Viceroy would not entertain it, especially as he considered he had not the power to conclude such a convention without the sanction of his master, the King of Siam. However, the French Governor was persistent, and hinted at using strong measures for the compliance with his demands, which so influenced the Viceroy that he consulted with his most peaceful nobles, and modified the French treaty, so as to render it more palatable to the people and the Siamese King and Government. These modifications were agreed to by the Admiral, after strong endeavours to get all he could in the way of territorial concessions; when he hurried the Cambodian officials to render the treaty into the native language, and ordered it to be signed in twenty-four hours, thereby giving no time for mature consideration. In this manner was the bantling treaty hatched, which we published in our last issue; not only without the consent of the tribute King of Siam, but avoiding the common courtesy of advising him to that effect, through the French Consul at Bangkok. The first announcement that Monarch had of the existence of this document was through the native officials; and hence the alarm felt at the encroachments of the French beyond the frontiers of their conquered territory. Fearful of the consequences that in all probability would result from a hostile opposition to this act of aggression without his cognizance, the timid King made a virtue of necessity, and succumbed. He fell into the trap laid for him with a better grace than the French in their ambitious projects ever dreamt of. Hence the subsequent conciliatory proposals to erect Cambodia into a kingdom, and crown the Somdetch Phra Naradom, King; but, nevertheless, to send tribute to Siam. According to our advices from Bangkok, the Siamese and French functionaries were about proceeding to Udong, for the purpose of crowning the new Monarch. Accounts from thence have also reached us reporting a complete revolution in the Government of Cambodia, by a party of the most influential nobles, inimical to the French, who repudiate the treaty, and are determined to give them a hostile reception should they persist in enforcing its articles. For this purpose they have deposed the Somdetch Phra Naradom for having negotiated such a servile treaty; which literally hands over the free navigation of the Great River Me-Kong, and all the foreign trade of that noble stream, to the surveillance of the French, who may hold fortified positions at its embouchure, or any other part in the interior that suits their plans of conquest; while at Charvey-Chung they have secured land on which they could easily build an impregnable citadel, with water communication to any part of the interior to within one hundred and fifty miles of Bangkok, where their exploring vessels have been already. This revolutionary party are preparing an army to resist the advances of any French force from Saigon; and upwards of sixteen thousand armed men, chiefly the retainers of the hostile nobles, were massed together at Udong, and some on the frontiers. It was also reported that the French were hurrying up troops to put down the insurrection, and maintain Phra Naradom in his rule over Cambodia; while the insurgent party have elected his brother to reign in his stead. From the foregoing it would appear that this exclusively French treaty with Cambodia is after all a rotten affair, and will require to be enforced at the point of the bayonet. It is but another chapter in the history of French futile attempts at colonization, and in all probability is the commencement of a campaign of subjugation and conquest, similar to that of Cochin-China, where so much blood and treasure has been spent for so little profit.

Meanwhile, how fares it with that colony, which has been puffed up by every journal in France; and even in this country we are almost alone in giving a correct account of the state of affairs—which we have reason to believe is endorsed by the merchants and civilians connected with Saigon on the opposite shores of the channel. A short time back we commented upon the unsatisfactory system of government there, which was not only driving the native resources for trade from the colony, but in the most suicidal manner laid restrictions upon shipping and merchandise that are utterly subversive of commerce. The misgovernment of these naval officers has at last reached such a pitch, that the merchants of Bourdeaux have petitioned their Chamber of Commerce on the backslidings of Admiral De la Grandiere and his Executive corps, with a view to bringing it before the Imperial Government for reformation. The following is a translation of the petition :—

"Gentlemen,—The undersigned, merchants at Bordeaux, having serious transactions commenced in Cochin-China, beg to call your attention to the deplorable condition of French trade in that colony. For a long time past all their correspondents complain of the difficulties they encounter in settling in a regular manner the disputes which arise both in civil and commercial matters. All proceedings are submitted to the jurisdiction of a naval officer, who accumulates in his person the functions of civil judge, commercial judge, justice of peace, notary, and bailiff. The consequence is an inexplicable confusion in business; an erroneous or exaggerated interpretation suffices often in order that the simplest process may be converted into an offence, and the most respectable trader may be suddenly compromised in honour and fortune, or even his personal liberty menaced. The importance of the colony and that of the business transacted there require in an imperious manner the cessation of such a state of things, as contrary to the extension of commercial business, and the prosperity of so rich a country. The undersigned beg, then, gentlemen, to solicit your intervention with the Government, to request the prompt establishment in Cochin-China of a regular jurisdiction, in accordance with the laws which rule the mother country; for, otherwise, it is all over with the colony, and every merchant will be obliged to quit a country where he finds neither security for his interests nor guarantee for his liberty."

Our private advices from Paris inform us that this petition of the representatives of the struggling port, among the merchants, is having its desired effect. The ministerial bureaus are very much engaged with the subject at present, and intend substituting a civil governor and administration instead of this expensive and corrupt naval government. We further learn on good authority that the French Government has decided, after serious deliberation, to abandon the protectorate of the northern provinces of Lower Cochin-China, handing them back to the jurisdiction of Tu-Duc and the Court of Hué. In this case these provinces will be only temporarily occupied by French forces, until such time as that King pays a certain amount of indemnity, which was arranged with the Annamese Ambassadors during their visit to France. Just so! The Emperor of the French and his astute Minister for Foreign Affairs see that more profitable conquests may be made in Cambodia and Siam than in Cochin-China and Tonquin, and consequently they repeat the watchword, "Westward Ho!" The thin end of the wedge has been inserted in that direction; and the rising of the insurrectionary party against their progress is just the excuse they wanted to extend their dominion towards the rich lake and river regions of Cambodia. We shall watch with much interest the progress of these new phases of the French conquest of Lower Cochin-China.

FRANCE AND COCHIN-CHINA.

A recent number of the *Revue des Deux Mondes* contains an article which has gathered importance since publication from facts that have lately become known to the public. The Treaty with Cambodia, which first appeared in English in our columns, startled all who take an interest in the affairs of that

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part of the world, by suddenly revealing a fresh stage of the course determined on by the Emperor of the French as the one to be pursued in those distant regions. Under the title of "The Expedition to Cochin-China, and French Policy in the Far East," we have a resumé of the history of French relations with the Annamite Empire since the year 1857, with the articles of the new Treaty of Saigon, of which we had already heard something; and the whole wound up by a disquisition on the path to be pursued in the future. This new treaty, which the writer in the *Revue* speaks of as "a sudden transformation in the policy of France," is identically that announced in *The London and China Telegraph* of the 13th June, from information received by way of Singapore. Let us, however, reproduce the statement made in the *Revue*:—

From this time [that is, while they were in Paris] the report was current among the public that the Annamite Ambassadors had opened a negotiation for the recovery of the three provinces we occupied in Cochin-China. Those who repeated the rumour did not believe it, so improbable did it appear. The Annamite Ambassadors took their departure, and people remained convinced that if they had made the tentative imputed to them, it was rather in obedience to a sentiment of nationality honourable to the vanquished, than from a hope of success. At the close of the year 1863, however, a few days before the opening of the legislative session, M. Aubaret, a naval officer having the rank of capitaine de frégate, set out for Hué, and advices from Saigon attribute to him a mission of some delicacy. He was the bearer, it is said, of a new treaty to King Tu-Duc, drawn up in accordance with bases agreed on in Paris with the Annamite Ambassadors. Nothing was to be changed in it. Nothing was wanted to complete it but the addition of a few accessory arrangements relative to local boundaries. This treaty stipulates that the *three* provinces of Giadinh, Bienhoa, and Dinh-tuong shall be restored to King Tu-Duc, with the exception of the city of Saigon, some ports of Thu-daomot, and the citadel of Mitho. In return for this restoration the Annamite Government will recognize the protectorate of France over the *six* provinces of Lower Cochin China, and will pay, over and above the indemnity already agreed on by the Treaty of Saigon, a tribute of three millions for each of the first three years, and of two millions for each of the following years.

The italics in the above are our own, and will enable the reader at once to catch the subtle proviso by which the at present inconvenient and burdensome occupation of *three* provinces is exchanged for a protectorate over *six*; thus doubling both the moral opportunity and territorial space for French interference. The purchase-money Tu-Duc is to pay for this concession is heavy enough; for the original indemnity stipulated by the Treaty of 1862 for the expenses of the war was only four millions of dollars, payable within ten years. According to M. Henri Galos, the writer of the article under notice, intelligence of this treaty caused intense dismay "among the manufacturers and merchants established at Saigon," who, he would have us believe, see in it a deathblow to prospects of unbounded success and magnificent fortunes. The letter, however, from "one of the most considerable inhabitants of Saigon," adduced to support this assertion, is evidently written by a person holding high government office, and not by a member of the mercantile community. The only check spoken of in it is "the annoying check to French policy—a check we must impute to our own want of perseverance, much rather than to the obstacles we have encountered." Nothing whatever is said of any damage to French commercial interests likely to accrue from the change in the Imperial purpose.

We shall not, however, take up the time of our readers with any criticism on, or much further reference to, the views held by M. Galos. When a man broaches a theory of colonisation, and leaves climate utterly unmentioned—treating the matter as one of so entirely an abstract nature that the point of whether the territory to be colonised is under the Equator, or to the north or south of the Tropics, need not intrude for one moment into the argument—thinking and business men will directly conclude that his notions on the subject are little worthy of attention. M. Galos devotes a page to the way in which the English colonised New Zealand, as if he had fastened on something apropos to Saigon. Our readers will recollect, perhaps, what was said of the latter place by the Count Escayrac de Lauture, whose "Mémoires sur la Chine" we noticed in April last. The climate of Cochin China was there stated to be "as wholesome as that of a vast rice-field can be, at the mouth of a great river, and close to the equator." Taking his cue, therefore, from the history of our own East India Company, the Emperor Napoleon, it would seem, is, for the present, content to give up the occupation of the interior, and simply hold the sea-ports. Two or three "factories," as they used to be called, along the coast, and the rest of the country will follow sooner or later. *Reculer pour mieux sauter* is an often quoted phrase. Napoleon III., by the new treaty with Tu-Duc, is about to give us a splendid example of how to draw back so as to make the surer spring.

Let us proceed, then, to that portion of the article which concerns "French policy in the Far East" as exhibited in what relates to Cambodia. Here are the facts in reference to the treaty with that country laid before the reader in a late number:—

As soon as the King of Cambodia was aware of our friendly intentions, and understood that his independence was in question, he sent Monsignor Miche, the Bishop of Cambodia, to our Governor, to make known his desire to confer with him, and to see our flag floating in Cambodian waters, so that piracy might be expelled and his own authority be relieved from the unceasing pressure exercised on it in turn by the Siamese and Annamites. Admiral de la Grandiere eagerly welcomed these overtures, and repaired to Udong. He arrived there at the very moment that an Annamite general came to summon the King to pay the usual tribute. This circumstance did but strengthen the monarch's disposition to ally himself with France. The negotiation was not long: assisted by Monsignor Miche, the Admiral signed a convention by which he accepted the offer of the Sovereign of Cambodia to place his kingdom under the protectorate of France.

This act may be the source of serious difficulties; but was it not necessary? Was it not an inevitable consequence of our position? The brave admiral who decided on taking such a responsibility on himself was under no illusion as to the complications it might create, and if he risked them it was that our undisputed ascendancy over Cambodia was the indispensable condition to our establishment in Cochin-China. It was, in fact, an imperious necessity that our new possession should be covered on the north by a sure ally, so as to dispose of our military means in watching our other frontiers, and in keeping in check the Annamites, who are rather held down than subjected, and are always ready to dispute the provinces conquered by our arms. Cambodia furnishes us with seven or eight thousand cattle, needed for the supply of our troops. From the great lake there are obtained considerable quantities of fish, which are dried and salted, and the exportation of which is capable of great development. On the banks of the river is gathered the produce that feeds Saigon; and but for this decisive act of Admiral La Grandiere we ran the danger of seeing the tide of commerce diverted from our establishment by the Hatieu canal, or the Bassac arm [one of the mouths of the Cambodia], and our new possession condemned to perish for lack of air and room.

Scarcely was it concluded than this negotiation excited the warmest protests from the Government of Siam. The Minister of Foreign Affairs at once wrote to Admiral La Grandiere that the *Viceroy* of Cambodia (as if the Sovereign of that country were a mere functionary holding from the Siamese Government) had informed him that, under constraint, he had just signed a convention with the Governor of Saigon. The Siamese Minister complained of this, and expressed his astonishment at not having been acquainted with the intentions of the French representative—the more so, he said, that such conduct was in contradiction to the words of the Emperor of the French and to the assurances given by his Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Siamese Ambassadors—words and assurances which authorised him to conceive that the question of the boundaries of Lower Cochin-China and the kingdom of Siam would be settled by direct arrangement with the Government of Bangkok. Without entering into explanations as to the forms employed, our Governor contented himself with replying that, notwithstanding her obligations towards Siam on the one hand, and France and the Court of Hué on the other, Cambodia was a kingdom whose independence and autonomy could not be legitimately contested, and that, consequently, he had the right to treat with that State without consulting the opinion of the Government of Siam. As regarded the constraint put on the King of Cambodia, Admiral La Grandiere energetically repudiated the charge. His own honourable character, even more than the attendant circumstances, and the intervention of the Bishop of Cambodia, guaranteed the perfect honesty of the convention. In signing the treaty, the Admiral took care to bind himself only until it was ratified by the French Government; but his conduct was approved, and in the month of November, 1863, the Minister of Marine announced to him that his colleague, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, had forwarded him regular powers and special instructions for giving a definitive character to the convention concluded with the King of Cambodia. At the same time, and in preparation for the execution of the treaty, M. de Chasseloup Laubat ordered the Governor, following the English system, to establish a fortified depot for coal near Namvan, or the Four Arms, a position that commands the river's course, and the place where the largest market in Cambodia is held.

In the above, then, we have the position of matters plainly defined. The French have relieved themselves from the costly task of occupying vast tracts of the Annamite country—a task no less prodigal of human life than of money; but will hold possession of the principal ports, thus commanding the entire trade of the empire. These ports will be fortified, and turned into naval arsenals, as well as depots of commerce. The Emperor has learnt from the example of England that at that distance from home a fleet is far more dreaded, whether for attack or defence, than a small garrison of unhealthy Europeans. The power of Napoleon III. in the Far East is further extended by having the protectorate of six provinces of the Annamite empire ceded by solemn treaty, and by his having induced the King of Cambodia to throw off his allegiance both to Bangkok and Hué, and become the vassal of France. If we are to credit M. Galos, England has been watching all this with a jealous eye, and making some feeble efforts, at second-hand, to counteract this extension of a rival's influence. Count de Lauture gave England the credit that though, to the general benefit, she preceded all Europe in China, she never put forward any pretence to remain there alone. So, if France makes no attempt to set

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up a commercial monopoly in these vast kingdoms, Europe—and England least of all—will make no complaint that hers was the honour of first opening out new paths and new rivers to the ever-expanding activity of civilised industry and trade.

FRANCE AND COCHIN-CHINA.

(FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.)

The steam frigate *Eldorado* is now being overhauled, and will start shortly for Alexandria with men and material for Saigon; and a sailing transport, the *Truite*, is now loading with arms, ammunition, and provisions for the same destination and by the same route.

Lieutenant Pierre, with sixteen marines, arrived at Cherbourg on Tuesday last from Cochin-China, and what this expedition has cost France in men may be imagined from the fact that those seventeen individuals are all that are left out of a company consisting of three officers and 130 men—seven-eighths having fallen victims, and one in eight returned to tell the tale of their sufferings. A battalion of *Turcos* have also just arrived, and are now on their way to Algeria in the *Labrador;* the numbers are not given in this case, but it is probable that these African soldiers have suffered less than their French comrades from the climate of Cochin-China.

There was a grand ceremony last week at the establishment of the Foreign Mission in Paris, on the occasion of the departure of several young missionaries for India and the extreme East. All the Missionaries and neophytes in Paris, with their relations and friends, were present, and the large garden attached to the mission was crowded. The Altar of the Virgin was set up for the occasion under a fine clump of trees, and hymns were chaunted in honour of the Virgin as *Protectrice of travellers and martyrs.* The whole assembly then proceeded to the chapel, when the Abbé Langrot, formerly missionary in Cochin-China, addressed the young missionaries who were about to proceed to the East; then came the most touching part of the ceremony; the appointed missionaries stood in a line in front of the altar and received the farewells of the chiefs of the community and of those with whom they had shared their studies and meditations, in that monastic establishment. The devoted young men maintained their fortitude throughout the ceremony, but when the last act arrived, and they embraced parents, relations, and friends, perhaps for the last time, before taking their places in the carriages which were to carry them to the railway station, the scene was intensely painful.

The ceremony was attended by the Bishop of Nantes, whose nephew was one of the ten missionaries, the Siamese Consul, and a young Siamese prince who is being educated in Paris, and a large number of the ultramontane party. Japan, China, Cochin-China, have few attractions for the military: the laurels to be culled there are few and far between, as well as far off, but the Far East is a favourite field of operations for the Church; the Jesuits revel in the recollection of the power which they once exercised in China and elsewhere, and dream, probably, that even in this commercial and thinking age they can rebuild and even extend the Jesuit influence in that quarter of the world. This feeling, perhaps, has something to do with the Emperor's determined effort in the East; the ultramontanes are not his warmest admirers; they do him little service at home, and he thinks, probably, that if he can find them plenty of employment abroad it may give them something to think about, afford them a large amount of satisfaction, and do him, or anyone else, little harm. The Cochin-Chinese will, perhaps, have *nous* enough to avoid any great inconvenience from the missionaries, and if the latter will attend to practical questions of morality they may do great good.

When the Japanese Ambassadors arrived at Alexandria they sent a letter, written in English, by their two interpreters, to the manager of the Grand Hotel at Marseilles. A French translation of this note has been published, and the purport is to say that the Ambassadors had an excellent voyage, that they enjoyed excellent health, and had sent their acknowledgments to the directors of the hotel for their general attention, and especially for their good feeling and kindness in the case of "poor Yokohama" who died at Marseilles.

FRANCE AND JAPAN.

(FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.)

While everything remains in doubt respecting our prospects in Japan, the Imperial Government of France paints in the brightest colours the prospect from its own point of view. It is true that it does not give the public facts or figures, but only, as in the case of Algeria, strong assurances that all is going on as well as could possibly be expected, or a little better. And here it may not be out of place to mention that the happy issue of the late conflict in the African colony is the proclamation of martial law, in the fullest sense of the word, namely, the subordination of the civil to the military authorities. Colonisation seems not to have begun, and Algeria is as much a camp as it was in the time when Abd-el-Kader headed the Arabs against the Orlean Princes, Pelissier, and their brothers in arms. But Japan is in a different position at present, and long may it remain so, for nurseries for soldiers are not the best means of forwarding liberty, commerce, or justice. The official journals here continue to express their confidence, not only in the intentions, but also in the power of the Tycoon. In reference to other European Powers, they say that the English and Dutch squadrons are preparing to attack the forts in the Straits of Simonoseki, constructed on the domains of the Prince of Nagato; and, they add, the enterprise will be difficult, and, should it succeed, will have very important consequences. The Court of Yedo, say these writers, have adopted a very prudent position, and one by which it will profit in any case. It is clear from this that the French authorities look upon the threatened attack as no child's play, and it is almost equally clear that, like the Court of Yedo, they intend to take the part of cautious men, and risk nothing in the chivalric way by which, to borrow the expression of their own writers quoted above, they cannot fail to profit in any case. Considering the position of affairs, the conduct of the Tycoon, and the fact that all foreigners are in the same boat as regards the Prince of Nagato, this attitude of expectation is not quite intelligible; however, the less complicated an undertaking is, or, to put the matter more plainly, the fewer allies we have, especially in maritime wars, the better, and the English and Dutch Governments, if they have come to the determination to put down the Prince in question, must not allow the undertaking to be crippled or endangered by any hesitating half measures; a failure in this case would have other bad consequences than a loss of prestige in the Japansee waters.

From the same sources we learn that the Tycoon intends to establish a "Parliamentary Government." I quote the exact expression used, and further that—"The First Ambassador, who has just left France, is a well instructed and intelligent man, who knows and loves France. We are assured that when he arrives at Yedo he will promulgate a Constitution suitable for the country, and the Japanese Chambers will be opened in the month of January next." All this sounds grandly enough, but the spectacle of a Parliamentary Government at Yedo will be curious. We presume the suffrage will be universal and carefully guarded, and that the Tycoon will adopt the admirable system of the French Chambers, from the Duc de Morny to the ushers! The French have often been called the Chinese of Europe: the Japanese in compliment to them may become the French of Asia.

THE NEW ORDER IN COUNCIL FOR CHINA.

AT THE COURT AT WINDSOR, THE 9TH DAY OF JULY, 1864. PRESENT: THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY IN COUNCIL.

Whereas by an Act passed in the Session of the sixth and seventh years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act for the better government of Her Majesty's subjects resorting to China," power was given to Her Majesty to authorise the Superintendent of the Trade of Her Majesty's subjects in China (so long as such Superintendent should be also the Governor of the island of Hong Kong) to enact, with the advice of the Legislative Council of the said island of Hong Kong, all such laws and ordinances as might from time to time be required for the peace, order, and good government of Her Majesty's subjects, being within the dominions of the Emperor of China, or being within any ship or vessel at a distance of not more than one hundred miles from the coast of China, and to enforce the execution of such laws and ordinances by such penalties and forfeitures as to him, by the advice aforesaid, should seem fit; and it was (amongst other things) enacted that it should be lawful for Her Majesty to disallow, in the whole or in part, any laws or ordinances so to be enacted as aforesaid, and with the advice of Her Majesty's Privy Council to alter the same, or any of them, as to Her Majesty in Council should seem meet; and that it should also be lawful for Her Majesty by any Order or Orders made with the advice of Her Majesty's Privy Council to ordain for the government of Her Majesty's subjects, being within the dominions of the Emperor of China, or being within any ship or vessel at a distance of not more than one hundred miles from the coast of China, any law or ordinance which to Her Majesty in Council might seem meet, as fully and effectually as any such law or ordinance could be made by Her Majesty in Council for the Government of Her Majesty's subjects, being within the said island of Hong Kong.

And whereas under and by virtue of the said Act, and of a certain other

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Act passed in the same Session of Parliament, intituled "An Act to remove doubts as to the exercise of power and jurisdiction by Her Majesty within divers countries and places out of Her Majesty's dominions, and to render the same more effectual," Her Majesty was pleased, by an Order in Council bearing date the thirteenth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, to make provision for the good government of Her Majesty's subjects resorting to China, and for certain other purposes therein mentioned; and thereby (amongst other things) Her Majesty's Superintendent of British trade in China, for the time being, was authorised and empowered to make and enforce, by fine and imprisonment, rules and regulations for the observance of the stipulations of treaties, and for the peace, order, and good government of Her Majesty's subjects, being within the dominions of the Emperor of China, or being within any British ship or vessel at a distance of not more than one hundred miles from the coast of China; and Her Majesty was thereby further pleased (among other things) to give authority to any of Her Majesty's Consuls within the dominions of the Emperor of China, to cause any British subject, who, after having been twice convicted of and punished for any crime or offence, should not be able to find good and sufficient security for his good behaviour, or who might be convicted before such Consul of any of certain particular crimes therein enumerated, to be sent out of the dominions of the Emperor of China, in the manner therein mentioned.

And whereas by another Order in Council, passed on the twelfth day of September, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, Her Majesty was pleased to order, that it should not be lawful for any person who should thereafter be sent out of the dominions of the Emperor of China, by any of Her Majesty's Consuls, under and by virtue of the said Order of the thirteenth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, and of another Order, dated the second day of February, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, respectively, or under and by virtue of the said Order now in recital, afterwards to return to and again take up his abode within any part of the said dominions without Her Majesty's permission, to be signified as therein mentioned; and any such person so returning to, and taking up his abode within any part of the said dominions, was thereby made punishable, by fine or imprisonment, and liable to be again sent out of the dominions of the Emperor of China at any time afterwards, in default of finding good and sufficient security for his future good behaviour, in the manner therein particularly mentioned.

And whereas by a certain Ordinance made and passed on the seventeenth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty five, by His Excellency Sir John Bowring, Kt., then Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the said Colony of Hong Kong and its dependencies, and Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary and Chief Superintendent of the Trade of British Subjects in China, with the advice of the Legislative Council of Hong Kong, it was enacted, that it should be a misdemeanor, punishable by not more than two years' imprisonment, or by a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars (such punishment to be accumulative or not, at the discretion of the adjudicating tribunal), for any British subject, within any part of China, to assist either the existing Chinese Government, or any or either of the different factions then engaged, or who might be thereafter engaged, in opposition to the Government, by personal enlistment in the service of either of the said several parties, or by procuring other persons to enlist in such service, or by furnishing, selling, or procuring warlike stores of any description, or by fitting out vessels, or by knowingly and purposely doing any other act to assist either party, by which neutrality might be violated; and that the tribunal for adjudicating on offences, of the description intended to be thereby dealt with, should consist of a Consular officer in charge of a Consulate, and two assessors of Her Majesty, resident within the Consulate.

And whereas it is expedient that the said Ordinance of the seventeenth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, should be explained and amended, and that further provisions should be made to prevent the participation of British subjects within the dominions of the Emperor of China, in acts of war or rebellion against the authority of the said Emperor:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by virtue of all powers enabling Her in this behalf, is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

1. Nothing in the said Ordinance made and passed on the seventeenth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, shall extend or apply, or be deemed to have extended, or to have been applicable, to any British subject, who, at any time heretofore may have assisted, or may hereafter assist, the Government of the Emperor of China, by the means in the same Ordinance mentioned, or otherwise howsoever, by or under the leave or licence of Her Majesty, or by or under the authority of any Order of Her Majesty in Council, at any time heretofore made, or to be hereafter made.

2. If any subject of Her Majesty, within any part of the dominions of the Emperor of China, shall, at any time after the publication of this present Order, in Her Majesty's Colony of Hong Kong, levy war, or take part in any operations of war, against the Emperor of China, or aid or abet any persons who are or who may be engaged in carrying on war or rebellion or insurrection against the said Emperor, in carrying on such war or rebellion, or insurrection, such persons shall be liable to the several penalties mentioned in the said Ordinance of the seventeenth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, and shall further be liable to be sent out of the dominions of the Emperor of China; and, in case of his afterwards returning within the same, shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished, and to be again sent out of the said dominions, and so from time to time, in the same manner, in all respects, as is provided by the said Orders in Council of the thirteenth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, and the twelfth day of September, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, respectively, concerning the persons liable to be sent out of the said dominions under those respective Orders.

3. Every person offending against this present Order may be proceeded against in the same manner, in all respects, as is provided by the said Order of the thirteenth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, concerning persons offending against any rules or regulations duly made, under and by virtue thereof, by Her Majesty's Superintendent of British Trade in China for the time being.

And the Right Honourable Earl Russell, and the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, two of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, and the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, are to give the necessary directions herein, as to them may respectively appertain.

ARTHUR HELPS.

THE P. AND O. STEAMER "CANDIA."

In a passenger's letter describing the cyclone, which we noticed some time ago, we find the following:—

As a passenger I cannot but observe that it certainly appeared to us that the *Candia* was saved solely by the efforts of the Europeans, the officers of the ship, the passengers, and the fine able-bodied men comprising the complement of stewards. The passengers have marked their sense of the services of the captain, the officers, and the stewards, by presenting the captain with a testimonial in writing, and the sum of £100 for the purchase of a piece of plate with a suitable inscription. The chief officer and chief engineer with testimonials and sums of £50 each. The chief steward (acting purser), Mr. Bowen, was most indefatigable in his endeavours to supply every one with all they needed throughout the storm, and he and other officers assisted, from their own property, those passengers whose baggage, clothing, &c., were quite destroyed—he received a sum of £22 as a mark of our approbation of his good services. The stewards received a sum of £90 allotted amongst them. The two stewardesses were not forgotten, for right good services did they do amongst the ladies, and as they had lost very considerably in baggage damaged, the sum of £50 was divided between them. I must not forget to add that to our much respected and esteemed Bishop Boone, a sum was presented for the purchase of a Bible, as a mark of our appreciation of his good offices during a period of great danger, whilst suffering himself from very considerable ill-health.

PATTERN POST TO CEYLON AND HONG KONG.—On the 1st of August next, and thenceforward, patterns of merchandise may be transmitted by post between England and Ceylon and Hong Kong, either *via* Southampton, or *via* Marseilles, at the following rates of postage, which must in all cases be pre-paid by means of postage stamps, viz.:—*Via* Southampton, for a packet not exceeding 4oz., 4d.; above 4oz. and not exceeding ½lb., 8d.; above ½lb. and not exceeding 1lb., 1s. 4d.; above 1lb. and not exceeding 1½lb., 2s.; above 1½lb. and not exceeding 2lb., 2s. 8d.; every additional ½lb., 8d. *Via* Marseilles, for a packet not exceeding 4oz., 6d.; above 4oz. and not exceeding ½lb., 1s.; above ½lb. and not exceeding 1lb., 2s.; above 1lb. and not exceeding 1½lb., 3s.; above 1½lb. and not exceeding 2lb. 4s.; every additional ½lb., 1s. No packet of patterns must exceed two feet in length, breadth, or depth; exceeding such dimensions, it will be treated and charged as a letter. The patterns must not be of intrinsic value. The patterns must be sent in covers open at the ends, so as to be easy of examination. In all other respects the regulations of the Colonial book-post will apply to the pattern post with Ceylon and Hong Kong.—By command of the Postmaster-General. General Post-office, July 16, 1864.

NOVEL IRON-CLAD RIVER VESSEL.—The *Kahireh*, built for the Viceroy of Egypt, and intended for the service of the Nile, made a trial trip of her powers in the Thames, for the inspection of the Lords of the Admiralty, before proceeding on her voyage to Egypt. This vessel is of 348 tons burden, by Messrs. Samuda Brothers, with engines of 50-horse power, by Messrs. John Penn and Son, is entirely cased in armour two inches thick from stem to stern, and reaching from the gunwale to two feet below water. She has two semi-circular cupolas, or shields, on deck, one forward and the other aft, each of which contains a long 18-pounder gun, and is also entirely covered with armour-plates two inches thick. Yet, notwithstanding all this large amount of armour protection, the draught of water of the craft, with her guns, stores, coals, and provisions all on board, was something less than four feet, and the mean speed obtained by the vessel was nine knots per hour. The limited draught rendered two screws advisable, and these are arranged to work one under each quarter. The powers of the vessel were tested in every way by Admiral Drummond, and she was found capable of manœuvring and steering in the most satisfactory way, making the complete circle in 3 min. 25 sec.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Mr. W. Vernon Harcourt has been appointed junior counsel to the Attorney-General in matters connected with the Treasury, in the room of Mr. Welsby, deceased; the Ven. Archdeacon Parry, M.A., to be a member of the Council of the island of Barbadoes; Mr. Horace Turner to be a member of the Legislative Council of the island of Antigua; Mr. John Clarkson Maynard and Mr. Peter Thomas Huggins to be members of the Executive Council of the island of Nevis; and Mr. James Whittal to be a member of the Legislative Council of the colony of Hong Kong.

Monetary and Commercial.

The amalgamation of the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan with the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan has been announced. We must allow the directors of the Imperial to know best, but we see no occassion whatever for this step, and think it is to be regretted that they did not carry out the object for which the bank was established. The following is the circular issued by the Bank of Hindustan:—

Sir,—I am instructed by the board of directors of this bank to inform you that they have concluded arrangements with the directors of the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan, subject to the approval and confirmation of the shareholders of both banks, by which the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan will be merged in this bank. By the terms of agreement, the full details of which will be submitted at an early date to the shareholders, in addition to an increase of capital a large sum will be added to the reserve fund, and this bank will thus be placed in a posi-

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ion still further to command public confidence, and to augment our already large and profitable business. The directors think, in entering on this arrangement, they have consulted the best interests of the shareholders, as, apart from the pecuniary result, they have secured a great accession of strength to the board.—I am, &c.,

July 27. R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

The circular issued by the Imperial Bank of China is also subjoined :—

Sir,—I have the pleasure to inform you that the negotiations which have for some time past been pending with the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited), having for their object an amalgamation with that very prosperous institution, have now been brought to a successful issue. The directors have finally settled terms which they think highly advantageous to the shareholders of this bank. As early as practicable, in accordance with the articles of association, an extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of both companies will be convened to confirm the arrangements made by the directors, previous to which meeting all details of terms, &c., will be laid before you.—I am, &c.,

London, July 28. HENRY TURNER, General Manager.

The shares of the Bank of Hindustan are at 10 premium, and it remains to be seen on what terms the Imperial shareholders are to be admitted.

The Bank of London has declared a dividend of 10 per cent. for the half-year, after carrying off £18,000 to the reserve fund, and carrying forward a surplus of £11,321.

The City Bank has distributed also 10 per cent., adding £10,000 to reserve fund, and leaving a surplus of £7,969.

The London and Westminster Bank, perhaps, presents the most remarkable success. The profit, after setting apart £2,000 towards the buildings of the bank, was £234,032, making, with a previous balance of £18,844, an available total of £252,876. A dividend was declared of 14 per cent. for the six months, which will absorb only £140,000. Of the balance of £112,876, the sum of £80,000 was appropriated in part payment of £187,500, the price arranged for the purchase of the business and premises of Messrs. Jones Loyd and Co.; £24,046 was added to the reserve fund, thus raised to £300,000; and a balance of £8,830 was carried forward. Mr. H. J. Norman, formerly of Messrs. Jones Loyd and Co., was elected a director.

At the meeting of the National Discount Company, Mr. F. W. Russell, M.P., in the chair, the available total was stated at £42,280. The proposed dividend, at the rate of 16 per cent. per annum for the half-year, was adopted; £1,500 was carried to reserve, which is thus raised to £100,000; and a balance of £1,830 was carried forward.

At the meeting of the London Financial Association, the proposed distribution for the half-year, at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum, was adopted, and a balance of £21,408 was carried forward.

The report of the Bank of Egypt states the profits, including a previous balance of £7,220, at £18,772, and recommends a dividend for the half-year at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, which will absorb £12,500, and leave £6,272 to be carried forward.

The report of the Land Securities Company shows a profit to the 30th of June of £902, which is recommended to be carried forward. The advances at present negotiated by the company amount to £158,013, and the estimated profit from commissions thereon is £4,985. The directors state a belief "that all their original anticipations will be realized to the fullest extent."

The report of the Joint-Stock Discount Company (established in February, 1863, to take over the discount business of Mr. Wilkinson), shows the profit for the six months to have been £24,423, and recommends a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, which will absorb £16,000. The sum of £7,011 is to be added to the reserve fund, which will thus be raised to £25,000, and the balance of £1,412 is to be carried forward.

The Alliance Bank report stated the available profit, including a previous balance of £6,933, at £69,330. Of this amount £31,250 was applied in payment of a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, £1,500 was written off preliminary expenses, £30,000 was placed to reserve, and £6,580 was carried forward.

From Bombay we hear that another bank, called the China Bank, has been formed, with a capital of 60 lacs.

The biddings for £300,000 in bills on India took place as usual at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were :—To Calcutta, £171,000; to Bombay, £120,000; and to Madras, £9,000. The *minimum* price was, as before, 1s. 11½d. per rupee on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11¾d. on Bombay. The applications within the limits amounted to £1,800,000. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 1s. 11¾d. will receive about 16 per cent., on Bombay at 2s. about 65 per cent., and all above those prices in full.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Ceylon*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was—in gold: To Madras, £1,922. In silver: To Galle, £360; to Madras, £15,001; to Singapore, £17,150; to Hong Kong, £50,190; to Foo-chow-Foo, £390; to Shanghai, £7,450. Total in gold, £1,922; in silver, £90,951.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Business done.
100	Agra and Masterman's	50	145 to 150	...
50	Do. New	25	—	...
50	Do.	5	—	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	40 to 41	...
20	Do. New	All	19 to 21pm.	...
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	67 to 69	...
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	—	...
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm	2½	9 to 10 pm.	...
50	Imperial of China, India, and Japan	5	1½ to 2 pm.	...
50	London Joint Stock	10	49 to 51 xd.	...
100	London and Westminster	20	94 to 96xd.	...
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	59 to 61	...
50	Union of London	15	53 to 54	...
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	10 to 11 pm.	...
100	Do. New	13	9½ to 10½pm.	...
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	3½ to 4pm	...
20	Do. New	10	—	...
25	Bank of Egypt	All	30 to 31	...
100	Bank of London	50	170 to 175x d.	...
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	1¾ to 1¾ pm.	...
	MISCELLANEOUS			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 4	...
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	79 to 81	...
50	Do. New	30	18 to 20 pm.	...
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	—	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	—	...
2	Telegraph to India Company	2	—	...
5	Bombay Gas	All	¼ dis to ¼ pm.	...
10	E. I. and London Shipping B.	All	—	...
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	8	3 to 2 dis.	...
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	¼ to ¾ pm.	...
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	19½ to 20⅛	...
1	Oriental Gas	All	1¼ to 1¼	...
1	Do. New	All	¼ to ⅜ pm.	...
10	O. Inland Steam	All	3 to 3	...
100	West India Steam Company	60	90 to 92	...
20	Ceylon Company	7	3 to 4 pm.	...
20	International Finance Society	5	4⅛ to 5¼pm	...
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	3 to 3¼ pm.	...
50	London Financial Association	15	11to11¼pm xd	...
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	2	1⅛ to 1¼pm.xd	...
20	Société Financiére d'Egypte	6	⅛ to ¾ dis.	...
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	16¾ to 17¼	...
20	British Indian Tea	8	¼dis.to¼pm.xd	...
10	Upper Assam Tea	1¼	2 to 3 pm.	...
10	Do.	All	14 to 17	...

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Since the date of our last printed circular the market has been extremely dull and inactive, there being no disposition on the part of the trade to increase their stocks. In the early part of the fortnight some little demand sprung up for fair to good blackish leaf sort with strength from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d., and a few transactions took place. The French mail steamer which arrived at Marseilles on the 5th brought 1,260 packages of Canton district new leaf made up as Kaisow; these teas have been placed upon the market, and, as we anticipated, they have been difficult of sale, the trade only taking a very small portion of the finest sorts in small boxes at 3s. 6d., and half-chests at 3s. 1d., the commoner and inferior being almost unsaleable. We hear of one parcel of medium having realised 2s. 2d. Public sales by auction commenced on the 19th instant. 30,889 packages were brought forward, of which 17,095 were sold, 16,071 being without reserve. The general tone throughout the sale was that of great heaviness, and prices ruled very irregularly and rather lower. For all kinds of the common sort of red leaf a decline of ½d. to ¾d. per lb. was noticeable, whilst blackish leaf showed a reduction of say ¾d. to 1d. per lb. Several parcels of fine Pekoe flavour Congou realised 1s. 11d. to 2s. 1d., and a mark of extra fine "Ming Sing" of 1862 import brought 2s. 4d. to 2s. 5d. per lb. Kaisow of fine and extra fine quality sold at 2s. 4d. to 2s. 4½d., and 11½d. to 1s. was paid for Flowery Pekoe. Canton S. O. Pekoes sold for 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d. per lb. Green.—Transactions have been small, and prices are well maintained for good consumable kinds. A sale of India Tea took place on the 12th inst., when 1 740 packages were offered, of which 1,521 were sold, 219 being withdrawn. The sale altogether passed off with fair spirit. Assam Company's Congou, broken leaf and Pekoe, realized 1d. to 2d. per lb. higher rates, though 2d. per lb. decline was fully established upon Pekoe Souchong. Previous prices were realized for private growth Teas.

COTTON.—The market has become more quiet. For China the demand has considerably moderated, and prices are slightly easier. Japan is in request at full rates. Of sales effected in London last week we note 320 bales China, 19d. to 19½d. for fair, and 20½d. for good; 1,845 bales Japan, 20¼d. to 20½d. for fair, 21d. for fully fair, 22d. for good, and 23d. for very good. To arrive we quote, 1,120 bales China, 19½d., to 19¾d. May and June shipment, for guaranteed fair; 350 bales Japan, 20¾d. April shipment, for guaranteed fair.

SUGAR.—There is no quotable alteration for the past week, but prices are in favour of the buyer. We have no sales of this article from the Far East to note. Of Mauritius there have been sales from 35s. to 45s. The market is in a doubtful state, for the effect of the new duties is evidently not yet ascertained. Messrs. Travers and Son say in their Weekly Circular :—"We arrive, therefore, at the conclusion that no opinion as to the future of the sugar trade can be known from its present condition, and that the most general reasoning must be applied in venturing importations to this market; the makers of sugar by a single process must be able even at

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our present rates of duty to supply a class of goods such as the public prefer at an advantage when compared with the French or Dutch refiner (leaving drawback out of consideration), but they may be uncertain as to the kinds most required here, of which past prices and demand are no criterion. As a general rule, neither highest nor lowest qualities are in the greatest demand, but medium kinds, and crushed and pieces forming four-fifths of the English consumption, quotations of these goods must be taken as the best guide. Loaf sugar possibly forms less than one-fourth of the sugar sold at present to the retail trade; powdered white and yellow sugars meet with the greatest consumption, and the bright straw yellow samples are especially desirable, half of the entire consumption of the kingdom being of this character, and being at present supplied by the refiner."

COFFEE.—The demand is only moderate, and prices, though on the whole tolerably steady, in some instances have not been fully supported. The public sales of Plantation have been limited to 550 casks, 330 barrels and bags; which realised last week's rates; low middling to middling 80s. to 83s. 76 casks, 100 bags Native, however, were sold rather cheaper, good ordinary 66s. to 67s.; by private treaty, about 1,500 bags have been taken at 67s. to 68s. Mocha: 374 packages, at auction, being of undesirable quality, were mostly bought in, the small part sold consisting of middling garbled at 85s. to 86s. 6d.

RICE.—There has been a good inquiry for Ballam, but other kinds are dull of sale, and not above 18,000 bags have changed hands on the spot, chiefly Bengal, low red cargo sort to fair Ballam, 8s. 4½d. to 9s. 6d.; good, 10s.; white, 10s. 6d. to 11s. 1½d., and Rangoon, 8s. 9d. to 9s. 3d. Also a floating cargo of Nakrenzie, 900 tons, at 10s. 1½d., open charter.

CAMPHOR.—There is still inquiry, and moderate business has been done upon former terms: China at £4 10s. to £4. 12s. 6d., and Japan £4. 17s. 6d. per cwt. 58 cases at auction retired.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Not any business of importance doing. Buds: Small sales at previous value, £14 to £16.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Dull; 65 bags at auction, all retired. Dragon's Blood: Steady; 3 cases sold at £7. 10s to £7. 17s. 6d. for good block. Galangal Root: Cheaper; and of 201 bags at auction a few only found buyers at 19s. per cwt. for good. Rhubarb: Some inquiry; but of 47 cases at auction one half only sold at 3s. 9d. to 3s. 10d. per lb. for ordinary flat, being comparatively cheap.

GUMS.—Bengamin: Quiet; 5 cases Siam at auction retired; and of 248 cases Sumatra, a few only sold at £12. 5s. per cwt. for second quality false packed, and £6. 5s. fair third. Damer: Nothing of any interest doing. Gamboge: Continues scarce, and very firm; 3 cases sold at auction at £8. 2s. 6d. to £10. 15s. per cwt. for middling mixed to very good pipe.

GUTTA PERCHA.—No business of consequence to report. India-rubber: Remains very inactive, with limited transactions at low prices.

HORNS.—Auctions confined to six tons Ceylon Buffalo horns, sold at 24s. to 25s. per cwt., for 1¼ to 1½ lbs. average.

HEMP.—Manila: This market has been dull, and prices have latterly given way 10s. to 20s. per ton. Of 4,235 bales at auction, two-thirds sold at £34. 10s. to £36 per ton for fair roping to good Sorsogon. Private sales are reported at £33. 5s. cash.

JAPAN WAX.—Nothing of consequence doing. Quotations 55s. to 65s.

IVORY.—The quarterly sales took place on the 17th August.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: This market remains very flat and inactive; 340 bags fair quality of Pegue, but old import, sold at auction at 23s. to 23s. 6d. per cwt., being cheap. Gambier: Business to a moderate extent has been done on the spot, and the market is firm. No sales reported for arrival.

OILS.—Aniseed: Our quotation of 6s. 7d. obtained in retail sales only; of 39 cases at auction only a few placed thereat. Cassia: Very dull; 30 cases at auction retired at 9s. per lb. Cinnamon: Steady; 6 cases at auction sold at 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. per oz. for ordinary to fair.

SAGO.—Prices are again about 6d. per cwt. lower; and 1,004 boxes at auction sold at 21s. to 21s. 6d. per cwt. for fair small, and 20s. to 21s. fair to good medium. Flour continues quiet. Only 100 bags sold at auction at 16s. 6d. per cwt., and nothing doing privately.

SHELLAC.—Orange rather cheaper; fine bright dark Garnet scarce, wanted and the turn dearer; other sorts without change in value or improvement in demand; of 707 cases at auction rather more than half sold—Orange at £7. 7s. 6d. to £8 per cwt.; dark Garnet £7 to £7. 2s. 6d.; pale dull, £6. 5s. to £6. 7s. 6d.; Button, £6. 15s.; and Orange block and blocky, £7 to £7. 2s. 6d.

SPICES.—Cloves: In Penang, no change; Zanzibar and Amboyna rather dearer, fair business having been done at 4d. to 4¼d. per lb. for the former, and 6d. for the latter. Nutmegs: The lower shipping qualities, 90 to 120 nutmegs to the lb., have further improved 2d. per lb., and considerable business has been done at the advance. Only 15 cases Singapore, and 28 cases Penang at auction, half sold at 1s. 4d. to 1s. 8d. per lb. for middling to fine small. Pepper: Black, remains very flat, with most limited business; 513 bags Singapore, and 1,345 bags Penang at auction, all retired. White, quiet market, without business of consequence.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Black Lead: Very quiet, and of 259 barrels at auction only one-fourth sold at 11s. to 14s. per cwt. for middling to fair lump, and 8s. 3d. to 8s. 6d. dust. Galls: Quiet; we quote China and Japan 75s. to 85s. per cwt. Musk: A small recent arrival, 15 caddies, sold at auction at moderate prices, 25s. to 26s. 6d. per oz. for middling to fair Tonquin.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 15s. to £8; nail rod, £9. 10s.; hoops, £10. 10s.; sheets, single £11. 10s.; Staffordshire bars, £9. 10s.; rails, £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £16 to £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £105 per ton; yellow metal, 8¼d. to 8¾d. per lb.

TIN.—104s. for block; 105s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 30s. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £21. 5s. to £21. 10s.; W.B., £22. 10s.; shot, patent, £24; sheet, £21. 10s.; spelter, £25; zinc, English sheet, £28; quicksilver, £8 to £8. 10s.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Jun. 11	Callao	Macao	Gaston	Lavalle.
— 30	Boston	Singapore	Rainbow	Kelly.
July 16	Liverpool	Shanghai	Bentinck	Thomas.
— 17	Do.	Rangoon	Denmark	Rollo.
— 22	London	Shanghai	Sea Witch	Hughes.
— 19	Liverpool	Manila	Bordes y Hubana No. 1	
— 18	Queenstown	Maulmain	Winifred	Watt.
— 18	Off Falmouth	Akyab	Cambrian	Husband.
— 19	Do.	Do.	Anna Lange	Rose.
Jun 21	Rio Janeiro	Hong Kong	Fllida	Runberg.
July 18	St. Nazaire	Banjoewangie	Prime	Goujon.
— 21	London	Hong Kong	Comston	Owen.
— 20	Falmouth	Akyab	Oscar	Crosby.
— 20	Do	Do.	Octavia	Pallander.
— 22	Liverpool	Bassein	Helensiee	Brown.
— 22	Do.	Shanghai	Thomas Roydon	Smith.
— 21	London	Kanagawa	Forerunner	Warden.
— 21	Do.	Rangoon	Parsee	Limington.
— 20	Falmouth	Akyab	Amathea	Ryan.
— 21	London	Singapore	Avonvale	Hall.
— 22	Do.	Shanghai	Thomas & Rebecca	Chapman.
— 22	Falmouth	Akyab	Azia	Nutzhorn.
— 22	Do.	Do.	Carl	Edlund.
— 21	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Isabella Hercus	Brenner.
— 21	Do.	Do. & Buenos Ayres	Banda	Morris.
— 23	London	H. Kong & Singpre.	Poly	Jack.
— 18	Cadiz	Manila	Cervantes	Aguire.
— 23	Deal	Shanghai	Samuel	
— 23	Falmouth	Bassein	Nordstein	Sohst.
— 22	Off Queenstown	Rangoon	Crescent City	Garrett.
— 22	Off Kansale	Shanghai	Ma assar	Boun.
— 23	London	Nagasaki	Millbrook	Burton.
— 24	Do.	Batavia	West	Hawsins.
— 23	Falmouth	Akyab	Monitor	Almgren.
— 23	Do.	Maulmain	Volunteer	Jacks.
— 24	Do.	Rangoon	Aurora	Guyt.
— 24	Do.	Akyab	Sultana	Paxton.
— 25	Do.	Do.	Ellora	Brogger.
— 25	Liverpool	Rangoon	Tippoo Saib	Teesdale.
— 25	Deal	Hong Kong	Black Watch	Couper.
— 25	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Daybreak	
— 21	Off the Start	Banjoewangie	Drie Gezusters	Fischer.
— 25	Falmouth	Akyab	Bremen	Dannemann.
— 10	New York	Shanghai	Volunteer	Whitten.
— 11	Do.	Canton	Canton	Kirchstein.
— 23	Falmouth	Maulmain	Shepherd	Jack.
— 25	Liverpool	Manila	Concepcion	Tuton.
— 25	Falmouth	Akyab	Radama	Daigre.
— 21	Plymouth	Do.	Betty	Rieker.
— 25	Flushing	Rangoon	Edouard and Julie	Meunen.
— 23	Texel	Banjoewangie	Pegasus	Mounoury.
— 26	Do.	Do.	H. Vincent-us v. Paulo	Bolck.
— 25	Liverpool	Shanghai	Bertie	Braithwaite.
— 23	Texel	Batavia	Argo	Gesterkamp.
— 25	Brouwershaven	Do.	Maarten van Rossem	Gerrebands.
— 25	Do.	Banjoewangie	Aeolus	Vries.
— 24	Do.	Rangoon	Eva Johanna	Hordyk.
— 26	Plymouth	Akyab	Constantine	Madsen.
— 27	Liverpool	Manila	Burdeos y Habana No. 2	de Cortina.
— 26	Off Eastbourne	Macassar	Maassluis	Post.
— 26	Texel	Banjoewangie	Celebes	Gilke.
— 27	Falmouth	Akyab	Verdanda	Lolquist.
— 28	Do.	Maulmain	Sparkling Wave	Evans.
— 28	Falmouth	Bassein	Lucy and Harriett	Uhrbrock.
— 28	Do.	Rangoon	Christopher Hall	Freeman.
— 28	Do.	Akyab	Michiels Loos	Parmentier.
— 28	Do.	Do.	Mary Goodall	M'Gilvery.
— 27	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Helena	Hedger.
Jun. 20	Callao	Macao	Onrust	Jonge.
July 20	Deal	Akyab	Bengal	Brammell.
— 20	Falmouth	Rangoon	Zephyrus	Jepsen.
— 27	Texel	Banjoewangie	Alida	Visser.
— 1	St. Thomas	Shanghai	Mercara	Robbins.
— 29	Queenstown	Bassein	Exeter	
— 29	Falmouth	Akyab	Ariel	Bevan.
— 29	Do.	Bassein	Equator	Waling.
— 29	Do.	Rangoon	Georg	Mehrens.
— 29	Do.	Akyab	Benjamin Bangs	Nacross.
— 30	Deal	Singapore	Kalahome	M'Millan.
— 31	Do.	Penang	Devonvale	
— 31	Do.	Do.	Claymore	

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
July 11	London	Bordeaux & Singapore	Fernande	Giles.
— 15	Shields	Batavia	Boni	
— 12	Newcastle	Singapore	Eduard and Elise	Voss.
Jun 16	Pernambuco	Batavia	Rocket	Freeman.
July 11	Jersey	Swansea and China	Gemini	Pallot.
— 14	Cardiff	Japan	Albertus	Pinkham.
— 19	London	Manila	Angela	Onate.
Jun. 24	Rio Janeiro	Java	Fanny	Wulff.
— 15	Pernambuco	Batavia	Rocket	Freeman.
July 17	Shields	Singapore	Marvina Schutt	
— 14	Off the Start	Hong Kong	Siwa	Brorsen.
— 15	Toulon	Saigon	Fortitude	
— 15	Off Dover	Batavia	Doelwyk	Hoefman.
— 19	Sunderland	Shanghai	Empress Eugenie	
— 18	Deal	Sourabaya	Kyk-dun	
— 20	Sunderland	Singapore	Charmer	Thomas.
— 25	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Black Prince	Inglis.
— 25	Do.	Batavia & Sourabaya	Oceaan	
— 25	Do.	Singapore	Mount Vernon	
— 8	New York	Hong Kong	Tung-Suey, str.	
— 8	Do.	Do.	Kahtamba	
— 23	Cardiff	Singapore	Virginia	Beckwith.
— 28	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Tricolor	Price.
— 30	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Orthona	Holmes.
— 25	Sunderland	Singapore	Thurso	Simpson.
— 30	Liverpool	Hong Kong & Canton	Prince Arthur	Thompson.
Jun. 30	Callao	Macao	St. Vincent de Paul	Perez.
July 30	Liverpool	Singapore	Bella Donna	Hamon.
— 30	London	Cardiff & Singapore	Zephyr	Reyor.
Aug. 1	Liverpool	Shanghai	Bella	Turner.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

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LOADING.

At London.—For Kanagawa: Cymbeline, Macedon, Sea Witch. For Nagasaki: Millbrook, Swanley. For Shanghai: John Norman, Egmont, Alexandrina, Cissy, Norwood. For Hong Kong and Canton: Borealis, Annie Archbell, Arab Steed. For Manila: Tetuan. For Singapore: Early Dawn, West, Alexandra. For Batavia and Samarang: Stad Assen. For Batavia: Cornelia and Geertruda. For Bankok: Costa Rica.

At Liverpool.—For Shanghai: Polmaise. For Hong Kong and Canton: Banda. For Singapore: Wm. Dixon, Richard Cobden, Thomas Roydon, Bentinck. For Manila: Iberica, Espana. For Penang and Singapore: Zizine.

At Glasgow.—For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: County of Renfrew. For Singapore: Kate Carnie. For Shanghai: Gossamer. For Batavia and Singapore: Helen Finlayson. For Singapore and Penang: Edinburgh Castle.

SPOKEN.

China Star, for Hong Kong and Shanghai, off St. Pauls, 60 days out.
Glen Isla, (barque) Clyde to Batavia, 13 S., 28 W.
Caractacus, Liverpool to Hong Kong, May 10, off Pulo Sapata.
Kestrel, Sunderland to Hong Kong, out 112 days, off Java.
Northern Queen, Sunderland to Shanghai, May 13, 2 N., 106 E.
Canaan, Manila to Falmouth, May 14, off Cape Nogas Panay.
Pegasus, Java to Amsterdam, May 18, 10 S., 12 W.
Prevosa (?) Hamburgh to Hong Kong, March 18, 12 N., 24 W.
Digiar (?) London to Shanghai, 26 N., 22 W.
Vanguard, Hong Kong to Liverpool, June 16, 38 N., 32 W.
Voorwaarts, Rotterdam to Batavia, July 11, steering west.
Lichtstraal, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 29, 2 N. long. 26.
Ouderkirk aan den Amstel (Dut.), Bat. to Rot., June 3, 41 S. 13 E.
Osborn (barq.), Japan to New York, June 14, 13 S., 10 W.
Amazone, Liverpool to Hong Kong, June 1, off Palma, Canaries.
Lulan (Belg. barq.). Antwerp to Hong Kong, June 6, 18 N., 28 W.
Philip v. Marnix, Rotterdam to Batavia, June 12.
No 8,205, 3rd d.p. (Span. barq.), Manila to Livrpl., April 28, 35 S. 23 E.
British Crown, for Hong Kong, May 22, 9 S. 28 W.
White Squall, Liverpool to Hong Kong, May 4.
Tongataboo (?) (Hamb. barq.) Bat. to Lon., July 10, 47 N. 23 W.
Drei Gezusters, Batavia to Amsterdam, May 29, 1 N. 22 W.
Concepcion, Manila to Liverpool, June 25, 44 N., 27 W.
Stuart Wortley, Cardiff to Shanghai, July 9, 47 N., 12 W.
Jacoba Helena, Rotterdam to Batavia, June 30, 45 N., 20 W.
Nuederkirk (?), Batavia to Rotterdam, May 18, 29 S., 44 E.
Harzburg (barq.), Singapore to New York, June 1, 35 S., 21 E.
Friesland, (Dut. ship), Samarang to Amsterdam, June 3, 35 S., 18 E.
Devonvale, Penang to London, June 1, 31 S., 8 E.
Pegasus, Sourabaya to Amsterdam, July 11, 46 N., 23 W.
Joan Melchior Kemper, Java to Amsterdam, 18 S., 75 days out.
Baron van Heemstra (barq.), Batavia to Rotdm., May 25, 34 S., 29 E.
Christina, Dutch barque, from Batavia.
Kon. Ned. Yacht Club, Amsterdam to Batavia, June 24, 41 N., 14 W.
Maria Antonia (? Maria Adolfina), (Dut barq.), Ams. to Sing. 47 N., 9 W.
Kinderdyk (Dut. ship), Rot. to Batavia, July 13, 48 N., 8 W.
Allendale, Cardiff to Shanghai, May 20, 4 N., 22 W.
Henrietta Gerardina, Cardiff to Singapore, April 17, 2 S., 23 W.
Vriendschap (ship), Rot. to Batavia, April 18 (?), 40 N., (?) 13 W. (?).
Juno, Amsterdam to Batavia, July 10, 48 N., 13 W.
Alice, London to Nagasaki, April 27, 1 S., 22 W.
Inda (barq.), Sunderland to Singapore, May 25, 36 S., 18 E.
Procymatia, Newcastle to Singapore, May 17, 36 S.
Henrietta Geertruida, Amsterdam to Batavia, June 15, 8 N., 21 W.
Isabel, Havre and Swansea to Hong Kong, July 5, 36 N., 19 W.
Baker (?) (Aust. ship), Shanghai to London, July 17, 47 N., 13 W.
Manfred, Sunderland to Hong Kong, July 2, 42 N., 18 W.
Vier Gezusters (Dut. barq.). Rotdm. to Bat., June 13, 8 N., 25 W.
Kortenaar (Dut. ship), Rotdm. to Bat., June 7, 5 N., 24 W.
Anna (barq.), Bat. to Rotdm., 53 days out, May 2, 35 S., 21 E.
Samicote, Sourabaya to Amstdm., 52 days out, May 4, 35 S., 19 E.
Northumberland, Swansea to Singapore June 8, 6 N., 23 W.
3rd d.p. No. 8,547 (barq.), Cardiff to Shanghai, June 11, 8 N., 24 W.
Tagal, Dordt to Batavia, July 17, 45 N., 13 W.
Maria and (?) (Dut. barq.), Batavia to Rotrdm, June 22, 19 N., 36 W.
Norden (Swedish ship), Sourabaya to Amsterdam, May 26, 16 S., 5 W.
Nueva Lantara (Span. barq.), Bar. to Manila, June 7, 2 N., lon. 25.
Hermann (Dut. barq.), Ams. to Bat., June 11, 6 N., 26 W.
No. 185, 3rd d.p., Liverpool to Sin., 32 days out, May 24, 3 N., 24 W.
Havelock (barq.), London to China, June 20, 2 N., 25 W.
Mentor (?) (Dutch barq.), from Penang, June 15, on the line.
Mary Bell, New York to Hong Kong, June 11, 6 N., 24 W.
Margaretha Simonetta (Dut. barq.), Ams. to Bat., July 9, 46 N., 11 W.
Resolute, New York to Canton, March 11, on the line.
Susanna (Dut. ship), Batavia to Rotterdam, June 8, 5 S., 17 W.
Wm. Simpson, London to Singapore, May 22, 2 N., 22 W.
King of Trumps, Liverpool to Singapore, May 24.
Henriette Gerardina Suzanna, Cardiff to Sing., Apl. 17, 2 S., 23 W.
West Kapelle, Banjoewangie to Rotterdam, May 20, 14 S., 8 W.
Tollens, Rotterdam to Batavia, July 15, 47 N., 8 W.
Eastern Light, New York to Shanghai, June 11, 5 N., 28 W.
Lichtstraal, Rotterdam to Batavia, June 1, 74 (?) N., 26 W.
Stad Middelburg, Middelburg to Batavia, June 25, 11 N., 25 W.
Johannes Hendrikus Ferdinand, Bat. to Rottm., July 7, 31 N., 40 W.
Northumberland, Swansea to Singapore, June 8, 5 N., 23 W.
Elephanta (Swed. barq.), Hamburg to Hong Kong, June 13, 9 N., 25 W.
Bongainville (Fr. barq.), Sourabaya to Belle Isle, June 16, 10 S., 13 W.
Berdinkha (brig), Shanghai to London, June 24, 4 N., 26 W.
Tellus (barq.) Antwerp to Manila, May 22, 14 S., 29 W.
Thomas Mitchell, Clyde to Batavia, June 1, 4 S., 26 W.
Brilliant, Marseilles to Singapore, June 7, 5 N., 24 W.
Minter (?) (Dut. ship), for Padang, June 8, 7 N., 24 W.
Generaal Michiels, Rottm. to Singapore, July 13, 48 N., 7 W.
Victoria Bridge, Shields to Singapore, June 22, 9 N., 24 W.
Elisa Henrietta (Dut. barq.), Amstm. to Batavia, June 11, 6 N., 22 W.
Melita, Newcastle to Hong Kong, June 13, 3 N., 26 W.
Brouwershaven (Dut. barq.), Rottm. to Batavia, June 13, 6 N., 22 W.
President Plate (Dut. ship), Rottm. to Batavia, June 1, 7 N., 24 W.
Neerbands Nyverheid (?), Macassar to Rottm, June 29, 33 N. 43 W.
Jeannie Douglas, Shields to Shanghai, June 12, 21 S., 27 W.
Mary Ann, Bristol to Singapore, June 1, 5 S., 28 W.
Brennus (Dut. ship), Batavia to Rotterdam, July 5, 37 N, 43 W.
Minerva (Norw. barq.), Newcastle to Shanghai, June 10, 8 N., 23 W.
Souvenir (Fr.), Manila to Marseilles, May 22, 36 S., 22 E.
Rubicon, London to Amoy, June 20, 3 N., 24 W.
Catherina Maria, Zierikzee to Batavia, July 19, 49 N., 6 W.
Maggie (barq. of Jersey), London to Singapore, June 15, 2 N., 28 W.
Gold Digger, No. 185, 3rd d.p., Lpool. to Sing., May 24, 3 N., 24 W.
Art Union, of Boston, for Batavia, June 30, 18 N., 36 W.
Benefactor, Foo-chow-Foo to New York, May 31, 30 S., 8 E.
Joan Melchior Kemper, Java to Amsterdam, June 12, 11 S., 11 W.
Dutch Barque, 2nd d.p., No. 7,683, Bat. to Ams., June 17, 6 N., 24 W.
Scotland, Penang to London, July 10, 33 N., 40 W.
Eliza Thornton, Singapore to London, July 10, 33 N., 40 W.
Hendrika, Sourabaya to Rotterdam, June 7, 19 S., 3 W.
Maria Catharina (Dut. b.), Batavia to Holland, June 27, 12 N., 29 W.
Adriane, Sourabaya to Rotterdam, 109 days out, July 11, 35 N., 39 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

(Exclusive of this day's Advices.)

From Japan.—At London: Meppel, Witness, Lady Ebrington, Harwood, W. W. Smith, Alexander, Ann Adamson, Abbotsford, and Anglo Indian At Liverpool: Marion, and Vampyre. At Falmouth: Auld Reekie. At New York: Benefactor and Osborne.

From China.—At London: Ethel, Monarch, Belle, Ben-voirlich, P. J. F. Burchardt, Keepsake, Echo, Chandanagore, St. Rajah, Volunteer, Aunt Lizzie, Holmesdale, Rifleman, Isabella, Robinson, Zelia, Vimeira, Zarah, Lady Wharncliffe, Gloucester, Lorton Vale, Iceni, Netherby, Sarah Ralston, Wm. Thompson, Spirit of the North, Queen's Own, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Magnus, Josephine, Glaramara, Sappho, Charles Davenport, Bahia, and Osborne House. At Liverpool: Fort William, Advance, Simoda, Berwickshire, Joshua Bates, Wm. Dawson, Lauderdale, Glencoe, Neville, Cornelia, Inamhore, Express, Mayflower, Regina, Victory, Glencairn, Bristow, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Berdinkha, Unrivalled, Glenlee, Helvellyn, Australia, Eliza Nicholson, and Ann Forster. At Falmouth: Divina, Panama, and Linda. At Bordeaux: Johanna. At Hamburg: Mecklenburg, and Gravina. At New York: Eva, Dorchester, Egean, Hermann, Regnago, St. Paul, Sophia, Luson, Anita, and Gleam.

From Singapore.—At London: Eliza Thornton, Oscar, Confiance, Pet, Polly, Eleanor, Eena, Courante, Najade, Athelstan, Dunkeld, Tartar, and Princess of Wales. At Liverpool: Bella Gallega, C. C. Chisholm, Victory, Agra, Beloochee, Ferris, H. Puddemsey, and Bombay. At Falmouth: Sarah Jane and Hindostan. At Bordeaux: Salares and Java. At Nantes: Suez. At New York: Caroline, Rudolf, Harzburg, and Reynard. At Boston: Ceylon, Aristides, Alexander, and Magnet.

From Batavia.—At Falmouth: Fredrika.

From Penang.—At Falmouth: Schlosser. At Cork: Ceylon. At Bordeaux.—Sophis.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Vessels having arrived from the Eastward freely during the past week, there is some difficulty in fixing acceptable engagements for the outward voyage. Homeward freights continue firm, with an upward tendency, and ships are still in demand from the rice ports, Maulmain and Java. In coal freights better rates are offering.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £37 and £1. 15s. For Shanghai: £50 and £2. 5s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £27 and £1. 5s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of a small quantity of Government stores, including a few combustibles from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Rainbow, Kelly, which arrived at Boston, June 30, from Singapore reports having encountered westerly gales for eight days, during which she had sails split and sprung her foretopmast.

The Philip v. Marnix, from Rotterdam to Batavia, was spoken 12th June, with two of her masts injured, but not so much so as to impede her voyage.

The Aalborg (Danish barque), Tecker, from Copenhagen for China, which put into Rio Janeiro, 9th March, leaky, was to be sold there by auction 25th June.

The Nieuw Holland, Dutch ship, from Amsterdam for Batavia, was burnt at sea, 15th June, in about lat. 3 N; crew and passengers were landed at Bahia, by the Joan, from Rotterdam to Penang.

The Alberto (Chil. barque), from Cardiff to Singapore, put into Rio Janeiro, 23rd June, with damage to rigging. Another account states that her mainmast was broken.

The Duc de Richelieu, Bernard, from Bordeaux for Saigon, put into St. Helena, 6th June, with loss of bulwarks, stanchions, rail, deckhouse,

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&c, and other damage, having experienced severe weather 27th May, 32 S 13 W. She was repairing on the 28th May, and was expected to proceed in about three weeks.

The Noord Brabant (Dutch), Loos, from Batavia, put into St. Helena, 19th June, to repair damages, having encountered a gale on the 10th of June.

Intelligence has been received from Singapore of the total loss of the Morning Star, from Manila, to New York, in Gaspar Straits—crew saved.

Pernambuco, June 29.—The Gustave Adolph (British) from London to Hong Kong, put in here June 26, captain murdered by second mate, murderer to be sent home.

Another steamer of 1,025 tons has been launched by Messrs. Denny, Dumbarton, for the British India Steam Company.

Off Ascension.—June 7, Maria Catharina, from Samarang; 13, Bremen, from Samarang; 15, Kathay, from Sourabaya.

At St. Helena.—June 3, Canton, Kirschtein, from Canton, and sailed for New York; Maria Adriana, v. d. Held, from Sourabaya, and sailed, 4, for Rotterdam; Black Watch, Couper, from Hong Kong, and sailed for London; 5, Maria Diederika, Marion, from Padang, and sailed, 6, for Rotterdam; 6, Duc de Richelieu, Bernard, from Bordeaux for Saigon, with damage; 8, Willy, Sandstedt, from Manila, and sailed for New York; Johannes Hendrikus Ferdinand, Lodewyks, from Batavia, and sailed, 9, for Rotterdam; 9, Zeenimph, Roggen, from Batavia, and sailed, 10, for Amsterdam; 10, Osborne, Stamper, from Anjer, &c., and sailed for New York; Helena, Hedger, from Hong Kong, and sailed, 11, for Liverpool; Boujainville, Fay, from Sourabaya, and sailed, 11, for Belle Isle; Hendrika, Bus, from Sourabaya, and sailed, 11, for Rotterdam; 11, Java Packet, Hellingman, from Batavia, and sailed, 12, for Amsterdam; Loyola, Tuton, from Manila, and sailed, 13, for Liverpool; Berdinkha, Bray, from Shanghai, and sailed for London; 14, Duke of Roxburgh, Parnell, from Sarawak, and sailed, 15, for Falmouth; 15, Onderkirk a. d. Amstel, Swart, from Batavia, and sailed, 16, for Amsterdam; 20, Anne Forster, Clarke, from Batavia, and sailed, 21, for Falmouth; Ternate, Carst, from Padang, and sailed, 22, for New York; 26, Hermann, Koppelmann, from Amoy, and sailed, 27, for New York; Alexander Dempster, from Kanagawa, and sailed 30 for London; Fort William, Kennedy, from Shanghai, and sailed, July 1, for Liverpool.

At Table Bay.—May 31, Dumbarton (str.), from the Clyde for China; 21, Reflect, Deslandes, sailed for Singapore; June 5, Oriflamme (str.), Lane, for New York, and left 8, for Hong Kong.

At Simon's Bay.—May 28, Hermelin, Ouchterlone (str.), from Swansea, and left June 2, for Hong Kong: June 2, Dumbarton (str.), Findlay, from the Clyde, and left 8, for China; 19, Noord Brabant, Loos, from Batavia.

At Algoa Bay.—May 28, Milton, Osgood (Smith, late master, dead), from Liverpool, sailed June 12, for Hong Kong.

At Natal.—May 2, Hoangho, Allardice, sailed for China; 20, Chin Chin, Lorensen, sailed for Singapore.

At Santos (W.I.).—For Batavia (loading), Wilhelmine (Hanoverian).

SHIPPING STATISTICS.

According to the statistics of vessels entered inwards at the port of London, there is an increase of three vessels with a capacity of 6,518 tons from the 1st of January to the 30th of June, 1864, the difference between 487 vessels and 350,000 tons in 1863 and 490 vessels and 356,587 tons in 1864. The port of Liverpool exhibits an increase, also, of 43 vessels, with a capacity of 41,081 tons. The arrivals for six months in 1863 having been 186 vessels, and 162,242 tons, and in 1864 229 vessels and 203,323 tons. The port of Bristol shows a decrease of nine vessels, with a capacity of 5,541 tons, the difference between 19 vessels and 9,567 tons in 1863, and 10 vessels and 4,026 tons in 1864. In the Clyde there is also a decrease of five vessels, with a capacity of 724 tons; the arrivals in 1863 having been 16 vessels, with a capacity of 7,326 tons, and in 1864 only 11 vessels and 6,602 tons. The net increase has been 32 vessels, with a capacity of 31,334 tons, the difference between 708 vessels and 529,204 tons in 1863, and 740 vessels and 570,538 tons in 1864.

The vessels from China into London, Liverpool, and outports, total up (in the six months) 169, against 131 in 1863. From Singapore and Penang 28, against 25 in 1863. From Philippine Islands 11, against 40 in 1863. From Java and Sumatra 1, against 2 in 1863.

The clearances for China in the same period are 85, against 88. From Singapore and Penang 49, against 22. From Philippine Islands 6, against 5. From Java and Sumatra 5, against 8.

OPENING OF THE

QUEEN'S FAMILY HOTEL,

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Under a new and influential direction and patronage.

Proprietors:

JOHN RENWICK BARRAS and D. MUNOZ.

THIS Establishment will RE-OPEN on the 4th July, and will offer to Families and Single Gentlemen the advantages of a spacious and well appointed Mansion in the most salubrious part of London, within immediate reach of all communication by Railway, Omnibus, and Cab. Terms moderate, according to requirements.

Foreign Languages Spoken.

A Professed Cook kept.

Notice to Passengers.

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SOUTHAMPTON.

(Adjoining the Docks and Railway.)

Hot and Cold Baths, and Moderate Charges,

THE Proprietor, having been many years in the employ of the P. and O. Company, can give every information respecting the arrival and departure of the steamers.

R. KELWAY, Proprietor.

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THE PROPERTY OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

Natural digestive Pastilles.—These lozenges made with the Vichy Salts are a sovereign remedy against the maladies contracted in hot countries, and aid materially the action of the mineral water taken internally. A very agreeable sweetmeat.

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PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caissoon Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864.

MESSRS. EVANS and Co., Merchants, Shanghai, beg hereby to give their friends and the public notice that the only person who can now lawfully pledge the credit of the firm is Mr. HENRY EVANS, whose authentic signature may be seen at the office of Messrs. Godwin and Son, Solicitors, Newbury, Berks.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA. Incorporated by Royal Charter. Paid-up capital £631,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts, payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Kandy, Singapore, Galle, Penang, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Mauritius, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the overland route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office, in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 2.

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Every Day.

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Once a Week.

(On Thursday Night).

Price—15 dols. per annum; Single Copies, 44 cents.

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A. SHORTREDE & CO.

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Capital, Two Millions.

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Bank of England, The Alliance Bank of London and Liverpool.

Branches at Bombay, Calcutta, Hong Kong, and Shanghae.

Deposits received at 10 days' notice, on the usual terms, and for fixed periods, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued, and bills negotiated, payable in India, China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government Loan Notes effected, so that the interest may be paid in England.

Every other description of banking and agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

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INDIAN CURRY POWDER

IS unequalled for its delicious flavour and stimulating qualities.

In Bottles, 3s. 6d., 2s. 3d., and 1s. 6d. each.

Curry and Mulligatawny Paste, jars, 3s. 6d. and 2s. 3d each. Royal Combination Pickle, bottles, 2s. each.

N.B.—This pickle is highly approved, and as a zest for cold meat, &c., will be found unrivalled

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Pindaree Chutnee	1s. 6d. and 3s.
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Green Mango, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Cashmere, do.	1s. 6d and 3s.
Lucknow (sweet), do.	1s. 6d. and 3s
Curry Sauce...	1s. 6d.
Tap, do.	1s. 6d.
Pickled Limes	1s. 6d.
Pickled Mangoes	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Essence of Chillies	3s. 9d.
Tamarind Fish	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Balachow	1s. 6d.
Genuine Cayenne	1s. and 2s.
Nepaul Pepper	1s. and 2s.
Guava Jelly	2s 6d. and 5s.
Preserved Mangoes	2 ;2s 6s. 1.
Do Jamaica Ginger	rom 3s. 6d.
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INVITE SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE CAPITAL OF THE

BRITISH AND NETHERLANDS INDIA BANK

(LIMITED).

Incorporated under "The Companies' Act, 1862," which limits the liability of each Shareholder to the amount of his Shares.

Capital, £2,000,000, in 40,000 Shares of £50 each.

First Issue, 20,000 Shares.

It is proposed not to call up more than £12. 10s. per Share. Deposit £1 per Share, and £4 on allotment. No Call to exceed, £2 per Share, and three months' interval between each Call.

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ROBERT M'KERRELL, Esq., 45, Inverness-terrace (of Scott and Co. Mauritius).
JOHN PATERSON, Esq., Chairman of the Standard Bank of British South Africa.
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Secretary (pro tem.)—D. W. BALL, Esq.

Offices—Merchant Banking Company of London, 28, Cannon-street.

PROSPECTUS.

Although within the past few years considerable addition has been made to the banking capital of our great Eastern possessions, it must stillbe admitted that in India, China, Japan, and Australia, as well as in the Eastern Archipelago generally, business has greatly outrun existing banking accommodation, and the necessity again presses hard and severe upon trade in these parts for greatly increased monetary facilities.

To meet this necessity in some measure, the British and Netherlands India Bank is established; and, although it takes powers in its Articles of Association to enter upon any portion of the wide field before it, not only in India, China, and Australia, but also in the Eastern Archipelago, yet its first operations will be directed to those parts which have been chiefly neglected by the newly-created kindred institutions.

Chief among these fields in India will be the Madras Presidency, and some estimate may be formed of its value when it is stated that the import and export trade of Southern India have more than doubled within the last five years, and the extension of the railway system to that portion of Asia, and the application of European capital to the development of its great resources as a coffee, cotton, and tea growing territory, have increased its productive power to such extent that a great addition of banking capital is absolutely necessary to meet the legitimate requirements of commerce.

The British and Netherlands India Bank will also, without loss of time, establish branches in China, Japan, and Batavia, and arrangements are contemplated with an Australian Bank, by which its operations will likewise be effectually extended to that field.

As a profitable investment the British and Netherlands India Bank offers a very desirable opportunity. It will commence operations under promises of very valuable and most extensive support; and at a time when the joint-stock principle in banking is penetrating with new ease every part of the rich fields presented in the East, it will participate at once in that very lucrative business which was once the monopoly of native discounters.

Every description of exchange banking business will also be undertaken by the British and Netherlands India Bank, and it will constitute a peculiar feature of the Company, that under satisfactory securities it will issue credits to producers, through which large commissions are made to the Bank.

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The Articles of Association can be seen at the offices of the Company.

In the event of no allotment being made, the deposit will be returned without deduction; and should the number allotted be less than the number applied for, the payment in excess will be applied towards the amount due.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES (TO BE RETAINED BY THE BANKERS).

No. ———.

To the Directors of the British and Netherlands India Bank (Limited).

Gentlemen,—Having paid to your Bankers the sum of £ , being a deposit of £1 per Share on Shares in the above Company, I hereby request that you will allot me that number; and I agree to become a member of the Company in respect of such Shares, or in respect of any less number you may allot me; and to pay on allotment the further deposit of £4 per Share thereon, and I request that my name may be placed on the register of members for the Shares so allotted.

Name in full .....
Residence .....
Profession or Business .....
Date .....

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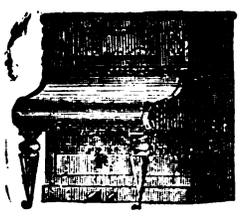

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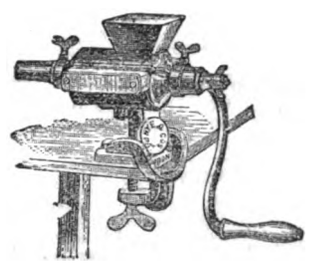

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3½ in. „ white	15 0	12 6	6 0
4 in. strong „	20 0	15 0	7 0
4 in. „ „	25 0	18 0	9 0
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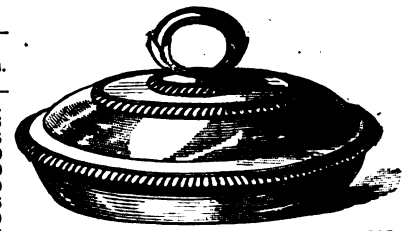

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE FIFTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 28th December, 1863. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 145.] LONDON, MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—	Kanagawa	April 17	June 11	June 11
	Nagasaki			„ 4
	Hakodadi			
CHINA—	Peking			„ 1
	Tien-tsin			
	Hankow			„ 12
	Shanghai	„ 26	„ 14	„ 20
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 18
	Amoy			„ 7
	Swatow			„ 30
	Hong Kong	May 10	„ 18	
	Canton			„ 26
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—	Manila			„ 21
COCHIN-CHINA—	Touron			
	Saigon			
SIAM—	Bankok			„ 22
BORNEO—	Labuan			
	Sarawak			
JAVA—	Batavia			„ 29
MALACCA STRAITS—	Singapore	„ 26	„ 29	July 4
	Penang			

The incoming P. and O. mail has arrived at Alexandria, and will reach London on the 15th inst.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

Per P. and O. str. Baroda, arrived at Marseilles July 31.—From Shanghai: Mr. E. Wadman, Rev. — Bardon, Mr. R. Reid, Mr. E. Fuche. From Hong Kong: Dr. James Dewar, Mr. H. Severs, Mr. F. Sweetzen. From Singapore: Mr. Monters, Mr. J. Myrtle, Mr. E. Barnett.

To Southampton, per P. and O. str. Delhi, arrived August 6.—From Shanghai: Col. Kirkham and servant, Messrs. Scholefield, Escott, and Holland. From Hong Kong: Messrs. Bowley, Hale, Jacobson, Selby, and Hodge, Capt. and Messrs. Tepson and two children, Mrs. Gollteak and infant. From Singapore: Sir R. Schomburgh, Mr. Gilpin.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, August 4, from Southampton.—To Singapore: Mr. C. Wood. To Hong Kong: Mr. S. G. Bird. From Marseilles, August 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Maurice Brussel. To Singapore: Mr. S. Young. From Gibraltar.—To Singapore: Mr. R. and Mrs. Barras, Mr. M. Tavora.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, August 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Galton, Mr. and Mrs. Adams, Miss. Brown. From Marseilles, August 28.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. A. Taylor. To Hong Hong: Mr. and Mrs. D. Crawford. From Suez.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Hermann.

Per P. and O. steamer, Sept. 4, from Marseilles.—To Shanghai (via Bombay): Mr. Wm. Jackson, Mr. J. Webster. To Penang (via Bombay): Mrs. Rodyk and infant.

Per P. and O. steamer, Sept. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Miss Manuel, Miss Pagden, Mr. I. P. Mollison, Col. and Mrs. Gray, Miss P. Plumridge, Miss Longstaff, Mr. P. Bird. To Shanghai: Mr. E. Iveson, Rev. C. H. and Mrs. Butcher, Mr. F. Stokes, Miss Nelson.

Per P. and O. steamer, Sept. 28, from Marseilles.—To Singapore: Mr. P. C. Keake.

Per P. and O. steamer, Oct. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Preston and infant. To Shanghai: Mrs. Jarvie. From Marseilles, Oct. 12.—To Singapore: Miss Cooke and servant. To Shanghai: Mr. Gordon and friend.

Per P. and O. steamer, Oct. 28, from Marseilles.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. Tait. To Shanghai: Mr. A. Schultze. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Wood and lady friend.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Our advices hence are to the 13th June. The China and Japan S. N. Company's screw steamer *Elgin* arrived on the 11th, bringing the English mail of the 11th April, and the French mail of the 17th.

On the afternoon of the 28th May the long-expected steamer *Conqueror* arrived from Hong Kong with the battalion of Royal Marines on board, and the following officers:—Colonel Suther, in command; Lieut. Colonels Penrose and Adair, Captains de Courcey, Parry, Seymour, Taylor, Lean, Colwell; Lieut. and Adjutant Poyntz; Lieut. and Quartermaster Barker—Doctors Ord, Robertson, Egles; Lieutenants Hore, Silver, Inglis, Dwyer, Johnston; 2nd Lieutenants Norcock, Peters, Larkin, Kennedy; and 530 non-commissioned officers and men. The bluff on the eastern side of this settlement (says the *Japan Herald*) has now an unusually busy appearance. Within a few hours after the arrival of the *Conqueror*, numberless carts laden with lumber and building materials of various description, and some hundreds of workmen, crowded the hill approaching the new British Consulate reserve lot, which was soon mapped out with boundary stakes, indicating the position of large and numerous buildings, the frame-work of many of which is already raised. These buildings, we understand, will be occupied by the 20th Regt. On Tuesday, at two o'clock, it was known that the *Conqueror* was about to land her passengers, and a large concourse of the foreign residents assembled on the Bund to witness the debarkation. The landing took place in beautiful order, the men were drawn up on the Bund, and when all had assembled, they were marched up to the large plateau adjoining the United States Consulate Reserve, and between that and the recently erected Japanese barracks, where they are now, under canvas. So long as the fine weather lasts, a more pleasant, as well as healthful location, could not have been found for them, and this they seem heartily to appreciate, for the men, some at drill, others lying about smoking or reading, or chatting, their band playing, the Japanese hucksters vending their wares, and the general hilarity, tempered with the order of discipline, renders it a scene evidently enjoyed by the actors, as it is pleasant and gratifying to the beholders. The fine martial appearance of the men was universally observed and commented on by all who saw them.

The embarkation on the 27th May of Mons. du Chesne de Bellecourt, late Minister of France in Japan, on board the P. and O. steamer *Nepaul* for Shanghai, *en route* for home, was a perfect ovation. Nearly an hour before the time fixed for leaving, the residents—not only the French but those of all other nationalities—began to congregate on the new Hatoba. A guard of honour, composed of the marines of the Dutch men-of-war, formed in order about eight o'clock, and at half-past his Excellency, escorted by the company of the batallion Chasseurs d'Afrique, was accompanied by Mons. Leon Roches, the new French Minister, Sir Rutherford Alcock, General Pruyn, Minister of the United States, D. de Graeff von Polesbrock, Esq., H.N.M.'s Minister, Mons. Lapeyeruse, French Consul, Mons. von Bradt, Prussian Consul, G. F. Plate, Esq., Dutch Consul, and we believe the other consuls, together with many of the junior officials of all the Legations and Consulates, to the pier. His colleagues and more immediate official friends had scarcely time to bid their farewell, when personal esteem and friendship on all hands broke through the restraint of etiquette, and a general rush was made of French, English, American, and Dutch, to obtain a parting grasp of that hand which but few would again hold in their own. Adieux, farewells, and the even more emphatic "God bless you"—saluted M. Bellecourt for many minutes. Time, however, began to shorten, and the fuming funnel of the *Nepaul*

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warned all that the parting could not longer be delayed. His Excellency was conveyed on board the small Dutch steamer which had been courteously placed at his disposal. But even yet many would have still one more adieu. Every available boat was filled. A general rush—officials and civilians now intermingled—was made for the steamers—and soon the concourse which he had but just left on the Hatoba received him on the deck of the *Nepaul*. As he passed from the landing to the vessel H.I.M.S. *Dupleix*, 20th regiment saluted with 14 guns. The Kanagawa fort hoisted the French flag and saluted with a little number, which was acknowledged by the *Dupleix* hoisting the Japanese flag and returning the same salute.

His Excellency seemed much impressed with the very cordial farewell taken of him—and again—and yet once more were the adieux repeated until the vessel was almost on the move.

The P. and O. steamer *Cadiz* arrived on the 6th June, brought Mr. Lindau, who comes duly accredited as full consul for the Swiss Confederation.

On the 30th May, according to advertisement, M. Lapeyrouse, f. f. French Consul, offered to competition (among French subjects only) certain lots on the new French (Swamp) Concession. There was a very large attendance of buyers, and the bidding brisk and decided. Lot No. 1, 217 tsoubos, situated at the rear of the property of M. l'abbé Mermet de Cachon, subject to a ground rent of (say) $73 per annum, after considerable competition, was knocked down to Messrs. Hecht, Lilienthall, and Co., for $2,250. Lot No. 2, 129 tsoubos, ground rent $47, adjoining the above, was bought by E. Piquet, Esq., for $1,050.

The case of Ross, Barber, and Co. v. Samuel J. Gower, tried in the British Consular Court, before Vice-Consul Flowers, with Messrs. L. A. Joseph and G. H. Alcock as Assessors, had excited considerable interest. The plaintiffs' case was—

The steamer *Viola* was circulated for freight for Hong Kong on the 23rd May; in this circular nothing was said about payment of freight; on the 24th plaintiffs engaged freight by her; their shipping-order was signed and their goods shipped and they made out their bills of lading freight payable at Hong Kong, alleging that it is the custom of this port to make freight payable at the port of discharge. The defendant's case was, 1st—A denial that any engagement existed; 2nd, that when the shipping-order was signed he wrote a note to the plaintiffs that freight was payable here, and that he is only bound to sign bills of lading made out in accordance with the note sent with the shipping-order. To this plaintiffs replied, that the engagement, though a verbal one only, was to all intents and purposes a binding one, inasmuch as the defendant had actually told them to send the goods off; and when that engagement was made they were not told "freight payable here;" and that it was not competent to the defendants to alter the terms after the engagement of freight and when the goods were in the course of shipment. To this again the defendant said that the plaintiffs were told that the freight was payable here in time to prevent the shipping the goods, and that they were not justified in using the shipping-order if they did not intend to comply with the terms of the note; that it is the custom of Jardine, Matheson and Co. to collect freight at Yokohama, and that the plaintiffs have not established the rule that freights should always be collected at the ports of discharge, for that Jardine, Matheson and Co. have always collected theirs at Yokohama, as have also the P. and O. Company. The plaintiff claiming to have established the custom at Yokohama of making freights payable at the port of discharge, hold that Messrs. Jardine, Matheson are not exempted from such custom by their usage, and that the custom of the P. and O. Company does not establish custom over private houses.

The Vice Consul, with the concurrence of the assessors, found for the plaintiffs with costs, on the ground "that in the absence of any express stipulation freight is not due until the voyage is performed; that in the case of sailing vessels, the custom at Yokohama of freight being payable at the port of discharge is almost or wholly established; and in the case of steamers, that the same practice has been observed in the great majority of instances (the P. and O. Company's steamers being, by mutual agreement excepted); in the case of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co.'s steamers, it does not appear that it has been an invariable practice to collect the freight at Yokohama, however much the consignees or owners might have wished to establish that practice, and that it was the duty of the consignee, before accepting a contract of freight, to have stated that the money was payable at Yokohama, if he deemed that condition a material part of the contract."

The case of M. O. Flowers *v.* J. Goble had been tried in the United States Consular Court before Colonel Fisher. The plaintiff, who is H.B.M.'s Vice-Consul, charged the defendant with wilfully and maliciously shooting his dog, for which he claimed damages $150. The defendant denied the charge, and endeavoured to make it appear that, although he had shot a dog on the morning in question, it was one of a number of Japanese dogs which had much annoyed him of late, and not the dog of the plaintiff; and in his address to the court contended that it had not been proven that he did shoot the plaintiff's dog, and that even if he had done so he should have been justified under the laws of the United States in killing an animal trespassing upon his premises. An informal decision had been given, for convenience sake, on the day of the trial, the defendant being found guilty, and sentenced to pay a fine of $50. Against this he gave notice of appeal. On the following morning the Consul delivered a more formal decision. Colonel Fisher held that it was an involuntary trespass, and continued:—"A notoriously vicious dog, one that habitually worried children, and killed sheep or poultry, the defendant would doubtless be justified in killing without notice, and the defendant would be justified in ridding us all of the miserable Japanese wolf dogs that infest the settlement, of no earthly value whatever, and I am sure the community would owe a debt of gratitude to the defendant or any other party if he were to drive out all the Japanese dogs in the settlement. The dog, however, of the plaintiff was his companion in all his rambles, and proven to be, not only entirely inoffensive, but of great value. The judgment of the court therefore, is, that the defendant is guilty as charged, and that he pay a fine of $50, including costs, and the clerk will so enter up judgment against the defendant."

In reference to the defendant's motion of appeal, the Consul read from the United States Consular Regulations for Consuls in China, Japan, Persia, and Turkey, by section 3 of which the decision of the Consuls in all cases where a fine under $100 or imprisonment for 60 days can be inflicted, and also in civil cases where the damages do not exceed $500, if he sees fit he may finally decide; but if, in his judgment, any case involves perplexities, or if the damages exceed $500, in either such case it is his duty to summon not less than two or more than three citizens of the United States. If they concur the judgment shall be final; if they differ, then each shall subscribe his name to his assent or dissent, with reasons, and either party may thereon appeal to the Minister; but if no appeal be lawfully claimed, the decision of the Consul shall be final and conclusive.

The squadron of the British Admiral has received the important addition of the *Conqueror*. Three Dutch men-of-war were daily expected. The opinion that the Japanese government will see the advisability of themselves coercing Tsioshiu, and effecting the opening of the Simonosiki Straits, was daily gaining more adherents, and it was reported that some very cogent arguments had been used to that end.

There had been a Japanese report of the portion of a wreck having been seen on the rocks of Achasima, near Uraga, at the entrance of the harbour of Yokohama. Later reports further justified the surmise hazarded that it was probably the debris of the *Oriental*, the *Star of Peace*, the *Viking*, or some other old wreck, and nothing had occurred to change that opinion.

At the commencement of the fortnight (reports the *Herald*) we were enjoying some very splendid weather, the summer apparently coming in very mildly upon us, the highest thermometrical range at 2 P.M. being 77. We have, with an intermission of a few very fine days, been visited with a succession of much rainy weather, during which, in consequence of total absence of any municipal arrangements, the condition of our roads has been most wretched. Thanks, under Providence, to our sea aspect, aided by our self-inflicted newly-organised "scavenger corps," despite every other total neglect of sanitary arrangements, and the existence of every imaginable evil calculated to promote and aid the existence of malaria, the health of the settlement has been generally very good, though there are still one or two cases of small pox reported. On the 17th June a severe shock of an earthquake caused many to rise from their beds at five o'clock in the morning. We have not heard of any damage done, though this was certainly the most severe shock experienced for the last three years.

HAKODADI.

We hear from a correspondent that on the day on which the *Wild Dayrell* arrived a fracas occurred which was attended by serious, and possibly by fatal results. The first mate of that vessel, named Orkney, and the second mate, named Pain, had a quarrel, when Orkney, drawing his revolver, shot Pain in the leg. The injury was of such a character that amputation of the limb was found necessary, and the life of the patient has been considered in much danger. Orkney has been apprehended, and the case been undergoing investigation by Captain Vyse, H.B.M.'s Consul.

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The small steamer, formerly the *Meteor*, lately bought by Koide Mecno no Kami, Governor of Hakodadi, for $47,000, had been her trial trip to Eesh-ka-ree-gori, and was to leave for Yedo in a few days.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

The London Mail of the 26th April arrived out on the 14th June. The dates are now down to the morning of the 20th.

We regret to notice that the return of the hot weather has brought back also that dreadful scourge, cholera. We trust that the residents have not neglected the precautions which we pointed out last year.

The following are the chief items of news recorded in the *Daily News*:

It has been for some days generally suspected that Burgevine has revisited Shanghai, and taken up his old pursuits. We have found difficulty in obtaining reliable information on the point, but we now learn that he has actually returned, and has, moreover, started for Nanking. Barclay, whose versatility of political opinion has justly won him so much distinction, now lies in the British Consular jail under warrant of the United States Consul General on a charge of complicity with Burgevine. We are free to confess that for the latter, weakened in mind and body by the effects of his wound, we feel a sincere and unadulterated pity, but for (Colonel) Barclay (de Tolly) we anticipate with pleasure a long continued incarceration, and a subsequent removal to some more favoured clime, where his insignificance as an individual will preclude the possibility of his becoming a plague to the community among whom his abode may happen to be fixed.

A gentleman who has lately returned from Huchow-fu has kindly furnished us with the following particulars. The investing army consists of the Franco-Chinese force to the number of about 1,600 men, under the command of General D'Aiguebelle, and 6,000 ordinary native troops Up to the present the Imperialists have not obtained a position nearer than about twenty miles from the city, and the attention of the besiegers is devoted to the cutting off of supplies, and to the preparations necessary for a speedy and energetic assault. The rebels are in great force, and strongly entrenched on the plains outside the walls. Indeed there is every indication of their purpose to oppose a vigorous resistance to the efforts of the mandarin troops. At present no fighting is going on, with the exception of an occasional skirmish between the more advanced bodies. Although, as we have said, the principal body of besiegers is still at a very considerable distance from the walls, a small portion of the French force under Colonel Schaedli, and another small body under Colonel Reynolds, are in a position somewhat closer, having entrenched themselves in a stockade lately captured from the enemy. That some disaffection exists amongst the rebel leaders is manifest, for about six weeks since two chiefs surrendered with some five thousand men, and are now fighting on the Imperialist side. This is rendered the more remarkable by the fact that one of these men had distinguished himself by the bravery with which, on the 29th of March last, he defended the breach made by the Franco-Chinese in the wall of Hangchow (vide *North China Herald*, April 16). It is rumoured that some others of the Rebel Wangs are also desirous of coming over to the Imperialists, but the majority, to judge by the reports of deserters and by the extensive preparations made for the defence of the city, have determined to hold out to the last moment. The besieged do not confine themselves to purely defensive warfare. On the contrary, about three weeks since, a vigorous attack was made by a large body of rebels upon an Imperialist camp which had been placed under the command of one of the chiefs who had deserted. It is said that the Imperialist loss on that one occasion amounted to about three thousand killed and wounded. The attack had evidently been preconcerted with some traitors in the Imperial camp, for on the approach of the enemy a large body of the defenders marched out and joined the rebels. Hangchow, if defended by European troops and properly provisioned, would be impregnable. The country in the neighbourhood of the walls is cut up in every direction by creeks, while the artificial defences are of the most formidable character and constructed on the most extensive scale.

A report has reached us through a Chinese source to the effect that on the 1st June one of Tseng-Kwo-fan's brothers, who holds a command in the Imperial city outside Nanking, succeeded, after a protracted engagement, in capturing a rebel camp on the north of the city, outside the Kuang-yin gate, to which gate the rebels were chased, and more than four thousand killed. A vast amount of loot was taken, and many official seals were found.

Li san-ta jen (Li Ho-chang), the hero of Taitsang and of many other engagements, in all of which he has practically announced his belief that the better part of valour is discretion, has, in company with four others as distinguished as himself, been granted the distinction of the Yellow Jacket. This may be intended as a compliment to the Futai, or it may be the result of a judicious bribe, but under no circumstances could a worse selection have been made. The recipient of this honour has had many opportunities of displaying bravery, coolness, and determination, but whenever he has happened to find himself in danger or difficulty his senses have deserted him, and he has disappeared from the scene with most laudable celerity.

It was reported that the *Gyrne Castle*, from Fuhchau to Japan, had been wrecked on a rock in the "Fisherman's Group," and her crew murdered by pirates. On inquiry we find that the consignees of the *Gyrne Castle* have received no advices as to her loss, but that there is reason to believe that the *Netherby* (a vessel despatched by Messrs. Smith, Kennedy and Co., from Fuhchau on the 20th of April) has foundered off the Pescadores, some of her tea having been offered for sale in Formosa. The former rumour may therefore have arisen from the latter.*

Many of our readers are doubtless acquainted with the fact that it is in contemplation to lay down a line of telegraph between Shanghai and Woo-sung. The local native authorities have accorded their permission, and the enterprise will, we understand, when complete, be in some way connected with a Chinese office. The advantages which must accrue from the construction of a telegraphic line are manifold. Vessels will be instantly reported to Shanghai so soon as they come in sight at Woosung. Vessels which may accidentally run ashore will not be left longer in a perilous position than may be necessary to transmit a message to Shanghai, and send a tug to the rescue. It will, moreover, prove a step towards establishing a line up the Yangtsze, to the North, and eventually to Hong Kong. The sharp end of the wedge having once been inserted the rest will naturally and easily follow. It is also worthy of notice that railways and telegraphic lines generally follow one another. We may, therefore, expect to see a railroad opened within a few years, and then the subjugation of China by European civilisation will be an accomplished fact.

Our Ningpo correspondent informs us that the siege of Hoochow is proceeding very slowly. The united Anglo-Chinese, Franco-Chinese, and native drilled troops are still at a distance of fifteen miles from the city, and will be compelled to seize forty stockades before they can approach the wall. It would seem from the extensive preparations made by the rebels that a determined stand will be made at Hoochow, which from its position presents a most formidable obstacle to the completion of the mandarin scheme of conquest, and ensures the rebels a base from which to operate. Reynolds' force is distant about ten miles from the French, and Schedlen (?) was, at the date of our correspondent's letter (June 10th), supposed to have been advancing in another direction. It is said that Schedlen (?) and D'Aiguebelle are not on the best terms, and that some fears of a rupture are entertained.

A curious report was amusing the public, which the *Recorder* gives as follows:—

"His Excellency the Futai at Hangchow had for three nights consecutively been troubled with a dream to the effect that the city was on fire, and on making examinations amongst the ruins twenty lakhs of treasure were discovered. It is further reported that H.E. having directed his officers to the locality they were induced to make a search, when the treasure was actually discovered, and that His Excellency with praiseworthy generosity had apportioned two lakhs to his men, eight to His Imperial Majesty, and the remaining ten to himself."

At a meeting of the North-China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, a very interesting paper was read on the "Architecture of the Chinese." The chair was occupied by Sir Harry Parkes; and the paper was agreed to be printed by the Society.

Messrs. Collyer and Lambert have launched a fine steamer, which is named the *Hercules*, to be used as a tug on the

* This is also incorrect, for the *Netherby* passed Anjer on 11th June.—[Ed. *L. and C. T.*]

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Woosung. The sunken wreck *Lord Lyndhurst* was still causing considerable uneasiness as to the navigation of the channel on the Pootung side.

The ship *C. S. Lemon* was on shore on the North Spit, but it was hoped the efforts to be made to get her off would succeed. A number of shipmasters trading to and from the port of Ningpo have addressed a letter to the Commissioner of Customs, asking that some improvements be made in the approach to the port, which is at present without even lights or buoys.

HONG KONG.

The English mail of 10th May arrived out by the P. and O. steamer *Malta* on the 18th June. The dates are down to Sunday, the 26th, 9 A.M. The present mail brings a portion of the new teas from Foo-chow.

It is announced that the building of the Canton Consulate upon the Shameen site will be proceeded with immediately.

The *Evening Mail* records the following:—We are glad to learn that the City Hall share list promises to be well subscribed. If it were possible to raise $120,000 instead of $100,000, the money could be well laid out, as the style of the building, and its interior decoration, will be determined solely by the amount of money available. Another thing we might suggest. Mr. Robert Jardine, with the liberality that has always characterised his family, has offered to assist the undertaking up to $50,000, if necessary. We should endeavour to avail ourselves of the smallest portion of this sum possible. That is to say, we should act as if the amount of assistance promised was only to be drawn upon to the extent of assistance actually required. The community should do its best, and then see in what measure it wants Mr. Jardine's kind aid.

The shares are fixed at $100 each, and it is greatly to be preferred, we think, that they should be as widely distributed as possible, so that the interest in the building may be general. There will be an arrangement, we should imagine, by which a voice in the direction of the City Hall affairs will be given to all holding shares—not, of course, a vote per share, as that might enable a few heavy shareholders to swamp the rest, but much as they do in the conduct of a bank, where a vote is allowed to every five shares up to twenty votes, which is (in the case of the Agra Bank, at least) the largest number of votes allowed to one individual. Now, it would be well, in the case of our City Hall, that the community should be well represented, and every man who can afford it at all should take at least one share, and so acquire a right to have his say in the management. Not, we think, that there will ever arise any case for serious dispute or even for momentary dissatisfaction, but it is better for us to have the right to attend meetings and talk out boldly than to be compelled to have our grumble through letters or leading articles in the papers, though that means is not to be despised either. The great thing to be attained, and which we shall jealously watch for, is to keep as many votes as possible out of the hands of our wealthier brethren, and to get a vote for every small shareholder. We say this in good part, and only wish to be understood as desiring to have the care of the building, and its general prosperity, in many hands rather than in few. In this view of the matter, we may advise intending donors to put their money in the form of shares so as to secure a vote in the election of committees and in the framing of a sort of "constitution" that ought to be engrossed in the trust-deed, and which no committee should ever have the power of violating.

We have seen the present Amateur Committee made the subject of charges of fast and loose management, those charges being frequently false and brought forward in a somewhat offensive spirit. Our own opinion has always been that the amateurs did a great deal of work and got very little thanks for it from the organs of local opinion. The manner in which the tickets were taken up and the way in which the funds have prospered must have convinced them, however, by this time, that their efforts have been fully and widely appreciated by the community; and probably this form of response has proved more congenial to their feelings than the most elaborate newspaper applause. Be that as it may, the possibility of dissatisfaction can be taken away in the City Hall case by letting holders of scrip have a voice in the election of office-bearers; and we think that intended grumblers should take means to have themselves represented. We are saying nothing, we feel sure, that will at all jar with the ideas of those who have so kindly taken a leading share in promoting the erection of the building referred to. They have no desire to absorb the direction to themselves; indeed, the likelihood is that they would be quite as well pleased to get relieved of such a duty as not. We conclude by asking the attention of the present committee to our remarks on the subject present and future, and by advising people to show some interest in the matter by going to the Agra Bank and subscribing for shares.

The Hong Kong Volunteers, companies 1 and 2, marched out to fire a salute in honour of Her Majesty's accession to the throne. The muster took place at the Government Buildings—where the corps has its head-quarters—shortly after 5 P.M. The weather had been somewhat unsettled during the day, and it was feared that the march out would be interrupted by rain, but such did not prove to be the case. Four guns having been turned out after a little delay in waiting for the ponies (the horse-coolies having misunderstood their instructions), the corps formed the order of march, and proceeded to East Point by way of Queen's Road and the Praya, the band marching in front and playing various enlivening strains. Opposite the Artillery Barracks it was found necessary to unyoke one of the ponies as the animal was not sufficiently tractable for artillery harness and had managed to get one of its legs over the shafts. This *contre temps* was soon rectified by removing the pony and substituting manual power, and nothing further occurred to interrupt the march to East Point, which was reached shortly before sunset. Here there was a halt, when the guns were unlimbered on the quay in front of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.'s godowns, and a royal salute fired. The firing was very good, all the guns being well served, but the detonating tubes were found to be bad, no less than seven of them proving useless. They were afterwards ascertained to be old tubes that should have been condemned long ago. This did not, however, interfere with the regularity of the firing, as another gun was ready whenever one missed fire. After the firing was over, the band struck up the National Anthem, which was followed by the Commandant of the Corps ordering three cheers for the Queen, which were given with the usual enthusiasm, after which the word was given to break off. The Honourable Mr. Whittall and Mr. Henry Murray (of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.'s) then invited the various members to partake of some cool drinks which had been prepared for them, which the gallant Volunteers did with hearty goodwill. Nearly all the gentlemen connected with Messrs. Jardine's house turned out to witness the appearance of the corps, or to hear the band. Before giving the orders to limber up and re-form the line of march, the Commandant, for himself and the Volunteers, publicly thanked the Hon. Mr. Whittall and all connected with the house of Jardine, Matheson and Co., for the constant goodwill they have evinced towards the Volunteers. That was the third, if not the fourth occasion (he said) on which the corps had there been hospitably entertained, and they heartily thanked their entertainers for their many marks of sympathy and friendship. Three cheers having been given by the corps, the band played "For he's a jolly good fellow." Mr. Whittall, in reply, assured the Commandant of his strong sympathy for the Volunteers, and said he trusted this would not be the last time they should be partakers of his hospitality. Orders were then given to limber up, which was quickly done, the corps returning to town by Spring-gardens, the band leading, followed by two guns—the colours—two more guns—and the second (or rifle) company.

It was dark as they returned home, little being visible at a distance but a dense black mass of hill with a clear sharp outline against the sky. On the other side of that hill, thousands of miles away, were the homes and friends of the men who were marching into Hong Kong with their guns, rifles, cymbals, and trombones, and doing precisely what their friends are doing in England—learning to handle weapons of war. It is all the same at home or abroad, Englishmen like to maintain the same national practices. However different the clime, the mind is the same. *Cœlum non animum.*

The corps halted at Spring-gardens, when the band illuminated and resumed playing, the effect of which was that the somewhat long march to East Point and back was cheerfully concluded. We noticed that along the entire route out and in, large crowds of people lined the streets, and were, we hope, benefited by the sight of the guns. We should not be surprised if these periodical displays had a "moral" effect of their own, and helped in some measure to make our authority

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respected. Be that as it may, it is evident that the Volunteer Corps is showing no signs of decay, seeing that, notwithstanding the threatening state of the weather, and the disagreeable remembrances of last turn-out, no fewer than 75 appeared on the present occasion, viz., Artillery (officers and men), 37; Rifle Company, 17; the band, 19; and two captains (commandant and adjutant); 75 in all. The next affair of note in connection with the Volunteers is likely to be firing with big guns at Kowloong, under the inspection of Capt. Kane, R.A., the day for which has not yet been fixed.

PHILIPPINES.

MANILA.

The dates from this port are up to the 21st of June. A fire broke out in the Government stores, and destroyed 87,000 quintals of tobacco.

JAVA AND NETHERLANDS INDIA.

Our dates from Batavia are to the 28th June. Advices from Europe to the 16th May reached there on the 22nd by the French mail.

The Governor-General arrived at Batavia on the 22nd June, from Samarang, where he had been to lay the foundation-stone of the railway station. His speech on the occasion was important. His Excellency said:—'It was the King's will that the railway should at all hazards go through, and that therefore he had used his every endeavour for the accomplishment of the same. That he had been materially assisted by the commercial community, and more especially by that of Samarang. That it was therefore that the grant given by him was so soon confirmed by the King. That the exertions of the company and of Mr. de Bordes had brought the affair far on its road towards a real commencement, and that there were many native chiefs who had come to him and tendered portions of ground through which the railroad might have to run, gratuitously. This railway was not to be considered a means simply for the transport of goods, persons, and cattle, but also as a means of furthering civilisation among the natives, and the amelioration of their condition. Still more it must be considered as a link in the chain which will bind, and which ought to bind Holland to Java and Java to Holland."

A number of Chinamen, sent up by the authorities of Timor Koepang, had arrived by one of the steamers from the Eastward. These people were passengers on board of the English barque *Euphrates*, Capt. D. Cowen, from Sydney to Hong Kong, which ship was obliged to put into Koepang, owing to a mutiny that broke out amongst said passengers. They would be sent up to Singapore by the first steamer leaving for that port.

It was reported that Sim Atjiet, a Chinaman reputed to be very wealthy, had absconded, leaving liabilities to some extent.

PROBOLINGO.

The Lamongan, after an intermission of five years, has again begun to emit lava. The eruption, which commenced on Thursday evening, the 9th June, was preceded by rumbling noises and detonations in the day time, and a heavy shower of ashes fell in the neighbourhood of Probolingo about 11 o'clock P.M. On the night of the 10th the eruption ceased.

SUMATRA.

Cotton still continued to be brought down from the interior to Palembang. The first exportation of the cleaned cotton by the Netherlands Indian Cotton Company from their establishment, took place at the commencement of the month.

At most places in the interior the inhabitants were busy cutting paddy and planting their second crops, most of which consisted of cotton.

At Ampat Lawang, Redjang and Lebong a brisk trade was being carried on in cotton goods, tobacco, &c., with Bencoolen.

The news from the capital and from the interior of Djambi is favourable. The inhabitants were beginning to occupy themselves more with the cultivation of coffee and cotton. Shipments of these articles to Singapore had already taken place.

BORNEO.

Sintang, a fort in the interior of Borneo, on the boundary of the Dutch possessions on the west-coast, is now the seat of war. Some time ago news arrived of disturbances in that quarter, which were then characterised as of a petty nature. They have since proved of more serious import. On the night of the 29th April a gunboat lying in the river near Fort Sintang was attacked by well-armed insurgents, who were, however, bravely repulsed by the Malay crew. In the morning Lieut. Colonel de Neve, commanding the forces in the West-Coast Residency, who had arrived at Sintang some time previously, embarked with a detachment on board of the gunboat, and proceeded up the river in quest of the enemy, with whom he came in contact, and completely routed at Soengi Nena. Colonel de Neve thereupon returned to Sintang, there to await reinforcements which had been ordered up from Pontianak, and which were hourly expected, in order with their aid to carry on operations on a more extensive scale. On their arrival he resolved to attack the enemy in his own strongholds. For this purpose two columns were formed, one of which marched against the enemy's entrenchments at Lobak Krandji, and the other against those at Selat. Both places were occupied with but little loss, but on the return sharp firing was heard towards Soengie Mau, on the banks o the Kajan river, where the reserve was stationed, and a detachment was sent on in advance, under the command of Captain de Leon, to lend assistance to the reserve, which was in all probability being attacked. Such was indeed the case, but the detachment taking the enemy, who seems to have been in force, in the rear, completely routed him, with the loss, however, of its gallant commander. On the 24th of May the troops returned per steamer to Sintang. The military Commandant has received orders to fortify himself at Sintang, and not to attempt further incursions into the enemy's territory before reinforcements arrive.

On the east coast of Borneo piracy has received a severe check at the hands of Lieutenant Bunnik, of H.N.M. steamer *de Berkel*, who has captured four piratical prows, together with the pirate chief Madjoe Soemi. According to the confession of the chief's brother, these prows had primarily belonged to a fleet of eleven vessels, six of which had been destroyed by a steamer near Labuan. This doubtless alludes to the feat of the *Rainbow*.

Mr. Assistant Resident Dahmen had penetrated as far as Upper Teweh. Former expeditions to those parts had hitherto been unsuccessful. Later news from Bandjermassin reports the death of this intrepid official a few days after the success of his expedition. H. M.'s steamship *Admiraal van Kinsbergen* had been sent to Montallet to fetch his body.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

The London mail of the 26th of May arrived on the 29th of June. Dates are now down to the 4th of July. The Governor was to leave for Malacca and Penang on the 5th, per *Pluto*. His Excellency laid the foundation-stone of the new Court House on the 4th. The mercantile failures continue to be the subject of discussion, and we understand that the result of Messrs. Almeida's estate will not be so favourable as stated in our last.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1863-64.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to May 30, 1864	2321272	46963360	52937604	2257092	15805510	120284838	46,603
Corresponding period last season	2804534	42649450	52937604	336208	27146329	118692138	72,844

SHIPMENTS IN JUNE.

Ship	From		
Fiery Cross	Foo-chow	...	940,200
Flying Spur	,,	...	951,200
Serica	,,	...	954,600
Scawfell	Canton	...	975,741

TO UNITED STATES.

From June 1 to May 31, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	28769423	Piculs 645
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	21941427	1184

TO THE CONTINENT.

From June 1 to May 31, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	1232828	Bales 3271
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	3444516	6532

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

From June 1 to May 31, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	Tl. pkgs. 491961	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	53492	...

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TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844.....	...	...	...	51,092,600	...
„ 1845 to 1846.....	...	...	...	57,334,200	18,604
„ 1850 to 1851.....	...	...	...	63,972,000	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854.....	...	...	...	77,337,800	61,280
„ 1855 to 1856.....	...	...	...	92,240,300	50,480
„ 1857 to 1858.....	...	...	...	76,990,255	68,311
„ 1858 to 1859.....	...	...	...	65,789,792	83,136
„ 1859 to 1860.....	...	...	...	35,560,452	64,163
„ 1860 to 1861.....	...	...	...	90,066,160	70,644
„ 1861 to 1862.....	...	...	...	99 854,040	79,199
„ 1862 to 1863.....	...	...	...	121,273,580	...

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to May 31, 1864...	608629	24	15154	7415	868	1784

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to May 31, 1864...	4059	163	...	350	100	1180

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Faus Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to May 31, 1864...	64880	22213	2744	1750	5800	334

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to May 31, 1864...	3612	20104	28581	9799	7650	376200

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to May 31, 1864...	416	146	3285	2318	34800	...

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At HONG KONG.—From Liverpool: June 24, Horsa. From Sunderland: 25, Northland. From Newcastle: 13, Ramoline. From Newport: 15, Sailor's Home; 25, Ina. From Hartlepool: 21, Carausius. From Cardiff: 25, Carthage, Venus. From Bordeaux: Siam. From New York: 14, Dennis Horton.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: July 3, Prince Alfred. From Plymouth: Hoop. From Cardiff: H. G. Susanne. From Shields: Volunteer.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—For London: May 27, Twee Cornelissen; June 9, Patricia, and, 10, Merse.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: June 19, Sea King (str.). For Liverpool: 14, Ziba.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: June 16, City of Aberdeen, and, 17, Yangtsze.

From HONG KONG.—For London: June 25, Kelso.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: June 24, Daniel Rankin; 29, Bonanza, and, July 1, Miss Nightingale.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: June 4, Robin Hood, and 11, Min.

LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Yokohama, Natal, Tien-tsin and Amoy. For Liverpool: Red Deer.

At FOO-CHOW.—For London: Gorilla, Dora, Croukbane, Childers, Ellen Rodgers, Holmsdale, Whinfell and Mercury.

At SINGAPORE.—For Liverpool: Invincible.

CASUALTIES.

HONG KONG.

The mail steamer Malta reports having passed the British barque Carausius, from Hartlepool to Hong Kong, on the 16th June, and on the same day she also saw a British barque, showing No. 3d d.p. 7,619, working to the southward. She experienced fine weather, with a light southerly breeze, up the China Sea.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

FROM ENGLAND AND CONTINENT TO CHINA, &c.—June 9, Mountain Ash, London to Kanagawa; Falcon, Glasgow to Batavia; 11, Glenisla, Glasgow to Batavia; Louis, Cardiff to Hong Kong; 13 Volunteer, Shields to Singapore; 17, San Louis, London.

FROM CHINA, &c., TO ENGLAND AND CONTINENT.—June 11, Netherby, Foochow to London; 13, Henry Puddomsey, Singapore to Liverpool; 14, Glencoe, Hong Kong to Liverpool; 17, Benvoirlich, Shanghai to London; 23, Tartar, Singapore to London; Alavasa, Manila to London.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—August 6, at Falmouth, from Akyab, Manlius, Lawrence Brown; at Queenstown, from Rangoon, Alardus; from Maulmain, Agenoria; 8, at Hamburg, from Akyab, Betty, Ariel; at Texel, from Banjoewangie, Maria Catharina.

DEPARTURES.—August 8, from Liverpool for Singapore, Richard Cobden; 3, from Sunderland for Singapore, Fontenaye, Antrim.

SPOKEN.—4 Gezusters, Rotterdam to Batavia, June 30, 3 N., 27 W.; Lalla Rookh, for Shanghai, July 10, 10 N., 26 W.; Cosmopolitan (?) (Dutch ship), Batavia to Rotterdam, July 4, 11 N., 25 W.

LAID ON.—At Liverpool, for Batavia and Sourabaya, Hercules. At Glasgow, for Manila, Luzon (str.).

The Julie, Perin, from Iloilo to London, which put into Mauritius June 10, leaky, had her cargo completely damaged, and part of it had been sold, her mainmast was also rotten, and would be replaced.

REFORM IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF FRENCH COCHIN-CHINA.

To the Editor of the London and China Telegraph.

SIR,—I beg to offer a few remarks on the above subject alluded to in your last issue.

After a variety of attempts at colonisation, which have proved most disastrous to the country, the French appear to be on the eve of making a last experiment in Cochin-China.

The faith hitherto placed in admirals and midshipmen is now to devolve upon civilians of more or less experience, and it is to be hoped that some success will reward their efforts.

Of the last three Governors little can be said which would redound to the glory of their administration. The first is reported to have been well intentioned, though weak, but cannot be said to have had a fair trial, since he was removed before the country was pacified. The second introduced that peculiar morality which distinguished his career in Tahiti; and the third and present one has had to reap the tares his predecessor had sown.

The natural result is that the country is impoverished; every native who could get away has fled; and the new administration will, at any rate, have a clear field to commence operations on. That the country is capable of vast improvement is admitted by all who have visited it, and under a wise and prudent Government it would shortly recover its lost position, and prove a source of revenue instead of, as now, a heavy expense. It would, however, be as well if the new Governor were to visit British India and Java, and endeavour to profit by the experience of the two great nations which have so successfully ruled in the East. Faults would doubtless be found, but these could be avoided, and many good regulations adopted which would ensure success.

There is one stumbling-block which I take the liberty to point out. Care should be taken to organise the proper administration of what is held before fresh conquests increase the difficulties of the position. It might be well to remember the trite adage of "*Qui trop embrasse mal etreint.*"—Yours &c.,

VIATOR.

August 5, 1864.

CAMBODIAN AFFAIRS.

To the Editor of the London and China Telegraph.

SIR,—In reference to the valuable article upon Cambodian affairs, which appeared in your issue of the 2nd inst., I think it may be interesting to you to be informed of the sequel.

The present French mail has brought the news of the arrival of the French and Siamese representatives at Udong upon the 28th May, the coronation ceremonies of Phra Naradom being completed upon the 3rd June, under their joint auspices. The hostility of the nobles would seem to have ceased, as the country was generally in a peaceful condition.—I am, Sir, yours truly,

CAMBODIAN.

London, 8th August, 1864.

COLONEL GORDON.

(*The Times.*)

The part of a soldier of fortune is in these days very difficult to play with honour. Even in times more addicted to admiration of brute courage and more tolerant of the greed of plunder, the Free Lances and the Conquistadores were apt to degenerate into mere vulgar ruffians and to be abhorred as scourges of mankind. They lack the noble cause, and the motive of patriotism, and the obligation of duty, which alone can give respectability to deeds of bloodshed. What Voltaire calls "*l'art degorger son prochain*" is not to be encouraged except under severe limitations, and it is a salutary horror which mankind in general feel for the man who goes forth to slay his kind in a quarrel which is not his own. But if ever the actions of a soldier fighting in a foreign service ought to be viewed with indulgence and even with admiration, this exceptional tribute is due to Colonel Gordon, whose career as a Chinese officer has just been terminated by the disbanding of his force of disciplined Chinese, and by his own retirement, at the command of the British Government.

If Colonel Gordon was not fighting in the cause of his own country, he was risking his life and expending his energy in the general interests of humanity. His acts had the sanction of his own Government, and his efforts were directed to put down the most horrible system of massacre that has ever existed upon the earth. His operations were conducted in a territory where, in a radius of thirty miles of once closely-peopled country not a house had been left standing, except a little village where had congregated some thousands of inhabitants who clung to life although mere skeletons from want. As a specimen of the scenes which met him every moment in his onward marches he gives one which must make strong men

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shudder. "As a specimen," he says, "one young girl lay dead with her hands tied behind her back, her breasts cut off, and her middle split up, while little children lay about in every direction with their throats cut." A man may justify to himself and to the world any efforts which may have a tendency to check the repetition of scenes like these; and as we read the account of this officer's deeds in the Blue-book just issued we are constrained to the belief that never did soldier of fortune deport himself with a nicer sense of military honour, with more gallantry against the resisting and with more mercy towards the vanquished, with more disinterested neglect of opportunities of personal advantage, or with more entire devotion to the objects and desires of his own Government, than this officer, who, after all his victories, has just laid down his sword. A history of operations among cities of uncouth names, and in provinces the geography of which is unknown except to special students, would be tedious and uninstructive. The result of Colonel Gordon's operations, however, is this:—He found the richest and most fertile districts of China in the hands of the most savage brigands. The silk districts were the scenes of their cruelty and riot, and the great historical cities of Hangchow and Soochow were rapidly following the fate of Nanking, and were becoming desolate ruins in their possession. Gordon has cut the rebellion in half, has recovered the great cities, has isolated and utterly discouraged the fragments of the brigand power, and has left the marauders nothing but a few tracts of devastated country and their stronghold at Nanking. All this he has effected, first by the power of his arms, and afterwards still more rapidly by the terror of his name. In his desperate adventures he was sometimes baffled, and the frequency with which he has been wounded shows how necessary it was for him to inspire his followers by his example as well as to lead them with military skill. With fewer scruples and less care for home opinions, men have carved out kingdoms and founded dynasties from opportunities less tempting than those which Colonel Gordon has neglected. He would probably have done much more than he has done, and would have added Nanking to his conquests, had he not been disgusted by the treachery of the Mandarin under whose orders he was placed. The principal portion of the collection of despatches just published is occupied by a history of the negotiations and proceedings at the capture of Soochow. The story is long since well-known in England. The public were sufficiently scandalised by the circumstance to need no recapitulation of the details. There can be no reasonable doubt that the Mandarin in command had obtained possession of the city of Soochow and the surrender of the rebel leaders upon solemn assurance of the personal safety of the prisoners, and by reason of the confidence which the name and high reputation of Colonel Gordon inspired. It is still more indisputable that as soon as that Mandarin got these chiefs in his power he managed to withdraw them from the protection of Colonel Gordon and to put them to death. This is the indignant complaint of Colonel Gordon, it is the report of General Brown, it is the despatch of Sir Frederick Bruce. The Mandarin himself avows the crime and accepts its responsibility. Colonel Gordon had the full approval of the Commander-in-Chief and of the British Minister when he declared that he could hold no communication with a man who had thus compromised him by his treachery and cruelty. At a very critical period he remained entirely inactive. The reasons which induced him ultimately to return to action are given in these papers, and as they were thought by General Brown and Sir Frederick Bruce of sufficient weight to overbalance the scruples suggested by the conduct of the Footai, we must hold that Colonel Gordon was right in his discretion, as he was certainly right in his motive, when he once more led his disciplined Chinese in the service of a master who had so grievously betrayed him. There is no doubt, upon the evidence before us, that his wish was to retire at once from his position, and he remained only at the desire of Sir Frederick Bruce, who feared that his followers would go over to the Taipings and exaggerate the existing confusion. Sir Frederick Bruce justifies in a despatch to Earl Russell the advice he then gave. He says, "I have confidence both in the rectitude of his motives and in the soundness of his judgment, and as he is the only person thoroughly acquainted with the position of affairs near Soochow, and with the character of the corps he commands, I thought it due to him to give him all the support in my power. I have also provided, as far as possible, against the recurrence of what took place at the capture of Soochow, and after what happened on that occasion Major Gordon will avoid the mistake he then made of taking part in the parleys with the insurgents without being made acquainted with the terms of surrender, and without being present to see that the terms are respected. It is indispensable that officers of character should remain at the head of these semi-disciplined Chinese corps until tranquillity is sufficiently restored, so as to allow of their being dissolved without danger. Otherwise not only would the results already achieved be sacrificed, but the prospect of the restoration of tranquillity would be indefinitely postponed. The magistrates, elders, and population of the pacified districts have united in entreating Major Gordon to continue in the command; and every person of humanity must feel anxious that they should not be exposed to a repetition of the sufferings they have endured since the insurgents appeared in the province."

It is right that an officer who has acted well under difficult circumstances should stand fully acquitted before his countrymen when he is retiring from the scene of his exploits. But we are by no means sorry that Colonel Gordon's career as an officer of the Governor of a Chinese province is at an end. We would not willingly be drawn into even a partial responsibility for the effects of what Sir Frederick calls Chinese ethics, and so long as an English officer in the Chinese service was leading a body of troops to the capture of successive cities, and was at the same time in close correspondence with the Commander-in-Chief of the British forces and with the British Minister, it would be in vain to deny that we are all in some measure liable to be implicated in any massacres that may be committed by our officer's Chinese masters. As the Chinese Government would not accept our aid on the only terms upon which we could offer it with any safety for our good name, we must leave these people to fight their own battles. It seems that some of Colonel Gordon's men have taken service with the authorities of Shanghai. Are these Treaty Ports already taking the position to which all things seem to point as their ultimate destiny? Are the Free Cities of the Extreme East already levying armies?

CHINESE EMIGRATION, &c.

The following is extracted from the report for 1864 of the Emigration Commissioners:—

"During the two seasons terminating in March last only two vessels have been chartered for the conveyance of Chinese emigrants to the West Indies. The first of these vessels, the *Ganges*, sailed at the close of the season of 1862-3 with 413 emigrants, of whom 293 were men, 100 women, and 20 children, and arrived in Demerara on June 29 last in admirable order, after a passage of 84 days. Besides five infants, there died on the voyage seven men and eight women, making together 20 deaths, or a mortality of 4.83 per cent. The other ship, the *Zouave*, sailed from Canton, on Dec. 21 last, with 337 men, 157 women, 16 boys, 2 girls, and 5 infants, equal to 503 statute adults. She arrived in British Guiana on Feb. 29, after a voyage of 70 days, having lost 10 by death, equal to a mortality of 1.93 per cent.

"With a view to diminish the expense of Chinese emigration, which has been the principal objection to it, the colonies of British Guiana and Trinidad have agreed to receive a certain number of emigrants each during the next three years. The number agreed upon is 2,000, of whom 1,250, or five-eighths, are to be received by British Guiana, and the remaining three-eighths, or 750, by Trinidad. It is hoped that by this arrangement the cost of the establishment in China will be materially reduced by being spread over a wider area, while the cost of shipping, which has hitherto been enhanced by the uncertainty of the demand, will likewise be lessened; and that Chinese emigrants may be landed in the West Indies at an expense not exceeding from £20 to £25 per statute adult. That sum, considering that they do not stipulate for a return passage, would not exceed the expense of the Indian immigrant. The conduct of the emigration is entrusted to Mr. Sampson, who was emigration agent at Canton under Mr. Austin, and who despatched the two vessels, the *Ganges* and *Zouave*, above alluded to, and it is intended for the present to draw the emigrants from the province of Kwantung."

"We have received information of only one land sale in Hong Kong in 1863; but in that case, on 12 lots sold at $363 annual rent, the premium realised was $6,490. These lots were put up to sale in consequence of the increased demand for land for the growth of English vegetables and garden purposes."

"In the month of November the Legislative Council of Labuan passed an ordinance to provide for the disposal of Crown lands in that colony. By this ordinance it is provided that land in the colony shall be classified as town, suburban, and country land; that it shall be let on leases of 999 years, which shall be sold by auction at an upset price, the bidding to be on a premium for the lease. The quitrents are to be paid annually in advance, and to be redeemable at 10 years' purchase, and redemption is made compulsory when by sub-division of an allotment the quitrent falls below $1 per annum. Lots of which the quitrent is in arrear for 12 months, or which remain uncultivated or unimproved for three years, are liable to forfeiture. All coal and minerals, with a right of entry to work them, are reserved to the Crown. This ordinance has, we believe, received Her Majesty's approval.

"The Labuan Company, whose operations were noticed in our report of last year, have recently applied for the grant of a lease of the coal mines in that colony. By the licence granted to the company in 1860 they obtained the exclusive right of searching and digging for coal in Labuan, with the promise of a lease for 21 years, provided in the year ending Dec. 25, 1862, they should raise not less than 15,000 tons of coal. This period was afterwards extended, under the circumstances stated in our report of last year, to Dec. 25, 1863. In January last the company applied for a lease. Accounts of the coal raised to Dec. 25 had not, of course, been at that time received, and there was reason to believe that when received they would show that the quantity fell somewhat short of the quantity stipulated in the agreement of June, 1860. Nevertheless, the Duke of Newcastle being of opinion that sufficient had been done to show the determination and ability of the company to work the mines, decided, in the interest of the public, to grant the lease, and instructed us to take the necessary steps for that purpose."

ADMIRALTY COURT.

THE "PALMERSTON" V. THE "MEDINA."—SALVAGE.

(Before Dr. Lushington.)

On the 13th February last the barque *Medina*, 357 tons register, from Yokohama, in Japan, with a general cargo, from London, when off the Admiralty Pier at Dover, her anchor caught the mooring of the guys of that part of the pier still in course of construction. The steamtug *Palmerston*, belonging to the Dover Harbour Board, towed her away from that position, for which service she now claimed compensation. The wind was stated as S.W. and by S., and it was represented that there was a nasty sea rolling in at the pier. It was alleged on the one side, and denied on the other, that the *Medina* and cargo were saved from total loss. A tender was made of £200 to the Salvors, which they rejected, the value of the property salved being £37,500.

The Court was assisted by Captain Redman and Captain Weller.

The Queen's Advocate and Mr. V. Lushington appeared for the salvors; Dr. Deane, Q C., and Mr. E. C. Clarkson for the owners.

The Court and Elder Brethren having retired for consultation, upon their return,

Dr. Lushington said: I am advised by the gentlemen with whose assistance I have been favoured that the *Medina* was in a considerable state of danger, and they are also of opinion that the tug was not in danger. Under these circumstances it remains for the Court to say whether the tender which has been made is sufficient or not, taking into account the large value of the property, £37,000. I do not think the Court ought to diminish the rate of salvage by reason of the supposed ownership of the *Palmerston*, for I apprehend a vessel performing duty, whatever it may be, whether she is harbour property or not, is entitled to be paid exactly upon the same footing as any other vessel performing a like duty. Looking at the whole, I am of opinion the tender is insufficient, and I shall give the sum of £500. Costs.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A Register is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the Far East and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in China, Japan, Singapore, *and other parts of the* Far East, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

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PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the Far East.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 1864.

THE NEW ORDER IN COUNCIL FOR CHINA.

In our last number we printed an Order in Council passed at Windsor on the 9th of July, to which reference was made in the House of Commons by the Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, when he informed hon. members that under its stipulations Major Gordon and other British subjects in the military service of the Emperor of China would have to resign their commissions in the Anglo-Chinese force. According to this Order in Council we do not see that any previous Order or Act of Parliament affecting the question has been rescinded. All that we find as the basis of the new Order is the expediency of explaining and amending the Hong Kong Ordinance of 1855, making it penal for any British subject "to assist either the existing Chinese Government, or any of the factions engaged," by personal enlistment in their service, or to supply them with munitions of war. But this Ordinance was superseded by the Order in Council which allowed British soldiers, sailors, and other subjects to enter the service of the Emperor of China (but not that of opposing factions), at the time of the formation of the Anglo-Chinese land and sea forces. As far as this order is concerned, it only affects the tenour of the one alluded to in Clause 1, wherein it states that no penal Act or Ordinance previously existing extends to any British subject "who may "have assisted, or who may hereafter assist, the Government "of the Emperor of China, by or under the *leave or licence* of "Her Majesty, or by or under the authority of any Order of "Her Majesty in Council, at any time heretofore made, or to "be hereafter made." Showing that should circumstances again arise when it would be conducive to the interests of British subjects, and the protection of their property in China, or the requirements of British policy in that empire, officers and men of the two services may again assist the Imperial Government, and new forces be raised under our auspices.

While these discretionary powers continue in abeyance with regard to British subjects holding, or who may hold, appointments in the Chinese service by licence of Her Majesty, this Order in Council considers it expedient "that further provi-"sions should be made to prevent the participation of British "subjects within the dominion of the Emperor of China in "acts of war or rebellion against the said Emperor." Herein the whole of the penal clauses and stringent regulations contained in the previous Acts of Parliament, Order in Council, and local ordinances, are not only enforced against such persons, but fresh penalties added, in deportation from the country; and should such offenders return, "they shall be liable to be "proceeded against and punished, and to be sent out of the "said dominions, and so from time to time," should they persist in returning. This clause is evidently designed to check the disgraceful traffic in articles contraband of war carried on by unscrupulous traders at Ningpo, Shanghai, and on the Yangtze River. Latterly, these speculators have found it a losing trade, as the power and means of the Taipings have declined. Still, it is just possible that the withdrawal of British commanders over the native disciplined forces may have the effect of renewing the rebel prospects, and by fresh depredations means may be secured to purchase munitions of war from illegitimate merchants, who import "umbrellas of the Enfield pattern," and *quasi* missionaries, who distribute tracts of "percussion-cap tendencies." In these cases, the New Order in Council will have a wholesome effect in crushing a disgraceful and demoralising traffic.

There is an erroneous impression abroad that the previous Acts, Ordinances, and Orders in Council referred to in this decree applied to Her Majesty's military and naval Commanders-in-Chief on the China station, engaged in the operations against the Taipings when they threatened British life and property at Shanghai, Ningpo, and other treaty ports, where our Consuls and fellow-subjects are located. This Order in Council in no way applies to the acts of Admiral Hope or Generals Staveley and Brown when they drove the Taipings, by force of arms, from the vicinity of our settlements; inasmuch as these were engagements against a common enemy, come to plunder and destroy. Perhaps the only occasion when British officers came under the stipulations of the Order in Council was when Captain Dew, of H.M.S. *Encounter*, proceeded, with a volunteer party, to the bombardment of Shao-shing, when Lieut. Tinling was unfortunately killed. But as that officer has received the rank of C.B. for his services in China, it is to be presumed that the Government has *condoned* his indiscretion on that occasion. At all events, he is now in England, so that hon. members of Parliament will have an opportunity of bringing him to book.

SINGAPORE GOVERNORSHIP.

The period has now arrived when the group of British Settlements in the Malacca Straits have attained their majority, and will leave the leading strings of the Indian administrations. As a foster mother that Government has long been neglectful of these external dependencies, which, in a great measure, has been the cause of their weakness and slow development. Now the transfer of their administration is resolved upon, and next session will see them under the direct control of the Colonial Office. These dependencies of a dependency will no longer have to submit to the neglect of a subsidiary executive, whose hands have been too often so full of home affairs of moment that they had neither time nor inclination to attend to those of exotic colonies, such as Singapore, Malacca, or Penang. At last justice is to be done, and they are to be ranked among the jewels that bedeck the Crown of Her Majesty's Colonial Empire, with power to appeal direct to the fountain-head of Government, free from the trammels and delays of the Indian Council. Under these circumstances it behoves the Secretary of State for Colonial Affairs to re-model the local Executive, and appoint a new Governor for Singapore, fully qualified for the onerous post before him, and armed with ample powers to carry out the administration of that colony and the neighbouring minor dependencies with a vigour and progress equal to that which distinguishes our Australian possessions. Hitherto the governors of Singapore have been almost exclusively military men, bred up in the stereotyped school of an Indian Durbar. With the exception of Sir Stamford Raffles, scarcely one of the many governors who have held office in the Straits Settlements has either shown the will or the way to raise them in the colonial scale of self-dependence. We have no desire to cast reflections upon the character of the several administrators of affairs at Singapore, since the time of Raffles, but it is well known that the educational and other institutions founded by him for the improvement of the intelligent natives have become effete for want of gubernatorial patronage; and a helping hand has rarely been put forth to develope the commercial resources of the magnificent port. Not only has there been much neglect, but a want of capacity, among the governors of Singapore, in fulfilling the duties of the office they have held; which continues to the present day. In this respect the British representative has been and is inferior to the stamp of men sent out by the Dutch Government to Java, or in more recent times by the French Government to Cochin-China. The proximity of these rising colonies is giving a further impetus to Singapore, as the central port by which communication is kept up for them with Europe to the west, and China on the east. The vast postal and commercial traffic passing through the harbour is alone daily forming it into one of our most important stations in the Far East, whether for the purposes of peace or war. It is, therefore, high time that a governor should be installed there to hold the reins of government with a firm hand, and to maintain the prestige of England among these settlements, commensurate with our position elsewhere. The day may be

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not far distant when affairs of moment may transpire, involving diplomatic decision of the highest order, in communicating with the French Governor of Saigon; and it would be only a matter of political prudence to have a competent governor at the helm of affairs in our fine colony of Singapore. Siam appears to be alive to the importance of being represented in European capitals, having appointed M. D. K. Mason (lately returned from Bangkok) consul in London, and this gentleman's appointment has duly appeared in the *London Gazette*.

SIR F. BRUCE AND PRINCE KUNG.

The following important despatch has just been published :—

PEKING, JUNE 16, 1863.

Sir,—Your Imperial Highness will have received the note I had the honour to address you on the 9th instant, inclosing a memorandum of the substance of certain observations I had felt it my duty to make when I met your Imperial Highness on the 7th instant.

As regards the first of the two important subjects to which my observations related, the foreign policy of China, I shall add nothing to what I have already said, upon the danger which the empire will incur, should its Government fail promptly and completely to satisfy the representatives of other states who are awaiting its action. My present business is with the claims of my own Government.

I put first on the list the forcible exclusion of Her Majesty's consul from Chaothou, and the refusal of the authorities at Ningpo and Shanghai to refund transit duties surcharged to British subjects. I place these foremost because his Imperial Highness has fully admitted the justice of my representations regarding these, and has more than once promised that the wrong done should be set right.

But complaints are incessant from almost every port, of entire indifference on the part of the authorities to the provisions of the treaties affecting transit duties, passports, the free employment of Chinese, the acquisition of building sites, and the recovery of debts.

I do not deem it worth while to go more into detail, because there is no case before me in the catalogue of those still unsettled which could not have been disposed of without reference to the capital, and which could not now be disposed of in a few days, were the local authorities persuaded of the fact that the treaties form part of the law of the land, and that neglect or violation of their provisions will be denounced and punished as breaches of the law.

It was to inculcate upon the Provincial Government this proposition, so important to the peace of the empire in its external relations, that I urged your Imperial Highness many months ago to obtain a decree in the above terms, addressed to the local authorities throughout the empire. Your Imperial Highness assured me that a circular of instructions which you communicated to me would obtain the desired end, and as I was indifferent to the form, I insisted no further. But it is not too much to affirm that up to the present time the circular has produced no effect whatever. The grievances then unredressed remain unredressed still, and fresh grievances are constantly occurring. Indeed, at Hankow, the authorities deliberately violate the treaties in the matter of transit duties, and at Swatow they refuse to issue passports unless the words "for purposes of trade" be excluded, alleging that this departure from the letter of the treaty is in obedience to the express commands of the Tsung-li-ya-men (Foreign Board).

Under these circumstances I am driven to one of two conclusions. Either the Imperial Government is unwilling to use its influence to cause the treaties to be fairly carried out, or it has not the power to cause its orders to be obeyed. It then becomes my duty to bring these facts under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government as soon as possible, in order that it may decide on the propriety of discontinuing the moral and material aid hitherto afforded to the Chinese Government, and confine its efforts to the protection of its own interests in China. It will become impossible for me to allow officers to remain in the service of the Chinese Government, and if the Government is unable to afford us protection against the insurgents at any of the open ports, and we are consequently obliged to keep troops there, the revenues of the port must be applied to meet the cost of defence, and the payment of the indemnities and the present co-operation with the Chinese Government must cease.

I informed your Imperial Highness long since that such would be the case if the Chinese Government persisted, on the one hand, in unfriendly action, and on the other in refusing to adopt the improvements which the state of the empire render necessary; and I must state distinctly that I cannot authorise the employment of British officers, naval or military, except under the following conditions :—

1. That the Imperial Government take into its own hands the Customs revenues as a means of ensuring the regular payment of the force, in order that discipline may be preserved.

2. That these forces be directly under the Imperial Government, from which alone they are to receive their orders, and to which only they are to be responsible. They will thus act with the provincial authorities, but will not be under their control. It is for your Imperial Highness to decide whether you will make use of British officers. It is for me to point out the conditions on which alone their services are to be had.

I must request your Imperial Highness to give me an explicit answer on the propositions contained in this despatch at an early date.—I have, &c., (Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

PRINCE KUNG TO SIR F. BRUCE.

[Translation.]

The Prince of Kung makes a communication in reply.

The Prince is in receipt of the British minister's despatch of the 16th instant. The memorandum transmitted him on the 9th June, relating to the two important questions, of the policy of China towards foreign nations, and her administration of her finances and her army, his highness has perused, as also all other matters contained in the despatch under acknowledgment.

The Prince was considering a reply to the British minister's note of the 9th, when his Excellency's despatch arrived. With reference to the proposition on which it insists, that the treaty should rank with the law, the Prince has to observe that the principle that the treaty is identical with the laws of the Imperial Government, and that breach of treaty is the same thing as violation of the law, is the principle on which the Government of China proceeds, and that its only desire is that foreign nations should regard the treaty in the same light, as there would then, to the end of time, be peace between the native and the foreigner.

As regards the cases still undetermined in the provinces, the Prince hopes that the British minister will refer to the record, and inform him case by case of the particulars of each, and the ya-men will at once write to the provincial governments concerned, to hurry them with the cases enumerated.

The ya-men will, on its part, supply the British minister with a list of the cases still undecided by British authorities, and will request his excellency to send them orders to use equal expedition. Under these conditions neither side will have a pretext for complaint.

As regards improvements in military organisation in the forces, British and French, now co-operating against the rebels at Shanghae and Ningpo, there are foreign officers and troops not paid by China, and there are foreign officers engaged by China to command troops, and the arrangement under which there is such a variety of denominations as to render uniformity of system impossible, is without doubt a bad one. The despatch under acknowledgment observes that, while it rests entirely with the Prince to engage British officers or not to assist the Chinese Government, the authorisation to accept such engagement lies solely with the British minister (?).

This reasoning is perfectly fair, and the Prince, after giving the matter the fullest consideration, is of opinion that, in order to the prevention of confusion, it is his duty, before proceeding further, to lay down certain distinctions.

Where British troops are engaged in protecting the mercantile community at one of the ports, these being troops placed there by the British Government, which objects to their moving away from the port, the co-operation of such troops against any rebels that may approach the port rests entirely with the foreign government. These troops, not being in Chinese pay, nor subject to Chinese control, the Chinese Government has certainly no right to direct their movements, nor has it anything to say to their discipline.

This there can be no question about. But when the Chinese Government purchases vessels and guns, and appoints a high officer to take command of them, the foreign military officers whom it may engage to assist in the instruction of its forces, inasmuch as these are in the pay of the Government, cannot limit their services to action against the enemy only at the ports of trade. Their movements and the distribution of them must be entirely under the direction of the Chinese Government.

The decision of the question whether these officers shall be authorised to serve China must undoubtedly lie with the British Minister, and if his Excellency will not authorise their doing so there is an end of the matter; but if they be authorised to lend their aid, it will be for the Prince alone to decide under whose command they are to be, and from what source they are to be paid.

After this plain declaration of the merits of the question, there cannot be on either side any usurpation of the authority proper to the other, and this understanding arrived at, all the remaining points involved in that case can be settled by discussion.

It is the Prince's duty to reply, and he trusts that his Excellency, when he shall have duly considered the matter, will reply.

A necessary communication, &c.

SIR F. BRUCE TO PRINCE KUNG.

PEKING, JULY 2, 1863.

Sir,—I have received the reply of your Imperial Highness to my despatch of the 16th of June.

Your Imperial Highness states in explicit terms that the Government of China recognises the treaties as the law of the empire in its relations with foreigners, and that breaches of treaty are considered as violations of those laws. But the despatch of your Imperial Highness contains nothing to show that this principle will be carried out in practice. I stated instances at Hankow and Swatow in which the authorities, in spite of the remonstrances of Her Majesty's consuls, have deliberately set aside the letter of the treaty for no other object that to curtail the privileges of Her Majesty's subjects. Your Imperial Highness in your reply does not allude to these cases, nor do you inform me that any steps have been taken to remedy these grievances or to prevent a repetition of such conduct. I am simply requested to send in a list of the grievances complained of, and I am informed that the local authorities will be urged to settle them with speed. Such a proposal is entirely unsatisfactory, for what reason have I to suppose that the instructions now to be sent by your Imperial Highness will be attended to when I see that the orders which I am assured were given by your Imperial Highness for the redress of outrages such as that committed on Her Majesty's Consul at Chao-chow-foo, and for the repayment of surcharges at Shanghai and Hankow, have been disobeyed?

Moreover, I do not complain of particular acts only; I complain of the disregard generally shown to treaty obligations by the local authorities, and to the constant complaints I receive from the ports of the levy of excessive duties, and of the refusal to repay surcharges improperly levied, &c.

Some time ago I suggested to your Imperial Highness that in the latter class of cases, where the Foreign Commissioner of Custom differs in opinion from the Chinese authority, and considers that the lower rate of duty is the one justly due, or that a surcharge should be repaid, the opinion of the Foreign Commissioner should prevail until the question be decided at Peking. In such matters of detail it is evident that the Foreign Commissioner, whose sole duty it is to transact business of this kind, is far more likely to be right than the Chinese authority, who has many other duties to perform. Had your Imperial Highness adopted this suggestion, many of the lesser complaints would have been avoided.

With respect to the deliberate breach of treaty stipulations, of which I gave instances both at Hankow and Swatow, I have simply to observe, that as long as the Imperial Government refuses to proceed in the usual Chinese form against local officers for these breaches of law, the Govern-

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ment becomes itself responsible for these acts by the impunity it accords to its subordinate agents. I feel convinced that if your Imperial Highness had obtained a decree in terms I suggested eighteen months ago, and [the provincial authorities had seen that it would be really enforced, the subsequent acts complained of would not have been committed.

My object since I have been at Peking has been to seek for redress through the Imperial Government, and to do away with the necessity of seeking redress by forcible demonstrations at the ports for violations of treaty. But it is evident that the reluctance of your Imperial Highness to enter frankly into this policy renders my efforts ineffectual, and will force ultimately Her Majesty's Government to adopt the former proceeding, which is inconsistent with friendly relations, and which has proved the source of disaster to China.

In the meantime I shall address a circular to the consuls at the different ports to bring all matters in dispute again before the notice of the local authorities, with a view to their speedy settlement. I shall be able to judge from the result how far the instructions given to them by your Imperial Highness are sufficient to induce them to act in accordance with the treaty.

As to the employment of foreign officers, I repeat that it is necessary for the security of China that the Imperial Government should undertake the question of military organisation, and not leave it to the provincial officers. For no officer of character will serve unless the terms on which he lends his services and his position are recognised by the Imperial Government. The system hitherto pursued at Chinkiang and Kiang-soo is full of danger to all who are interested in the tranquillity of China.—I have, &c., (Signed) Frederick W. A. Bruce.

JAPAN.

The following are the despatches referred to in Parliament, &c., recorded in our last issue :—

Head-quarters, Hong Kong, 30 May, 1864.

My Lord,—I have the honour to enclose a copy of a despatch from Sir Rutherford Alcock, requesting the remainder of Her Majesty's 2/20th Regiment, now at Hong Kong, to be sent on to Yokohama, with as little delay as possible, for service in Japan; and, as soon as transport can be provided by the navy, the troops will be despatched.

I have to add, I shall for the present detain the women and children at Hong Kong.

I beg also to forward a copy of Colonel Gordon's proceedings up to the latest date. I have, &c.,

(Signed) W. G. Brown,
Major-General commanding Her Britannic Majesty's troops in China.

The Right Honourable the Secretary of State for War,
War-office, London, S.W.

Her Majesty's Legation, Yokohama, 14 May, 1864.

Sir,—The present aspect of affairs in this country renders it expedient, in my opinion, that the remainder of the 20th Regiment, now at Hong Kong, should be sent here.

I have, therefore, requested Vice-Admiral Sir A. Kuper to place the means of transport at your disposal, and have now to beg that advantage may be taken of it to send the remaining portion with as little delay as possible.

I have called upon the Japanese Government to provide the necessary barrack accommodation, and I trust that it may be ready for them on their arrival. Barrack furniture, however, will be found, and if, as I understand, it has already been supplied to the regiment, I think it would be desirable that they should bring what they may require with them.

As regards tent equipage, my present object is to have the regiment quartered here for the protection of this settlement, in the event of the squadron being required to undertake operations at a distance.

But it is impossible to say, in view of future contingencies and the unsettled state of the country, whether the regiment, or a portion of it, may not also be required to enter into active operations away from this place. I have, &c.,

(Signed) Rutherford Alcock,
Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary, and Minister Plenipotentiary in Japan.

Major-General Brown, C.B., commanding Her Majesty's troops in China, Hong Kong.

RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

(RAILWAY NEWS.)

It is a remarkable fact that at this moment the condition of the remote empire of China is becoming as important and also as perplexing a question for English statesmen as that old standing difficulty—the condition of the sister isle of Ireland. The reason of this it is not difficult to discover. We have a large interest at stake in China. During the last ten or twelve years a vast commerce has been developed between Great Britain and the Celestial Empire, and year by year it is rapidly increasing. We get more tea and silk from the Chinese than we used to do, and they have begun to supply us with cotton into the bargain. On the other hand, the cottons of Manchester, the woollens of Leeds and Bradford, the cutlery of Sheffield, and the miscellaneous "toys" of the hardware village, Birmingham, are gradually finding their way into new markets throughout China. When the American trade suddenly fell off, and our merchants and manufacturers had to look about them for new sources of supply and demand, the China trade amply repaid the increased attention which was devoted to it, and a considerable rise is apparent both in our exports and imports to and from that quarter. Anything, therefore, that tends to promote the prosperity of that vast dominion over which the Brother of the Sun and Moon holds sway, must indirectly be a gain to Great Britain.

The extent of our mercantile transactions with China is all the more remarkable on account of the many and serious difficulties under which they are at present carried on. As is well known, we are confined mainly to the seaboard, with the exception of some points on the Yang-tze-Kiang; and the transport of goods to and from our stations is rendered costly and subject to vexatious delays by the primitive mode of transport on the backs of men. By means of the bamboo, resting on his shoulder, and bearing at each end a well-balanced chest, a porter can carry from a hundredweight to a hundredweight and-a-half; but the number of men required to take away or bring down a cargo, and the time consumed in the operation, constitute, perhaps, the least part of the evil. During the journey the goods are exposed to injury from the weather, from the carelessness of the porters, and from pillage of every kind. Highwaymen infest the roads, pirates lurk in the reeds by the river-side, ready to pounce out on the ricketty junk or unwieldy raft which they have marked as their prey. And escaping the clutches of the depredators whom the law denounces, although apparently powerless to put them down, the hapless merchants suffer heavier, because more systematic and inevitable, spoliation at the hands of the guardians of the law themselves—the wearers of crystal buttons and other emblems of Imperial authority. The great evil of the country, we are told, the incubus which weighs upon and bows down the people, which cripples their energies, paralyses their trade, and deprives them of the legitimate incentive to exertion, is the "squeezing," or black mail, not of the free-booters of the forest, but of the mandarins of the cities. Every city, almost every village, has its form of mandarin, and every pound of goods pays its proportionate quota *in transitu*. Moreover, the existing means of transport are utterly inadequate to the rapidly growing trade of the country; and the cost of repairing the Grand Canal, which is in a deplorably damaged condition, will be such as to occasion its being indefinitely postponed in the present exhausted state of the Imperial Exchequer. Under these circumstances, the introduction of railroads into China naturally suggests itself as a means of overcoming the difficulties which we have been pointing out. The railway would supply a rapid, safe, and economical communication between the emporiums in the interior and the ports of shipment. The goods would not be liable to damage, and the numerous stoppages would be avoided which give the mandarins so many opportunities of "squeezing." Goods would be carried, for instance, direct from Hankow and Canton or Shanghai, as the case might be, without being opened or disturbed on the way, and a single fixed duty would be payable at either end. Of the general benefits which the railway would confer on the country, we need scarcely stop to speak, for they are too obvious. Trade and industry would be stimulated, directly or indirectly; well-paid employment would be provided for thousands who are now almost starving for want of work; and food and other necessaries would be cheapened. Looking at the matter from the English point of view, we should be great gainers in procuring direct and speedy access to the sources of supply in the interior, and to the parts of the country where our productions are most in request—that is not in the warm South, where people want but little clothing, but in the North, where a cold climate secures an eager reception for our cottons and woollens.

Impressed with these convictions, Sir Macdonald Stephenson has lately paid a visit to China, and investigated on the spot the question of the possibility of introducing railways into that part of the world. The greater portion of the pamphlet which he has published on the subject since his return is filled with letters from the most eminent firms in Canton, Shanghai, and Hong Kong in favour of his views. They are all of one mind as to the advantages which the railway would confer on trade and industry; although some may doubt the extent to which the system can be carried, at any rate, in the meantime. Taking the map of China, Sir Macdonald Stephenson fixes upon Hankow as a central point, from which he proposes to have lines diverging east to Shanghai, about 650 miles; south to Canton and Hong Kong, 850 miles; north to Peking, 800 miles; and west to Soochow (on the Chinese frontier), and to India, about 1,600 miles. It is a magnificent scheme. Only fancy stepping into a first-class express at Calcutta and being whisked off to Peking or Hong Kong! It almost takes one's breath away. One can scarcely imagine the locomotive as an additional element in the quaint willow landscape which one naturally associates with the idea of Chinese scenery. And yet there is nothing impracticable in the plan. The general features of the country to be traversed by the railway offer no engineering difficulties worth mentioning.

The valley of the Yang-tsze secures an uninterrupted line of easy gradients from Hankow to Shanghai; to the south the valleys of the river Kow, or Hang, and Pe, running almost direct from Hankow to Canton, are separated only by the range of the Meiling mountains, in which both rivers take their rise, and over which the line can, it is said, be carried without having recourse to gradients or curves of a nature to require any special provision for engine power. It is only the novelty and vastness of the project which suggest difficulties; but Sir M. Stephenson is fortified by a powerful precedent in the case of India.

"Those," he says, "who can look back some twenty or twenty-five years, and recollect the active discouragement and passive obstructiveness encountered in Leadenhall-street and Cannon-row when I first undertook the introduction of railways into India, the prophetic assurance of inevitable failure; of insuperable obstacles of floods, white ants, and destructive influences of sun and damp; impossibility of maintenance; indisposition of the people to change former habits; and necessary high and prohibitory rates to cover the great cost; and who have watched the rapid extension of the system of Indian railways, and are aware of the active exertions which have been made to prepare for the future line of railway by Constantinople to India, will not be disposed to discredit the expectation that, within from twenty to twenty-five years, passengers and goods will be conveyed from London, through Europe and Asia by Constantinople and British India, to Canton and Peking."

Sir Macdonald, however, is too experienced and practical a man to imagine that a scheme of such magnitude can be started at once as a whole. While looking forward to the great system which will one day span Asia from end to end, he would be quite content at present to see a "commencement made on a very moderate scale, with the certainty that a short line once completed and at work other lines will be extended over the country with a degree of rapidity inconceivable to those who are unacquainted with the resources and means available in China." In this, as in so many other places, *c'est le premier pas qui coute*. The difficulty is to get the first few joints of rail laid. It is probable that at first

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there might be some opposition on the part of the people to give up their land for the purpose, but that would soon resolve itself into a question of compensation. According to Sir Macdonald, a meeting of native merchants and others was held in Canton, who expressed themselves highly in favour of his plans, and signified their readiness to subscribe part of the capital. The common people, too, were disposed to approve the idea, and flocked to see the "good man who had come to give them a railway." On the other hand, it is clear that the men in power in China are prepared to offer any scheme of the kind determined opposition. The governor of Shanghai curtly refused to transmit to Peking the memorial of British merchants craving leave to make a short line from that port to Soochow, declaring that it would give foreigners an amount of influence which could not be tolerated, and although Prince Kung is said to be not unwilling to give the experiment a trial, the mandarins generally are dead against it. If the Imperial Government knew their own interest they would, of course, be eager to secure the means which the railway would give them of commanding the whole of their vast dominions in an effectual manner, and Sir M. Stephenson's proposals are very conciliatory. He is quite willing that the railways should be constructed for the Government upon their undertaking to pay interest at 12 per cent. per annum on the outlay, and that there should be an equal division with the Government of surplus profits above that percentage. The Customs revenue would afford ample security for the payment of the interest. If the promoters will, in the meantime, confine themselves to one or two short lines, such as between Shanghai and Soochow (60 miles), Canton and Fatshan (15 miles), or Canton and Hong Kong (90 miles), we shall not despair of seeing the Imperial Government grant a concession in a moment of confidence and good nature. The Fatshan line, which could be completed in fifteen months, would be a capital subject for the experiment, and when once the Chinese have had actual experience of the benefits of the railway, we should have no fear of the result.

LETTER FROM JAPAN.—Extract of a private letter, dated Yokohama, Japan, May 26, 1864.—"May in Japan seems to be the season for panics. Last year, about this time, if you recollect, letters spoke of a panic, and the same thing occurs again now. The two-sworded gentry are swaggering, insulting, and fiercer looking than usual—the Japanese money changers of note have been imprisoned, the governor is excited, and things are beginning again to look unpleasant. To satisfy, or rather allay, the feeling of alarm amongst the people on shore, the soldiers are loaded with ball cartridge. On the 23rd two old Japanese hulks, the representatives of Japan's fleet, moved from the proximity of the Fort of Kanagawa and sailed for Yeddo, in all probability to take station behind the forts there. This gave rise to a report that at midnight the fort and guns on the hill near the town were to open fire, and as you may imagine this considerably frightened the nervous among the dollar grinders, especially as it blew great guns all night. However, the forts and guns on the hill thought better of the matter, and all were allowed to sleep in peace. A few days before a startling paragraph appeared in a daily paper that some Daimio was marching on Yokohama with a large force, and might be expected. The prince in question was most likely smoking his pipe at home—at all events, he has not yet turned up. Politically matters are bad. Sir R. Alcock visited Yeddo and the Gorogio on the 16th; the result of the interview was not satisfactory. The French minister followed a few days after with the same result. The officers of the *Coromandel* during their day's stay at Yeddo counted over 100 guns mounted in the forts. It seems likely that if you do not consent quietly to leave this place and retire gracefully to the mantrap at Nagasaki, they will be foolish enough to try force. If a number of half-drunken, determined men were to make a night attack on the foreign settlement, and at the same time the guns (of the number of which we know very little) pitch into the ships and town, a good many of we poor devils ashore would come to grief, especially the ladies, of whom there are many fresh arrivals. Of course what would follow would be a severe retribution, and give the Buxton party a lot to talk about; but this would be no consolation to the unfortunates murdered. The Dutch join us in the Simonoseki affair; but if any attempt is made on Yokohama this Simonoseki affair would in all probability stand over. Messieurs les Japonais, you are too late. Last year we were almost at your mercy—now the tables are turned—and have the goodness to wait another month for 1,500 marines and soldiers, and we are safe, at least, against murder. The *Pelorus* arrived on the 15th from Hong Kong; the *Racehorse* sailed for Hakodadi on the 21st, with Mr. Consul Winchester; and the *Rattler* for Nagasaki, on the 25th to relieve the *Perseus*, which vessel goes to Shanghai to relieve the *Leopard*, ordered to Yokohama; the *Coquette* expected hourly from Shanghai. Acting Lieutenant Henry Morris (promoted at Kagosima), of *Racehorse*, was turned out of the service on the 17th for drunkenness. Several other courts-martial come off shortly, I regret to say, for the same offence. When the Japanese question comes again before the House of Commons I hope the 'give the country-up' party won't win. Next to England it is the finest place in the world, and nature was kinder to it than to England. In the hands of Englishmen it would, indeed, be a paradise. It would be a thousand pities to relinquish our footing in such a land—rich as it is in all that man could desire.

LIVERPOOL EMIGRATION RETURNS.—From the Government emigration returns for Liverpool for the month of July it appears that during that month 28 vessels sailed under the provisions of the Act, carrying 9,111 steerage and 371 cabin passengers; total, 9,482, or 1,482 less than in the corresponding period of 1863. Of the 28 vessels, 21 sailed for the United States, carrying 267 cabin and 7,512 steerage passengers. Of the latter 4,527 were Irish, 1,971 English, 675 foreigners, and 239 Scotch. For Canada there were four ships, with 421 steerage and 95 cabin passengers; for Victoria, two ships, with 735 steerage and 8 cabin passengers; and for Queensland, one vessel, with 443 steerage and one cabin passenger. Of ships sailing independently of the Act there were 20, of which 8 sailed for the United States with 500 passengers, two for Canada with 55 passengers, four to the West Indies with 29 passengers, two to South America with 84 passengers, to Africa one vessel with 25 passengers, and to New Brunswick one ship with five passengers. Total passengers sailing in short ships, 714.

AT the Grocers' Benevolent Society's meeting it was stated that persons were bidding very large sums of money for the London Tavern, and that very lately as much as £100,000 had been offered for it.

Mr. Sam Gray, late of the Oriental Bank and the British and American Exchange Bank, has been appointed manager of the British and Netherlands India Bank.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

JOAQUIM—On the 2nd July, at Mount Narcies, Tanjong Pagar, Singapore, Mrs. F. Joaquim, of a son.

MCDONALD—On the 31st May, at Yokohama, the wife of Wm. McDonald, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

BROWER—MANN.—On the 9th June, at the United States Legation, Yeddo, by the Rev. S. R. Brown, De Witt Clinton Brower, Esq., of New York, to Miss Jennie N. Mann, of Ramsgate, England.

RONEY—HOGARTH.—On the 8th August, at Christ Church, Herne Bay, Kent, by the Rev. W. L. Cartwright, and the Rev. H. Geary, Incumbent, Richard C. Roney, late of Hong Kong, China, son of the late James E. Roney, Esq., of Demerara, to Helen Isabella, youngest daughter of George Hogarth, Esq.

DEATHS.

ARMSTRONG—On the 9th June, at Hongque, Clara Elizabeth, infant daughter of Capt. P. B. Armstrong, str. *Fire Dart*, aged one year seven months.

HUTCHINGS—On the 10th June, at Shanghai, of cholera, Henry Hutchings, Esq., R.N., master commanding H.M.S. *Acorn*.

JAQUEMOT—On the 11th June, at Yokohama, James Alexander Louis, youngest son of J. M. Jaquemot, Esq., aged five years and six months.

KEITH—On the 17th June, at Whampoa, George Keith, foreman boilermaker to the Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock Company, aged 57 years.

PHILLIPS—On the 9th June, at the Astor-house, Shanghai, Isaac Carpenter Phillips of Ilfracombe, North Devon, aged 30 years.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Business done.
100	Agra and Masterman's	50	145 to 150	...
50	Do. New	25	—	...
50	Do. "	5	—	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	39½ to 40½	...
20	Do. New	All	18½ to 19½ pm.	...
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	65 to 67	...
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	—	...
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm.	2½	8 to 9 pm.	...
50	Imperial of China, India, and Japan	5	1 to 1½ pm.	...
50	London Joint Stock	10	48 to 50 xd.	...
100	London and Westminster	20	95 to 97xd.	...
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	59 to 60	...
50	Union of London	15	50 to 52	...
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	9½ to 10½ pm.	...
100	Do. New	18	9½ to 10½ pm.	...
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	2½ to 3½ pm.	...
20	Do. New	10	—	...
25	Bank of Egypt	All	30 to 31	...
100	Bank of London	50	169 to 172xd.	...
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	1 to 1½ pm.	...
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 4	...
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	79 to 81	...
50	Do. New	30	19 to 21 pm.	...
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	—	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	—	...
2	Telegraph to India Company	2	—	...
5	Bombay Gas	All	4½ to 5½	...
10	E. I. and London Shipping B.	All	—	...
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	8	3 to 2 dis.	...
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	¼ to ½ pm.	...
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	19½ to 20½	...
1	Oriental Gas	All	1½ to 1¾	...
1	Do. New	All	½ to ¾ pm.	...
10	O. Inland Steam	All	3 to 3½	...
100	West India Steam Company	60	90 to 93	...
20	Ceylon Company	7	3 to 4 pm.	...
20	International Finance Society	5	4½ to 4¾ pm.	...
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2½ to 2¾ pm.	...
50	London Financial Association	15	10to10¼pm.xd	...
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	2	1½ to 1¾pm.xd	...
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	6	1 to ¼ dis.	...
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	16 to 16½	...
20	British Indian Tea	11	¼dis.to¼pm.xd	...
10	Upper Assam Tea	1½	2 to 3 pm.	...
10	Do.	All	14 to 17	...

BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS.

The Board of Trade returns for the month of June again present extraordinary totals, the declared value of our exportations having been £13,978,256, which is £2,706,999, or 24 per cent., in excess of those of the corresponding month of 1863: Compared with June, 1862, the increase has been to the unprecedented extent of 45 per cent., a fact which will account for the active employment of money and the maintenance of high rates of discount. Much of this augmentation, however, is due to the high prices of all the principal staples, the exports of cotton-yarn, for instance, showing an excess of 32 per cent. in value over those of 1863, and of only 17 per cent. in quantity; while in cotton goods the excess has been 24 per cent. in value, and only 4 per cent. in quantity. The present returns complete the half-year, and it appears that the value of our export trade for that period has been 26 per cent. above that of the first six months of 1863, and 36 per cent. above that of the preceding year.

The Exports to the countries and ports of the Far East, in regard to the articles distinctively enumerated, are returned as follows:—

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China and Hong Kong.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
For the month ended 30th June.			
Cotton yarn	396,336 ..	333,682 ..	147,600 lbs.
Cotton manufactures ..	7,021,660 ..	4,826,623 ..	6,889,484 yds.
Worsted stuffs	656,059 ..	643,736 ..	1,373,069 ,,
Wool and worsted cloths	137,944 ..	138,296 ..	88,742 ,,
Lead	986 ..	1,554 ..	169 tons
Value for the six months ended 30th June.			
Cotton yarn	.. £151,701 ..	£70,893 ..	£114,032
Cotton manufactures ..	.. 925,011 ..	505,904 ..	1,022,244
Worsted stuffs	.. 186,868 ..	277,159 ..	417,255
Wool and worsted cloths	.. 144,999 ..	167,510 ..	140,674
Lead	.. 96,896 ..	183,837 ..	81,354

The Export of Cotton Manufactures to other quarters east of British India is shown by the following figures :—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
For the month ended 30th June.			
Singapore	3,735,684 ..	2,217,405 ..	2,210,763 yds.
Java	1,679,284 ..	1,208,499 ..	2,220,249 ,,
Philippine Islands ..	2,420,724 ..	1,911,654 ..	1,721,933 ,,
Value for the six months ended 30th June.			
Singapore	£391,033 ..	£224,961 ..	£479,502
Java	335,346 ..	128,942 ..	389,179
Philippine Islands ..	170,382 ..	123,046 ..	392,091

Of Cotton Yarn, 31,000 lbs. was exported to Singapore in June of this year, against 103,600 lbs. in June, 1863, and 120,800 lbs. in the same month of 1862; the value for the first six months of 1864 being returned at £61,803, against £68,033 in 1863, and £56,554 in the year preceding.

Imports.

Of Sugar, the quantity imported from Java and the Philippine Islands under the new duties, which came into force on the 16th April in the present year, is as follows, for the month ended 30th June :—3rd quality (not equal to Brown Clayed, but equal to Brown Muscovado), 87,525 cwts.; 4th quality (not equal to Brown Muscovado), 3,990 cwts. The value of the Unrefined Sugar imported from the same quarter during the five months ended the 31st May in the present year was :—3rd quality (not equal to Brown Clayed), £41,205; 3rd quality (not equal to Brown Clayed, but equal to Brown Muscovado), £11,911; 4th quality, £38,645.

The quantity of Hemp imported from the Philippine Islands in the month of June, 1864, was 15,894 cwts; and for the six months ended the 30th June, 74,228 cwts., against 168,831 cwt. in the same period of 1863, and 88,864 cwt. in the previous year. The value of the import of this article from the Philippine Islands for the five months ended the 31st May, for the year 1864, and two preceding years, is given as follows, placing the present year first :—£103,366, £153,851, £86,120.

Raw Cotton still continues to be brought in in unlooked-for quantities from the Far East. The imports from China given in these returns no doubt include the largest portion of that sent forward from Japan. The comparative quantities and values are as follows :—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
For the six months ended 30th June.			
Quantity	143 ..	110,469 ..	411,369 lbs.
For the five months ended 31st May.			
Value	£52 ..	£491,130 ..	£2,610,082

The Declared Value of British and Irish Produce and Manufactures exported from the United Kingdom to the quarters mentioned below, for the five months ending the 31st May in the present and two preceding years is stated to be as follows :—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
Singapore and the Eastern Straits	£544,633 ..	£436,371 ..	£676,988
Hong Kong	579,923 ..	455,389 ..	682,128
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	1,056,154 ..	971,902 ..	1,252,166
Japan	— ..	41,437 ..	115,315
Netherlands India (Java, &c.) ..	441,360 ..	176,074 ..	427,594
Philippine Islands	184,762 ..	125,859 ..	372,330
Siam	— ..	1,374 ..	11,493
Cochin China, Camboja, and Tonquin	— ..	35,000 ..	—

Shipping Intelligence.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Aug. 4	Liverpool	Penang & Singapore	Zezine	Pricst.
— 3	Do.	Singapore	Bentinck	Thomas.
— 3	London	Do.	Alexandra	Morris.
July30	Cardiff	Singapore	Albatross	Somme.
— 29	Deal	Hong Kong	St. Thomas	Bouteward.
Aug. 4	London	Shanghai	Egmont	Morgan.
— 3	Glasgow	Do., via Liverpool	Gossamer	Murphy.
— 4	Do.	Singapore	Kate Carnie	Breckenridge.
July24	Off Gibraltar	Cochin China	Fortitude	
Aug. 2	Gravesend	Singapore	Zephyr	Royer.
July31	Off the Wight	Batavia	Ridderkirk	Molenaar.
— 29	Channel	Do.	Java	Mann.
— 25	Shields	Sourabaya	Constantia	Kimmerer.
— 23	St. Vincent, C.V.	Cape, S'pore, & H. K	Glengyle (str.)	
Aug. 1	Off Dungeness	Sourabaya	Jeannette & Cornelia	Romyn.
— 2	Off Dover	Batavia	Fenretta	
— 2	Shields	Java	Schulda	
July 9	Pernambuco	Singapore	Dundin	Robertson.
Jun.29	St. Vincent, C.V.	Do.	Johore (str.)	Sinclair.
Aug. 3	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Hendrina	Van Breen.
— 5	London	Sund'land & H. Kong	Camoens	Marques.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Aug. 1	Deal	Singapore	Eliza Thornton	Maxwell.
— 1	London	Penang	Scotland	Lyle.
— 1	Do.	Shanghai	Berdinkins	Bray.
July28	Off the Wight	Batavia	Dionysia Catharina	Jaski.
— 28	Off St. Mawes	Do.	Johans. H. Ferdinand	Ledewyks.
— 27	Helvoet	Banjoewangie	West Kapelle	
— 28	Brouwershaven	Do.	Maria Anna	
— 30	Deal	Sourabaya	Maria Adriana	Held.
— 28	Off the Start	Banjoewangie	Susanna	Vonck.
— 16	New York	Kanagawa	Benefactor	Berry.
Aug. 2	Falmouth	Akyab	Rex	Jansen.
— 2	Do.	Do.	Johanna	Lange.
— 1	Liverpool	Rangoon	Conqueror	Crook.
July31	Scilly	Akyab	Agnes Banfield	Bastian.
— 28	Texel	Batavia	Zeenimph	v. Roggen.
— 29	Brouwershaven	Macassar	Maasluis	Post.
— 30	Do.	Padang	Maria Diederika	Marion.
— 31	Texel	Banjoewangie	Maria Agnes	Dursen.
— 31	Do.	Batavia	Java Packet	Hellingman.
Aug. 5	Liverpool	Manila	Loyo'a	Tuton.
— 1	Texel	Banjoewangie	Norden	Wahlman.
— 1	Brouwershaven	Do.	Japan Packet	Brink.
— 1	Off Dungeness	Java	Ouderkirk a.d. Amstel	Zwart.
— 1	Do.	Do.	Marie Catharina	Klint.
— 1	Do.	Do.	Willem Karel	Steenveld.
— 2	Bordeaux	Akyab	Flore	Lafontaine.
— 4	Falmouth	Maulmain	Minnehaha	Henderson.
— 4	Liverpool	Rangoon	Eurynome	Hounsell.
— 5	London	Penang	Sophia Georgette	
— 5	Liverpool	Akyab	Seafield	

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At London.—For Kanagawa: Cymbeline, Macedon, Sea Witch. For Nagasaki: Millbrook, Swanley. For Shanghai: John Norman, Alexandrina, Cissy, Norwood. For Hong Kong and Canton: Kensington, Bengal, Borealis, Annie Archbell, Arab Steed. For Manila: Tetuan. For Singapore: Early Dawn, West. For Penang: Devonvale. For Batavia and Samarang: Stad Assen. For Batavia: Cornelia and Geertruda. For Bankok: Costa Rica.

At Liverpool.—For Shanghai: Thomas Seddon, Polmaise. For Hong Kong: Agamemnon. For Hong Kong and Canton: Banda. For the Cape and Hong Kong: Nancy Brysson. For Singapore: Wm. Dixon, Richard Cobden, Nile, Princess Dagmar. For Manila: Iberica, Espana, Thomas Roydon.

At Glasgow.—For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: County of Renfrew. For Batavia and Singapore: Helen Finlayson. For Singapore and Penang: Edinburgh Castle. For Hong Kong: Tamana.

SPOKEN.

Johannes Martinus, Rotterdam to Singapore, June 7, 16 N., 23 W.
A. R. Falck, Amsterdam to Samarang, July 15, 47 N.
Catharina Maria, Zierikzee to Batavia, July 19, 49 N., 6 W.
Henrietta Gertruida, Amsterdam to Sourabaya, June 15, 8 N., 21 W.
Anna, Amsterdam to Sourabaya, June 10, 7 N., 25 W.
Herman, Amsterdam to Padang, June 11, 6 N., 26 W.
Finzel, London to Shanghai, May 13, 35 S., 15 N.
Perla, Hamburg to Hong Kong, April 24, 7 S., 106 E.
Johanna (Dutch barq.), Batavia to Amsterdam, 35 S., 25 E.
Berwickshire, Hong Kong to Liverpool, June 28, 18 S., 3 E.
Joan Melchior Kemper, from Java, June 19, 1 S., 24 W.
Triton, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 25, 3 N., 25 W.
Kortenaar, Rotterdam to Batavia, June 10, 3 N., 25 W.
Louise Kroonprinsessevan Sweden, Rtm. to Hng. Kng, June 8, 16 S., 34 W
Anna Digna, Amsterdam to Batavia, July 12, 47 N., 10 W.
Catherine, (Dut. barq), Samarang to Amsterdam, June 6, N., 26 W.
Christina (barq.), Batavia to Amsterdom, 51 days out, 33 S., 16 E.
Mary Ann Johnston, Amoy to Liverpool, 70 days out, 33 S., 16 E.
Christian Benjamin, Sarawak to London, June 25, 23 S., 3 E.
Baron v. Heenstra, from Batavia, June 17, 13 S., 7 W.
Cortgene (Dut.), Rotterdam to Batavia, June 22, 6 N., 25 W.
Goethe (Hamb.), Boston to Hong Kong, June 27, 7 N., 25 W.
Queen of Nations, London to Shanghai, May 23, 41 S., 32 E.
Sir William F. Williams, London to Shanghai, June 12, 7 N., 21 W.
Advance, Shanghai to London, 22 days to Anjer.
Mayola (Brit. ship), for Singapore, April 21, 4 S., 23 W.
Ottolina (Brit. barq.), for Japan, April 22, 7 S., 24 W.
Fortuna (Dut. barq.), for Batavia, May 15, 37 S., 4 W.
Windlow (?) (barq.), Cardiff to Singapore, May 23, in Straits of Sunda.
Couranto (barq.), Singapore to London, June 7, 20 S., 72 E.
Woodbine, London to Hong Kong, May 30, 7 N., 107 E.
Chrysolite, London to Hong Kong, June 6.
Seaking (str.), Hankow to London, off the Brothers, Java Seas.
Canaan, Manila to Falmouth, June 14, off Cape Nogas, Panay bearing E.
Launceston, Cardiff to Shanghai, May 30, 8 N., 101 E.
Juthia (?) (Fr. barq.), Bordeaux to Singapore, June 8, 6 N., 22 W.
Margaretha, Rotterdam to Singapore, May 24, 21 N., 24 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

(Exclusive of this day's Advices.)

From Japan.—At London: Meppel, Witness, Lady Ebrington, Harwood, W. W. Smith, Alexander, Ann Adamson, Abbotsford, and Anglo Indian. At Liverpool: Marion, and Vampyre. At Falmouth: Auld Reekie. At New York: Osborne.

From China.—At London: Ethel, Monarch, Belle, Benvoirlich, Fiery Cross, Flying Spur, Serica, Min, Young Lochinvar, Belted Will, Robin Hood, P. J. F. Burchardt, Keepsake, Echo, Chandanagore, St. Rajah, Volunteer, Aunt Lizzie, Holmesdale, Rifleman, Isabella, Robinson, Zelia, Vimeira, Zarah, Lady Wharncliffe, Gloucester, Lorton Vale, Iceni, Netherby, Sarah Ralston, Wm. Thompson, Spirit of the North, Queen's Own, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia,

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Magnus, Josephine, Glaramara, Sappho, Charles Davenport, Bahia, and Osborne House. At LIVERPOOL: Fort William, Advance, Simoda, Cyclone, Fanny, Berwickshire, Joshua Bates, Wm. Dawson, Lauderdale, Glencoe, Neville, Cornelia, Inamhore, Express, Mayflower, Regina, Victory, Glencairn, Bristow, Hebriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Unrivalled, Glenlee, Helvellyn, Australia, Eliza Nicholson, and Ann Forster. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama, and Linda. For ENGLAND: H.M.S. Vulcan. At BORDEAUX: Johanna. At HAMBURG: Mecklenburg, and Gravina. At NEW YORK: Eva, Dorchester, Egean, Hermann, Regnago, St. Paul, Sophia, Luson, Anita, and Gleam.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Alavesa and Cambodia. At LIVERPOOL: Bella Galega, Aureliana, Diadem, Trafalgar, Patriot King, Alicia Annie and Barinaga. At FALMOUTH: Der West, Canaan, and Albuera. At COWES: John Banfield. At QUEENSTOWN: Victoria Cross. At HAVRE: Nouvelle Antoinette. At NEW YORK: Tropic and George Peabody.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Oscar, Confiance, Pet, Polly, Eleanor, Rena, Courante, Najade, Athelstan, Dewa Gungadhur, Dunkeld, Tartar, and Princess of Wales. At LIVERPOOL: Bella Gallega, C. C. Chisholm, Victory, Agra, Beloochee, Ferris, H. Puddemsey, and Bombay. At FALMOUTH: Sarah Jane and Hindostan. At BORDEAUX: Salares and Java. At NANTES: Suez. At NEW YORK: Ocean (Home, Gertrude, Caroline, Rudolf, Harzburg, and Reynard. At BOSTON: Ceylon, Aristides, Alexander, and Magnet.

From BATAVIA.—At FALMOUTH: Fredrika.

From PENANG.—At FALMOUTH: Schlosser. At CORK: Ceylon. At BORDEAUX.—Sophia.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

There is still a good disposition to charter homewards from the rice ports and Maulmain, and early vessels are still in request from Java. Outward freights remain very quiet, especially for large vesels, but high classed ships are now in demand to load on the berth for China, and one or two small vessels can be fixed out and home from Japan.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £37 10s. and £1. 15s. For Shanghai: £48 and £2. 5s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £27 and £1. 5s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

CASUALTIES.

According to advices received from Pernambuco, the Gustav Adolph, from London for Macao, which put in there June 26 with master murdered, would proceed soon with new master (the mate).

The Philip von Marnix, from Rotterdam for Batavia, put into Rio Janeiro July 4, with masts split.

The Fung Suey, steamer, Gray, which left new York July 8 for Hong Kong, put back on July 20, for coals and to repair machinery.

The Twee Gezusters, Bergman, from Batavia for Rotterdam, put into the Mauritius on the 6th June, making 12 inches water per hour, having experienced heavy seas on May 29, in lat. 9 S., long. 76 E. According to last advices received she was in dry dock on July 6, being re-coppered.

The Julie, Perrin, from Iloilo for London, put into the Mauritius June 10, making a great deal of water, having experienced hard gales from May 29 to June 3, in 18 S., 88 E.

The Bengalen (Dut. brig), bound to Macassar, with a general cargo, was in collision previous to August 2 in the channel near Helvoet, and sustained considerable damage to rigging and bows.

At ST. HELENA.—July 2. Holanddia, Ruige, from Batavia, and sailed for Amsterdam; she had experienced a heavy gale off the Cape, June 13, when she lost sails, &c. June 30. Alexander, Dempster, from Kanagawa, and sailed for London. Fort William, Kennedy, from Shanghai, and sailed 1 July, for Devonport.

Off ST. HELENA.—June 30, Bristow (barque), from Hong Kong.

DOCKS.
PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishmen's at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

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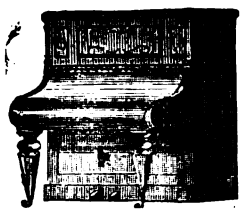

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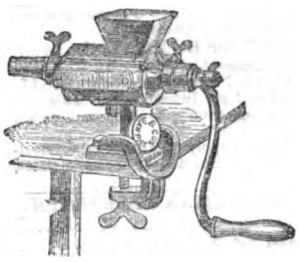

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4 in. strong „	20 0	15 0	7 0
4 in. „ „	25 0	18 0	9 0
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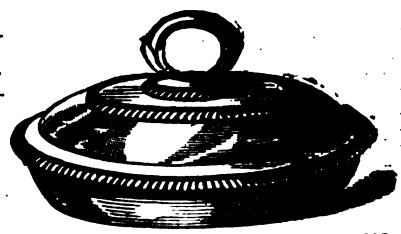

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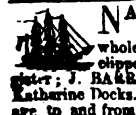

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 146.] LONDON, MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Kanagawa	April 17	June 11	June 15
	Nagasaki			„ 8
	Hakodadi			
CHINA—				
	Peking			„ 6
	Tien-tsin			„ 8
	Hankow			„ 15
	Shanghai	„ 26	„ 14	„ 23
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 19
	Amoy			„ 20
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	May 17	„ 26	„ 29
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	April 26	„ 12	„ 21
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Touron			
	Saigon			„ 30
SIAM—				
	Bankok			„ 22
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			
	Sarawak			
JAVA—				
	Batavia			July 2
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	May 26	„ 29	„ 9
	Penang	„ 26	„ 27	„ 11

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per Ceylon, arrived August 13.—From Shanghai: Messrs. H. Cameron and A. H. Woodward, M. Regan, Dr. Lockhart. From Hong Kong: Mr. R. Hudden, Mr. Aguilar, Commander Wells, J. R. Lastras.

From Southampton per Ripon, expected to arrive 19th August: From Kanagawa, Mr. Aspinall and servant; from Shanghai, Messrs. Graham and Tredingham; from Hong Kong, Captain Thompson, Mr. Beelendorf, Mr. and Mrs. Lonzey; from Singapore, Messrs. Bauer, J. Dixon, and A. Baxter. To Gibraltar: From Hong Kong, Madame Molada, two children, and servant.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, August 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Galton, Mr. and Mrs. Adams, Miss. Brown. From Marseilles, August 28.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. A. Taylor. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. D. Crawford. From Suez.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Hermann.

Per P. and O. steamer, Sept. 4, from Marseilles.—To Shanghai (via Bombay): Mr. Wm. Jackson, Mr. J. Webster. To Penang (via Bombay): Mrs. Rodyk and infant.

Per P. and O. steamer, Sept. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Miss Manuel, Miss Pagden, Mr. I. P. Mollison, Col. and Mrs. Gray, Miss P. Plumridge, Miss Longstaff, Mr. P. Bird. To Shanghai: Mr. E. Iveson, Rev. C. H. and Mrs. Butcher, Mr. F. Stokes, Miss Nelson.

Per P. and O. steamer, Sept. 28, from Marseilles.—To Singapore: Mr. P. C. Keake.

Per P. and O. steamer, Oct. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Preston and infant. To Shanghai: Mrs. Jarvie. From Marseilles, Oct. 12.—To Singapore: Miss Cooke and servant. To Shanghai: Mr. Gordon and friend.

Per P. and O. steamer, Oct. 28, from Marseilles.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. Tait. To Shanghai: Mr. A. Schultze. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Wood and lady friend.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, August 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Mitchell. To Shanghai: Mr. Monk. From Marseilles, August 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. Brown.

Per P. and O. steamer Massilia, September 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Adams. From Marseilles, September 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Marsh. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Coutts.

Per P. and O. steamer Ripon, Sept. 12, from Southampton.—To Singapore (via Bombay): Mr. J. Nagle.

Per P. and O. steamer, Sept. 28, from Marseilles.—To Singapore: Lieut. and Mrs. Barn.

Per P. and O. steamer, Oct. 4, from Southampton.—To Shanghai: Mr. Turnbull. From Marseilles, Oct. 12.—To Shanghai: Mr. Leonard, Mr. A. Schultze.

Per P. and O. steamer, Oct. 28, from Marseilles.—To Singapore: Messrs. W. and C. Degener.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

In our last issue, containing the intelligence by French mail, dates from hence were brought down to the 13th June. Our advices are now only two days later, viz., to the 15th June, and came to Shanghai by the P. and O. steamer *Cadis*. It appears that vessel discovered a rock on the Japan coast, while indulging in a short cut. The discovery being both accidental and sudden, the bow of the *Cadiz* was slightly indented by the shock, rendering it necessary, however, that she should be sent down to Hong Kong for repairs, where she now is.

The Japanese correspondent of the *Commercial News* reports that, on the 14th day of this moon, a retainer of Inangaki-no Kami, killed five of his comrades with the sword at the Prince's zashki in Yedo. Thereupon the murderer fled by the Tokaido westward. He was caught three days afterwards a little this side of the guard-house at Hakone, but not without much difficulty. It seems that twenty-five of Inangaki's armed retainers went in pursuit of the man, Tsmoriyama Funenoski, by name, but were afraid to attempt to arrest him, on account of his great strength, and skill in the use of the sword. He is said to be one of the few who can wield a sword in each hand at once. He has been the teacher of sword practice among his master's retainers, and the report is that the man has become so proud of his attainments in this line that it turned his head. His case will be a fit one, therefore, for the plea of insanity to be made at his trial, if such a thing is ever done in Japanese criminal courts. At any rate the twenty-five men did not feel able to arrest him, and called for the aid of thirty of the Prince of Oowara's men to assist them. These fifty-five men were put to their trumps, however, for it took them from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. of the 17th day of this moon to secure the prisoner. He was then carried to Yedo, and handed over for trial. It is not very creditable to the valour of his captors that it took fifty-five men six hours to seize and bind one man. Perhaps, however, we ought not to be severe in our judgment upon them, for they were not at liberty to shoot or kill the man, but must carry him alive to Yedo for trial. But if this is the method of procedure in arresting murderers in Japan, it is no wonder that the Government is so unsuccessful in arresting culprits that are armed, such as Ronins. Every attempt at such an arrest must be a hand-to-hand fight with Japanese blades.

NAGASAKI.

Dates are to June 8.

A disgraceful assault has been committed on Captain Towers, of the *Water Lily*, by two of the employés of Messrs. Alt and Co. It appears that the captain had withdrawn his ship from the hands of that firm, and called at the office a few days subsequently to close his accounts. As he entered he saluted the two persons in question, Messrs. Kagemann and Bidwell, and immediately received a black eye from the former, and was then knocked down and kicked by both. Being summoned before the British Consul, Kagemann was fined $50, and Bidwell was dismissed for want of evidence. Not half-an-hour afterwards, as Captain Towers was passing in front of the Consulate, he was attacked by a public-house-keeper named Kettle, who struck him on the temple with the butt-end of his riding whip. The Consul witnessed the act as he was looking out of window, and ordered Kettle to be arrested. Mr. Lowder, one of the consular assistants, bailed the assailant for $600, and the affair was ultimately settled by Kettle writing an apology, based on a plea of drunkenness, which apology was to be published in the China and Japan papers. The assault was the more brutal that Mrs. Towers, who is in a delicate state of health, was walking with her husband at the time.

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The settlement had enjoyed a short season of unwonted liveliness. On May 26 a theatrical entertainment was given on board H.M.S. *Perseus*. The pieces played were "Mary Le More," "Fair Rosamond," and "Sarah's Young Man." An excellent supper was provided, to which about sixty individuals sat down, including the Governor of Nagasaki, who appeared to appreciate this better, if possible, than the histrionic portion of the entertainment. His Excellency indeed displayed a singular liking for foreign chow-chow, eating sweets, salad, and meat, at one and the same time. It was nearly 1 A.M. when he left, and the remainder of the party broke up two hours later. Captain Kingston and the officers of the *Perseus* stand high in the regard of the residents, who expressed great regret at the prospect of her leaving as soon as the *Rattler* should have arrived from Yokohama. The regatta came off two days later with equal *éclat*. The chief credit for the excellent arrangements is again given to Captain Kingston, the chairman of the committee.

During the early part of May there had been a fair demand for tonnage, and vessels had met with quick despatch both for Hong Kong and Shanghai. At present, owing to the closure of the cotton market for the season, there is hardly any freight offering for Hong Kong.

HAKODADI.

Under date of the 18th May, a correspondent sends the following :—

The San Francisco and Amoor traders are daily expected. We have enjoyed fine weather of late, and the vegetation having assumed its spring dress, the appearance of the country is beautiful. The influx of several new settlers to this port has again revived the question of land. Hakodadi differs from the two other open ports of Japan, in that the foreign residents are few, and they are not collected on a "concession"—as the term is—but their residences are scattered about among those of the Japanese. The reason for this distribution of the barbarians amongst the Children of the Sun is that, when foreigners first came to this port, the native authorities were slow to appoint a location for them, though, after a time, an island was built and divided into ten small lots for the residents at that date. This island has been, however, from the first almost exclusively used for business premises, while the original, as well as later settlers, have their residences in such places as they have been able to obtain from private Japanese, the Consulates alone occupying any Government land. It has been the aim of successive governors to endeavour to bring all foreigners together on one location, but on account of the present island being situated in front of the best part of the town, from which only a shallow canal separates it, they are jealous of increasing the size of it, and have rather wished to get foreigners to move in a body to the low land of the isthmus, which is of comparatively small value. This is now however impossible, as the time and opportunity for getting all foreigners together is long past; and the only hope of preventing foreigners from becoming still more mixed up among the natives, is to grant a good sized extra location. Consequently, now that the demand for land is pressing, the Consuls have advocated a new concession, and to that end there have of late been numerous interviews with the Governor, meetings of Consuls, and calling together of their respective "subjects." But unfortunately for any and every proposal of a site, the Consuls now differ among themselves, while they have moreover been too extravagant in their demands, and up to the present date nothing has been decided upon, and the last meeting of Consuls and governors ended in a general blow up, with threats of reference to Yedo by two of the worthy representatives of the Western Powers. In the meantime, the unfortunate intending settlers, who have rested their hopes of obtaining land on consular influence, must wait. The Japanese officials have doubtless taken advantage of the want of union among the foreign representatives, and are highly gratified that all has ended in smoke. It does seem preposterous that, at an insignificant place like this, where a Consul's berth is a mere sinecure (with imprisonment), the land question cannot be speedily settled; it is to be hoped, therefore, that some "press" pressure may be brought to bear upon it.

CHINA.

PEKING.

The following items of information are from the Peking Gazettes :—

Li-san-ta-jen (Li Ho-chang) the hero of Taitsang, and of many other engagements, in all of which he has practically announced his belief that the better part of valour is discretion, has, in company with four others as distinguished as himself, been granted the distinction of the Yellow Jacket. This may be intended as a compliment to the Futai, or it may be the result of a judicious bribe, but under no circumstances could a worse selection have been made. The recipient of this honour has had many opportunities of displaying bravery, coolness, and determination, but whenever he has happened to find himself in danger or difficulty his senses have deserted him, and he has disappeared from the scene with most laudable celerity. An Imperial decree announces the elevation of Gordon to the rank of Ti t'u, a military command commensurate with the civil authority of a Tung t'u, or "Governor-General." The rank hitherto held by Gordon has been Tsung-ping, or "general." The Emperor has also conferred on Gordon a standard, or banner of honour, and a star somewhat answering to the English G.C.B. Ching has been nominated senior guardian of the Emperor. This is a posthumous honour, as news of his death had reached Peking before the date of the edict. The tributary Prince of Corea died last month, and his subjects have notified the fact to the Emperor, begging that his son may be recognised as his successor. His Majesty has acceded to their request, and has nominated the high officials Tsaopao and Wen-chien to proceed to the Corea and see that the young prince is duly enthroned.

SHANGHAI.

Dates are to the 22nd June, or two days later than per French mail, which arrived here on the 8th inst. Cholera, noticed in our last, has carried off many more victims, including the Spanish Consul, which will be found in our list of deaths.

The returns officers of the Custom-house at Shanghai have lately compiled a most important and interesting report of the cotton trade for the year ending May 31, 1864. The quickness with which this laborious undertaking has been completed calls for the highest praise, and we feel sure that the mercantile community will join us in awarding the need of indefatigable industry to the commissioner and the officers of the department.

Total Export of Cotton from Shanghai during the Year commencing June 1st, 1863, and ending May 31st, 1864.

To Great Britain (direct)	382,133.04	piculs.
„ Hong Kong	203,684.53	„
„ Coast Ports	61,133.55	„
„ India (direct)	15,291.00	„
„ America (direct)	1,728.63	„
„ Manila (direct)	148.35	„
„ Japan	347.00	„
Grand total	664,466.10	piculs.

Value of cotton exported from Shanghai from June 1, 1863, to May 31, 1864 inclusive, obtained by average monthly prices as declared by merchants, 12,805,494.10 Shanghai taels.

Reports have been circulated to the effect that Burgevine has returned to Shanghai, and intends to renew his connection with the rebels. Several circumstances tended to support the opinion that he had returned, but we, with the *China Herald*, have good reason to believe that there is no real foundation for the rumour. On the 19th June it was reported that H.I.C.M.'s steamer *Pluto* had been captured in the Yangtsze by rowdies in rebel pay. This has also been authoritatively denied.

A rumour was afloat that the Chung-chow garrison had gone over to the Taipings, and that the city was in the hands of the insurgents, but there seemed no good foundation for the rumour. Colonel Gordon had not left for England; indeed, it looks likely that he will be again permitted to lead the Imperialists should Shanghai be in danger of attack from the rebels.

The following are the Shanghai reports on the rebel movements from the *Daily News* :—

QUINSAN.—No events of importance have taken place at the front since the last mail. At the latter end of last month Li-Ai-dong issued a notification, announcing that Gordon's force was to be broken up, with the exception of 600 artillery who would remain attached to the Futai's forces, and 300 infantry who would remain under his own command at Quinsan, of which town he is to be commandant. The 28th of May was named as the day on which the remainder were to present themselves to give up their arms and accoutrements, and receive the balance of pay due to them. These arrangements were effectually carried out, and, with the above exceptions, the disciplined Chinese contingent, which has been mainly instrumental in recovering the province from the rebels, is now completely disbanded. The troops which remain embodied under Le-Ai-dong's command will have a new uniform and a new

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banner. The uniform will be purple with red facings and a white circle on the breast, bearing the inscription Fu-piao—Futai's army; Chang-shen-chung—Ever victorious army,—the original name of Ward's force.

NANKING.—We learn through a Chinese source that on the 1st June, one of Tseng-Kuo-fan's brothers, who holds a command in the Imperial army outside Nanking, succeeded, after a protracted engagement, in capturing a rebel camp on the north of the city, outside the Kuang-yin gate, to which gate the rebels were chased, and more than four thousand killed. A vast amount of loot was taken, and many official seals were found.

HANKOW.

A correspondent writing from this port under date the 14th June, informs us that Yen Shu-seng, Futai of Hupeh, who has for a considerable time been deservedly unpopular, has at length been degraded. This result has been brought about by the complaints constantly made by the Viceroy Kuan Wen (a senior guardian of the Heir Apparent), relative to the Futai's corruptions and gross injustice. Li Han-chang, an An-huei man, at present Liehtai of Canton (said to be one of Li Futai's brothers) has been appointed to the post. The late Futai comes from the province of Szuchuan, was President of the Board of Censors, and Vice-President of the Board of War. The alarms spread as to the approach of rebels, whether Nien-fei or Chang Mao, have proved groundless. For at least a month back there have been no insurgent bands in the neighbourhood of Hankow. Success seems to follow the Imperial armies, for the rebels are being rapidly driven towards the North-West. The Chang Mao rebels are now said to be penetrating An-huei. The Chinese authorities have, we understand, refused to acknowledge Mr. Breck as American Consul, on the ground that Hankow is a place of too much importance to be entrusted to a merchant-consul. This action is stated to be the result of direct orders from the Regent. Over two hundred chops of tea have come down from the country, and of these nearly one hundred have left Hankow.

HONG KONG.

Dates are down to the morning of the 29th June, or three days later than per French mail. The mail of 17th May arrived out on the 26th June.

The 20th Regiment are leaving for Japan, in the chartered steamer *Chanticleer*, and it is believed that Sir R. Alcock will despatch a fleet to open the Straits of Simonoseki on their arrival.

The *Evening Mail* has the following items:—From the *Gazette* we notice the appointment of Mr. Dollman to be surgeon to the Convict establishment at Stonecutters' Island and Health Officer of Hong Kong. Dr. J. A. Yule has been appointed to the situation vacated by Mr. Dollman, viz., that of Superintendent of the Civil Hospital. The sale of land at Kowloon takes place on Monday, the 25th July, and following days.

The Queen's coronation was duly commemorated by the usual Royal salute of twenty-one guns.

The American steamer *Mo-Yune* reports that she left New York on the 7th of April, and arrived at the Cape de Verdes on the 21st; sailed again on the 28th, and arrived at Capetown on the 18th of May; sailed on the 21st, and arrived at Mauritius on the 31st; sailed on June 3, arrived in Singapore on the 19th, and left it again on the 22nd. During the passage from Capetown to Mauritius she encountered very heavy weather, which somewhat delayed her. She is destined for the Yang-tsze trade, and leaves for Shanghai in a few days.

On 22nd June the P. and O. Company launched from their factory and building-yard at West Point a steam tug-boat intended as a tender to their ships and for general service at this port. She is a pretty model, is about 90 tons burden, and with engines of 20-horse power (nominal). Her lines were sent out from England, and she has been built here under the superintendence of Mr. J. Stove, the foreman shipwright, to whom great credit is due for the manner in which she has been turned out. The launch was most successful, the little vessel taking to the water like a duck, being christened, as she went down the slip, the *Dragon*.

The necessities of the colony have led to a number of European convicts being turned out to work on the roads. The spectacle of these men in chains is novel to us foreigners, and delightful to the Chinese under our authority. It is worthy of remark that the idea of taking out European prisoners to work on the roads has been, up to this time, perfectly scouted, and it is also deserving of notice that the present turn-out of white men is quite voluntary, and in no way compulsory. Stanford, Rustomjee, and Co. are not prepared to deny that the gaol routine is somewhat irksome; and, although the daily average of "macadam" produced by either of these worthies is not very much, still the prospect of working in the open streets, and seeing once again the motley throng that frequents them, is not at all despised by the foreign inmates of the Victoria gaol. There is another advantage gained to the colony by turning these men out upon the roads—the Chinese are deeply impressed with our sense of even-handed justice.

CANTON.

The *Hong Kong Daily Press* has the following:—We learn on one hand that on the retirement of Mr. Consul Robertson from Canton, a Vice-consul will be nominated to the post. This step, of course, has been determined on because of the decadence of the port as a place of trade. On the other hand, we learn that the sum of forty thousand dollars has been ordered by the Foreign-office to be expended on the building of a consulate on the Shameen site. These two items of intelligence appear to us to clash to a certain extent, although there can be little doubt as to their correctness.

COCHIN-CHINA.

SAIGON.

The *Courrier de Saigon* of the 25th June contains a minute account of the coronation of the new King of Cambodia, on the 3rd of that month. There were present representatives on the part of the French Emperor and the King of Siam, and the Cambodian King did homage to both. The French envoy addressed the newly-crowned King as follows:—

"France holds out her powerful hand to kings and peoples who walk in the way of civilization and who seek what is right. If her intentions are for a moment misconceived, soon her noble word removes the obstacles and dissipates the error. The presence of the Siamese Ambassador at this Cambodian ceremony is a proof of this; this high personage has travelled in Europe; he has seen France, and he comprehends that, while recognising the former relations between Siam and Cambodia, we have the right to hold here the first place, as much by the force of arms as by the genius of our civilization. Such are the ideas of eminent men worthy of governing. Sire! place this crown on your head without fear; it will be secure there if you are loyal towards France. Let the King and chiefs recollect these words; the Admiral, the friend of this kingdom, charged me to speak them."

PHILIPPINES.

MANILA.

The following are the particulars regarding the fire at Manila noticed in our last:—

On the evening of the 6th June there was a severe thunderstorm. Several buildings were struck, including that in which the Government had stored leaf tobacco; this building, which was much lower than many of the surrounding houses, and built of stone, with tiled roof, took fire soon after being struck, and burst out in flames in many parts at the same time. Although a number of engines were soon on the spot, no efforts could avail to save the valuable property, and 86,000 quintals of leaf tobacco, valued at nearly $2,000,000, were totally destroyed. The fire continued smouldering for about ten days. In consequence of this calamity the auction announced for the 15th has been postponed until the required quantity of leaf tobacco can be brought forward, which will not be long. Only three days' notice of the sale will be given.

SIAM.

The Siamese steamer *Chow Phya*, Captain Orton, from Bangkok with dates to the 22nd June, anchored in Singapore roads on the 26th.

A female elephant of great whiteness and beauty had been captured, and the King was up at Ayuthia celebrating the event.

Captain Orton stated that before he left Bangkok intelligence had been received that a large powerfully armed Lorcha, in command, it is believed, of two Europeans, had been committing great devastations along the coast to the southward, large bodies of armed men being landed at many of the unprotected villages, and the property of the villagers given over to loot. Captain Bush, the harbour-master at Bangkok, had gone in a small steamer in search of the pirates.

BORNEO.

LABUAN.

The surveying steamer *Rifleman*, Captain Ward, was at

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Labuan when the *Rainbow* left there, after a six weeks' surveying cruise. During that time the Vanguard, Prince of Wales, and Grainger shoals have been carefully surveyed, and a fresh shoal discovered between the Grainger and Prince of Wales bank, which has been christened the Alexandra (doubtless from the fact of its being well under the lee of the Prince of Wales).

The Vanguard Shoal is 40 miles long in a N.E. and S.W. direction, and from six to eight miles broad, with no danger upon it, seven fathoms being the least water found on it by the *Rifleman*. Its centre is in lat. 7.28 N., and 109.38 E. The Grainger Shoal is about four miles in extent, and has the shape of an ellipse, the major axis being four to five miles, the minor three miles. The centre of it is in lat. 7.48 N., and 110.29 E., the shoalest water on it being four fathoms; but in the N.E. monsoon the water would probably break upon it. The Alexandra Shoal is about the same size as the Grainger; shoalest water 3½ fathoms; lat. 8.1 N., long. 110.37 E. The Prince of Wales Shoal is 12 to 14 miles long, and 8 to 10 miles broad, its centre being in lat. 8.10 N., long. 110.32 E.

On the way to Labuan the Johnstone's reef was sighted, so that there can now be no doubt of its existence; from what could be seen of it, it appears to join the Kingston and Orleans shoals. The *Rifleman* had not coals enough left to enable a survey to be made of this reef, but soundings were obtained for about 12 miles of its length.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are to the 9th July. The *China*, which brought the present mail, left two days behind her time, only arriving at Singapore on the date above-named, owing to heavy weather in the China sea.

In commercial circles, a considerable amount of depression still exists, and a few more native traders have given way since our last report; but the amounts involved are not heavy, and we think it may be safely predicted that we have seen the worst of the present crisis.

The Governor left for Malacca and Penang on the 6th July, in the Government steamer *Pluto*, on his yearly circuit. His visit this year is somewhat late, owing, it is believed, to a desire to be in Singapore to receive the Second King of Siam, who has expressed his intention of visiting this place. It appears that the King had actually started, but that the steamer conveying himself and suite encountered somewhat heavy weather after leaving the river, and he thought it wiser to put back and wait for some time. The Governor will be about two months absent from Singapore, on his circuit through Penang and Malacca.

The change that had taken place in the weather, from extreme heat to rain accompanied by chill breezes, had produced considerable sickness, and there had been several cases of cholera of a severe type.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES.—The Government has been pleased to grant Mr. Richard Henry Wiseham, Chief Engineer, Straits Government steamer *Pluto*, leave of absence for twelve months, to visit Europe, on medical certificate; and Lieutenant H. Burn, late Indian navy, Master Attendant and Shipping Master at Singapore, leave of absence for four months, for the purpose of visiting Europe, on urgent private affairs. Mr. J. L. Kirby, to officiate as Master Attendant and Shipping Master at Singapore during the absence of Lieutenant H. Burn, or until further orders. Mr. John Cooper to be Auditor of the Accounts of the Municipal Fund at Singapore for the past year.

The foundation-stone of the new Court-house was laid on the 4th July by the Governor, in the presence of the Recorder, Resident Councillor, and a pretty large concourse of spectators.

The subject of the Dutch encroachments on the east coast of Sumatra is still being pressed on Her Majesty's Government, and a Memorandum on the subject has been drawn up and submitted to the different Government departments.

The following decision of Lieutenant Burn and Mr. Morris, second master of H.M.S. *Clown*, respecting the loss of the *Morning Star*, has been confirmed by the Governor:—"From the evidence produced before us, it appears that that vessel was wrecked on the Alceste Reef, at the north end of Pulo Leat Island, in the Gasper Straits, on the afternoon of the 29th of May, 1864. That, in our opinion, the vessel was lost through the imprudence of David Grant, the master, in hugging the reef too close, more especially as by his own statement the reef was not clearly discernible at the time. We therefore consider him deserving of censure, and do censure him accordingly."

The barque *Mary Lowry*, Capt. Chamberlaine, from Sydney 20th April, bound to the Mauritius, makes the following report:—

"Entered Torres Straits, by Raine Island at 10 A.M., on Thursday, the 5th May. On the 6th inst., sighted the wreck of the *Royal Stuart* of London, Capt. Cornwall, on Cockburn-reef, from New Zealand, bound to Colombo, seeking; rendered every assistance, and took off half the crew; the commander and other half remaining by the wreck, then quite safe, for another ship. Wednesday, 10th May: Off Booby islands, fine clear weather and light S.E. winds. Passengers and crew all well. Cargo, horses, &c., all well, too, and not a loss up to date."

Eighteen European seamen, belonging to the British ship *Rangoon*, charged with refusal of duty and desertion, were severally sentenced to ten weeks' imprisonment in the House of Correction with hard labour, by the Marine Magistrate, on the 29th of June; and his worship further decided that the men were to be sent on board when the vessel was ready for sea.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

ADAMSON—On the 3rd August, at Rushton-park, Sussex, the wife of W. R. Adamson, Esq., late of Shanghai, of a daughter.

BOHSTEDT—On the 4th June, at Ningpo, Mrs. Julius Bohstedt, of a son.

CAMPBELL—On the 4th August, the wife of William Campbell, Esq., late of Singapore, of a son.

GASKELL—On the 11th August, at Montague-place, Hammersmith West, the wife of William Gaskell, Esq., late of Hong Kong, of a daughter.

MACKENZIE.—On the 30th July, at 69, Chepstow-place, Bayswater, the wife of Samuel Mackenzie, Esq., of a daughter.

SMITH—On the 5th August, at Harrow Weald-park, the wife of Robert Smith, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BORLASE—CHADS.—On the 3rd Aug., at Farcham, Hants, by the Rev. William Borlase, vicar of Zennor, Cornwall, Capt. John Borlase, C.B., Royal Navy, to Jane Troughton, only daughter of William Chads, Esq., of Farcham.

MACLEAN—ABERNETHY.—On the 28th July, at St. Peter's, Isle of Thanet, by the Rev. C. F. Tarver, Chaplain to the Queen and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Henry, eldest son of Alexander Maclean, Esq., South Hampstead, to Marion, second daughter of James Abernethy, Esq., C.E., of Finchley, New Road, South Hampstead, and Whiteness Lodge, Kingsgate, Kent.

RONEY—HOGARTH.—On the 8th August, at Christ Church Herne Bay, Kent, by the Rev. W. L. Cartwright, and the Rev. H. Geary, Incumbent, Richard C. Roney, late of Hong Kong, China, son of the late James E. Roney, Esq., of Demerara, to Helen Isabella, youngest daughter of George Hogarth, Esq.

DEATHS.

BEIT—On the 25th July, at Rusena Villas, New-road, Hammersmith, John Nicholas Beit, Esq., late of Sydney, New South Wales, aged 74.

BRERETON—On the 27th July, at his residence, in the Albany, deeply regretted by all who knew him, Lieut.-General Sir William Brereton, K.C.B., K.H., Royal Artillery (engaged in the China war).

BRAUNE—On the 16th May, at H.B.M.'s Embassy, at Peking, aged 26, George Compigne Parker Braune, Esq., the only son of the Rev. George Martin Braune, vicar of Wistow, and of 8, Upper Hamilton-terrace, St. John's-wood.

COLLARD—On the 13th June, on board the Hercules, Hong Kong, George Collard, private H.M.'s 2nd bat. 20th Regt., aged 28 years.

DAVIES—On the 3rd August, at 5, Melbury-terrace, Dorset-square, Henry Tudor Davies, eldest son of the late Henry Tudor Davies, late of Shanghai, and grandson of the late Dr. Henry Davies, aged seven years.

DAY—On the 3rd August, at Portswood, near Southampton, wife of Capt. J. H. Day, of aged 33 years.

DENNIS—On the 5th August, at his residence, Rose-hill, Dorking, John Dennis, Esq., formerly Receiver-Gen. of Excise, aged 86.

DE FORTUNY—On the 18th June, at Shanghai, of cholera, Senor Don Eusebio de Fortuny, H.C.M.'s Consul of this port.

HEDERSTEDT—On the 26th July, William Hederstedt, Esq., aged 46, for many years in the P. and O. Company's service.

HALTON—On the 22nd June, on board the Hercules, Hong Hong, Patrick Halton, private H.M.'s 20th Regt., aged 24 years.

HARDIE—On the 19th June, at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, Wm. Hardie.

HUMPHRES—On the 28th June, at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, John Humphres, private H.M.'s 99th Regt., aged 24 years.

JUDSTRERY—On the 21st June, at Hong Kong, George Judstrery, sergeant H.M.'s 99th Regt., aged 23 years (drowned).

MACLACHLAN—On the 11th June, at Shanghai, Mr. Allan Maclachlan, aged 38 years.

MASON—On the 17th June, at Hong Kong, Louis Mason, seaman.

MCGLONE—On the 14th June, at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, C. A. McGlone, Sergeant Comt. Staff Corps, aged 27 years.

MILLER—On the 4th June, at Shanghai, of cholera, Emily Charlotte, the wife of Rowland Miller, Esq., of Moneymore, Ireland, aged 24 years.

PARKE—On the 29th May, at Shanghai, of cholera, seventeen days after landing, Henry, son of J. Parkinson Parke, Esq., Withnell Hall, Chorley, in his 23rd year.

PETERSON—On the 19 h June, at the Seamen's Hospital, Hong Kong, N. Peterson, late second mate of the Russian barque Triton.

STUBBS—On the 4th June, at Shanghai, of typhoid fever, Mr. Joseph Stubbs, of Plymouth, England, late in the house of Messrs. Wainwright and Co., aged 20 years.

SOMERVILLE—On the 17th June, at Hong Kong, William Somerville, Engineer Gas Works.

UPTON—On the 5th June, at Shanghai, W. C. Upton, late of Boston, United States, aged 26 years.

WESTON—On the 7th June, at Shanghai, Mr. Evan K. Weston, late of Dover, England, aged 24 years.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.		6s. 8d. to 6s. 8½d.	6s. 8d. to 6s. 9d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 9½d. to 4s. 10d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 0d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 10d. to 4s. 10½d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 0d.
At Manila	6	ditto	4s. 7½d.	4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.

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At Shanghai: Bills on India, Rs. 318 to 323 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong: Rs. 226 to 227 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels. Hong Kong, 8½ prem. Mexican Dollars at Shanghai, 72; and exchange on Hong Kong, 28 to 29 discount.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—The new Congous continue to be purchased and shipped off with spirit, the competition being excited by a demand for the Russian market. On the whole, the quality of the present season's teas may be considered as good as those of last season; any estimate of the extent of the crop must be founded on wild conjecture. The prospects for the coming crop of Green teas have slightly improved, yet still the probability is the supply will be deficient and dear as a matter of course.

CANTON.—There is little or no prospect of any new Congous coming to this market this season. A good demand still exists for fine Tyshaans. Scented Orange Pekoes are rather lower. Scented Capers maintain their value, Canton Greens tend down.

FOO-CHOW-FOO.—The transactions of the fortnight have been considerable, the competition for fine Kaisows having increased. Taking quality into consideration, fine teas are a little higher than the opening rates, whilst common and medium teas, owing to a demand for Australia, tend up. Souchongs have been taken to some extent at about last season's opening rates. Flowery Pekoes will be in small supply this season. Scented Teas have been exhibited in moderate quantity, and although defective in scent, have been pretty eagerly picked up. The settlements of the fortnight are thus reported:—Congous, 52,500 chests, at 6.50 to 11.50 tls. for dusty and broken leaf; 17 to 19 tls. for good common; 20 to 37.5 tls. for flavoury to very fine Kaisows. Souchong, 7,500 chests, at 27 to 45 tls. for good to finest. Oolong, 3,500 half-chests, at 20 to 30 tls. for good cargo to finest. Flowery Pekoe, a small lot of fine at 40 tls. Scented Teas, 4,000 to 5,000 boxes, at 29 to 40 tls. for middling to finest. The stock on the market consists of 18,000 chests Congou, 7,300 do. Souchong, 16,000 half-chests Oolong, 100 chests Flowery Pekoe, and 3,500 boxes Scented. The supply of Congou this season to date amounts to 147,000 chests, against 140,000 chests same period last season. The supply of Souchong has been 15,000 chests, against 20,000 chests.

SHANGHAI.—Black Teas: Several musters of Oopacks have been offered on the market, but as buyers have been unwilling to pay the equivalent to Hankow rates, no settlements have taken place. There is a general disposition to withhold all offers for the present, and sales could not be made to-day except at prices considerably under the cost of the teas. There are no finest chops for sale, and only a few fine, stock comprising chiefly medium grades, which at the rates demanded would lay down from 3d. to 4d. over London quotations. One chop of fine Hohow (mixed Kaisow kind) from Kiukiang is reported to have been settled at 36 tls., and 320 chests of old tea left in stock have been taken at 17 tls. for a flooring chop. Reshipments of Hankow purchases amount to 21,045 chests, and the stock is estimated at 12,300 chests. Two clippers and a steamer have sailed for London, and the French Mail takes 2,500 chests Overland at £14 per ton of 40 feet. Green Teas: The only settlement to report is that of a common Moyune chop at 38 tls., showing a decline of half a tael on previous rates. Stocks remain much as last stated, and holders seem unwilling to part with the few parcels of country teas under previous prices. Musters of the New Pingsueys are looked for in about ten days. Foreigners are said to have contracted largely in the country at very high rates, and best chops will cost about 42 tls. proportion laid down here. The crop is reported to be of superior quality, and the supply will probably be about one-fourth more than last season. Settlements for the fortnight 935 ½-chests Moyune at 38 taels. Reshipments 327 ½-chests. Fychow Stock 5,457 ½-chests. Total settlements and shipments: From 1st June o date, 1,262 ½-chests against 6,885 ½-chests last year.

HANKOW.—During the fortnight which has since elapsed, samples of very fine Oopacks have been exposed, fully as good as the best of last season. As the Russian merchants are in the market for these teas, there has arisen a smart competition, and these fine Oopacks have been taken at 38 to 42 taels to some extent, one chop fetching 45 taels. In the early part of the fortnight prices for all descriptions were fully maintained, but as supplies came in freely, the inferior qualities declined 2 to 3 taels, when purchases to some extent were made of Oonams at 27 to 33 taels and Oopacks, at 30 to 34 taels. The market has been pretty well cleared of Oopacks, the fine chops being still eagerly sought after. There are musters of nearly one hundred chops Congou on the market, nearly all Oonams, but as the quality naturally falls off to the advance of the season, rates must give way accordingly. The transactions of the fortnight comprise 120 chops of Oonams and Oopacks, whereof about 30 chops are contract teas. The range of rates has been from 27 to 45 taels. The steamer Sea King has sailed. The clipper Falcon is full. The Challenger is posted for the 18th, and the steamer Robert Lowe partly laden with cotton for the 23rd. The export to date has been 4¼ millions, against 5¾ millions, same period last season.

KEWKIANG.—Green Teas: There are none on the market yet. The weather has been usually cold and stormy, and has inflicted some injury on the coming crop. The extent can only be guessed at for the present. The rebels are said to have retired from the producing districts. Black Teas: The supply of the fortnight amounts to 18 chops, principally Ningchows, of which eleven are contract teas, one chop is reported settled at 35 taels, and three other chops are under shipment for Shanghai, on teamen's account.

YOKOHAMA.—We have again to report but few settlements in this staple, only 230 piculs of old tea and 70 piculs new have changed hands as about our quotations; these purchases have been principally for the American market. Stocks ordinary, 150 piculs—good ordinary, 100 piculs; common, 100 piculs; good common, 50 piculs; medium, 100 piculs; fine, none; finest, none; new medium, 150 piculs. Quotations are as follows:—Ordinary, $1 to $3; good ordinary, $4 to $6; common, $8 to $12; good common, $14 to $18; medium, $19 to $26; fine, $27 to $30; finest, none; new medium, $25 to $28.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—There having been no transactions since last report, we are unable to give quotations. During the fortnight about 1,200 bales of the new crop have arrived, but as the dealers have again paid high rates up country, they are demanding such extreme prices, that so far they have not succeeded in opening the market. All the Chinamen agree in their belief of a shorter supply this season than last, and if we may place any confidence in the native reports, the gathering of the first crop has yielded less than in the previous year. The second crop is the principal one, the result of which will probably be known about the time of the departure of next mail, and until this has been ascertained, it is impossible to form any reliable estimate of the total crop. The new silk appears rather superior to last season's in colour and quality, though fuller in size, and quite "foul" and "mixed." The Tsatlees are the least satisfactory, and seem to have suffered considerably by the disturbed condition of these particular districts through rebel interference. From Japan 405 bales have come forward, and by latest advices prices had declined there $5 to 10 per picul. The unsold stock was estimated at 800 bales, and the new crop expected about the end of the month. The total settlements from July 1, 1863, to date, amount to 38,000 bales, against 76,000 season 1861-62, and 85,000 season 1860-61. The falling off is alarming, and is undoubtedly attributable to the rebellion.

YOKOHAMA.—Arrivals for the week have been very scanty, and a few parcels have changed hands at about last rates; the character of the silk is, however, getting worse, and indicates the approach of the close of the season, there being scarcely any good parcels in stock. This latter we estimate under 200 bales.

DRUGS.—Cassia Lignea has further receded in value; settlements are reported to the extent of 900 piculs at $15. Stock 1,500 piculs. Cassia Buds: 40 piculs are on the market and are held at $54. China Galls: Settlements, 200 piculs at $13.25; stock, 200 piculs. Vermilion: $43 to 43½ per 50 catty box. Rhubarb: No stock; no supplies. Musk: a settlement of 90 catties very inferior quality is reported at $92; there are 120 catties still upon the market. Galangal: No settlements; the market has fallen 50 cents. The stock on the market is 500 piculs, held at $2.90 to 3.30. Anise Oil: Stock, 20 piculs, held at $155. Cassia Oil: None on the market.

CAMPHOR.—HONG KONG.—The supplies lately arrived from Formosa, about 1,500 piculs have all been disposed of at $19 per picul packed, and the market is bare again. New supplies to a limited extent are again expected.

RAW COTTON.

HONG KONG.—A good demand has sprung up since the receipt of advices by the London mails of 10th May, and a rise of $1.50 to $2 has been established. Japan is much inquired for, and sales have been made to some extent. The sales of the fortnight are reported at 10,000 bags China and 5,000 do. Japan—the stock being reduced to 20,000 bags. Four ships are at present loading with the article—two for London, and two for Liverpool. The closing quotations are: Japan $35½ to 36. Ningpo $32½ to 33½. Shanghai $31 to 33.

CANTON.—The sales of the fortnight comprise 3,000 bags Shanghai, 2,500 do. Ningpo, 1,900 do. Shanghai, and 1,500 do. Japan. The market has advanced nearly one mace per picul. The unsold stock in the packhouses consist of 3,700 bags Shanghai, 1,500 do. Ningpo, 900 do. Shangtung, and 800 do. Japan.

SHANGHAI.—Owing to favourable advices from the home markets some few transactions have taken place at slightly advanced rates, taels 20.50 to taels 21 having been paid for best Shanghai. There has been less inquiry within the last few days, and we quote, taels 20.50 for finest Shanghai and taels 19.50 to 20 for Hankow. Total export from 1st June 1863, to 31st May 1864, 88,595,480 lbs.

NINGPO.—The rate demanded is $32.30 per bale of 118 catties, which exporters refuse to give. About 1,000 bales have been shipped to Hong Kong during the fortnight.

YOKOHAMA.—The favourable advices from England which were brought by the last mail, has caused a better demand. Rates tend up, and may be quoted $26 a $26.50 per picul.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—Without change to notice in value, the amount of business transacted in this article has been upon a small scale, estimated at 65 bales, and 69 bales of damaged yarn have likewise been moved off by public auction. Grey Shirtings have met with a moderate amount of inquiry at about the rates previously current, and the sales reported in this colony during the fortnight amount to 10,000 pieces, exclusive of 950 pieces of damaged goods. From Foochow sales of 1,250 pieces 7 to 8 lbs. goods are reported at $4.85 to $5.50. White Shirtings: The settlements of these goods reported in the Hong Kong market amount to 5,500 pieces, and from Foochow a small sale of 250 pieces 64 reed is reported at $5.50 per piece. T-Cloths: Have been in but slight request, and the bulk of the sales effected consist of sea-damaged goods moved off by auction. 1,000 pieces sound have found buyers, and the purchases at public sale amount to 2,100 pieces. 3,000 pieces 6½ to 7 lbs. have been sold in Foochow at $3.70 to $3.95 per piece. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: Have continued without inquiry, and there are not any sales of these fabrics to mention. Damasks: Without sales. Chintzes: Have also been without enquiry during the fortnight. Handkerchiefs: The sales of these goods are confined to 950 dozens sold by auction.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths.—The demand manifested for woollen fabrics has been more considerable than for some time past, but the market is very flat, and there does not appear any immediate prospect of better prices being obtainable. The sales of Spanish Stripes are put at 780 pieces, in addition to which about 520 pieces of goods of inferior quality have been moved off by public sales. Long Ells remain at the quotations given in last report, but have found buyers in this colony to the extent of 1,250 pieces. 160 pieces of damaged goods have been also moved off by public sale. Camlets: Have been in moderate demand, and about 750 pieces have changed hands in this colony during the fortnight at about previous rates. Lastings: The sales of these goods reported since the date of last circular amount to 750 pieces. Blankets: Nothing doing.

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METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: A material decline has been established in the value of almost all description of iron in this market during the past fortnight, and the total settlements effected since the date of last report are estimated at 2.650 piculs. Prices in Canton do not show any alteration, but purchases have been confined to a trifling transaction in small round rod. Lead remains as previously quoted in the Hong Kong market with sales of 650 piculs reported for the fortnight. In Canton the value of the article has given way about 5 cents, and 1,400 piculs have found buyers. Tin: 1,330 slabs have found buyers in Hong Kong. Tin Plates remain as previously quoted, with sales during the fortnight of 1,800 boxes. Steel: Without sales to notice.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN.—None.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: June 8, Vigil; 15, Assyrian; 15, City of Quebec. From Newcastle: 7, Albis; 13, Belle. From Sunderland: 7, Northern Queen. From Cardiff: 11, Little Edith. From New York: 20, Horatio.

At FOO-CHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From Sunderland: June 28, Bedford. From Cardiff: 12, Good Hope; 22, Venus. From Newcastle: 14, Ramolina. From Hartlepool: 21, Carausius. From Newport: 16, Sailors' Home. From New York: 11, Nabob; 15 Dennis Horton; 28, Mo-Yune (str.) and Otslif.

At MANILA.—From London: June 9, San Louis.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: July 3, Prince Alfred. From Liverpool: 7, Bogota. From Cardiff: June 22, Heros. July 3, H. E. Susanna; 8, Alblasserdam. From Plymouth: June 24, De Hoop. From Sunderland: July 6, Jane Woodburn. From Rotterdam: July 7, Lvoput.

At PENANG.—From London: June 19, Sunium.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—For London: June 10, Messe.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: June 14, Eliza Shaw. For Liverpool: 9, Warwick Castle; 10, Peerless; 11, Reigate; and 20, Esk.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: June 11, Min; 15, Yangtsze; and 17, City of Aberdeen. For Liverpool: 14, Ziba.

From HONG KONG.—None.

From MANILA.—For London: June 17, Admiral de Winter. For Liverpool: 10, Sales. For Falmouth: 18, Achilles. For New York: 10, Nor' Wester.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: July 2, Bonanza and Miss Nightingale. For Liverpool: July 8, Invincible. For England: June 23, H.M.S. Vulcan; and 25, M.M.S. Ringdove. For Falmouth: 28, Daniel Rankin.

From PENANG.—For London: June 22, Salvador Packet and Bothwell Castle; 23, Sea Wave; 29, Zingra; and 30, Bristolian.

LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Natal, Amoy, and Yokohama. For Liverpool: Red Deer, Swallow.

At HANKOW.—For London: Robert Lowe (St.), Challenger and Falcon.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Brockham, Coulnakyle, Silver Eagle, Taeping, Fychow, Gresham, Highflyer, Pegasus, Southern Empire, White Adder, and Knight Templar. For Liverpool: Affghan, Hougoumont, and Surry. For New York: None.

At FOO CHOW.—For London: Dora, Childers, Whinfell, Holmsdale, Star of China, and Ellen Rodger (to sail on June 19).

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Glenaros, Chanticleer, Banian, Yeavering Belle, and Marlborough. For Liverpool: Edward Percy, Geologist, Chua-sze, Jessie Beazley, Lord Dalhousie, Zenobia, Princess Sommawathy. For New York: Roslin Castle.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Rangoon, and Tweed. For Liverpool: Volunteer.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

JAPAN.—To London: Cotton and tea, £5. 10s. to £6. Silk, £6. 10s. to £7 per ton.

SHANGHAI.—The arrivals have been numerous, and the requirements for coasting and the northern ports being very limited, there is a large number of unemployed vessels in harbour, the rates are therefore low for what little is offering for the coast. There are several fine clipper ships on the berth for London at £4. 10s. to £5 per ton for tea, and £3 for cotton.

FOO-CHOW.—Rates have declined to £4 and £3. 10s.

HONG KONG AND CANTON.—There is a fair inquiry for vessels for coast as well as for home. The following from Geo. Holme's Circular shows the principal statements:—Chaa-Sze (556) and Jessie Beazley (500), for Liverpool at £3 15s. Yeavering Bell (493), for London £3. 15s. to £4. Lord Dalhousie (786), for Liverpool, £3. 10s. to £3. 15s. Zenobia (1,414), for Liverpool, £3. Canute (1,420), Foochow to London, at £2. 10s. Rutlandshire (Holio), to London, £3. 12s. 6d. for sugar, and £4. 15s. for hemp. To Bankok and back the rates are:—47½ to 45 per picul, and 25 to 30 cents extra if to the north. Manila to Liverpool, £3 for clayed, and £3. 15s. for unclayed sugar, £4. 10s. for hemp.

SINGAPORE.—Tonnage is in less demand. The Edith (460) loads at Padang for New York at £5. 5s. per ton. To London and Liverpool the rates for dead weight is £3, and measurement goods, £4.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—June 8, Mountain Ash, London to Kanagawa; 9, Falcon, and 11, Glenisla, Glasgow to Batavia; Louis, Cardiff to Hong Kong; 17, San Louis, London to Manila.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—June 11, Netherby, Foochow to London; 13, Harry Puddemsey, Singapore to Liverpool; 14, Glencoe, Hong Kong to Liverpool; 17, Benvoirlich, Shanghai to London; 23, Alvares, Manila to London; 26, Aunt Lizzie, Hong Kong to London.

CASUALTIES.

SHANGHAI.

The brig Thor was lost on the N.E. point of Lima Island. Two of the crew were drowned, the remainder were well treated by the natives.

HONG KONG.

The British brig Star of the Ocean reports having experienced light baffling winds until the 22nd June, when she encountered a very heavy gale. On April 6th, in lat. 40 E., long. 35 S., she spoke the British ship Lady M'Naughten, bound to Shanghai, 104 days out. She was leaking badly, and was very short of provisions; the latter was supplied by the brig, and before leaving Anjer they were again in company; the leak, which was in the bow, had been discovered and stopped, but they had been again short of provisions for some days. They were, however, again supplied by the brig, and the vessel was enabled to proceed. When off Cockatoo Island, on the 30th of May, she spoke the Spanish barque B K, from New York bound to Hong Kong, 108 days out.

The Bremen three-masted schooner Charlotte, which left Hong Kong three days since, has been obliged to put back, having been in collision with the Hamburg ship Araccan. She has carried away her bowsprit, and sustained considerable damage.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Aug. 10, off Falmouth, from Bassein, Isabella Borgund; at New York, from Shanghai, Mercara; July 9, at Callao, from Macao, Julian; Aug. 12, off Queenstown, from Rangoon, Cestrian.

DEPARTURES.—Aug. 7, from Sunderland, for Singapore, Antonia; 9, from Swansea, for Singapore, Exonian; 10, from Deal, for Padang, Isaac da Costa; for Samarang, Henrietta; for Sourabaya, California; for Batavia, Gebroeders; 11, from London, for Hong Kong, Annie Archbell; 13, from Liverpool, for Shanghai, Polmaise; 12, for the Cape and Hong Kong; Nancy Brysson; from London, for Shanghai, John Norman; from London, for Shanghai, Alexandrina; 11, from Cardiff, for Singapore, Amazone; from Shields, for China, Pei Ho.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

(Exclusive of this day's Advices.)

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Meppel, Witness, Lady Ebrington, Twe Cornelissen, Patricia, and Merse, Harwood, W. W. Smith, Alexander, Ann Adamson, Abbotsford, and Anglo Indian At LIVERPOOL: Marion, and Vampyre. At FALMOUTH: Auld Reekie. At NEW YORK: Osborne.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Ethel, Monarch, Belle, Benvoirlich, Sea King (str.), City of Aberdeen, Yang-tsze, Fiery Cross, Flying Spur, Serica, Min, Young Lochinvar, Belted Will, Robin Hood, P. J. F. Burchardt, Keepsake, Echo, Chandanagore, Rajah (str.), Volunteer, Aunt Lizzie, Holmesdale, Rifleman, Isabella Robinson, Zelia, Vimeira, Zarah, Lady Wharncliffe, Gloucester, Lorton Vale, Iceni, Netherby, Sarah Ralston, Wm. Thompson, Spirit of the North, Queen's Own, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Magnus, Josephine, Glaramara, Sappho, Charles Davenport, Bahia, and Osborne House. At LIVERPOOL: Fort William, Advance, Simoda, Cyclone, Fanny, Berwickshire, Joshua Bates, Wm. Dawson, Lauderdale, Ziba, Glencoe, Neville, Cornelia, Inamhore, Express, Mayflower, Regina, Victory, Glencairn, Bristow, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Unrivalled, Glenlee, Helvellyn, Australia, Eliza Nicholson, and Ann Forster. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama, and Linda. For ENGLAND: H.M.S. Vulcan. At BORDEAUX: Johanna. At HAMBURG: Mecklenburg, and Gravina. At NEW YORK: Eva, Dorchester, Egean, Hermann, Regnago, St. Paul, Sophia, Luson, Anita, and Gleam.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Alavesa and Cambodia. At LIVERPOOL: Bella Galega, Aureliana, Diadem, Trafalgar, Patriot King, Alicia Annie and Barinaga. At FALMOUTH: Der West, Canaan, and Albuera. At COWES: John Banfield. At QUEENSTOWN: Victoria Cross. At HAVRE: Nouvelle Antoinette. At NEW YORK: Tropic and George Peabody.

From SINGAPORE.—At 'LONDON: Oscar, Confidance," Pet, Polly, Daniel Rankin, Bonanza, Miss Nightingale, Eleanor, Eena, Couranto, Najade, Athelstan, Dewa Gungadhur, Dunkeld, Tartar, and Princess of Wales. At LIVERPOOL: Bella Gallega, C. C. Chisholm, Victory, Agra, Beloochee Ferris, H Puddemsey, and Bombay. At FALMOUTH: Sarah Jane and Hindustan. At BORDEAUX: Salares and Java. At NANTES: Suez. At NEW YORK: Ocean Home, Gertrude, Caroline, Rudolf, Harzburg, and Reynard. At BOSTON: Ceylon, Aristides, Alexander, and Magnet.

From BATAVIA.—At FALMOUTH: Fredrika.

From PENANG.—At FALMOUTH: Schlosser. At CORK: Ceylon. At BORDEAUX.—Sophia.

SHIPS OF WAR IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

At HONG KONG.—The British steamers Hesper and Manilla, the gunboats Drake, Forester, Haughty, Janus, Opossum, Snap, Watchful, and Woodcock, and the Spanish steamer A. Escano.

At CANTON.—The British gunboat Grasshopper, and the Spanish steamer Patino.

At SWATOW.—The British gunboat Flamer.

At AMOY.—The British gunboat Staunch.

At SHANGHAI. The British steamer Swallow, the gunboats Algerine, Cockchafer, Don, Slaney, and Starling, and the French steamers Dordogne, Kienchang, Semiramis, and Tancrede.

On YANG-TSE-KIANG.—The British gunboat Hardy.

At the NORTH.—The British steamer Osprey, the gunboats Insolent and Weazel, and the Spanish steamer Narvaez.

At JAPAN.—The British steamers Argus, Barrosa, Conqueror, Coquette,

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Cormorand, Coromandel, Euryalus, Leopard, Pelorus, Perseus, Rattler, Racehorse, Scylla, and Tartar, the gunboats Bouncer, Firm, Havoc, and Kestrel, the French steamer Duplex, and the Dutch steamers Djambi and Medusa.

Mr. S. D. Sassoon, who has been for some time on a visit to this country and the Continent, accompanied by his brother, will, we understand, leave for Bombay early in October. He is at present staying at the Alexandra Hotel, Hyde Park.

Of the four vessels contracted to be built in New York for the Japanese one is nearly ready, but the laying down of the other three depends on a fall in the price of labour.

LITERATURE.

The Cruise of the Alabama and the Sumter; From the Private Journals and other Papers of Captain Semmes, C.S.N., and other Officers. Two vols. London: Saunders, Otley, and Co. —These volumes will be read with delight wherever adventure, discipline, courage, and a chivalrous sense of duty and humanity are held in honour. The character of Captain Semmes himself will stand out more brilliantly than ever. We cannot but sympathise with the brave officer, who, while complaining that he is "getting too old to relish the rough usage of the sea," skims over the wide ocean for months at a time in all weathers, and is on deck at all hours, in obedience to what he feels to be the imperative command of his country's need. All the while, in whatever part of the world he may be, each anniversary—the birth-day, the wedding-day or Christmas-day—recals to the wanderer the wife and children he has left at home. The song of a little bird has a charm that at once wafts the soul of this "rough pirate," as he has been represented, away from the sea to scenes endeared by affection. In the middle of the Atlantic he writes: —"On this fine balmy morning I enjoyed exceedingly the cheerful notes of our canary. This is a little prisoner made on board one of the whalers; and sometimes at early morning I fancy myself amid 'jessamine bowers,' inhaling the fragrance of flowers, and listening to the notes of the wild songsters so common in our dear Southern land." The world in general has no other notion of Semmes than of a buccaneer of modern times, who would have been as deeply stained with bloody deeds as his predecessors of the seventeenth century had he lived in their times. It has been forgotten that the American civil war found him a commander in the United States Navy, living at Washington; that his proclivities towards the South were so well-known, and his reputation as a naval officer so pre-eminent, that as early in the struggle as February, 1861, he was applied to by the Confederate Committee on Naval Affairs, and that it was not till he had formally resigned his commission in the Federal navy that he felt himself a free man to serve "his struggling country." The editor of the volumes thus indicates the

CHARACTER OF CAPTAIN SEMMES.

Our readers will see, by-and-by, from the quotations we shall make from the captain's log, that he is as little the hungry fire-eater, which many of his admirers suppose him to be, as he is the Black-Pirate of the New York Press. Captain Semmes is a native of Charles County, in Maryland, a state which has furnished numerous patriotic citizens to the South. Before accepting his new service he had taken an honourable farewell of his old. The Federals had no charge to bring against him before the day when he stepped on the deck of the then unknown and insignificant *Sumter* steam-vessel. What they may have said later is of no particular consequence; nor can it be thought to be greatly to the discredit of Captain Semmes that they have cried out loudly, and as men in pain.

We need not here sketch out the exploits of the *Sumter* and the *Alabama*—they are too recent, and made too much noise, for them to have slipped from the memory of our readers. The editor has done well to give us as much of the narrative as possible in his hero's own words. Wherever the former has had to connect portions of the Captain's Log by a digest of intervening events the task has been clearly and effectively discharged; and he seems never to have done this but when absolutely necessary, perceiving, with the good sense he evidently possesses, that it would be impossible to improve on the Log, with its entries written at the moment, the actions and scenes they recorded being still before the writer's eyes, or the latest impressed on his memory. We must confess we were unprepared for the heart-stirring treat that awaited us in the perusal of this "Cruise." The adventures succeed each other rapidly—they take place in such out of the way and hitherto unheard-of nooks and corners of the world—that the story combines a double excitement, rising to the highest pitch, in a fashion such as we scarcely remember to have met with before. One page burns with the gasping feverishness of a chase, or constrains you to hold the breath while listening to the details of some crafty *ruse* to elude or entrap the enemy; and then the next carries you off to a Juan Fernandez of an island, beautiful enough to set a modern Robinson Crusoe longing to take up his abode there. We are borne off on a delightful voyage of discovery and float away on a career of triumph at one and the same moment. The two volumes are a perfect romance of history, told with a freshness and simplicity that no romance ever yet achieved. The mystery of the way in which the *Alabama* got her supplies is unfolded by the account of her sojourn at certain small islets on the Spanish Main. The hope of getting a supply of fresh water, while cruising near Singapore, introduces us to a recent French annexation, where Captain Semmes "is quite surprised to learn that he had arrived in civilized waters." Some of those little touches of feeling that characterize the temperament of the man will be found in this account of

PULO CONDORE.

Friday, December 4th.—The harbour is picturesque, with mountains rising abruptly from the water to the height of 1,800 feet, clothed with dense verdure from water's edge to top, many of the trees being of large size. The soil is very rich, but there is little cultivated land, the mountain sides being too steep. The French have constructed two or three huts on the northern shore, and a couple of rude jetties as landing-places of loose stone. Landed on one of these to get sights for the chronometers. Found a Frenchman overseeing three or four Chinese seamen chopping wood and thatching a hut. The French make slaves, both here and on the mainland, of prisoners of war. The island is under the government of an Enseigne de Vaisseau. The commander of the junk is a midshipman, so that we have gotten among high dignitaries. Landed at noon at an inviting little sand-beach on the south shore, to get latitude —8 deg. 39 min. 10 sec. Found the ruined hut of a Frenchman, with his grave close by, and his name carved on the bark of a tree on the beach —a picturesque burial spot, amid eternal shades, with the lullaby of the ocean.

Saturday, December 5th.—Amused this morning watching some sedate old baboons sitting on the sand-beach opposite, and apparently observing the ship very attentively. Large numbers of these caricatures of humanity inhabit these islands. Yesterday, when a boat landed, great numbers of young ones were seen gambolling about; but one of the old ones having called out to them, they soon all disappeared in the thick wood. Returned the visit of the Frenchman. He is on board a miserable country craft, of about forty tons burthen. Sent a boat to the village on the east side to call on the governor, and see if we could get some fruit and vegetables. Boat returned at nightfall. The village is a mere military port. The native inhabitants, except a few prisoners, or slaves, having fled to the mountains, and no supplies were to be had. The governor's residence is a *thatched* hut, as are all the other houses, with no industry or taste displayed in their structure. A few patches of cultivation were visible—rice, fruit, and cotton—the latter looking rather unpromising. The destroyers of their rice were the monkeys. There are several varieties of fine large pigeons here, and in abundance. They are beautiful in feather, and fat. A common variety has a green back and golden tail. This must be a paradise for monkeys, so abundant is their food in the forests, almost every tree bearing a fruit or nut of some sort. These French officers had heard and believed that we sunk or burned every ship we took, *with all on board*, and received the paymaster rather coolly at first, but became quite cordial when they observed we were *Christians*, and did not commit this wholesale murder.

Sunday, December 6th.—Another lonely Sabbath-day—lonely, though in the midst of one hundred and fifty people. Away, away from home, by half the circumference of the globe! One of the most frequent and unpleasant of my experiences since I entered the China Sea is an *oppressive* sense of *great* distance from home, and the utter strangeness of everything around me, almost as though I had entered another planet.

Those who assisted in executing the wondrous feats performed by the *Alabama*, it might be supposed, were picked men. It is clear that England is unwittingly liable to the charge alleged against her by the Federals of having supplied their foe with both ship and crew. What may be effected out of a very unpromising material by a man endowed with the talent of command may be learnt from Captain Semmes' description, written on the 29th December, 1862, of the

CREW OF THE ALABAMA.

Another seaman got drunk to-day, and seized his bag to go on board the barque to return to England. Confined him in double irons. Many of my fellows, no doubt, thought they were shipping in a sort of privateer, where they would have a jolly good time and plenty of license. They have been wofully disappointed, for I have jerked them down with a strong hand, and now have a well-disciplined ship of war. Punishment *invariably* follows on the heels of the offence. It has taken me three or four months to accomplish this; but when it is considered that my little kingdom consisted of one hundred and ten of the most reckless from the groggeries Liverpool, this is not much.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A Register is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the Far East and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in China, Japan, Singapore, *and other parts of the* Far East, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the Far East.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 1864.

GORDON'S RESIGNATION, AND THE DISBANDMENT OF THE ANGLO-CHINESE FORCE.

Gordon's campaign against the Taiping rebels closed with the capture of Chang-chow; and the gallant disciplined native corps, with its brave staff of foreign officers, have been disbanded, after an active service of fifteen months, that will compare with the most successful military achievements in China. From March, 1863, to June, 1864, the progress of this force through the province of Kiang-soo, under his command, was one series of successes against the strongholds and picked men of the enemy—who fought with the desperation of despair. With the exception of the reverse at Kintang, on every occasion they defeated the insurgents with comparatively small loss, and conquered eventually the whole country under their domination, thereby relieving the great foreign emporium of Shanghai from the dread of their presence. During that period fourteen of the chief cities in the province, beyond the thirty mile radius, were captured; and Kiang-soo, with its population of forty millions—less the decimation from the rebellion—is now restored to Imperial rule. But for the skill and prowess of Gordon, this canker-worm of rebellion would still have been eating into the vitals of the most fertile province in China, and continually threatening the existence of its commerce in which our merchants so largely participate. The restoration of this large territory to legitimate traffic is already giving a fresh impetus to foreign trade which was languishing latterly from the baneful effects of the insurrection. On these grounds alone Major Gordon is entitled to a substantial testimonial from the foreign as well as the native merchants of Shanghai, on his departure from the scene of his operations; and we very much mistake the high and liberal character of the firms of all nationalities at that flourishing port, if he is allowed to leave without a public recognition of his services to commerce.

But Gordon has had higher motives than even these to prompt him to action, in crushing this desolating rebellion. It is abundantly manifest in every stage of his campaign that he was actuated by feelings of humanity in prosecuting with such vigour, operations that would put an end to this awful strife on the part of hellish blasphemers, who, under the cloak of quasi-Christianity, waged war against the helpless, the innocent and the industrious. These motives are shadowed forth in the series of despatches from him, and just published among the parliamentary papers. Some of the details are so sickening, and the refinement of cruelty exercised by the Taiping hordes so dreadful, that it makes us shudder at the horrors of this strife, and execrate these fiends in human shape—from which condemnation their foreign sympathisers are not entirely free. It is true that to all intents and purposes, Gordon was an officer in the Chinese service, ostensibly fighting in the cause of a foreign Prince to whom he does not owe allegiance; and it is equally true that he did receive pay for these services in the manner that soldiers of fortune have done from time immemorial, and in all nations, fought their way in the field. But the exceptional circumstances under which he accepted the command, with the approval of the British general and Minister in China, without forfeiting his rank in the British army, all point to the fact that he never was incorporated in the Chinese service; while his subsequent condemnation of mandarin treachery, and his humane disposition towards the vanquished, show that he was ever actuated by the most honourable motives, which ignore the supposition of any venal influence prompting him to action. He witnessed the misery under which the land laboured; he saw in the disciplined forces the means to restore a better state of things, and, with confidence in his own capacity to command that force with military skill, he went forth to conquer or to succumb. After many "hair-breadth 'scapes," he has come forth not altogether scathless from the fight, having nobly battled and won in the cause of humanity and religion by inflicting a blow upon the hydra-headed monster of Taipingism, from which it is evident that its doom is sealed. For this is he entitled to the thanks of mankind; and we feel assured that the most rabid philo-Taiping cannot but grant him a due meed of praise for the protection he has given to the benighted followers of the Tien-wang who fell into his power. It must be very satisfactory to himself and friends to find that the Press of his native country have done him full justice, in spite of the croakings of certain self-constituted censors on Chinese affairs, and mendacious writers in the local journals. We flatter ourselves that we were among the first to point out the rare qualities of this young but skilful and experienced British officer, which has been recognized in such handsome terms by the greatest literary organ in the world — *The Times*.

Though an officer just verging on the younger side of the prime of life, Gordon's services in the British army range through the Crimean war to the capture of Peking. On every occasion where our troops were engaged he exhibited superior talents and activity as an officer of the Royal Engineers. He received his promotion as major just on the eve of his assuming the command of the Anglo-Chinese contingent. In doing so he was invested with the title of Tseoong-keoon, or General of an army. His predecessors in the force all assumed this native title, but Gordon preferred his rank and title as a major in Her Britannic Majesty's service to the highest degree the Emperor of China couldbestow upon him. His loyalty in this respect is only one of the fine qualities he has always displayed in his modesty and unselfishness as the *beau ideal* of a British officer. Nevertheless, it is worthy of remark that his gallant conduct has still further elicited the approbation and recognition of the Court of Peking, for we learn that in the *King Paou* or *Peking Gazette*, there is an Imperial decree bestowing upon him the title of Tsiay-to-o, the oldest title of a military Commander-in-Chief, which places him on a par with the Viceroy of the province, in mandarin rank. This added to the pecuniary awards for his services, shows how highly they have been appreciated by the Chinese Government, and reflects much credit on the liberality and justice of Prince Kung and the members of the Regency. So far Gordon has yielded up his command just in time, with all his honours thick upon him. In him the Emperor of China loses the best and bravest of foreigners who have ever espoused the Imperial cause in this dreadful civil war; and Her Majesty regains a brave and loyal soldier, experienced in the art of warfare, just come from one of its most sanguinary schools, wherein he has displayed all the genius of conception, and the skill to execute the plans of an accomplished general. It is to be hoped that these qualifications will be kept in view by his superior officers on his arrival at the Horse Guards, after so many years' absence on foreign service. We trust that they will not be unmindful of recommending him for further steps in the ladder of promotion. Under ordinary circumstances, had he been engaged in the arduous duties he has performed in regular service, nothing short of a colonelcy and a pair of golden spurs, with the accompanying title, would have been his reward. It is just possible that the first draught from the fountain of honour may be awaiting him on his return to England, and we may add C.B. to the name of G. C. Gordon.

THE EUPHRATES VALLEY RAILWAY.

After a lapse of several years, the route to India and the Far East, by way of Mesopotamia, from the Mediterranean to the Persian Gulf, down the valley of the Euphrates, is again brought prominently before the public, in a letter from Capt. Selby to Mr. Andrew, on the importance and necessity of establishing that line of route between England and her richest possessions. Three years ago the press of this country were

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almost unanimous in advocating the importance of this route through the Turkish dominions, not only in a commercial, but a diplomatic and military point of view, as the most eligible for all purposes, and entitled to government support. It was proved by eminent engineers that if a line of railway was constructed to Bussorah, few engineering difficulties would be encountered; and a line of steamers from thence to Bombay *via* Kurrachee, the distance, compared with the Suez route, would be lessened fourteen hundred miles, and passengers could be conveyed from London to India in three weeks at the outside. Moreover it was shown that a considerable trade could be carried on between the western provinces of India and the eastern provinces of Turkey, so as to develope the resources of these regions, and spread the peaceful blessings of European civilisation among the semi-barbarous inhabitants. The maritime part of this grand project has been in operation for some time, under the management of an enterprising steam navigation company, who have so far succeeded in opening up the line from Bussorah to Bombay that Her Majesty's Government have, within the past year, granted a subsidy for the postal service, which goes far to make the undertaking one of profit. Having done so much for the sea and river portion of the route, it is to be hoped that the Government will no longer delay in aiding the opening up of the land section. Some time ago a large and influential deputation of noblemen and gentlemen interested in Indian affairs, solicited Lord Palmerston to take into consideration the advisability of the British Government granting pecuniary support to the Euphrates Valley Railway, which was favourably received, but on account of the then low state of the Indian finances, the matter was allowed to drop. Now, a period has arrived when the exchequer of these dominions was never in a more flourishing condition, and there is every probability that the Ministry would extend the subsidy already granted, so as to include the Euphrates Valley Railway Company, if represented by a second influential deputation.

This letter of Captain W. B. Selby is opportune, and places in a practical light the numerous advantages that would accrue if the railway was carried out. From his experience as a surveyor in Mesopotamia he shows by a recent examination of the country that the facilities for constructing the line are even more than was originally anticipated; while the Arab population would deem it a boon to their country, and hence there would be no fear of their throwing obstacles in the way of laying it down, as at one time was feared. On the contrary, from the statements of the British Consul at Diarbekir, contained in the letter, it would appear that if the work was undertaken by Englishmen, and not under Turkish auspices, there would be no lack of native navvies for the works, and when finished, it would remain unnjured, if the sheiks of the different tribes through whose districts it passed were treated with common courtesy and some small present, according to ancient custom. We refer our readers to the letter itself for further information connected with this important route; and we shall look forward with sanguine expectation to the success attending a second application for a Government subsidy, or sufficient public support to enable the directors to construct the line.

Lieut.-Col. John Neptune Sargent, C.B., 3rd Foot, formerly serving in China, having completed the qualifying service in the rank of Lieut.-Colonel, to be Colonel, under the provisions of the Royal warrant of the 14th of October, 1858.

The *Luzon*, built for Messrs. Ker, Bolton, and Co., by Messrs. A Stephen and Co., of Kelvinhaugh, has made a trial trip, in which she attained an average speed of eleven knots per hour. The *Luzon* is intended to trade between Manila and China.

The *Illustrated London News* of the 13th contains sketches from Japan.

Continental Intelligence.

HAMBURG.

(from our own correspondent.)

August 7.

The Treaty of Commerce between Prussia and Japan, which was signed by Count Eulneburg (now the Minister for the Home Department in Prussia) on the 24th January 1861, and ratified on the same day of this present year, has not yet been published, but the needful orders have now been given, and its publication may be shortly expected. The original text is in the German and Dutch languages. According to the stipulations contained in the treaty, the Tycoon of Japan binds himself to permit the establishment of a resident diplomatic agent of the King of Prussia at Jedo, as well as of Prussian Consuls in the opened ports of Hakodadi, Kanagawa, and Nagasaki. Prussian subjects are not to be allowed to penetrate more than ten Ri into the interior from Hakodadi and Kanagawa, but from Nagasaki they may go to any distance into the country. The Ri is 12,456 Prussian feet, and, consequently, equal to rather more than two English miles. The distance is to be reckoned from the Gojoschio, or Council-hall, in the above-named two ports. The Prussian Consuls in Japan are exempted from this restriction, and are at liberty to travel through the country in any direction they please.

The following gentlemen from the Far East have arrived in this city and been introduced by subscribers to the Commercial-rooms in the Exchange buildings:—Mr. G. A. Reme, from Singapore; Mr. George Schuvemann, from Shanghai; Mr. H. Ducheddo, from Hong Kong; Mr. G. Ventz, from Bombay; Mr. Gildermeister, from Japan; Mr. Ad. Koch, from Batavia; and Mr. O. Rheiner, from Singapore.

From St. Petersburg we learn that the *Gonets* steamer, placed at the disposal of the telegraph service on the Amoor, left Strelensk on the 29th of April last, and arrived on the 5th of May at Tchita. This is the first steamer that has gone up the course of the Ingoda as far as the last-named town.

The Russian *Gazette de la Bourse* contains the new postal regulations, by which letters to foreign countries may, in future, be prepaid by stamps, which was hitherto inadmissible. For this purpose, in addition to the three postage stamps (of 30, 20, and 10 copecks) now in use, new ones of 5, 3, and 1 copeck have been issued. The postage of a single letter from any part of Russia to China, Japan, Java, the Moluccs Islands, Borneo, Sumatra, and the Philippine Islands, is 65½ copecks.

COMMERCIAL.

Coffee.—The prospect of a near settlement of the long-pending Danish question, the improved advices from the markets in Holland, and the latest accounts from Rio, in conjunction with the continued large deliveries ex warehouse, combined to exercise a favourable influence on this market, and promote increased confidence. The remaining stock of washed Laguayra has been cleared off at a trifle above last week's currency, whilst St. Domingo is more in favour, and has been sent with considerable success to places where this description was hitherto unknown. East India sorts move off slowly at full prices. Java sells at from 8½ to 11 schillings banco per lb. Of Ceylon there is none in the market. The sales of the fortnight amounted to 23,000 bags, and the fresh supplies during the same period were 42,000 bags.

Sugar.—The market has been calm, and the raw article drooping, prices having receded 12 sch. bco. per 100 lbs. The dealings in refined goods were not extensive, amounting to 23,000 loaves, of which 8,000 of Hamburg steam-made Raffinade at 4½ sch. bco. per lb.

Rice.—This article continues in a firm position, but the transactions in cleaned have not been larger than usual. Four cargoes of rough have dropped in last week—the *Noordstern*, from Singapore and Bassein, with 2,000 bags, the *Zephyros*, from Rangoon, with 5,500 bags, and the *Ariel* and the *Betty*, with together 12,700 bags from Akyab. The cargo of the last-named vessels (with 7,000 bags) has already been disposed of by private contract.

Spices.—Cloves, mace, and nutmegs are again higher in value, with an animated demand and a rising market. No alteration in pepper or cassia lignea. Ginger firmly held, but with only limited sales.

Spelter.—Market quiet. The only sale reported was 1,000 centners for September delivery at 15 marks 10 sch. banco per centner. The stocks are very small as compared with the preceding years, being only 8,000 centners against 63,000 at the corresponding period of last year, 120,000 in 1862, and 76,000 in 1861.

Tin.—A moderate business has been done in Banca at 11¾ to 12 sch. banco per lb.

SHIPPING.

Departures.—July 26, St. Thomas, sailed from Cuxhaven to Hong Kong; 31, Antelope, ditto.

HOLLAND.

(from our own correspondent.)

Rotterdam, August 7.

At last the elections are finished. As I predicted in my preceding letter, Professor J. A. Jonckblaet obtained the majority at Winschoten, and Baron van Goltstein at Hoorn. It is impossible to deny that the defeat of Mr. W. T. Gevers Deynoot is a very considerable check for the Liberals. The struggle was very serious, and both parties spared no manœuvres to gain the day. At the first election at Hoorn, only 1,127 persons polled; at the second, 1,201; and now 1,725, of which Mr. van Goltstein obtained 878 votes. These numbers prove that all was done that could be done. As to Mr. Jonckblaet, he will have to choose between the post of Rector Magnificus at the University of Groningen and that of member of Parliament. It is impossible to be both at the same time.

Mr. Thorbecke has left the Hague for Dresden. Our Minister of Home Affairs will stay there with his family till the end of August, when the Session must be closed by him in the name of His Majesty. Mr. Transen van de Putte will

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remain some time longer at Kissingen, where he is taking the waters. His state of health causes great anxiety to his friends, for they fear that he will be unable to continue at the head of the colonial department.

The Imperial Prince of Russia, the Archduke Nicolas, travelling incognito as Count du Nord, has arrived at Scheveningen. That beautiful bathing place is this year so crowded that several notabilities, as Baron Rothschild, M. Fould, &c., have attempted in vain to obtain apartments for the season.

You will remember that Mr. van der Maeson de Sombreff, when Minister of Foreign Affairs, abolished the embassy at Stockholm on economical grounds. The consequence of this measure, which was highly disapproved by the press, is that Baron von Wetterstedt, the Swedish Ambassador, will leave the Hague at the latter end of this month, and will not be replaced.

It is generally reported that the works for the canal from Amsterdam to the North Sea will be begun within a few weeks.

A correspondent at Batavia writes to the *Arnhemsche Courant* that the Governor-General of the East Indies, Mr. Sloet van der Beele, is about to ask for his retirement. Nothing is known about it here, and the rumour is accordingly contradicted.

A company is organising here to open regular steam-boat communication between Rotterdam and Batavia. The capital will be of 3,000,000f., and five first-class steamers will be built. The passage is to be done in sixty days at the outside. No Government subsidy is asked. All that is required is a guarantee that when the steamers arrive at Batavia, the Government will take care that there shall be always 400 tons of Government goods ready for the return cargo. The International Association for the promotion of social science will hold its annual meeting at Amsterdam in the palace of the King, from the 26th September till the 1st October. The public opinion is that the Palace of Industry, which will be opened on the 16th inst., with a grand musical festival, would have answered the purpose much better.

The Polytechnic School at Delft, for the instruction of civil officers for the East Indies, will be opened early in September. It is rumoured that Mr. van Bosse is about to replace Mr. Betz as Minister of the Finances.

There are many railway schemes now before the public. The concession for the railway from Nymeguen to the Prussian frontiers has been granted by the Government. Another will be asked for a line from Amsterdam, *via* Purmerend, Hoorn, Enkhuirez to Heenwarden, a route much shorter than that of the State railways. Several plans also are proposed for shortening the distance between Amsterdam and Rotterdam. The only question is, "Can the money be found?"

Don J. A. de Rascon arrived some days since at the Hague as Minister Plenipotentiary from Spain. Till now, Spain was represented at this Court by merely a resident Minister. It would seem that the relations between the two Governments are much more friendly than those of our bondholders with the financial department at Madrid.

COMMERCIAL.

Coffee.—Market calm. The N. T. C. will sell by auction on the 17th inst. 83,000 bags Java. Since our last report 2,500 b. greyish Java, ex Maarten van Rossum, were sold at 46½ c. Stock N. T. C. 354,800 b. private 40,300 bales.

Tea.—In public auction 560 chests Congou were sold at 100 to 140c., and 250 chests Souchong at 150 to 151c. The market is in a good condition. Stock, 13,300 ½ chests.

Sugar.—Market dull. Prices nominal. Java white, 40f. to 43f., grey, 38f. to 39f., low grey, 35f. to 37f., brown, 30f. to 34f.; Manila grey 34f. to 38f., brown, 30f. to 34f.; Mauritius 34f. to 38f., brown, 29f. to 33f. Stock N. T. C. 18,444 kran. Java.

Rice.—No affairs to report except 740 b. Java, ex Maarten van Rossum, at 8½f. and 7f. Stock, 69,500 b.

Spices.—Without transactions, in waiting for the great public sale of the N.T.C., when the whole stock will be offered, consisting of 1,410 casks nutmegs, 740 casks mace, 70 casks cloves, 1,378 fard. cinnamon. For cloves there was some demand; No. 3 is paid with 33c. to 33½c.; cinnamon, No. 2, 93c.; No. 4, 89c. to 91c. Pepper: No lots offered. Stock, 5,300 b.

Tobacco.—The market is very inactive; there are no sales of Java to report. A great deal of the stock, consisting of 9,982 b., will be sold by public auctions within a fortnight.

Cotton.—Some lots E. I. were sold for export. The prices are generally lower.

Metals.—Very quiet.

Indigo.—The market is in a very firm condition. 75 chests Java were sold at much higher prices.

Hides.—268 and 1,164 Padang cow, and 312 and 69 do. ox hides, ex *Padang Packet*, were sold at prices that did not transpire; likewise 800 Batavia ox. Stock, 28,584. From the 1st January till ult. July, 71,919 p. were imported.

Hemp.—Manila, 67f.

Vanilla.—Per public auction, 150 kilogrammes Bourbon were sold at 2½f. to 9½f. per ½ kilos.

Arak.—There is more inquiry for this article. Several parcels were sold, as 15 casks ex Prinses Amelie, 300 do. ex Marseille.

Money.—Easy. Bank discount 4½ per cent.; open market, 4½ per cent.; N. W. S., 2½ per cent 62½, 3 per cent 73½; 4 per cent. 97½. Handelmaatchappy 141. Ex London, 3 pm. 11.66f., short 11.89f.; Paris, 3 pm. 46.30f., short 47.10f.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	Ship.	From
July 25	Brouwershaven	Maarten van Rossum	Batavia.
— 25	Do.	Æolus	Banjoewangie.
— 25	Texel	Drie Gezusters	Do.
— 25	Do.	Argo	Batavia.
— 25	Do.	Pegasus	Banjoewangie.
— 26	Do.	H. Vincentius v. Paulo	Do.
— 26	Do.	Celebes	Do.
— 27	Do.	Alida	Do.
— 26	Zierikzee	Westkapelle	Do.
— 28	Brouwershaven	Maria Anna	Do.
— 29	Do.	Maassluis	Macassar.
— 28	Texel	Zeenimph	Batavia.
— 30	Brouwershaven	Maria Diederika	Padang.
— 30	Do.	Joh. Hendr. Ferdinand	Batavia.
— 31	Do.	Suzanna	Banjoewangie.
Aug. 1	Do.	Japan Packet	Do.
— 1	Texel	Java Packet	Batavia.
— 1	Do.	Dionysia Catharina	Banjoewangie.
— 1	Do.	Maria Agnes	Do.
— 1	Do.	Norden	Do.
— 2	Flushing	H.M.'s St. Citadel van Antwerpez	Java.
— 2	Brouwershaven	Maria Adriana	Batavia.
— 3	Texel	Joan Melchior Kemper	Banjoewangie.
— 3	Do.	Willem and Carel	Batavia.
— 3	Do.	Onderkerk and Amstel	Do.
— 3	Do.	Maria Catharina	Banjoewangie.
— 6	Do.	Gebroeders	Batavia.
— 6	Do.	Henrietta	Samarang.
— 6	Do.	Californie	Do.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	Ship.	For
July 25	Veere	Susanna Elizabeth	East Ind., via Newcastle.
— 27	Hellevoet	Java	Batavia.
— 27	Texel	Hendrina	Do.
— 27	Do.	Jacoba and Christian	Do.
Aug. 4	Hellevoet	Hoek van Holland	Do.
— 5	Texel	Johanna Elizabeth	Do.
— 5	Do.	Cornelis Gips	Do.
— 5	Do.	Theodora Mechtelda	Sourabaya.
— 6	Brouwershaven	Isaac da Costa	Padang.

READY TO SAIL.

At Brouwershaven.—Johanna Maria, for Batavia; Bengalen, for Macassar; Haamstede for Batavia; Hollandia, for Batavia.

At Texel.—California, for Sourabaya; Henriette, for Samarang; Goede Verwachting, for Batavia; Zaamstroom, for Batavia; Sindbad, for Sourabaya; Ortelius, for Batavia.

LOADING.

At Amsterdam.—For Kanagawa and Decima: Adriana Johanna, Yokohama, Engel, Maria. For Padang: Padang Packet. For Batavia: Ymuiden, Electra, Three Gerusters, Zeenimph. For Batavia and Samarang Quartet, Admiral de Ruyter. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Jan van Schaffelaar, Vrede, Henrietta Maria. For Samarang: Herman de Ruiter. For Sourabaya: Regina Maria, Nederland.

At Rotterdam.—For Batavia: Eva Johanna, Zuid Holland, Tonia. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Eersteling, Medea. For Batavia and Samarang: L. J. Enthoven. For Samarang: Van der Palm. For Sourabaya: Edourard Marie, Stad Dohhum. For Kanagawa: Niphon. For Padang: Lammina, Elizabeth, Maarten van Rossum. For Singapore: Maria Louisa Antoinetta, Jan van Galen. For Singapore and Hong: Singapore.

FREIGHTS.

The following quotations are from the Circular of Messrs. Fauchey and de Fletter, shipbrokers, Rotterdam:—

For Batavia: 15f. to 20f. For Batavia and Sourabaya: 15f. and 25f. For Batavia and Samarang: 15f. and 20f. For Samarang: Palm 20f. For Padang: 30f. to 35f.; all with 15 per cent. and per ton of 2,000 kilogrammes. For Kanagawa: Nipon, 60f. and 15 per cent For Singapore: 30s. to 40s. Hong Kong: 40s. to 50s., with 15 per cent. per 40 English feet.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

Per *Maarten van Rossum*, Capt. Gerrebrands, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia: Capts. E. I. Army, Backerus and Eichelberg, Dr. Broers, Mr. Hoesthoff, Capt. Kuipers and family, Mrs. Barnstein, and Miss Fristcorn.

Per *Æolus*, Capt. de Vries, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia: Mr. L. J. Stoll, and Miss Koenen.

Per *Argo*, Capt. Gesterkamp, at Amsterdam, from Batavia: Lieut. G. N. de Haan, and the Engineer Smit.

Per *Maria Anna*, Capt. van Monnom, at Brouwershaven, from Java: Mr. van Ronkel and family.

Per *Zeenimph*, Capt. van Roggen, at Nieuwe Diep, from Batavia: Mr. Brederode and family, Mr. Gerards and family, Mr. van Zutphen and family, Messrs. Elliot, and Miss van der Meulen.

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Per *Johan Hendrik Ferdinand*, Capt. Lodewyks, at Brouwserhaven, from Batavia: Mr. E. Geluk and family, thirty soldiers.

Per *Maria Diederika*, Capt. van Marion, at Brouwershaven, from Padang: Mr. Kriesfeld and family, Mr. de Bruin and family, and Messrs. Mus, six soldiers.

Per *Java Packet*, Capt. Hellingman, at Nieuwe Diep, from Batavia: Mr. Mirandolle and family, Mr. Paauw and family, Mr. Daendels and family, Messrs. Rose, Verhulp, Kapfer, Mrs. Buyn, Mrs. van Hoevell, Miss Telles, Miss Coblyn, six soldiers.

Per *Dionysia Catharina*, Captain Jaski, at Amsterdam, from Banjoewangie; Major Pique and family, Mr. Van Bunge and family, the Engineer of the E. I. Railways, A. Catoite, four soldiers.

Per *Maria Adriana*, Capt. Van der Held, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia: Mr. Kam and family, Mrs. Brunner, Mr. Richter, nineteen soldiers.

Per *Susanna*, Capt. Vonck, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia: Baron Van Heerdz and family, Mrs. George, with four children, Van Gennep, Mr. Wetner.

Per *Ouderkerk aan den Amstel*, Capt. Swart, at Amsterdam from Batavia: Mr. Last and family, Mr. Helmers and family, Mr. Van Vryhoeff, the captains of the E. I. Infantry Bruggeman and Blasius, Mrs. Greeff, Mrs. Van Mienne, Miss Gude, Messrs. Duperon and Kollman, twelve soldiers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per *Jacoba and Christina*, Captain Jaski, from Nieuwe Diep to Batavia: Mr. T. Hoog and family, Mr. L. Free and family, Mr. H. Ide and family, Mr. W. van dr Kaa, Mr. C. C. Bierhhuijs, and Miss W. C. Frappen.

Per *Cornelis Gips*, Captain Verhoeven, from Amsterdam to Batavia: Mr. J. Hes.

Per *Henriette*, Captain Visser, from Amsterdam to Samarang: Mr. H. F. Goudswaard, and family, Mr. P. Goudswaard.

Per *Johanna Elizabeth*, Captain Duinker, from Amsterdam to Batavia: Messrs. F. F. W. Boers, J. Dekker, F. L. Louis and family, Mrs. A. van Zanten and daughter, Miss A. M. van Dommeling.

Naval and Military.

The *Times'* reporter gives the following:—

The screw steam corvette Encounter, 14. Capt. Roderick Dew, C.B., was paid off at Devonport, by Admiral Superintendent T. M. C. Symonds, C.B. This ship was put in commission in September, 1859. On receipt of the despatches detailing the Peiho disaster, she, with with several others, was ordered to assist in the intended expedition against Peking. Capt. Dew was selected for the Encounter in consequence of his knowledge of China. On arrival, early in 1860, having convoyed to China the gunboats Snap and Bouncer, the Encounter was at once despatched as pioneer of the expedition. After the fall of the Taku Forts, Capt. Dew piloted the Carthage and the Grenada,, which had Lord Elgin and his Staff on boad, to Tien-tsin. On the subsequent advance of the army on Peking, he was selected by Sir James Hope to explore the river. In the last fight his gig's crew turned the flank of the Tartar cavalry, who attempted to cross the river. During the remainder of the campaign Capt. Dew commanded the flotilla of 400 boats on the upper waters of the Peiho. The Encounter was afterwards in Japan. Capt. Dew received the thanks of Earl Russell on the occasion of the English and French Ministers leaving and returning to Jeddo at the time of the murder of the United States' Secretary of Legation. As senior officer at Shanghai in 1861 he was again thanked by Earl Russell for the energy he displayed in protecting the property of the British merchants. In April, 1862, Capt. Dew was sent in command of an allied squadron to Ningpo, then occupied by 40,000 Taiping troops, who, emboldened by unexpected success, had amused themselves by firing not only into the foreign settlement, but on our ships of war in the river. In spite of efforts to keep the peace, a collision became inevitable, and on the occasion of an Imperial fleet of war junks coming up the river, our vessels were fired into, and a volley of musketry descended on the decks of the Encounter. The capture of Ningpo against such overwhelming odds was characterised by Sir James Hope as "the best thing ever done in China." The Encounter was ordered subsequently to clear the 30 mile radius of the Taipings, and Capt. Dew raised and drilled, with the Encounter's marines, a disciplined force of Chinese, commanded by Europeans. On the Encounter's arrival at Ningpo that great city was occupied solely by the Taipings; trade was completely at a standstill, and the whole country was given up to plunder. Order was re-established by the joint English and French expedition. An urgent request was made to Capt. Dew that he should take the military command of the province. Capt. Dew, Lieut. Davis, and Dr. Irwin are the only ward or gun-room officers who left England in and returned in the ship. Six officers and 34 men died from casualities or disease. The Encounter was detained a year by the troubled state of affairs in Japan.

COMMISSION ON GUNS TO CHINA.—MARSHALL v. BLAKELY.—This was an action by an agent for the sale of iron and steel guns against Captain Blakeley, the well-known inventor of improved ordnance, to recover the sum of £616, as commission at 15 per cent. on the sum of £4,112 for the sale of his guns. The defendant denied his liability. According to the case for the plaintiff, as stated by Mr. Bovill, he had had an order from Messrs. Leighton and Co., engaged in the China trade, for some iron guns and ammunition for the Chinese Government, and he had agreed with the defendant to transfer the order and any similar orders to him at the commission of 15 per cent., and he had obtained for him orders to the amount stated, of about £4,112, on which he claimed £616 as the stipulated commission. The plaintiff was examined in support of this case, and stated the particulars of the order which, he said, he had received from Leighton and Co., specifying the quantity and description of shot and shell required as ammunition, and the prices of each sort. The plaintiff's order ran thus:—Two 20-pounders, at £150, £300; four 12-pounders, at £95, £380; four 9-pounders, £75, £300; two 6-pounders, at £50, £100. This came to about £1,080. Then, the gun-carriages were to be at the same price, £1,080, which came to £2,160. Then the shell came to £848, which raised the amount to £3,008; and there was shot supplied to the amount of about £150, but this was deemed to be excluded from the contract for commission. The commission on this came to about £450. There was a dispute between the parties as to the difference between this amount and the amount on which commission was claimed, and that turned out to be the only point in dispute. From the statement of Mr. Lush, for the defence, it appeared that Mr. Bennett, the representative in this country of Leighton and Co., had given plaintiff an order for two guns, intending them to be Blakely guns, whereas he found on his applying to the defendant that they were not to be so, and he also found that the plaintiff charged higher than Captain Blakely—as, for instance, £165 for a 20-pounder, instead of £150, which was what Captain Blakely charged; and that in consequence of this Mr. Bennett insisted on the transfer of the order to Captain Blakely. It was true that there was to be a commission of 15 per cent. on the invoice price of the guns and (according to the letter of the plaintiff, which, however, Captain Blakely had not received) on the shot, but not upon the shell; and, according to the case for the defence, there was a difference as to some minor items; and the amount of the plaintiff's claim was reduced to £470. The plaintiff accordingly recovered a verdict to that amount.

BRITISH COLUMBIAN GOLD FIELDS.—The Shuswap district is now regarded as very promising. It is called the "poor man's diggings," being more lucrative than Cariboo for a poor man. The *British Columbian* states that with the rudest implements an industrious man can there average $5 a day, and can live upon $1. As a stock and farming country this is said to be unequalled in British Columbia. The same paper states that on the Frazer, five miles above Lytton, some thirty or forty Indians are engaged in mining, and making over 20 dollars a day to the hand. The red skins discovered a rich spot, and as soon as it became known to the Chinese they began to stake off claims, showing their licences as authority for their intrusion, and giving the aborigines to understand that they must leave. The latter entertain a supreme contempt for John Chinaman, and were about to resort to arms, but upon consideration they went to Judge Ball, got licences themselves, and have become free miners.

GENERAL IGNATIEF, director of the Asiatic Department in the Foreign-office at St. Petersburg, has been appointed Envoy-Extraordinary and Minister-Plenipotentiary at Constantinople.

Monetary and Commercial.

The directors of the Agra and Masterman's Bank (Limited) have declared a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, together with a bonus of £2 per share, for the half-year ended 30th June last, payable on 18th inst., being together at the rate of 18 per cent. per annum.

The directors of the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited) have declared an *ad interim* dividend for the half-year, ending the 30th June, at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax. A special meeting of the bank has been called for the 25th inst., to consider the terms of arrangement with the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan. It is also proposed to increase the capital of the company by the creation 20,000 new shares of £100 each at £6 per share premium, to be issued to the persons and upon the terms stated in this agreement with the Imperial Bank, particulars of which will be found in our advertising columns.

The council of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce have agreed to recommend to the Government to establish a gold coinage for India to the extent of £3,000,000, the sovereign to be of the same weight and value as the English sovereign, and to be equal to 10 rupees.

At the meeting of the Mediterranean Extension Telegraph Company, the directors' report, which was adopted, stated that the aggregate revenue had slightly decreased as compared with the previous half-year, owing to the second interruption which had occurred on the Malta and Alexandria line. This line however, had been restored through the exertions of the lessees, and it is consequently expected that the traffic will steadily augment. A dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum was declared on the preference shares, and 4s. per shares, or 4 per cent. per annum, on the original capital.

At the half-yearly meeting of the London and County Banking Company, the net profit for the six months was £109,501, making a total of £126,169, including £16,668 brought forward. A dividend of 6 per cent., and a bonus of 10 per cent., were declared for the half-year, both free of income-tax, being together at the rate of no less than 32 per cent. per annum. The balance to be carried forward is £21,726. The chairman, Mr. W. Champion Jones, congratulated the shareholders upon the unprecedentedly favourable character of the report, notwithstanding the competition of new banks. This bank acts as agents for the Central Bank of India and other Eastern banks.

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The remaining portion of 12,500 shares of the authorised capital of the Scinde, Punjaub, and Delhi Bank Corporation (Limited), is now in course of being issued to the shareholders at £2 per share premium, in the proportion of one new to three old shares. The bank has five branches, and has been in operation in India about twelve months. Branches are to be opened in China.

The bills of Messrs. Newby, Carson, and Co., of this city, have been protested for non-payment. They were engaged chiefly in the Japan trade with the port of Nagasaki.

The following Circular has been issued :—

"It is with extreme regret we have to inform you that at present we find ourselves unable to meet our engagements. We have therefore placed our books in the hands of Messrs. Edwards and James, who will, at the earliest possible day, lay before our creditors a statement of our affairs, which we have reason to believe will not be unfavourable.—We are, your obedient servants, "Newby, Carson, and Co."

Mr. Sam Gray, late of the Oriental Bank and the British and American Exchange Bank, has been appointed Manager of the British and Netherlands India Bank, anounced in our last.

Messrs. Randolph, Elder, and Co. have in course of construction three composite screw steamers, each of 1,000 tons and 200-horse power, for the Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company. Further, Messrs. Randolph, Elder, and Co. have on hand a steam yacht of 200 tons for a club of gentlemen at Yokohama, Japan.

Mr. John Henry Etheridge, formerly of the Union Bank of Australia, and manager in London, since its commencement, of the London and South African Bank, has been appointed general manager in Liverpool of the Eastern Exchange Bank (Limited).

The amount of gold and silver bullion and specie imported from Egypt last year was £18,086, being an excess, as compared with the previous year, of £12,172. The amount exported in 1863 was 12¼ millions, or a decrease of £340,400 in respect to that shipped in 1862.

The biddings for £300,000 in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were, to Calcutta, £177,400, to Bombay £120,000, and to Madras £2,600. The *minimum* price was, as before, 1s. 11½d. per rupee on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11⅝d. on Bombay. The applications within the limits amounted to £2,380,000. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 1s. 11⅞d. will receive about 32 per cent., on Bombay at 2s. 0⅛d., about 85 per cent. These were the highest prices tendered.

The Manchester Shipping Offices and Packing Company aims at the erection at Manchester of shippers' offices and warerooms of superior character, fitted with all the recent improvements, and the laying down of an extensive plant of first-class modern machinery to meet the demand for the rapid and prompt despatch of goods to foreign markets. The capital of the company is £100,000, in 10,000 shares of £10 each. Provisional arrangements have been made with Mr. Wilkinson, maker-up and packer, of Cross-street, Manchester, for the purchase of his extensive business and stock-in-trade.

EGYPTIAN IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The increased value of the merchandise imported into the United Kingdom from Egypt during the last three years is very remarkable. In 1861 the real value of the total imports was £8,398,493 ; in 1862 it rose to £12,225,392 ; and in 1863 it advanced to £16,495,581 ; the article which contributes most largely to this augmentation being raw cotton, of which the quantity brought into this country in the year 1861 amounted to 365,108 cwts. ; in 1862 to 526,897 cwts. ; and in 1863 to 835,289 cwts.

The most important items after cotton and silk are wheat, barley, beans, and maize ; flax, gums, goat's-hair, musk, opium, pearls, rags (for making paper), seeds of various kinds (including large quantities of cotton seed), senna, elephants' teeth, and sheep's wool. A considerable portion of this trade is derived from the transit of Indian and Chinese merchandise, *via* Egypt, to the United Kingdom. Reverting to the official accounts ten years back, we find that the imports from that country were valued at very little more than 3½ millions sterling, a sum scarcely equal to one-fifth of last year's transactions.

Our exports to Egypt of British and Irish manufactures during the last three years were valued in 1861 at £2,278,848, in 1862 at £2,405,982, and in 1863 at £4,416,240, these augmented figures being in a great measure due to cotton manufactures, so far as regards the year 1863. In the absence of detailed returns, which are not yet completed, for that year, a comparative statement is annexed of the chief articles shipped to Egypt in 1861 and 1862, their total values, as well as the respective increase or decrease thereon :—

	Years ended December 31. 1861.	1862.	Increase.	Decrease.
Apparel	£240,778	£236,700	—	£4,078
Books, printed	65,535	78,704	£13,169	—
Carriages	5,312	31,327	26,015	—
Coals	58,458	78,831	20,373	—
Copper	81,611	110,095	28,484	—
Cottons	878,424	731,039	—	147,085
Cotton yarn	48,384	53,000	4,616	—
Drugs	7,737	12,538	4,801	—
Hardware and cutlery ..	31,411	37,000	5,589	—
Iron	68,261	88,914	20,653	—
Linens	27,438	15,639	—	11,799
Machinery	71,570	134,394	62,824	—
Plate, watches, &c. ..	176,859	217,165	40,306	—
Silk manufactures ..	179,647	224,810	45,163	—
Stationery	34,929	40,242	5,913	—
Woollens	27,696	17,298	—	10,488
All other articles ..	275,698	298,376	22,678	—
Totals	£2,278,848	£2,405,982	£300,584 173,450	£173,450
Increase in 1862			£127,134	

Of foreign and colonial products shipped hence to Egypt, the annual value, during the last five years, gives an average of about £140,000. Cochineal, indigo, pepper, silk manufactures, and wine are the only articles of note exported.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Poonah*, from Southampton, on the 4th inst., was :—In gold : To Alexandria, £60 ; to Galle, £3,000 ; to Madras, £1,479. In silver : To Alexandria, £100 ; to Madras, £20,000 ; to Penang, £8,950 ; to Singapore, £19,000 ; to Yokohama, £10,910 ; to Foo-chow-Foo, £650 ; to Shanghai, £945. Total, in gold, £4,539 ; in silver, £60,555.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

Tea.—The business done in our market for the past fortnight has been very limited ; the dulness prevalent at this season of the year being further increased by the rise of the Bank rate from 6 to 8 per cent., and prices generally have ruled in favour of buyers. In the low and broken leaf sorts of Congou there is no alteration, but fair quality with leaf up to good common is scarce, and some demand for shipping has raised the value ¼d. per lb., and 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 1d. per lb. are now the quotations. Fair to good flavory are difficult of sale at previous rates. Good to fine Kaisows are in limited demand, at prices more in favour of buyers. Common to fair up to good blackish leaf kinds are dull of sale at the reduction noticed in our last circular. Fine to finest kinds of Moning, Wopak, and Kaisow share the general dulness, and sales when made show a reduction in price. Tayshans have been in demand for shipping at previous prices. The late arrivals of the new-make Canton Congou are difficult of sale at the high rates asked. Oolong, Souchong, and Flowery Pekoe are without change. The finer sorts of Scented Orange Pekoe and Caper are in limited demand at previous prices. For the commoner kinds there is no inquiry. Uncoloured Japans remain without demand at previous nominal rates. Green Teas : The late arrivals from America have been freely offered, and a fair business done at full prices for Imperial and Gunpowder, and the finest sorts of Young Hyson, but the immediate wants of the trade being now supplied, there is difficulty in obtaining the previous rates ; common to good Young Hyson rule from 2d. to 1d. lb. per lower. Twankays are neglected, whilst Hysons are only in request at lower rates. Canton-made are without alteration. The public sales have been :—Indian Tea, 1,874 packages offered, of which 1,556 packages were sold at about previous rates ; and China Tea 13,411 packages, of which 8,633 were without reserve, and the quantity sold was 8,850.

Silk.—The Silk market shows evident signs of the effect of high prices. It may be that the unfortunate circumstances of the case as to probable supply both in Europe and from China and Japan fairly if not fully justify the range that prices have reached—still they are high, and transactions are proportionately small and spasmodic—no general business but occasional days of purchase, as if from time to time speculators were taking fresh courage or the apprehension of consumers as to the effect of short supply becoming more serious. The transactions of the last fortnight have been especially of this character, China silk in some cases scarcely "holding its own," while in Japan silk very full rates have been realized.

	Ordinary, s. d.	s. d.	Superior. s. d.	s. d.
Taelee, No. 1 and 2 . . .	24 0 to	25 6		
,, No. 3 and 4 . . .	22 0	23 0	23 6	
,, No. 5 . . .	20 6	21 6		
Ditto, Hang-Chow . .	20 6	21 6	22 0	
Yuenfa	14 6	21 6	23 6	23 0
Taysaam	17 0	21 6	21 6	22 6
Ditto, skeins	16 0	16 6	17 0	
Ditto, long reel . . .	17 0	18 0	18 6	19 6
Canton	11 0	17 6	18 6	19 6
Chinese Thrown . . .	15 0	19 0	21 0	22 0
Mailbash, dyepot Japan .	23 0	24 6	25 0	26 6
Ida, bricks	21 0	22 6	24 0	27 0
Sodai ,, ...	20 6	23 6	23 6	24 0
Oshu, re-reeled	20 6	22 6	23 6	25 0
Koshu, Selé	21 0	22 6	23 0	24 6
Aechezan, slips	19 6	21 0	21 6	23 6
Mashtah ,, ...	19 6	20 6	21 6	22 6
Hatchojee, Tussah . . .	17 0	18 6	19 6	20 0

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STATE OF THE WAREHOUSES.

	Sold Stock.		Unsold Stock.		Delivered.	
	Aug. 1, 1864.	Aug. 1, 1863.	Aug. 1, 1864.	Aug. 1, 1863.	Jan. 1 to Aug. 8, 1864.	Jan. 1 to Aug. 7, 1863
Bengal	3,126	976	3,594	3,836	3,933	3,708
China	7,718	7,123	3,819	10,800	17,093	28,123
Japan	4,033	3,848	2,444	5,708	11,268	10,115
Canton	224	871	23	736	1,859	2,321
Chinese Thrown	555	670	24	843	657	986

COTTON.—The market for East Indian has been very dull during the past fortnight. Of sales in London for the week ending the 4th, we note 330 bales China, 16½d. to 17½d., all faults, and 18½d. for fair; 170 bales Japan, 20½d. for good fair. For arrival, 425 bales China, 19d., May shipment, for guaranteed fair; 300 bales Japan, price not reported. From Liverpool the statement is that China continues to be out of favour with buyers, so that sales are limited, and prices have declined fully ¾d. per lb. Sales were effected on the 9th of China, 18½d. to 20½d.; Japan, 21½d. to 22½d.

SUGAR.—The market closed flatly last week, with a decline of from 6d. to 1s. per cwt. on the prices of the preceding week. About 17,500 bags Clayed Manila changed hands privately at 34s. to 35s. Privately 5,000 bags Clayed Manila sold at 34s.

COFFEE.—Extensive parcels of East India were brought forward yesterday, and at a decline of 6d. to 1s. per cwt. the bulk was disposed of. Plantation Ceylon, triage, went at 68s. 72s.; low to good middling, 77s. 6d. to 81s.; peaberry, 82s. 6d. to 86s.; native, good ordinary, 65s. to 66s. 6d. Mocha, bought in, long berry 95s.; common greenish, 86s.

RICE.—Chiefly in consequence of the fine weather for the corn harvest, this market has for the most part been extremely quiet since our last advice; Ballam has shared the greatest attention, and brought full rates, while soft grain kinds, have been purchased slowly, and are cheaper. The total sales landed are about 65,000 bags, low red cargo sort 8s. 1½d. to 8s. 4½d.; middling to fair Ballam, 8s. 9d. to 9s. 7½d., good 10s.; middling to good old Rangoon, 8s. 7½d. to 9s. 7½d.; and good Nakrenzie, 9s. 9d. to 10s. 200 tons pinky Madras have also been sold to arrive, at 10s. 3d., and two floating cargoes Nakrenzie, together 1,400 tons (some time back), at 10s. 1½d., open charters.

TAPIOCA.—The Penang brought to auction since the 9th ult., has been confined to 845 bags, which sold freely; low quality 1½d. to 2d., low middling to good middling, 2¼d. to 2½d., good white, 3¼d. per lb.

CAMPHOR.—There is still inquiry, but not any business has been reported, and our quotations, £4. 10s. to £5 per cwt., are rather nominal.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Has brought rather more money, and 620 cases at auction mostly found buyers at 86s. to 92s. per cwt. for common second to middling first quality; and privately, good first pile has realised 94s. Buds: Of 31 cases at auction, a few were placed at our higher quotation of £15. 15s. for fine.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Flat, and cheaper; and of 177 bags at auction, only one-fourth placed at £5 to £5. 2s. 6d. per cwt. for fair. Dragon's Blood: Quiet; 3 cases at auction retired. Galangal Root: Nothing of any consequence doing. Rhubarb: Dearer; but of 100 boxes at auction, a few only sold at 4s. 6d. per lb. for good ordinary round. Improved prices also offered privately.

GUMS.—Benjamin continues quiet; only 12 cases at auction, and those retired. Damer: Nothing of any interest doing. Some inquiry. Gamboge continues scarce and firm, only 5 cases at auction, and those withdrawn.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Not any business of consequence to report. Fine quality scarce, and inquired for. India Rubber remains very inactive, with scarcely any transactions. No auctions. There is some inquiry, but only at lower prices.

HEMP.—Manila: This market has remained dull and without any demand, upon previous terms: 678 bales offered at auction, but the bulk retired.

IVORY.—The Quarterly Sales will commence on the 17th inst.

JAPAN WAX.—Nothing of consequence doing.

OILS.—Anniseed: Our reduced quotation of 6s. 6d., at which there are free sellers, obtained in retail sales only. Cassia: Very quiet; of 28 cases at auction a few sold at our reduced quotation. Cinnamon: Steady; 1 case at auction sold at 1s. 4d. per oz. for inferior.

TOBACCO.—Manila: For export there has been some demand; supplies are on the way; the *Albuera* has sailed with 1,922 bales chiefly on English account. Manila Cheroots and Segars: Rather scarce, prices about the same. Japan: Good parcels sell readily. Java: More inquiry for better sorts. Quotations: Manila Cheroots and Segars, 7s. to 7s. 6d.; Leaf, 11d. to 3s. 6d.; Japan, 4d. to 7d.; Java, 6d. to 1s. 1d.

SAGO.—Prices are again 6d. per cwt. lower, and 1,372 boxes at auction mostly sold at 20s. 6d. to 21s. per cwt. for fair small. Flour: Continues quiet, and without business of importance.

SHELLAC.—Market for all descriptions, without exception, quiet, and with scarcely any demand upon previous terms. Button again 10s. per cwt. lower; of 417 cases at auction less than one-third sold—Orange at £7. 10s. per cwt.; Livery Orange £7; Button £8. 2s. 6d. to £9. 10s.; and Block £6. 15s.

SPICES.—Cinnamon: The quarterly sales having been unusually small, and competition very active, prices further advanced 3d. to 6d. per lb. 970 bales nearly all sold: 264 bales 1st at 1s. 10d. to 3s., with superior at 3s. 3d.; 490 bales 2nd 1s. 8d. to 2s. 4d.; 190 bales 3rd 1s. 5d. to 1s. 10d.; and 26 bales 4th and Jungle 1s. 2d. to 1s. 5d.; 139 bales Tellicherry sold at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 8d. for 3rd to 1st pile. Cloves: Nothing of any importance doing. No auctions. Mace: Firm; auctions confined to 38 cases Dutch, all retired. Nutmegs: Quiet, but without reduction in value: of 49 cases Penang at auction, a few only sold at 1s. to 1s. 1d. per lb. for inferior small. Pepper: Black has met with slightly increased inquiry; of 1,818 bags Singapore at auction, half sold at 3¼d. to 3⅝d. per lb., and of 459 bags Penang one-third sold at 3⅝d. Moderate business likewise done privately upon similar terms. White: This is still a quiet market, without business of consequence.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch Pegue is fully 6d. per cwt. cheaper; and 2,277 bags Pegue at auction sold at 25s. to 25s. 9d. per cwt. for good, and 23s. 6d. to 23s. 9d. middling drossy. Gambier: Remains quiet, with very moderate business; no change in value on the spot, but the turn cheaper for arrival. 250 bales at auction retired.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Blacklead: Continues very quiet; and of 167 barrels at auction, half sold at 11s. per cwt. for middling lump, and 8s. 9d. to 9s. dust. Musk: A recent arrival, 20 caddies, offered at auction, and only very partially placed at 30s. per oz. for very good Tonquin; 5 tins Grain sold readily at 51s. to 51s. 6d. for fine, 40s. to 41s. dark and damp, and 28s. inferior false packed. Rattans: Bring previous value; and 6,151 barrels Singapore, 1,585 bundles Calcutta, and 857 bundles Penang at auction, sold at 3s. 7d. to 6s. 1d. per 100, with very low down to 2s. 5d. Sapanwood: Steady; 22 tons Siam at auction, sold at £10. 15s. per ton, and 4 tons Ceylon, oil damaged, at £5. 10s. to £7. 15s. Private transactions limited. Mother-o'-Pearl Shells: Nothing of consequence doing; some inquiry. Star Anniseeds: Quiet; of 24 boxes at auction, a few sold at the previous value of £6. 5s. per cwt. for mouldy. Sticklac, Siam: Some inquiry at the recent decline, at which there are few sellers. Tortoiseshell: Auctions confined to 4 cases Manila; only 2 cases sold at 15s. 6d. and 17s. per lb., being the previous value, which has also been obtained privately in small transactions. Turmeric: Nothing doing; 180 bags Java at auction retired. Vermilion: Firm; a few cases sold privately at higher prices; 30 boxes at auction retired.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 15s. to £8; nail rod, £9. 10s.; hoops, £10. 10s.; sheets, single £11. 10s.; Staffordshire bars, £9. 10s.; rails, £7. 5s. to £7. 10s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £16 to £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £105 per ton; yellow metal, 8½d. to 8¾d. per lb.

TIN.—104s. for block; 105s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 30s. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £20. 10s. to £20. 15s.; W.B., £22. 10s.; shot, patent, £23. 15s.; sheet, £21. 15s.; spelter, £24. 5s.; zinc, English sheet, £28; quicksilver, £8 to £8. 5s.

The following is from the circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—There has been considerable activity in some branches of the metal trade during the past month, and for some metals higher prices have been obtained. Iron: Scotch pig has been steady throughout the month, and but little variation in price. For Welsh manufactured iron the demand has continued good. In Staffordshire iron, since the reduction in price of £1 per ton, declared on the 14th ult., there has been more business. Copper: During the past month there was an active demand for this metal, and on the 15th ult., the English Smelters advanced their quotation £5 per ton, and even at these rates were not anxious for orders. There are many orders for India at a little under list prices, but the market is firm at present quotations. The price of Yellow Metal was advanced ¼d. per lb. on the 11th ult. Tin: In Foreign there have been large transactions, particularly in Straits, and the price now asked is 106s., both for Straits and Banca. In English tin the market was firm, and the smelters are not anxious to make sales, excepting in small quantities at the full nominal rates. Tin Plates: We have no improvement to report in tin plates. The quantity shipped to all parts for the past month was 75,000 boxes, against 115,000 in July, 1863. Spelter: The market was very stiff during a portion of the past month, the price, however, is now easier. The stock on the 30th ult. was 13,121 tons, against 5,041 tons, 31 July, 1863. Lead: There has been very little business in this metal. Quicksilver steady at £8 to arrive, and £8. 2s. 6d. to £8. 5s., on the spot.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£173,505
Foo-chow-Foo	—	7,920
Hong Kong	£15,000	340,144
Amoy	—	—
Singapore	£720	188,865
Penang	—	50,470

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£40,316
Hong Kong	£31,668	—
Singapore	—	840
Penang	—	21,238
Foo-chow-Foo	—	1,000

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	—	£201,240
To Saigon	£120	46,480
To Hong Kong	—	268,413
To Shanghai	—	141,676
To Batavia	£1,571	5,636

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0 to 3 17 0
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4
Silver in Bars	0 5 1 3-16th
Mexican Dollars	0 5 3

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

Mr. Mendel's Circular states that good quality of yarns and goods maintain the advanced rates: Grey Shirtings, 7lbs. 18s. 3d. to 18s. 6d.; 9 lbs., 25s. 6d. Cotton Yarns, 16-24, 2s. 10d. to 3s.; 28-32, 3s. 1d. to 3s. 3d. Maddapollams, 8s. Long Cloths, 21s. T-Cloths, 14s. White Spot Shirtings, 21s. 9d.; White Brocade do., 22s.: White Damask, 37s. 6d.

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The Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that an EXTRAORDINARY MEETING of this Company will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, in the City of London, on THURSDAY, the 25th day of August current, at Twelve o'clock, and the business to be transacted will be the following:—

1. To consider terms of arrangement with the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan (Limited), and if approved, to affix the seal of the Company thereto, and authorise the Directors to carry same into effect.

2. To elect four of the Directors of the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan (Limited), as Directors of this Company.

3. To ratify and confirm a resolution of the Board increasing the capital of the Company, by the creation of 20,000 new shares of £100 each, at £6 per share premium to be issued to the persons and upon the terms stated in the above-mentioned agreement with the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan (Limited).

By order,
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

16, Cornhill, London, Aug. 8, 1864.

The Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan (Limited).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan (Limited), will be held at the LONDON TAVERN Bishopsgate-street, on THURSDAY, the 25th August inst., at Twelve o'clock precisely, when the agreement for amalgamation entered into with the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited), referred to in the Circular addressed to the Shareholders of this Bank on the 28th July last, will be submitted for approval, and resolutions to voluntarily wind up the Bank and appoint liquidators, will be proposed.

The following, in substance, are the terms of amalgamation:—

1st. 20,000 new shares, of £100 each, of the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited), to be issued to the holders of the 20,000 shares in this Bank.

2nd. Such shares to be issued at £6 per share premium.

3rd. £5 per share of the premium to be placed to the "reserve fund" of the united Banks, in addition to the amount already at the reserve of the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited), and also all further additions, by which the total reserve fund at the end of this year will, with the profits, probably amount to about £160,000.

4th. The remaining £1 per share of the premium will be applied to pay off preliminary expenses.

5th. A dividend of 10 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, for the time the Bank has been in operation, to be paid to the shareholders of this Bank on exchanging certificates.

6th. Four Directors from this Bank to be nominated by and join the Board of the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited).

7th. The new shares now to be issued as above to rank on equal terms with all the previous issues of the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited), whether original or otherwise.

8th. The option of paying up to £25 per share under discount at 6 per cent. per annum is also reserved to the shareholders.

By order,
HENRY TURNER, General Manager.

No. 8, Walbrook, E.C., Aug. 10, 1864.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA. Incorporated by Royal Charter. Paid-up capital £634,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Kandy, Singapore, Galle, Penang, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Mauritius, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the overland route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office, in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 2.

MESSRS. EVANS and Co., Merchants, Shanghia, beg hereby to give their friends and the public notice that the only person who can now lawfully pledge the credit of the firm is Mr. HENRY EVANS, whose authentic signature may be seen at the office of Messrs. Godwin and Son, Solicitors, Newbury, Berks.

DOCKS.

PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides and fitted with Caissoon Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Subscribed Capital, 2,000,000 taels, in 400 Shares of 5,000 taels each.

Paid up Capital, 200,000 taels.

DIRECTORS.

H. H. Wiggins, Esq., Manager Commercial Bank of India, Chairman.
F. B. Johnson, Esq. (Messrs. Johnson and Co.).
H. D. Stewart, Esq. (Messrs. Turner and Co.).
F. Porter, Esq. (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston, and Co.).
J. Thorne, Esq. Messrs. Thorne Brothers and Co.).
David Reid, Esq.

Agencies are about to be established at the several ports in China and Japan.

L. JOSEPHS, Secretary.

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Capital, Two Millions.

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Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

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Every other description of banking and agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

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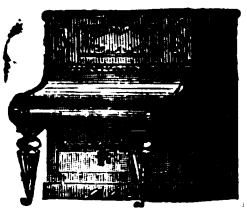

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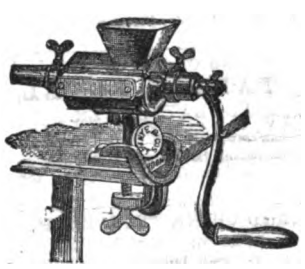

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"Dr. Curtis has conferred a great boon by publishing this little work, in which is described the source of those diseases which produce decline in youth, or more frequently premature old age."—Daily Telegraph, March 27, 1858.
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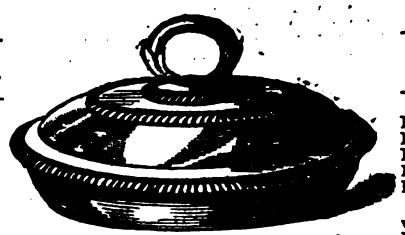

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12 Table Forks	1 7 0	2 14 0	2 16 0	2 14 0
12 Table Spoons	1 7 0	2 14 0	2 16 0	2 14 0
12 Dessert Forks	1 1 0	2 2 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
12 Dessert Spoons... ...	1 1 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
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Nagasaki	Swanley ...	W.I.D.	With des.
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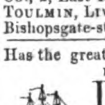
Has the greater portion of her cargo engaged, and will meet with very quick dispatch.



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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE FIFTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 28th December, 1863. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 147.] LONDON, MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Kanagawa	April 27	June 18	June 27
	Nagasaki			„ 25
	Hakodadi			
CHINA—				
	Peking			„ 22
	Tien-tsin			„ 24
	Hankow			„ 26
	Shanghai	May 10	„ 26	July 4
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 5
	Amoy			„ 6
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	„ 26	July 6	„ 12
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	„ 10	June 27	„ 6
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Touron			
	Saigon			„ 10
SIAM—				
	Bankok			„ 11
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			
	Sarawuk			„ 9
JAVA—				
	Batavia			„ 15
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	June 17	July 19	„ 21
	Penang			„ 23

The present mail has been 48 days from Hong Kong. The French mail arrived at Suez on the 27th. Mails will be delivered on Sept. 5.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per Euxine, arrived Aug. 27.—From Shanghai: The Hon. Sir F. Bruce and European male servant. From Hong Kong: Mr. Dudgeon. From Singapore: Mr. Outrep.

To Southampton, per Poonah, expected to arrive Sept. 1.—From Shanghai: Messrs. J. Neale and Trammack. From Hong Kong: Mrs. Boxer, Miss Morrison, Mrs. Murray, two children, and servant, Mr. Liddle, Dr. Horne, Capt. Pinhey, Mr. Fraser, Messrs. Haig and Purvis, R. Gosling. From Singapore: Mr. Padday, Madame Dominique, Mrs. Padday, three children, and three servants.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, August 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mrs. Mitchell, Mr. Galton, Miss Brown, Mr. G. W. Sands. To Shanghai: Mr. Monk, Mr. Lester, R. M. Kidd. To Singapore: Henry Miller. To Calcutta: Dr. Jno. Hope, Major T. H. Smith, Capt. A. Thomson, Miss Dunn, Messrs. J. Burke, G. Landale, J. Scott, W. S. Johnson, D. G. Blair, J. Sandilands, A. Watson, Dangell, and Weston, Mrs. Keelan, Mrs. McMurdo, W. O. Mell, H. Henshall, W. Robson, and Henry Baird. To Madras: Mrs. P. P. Hutchins, G. Horrocks, A. Black, H. J. Thompson, A. Pryor. To Ceylon: Mr. W. Gandy, F. Nicoll, J. Davidson. To Alexandria: Mrs. Elder and child, John Harrison, W. Henshaw. From Marseilles, August 28.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. B. Fagg, Mr. J. A. Taylor, Mr. Hancock. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. D. Crawford. To Calcutta: Mr. and Mrs. E. Wilburn, Mr. E. D. Grant, Mr. and Mrs. McMeekin, Miss Tosswill, Mr. D. J. Zenin, Mr. W. Butt, Capt. Perry. To Madras: Paymaster Blake, Mr. and Mrs. T. Marden. To Ceylon: Mr. H. Sewell and friend, J. B. Wilson. To Alexandria: Mr. and Mrs. Spencer, Mr. H. Harrison, Mr. E. D. Carver. From Suez.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. J. Hermann. To Madras: Capt. Dakeyne.

Per P. and O. steamer, Sept. 4, from Marseilles.—To Shanghai (via Bombay): Mr. Wm. Jackson, Mr. J. Webster. To Penang (via Bombay): Mrs. Rodyk and infant.

Per P. and O. steamer Mussilia, Sept. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Lieut. Eaton, R.N., Lieut. Thompson, Miss Robinson, Lieut. G. Morice, Miss Manuel, Mr. and Mrs. Adams, Miss Pagden, Mr. I. P. Mollison, Col. and Mrs Gray, Miss P. Plumridge, Miss Longstaff, Mr. P. Bird. To Shanghai: Mr. E. Iveson, Mr. R. A. Mowat, Mr H. G. Aston, Rev. C. H. and Mrs. Butcher, Mr. F. Stokes, Miss Nelson. To Singapore: Mrs. Braddell. From Marseilles, September 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Marsh. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Coutts.

Per P. and O. steamer Ripon, Sept. 12, from Southampton.—To Singapore (via Bombay): Mr. J Nagle.

Per P. and O. steamer, Sept. 20, from Southampton.—To Shanghai: Miss J. Provanst. To Hong Kong: Mr. Newton. To Singapore: Mr. Dunlop. From Marseilles, Sept. 28.—To Singapore: Mr. P. C. Keake, Lieut. and Mrs. Burn. To Shanghai: Mr. L. Russell.

Per P. and O. steamer, Oct. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Preston and infant. To Shanghai: Mrs. Jarvie, Mr. Turnbull. From Marseilles, Oct 12.—To Singapore: Miss Cooke and servant. To Shanghai: Mr. Gordon and friend, Mr. Leonard, Mr. A. Schultze.

Per P. and O. steamer, Oct. 28, from Marseilles.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. Tait. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Wood and lady friend, Messrs. W. and C. Degener.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates hence bring our intelligence down to June 27. The mail from Europe of April 26 arrived by the *Nepaul* on June 18.

Mr. Consul Winchester had given publicity to a copy of the following letter from the Governor of Kanagawa, for the information of British residents:—

To Charles A. Winchester, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul.

The troops under our command will patrol and march through the villages and places in the neighbourhood of this port for their protection against evil disposed persons, and our troops will be furnished with a flag as per annexed drawing.

I beg that you will be pleased to notify the above to your countrymen resident here, and likewise to the captains and commanders of the men-of-war now in port, to prevent any collision or other unpleasantness with our troops whilst they are marching on the roads.

Represented with respect the 19th day of the 5th month of the first year, Gonjee.

(Signed) HORI YEGA-NO KAMI.

The flag in question is described by the *Commercial News* as follows:—"The Guard have been supplied with a distinctive flag, the fertile imagination of the Herald's office of this country of the rising sun having produced the following device:—Large and red (plenty of red)—to wit! Two concentric circles, the inner spanned by a belt, the whole partially enclosed within a lunated figure, attached to the circumference of the exterior circle by another red line. Jolly Jack would hardly get into collision with such a scarecrow flaunting before him; and we should not fail to recognise the flag a long way off, for Japanese banners are partly framed, and continue outstreched. They do not wave and convolute like ours."

The contemporary just quoted continues to indulge in the alarmist tone which seems to have become habitual to him. He will have it that "a crisis is near at hand." We trust that when it occurs it will be as harmless and unnoticeable as the earthquakes he speaks of:—"Trifles are often significant; straws show which way the wind blows. The past week may be termed significant in this way from the visit of Deputies from the Gorojio at Yedo to the Foreign Representatives at this place. Various reasons are assigned for their visit, but mere conjecture is useless; we await patiently the course of events, but we believe that very shortly something will be known which will determine the direction of political action. Nothing actively prominent has distinguished the interval since our last issue. We have had more wet weather, and we perceive a contemporary notices two earthquakes, but these must have been slight shocks; we were not sensible of their occurrence."

The deputation mentioned, "traversing the streets to and fro in the heavy rain of Sunday last" (June 19), called on that day on the Minister from the United States, and on the morrow waited on the Ministers from England and France—which the *Commercial News* regards "as some proof that our recent views of there being something astir were in the main correct." It is difficult to tell from the mysterious and oracular tone adopted whether "the crisis" is to be a product of Japanese manipulation, or of an act of premeditated hostility on the part of the European Powers; for talking of "the direction of operations," the writer observes:—"The Su-o-na-da—or Inland Sea—has more supporters than the conjectures which point elsewhere.

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To open that silent highway to the argosies of the world will, require a suitable fleet and adjuncts, for Yokohama must be taken care of too—there being several families, ladies and children; and if their male protectors, and the non-benedicts likewise, have to protect the place, why business, which under any circumstances would at such a time languish, would become perfectly stagnant. The necessary fleet is, however, gradually being made up; silently from one quarter or another ships drop in, and it is openly known that American, Dutch, and French men-of-war are looked for daily."

That the Tycoon, or any of his rival Daimios, would join a European attack on Tsiosiu, the *Commercial News* holds to be a misapprehension of the circumstances, remarking:—"Few things would more surprise us than such a combination of native and foreign forces to assault the territory of one of the most powerful princes of the empire, and we emphatically repudiate such visionary projects as entirely chimerical. We warn, at all events we advise, all foreigners not to listen to such creations of the brain: their hope and vantage ground lies in their troops and their gallant ships, the invincible spirit the indomitable courage of the West."

The Tycoon has returned to Yedo from a lengthened stay at Kioto. The steamers *Yangtze*, *Jinkee*, and *Cunda-morra* were in waiting for him at Uraga. The Tycoon's flag was on the *Yangtze*, and the *Jinkee* was deep with his luggage.

The steamer *Stork*, which had been lying in harbour for some time, had been sold to the Japanese for $70,000, and part of the money had been paid. There was a report that the *Elgin* also had been, or was to be, sold to them.

The *Semiramis*, French war-steamer, arrived on the 22nd June from Shanghai, having Admiral Jaures on board, and bringing a company of Fusiliers, part of the Infanterie de Marine, 300 strong, to relieve the Chasseurs d'Afrique, who left on the 18th in the French war-steamer *Dupleix* for Shanghai, *en route* for Mexico.

The *Japan Herald* believes that now the Tycoon has come back to Yedo, some movement may be anticipated; continuing —"We learn, however, one fact which appears of some significance, namely, that Tsiosiu or Choshiu, has quitted his sea shore residence—the city of Hangi in the province of Choshiu—and retired to Yama-goutchi, a stronghold in his adjoining province of Suwo, situated inland about five ri from the Tokaido, under a range of high forest hills, approachable by a small vessel from the Inland Sea. It is said that much difference still exists in the great Damio Council at Kioto as to the course to be pursued with Choshiu."

The Marines appear to be comfortably settling themselves down. We read—"On Saturday last (June 11) we visited the camp on the Bluff, to see how the gallant fellows were getting on under canvas after the heavy rain that fell on Friday night. We were delighted to find them all very jolly, and busy as bees putting their houses in order. Those who were off duty, and whose arrangements were somewhat matured, looked especially comfortable in their snug tents. We have never been in the gigantic model camp at Aldershott, but the admirable manner in which numbers are accommodated in small space was shown on the Bluff, where twelve soldiers, Anglo-Saxons, who do not possess the lithe suppleness of joint of squatting Orientals, were billeted in a small tent; apparently, too, with room to spare, for, when the orderly, obligingly placed at our service as guide, showed us the internal arrangements, the recumbent sons of Mars, with genuine English humour, invited us to walk in and take a chair. Already, amid the confusion and mud, we saw a flower bed or two in front of some tents, and other "oases." The orderly showed us the hospital tent, and we were happy to find only a few on the sick list—even those looking comfortable and convalescent. When everything is finished, the corps will be well located; better, indeed, than we are in the swamp below: and we only hope our gallant 20th, who have heretofore been barracked in our midst, though we shall be sorry at their departure for our own sakes, will soon share the pleasant places on the heights, in the commodious wooden structures being erected. There is one gentleman among us who has been constantly on the Bluff, rendering all the aid his experience and judgment could give. It is no light duty to remain all day in the sun, yet our worthy chaplain the Rev. M. B. Bailey, has sacrificed all personal considerations, and, as we saw him, bestirs himself in this, and, indeed, in most other public movements, for the general good."

A few cases of small pox, of a more or less serious character, had broken out on board vessels in harbour. The captain of one vessel, whose mate was seized with this scourge, wisely placed him on board a junk, which he sent to an anchorage outside the harbour.

Complaints are repeated of the conduct of the Chinese, of whom there is a steady influx, the *Nepaul* having brought an addition of twenty. "One of their fraternity assaulted a Japanese woman on Sunday last, in broad daylight, with the view, it is supposed, of abstracting a purse, or box, or bag containing money. The fellow was caught, and received a severe thrashing, and was then set at liberty, because there was no proper authority to punish him, the assault being beyond the limits of the foreign settlement. The Chinese must be compelled to register, or they must be subjected to heavy penalty."

HAKODADI.

H.M.S. *Racehorse* arrived at Yokohama on the 19th June from this port. The *Garland* had arrived at Hakodadi, and landed the Portuguese Consul, Mr. Chasse, and lady. The *Garland* had since been chartered by Mr. Marks (of the firm of Marks and Co., of Yokohama), for Port May (Russian dominion).

TIEN-TSIN.

A correspondent, under date June 24, writes:—

Business here is extremely dull, and mostly in the hands of the Chinese. The principal articles of import at present are white and brown sugar, black and brick tea, white, red, and yellow lead, and lead in pigs, tobacco, window glass, paper, and matches, and small quantities of opium, cottons and woollens, &c., &c.

Of exports the principal articles are raw cottons (of which upwards of 10,000 piculs have left this season), medicines, tobacco, soap or soda, dates, and small quantities of grain, white wax, wool, &c.

A large business was done here in imports the first two years. The troops being also here, a great many people of all classes were induced to settle; the troops leaving, the most of the storekeepers and others dependent on the troops also left. This season, two of our merchants have closed their hongs, and it is not unlikely that others may yet do so.

The British settlement here (as it is called, for the wording of our leases is of no value, as it turns out, and any foreigner may reside in it) is about two miles from the city of Tien-tsin, but the suburbs may be said to extend close to the settlement; its extent along the river is about 1,200 yards. The Bund road is on an average about 75 feet wide, and is piled the most of the length; the other roads are 40 feet wide, and all are raised 4 feet above the surrounding country, where as buildings are erected, the ground is raised 6 feet; this raising is on account of floods, to which the place is said to be subject at times. The width of our settlement is from 270 to 500 yards, the average being about 320 yards.

Steamers and sailing vessels drawing 11 feet can discharge their cargoes on the bund, by the aid of a stage. Jetties or piers are to be erected, and vessels will be able to lie alongside of them.

There are now 14 godowns, 4 dwelling houses, and several offices erected on the settlement, and nearly all the merchants reside there, although some of them still have offices in town. The place is very airy and healthy, and at a little expense could be improved much in appearance. The French have ground adjoining ours and nearer the city, and the Americans have purchased land below the British, but have no settlement, their Minister not approving of settlements. Neither French nor Americans have built on their ground, or improved it in any way.

Mr. T. T. Meadows leaves this in the gunboat *Osprey* for Newchwang. Mr. T. F. Wade, who is to act as *locum tenens* for Sir F. Bruce, arrived from Shanghai by this vessel. Sir Frederick proceeds *via* Shanghai to England in the merchant steamer *Nanzing*.

SHANGHAI.

The outward mails of May 10 arrived on June 25, per P. and O. steamer *Peking*, being 46 days from London. The dates are now down to July 4. From the following *resume* of the *North China Herald*, we presume that the scourge of cholera had abated:—

The weather has continued remarkably mild, the thermometer not registering higher than 81 deg. We have had a few wet days, but with these exceptions we have had nothing to complain of. An amateur burlesque company, which was started immediately after Mr. Black's concerts had closed, has enjoyed

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an almost unprecedented share of public favour. On the first evening of its appearance the members played to an overflowing house, and their second performance was received in a manner no less flattering. The pieces represented were the farces "The Queer Subject" and "The Silent Woman," and the screaming burlesque "Ill Treated Il Trovatore." The latter proved a wonderful success, and at once established the reputation of the company. Cricket matches continue to occupy a portion of the attention of the foreign community, and have latterly been taken up with great spirit and enthusiasm by the Cricket Club and private elevens. The meeting of land renters, which had been adjourned from April 16, reassembled at the British Consulate on Wednesday, the 29th June; Sir Harry S. Parkes, K.C.B., in the chair.

The surveying expedition which started some time ago under the direction of Major Edwards, R.E., to report on the state of the sea wall on the north side of Hangchow bay, has returned to Shanghai. We, *Daily News*, do not know whether an official report of the proceedings and of the state of the wall will be published. Meanwhile, however, we may announce the following general results which have been arrived at. The wall or double bund extends from Haining to a spot about a quarter of a mile below Hangchow, and is designed to preserve the paddy fields, which lie somewhat low, from the influx of salt water. During the rebel occupation the wall was neglected, and in consequence has partially fallen into ruins. The injury already done to the crops is, however, not so great as was at first imagined. A space of about fifty square miles is flooded at each high tide, and is, of course, utterly unfit for cultivation, but beyond this, the slight admixture of brackish water has hardly any perceptible effect on the mass of fresh water in the creeks.

We (*Daily News*) have been favoured with the following account of the s.s *Illawarra*:—

The *Illawarra* left Shanghai on June 21st at 4.30 P.M., with the ebb tide, and passed Wusung at about 6.20 with a fresh breeze from the S.S.E. At 10 P.M. the Light Ship bore East, ship steering at the time S.E. by E. This course was steered until 11.30. From the Light Ship the soundings were 3, 4, 4½, and finally 6 fathoms, at which time the course was altered to S., the wind falling light. The captain was on deck occasionally during the night. At 2 P.M., on the 22nd June, a thick fog set in, and at about 4 the ship struck heavily, and filled rapidly forward and aft. The pumps were immediately manned, but with no result. A kedge was by the captain's orders run out on the starboard bow to heave the ship off. The captain thinking that the rock on which she struck was the East Seshan, ordered the quarter-boat to be lowered, and gave the chief officer directions to steer for the Ruggeds and endeavour to obtain assistance. Instead of going direct to the Ruggeds, the chief officer pulled round the island in the hope of finding a boat, and he was, accordingly, fortunate enough to come across an armed lorcha at anchor with convoy, belonging to one of the owners of the steamer. The lorcha at once bore up for the wreck, the captain having in the meanwhile gone ashore. As soon as the lorcha came up, her boats and the steamer's quarter-boat commenced to transport the passengers and their baggage to the lorcha. The captain was advised to send the passengers in the boats to Chinhai to obtain assistance, and to keep the lorcha with the Europeans in the neighbourhood of the wreck for protection against pirates. He, however, did not comply with this recommendation, but ordered both passengers and crew to go on board the lorcha and proceed to Chinhai. The wreck was abandoned at noon on the 22nd, the small arms and a few loose things being taken on board the lorcha, which arrived at Chinhai in the evening. The officers were received by Captain Orr on board the *Paou Shun*, while the captain proceeded to Ningpo, and returned next morning with H.M. gunboat *Staunch*. The *Staunch*, taking the lorcha in tow, proceeded to the wreck, which was found to have been in the meantime dismantled.

Our advices from Soochow extend to the 28th June. A few days previously four rebel spies had been discovered by the Mandarin Puan. On being examined they acknowledged that they were Taipings, but expressed their readiness to enter the Imperial service, and betray all the secrets of their former masters. They were admitted to an audience with the Futai, and were well received. Their report tallies very exactly with the rumours which have lately obtained ground as to the distress which prevails in the districts under the insurgent sway. Pan-tsze-ying, grandson of the mandarin Pan or Puan of Soochow celebrity, mentioned above, has been appointed one of the Vice-Presidents of the Board of Censors. This furnishes another instance of the favour showered on the officials who have in any way distinguished themselves during the campaign in this province. The Emperor has deputed two commissioners to wait on the Futai, and offer their services to him. One of these is a Manchou, named Shui-yu, holding the rank of Chi-chao, the other is a native of Yunan, named Kan-yuan, and is a Chi-hsien. Much dissatisfaction is felt at the want of confidence in his subordinates displayed by the Governor, and at the representations which he is reported to have forwarded to Peking with regard to the inefficiency of the local mandarins.

The following mercantile notices have appeared:—

Mr. Hans Peter Hanssen is admitted a partner in our firm.—Dent and Co.

The interest and responsibility of Mr. Duncan Fletcher in our firm ceased on June 30, 1864. Mr. Waldemar Schmidt, Mr. James Gilfillan, Mr. Alexander Downie, and Mr. Thomas Murdoch Drysdale, are this day admitted partners in our firm. Our firm now consists of Mr. Archibald Campbell, Mr. Waldemar Schmidt, Mr. James Gilfillan, Mr. Alexander Downie, and Mr. Thomas Murdoch Drysdale.—Fletcher and Co.

Mr. James Hanson Wright and Mr. William Strachan M'Lean, are this day admitted partners in our firm in China.—Dow and Co.

A dry dock on an extensive scale has been opened for the reception of ships on the Pootung side, opposite the Tun-kadoo Cathedral, and is, we believe, truly advertised as the largest dock in the East, the dimensions and depth of water being—

Length over all	380	feet.
,, on blocks	340	,,
Width at top	125	,,
,, in the bottom	50	,,
,, of dock entrance	75	,,
Depth of water at high-water neat tides	16	,,
,, ,, spring tides	21	,,

The first ship docked was the *Thomas Bell*.

HANKOW.

The following letter, of 25th June, is from the *Recorder*:—

The Imperial Customs removed into the Hong recently occupied by Messrs. Fletcher and Co., which is conveniently situated for trade. The *Robert Lowe* sailed yesterday, leaving the port bare of ships, except the walking beam steamers, which ply pretty regularly on the Yantsze river. The *Fusiyama* made a splendid run last trip, one of the quickest on record.

The rebels are at Yangloong, and the panic caused by their proximity to Hankow has subsided. Imports are dull of sale. Hankow produce is high, prices scarcely leaving a marginal profit.

NANKING.

The party which left Shanghai a short time ago for the purpose of reconnoitring the position around Nanking returned on the day of the issue of our last Overland Summary, and reports that the city is completely invested, with the exception of the river front, on two or three points of which the rebels have erected stockades. Mines have been driven to within a few yards of the walls, but there would seem to be an unwillingness to try the effect of an assault. The Imperialists are armed with gingals, but as their resources are so much greater than those of the rebels, they can afford to wait and effect by starvation what they cannot manage by hard fighting. Gordon subsequently went up to meet Tséng Kwo-fan, and was received with the utmost honour by the venerable chieftain.

NINGPO.

The *North China Herald* gives the following from Ningpo in reference to the French operations there. The Mandarins may indeed exclaim "Save us from our friends":—

We have received recent advices from Ningpo, by which we learn that the French have launched two out of the five gunboats which we some time ago announced as in process of construction. There can be little doubt that these vessels are designed to take the place of the defunct Sherard Osborn fleet. They are not, however, built with a view to lasting very long. The timber used is unseasoned, and the machinery is old, and has seen much service. They are heavily armed, each having two rifled 24-pounder pivot guns and four rifled 12-pounder broadside guns. The French have established a dockyard, which is now in excellent working order, a large number of European artizans being kept constantly employed.

A company of French soldiers is now stationed outside Ningpo, and the men, together with the sailors from the French gunboats, prove perfect pests to the Chinese shopkeepers. As

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an example of this we may state that some few weeks ago some French sailors, having, by an outrage of unusual brutality, collected a large and excited mob, were in the act of forcing their way out of one of the gates, when they encountered the sentry. One of their number tried to wrest the musket from the sentry's hands. The man of course cried out for assistance, and one of his comrades running up, stabbed the Frenchman in the thigh. The drilled guard had by this time turned out, and the Frenchmen, not caring to encounter it, endeavoured to escape. Two of their number, one being the wounded man, were captured and brought before Colonel Cooke, who sent them to their vessel with a guard. During the course of the evening, after the gates were shut, an alarm was raised that the French were about to attack the city, and that a body of soldiers and sailors, under the command of a naval officer, was moving towards the south gate. Cooke, so soon as he heard of it, went to the gate, and there actually found a French officer with about forty Europeans, demanding admittance. This was of course refused, when an attempt was made to break in the gate. Meanwhile Cooke had turned out a couple of companies of the "green turbans," and gave the officer in command of the attacking party notice that the first man on the wall would be pushed back by a bayonet. It was then decided to attempt a part of the wall where ascent was more easy than at the gate. The French marched along outside the wall to this spot, Cooke and his men keeping pace with them on the inside. When, therefore, the French arrived, they found the top of the wall garnished by a chevaux de frise of sword bayonets, but not caring to attempt the storm, they apparently retired. At sunrise the gates were, as usual, opened, when the Frenchmen, who had evidently been upon the watch, made a dash, entered the south gate, took the guard prisoners, and seized all the muskets and sword bayonets upon which they could lay their hands. Cooke communicated with the French Consul, and enjoyed the privilege of a visit from two of the French officers, who had absolutely sufficient calm effrontery to declare that they did not believe any one of their men could have been guilty of an offence sufficient to justify his being wounded.

The affair was ultimately arranged amicably, but our readers may well imagine the state of the discipline which exists when, in the face of daily reports of the most unpardonable outrages committed by French soldiers and sailors, a French officer ignores the frequent remonstrances addressed to him and to the Consul. We have on different occasions animadverted on the eccentricities of the French both at Shanghai and at Ningpo —we have related how, at the latter place, amongst other exploits of the same character, a soldier has been seen to dance in a state of perfect nudity in the open streets; how another drunken miscreant lurching against a chair in which one of Cooke's officers was seated, took offence at the awkwardness of the coolies, and butchered one of them on the spot; how, on another occasion, a Frenchman, being caught in the act of thieving, was brought before the English officer in command, and there and then made a murderous assault upon him. But we need not multiply examples. Both foreign and native residents at Ningpo possess a stake in securing the tranquillity of the city and foreign settlement, and it is evidently impossible to effect this so long as licensed rowdies are permitted to roam unchecked through the neighbourhood. It cannot be too deeply regretted that our gallant allies, whose interest it doubtless is to impress the Chinese with an exalted idea of their forbearance and moderation, should elect to send condemned regiments to this country—regimen's, the men in which are lost to every principle of honour, and who can alone be adequately described as the scum of European ruffianism. It were, in truth, well did the French authorities represent to their Government that the enormous interests which the French nation possess in China are far more jeopardised by the atrocious conduct of the rabble soldiery, than they are advanced by the gallantry and courtesy of those holding high official positions.

The Franco-Chinese troops are still outside Hoochow, at a very considerable distance from the walls. No operations of importance have taken place since the departure of last mail. The Che-kiang officials have issued a notification calling on the natives of that province who were dispersed at the time of the rebel occupation, to return and again take up their abode in their former dwellings. Those who have suffered severely, and are not in a position to return without assistance, were invited to send their names to the Taotai's Yamen on any of the following days:—June 6th, 9th, 12th, 16th, 19th, 22nd, 26th, 29th and July 1st. To those who did so passages were promised to Ningpo or Hangchow, and thence they were to have been forwarded to their native villages.

FORMOSA.

A correspondent at Tamsuy, under date of June 25, forwards the following:—

"I have to report to you the loss of the British brig *Susan Douglas*, on the Island of Samasana, off the south-east coast of Formosa, on the 13th of March. She was bound from Hong Kong to Ningpo. All the people on board were saved, with the exception of the Chinese cook, and two or three Chinese females, who were drowned at the time of the wreck. The vessel became a perfect wreck. The survivors were treated kindly by some Chinese junkmen, and taken to Chinkongo, a Chinese settlement in Black Rock Bay, from whence the captain and chief mate started in a junk to Takow on the 17th April. They have, I learn, reached Takow safely, and sailed thence to Amoy.

"We only got intelligence of the wreck a few days ago; and the gunboat arriving opportunely at Tamsuy shortly after, went round, and succeeded in bringing away the rest of the survivors. One of the crew, a Sandwich Islander, had died; the rest, including the second mate, nnmbered six. These men are now in the hands of H.M.'s consul at Tamsuy. The junkmen at Black Rock Bay were liberally rewarded for their kindness and attention to the crew."

HONG KONG.

The mails of 26th May arrived out on the 6th July. The dates are now to the 12th. Sir Frederick W. A. Bruce, the Minister at Peking, had arrived from Peking, and is a passenger by the present mail on leave of absence. Mr. T. F. Wade, the Chinese Secretary, will conduct the affairs of the Embassy in the interim.

The *China Mail* thus refers to the labours of Sir Frederick Bruce:—

Sir. F. Bruce, who is now in Hong Kong *en route* for England by the mail leaving to-day, has so far completed his duties in the capital as to have left a friendly impression on the minds of the present Chinese Government with regard to England and foreign nations generally; not that the cordial co-operation of all the Western Ministers with Sir F. Bruce is due to the acknowledged abilities of the latter, but that he has so far obeyed the dictates of truth and reason as to have commended his views to the minds of the other Ministers resident in Peking. The task which Sir Frederick has had to perform has been one of a singularly difficult character. A man in his position had the fatal power in his hands of involving us in war—or of sowing the seeds of war, which is the same thing—with "a third of the human race." Instead of allowing his diplomacy to tend in this direction, he has, in common with his colleagues of other nations, established friendly relations with the governing powers. This was, so far, a difficult achievement, and the principal performer in the business deserves, at least, the return of having the fact placed upon record. The establishment of foreign legations at Peking has been a totally new experiment, and it may be safely affirmed that no one could foretell the result of such a venture four years ago, when it was made. There was a general feeling at the time that Sir Frederick Bruce was not the man to maintain creditable—not to say profitable—relations with the Chinese rulers. But, notwithstanding that his term of office has been marked by peculiar difficulties, it cannot be said with truth that he has managed English affairs otherwise than well. In order to do this he has had, as might have been expected, to encounter some amount of opposition, if the temporary ill feeling of different interests can be so designated. That he has been honest, straightforward, and intelligent there cannot be much doubt. Of errors in judgment he has occasionally been guilty, but it must not be forgotten that such are next to inseparable from an early diplomatic connexion with the Court of Peking. Sir F. Bruce's public despatches are probably the best means of estimating the amount and nature of the work he has had to do, and how he has done it. The civil troubles of the empire have formed a fresh and most serious addition to the labours entailed upon the English Minister; and though he has taken a different view with regard to the treatment of the insurrection that has been distressing China for the last twelve years from that taken by our military representatives out here, as well as by many influential merchants, he has alway been temperate in his opposition and ready to defer to the views of officers commanding the forces here, so long as they are prepared to accept the responsibility of their own courses of action. This was to a large extent necessary, for it is agreed upon all hands that China politics are not easily unravelled. Our own views on the matter have never changed, and we should have changed them at once had good reason appeared for so doing.

Mr. T. F. Wade, the acting Minister for England at Peking, is not likely, so far as we are aware, to disturb the policy pursued by his predecessor. That policy has simply been one of caution and watchfulness. It is as impossible with nations as it is with individuals to become friendly and familiar on a short acquaintance; nor in either case do sudden friendships prove of permanent value. We must sometimes be patient in diplomatic negotiation. To the mercantile mind adherence to engagements is not only—as it should be—a prime virtue, but the want of it is, properly enough, viewed as a leading offence against all the laws that regulate commercial intercourse between man and man, or between nation and nation. The ability of the Chinese Government to carry out strictly their engagements with us has been for years a matter of

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discussion. The British policy has all along been to render the performance of those engagements as easy as possible to the Chinese, and this policy has been most ably and effectually carried out. The foreign collectorate of customs, for which the late Lord Elgin received the credit until a member of the Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce claimed and received it, was a first step towards cementing friendly and honourable relations between China and Western nations, and, in the ordinary nature of things, the foreign assistance lately rendered to the Imperialists ought to further the good feeling we are endeavouring to establish. Jealousy and suspicion, however, are inherent in the Chinese mind with regard to foreigners; and we need not be surprised at the fact; for are not many centuries of exclusiveness sufficient to account for it? We cannot, therefore, wonder if the progress of good relations and mutual favours be slow between the Chinese and foreigners; on the contrary, our chief cause of astonishment ought to be that they have made so much progress in so short a time. Further than recommending Sir F. Bruce or his acting successor to maintain a better understanding with the two Chambers of Commerce in China, and to give a little more consideration to mercantile interests, it is impossible to object to the careful course of policy he has so successfully pursued.

The interest of the past week has chiefly centred in the supreme and magistrate's courts, in the former of which the murder case of the man Browning was tried, and in the latter a newspaper libel case was brought forward. The case of Browning occupied two days in hearing, and the evidence is both interesting and instructive when considered in its connection with the verdict given on the occasion. Considerable dissatisfaction was expressed with the "Manslaughter" verdict given in, and the sentence of penal servitude for life which followed it; and a strong feeling existed that the evidence proved nothing beyond "Justifiable Homicide." Browning had in an affray killed two Portuguese in Japan. The details are given in the *China Mail*.

The case for libel was the Baron do Cercal (A. A. de Mello, of Macao) against the *Echo do Povo*. It appears that the defendant and Governor Amaral of Macao were sitting together drinking coffee in the drawing-room of the Governor's residence, when the Baron happened to call upon the latter. The Baron treated the Editor as a stranger, and, as Governor Amaral did not introduce them to each other, we should fancy the matter ought to have ended there; but the Editor adduces it as an example of the strong grounds he would have for writing against the Baron did he allow, as he never does, his private resentments to affect his public duties. The Editor, it seems, did not treat Baron do Cercal as a stranger, but saluted him instead, but without receiving a reply. The inference which the new Governor must have drawn from this was either that the Baron was an ill-bred man, or that his sentiments towards the Editor were not those of respect. The former is the *Echo's* theory, and his only grounds of resentment are that the Governor ran a risk of adopting the latter hypothesis. This case will be tried at the next session.

COCHIN-CHINA.

SAIGON.

We have the *Courier de Saigon* of the 10th by a late steamer. It is stated that more than 50,220 tons of white rice have been exported from Saigon during the first six months of 1864, being a much greater quantity than what was exported during the corresponding period last year, and even exceeding by 8,000 tons that of the year 1862. The stock of rice still on hand is near 20,000 tons, and there are also large quantities available in the interior over and above what is required for local use.

SIAM.

BANGKOK.

His Majesty the Second King of Siam has twice left Bangkok in one of his steamers for the purpose of visiting Singapore and Batavia, but he has as often been compelled to put back owing to severe sickness. His Majesty has, therefore, very reluctantly, for the present relinquished his intended voyage to foreign parts.

BORNEO.

SARAWAK.

The Singapore *Straits Times* contains a long communication from Captain Brooke Brooke, in which he brings various heavy charges against his uncle, Sir James Brooke. We shall return to this letter, and to the comments of the *Straits Times* thereon, in our next issue.

JAVA AND NETHERLANDS INDIA.

The Government has issued a most important resolution, permitting natives to join the Government schools for the purpose of learning the Dutch language. The Secretary-General advertises that, as the desire to acquire the Dutch language shows itself more and more amongst the natives, and as the knowledge of the same is a material assistance to their further civilisation and development, the Government has decided to assist, as much as possible, those natives who feel inclined to study that language. In the first place, the Government is desirous of encouraging the composition of books adapted to facilitate the study of the Dutch language by the native, and therefore offers a premium of one hundred guilders for every sheet of printing approved of. Medals are also offered. The Government appoints judges for the approbation of the works sent in, which latter then become the property of the State.

The Director of Cultures has been allowed a two-years' leave of absence on account of illness, and the Assistant Resident of Tangerang, the scene of the late disturbance, has been discharged and put on half-pay. It is reported that Admiral May will return to Europe in the course of the present year. The *Locomotief* is informed that the Government, being dissatisfied with the late military operations of Lieutenant-Colonel de Neve, at Pontianak, intends recalling that officer from his post.

Cholera continues to rage in several of the most populous towns, and the number of deaths latterly has been above the usual average. Stringent measures have been taken to prevent its extension; but it is difficult to make the natives understand that they should be careful in their diet.

H.M.'s steamship *Apeldoorn* left Riouw on the 25th June for a cruize in the China Sea.

Notice is given to mariners that an iron beacon has been placed on Karrang Peorak, the northernmost of the Ostrich rocks, in the Straits of Sunda, and one on Karrang Bezaar, the southernmost of said rocks.

SOURABAYA.—The British schooner *Edmund*, Capt. Coleman, with coffee and rice from Bally for Singapore, struck on a reef off the island of Ra-as, near Madura, but was got off by Mr. Olie's steamtug *Eersteling*, and towed into Sourabaya.

MOLUCCAS.—During the inspection trip of the Assistant Resident to the Aroe and Key islands in the month of April, a letter was handed him by the orangkaja of Oedjir, one of the Aroe islands, and which was picked up in the month of March, in a bottle, on the west coast of the island of Wassir. The letter, the writing of which was nearly obliterated, contained the following:—

"Barque *Hastings*, 420 tons, C. M. Thompson, master, from Colombo to London, April 16th, 1862. Off the south end of Ceylon, India. All well. To know the set of currents."

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Our dates come down to the 21st July. The London mail of the 10th June arrived on the 14th July by the steamer *Singapore*. The French mail, with dates from London to the 17th June, came in late on the night of the 19th July. There is no occurrence of a political nature in our present advices demanding a record.

The British brig *Louisa* has been destroyed by pirates, only four survivors escaping to tell the following dreadful tale of slaughter and torture. We copy from *The Straits Times* of July 16:—

This morning, by the *Chow Phya*, four persons arrived from the ill-fated brig *Louisa*, Captain James Ross, of this port—viz., the gunner and his wife, the Chinese cook, and a Chinese passenger, who suppose themselves to be the sole survivors of the crew of the unfortunate vessel. The vessel left Hong Kong on the 18th May, 1864, and on the 30th was becalmed off the coast of Hainan, but not in sight of land, when she was attacked by what the gunner supposed to have been a Macao or Canton junk, heavily armed. The *Louisa* kept her off by constant firing of her bow gun until it became so much heated that it burst the breechings and fell overboard. The vessel was then at the mercy of the junk, which, having got under the brig's stern, fired shot and shell into her cabin window for some time. The pirates then boarded, on which most of the crew of Malays, headed by the Serang, threw some spars overboard, jumped after them and swam away from the vessel. The mate was killed; the captain was shot in the thigh and dropped on the deck; and the gunner, though wonded in the breast by a musket ball, managed to throw the captain into the cabin, where he remained about two hours. The pirates in the meantime ransacked the vessel's cargo, of which they took about one-half. They then dragged the captain on deck, cut the mate's dead body in half, cut off one of the captain's hands, and commenced torturing him by cutting off his toes, to make him declare whether there was money on board the vessel or not. They at the same time threatened the life of the gunner and his wife, who, seeing this, threw his wife and child overboard, and jumped after them with a board. Captain Ross threw himself after them, and swam away from the vessel, the captain's son, a boy about ten years old, being taken on board the junk. The Chinese cook says, however, the pirates afterwards quarrelled among themselves about him, tied his hands, and threw him into the sea. After four hours, Captain Ross, being exhausted with loss of blood, sank. The gunner's child sank on

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leaving the vessel. As near as the gunner can tell, about ten o'clock at night he saw a vessel, which proved to be the *Young Greek*, and which he hailed. She hove to, lowered a boat, and picked up the gunner and his wife. The *Louisa* at this time was on fire about two miles to leeward. The *Young Greek* lay to till morning, then sent a boat to the brig, which was at this time burnt to the water's edge, and took off the Chinese cook and passenger, who were in the water hanging to the anchor. Nothing was seen of any others of the crew, and the vessel proceeded to Bangkok. The gunner states that the captain and mate fought with great determination, and but for the unfortunate accident to their gun, he thinks they would have beaten the junk off. Had it not been for the *Young Greek* heaving in sight, the *Louisa* would have added another to the list of missing vessels in the China sea—for which, not unfrequently, typhoons are held responsible.

The *Louisa* was attacked and set on fire in lat. 17 deg. 20 min. N.; long. 110 deg. 40 min. E., being nearly 400 miles from Hong Kong.

The steamer *Dumbarton*, which left the Clyde 23rd April, arrived out on the 6th July, and left for Hong Kong on the 8th for, Messrs. Gibb, Livingston, and Co. The American steamer *Oriflamme*, from New York 16th April, arrived on the 15th of July, *en route* to Hong Kong. The Prussian frigate *Gazelle* arrived from Hong Kong on the 16th.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

MARSHALL—On the 24th June, at Singapore, the wife of Capt. J. G. Marshall, Royal Artillery, of a daughter.

OPPERT—On the 30th June, at Shanghai, Mrs. E. Oppert, of a daughter, stillborn.

SCOTT—On the 19th July, at Hurricane Cottage, Singapore, the wife of R. W. Scott, Esq., prematurely, of a daughter.

WOODWARD—On the 19th May, on board H.M.'s Hospital Ship Hercules, Hong Kong Harbour, the wife of G. P. M. Woodward, Esq., M.D., Surgeon 2nd Batt. 20th Regt., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BROWER—MANN.—On the 9th June, at the American Legation, Jeddo, Japan, by the Rev. R. S. Brown, De Witt Clinton Brower, Esq., of Yokohama and New York, to Jane Nias, second daughter of the late James Mann, Esq., of Peckham-rye.

BURN—WINBOLT.—On the 24th Aug., at Sandridge, St. Alban's, by the Rev. J. Burn Murdoch, assisted by the Rev. R. Holt and the Rev. H. Todd, Lieut. Henry Burn, H.M.'s late Indian Navy, Master Attendant, Singapore, to Louisa, elder daughter of the Rev. T. H. Winbolt. No cards.

BURGOYNE—WALKER.—On the 25th Aug., at St. James's Church, Westbourne-terrace, by the Rev. Edward Meredyth, Captain Burgoyne, R.N., &c., only son of General Sir John Fox Burgoyne, Bart., to Evelyn Laura, daughter of Rear-Admiral Sir Baldwin Wake Walker, Bart.

BAKER—ADAMS.—On the 2nd July, at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, Samuel Wright Baker, to Emily Caroline Adams, of Isle of Thanet, Kent.

GARDNER—MORGAN.—On the 30th June, at Trinity Church, Shanghai, Frederic Edwin Gardner, Commander Wild Dayrell, to Jane Morgan, of East Grimstead, Sussex.

REME—CRASEMANN.—On the 30th July, at Hamburg, G. Adolph Reme, Esq., of Singapore, to Sophie, daughter of C. A. Crasemann, Esq., of Hamburg.

DEATHS.

ALT—On board the mail steamer Calabar, on his voyage from Cape Coast Castle, having been exchanged from the 1st W.I. Regt. to the 98th, Balser Alt, in his 21st year, youngest son of the late Lieut. D. Alt, of the 63rd Regt.

AXEN—At Seaman's Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 26th June, Jurgen Axen, seaman, Danish brig Roska.

BERTRAND—At Hong Kong, on the 3rd July, Alice Sophie Eliza, infant daughter of C. Bertrand, Messageries Impériales Company, aged 9 months and 2 days.

BOULDEN—At Hong Kong, on the 2nd July, William Boulden, chief officer British ship Caracius, of cholera spasmodica.

BURGY—At Suez, on the 22nd May, Mr. E. H. Burgy, of the firm of Smith, Archer, and Co.

BOWEN—At Hong Kong, on the 30th June, Frederick Bowen, clerk, Victoria Jail.

CRAWFORD—On the 21st July last, at Havannah, after a few days' illness, Joseph Tucker Crawford, Esq., C.B., H.M.'s Consul-General in the Island of Cuba.

DIXSON—At Hong Kong, on the 6th July, Jane, wife of William Dixson, police sergeant.

FITZGERALD—At the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 1st July, Oscar Fitzgerald, of cholera, cook of the British ship Caracius.

GARRETT—At the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 1st July, J. Garrett, destitute seaman.

GIRXENSON—At the Seaman's Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 4th July, Thomas Girxenson, seaman.

HUMPHREYS—At the General Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 28th June, John Humphreys, private, H.M. 90 h Regiment, aged 21 years (cholera).

JOHNSTON—On the 21st June, at Yokohama, Wm. Johnston, Esq., late of Hong Kong, aged 50 years.

MACCARTHY—On the 14th August, at Spa, Belgium, Charles Tustin MacCarthy, Knt., Governor of Ceylon, aged 53.

NIXON—At the General Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 28th June, private, H.M. 99th Regiment, aged 27 years (cholera).

STAFATO—At the Seaman's Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 5th July, Sprio Stafato, seaman, ex Britain's Pride.

VROOMAN—At Canton on the 29th June, Henry, only son of the Rev. D. Vrooman aged 10 years 6 months.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.		7s. 8d. to 7s. 1d.	6s. 8d. to 7s. 2d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton	6	ditto	4s. 10½d. to 4s. 11d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 0d.
At Hong Kong				
At Macao				
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 10d. to 4s. 10½d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 0d.
At Manila	6	ditto	4s. 7½d.	4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 327 to 333 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 234 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 10 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 70 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 32 to 34 discount.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—CANTON.—The sales of the fortnight are reported as under:—Congou: Tyshan, 450 half-chests and 2,000 boxes at 24 to 33 taels for fine to finest imitation Kaysows. Scented Orange Pekoe: 6,000 boxes at 22½ to 40 taels for medium to superfine. Scented Caper: 5,000 boxes at 22 to 28 taels for medium to very fine. Canton Greens: 6,000 boxes Gunpowder at 22½ to 26½ taels for good to fine.

MACAO.—Tyshans: Arrivals of the third crop leaf are expected in the course of next fortnight; of the second crop, 2,329 bales have come down, making up 20,071 bales, equal to about 12,000 piculs, for the season to date; contract deliveries for the fortnight are only 790 half-chests Congou, and 337 boxes Souchong; of the better kind, there have been no sales on the market. The *Banian* is shortly expected from Whampoa to take in about 150 tons for London now ready for shipment; the stock of both better and common leaf is large, but teamen are firm in their demands of 24 to 26 taels for the former, while common Tyshans remain quite neglected.

AMOY.—The market was opened on the 14th by the settlement of two small chops of Congou of very inferior quality at $16 to $17. Buying became general shortly afterwards at very full rates, which have been gradually advancing up to the present time. Congou: Settlements are 13,500 ½-chests and 246 boxes at prices ranging from $16 to $21 for ordinary but middling kinds, and $21½ to $27½ for interior flavory to good flavory kinds. The few chops of really good quality have commanded extreme rates, and latest purchases are $2 higher than could have been obtained a fortnight since. Oolong: The high cost of true Ningyongs in the country has caused extravagant rates to be demanded, which in a few cases have been conceded—settlements reported are only 552 ½-chests and 420 boxes at $27 to $30 for fully fair to good cargo: one chop in small boxes has fetched $32. In addition to the above, nearly 2,000 ½-chests have been arranged for privately on similar terms. Plain Ordinary Pekoe: 195 ½-chests of common quality have fetched $13½ to $14.

FOOCHOW.—The transactions during the fortnight in Congous for the English market have been on a moderate scale owing to the small quantity on offer, the supplies of the first crop being almost exhausted. Latterly, purchases for the English market have nearly ceased, owing to heavy rains and consequent floods. For Australia a large business in Congous has been transacted, at an advance of 5 mace to one tael for common to medium. The second crop is coming forward freely, prices asked being 6 to 8 taels above offers. In Souchong a decline of 3 taels has induced extensive purchases. Oolongs have declined about 2 taels.

SHANGHAI.—Black Teas:—On the 23rd June a chop of good Ooonam Congou was settled at taels 32.5.0. Since that time 13 chops or 7,351 chests of Woopack, Oonam and Ningchow have found buyers at rates from taels 4.0.0. to 8.0.0 per picul, under the prices paid in Hankow for the same and similar Teas. The tendency of prices from the opening has been downward as exchange on London rose, and to even a greater extent, owing to the uncertainty as to what point exchange may ultimately reach. The settlements reported give quotations about as under:—Fine to finest Woopak Congou taels 34.0.0 to 39.5.0. Good to fine Woopak and Ningchow Congous, taels 31.0.0 to 35.0.0. Middling to good Oonam Congous, taels 28.0.0 to 32.5.0. Fair to middling blackish leaf Congous, taels 21.0.0 to 26.0.0. The last settlement of good Oonam at taels 29.0.0 established a decline of tls. 3.0.0 to 3.5.0 in that description. The demand for Tea has been very languid for the period of the season, as a general impression existed that rates asked were too high for safety. Latterly, however, as holders gave way in their demands, there has been a somewhat better inquiry, and the market closes firm. Green Teas: Have attracted no attention. The news of additional duty in New York, and the high rate of exchange here, have prevented all inquiry. Some new Pingsuey Teas have arrived, and one chop has been re-shipped on owner's account. Very high prices are demanded for those in stock, of which the quality is good.

HANKOW.—Sales during the fortnight are 89 chops at the following prices:—Oopacks and Cheongsowkyes, good to fine, 30 to 34 taels; medium to good, at 27 to 29; fair medium, at 23 to 26; Ningchows, fine to finest, 32 to 35; good to fine 26 to 28; Oonams and Leylings, fine to finest, 22 to 26; medium to good, 18 to 21.

KEWKIANG.—Green Tea: Late advices from the interior state that the picking of the leaf was going on, but that rates had materially advanced. Black Teas: The settlements of the fortnight had been 7 chops good to fine Ningchows, at 30 to 35½ taels. The teamen had become easier sellers, and a lower grade of rates was expected; most of the Congous which arrived being shipped off at once to Shanghai. Stock on the market 7 chops Ningchow, and 4 do. Hohow.

YOKOHAMA.—The new teas continue to come in very slowly and in small quantities, those of medium kinds; the teamen persisting in their demands for rates ranging from $4 to $6 in advance of the corresponding time last season—and that for inferior qualities but little business is reported. Settlements 300 piculs old and about 800 piculs new. Stock of new 240 piculs of medium class, of old 360 piculs. No fine or finest.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—The market was opened on the 1st July, and about 1,000 bales have been settled, at the following prices:—Tsatlee, No. 1 Tls. 390 to 405 per picul; do. No. 2 Tls. 370 to 385 per picul, do. No. 3, Tls. 350 to 365 per picul; do. No. 4 and inferior, Tls. 320 to 345 per picul; and for market No. 1 Kahing Taysaams, Tls. 300 per picul. The bulk of the settlements have been taken from Tsatlees, of medium to inferior quality only one really good chop having been reported as sold. The latest advices from the interior are favourable for the coming second crop, which has not yet been all gathered; it is said to be superior in quality and a larger yield than last season. The prices are said to be declining and the Chinamen now up country are acting most cautiously; so that it is not improbable a further reduction will take place in quotations there.

DRUGS.—Cassia Lignea: Sales, 250 piculs at $15.25 to 15.40; stock, 800 piculs. Cassia Buds: Sales, 20 piculs at $56; no stock. Cassia Oil: Sales, 5 piculs at $212; stock, 8 piculs. Anise Oil: No sales;

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stock, 30 piculs, held at $155. Star Aniseed: Sales, 200 piculs at $18 to 18.50; stock, 200 piculs. Galangal Root: Sales, 500 piculs at $1.80 to 2; stock, 6,000 piculs. Gall Nuts: No sales; stock, 50 piculs held at 12.50 to 13. China Galls: Sale on native account at $13.

RAW COTTON.

HONG KONG.—A good demand has prevailed during the fortnight and prices advanced 50 cents. Since the arrival of the London mail of 26th May, the demand has however abated and this advance has been lost. Stocks being light, the market closes tolerably firm at the following quotations:—Shanghai $31 to 33, Ningpo $33 to 34, Japan $35½ to 36. The sales of the fortnight are estimated at 12,000 bags and the stock at 15,000.

SHANGHAI.—Quotations at which settlements have been made range from tls. 19.50 to tls. 21.50 per picul. Chefoo cotton is the most in demand, the colour being superior to any other description of Chinese cotton, and though not better, equal to the best. The parcels of this cotton which have come forward are of course small, and sought for by speculators. With regard to the market here for the coming season, advices on all hands speak of a very large yield; far more than the usual quantity having been planted, and the weather has been most favourable. This will no doubt affect prices here somewhat, and it is very likely that supplies will be forced on the market as early as possible. If we are to judge of the crop planted this year in the cotton districts, by an increased quantity planted around Shanghai, it is not unlikely to nearly double that of last year. We have heard that the Chinese Executive are using all the coercive measures in their power to cause the natives to send their Tea, Silk, and other produce to the utmost limits of the Grand Canal, viz., to Hangchow, not a treaty port, with the view of squeezing the greatest amount of custom's posts or octroi duties. Should this be the case nearly all the produce of the district will undoubtedly find its way to Shanghai, but burthened with increased duties. We get the information from Chinese sources, and therefore are unable to say what amount of reliance is to be placed thereon. It is further said that the mandarins, in furtherance of the above project, are using every endeavour to depress immediate trade on the spot with foreigners, who would not of course despatch their property by any other than the most expeditious and cheap route. Whether there is any truth in the report many readers will by experience know better than we do, but of course such proceedings are in direct contradiction to the spirit of the treaty, and could hardly fail to be soon set right by the interference of the foreign Ministers.

TIEN-TSIN.—The supply appears to be inexhaustible, but transactions are kept very secret.

YOKOHAMA.—The demand for the staple continues as last reported. The moderate supplies arriving are still of medium and inferior classes, and prices somewhat stiffening. The exports this season have been 72,600 bales, against 10,000 same time last season.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—There is not any material change to notice in the value of yarns, and the transactions of the past fortnight are limited to 100 bales Nos. 16 to 24, reported as purchased at $230 per bale. Some 20 bales have likewise been moved off by auction. Grey shirtings have met with a moderate amount of inquiry during the past fortnight, and prices remain at about the rates previously current; the sales reported in this colony amount to 9,450 prices, in addition to which some 3,000 have been moved off by public sale. The sales effected in Foochow are put at 1,800 pieces—lbs. 7.4 to 8.10 taken at $5 to $5.55 per piece. White Shirtings: Settlements of these goods to the extent of about 4,000 pieces have been effected in the Hong Kong market, while from Foochow a small sale of 300 pieces, 64, reed at $6 is reported. T-Cloths: These goods have again been in but slight request, and the transactions of the fortnight are limited to 2,500 pieces; and 1,500 pieces of damaged goods moved off by public sale. A sale of 500 pieces 6 lb. goods is reported is from Foochow at $3.60. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades White and Coloured: These goods have met with better inquiry in this market, and have been moved off more freely during the past fortnight than for some time past. Prices remain without alteration, and the sales reported are 750 pieces of white spotted, 500 pieces of dyed do., and 1,000 pieces of coloured brocades. Damasks: Without sales. Chintzes: There have not been any sales in this colony, but in Foochow some 300 pieces have changed hands. Handkerchiefs: A small sale of 120 dozen has been reported.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: A fair amount of business has been transacted during the past fortnight in some descriptions of woollen goods, but none of the above-mentioned kinds have met with sales. Long Ells must generally be quoted slightly below the prices of the previous fortnight, the amount of business transacted has, however, been upon a larger scale than for some time past, and the sales in this colony are estimated at 3,000 pieces. In Canton about 300 pieces have changed hands. Camlets: Without alteration to notice in value have found buyers in Hong Kong to the extent of 350 pieces. Lastings: The same remarks apply to these fabrics, which have been placed to the extent of 400 pieces without change in the quotations. Blankets: 350 pairs have changed hands.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: The value of the various descriptions of iron enumerated does not show any great alteration when compared with the quotations given in last report, but the article remains at present quite uninquired for in this colony; while in Canton, where sales are restricted to about 4,000 piculs of all kinds, a slight decline in most qualities may be noted. Lead: The value of lead in Hong Kong remains as quoted under date of 27th ultimo, with sales for the fortnight of 1,400 piculs. In Canton, where 1,700 piculs have changed hands, an advance of about 5 cents per picul has been established. Tin: 250 slabs purchased in Hong Kong. Tin Plates remain as previously quoted, with sales in Hong Kong of 200 boxes. Steel: Nothing doing

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN—From London: June 23, Kwang Foong; and from Amsterdam: Aletta Augusta. From New York: 19, Baron Kellner.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: June 22, Sparrow; July 2, Yaratilda and Solent. From Newcastle: 1, Elizabeth. From New York: June 30, Leopold and General Ward (str.) from Boston.

At FOO-CHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From London: June 28, Robin. From England: July 10, Maggie Lauder (str.). From Sunderland: June 28, Bedford. From Cardiff: July 2, Louis.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: July 9, Blue Jacket; and 15, Panic. From Liverpool: 17, Glendower; and 18, William Connell. From Sunderland: 8, Margaret Wilkie; and 17, Wye. From Cardiff: 9, Patriot; 12, Ione; and 16, Hammersmith. From Newcastle: 15, Procymatia. From Glasgow: 17, Falcon. From Hamburg: 17, Therese. From New York: 15, Oriflamme (str.).

At BATAVIA.—From London: Copernicus. From Liverpool: Tigris. From Glasgow: Glenisla and Falcon.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—For London: June 23, Red Deer.

From HANKOW. June 24, Robert Lowe (st.), for London.

From SHANGHAI.—None.

From FOOCHOW.—For London: June 19, Ellen Rodger; 24, Dora July 1, Whinfell.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For Liverpool: June 30, Geologist, and July 2, Edward Percy.

From MACAO.—For London: June 25, Glenaros.

From SINGAPORE.—For Liverpool: July 9, Invincible.

From HONG KONG.—For London: July 11, Marlborough. For New York: July 11, Manderin.

LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Natal, Amoy, Vigil, Jane Isabella, Yokohama, and Ann Maria.

At HANKOW.—For London: Stirlingshire.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Silver Eagle, Fychow, Gresham, Highflyer, Pegasus, White Adder, and Knight Templar. For Liverpool: Affghan, Brockham, Southern Empire, Sea Snake, Thomas Bell, and Hougoumont.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Star of China, Dartmouth, Childers, Canute, Red Riding Hood, Bride of the Seas, Cumberland and Holmsdale. For New York: Benefactress.

At AMOY.—For London: Willy.

At HONG KONG AND CANTON.—For London: Adriatic, Cathay, Ben Lomond, Chanticleer, Yeavering Bell, Banian. For Liverpool: Chaa Sze, Everest, General Windham, Lord Dalhousie, Zenobia, Princess Somawty. For New York: Roslin Castle.

AT SINGAPORE.—For London: Rangoon, Tweed, and Prince Alfred. For Liverpool: Volunteer, and C. H. Soule.

AT BATAVIA.—For Rotterdam: Burg Hoffman, Balder, Cesar, Sjofroken, Vijt Vriendez, Nation's Hope, Joseph Willem, and d'Elmina. For Amsterdam: Druses, Twedingen, Koophandel, Affiance, Bosphorus. For Channel:—Ajax, and Cruizer. For New York: Commodore.

AT PENANG.—For London: Empress, Sunium, Marengo.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

JAPAN.—To London: Cotton £4. 10s. to £5; Tea £5. 10s.; Silk £6 nominal, per ton of 50 cubic feet.

SHANGHAI.—Freights both for coast and home charters are on the decline, with a large number of unemployed vessels in harbour. The rates, which also are nominal are:—To London per clipper vessels, Tea £4. For Liverpool, the Affghan, Hougoumont, and Sea Snake are fully engaged at £3. 10s. The Essex was circulated at £2.

FOOCHOW.—To London: £3. 10s. per ton 50 cubic feet.

HONG KONG AND CANTON.—Considering the large amount of tonnage in the harbour, a fair amount of business has been done. The following, from George Holmes's circular, will show the principal transactions:—Adriatic (302) to London, at £3. 12s. 6d.; Willie (204) Amoy to London, £1,100 in full, and General Windham (794) to Liverpool, at £2. 10s. To Bangkok and back, 40 to 50 cents per picul. To Ningpo, 20 cents, and Shanghai, 25 cents per picul.

MANILA.—To United Kingdom: £3. 10s. Sugar, and £4. 10s. light freight.

SINGAPORE.—In consequence of larger arrivals rates have declined to £2. 10s. and £2. 15s. for dead weight, and £3. 15s. measurement to London and Liverpool.

BATAVIA.—To Europe: Notwithstanding the arrival of several vessels seeking, the rates remain high, viz., £4. 17s. 6d. to £5. 2s. per ton.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT, to CHINA, &c.—June 25, Tigris, from Liverpool to Batavia; 26, Prince Alfred, London to Singapore; Jose Maria, Liverpool to Manila; 27, Ousuri, Newcastle, for orders; Harkaway, Sunderland to Hong Kong; Patna, Liverpool to Shanghai; Beemah, London to Shanghai; Maria Augusta, Copenhagen to Amoor; Aldasserdam, Cardiff to Singapore; and Loopait, Rotterdam to Singapore; 28, Queen of the East, London to Shanghai; Verbena, Liverpool to Hong Kong; 26, Beatrice, Cardiff to Hong Kong; Cœur de Lion, Shields to Shanghai; Quick, Cardiff to Hong Kong; Laura, Hamburg to Hong Kong; July 2, Slaney, Sunderland to Shanghai; 3, Trafalgar, Sunderland to Hong Kong; Maravi, Liverpool to Shanghai; 6, Perle, Bordeaux to Saigon; Delhi, London to Shanghai; Truro, Liverpool to Shanghai; 10, Palawan, Sunderland to Singapore; Milton, Liverpool to Hong Kong; Wye, Sunderland to Singapore; 11, Johanne, Copenhagen to Amoor; Hermelin, Glasgow to Hong Kong; W. Connell, Liverpool to Shanghai; and Cornelia Adolphine, Flushing to Batavia.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—June 24, White Eagle, New York to Hong Kong; July 7, Cleiro Babwijan, from New York to Shanghai.

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From China, &c., to England and Continent.—June 29, Novelle Antoinette, from Manila to Havre; July 1, War Hawk, Bangkok to St. Thomas; 4, Seric, Foochow to London; Petronella, Bantaw to Amsterdam; 10, Esperanza, Singapore to Europe, and Patriot King, Manilla to Liverpool.

From China, &c., to United States.—July 4, Ocean Home, Singapore to New York; and 9, Tropic, Manila to New York.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

Arrivals not Included in the Tables.—Aug. 25, at London, from Rangoon, Amity; at Falmouth, from Akyab, Zeepaard, Pride of the Ganges; off Falmouth, from Akyab, Julia; 21, at Bremen, from Bassein, Isabella; 25, off Queenstown, from Akyab, Hypatia; 24, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Hendrika; at New York, from Singapore, Renaud; 27, at Queenstown, from Akyab, Hippolyta; at Falmouth, from Akyab, Amelia Ghering; from Batavia, Annie Forster; 29, off Liverpool, from Akyab, Beloochee.

Departures.—Aug. 22, from Shields, for Shanghai, Vanguard; 20, from Newcastle, for Hong Kong, Orion; 23, from Shields, for Batavia, Anna and Elizabeth; 23, from Sunderland, for Hong Kong, Camoens.

Spoken.—Samoda, from China, and Diadem, from Manila, by the Bulwark, arrived at St. Helena; Bittern (?), Batavia to Amsterdam, off the Cape of Good Hope; Abrel Jaab (?), Manila to Liverpool, June 13, 35 S., 23 E.; Johanna, Batavia to Amsterdam, 36 S., 35 E.; Ternate, Padang to New York, July 8, 7 N., 29 W.; Hollander, Amsterdam to Japan, August 24, 49 N., 7 W.; Minerva (Norw. barque), Newcastle to Shanghai, June 4, 20 N., 25 W.; Boij (Dutch ship), Amsterdam to Padang, June 9, 8 N., 23 W.; Six Sixters, Amsterdam to Batavia, 53 days out, 3 N., 25 W.; Anglo Saxon, London to Sarawak, June 30, 22 S., 27 W.; Goethe (Hamb. barque), Boston to Hong Kong, July 8, 1 S., 26 W.; Ionia, Rotterdam to Batavia, August 18, 49 N., 6 W.; Eddystone (Amer. ship), Borneo to Liverpool, 50 days out, 28 S., 41 E.; St. Jean (Fr. ship), from Cheribon, July 14, off St. Helena.

Laid on.—At Glasgow, for Batavia and Singapore, Scotland; at Liverpool, for Shanghai, Nonpareil.

At St. Helena.—July 28, Rajah (str.), Hutchinson, from Shanghai and Batavia, and left, July 29, for London; 29, Willem Hendrik, Dutch, Beckering, from Batavia, for Rotterdam; 3, Chieftain, Borlase, from Sarawak, and sailed, 5, for London; 26, Herman, Koppelman, from Amoy, and sailed, 27, for New York; 6, Victory, Moon, from Singapore; June 30, Fort William, from Shanghai, and sailed, July 1, for Liverpool; Alexander, Dempster, from Kanagawa, and sailed for London July —; Express, from Shanghai; 14, Queen's Own, Rhymas, from Macoa, and sailed, 15, for London; 15, Rattler, Montechiaro, from Sumatra, and sailed for Gibraltar; 17, Isabella Barber, from Manila; 22, Eleanor, Silk, from Singapore, and sailed, 23, for London; 3, Ferdinand and Louis, Nolting, from Batavia, and sailed, 4, for Rotterdam; 8, Java, Changeur, from Singapore, and sailed, 9, for Bordeaux; 8, Meppel, v. Dam, from Yokohama, and sailed for London; 14, Dordrecht, Loos, from Batavia, and sailed, 15, for Dordt; 16, Australie, Lucas, from Batavia, and sailed, 18, for Amsterdam; 17, Koning Williem III., Kelion, from Padang, and sailed, 18, for Rotterdam; 18, Johanna, Marsan, from Hong Kong, and sailed for Bordeaux: Hindostan, from Singapore; 19, Rena, Butcher, from Singapore, and sailed for London; Levant, Smith, from Padang, &c., and sailed for New York; J. C. Schotel, Groot, from Batavia, and sailed, 20, for Rotterdam; 25, Pollux, Cruys, from Batavia, and sailed, 27, for Amsterdam.

Off St. Helena.—July 4, Willem Daniel (Dut. barq.), from Batavia; 15, Maria Elisa (Dut. ship), from Batavia, for Amsterdam.

Off Ascension.—July 9, Christina, from Batavia, for Amsterdam; 23, Vrouw Johanna, from Hong Kong, for Bordeaux; Muscongus, from Batavia, for Holland.

At Simon's Bay.—June 18, Monge, from Shanghai, and left, 27, for Brest; July 13, H.M.S. Adventure, from Plymouth, for China.

Casualties.—St. Helena, July 26.—The Kiandra, v. Kuffeller, from Passaroeang to Amsterdam, which put in here leaky 18th July, had also lost bulwarks, split sails and rudderhead, and apparently started cutwater, &c. She has been surveyed and recommended to be lightened for further examination. The Eunice, Lewis, from Colombo to London, which put in here 3rd July, and preceeded on the 5th, took on board part of the cargo of the Teide, Becards, from Manila to Liverpool. The Yaratilda, from London, reported as lost in the China Sea, arrived at Shanghai 2nd July.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ARMY.

(From the *Army and Navy Gazette.*)

The arrangements for the reliefs for 1864 have now been concluded. The regiments for India have sailed. Shipping is taken up for the two battalions yet to be despatched on foreign service, and when the 86th has reached Gibraltar, the 1st battalion 10th the Cape, the 2nd battalion 10th Bengal, the 2nd battalion 9th and 2nd battalion 11th China, and the 67th and 99th the Cape, all foreign movements will have been completed until the middle of 1865. As great interest exists respecting the future destinations of regiments, and as many questions are put to us by officers and their relatives upon the subject, we have endeavoured to sketch out for our readers with as much care as possible a statement of the position for service of every regiment of cavalry and battalion of infantry of the Line, with a probable anticipation of its future movements as regards home and foreign service. In this latter respect there must be much uncertainty, and the fulfilment of our expectations depends on circumstances which may any day be upset. Premising this by way of caution, we proceed to state what is likely to occur in the absence of disturbing causes.

In the cavalry the probable changes between home and India are these:—

The 18th Hussars, now on passage to Madras, relieving the 17th Lancers.

The 16th Lancers proceed to Madras in 1865, relieving the 1st Dragoon Guards.

The 3rd Hussars proceed to Bombay in 1866, relieving the 6th Dragoons.

The 15th Hussars proceed to Bengal in 1867, relieving the 2nd Dragoon Guards.

The 4th Hussars proceed to Bombay in 1868, relieving the 3rd Dragoon Guards.

The 13th Hussars proceed to Bengal in 1869, relieving the 7th Hussars.

The 11th Hussars proceed to Bengal in 1870, relieving the 7th Dragoon Guards.

The 10th Hussars proceed to Bengal in 1871, relieving the 19th Hussars.

The 9th Lancers proceed to Bengal in 1872, relieving the 20th Hussars.

The 14th Hussars proceed to Bengal in 1873, relieving the 21st Hussars.

The 12th Lancers proceed to Bengal in 1874, relieving the 5th Lancers.

The 6th Dragoon Guards proceed to Madras in 1875, relieving the 18th Hussars.

The 8th Hussars, just returned from India, are the last for service. The 4th and 5th Dragoon Guards, the Royal Dragoons, and the Scots Greys are not intended for ordinary service abroad, and, like the Household Cavalry, their departure from England will only take place in the event of European war, or other exceptional circumstances.

Regarding the infantry reliefs, we shall first speak of battalions in India.

The 48th, 71st Light Infantry, 52nd Light Infantry, 81st, which went abroad in 1853, and the 28th in February, 1854, are now under orders for home, the relieving regiments being on their passage out to take their place. They may be expected in this country between March and June of next year.

The other battalions in India stand as follows for relief, and their return may be expected in the early part of the year set against each of them respectively:—

The 89th, 27th, 66th, 44th, and 72nd Highlanders in 1866.

The 54th, 56th, 1st battalion 18th Royal Irish, 80th, and 1st battalion 20th in 1867.

The 98th, 51st Light Infantry, 84th, 94th, and 2nd battalion Rifle Brigade in 1868.

The 42nd Highlanders, 35th, 46th, 91st Highlanders, and 33rd in 1869.

The 90th Light Infantry, 82nd, 1st battalion 4th, 1st battalion 23rd Fusiliers, and 93rd Highlanders in 1870.

The 77th, 95th, 88th, 1st battalion 7th Fusiliers, and 1st battalion 1st Royals in 1871.

The 1st battalion 19th, 79th Highlanders, 38th, 97th, and 3rd battalion Rifle Brigade in 1872.

The 3rd battalion 60th Rifles, and the 101st, 102nd, 103rd, and 104th in 1873.

The 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, and 109th in 1874.

The 2nd battalion 21st Fusiliers, 36th, 2nd battalion 19th, 55th, and 76th in 1875.

The 2nd battalion 10th, 1st battalion 11th, 2nd battalion 12th, 58th, and 45th in 1876.

The regiments now employed in New Zealand went on foreign service as follows:—The 65th in May, 1846; the 70th in January, 1849; the 43rd Light Infantry in October, 1851; the 68th Light Infantry in December, 1857; the 40th in July, 1852; the 57th in February, 1853; the 1st battalion 12th in July, 1854; the 50th in June, 1857; the 2nd battalion 14th in September, 1860; and the 2nd battalion 18th Royal Irish in April, 1863. The period at which these battalions may be relieved depends upon the progress of the war. Should it be brought to a termination all will be at once brought home, except the 50th, 2nd battalion 14th, and 2nd battalion 18th. Although the 68th has only been abroad since 1857, it is well entitled to relief, from the fact that it was sent out to India after being at home but a few months from foreign service. In fact, it was like the 43rd—under orders for England when the increased demands of the New Zealand war compelled the authorities to divert it from Rangoon on that service.

On the North American station the 1st battalion 17th and the 63rd will come home next year, they having gone abroad in April and July, 1854, respectively. The 1st battalion 25th went out in 1858, and as it had not then enjoyed its full term of home service, it is likely to return before its full ten years. The other battalions in British North America went out almost at the same time, at the end of 1861, and each may expect to remain seven years more abroad, either on its present station, or, should political events and colonial arrangements permit the further reduction of the regular troops in Canada, in some other garrison abroad—the West Indies or Mediterranean, probably. The following is the order in which they stand to return home after the 1st battalion 17th and 63rd:—4th battalion 60th Rifles, 30th, 47th, 1st battalion Rifle Brigade, 1st battalion 16th, 1st battalion 15th, 2nd battalion 17th, and 2nd battalion 16th.

The 67th and 99th in China are about to proceed thence to the Cape. They are in all fairness due an early relief, for, although they only left England for India in 1858, they were sent out in less than two years of the time that they returned, the former from the West Indies, and the latter after a very long period of service in Australia. Both will probably be brought home in about two or three years. The 2nd battalion 20th, also upon the China station, only went out last year, and its relief cannot be expected before 1873.

At the Cape the 2nd battalion 5th Fusiliers would probably be relieved in 1868; the 2nd battalion 11th is under orders for China. It is very uncertain where it will complete its foreign service, but it is about due back in England in 1871. The 96th only went out last year, and has nine years' service before it. The 2nd battalion 10th is ordered on to India from which it can hardly be expected to return for ten years, although it has already been four years on foreign service. The 1st battalion of the same regiment sails from Ireland next week, and takes its place at the Cape.

At the Mauritius the 2nd battalion 13th Light Infantry went abroad in February, 1859, and the 2nd battalion 24th in March, 1860. These may be expected home, therefore, in 1869 and 1870 respectively.

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In Ceylon the 2nd battalion 25th went abroad last year, and will doubtless remain from home until 1873.

In the West Indies the 2nd battalion 3rd Buffs and the 2nd battalion 6th would probably return home in 1868; but the 2nd battalion 2nd Queen's, at Bermuda, will precede them, having embarked for foreign service a little earlier—namely, in February, 1858.

The regiments now in the Mediterranean would stand for return home in the following order, were their ten years exactly completed:—2nd battalion 7th Fusiliers in May, 1868; 4th battalion Rifle Brigade in August, 1868; 2nd battalion 8th in September, 1868; 2nd battalion 9th in October, 1868; 2nd battalion 15th in November, 1868; 2nd battalion 23rd Fusiliers in February, 1869; 100th in May, 1869; 2nd battalion 22nd in May, 1869; 2nd battalion 4th in May, 1869; 1st battalion 9th in January, 1870; and 1st battalion 22nd in May, 1870. No doubt the time when they will return to England will be nearly that which we mention, but it is not likely that all these regiments will complete their service in the Mediterranean. The 2nd battalion 9th is already ordered to China, two or three more will probably go to North America next year, and one or two are tolerably certain to be sent to the West Indies and the Cape for a couple of years' service before their return to England.

We have thus alluded to the prospects of every battalion in the army on the foreign establishment. We shall now specify those at home in the order in which they stand for service, together with the date at which they last returned from abroad, and the station from which they arrived:—

1st Batt 10th, July, 1859, India.
86th, Aug., '59, India.
32nd Light Infantry, Aug., '59, India.
84th, Sept., '59, India.
78th Highlanders, Sept., '59, India.
29th, Sept., '59, India.
26th, Oct., '59, Bermuda.
41st, April, '60, Jamaica.
49th, May, '60, Barbadoes.
1st Batt. 60th Rifles, Aug., '60, India.
53rd, Aug., '60, India.
1st Batt., 8th, Sept., '60, India.
61st Sept., '60, India.
1st Batt., 3rd Buffs, April, '61, China.
2nd Batt. 1st Royals, April, '61, China.
2nd Batt., 2nd Queen's, May, '61, China.
1st Batt. 2 Queen's, May, '61, China.
87th Fusiliers, May, '61, China.
1st Batt. 5th Fusiliers, July, '61, India.
37th, July, '61, India.
1st Batt., 24th, Aug., '61, India.
73rd, Aug., '61, India.
64th, Aug., '61, India.
59th, Dec., '61, Cape.
2nd Batt. 60th, Feb., '62, China.
83rd, May, '62, India.
1st Batt. 6th, May, '62, India.
75th, June, '62, India.
92nd Highlanders, May, '63, India.
85th Light Infantry, June, '63, Cape.
31st, Nov., '63, China.
1st Batt. 13th Light Infantry, April, '64, India.
1st Batt, 14th, May, '64, Jamaica.
69th, May, '64, India.
74th, July, '64, India.
62nd, July, '64, Canada.
1st Batt. 21st, Aug., '64, Barbadoes.
39th, Aug., '64, Bermuda.

The 1st Battalion 10th is on the eve of departure for the Cape, and in a few days the 86th will leave for Gibraltar. With regard to the others, we can only speak by way of speculation, basing our remarks, however, upon a close consideration of the circumstances generally guiding such movements. If a strictly symmetrical arrangement were observed, every one of these battalions would go out in the fifth year after the date which we put as that of its return home. But as all this depends upon the claims to relief of regiments abroad, and upon many variable causes, irregularity must sometimes occur. Thus for the next three or four years there will be but few claims to relief beyond the five regiments regularly required for India. As we have shown, all the Canadian regiments but two have a long time to serve abroad; those at the Cape and Mauritius will not be brought home immediately, those in the Mediterranean are in the same position, those in New Zealand which ought to be brought home will not be relieved from England, three battalions being the future establishment of the Australian colonies, including New Zealand. Thus the principal destination of the corps now in England would be India. But it so happens that a large proportion of the regiments at present at the head of the list to go abroad returned last from India, after long and arduous service there, and the authorities naturally are not inclined to send them back to the same station after so short an interval, if it can be avoided. The 32nd, 84th, 78th, and 29th are in this position; and it is somewhat difficult to distribute them equitably, having a strict regard for the roster. So far as 1865 is concerned, however, the following scheme would appear to accomplish what is desirable in this respect:—

The 32nd Light Infantry to Malta, replacing the 2nd Battalion 7th Fusiliers to Canada, vice the 1st Battalion 17th to England.

The 84th to Malta, vice the 4th Battalion Rifle Brigade to Canada, vice the 63rd home.

The 78th Highlanders to Malta, relieving the 2nd Battalion 8th to Ceylon, vice the 2nd Battalion 25th to Bengal, vice the 89th home.

The 29th to Gibraltar, vice the 2nd Battalion 15th to the Cape, vice the 96th to Bengal, vice the 27th home.

The 26th to Madras relieving the 66th; the 41st to Bombay, relieving the 44th; and the 49th to Bombay, relieving the 72nd Highlanders.

By this arrangement every corps would embark strictly in its turn, and all the reliefs would be effected without sending any corps to the station from which it last returned. We should add that this scheme is not official, but it seems so just, and to provide so fairly for all interests, that it is not unlikely to be carried out in its main features. The precise destination of any battalion at home is a matter of great uncertainty, but the period at which each will leave the United Kingdom for its next tour of duty abroad may be fairly calculated at five years from the date of its last return, as indicated above.

Murder of the Captain of the "Gustave Adolphe" for China.—At the Southampton Police-court, before the Mayor, Mr. G. H. Brinton, and other magistrates, a German seaman, named Adolph Bjornsen, about 35 years old, was charged with wilfully murdering the captain of the barque *Gustave Adolphe*, an English registered vessel, on the high seas, on the 21st June last. It appeared, from the evidence of the first mate, Mr. Peterson, that the ship left London on the 7th of May for China. When they were within about five days' sail of Pernambuco, the first mate was in his cabin—the time being 9.30 P.M.—when he heard a noise proceeding from the captain's cabin. He immediately went there, and found the prisoner in the cabin with the captain. As soon as the prisoner saw him, he raised a pistol and fired, but the shot missed him. He then went again on deck, the prisoner following him, having still a double-barrelled revolver in his hand. Shortly afterwards the captain came on deck and asked where the second mate was (meaning the prisoner), and whether he had not been secured? Prisoner was standing near at the time, and he turned round and deliberately shot the captain through the head. The captain fell, and after lingering for about half-an-hour, died. The prisoner in the meantime had betaken himself to the captain's cabin, where he remained for a considerable time, the crew being unable to get at him as he had obtained possession of all the firearms. He afterwards came on deck heavily armed, and proceeded to lower the lifeboat, into which he got, and at once started from the ship. It was then about half-past two in the morning. Shots were fired at him, but it was exceedingly dark at the time, and they did not take effect. As soon as the day dawned, all eyes were strained in order to discover, if possible, some trace of the prisoner, and the boat was discerned in the distance. The vessel went immediately in pursuit, and came up with him about ten o'clock. Shots were fired at the prisoner's boat, which was completely riddled; and when it was in a sinking state, the jolly boat belonging to the ship, and manned at the time by six of the crew, was sent to seize the prisoner, who was placed in irons as soon as secured, and conveyed to the vessel, where he remained in confinement until Pernambuco was reached. He was then arraigned before a naval court, where depositions were taken, and the English consul directed his removal to this country. It was stated that no disagreement had taken place between the captain and the prisoner. The prisoner was committed for trial at the sessions.

The Governor of Ceylon.—We have to record the death of Sir Charles Tustan M'Carthy, Governor of Ceylon, which took place on the 14th inst. at the Spa, Belgium, to which place he was on a visit for the benefit of his health. The deceased, who was the son of the late Mr. Denis M'Carthy, of Cork, was born in 1820, and was married in 1848 to Sophia Brunel, eldest daughter of Sir Benjamin Hawes, K.C.B., Under Secretary of State for War. In 1856 he was nominated by Lord John Russell, who was at that time Colonial Secretary, to the office of Colonial Secretary in Ceylon, and in the following year received the order of knighthood. In 1860 he was appointed by the Duke of Newcastle, who was then Colonial Secretary, to the post of Governor and Commander-in-Chief and Vice-Admiral of Ceylon, which he held up to the time of his death. The nomination to the governorship falls to Mr. Cardwell, the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Sir Charles entered the public service as superintendent of one of the smallest of our West Indian dependencies, and in that insignificant sphere gave evidence of the rare capacity that can handle the least and the gravest matters with equal accuracy and adroitness, and which, though capable of the largest inductions, is not indifferent to the lightest details. On returning home on leave of absence from his post, he attracted the attention of the heads of his department, and was soon transferred to more serious and responsible duties. Thence, solely by the due appreciation of his powers and their exercise, he rose to the important and lucrative Government now vacated by his decease. Short as was his enjoyment of wealth and dignity, it is something to have shown that the tastes and accomplishment of letters are not irreconcilable with the careful discharge of official functions and the wise management of the concerns of State, and that our institutions permit such a man as Sir Charles M'Carthy to compete successfully with the discreet mediocrities of intellect, and the superiorities of birth and fortune.

Telegraph Across British North America.—The Hudson's Bay Company lately appointed the Arctic explorer, Dr. Rae, to visit the country between Red River and the Pacific Coast, to select the proper line for the telegraph. That gentleman reached Fort Garry about a month ago, and is now far on his way across the plains of the Saskatchewan; and we are now enabled to make the further announcement that seventy-seven tons of the wire, nearly half the quantity required, have arrived in Montreal, and the balance will be here very shortly. The wire is to be forwarded at once by the Grand Trunk Railway Company to Sarnia, and by steamboat to the head of Lake Superior, whence it will be transported during the next winter to Fort Garry or the Red River, at which place the whole of the wire, instruments, insulators, &c., will be collected by the beginning of spring. The poles will be cut and got ready during the winter, as soon as the fine weather of next spring sets in active operations will be commenced, and by the close of the year 1865 there is every reason to expect that telegraphic communication will be in operation from Fort Garry to the shores of the Pacific. The telegraphic system of the United States is now in operation to within about 400 miles of Fort Garry. This gap will certainly be at once filled, and the messages can pass from any part of Canada to British Columbia. Will not Canada be prepared to complete the communication between Fort Garry and Montreal by the Ottawa Valley, so as to have an unbroken line of telegraph stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific through British territory? This active prosecution of the Pacific telegraph by the Hudson's Bay Company is the best evidence of their intention to inaugurate a new policy in their affairs. The progress of the telegraph with the company's posts every forty or fifty miles will be the surest means of opening up the country, and directing to the fertile territories of the Saskatchewan, the Assiniboine, and the Red River a tide of settlement and population which will ultimately complete the chain of British colonies from one ocean to the other.

Through Siberia to Peking.—A gentleman who proceeded from London to Peking through Siberia—a route often described in our columns during the past three years—has forwarded an account to *The Times* in which he concludes as follows:—"I left the town of Shaching early on the morning of the 26th, halted at midday at Too-moo, and stopped for the night at Chatavu, a fort on the inner or ancient Great Wall of China. This place is at the foot of a formidable mountain range, the pass over which, 17 miles in length, occupied the half of the following day. The mountain scenery was the grandest I had yet seen in the course of my journey, the road passing among rugged and precipitous crags. In the

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evening we arrived at the village of Sha-ho, and about noon the following day we reached Peking. The last day's journey was through a sandy plain, over which the dust rose in clouds. It gave great inconvenience to travellers proceeding northwards, but none to me, as my back was turned towards the wind. I found that the last steamer from Taku for that season had just left, and the river was expected daily to be frozen up. I had not seen a drop of rain for more than six weeks, the weather, although cold, having been most agreeable. Thus ended what I believe to have been the first journey made by an Englishman from London to Peking by the Siberian route. I hope next season to hear that my example has been followed by many of my countrymen."

Naval and Military.

The official trial of the new steam-tender, constructed on the double-screw principle, which has been built for the iron frigate Achilles, took place in Chatham harbour, under the superintendence of the officials connected with the dockyard. It was highly satisfactory, and showed the immense advantages possessed by vessels fitted with twin screws as compared with those driven by the single propeller. The little steamer tested is in all respects similar to the tender recently constructed for the Bombay, 67, 400-horse power, Capt. Colin A. Campbell, flagship of Rear-Admiral the Hon. C. G. J. B. Elliott, C.B., and fitted with engines by Messrs. Penn and Co. She is exactly 42 ft. in length and 11 ft. in breadth, or, in other words, is of the dimensions of an ordinary man of-war's launch. From a vessel of this kind she only differs in being fitted with a portable steam-engine for driving her screws. Her machinery, which has been constructed by Messrs. Maudslay, Sons, and Field, is nominally of 3 horse power, but being on the high-pressure principle, and capable of being worked up to 100 lb. to the square inch, her power can be increased to that of 26 horses. Each screw is driven by means of its own independent shafting, which thus enables either propeller to be worked either ahead or astern. The screws are four-bladed, and are set at a pitch of 3 ft. 4½ in. The diameter of each screw shaft is 2 in., and the length 18 ft. There are four cylinders, each of 4 in. in diameter, and the length of the stroke is 6 in. The total weight of the engines, with 9 cwt. 29 lb. of water in the boilers, is 4 tons 7 cwt., or about one-third less than those of the engines of the tender built for the Bombay.

The Amethyst, 26, attached to the sailing reserve squadron in Chatham harbour, has been lent by the Admiralty to the Atlantic Telegraph Company, to be used in shipping the Atlantic cable on board the Great Eastern.

The Prince de Joinville, accompanied by the Duke of Montpensier and the Count de Paris, and attended by Capt. Ch. Pigeard, Naval Attaché to the Imperial French Embassy in London, and by the tutor of the Count de Paris, arrived about one P.M. on Thursday from London at the Admiralty-house, Portsmouth dockyard, the residence of the Port Admiral and Naval Commander-in-Chief, Vice-Admiral Sir Michael Seymour, G.C.B. They shortly afterwards, accompanied by Sir Michael Seymour, embarked in the Admiral's barge at the King's Stairs landing-place, and were conveyed on board Her Majesty's gunnery ship Excellent, Captain Astley Cooper Key, C.B. The Prince and party remained upwards of an hour on board the Excellent, and witnessed some very interesting firing from the different descriptions of ordnance forming her armament, and that of her tender, the Illustrious, ranging from the 10½-inch 12-ton gun downwards. From the Excellent Sir Michael Seymour conveyed his visitors on board the turret-ship Royal Sovereign, where they were received by the senior-lieutenant, in the absence of Captain Sherard Osborn, C.B. The turrets and their guns, with the general arrangements of the ship on deck and below, were examined with great apparent interest.

The Channel fleet will sail from Spithead this day, for a cruise between Portland and the Lizard. This arrangement, it will be seen, differs somewhat from that stated to have been made previously, which sent the fleet from Spithead for Leith Roads, with the supposed intention of its escorting the Prince and Princess of Wales to within sight of the Cattegat on the occasion of their forthcoming voyage to Copenhagen and the Baltic.

Major-General Sir Robert Walpole, K.C.B., who has recently assumed the command of the forces in the Chatham district, held his first review of the troops quartered at Chatham garrison on Saturday afternoon.

Continental Intelligence

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, AUGUST 25.

The news that was brought here by the last mail from Batavia has not given much satisfaction to our Government and the Liberal press, who applauded so excessively when the States-General approved the Bill presented by the Minister for the Colonial Department, and by which it was proposed to fix the estimates of India by the Legislature. They thought it the most salutary measure that ever could be taken, while the Opposition press, in many slashing articles, predicted that this was the first step that would lead to the self-government of our Indies. I hope that the dark-coloured suppositions of the Java press will prove to have been written without due deliberation, and that they will be contradicted by the decisive attitude of the States-General when the Indian debates are opened.

The deplorable contention between the followers of the modern and orthodox religious principles has brought also discord between the members of the Netherlands Missionary Society. In the last annual meeting that was held here, some of them insisted that the adherents of different opinions should be tolerated. They thought this desirable and necessary because the society, in that way only, could bear rich fruits in future. On the other side, it was desired that the meeting should say positively its opinion relative to the second article of the statutes (the biblical basis), because they suppose that two contradictory principles could not co-operate to the same purpose. The dissension already influences prejudicially the activity and the financial state of the society.

The meeting decided by 63 against 35 votes, that every one ought to be free to co-operate with the society, and denied also that the orthodox professed the principles of Dr. Zaalberg, Reville, Pierson, &c. It is very explicable that all the orthodox members of the direction retired, and it is probable that the Netherlands Missionary Society will be, within a little time, an ultra-liberal institution; but I do not believe that this will prove to be favourable to the propagation of christianity among the heathen.

The Ministerial papers contradict the rumour that the indisposition of Mr. Fransen van de Putte is dangerous. Within a few days he will be able to return from Kissingen to the Hague.

His Majesty left the Hague for his seat "het Loo," where he will stay some weeks.

Mr. Abram van Ryckevorsel, ex-member of the first Chamber of the States-General, died here suddenly.

It is rumoured that a concession is asked of the Governor-General of India, to organise a tug service for the coasts of our East Indian possessions.

Mr. Jonckbloet has sent in his resignation as Professor at the University at Groningen. It is said that he will be replaced by Dr. van Vloten.

A Russian squadron of six to seven ships will within a few some days enter the harbour of Nieuwe Diep.

A detachment of supplementary troops, of 100 soldiers, under the command of Captain J. W. Benschop, returning to duty from leave of absence to this country, and accompanied by the First Lieuts. J. W. E. Schadee van der Does and A. Backer, will leave the recruiting depot at Harderwyk, to embark on the 30th on board the *Argo*, Captain J. Ankringa, for Batavia.

The following two first-class vessels have been chartered by the Trading Company to convey produce from Java, under the usual conditions, to the undermentioned ports:—*China*, Captain A. F. A. Horner, for Amsterdam; *Zuid-Holland*, Captain K. D. Breuning, for Amsterdam.

His Majesty has superseded, at their own requests, Capt. S. Faber Huys, commander of H.M. frigate *Adolf Hertog van Nessau*, with a pension of 1,800f.; and Major of the E.I.A., K. F. van Langen.

His Majesty has been pleased to appoint Capt. O. A. Uhlenbeck, Commander to the *Adolf Hertog van Nassau*; Lieut. J. L. Klynsma to the guardship at Willemsoord, and Lieut. G. J. W. Hoogwinkel to the guardship at Hellevoet.

His Majesty has approved the appointment of Mr. A. Volz as Consul for Baden, at Batavia.

His Majesty's screw-steamer *Coehoorn* is ready to sail for Batavia.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The market was very inanimated, waiting for the public sales of the N.T.C. on the 17th July; prices generally ½ to 1c. lower. Since our last report the following lots were sold:—2,000 b. Java, ex West Cappelle at 42¼ to 43c., ca. 540 and 270 b. Java ex Maarten van Rossum at different prices; 1,800 b. triage ex Alida at 32 to 43½c.; 1,600 b. Java ex Dionysia Catharina at 41c., and 1,500 b. do. ex H. Vincent van Paulo at 41½c.

TEA.—Market steady, but without transactions. The stock is very small.

SUGAR.—Raw: Market flat, sellers are not much inclined to operate. Refined: A fair business was done at somewhat lower prices.

RICE.—The market was rather more active. 740 b. Java ex Maarten van Rossum were sold at 8¼f.; 3,725 b. ditto ex ditto, at 8f., 7 and 6f.; 2,078 b. ditto ex Nancy, at 5⅝f.

SPICES.—Without transactions. Cinnamon: With more demand.

BANCA TIN.—1,000 bl. were sold at 61⅜f.; 250 do. at 61¼f.

COTTON.—East Indian with more demand at higher prices.

JAVA TOBACCO.—There are no transactions to report. The market is very dull. Stock 9,982b. Java.

INDIGO.—Steady, prices unaltered.

RATTANS.—With much inquiry; 642b. ex Drie Gerzusters, and 2,860b. ex Alida were sold.

DRUGS.—The different lots Gum Benzoin, imported from Padang, were sold; prices are kept secret.

JUTE.—East India is in demand at 56f.

HIDES.—2,468 p. Padang cow, ex Loopuyt, were sold at prices that did not transpire.

MONEY—Easy. Bank discount 4½ per cent., open market 4¼ per cent., N.W.S. 3½ per cent., 62½; 3 per cent. 73½; 4 per cent 97 3-16, ex London, 3 months 11.68¼f., short 11.94f.; Paris, 3 months 46.30, short 47.10f.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.
Aug. 18 ..	Texel	.. Batavia	.. Leading Star.

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DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	Ship.	For
Aug. 7	Hellevoet	Luconia	Batavia.
— 7	Texel	Goede Ferwachling	Do.
— 7	Do.	Zaanstroom	Do.
— 7	Do.	Sindbad	Sourabaya.
— 9	Brouwershaven	Ida Wilhelmina	Batavia.
— 9	Do.	Van der Palm	Samarang.
— 12	Hellevoet	Bengalen	Macassar.
— 13	Brouwershaven	Tonia	Batavia.
— 13	Do.	China	Do.
— 13	Do.	Johanna Maria	Do.
— 18	Texel	Ortelius	Do.
— 14	Brouwershaven	Zuid Holland	Do.
— 14	Do.	Hollandia	Do.

READY TO SAIL.

At TEXEL.—Electra, Batavia.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per Sindbad, Captain Kooy, from Amsterdam to Sourabaya: Messrs. H. H. J. Burlage, C. Walter, J. Merkelbach, Miss Huygens. Per van der Palm, Captain van Katwyk, from Brouwershaven to Samarang: Messrs. Fr. Kuntze and family, A. Cambrery and family, A. E. Uljee, J. F. Dykman, J. H. Pleynaer and family, Y. F. Scheu and family, M. Ryken, J. Boers, A. Herwyn, G. Boukens, J. Kompagne, L. Wensing, and H. Francke.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

HAMBURG, AUGUST 25.

In addition to the text of the treaty between Prussia and Japan—of which I sent you in my last letter an analysis of the contents—the official *Staats Anzeiger*, of Berlin, now publishes the "regulations for carrying on the trade of the Prussians in Japan," referred to in Articles 7 and 10 of the treaty as forming an integral part of the same. They are very voluminous, and similar to those in force with other countries.

The Prussian official *Staats-Anzeiger* publishes the text of the "Treaty of Amity, Navigation, and Trade between Prussia and Japan," signed on the 24th of January, 1861, at Jeddo, by Count von Eulenburg and the Japanese Plenipotentiaries, Muragaki-Awadsi-no-Kami, Takemoto Dsusio-no-Kami, and Kurokawa Satsiu.

Art. 1 states that there shall always be peace and goodwill between the high contracting parties, their heirs and successors, and their respective subjects.

Art. 2 grants Prussia the right to have a resident diplomatic agent at Jeddo, and a consul-general, both of whom shall be at liberty to move about freely in all parts of the Japanese Empire. Consuls may also be appointed in the ports already open or that may in future be opened to foreign trade.

Art. 3 stipulates that the towns and ports of Hakodade, Kanagawa, and Nagasaki shall be opened to Prussian subjects for the purposes of trade from and on the day in which the treaty comes into operation. They may establish themselves permanently at those places, purchase houses, rent lands, and build dwelling-houses and warehouses, but no fortresses or other works of defence, and the competent local Japanese authorities shall have the right from time to time to inspect such buildings whilst in course of construction, alteration, or repair. On the other hand, the natives are prohibited from erecting any obstructive works, or to prevent the Prussians having free access and egress to their dwellings and warehouses. Prussian subjects acquire the right to move freely from Kanagawa to the river Logo, which falls into the Bay of Jeddo, between Kawasaki and Sinagawa, and in all other directions to a distance of ten ri; and from Hakodade in any direction to a like distance of ten ri,—the ri being computed to be 12,456 Prussian feet, or 4,275 English yards, or 3,910 metres. From Nagasaki they may go into the interior of the country to any distance they like.

Art. 4 reserves to the Prussians the full exercise of their religion and religious ceremonies, for which purpose they may erect their own churches and other places of worship.

Art. 5. All differences between Prussians with respect to person or property are to be decided by their own duly constituted authorities. Complaints or claims made by Prussians against natives are to be settled by the Japanese authorities. If a native refuses to pay to a Prussian his just debts, or fraudulently conceals himself to avoid payment, the competent Japanese authorities are bound to pursue him and bring him to justice, and *vice versa*; but neither the Prussian nor Japanese authorities become answerable for the payment of debts contracted by the subjects of either nation.

Art. 6. Prussian subjects accused of crimes committed towards natives or the subjects of any other power are to be tried by Prussian Consular Tribunals and according to the Prussian laws. And Japanese natives accused of crimes towards Prussian subjects shall be tried by their own tribunals and according to the laws of Japan.

Art. 7. All claims for fines and confiscation of property for alleged contravention of the trade regulations appended to this treaty shall be tried before the Prussian Consular Tribunals, and all such fines and confiscations are to be delivered over to the Government of Japan.

Art. 8. Prussian subjects are at liberty to import from Prussia and other countries all goods and merchandise not prohibited by the laws, sell them in Japan, or re-export them on payment only of the duties stipulated in the tariff appended to this treaty. They are also free to purchase from or sell to native merchants direct, and without any intervention on the part of the Japanese officials. All Japanese have the right to purchase goods and commodities from the Prussians, and may keep them, consume them, or sell them again.

Art. 9. Prussian subjects have the right to take natives into their pay and employment.

Art. 10. Provides for the due execution of the trade regulations that form an integral part of the treaty.

Art. 11. Reserves to the Government of Japan the right to take measures to prevent smuggling.

Art. 12. Stipulates that on the arrival of a Prussian trading vessel off one of the open ports the captain may require the use of a pilot, and in like manner when he sails, all the duties and port charges having been previously paid.

Art. 13. Prussian subjects, on paying the duty on goods and merchandise imported by them, are at liberty to require from the Custom-house authorities a certificate of such payment, which shall enable them to trans-ship the same goods to any other open port in Japan without having to pay the duty a second time.

Art. 14. All goods and merchandise imported by Prussian subjects, and on which duty has been paid, may be sent to any other part of Japan without the payment of any other duties, transit-dues, or other charges.

Art. 15. All foreign coined money shall have free circulation in Japan, and shall pass for as much as a similar weight of Japanese money of the same kind. In the mercantile intercourse between Prussians and Japanese either native or Prussian money may be taken in payment. Coin of all descriptions, with the exception of Japanese copper coins and foreign uncoined gold and silver, may be freely exported from Japan.

Art. 16. If the Japanese Custom-house authorities consider the valuations for duty put upon the goods by the Prussian importers too low, they may make their own valuation, and offer to take the goods at that price, which shall in that case be paid for in cash without discount. Should the importers refuse, they are bound to pay duty according to the valuation of the Custom-house officials.

Art. 17. Should a Prussian vessel be wrecked or stranded on the coast of the Empire of Japan, or obliged to seek shelter in any port within the territory belonging to the Tycoon, the native local authorities are bound to render the distressed ship every assistance in their power; the persons on board shall be treated with kindness, and, if required, be supplied with the means of proceeding to the residence of the nearest Prussian Consul.

Art. 18. Provisions and stores of all descriptions for the use of Prussians ship of war may be landed without payment of duty at Kanagawa, Hakodade, and Nagasaki, and warehoused under the care of Prussian officials. Should, however, such provisions or stores be sold to natives or foreigners they are liable to the payment of duty.

Art. 19 stipulates expressly that from and after the day that the treaty comes into operation, the Prussian subject shall enjoy all rights, privileges, and immunities already granted, or that may in future be granted, by the Tycoon of Japan to the subjects of any other nation.

Art. 20. It is agreed that the high contracting parties on the 1st of July, 1872, may propose such alterations or improvements in the treaty as experience may make desirable, one year's previous notice being given of the intention to make fresh proposals on either side.

Art. 21. All official communications from Prussian diplomatic agents or consular authorities to Japanese officials shall be written in the German language; but in order to facilitate intercourse it is provided that during five years from the day the treaty comes into operation such communications shall be accompanied by a translation either in the Dutch or Japanese languages.

Art. 22. The present treaty is made in quadruple in the German, Japanese, and Dutch languages, the Dutch text to be considered the original one.

Art. 23 stipulates that the treaty shall come into operation on the 1st of January, 1863.

The treaty was ratified and the ratifications exchanged at Jeddo on the 21st of January, 1864.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The advices from Rio are more favourable than were expected. In spite of the large supplies of the new crop arriving daily in that city, the stocks were reduced by 20,000 bags, owing to the great excess of shipments, whilst the prices had fallen only 100 reis. The result of the Dutch sale is also considered satisfactory here, and gives evidence that the prices in this market have been in exact proportion to the value of Java in Holland. All these circumstances have had the effect of making the prices of all descriptions of coffee exceedingly firm, and in some instances even a shade higher. Purchasers have come forward pretty freely since the departure of the last mail, and bought to the extent of 23,000 bags. Arrivals of the week 16,000 bags.

SUGAR.—The raw article has recovered from the downward tendency it maintained for the last fortnight, and though prices are not higher, the market is firm, and more confidence is felt in the article. The sales comprised 500 chests of Havana, and a few hundred bags of East India. In the refined market there was also a better feeling, and 12,000 loaves were disposed of at the full currency of last week, the business done being exclusively in the higher qualities, inferior descriptions being scarce and, therefore, held for comparatively more money.

RICE.—On the whole this market has been calm, though previous prices are fully supported. Neither in clean nor rough grain have the dealings been above the average amount.

SPICES.—Cassia Lignea is firm, and looking up, but the transactions were only to a moderate extent. Nutmegs and cloves continue in request at last week's advance. Cassia Flores is a trifle lower. Ginger firm. In Pepper and Pimento no alteration to notice.

SPELTER.—Greater activity prevails, and a better feeling exists. Higher prices are paid, and the sales of the week were 20,000 centners, the last price paid being 16 marks and 5 sch. Banco.

SHIPPING.

SAILED.—Marie Wilhelmine, for Hong Kong and Singapore; Antelope, for Hong Kong.

LOADING.—For Singapore and China: Marie Lucie, Turandot. For Singapore: Nordstern. For Macassar and Hong Kong: Chetoo. For Hong Kong and Macao: Ino, Leopold. For Calcutta: Tellus.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A Registrer is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the Far East and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in China, Japan, Singapore, *and other parts of the* Far East, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the Far East.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 1864.

OUR PROSPECTS IN JAPAN.

There was once a certain rigid cardinal who did not approve of babies being suckled on the fasting days of the Church. The rule he wished to enforce was not one likely to suit the rising generation, or their mothers. No doubt he attempted to show that it was a wise law, and in accordance with the principles of the Romish faith; no doubt he argued very logically in its favour, and proved to demonstration its fitness and propriety. But the infants loudly protested against his theory, and the mothers found it inexpedient, so there was an end of the matter. The story will serve to point a moral as regards British relations with Japan. The politician writing in his study may endeavour to prove the expediency and justice of a certain course of action; he may show that it would be in accordance with the law of nations, and with the principles which actuate us in our intercourse with European countries; he may aver that the contrary course is unworthy of Englishmen, and in direct contradiction to the political belief we are so anxious to maintain upon the Continent. The simple answer to these and similar remarks is, that however wise and good they may be in themselves, they have no meaning whatever when directed towards Japan. Englishmen in that country must be protected —British rights must be maintained. This is of the first importance, and not until these great ends are achieved, can we afford to talk about international law. Doubtless, at the first blush of the matter, it may appear unseemly that Earl Russell should interfere to prevent the Japanese from raising batteries on their own soil—that two years since he should have proposed mounting cannon on the site of the new Legation building, although an article of the treaty expressly states that "no fortification or place of military strength shall be erected;" and that, according to the last advices, we are not only landing additional troops in the country, but have requested the Government of the Tycoon to provide for them the necessary barrack accommodation. It is certain we could not act in this way towards any European Power, and that we evince a greater respect for the feelings of nations who are blessed with Christian civilisation, and large armies. But it would be absurd, and, indeed, impossible, to show the same consideration for a semi-civilised and wholly Pagan people like the Japanese. No sooner had Sir Rutherford Alcock returned to Japan than he was warned, as he had been so often warned before, that if he proceeded to Yedo he would run the risk of assassination. He went thither, nevertheless, but not without a military escort, and was back at Yokohama two days afterwards. There, too, danger is said to be threatening him, and foreigners generally, from a body of *ronins*, who, doubtless with some ill intent, have quartered themselves in the neighbourhood of the place. The *Japan Herald* states that a feeling of uneasiness prevails; "clouds portending showers are seen in the horizon;" and the arrival of the *Conqueror*, with its battalion of Royal Marines, seems not only to have enlivened Yokohama, but to have relieved the anxieties of its European inhabitants.

Her Majesty's Minister, in his despatch to Major-General Brown, dated Yokohama, May 14, speaks of "future contingencies," and observes that it is impossible to say whether th regiment, or a portion of it, may not be required to enter into active operations away from that place. Couple this with the intelligence that three Dutch men-of-war were daily expected, and the probability, to which we recently alluded, is increased, that Sir Rutherford Alcock proposes to open up the Inland Sea, which has been closed against us by the Prince of Thiosiu. To this enterprise, be it remembered, the Dutch have a far stronger incentive than any which can call us to action. They have to revenge the unprovoked attack on the *Medusa* and the slaughter of a countryman, and to show, as we did recently in the case of Mr. Richardson, that so foul an act must be followed by severe retribution. To punish Thiosiu and his retainers for their treachery may be the duty of Holland, and by Holland let it be accomplished. It is her work, and not ours; and although it may prove of great importance to clear the Straits of Shimonoseki at the same time, it is highly questionable whether it is England's duty to expend blood and treasure on such an enterprise. It is true that the Government of the Tycoon may be glad of our assistance. They will not be averse in this instance to make use of our force; but they are far too knowing, and, indeed, too well-read, not to be aware that the aid of the European in the East generally terminates, more or less, in the subjection of those to whom he has rendered assistance. Our relations with Japan are in the interests of peace, for we are in that country as merchants, and in no other capacity. Sir Rutherford Alcock is aware that his countrymen at home and in Japan are not desirous to promote commerce through the sword. He knows that if commerce cannot be increased by peaceful means Englishmen are contented to bide their time; he knows that the plea for any acts of warfare must be strong indeed to carry with it the assent of the country; and he doubtless recollects the reprimand of Earl Russell more than four years ago, when he was new to the post of British Minister in Japan, and had threatened war without sufficient justification. For these reasons we may hope that the British troops now in Japan will not be called upon to test their metal with the braves of the Prince Thiosiu. To be capable of defending ourselves against an unprovoked attack, it is perhaps well that we should have a British battalion at Yokohama; but since neither the men nor their officers are fond of inglorious sloth, we cannot help fearing lest a speedy opportunity should be found for calling them into action. The peril is one which civilians are too apt to overlook when they ask for the protection of a naval or military force. We know that this has brought on more than half our troubles in China. It is inexperienced and idle to expect that red coats and blue jackets can long remain satisfied with "smoking, reading, and spinning yarns." We hope, therefore, to hear shortly of the retirement of some of this force from Japan, and at the same time we trust it has accomplished by its presence alone the ends which Sir Rutherford had in view.

A TRIP TO HOLLAND.

At this season, when the cares of business are laid aside for the time being, and everybody who can betakes himself to the seaside or to the continent, it is satisfactory for us islanders to have a new route opened for the mainland of Europe, and no doubt equally so to our continental neighbours who wish to visit the "tight little island" whose "institutions are steeped in brine." Such have we found that by way of Harwich and Rotterdam, recently carried out by the enterprising directors and managers of the Great Eastern Railway Company. The sea portion of this route is performed by two new steamboats, of light draught, and accommodation for passengers, something after the American style, so that tourists may enjoy a "sniff of the briny" on a spacious poop deck that commands an elevated prospect. The only drawback to this part of the locomotion is its being done at night, and in defiance of "time and tide," on the shallow waters of "Hollowland;" so that the boat rarely meets the exact hour when she can cross the Brielle bar, and the eight hours' sea voyage is lengthened into ten or twelve. This, however, we understand the company will obviate for the future by instituting a tidal service on the 1st September. This accomplished, the passenger from London will find himself in Rotterdam in thirteen hours. At present the company advertise to effect this, but it can only be done two or three times a month, when all things are favourable. It is a pity that at the commencement of the new route the company professed to perform the voyage at the minimum time, as an hour or two more is of small consequence to holiday *voyageurs;* at least, we thought so when it w

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accomplished in fifteen by way of Hellevoetsluis. Now, here is the point where the Dutchmen of enterprise should aid the company in carry out the through line to Rotterdam by some better means of transit than the old canal system. Why not have a railway and terminus on the other side, where the steamers could arrive and depart at any time independent of the tide, as at Harwich. We are of opinion that such a sea route and railway would be most profitable, and be a grand link in the chain that should unite Holland with England, in political as well as commercial union, in pleasure as well as business. The fact is, hitherto few Englishmen ever think of taking a trip to Holland for pleasure; and we confess that we were agreeably surprised at all the pleasant places and kindly faces we saw in his Netherlands Majesty's dominions. To the tourist who has "done" France, Germany, Switzerland, and Italy, we would say try Holland, and you will find in it a "spirit of travel" as distinct and refreshing as the national beverage is from cognac and wine.

At the same time that we saw much we admired as characteristic of a free and industrious people, there were many things that showed the sluggishness of the Dutch mind. The whole system of conveyances, from the wheelbarrow to the nobleman's carriage, is behind the age. Such old lumbering hackney coaches are not to be found in any other civilised country; and with the most level roads in the world they have the slowest diligence traffic. The only exception to this is the tramway from the Hague to Scheveningen, where excellent omnibuses are drawn by fine strong horses. But on inquiry we found that these belong to an English company, and the horses and drivers are of London celebrity. Then the hotels are not up to the day. There at Rotterdam, what is called one of the best hotels in the town is a rickety old house, dirty in its apartments, dear in its table, and boorish in its attendance. This was all very well in the days when these places of accommodation were frequented chiefly by skippers and traders in cattle, butter, and cheese; but the tourist, with his wife or lady friends, expect something more congenial in their travels; and we were glad to learn that new hotels were being opened on a better scale, not only in Rotterdam but Amsterdam, where also there is room for improvement in all that provides for the comfort and convenience of strangers visiting the capital of the Netherlands.

Among the wants to the English traveller was the exceeding difficulty of getting a perusal of a newspaper in his own language, or even a respectable "broadsheet" in any tongue. At Amsterdam there are twenty issues from the press of what are dignified by the name of newspapers, but the best of them in our eyes looked a "miserable rag." On inquiry we found that there was a heavy duty upon these journals regulated by dimensions, which had the effect of dwarfing their proportions. Every copy must be stamped, as well as all foreign journals, under heavy penalties. Some idea of the amount levied may be gathered from the fact that the stamp duty on *The Times* is 18 cents. or nearly fourpence English. This amounts virtually to a prohibition on foreign newspapers, and is a tax upon knowledge in the country. It is rather anomalous that a highly educated and liberty-loving nation like Holland should levy such a heavy tax on this medium of intelligence, which it is evident isolates to a great extent the minds of the people, as their peculiar geographical position has isolated them from neighbouring nations. Holland for the Hollanders is thus extended even to the press, and protection afforded to local newspapers that must have the effect of contracting the ideas of the people at large. It is time that these things were reformed, and it was with much gratification we learned that next session in Parliament a Bill would be brought in to abolish the old Act.

FRANCE AND JAPAN.

When Napoleon desired to inflame the ardour of his troops in Egypt, he told them that the ancient world was looking down upon them from the Pyramids. Do the representatives of British force and civilisation in Japan require to be told how France watches them from her Imperial elevation? Or are their plans so well arranged, their action so determined, their forces so complete, that they can afford, like Wellington, to risk a Waterloo, having a safe retreat, and a second battle-ground provided?

But however the case may be, it can do no harm to watch and to listen to what our friends in Paris say about our present position in Japan. The arrival in Japan of the British reinforcements, set down here at 2,500 strong, is, of course, duly announced, and the intended attack on the fortifications of Simonosaki is taken for granted. If the British Admiral should succeed in obtaining possession of these works, "as he hopes to do," say the Imperial journalists, "the English troops will occupy them, and there found an establishment destined, in a few years, to acquire a great importance." The Strait of Simonosaki is described as occupying an admirable position in a rich and fertile country; and its strategic position is considered as being of the highest importance. "Its possession would assure to the English the domination of Japan. These are facts that Europe should not be left ignorant of." The English Admiral, it is said, further expects 2,000 more infantry, and this circumstance sufficiently indicates the policy of the British Government, which is to make another Gibraltar in Japan. They could not have selected a better position for their operations. The Tycoon, it is said, understands the object perfectly well, but, as he is powerless to prevent it, and as the Prince of Nagato is his personal enemy, he lets the English proceed, who, in this case, are about to attack a Prince hostile to Europeans and to all foreigners.

Elsewhere we are told that the Dutch and American Consuls are acting in concert with Sir Rutherford Alcock, and we now hear that, such being the case, "the Minister of France in Japan has not hesitated to give them his *moral aid*." These facts and suggestions are not in harmony with each other. Of England is about to create another Gibraltar in the Straits of Japan, if her force is sufficient to promise a fair chance of success, if the authority of the British Government is likely to replace that of the Daimio of the district, and if the dawn of English domination is about to break upon Japan, how is it that France stands by with folded arms and seems determined to have no finger in the pie? And if she thus avoids burning powder on the occasion, why does she tender us her moral support? There is a riddle somewhere! Is it that France believes the English force in the Japan waters insufficient for the object in view, or is it that the French representative, having little else but moral support to offer, will not play second fiddle—will not bark without being able to bite if occasion offers? Is it that something more than moral support is on its way from France or from Cochin-China? Is it that the arrangements made with the Japanese Ambassadors who have just quitted France are so perfectly satisfactory that Louis Napoleon can calmly await the possibility of England building up her Japanese Gibraltar? Or, lastly, is it that France is a complete convert to Exeter-hall, and does she intend to convert her sword into a ploughshare, or to dissolve it in some diplomatic medium? It must be confessed that the attitude of our ally in this matter is rather difficult of comprehension; but let us hope that the British force is strong enough to do all that is required without assistance from anyone, and that the understanding amongst all the European Powers in Japan is clear and honest.

The Japanese Ambassadors, it appears, took very kindly to French eating and drinking, and have taken back with them six Parisian cooks of great talent—regular *Cordons Bleus*, as the phrase goes here—and a complete kitchen battery, as a collection of pots and pans is called in this capital of barracks and restaurants. The chief cook, the Vattel of this French Embassy to Japan, is said to have been seduced from his throne in one of the Embassy kitchens here by the offer of "a magnificent salary and emoluments."

SILK AND SILKWORMS' EGGS.

There has been much activity exhibited of late in France respecting the supply of silk and of the eggs of the silkworm; but, in spite of the considerable imports of both from China and elsewhere, it is evident that this important commerce does not progress to the extent desired. The *Annales du Commerce*, a publication of authority, says, that certain French silk cultivators had the intention of going to Independent Tartary for silkworms' eggs at the commencement of the present year, but were deterred by the warning of the Department of Commerce, which represented to them the dangers which Europeans ran in Bokhara, where even Russian subjects themselves are not always safe. The parties in question were recommended in preference by the department to try Persia, and the following information has been published on the subject. Silkworms are bred in five provinces of Persia—Meshed, Yezd, Cachan, the Mazenderan, and the Ghilan. The quality of the silk is very unequal; that of the Ghilan is the best: next comes that of Meshed and Yezd, while that of Cachan and of the Mazenderan

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again is very inferior. The Persian silkworms are said to be managed in the simplest possible manner, and the inference is that they are far more hardy than those bred in the South of France. The silk produced in Ghilan is said to amount to about 450,000 lbs. per annum, and that of Yezd to about 50,000 lbs. The produce of the other districts is doubtfult The yield in the Ghilan is increasing every year, and is expected to become very important indeed. One Swiss and three or four Greek houses are said to have made a great deal of money out of their commerce with that quarter. The *Annales du Commerce* says that the trade in silkworms' eggs is yet but little developed, and it is difficult to account for the neglect into which it has fallen, in spite of many successful experiments that have been made. Many private merchants have started from Constantinople to proceed to Persia, and purchase silkworms' eggs, but on arriving at Tiflis they have generally met with so much discouragement that they have given up the project and returned home. The idea in France is, that it was not the fear of any danger to themselves that turned them back, but the tricks of certain speculators, who were unwilling to see rivals in the market.

From all this it appears that silk and silkworms' eggs are much wanted in France, and that the efforts of the last few years to increase the supply have not been very successful. It is true that the transport of the eggs is beset with certain difficulties; scientific knowledge must be brought to bear upon the packing of the seed or eggs, and on protecting them from the effects of changes in temperature: but none of these affect the import of the silk itself. Perhaps the mercantile community of England will find a way out of all these difficulties; it is a great pity that the looms of Lyons and other places should ask for the raw material of their manufacture in vain.

COCHIN-CHINA.

The following is from a Paris paper:—

Private letters from Saigon to the 30th June announce a fact of great importance. Commandant Aubaret, the French Consul at Bangkok, left on the 15th of that month for Hué, charged to carry out with the Emperor Tu-Duc the arrangements determined on when he left Paris; but a vessel sent to sea after him with his recall revoked his mission. We are assured that the arrangements the Commandant was about to carry out had, as their object, the restitution to the Annamite Government, under certain conditions, of a part of the territory conquered by France, but that the idea has been abandoned, and that France will retain the provinces possessed by her in Lower Cochin-China.

Messrs. Holderness and Chilton launched two vessels built upon Mr. Henry Jordan's plan of longitudinal iron framework with diagonal wooden planking. They are of 500 tons, builders' measurement, intended for the China trade, and have been built for Messrs. Trautman and Co., of Shanghai.

A further shipment of ten-cent silver pieces will be made to Hong Kong, of the value of £7,500, in about a week.

Literature.

Life in Java, with Sketches of the Javanese; by William Barrington d'Almeida. Two Vols. London: Hurst and Blackett.—In his Preface the author complains that previous writers have failed in communicating any adequate idea either of the appearance of the island of Java or of the life of its inhabitants. This deficiency he has endeavoured to supply; and if the void is not perfectly filled up, he has at least produced a work of very great interest, replete with descriptions of scenery, interviews with the native princes, curious notices of the superstitions of the Javanese, and embracing also many of their legendary and traditional histories. The volumes begin with "The traveller's arrival at Batavia from Singapore," and the first two chapters are devoted to the hospitality he met with there, which enables him to lay before us a graphic picture of "Dutch life in the East," with its alternations of lounging, smoking, sleeping and driving. Thence he steams along the coast to Samarang and Sourabaya, returning overland through the very centre of the island, traversing nearly its entire length, up to Buitenzorg. Apart from such accidents as naturally occur in a journey through a country where the roads are not macadamized to a mail-coach nicety, the postal arrangements in Java are so good that the excursion has of itself no incidents by flood or field that deeply arouse our interest. Mrs. d'Almeida accompanied her husband throughout, sharing what mishaps there were, and the occasional uncertainty of a dinner or bed, with excellent spirit and good humour. Strange to say, considering the route contemplated, the author informs us that he was ignorant of the Dutch language—a point, however, not of so much importance, as he spoke Malay readily, and the rulers of Java, with characteristic caution, are, it seems, very shy of teaching their subjects the language they themselves use. In his own case a knowledge of French sufficed to carry him on. Without some proficiency in that language, he says, travelling in Java would be very difficult, as few Dutch gentlemen in the interior understand English, though the greater number speak French fluently. The Dutch authorities appear, and with good reason, to have entertained no jealousy of introducing Mr. d'Almeida to the various native Regents, who are for the most part descendants of the old Javanese Royal houses. One point which strikes the reader as very singular is, that at these interviews some of the female portions of the Regent's or Prince's family generally formed part of the company—a practice utterly opposed to our notions of Mahometan and Oriental ideas of propriety. We know so little of the way in which His Netherlands Majesty deals with the once powerful sovereigns of his vast Indian possessions that we cannot extract anything from these volumes of greater novelty than a sketch of their general position as portrayed in that of

THE PRESENT EMPEROR OF JAVA.

The Susuhunan, whose person is held sacred by his subjects, dwells in the Kraton, which I subsequently visited. The Dutch give him the title of Kaiser, and to Englishmen in the East he is known as the Emperor of Java. In fact, both he and his neighbour are spoken of as independent Princes; but all who visit the Vorsten Landen must know well that the movements of these two Sovereigns are as rigorously guarded as those of the dissolute ex-King of Oude at Calcutta. The only real independence they now possess is in the management of their own affairs of state, and the power of letting the lands under their dominion to Europeans or Chinamen for cultivation, without enforcing the third of the produce from them. The Susuhunan and the Princes who hold landed property have cavalry and infantry of their own—a kind of landwehr or militia, subject to regulation, discipline, and equipment like that of the Dutch army; each regiment having besides those officers appointed by the Princes themselves a Dutch major, captain, and ensign. So far as we could see and learn, these native sovereigns are perfectly content with their position. The titles, rank, and orders which from time to time the King of Holland confers upon them are regarded as marks of honour, which they receive with gratification. They are, however, given to petty jealousies and rivalries among themselves, and probably, if left to their own guidance might prove the truth of the saying that "he may take who has the power, and he may keep who can." . . . Simple and inexperienced as are the habits of the old Susuhunan, his exchequer has been so low of late that he has been constrained in many instances to borrow. In fact, matters had arrived at such a pitch before I left, that the tradespeople would neither sell nor give credit for anything demanded by the members of the Imperial court without a written order from the Resident. The Susuhunan generally drives through the Kraton once or twice every day in a shabby yellow car, the shape of a boat, with poles at the four corners supporting a leathern canopy. His ministers, and not unfrequently his daughters and grandchildren, accompany him, apparently more content in this simple turn-out than in his grand state-carriages, phætons, or broughams, of which he has no less than *one hundred and fifty*. He is so much a state prisoner that he cannot drive beyond the Kraton without acquainting the Resident with his intention, and reporting on his return the places he has been to.

A little further on we are treated to a striking anecdote that impresses one with a wonderful idea of

THE ASTUTE POLICY OF THE DUTCH.

Between the seventh station and Djokdja we passed Gavan, the country retreat of the Sultan, which, until six years ago, was the annual place of interview between him and his elder brother the Susuhunan. They came in great pomp and state, and, following an old-established custom, the younger Sovereign sat on the ground, and after a short preliminary ceremonial had been gone through, approached the throne without his sandals, knelt, and paid homage or "hormaht" to the object of adoration. As these interviews drew a large number of people together, the Dutch thought it expedient to discontinue them; but in order to reconcile the Sultan to this, they represented to him that so long as a prince rendered homage to another, neither he nor his subjects could be considered by Europeans truly independent. On the next occasion the ceremony was discontinued. On the day appointed the Susuhunan was surprised to find the Sultan, contrary to all precedent, dressed in military uniform, and seated on a chair next to his throne, from which he neither seemed inclined to move, nor indicated the slightest intention of repeating what he now regarded as most humiliating to one of his dignity. Although the superior Prince at first felt insulted before the eyes of his people, he soon wisely reconciled himself to the necessary change, and entered into conversation with those near him as if nothing to trouble him had occurred. The friendly meetings of the two Sovereigns, what had been looked forward to each year by the subjects as a day of rejoicing and pleasure, were thus brought to an end.

Mr. d'Almeida must have a penchant for visiting volcanoes, for his narrative contains accounts of a series of ascents embracing almost every one throughout the whole mountain range

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of central Java. His introductions to the native princes put him in the way of seeing and even obtaining things that were rare to the Javanese themselves; so that at Bandong the whole population, chiefs and all, surrounded his carriage to see the two white turtles obtained from a tank in a deserted kraton of one of the old Sultans, where alone they are to be found, and are held in great veneration. Our traveller misses, too, no opportunity of inspecting the wondrous ruins of the shrines and images of the Buddhist faith with which the interior abounds. In connection with such an excursion he drops a hint which may come serviceably to the knowledge of those residents at St. Helena who have been literally eaten out of house and home by the pest mentioned. On his way to the Temple of Solomanglain, he says:—

Our path now lay between wild trees and shrubs. One of these, the Jarah, has a berry from which the natives extract a mynha or oil. This oil is used medicinally, and is also rubbed over the woodwork of houses, for the purpose of protecting it from the destructive White Ants, to which its strong scent acts as a powerful resistant.

We must dismiss the volumes with our hearty praise for the simple unadorned style in which Mr. d'Almeida tells us the strange scenes and stories he saw and heard. The book possesses all the charm of light pleasant reading, combined with an amount of novel information such as we seldom find in unison.

Mémoires sur La Chine: Histoire; par le Comte D'Escayrac de Lauture. Paris: Librairie du Magasin Pittoresque.—In April last we noticed the first section of this deeply interesting work, which, it will be remembered, was intended as an introduction to the entire volume. By a graphic description of the campaign of Peking, and of the author's own adventures when treacherously taken prisoner by the Chinese, the reader learnt that the pages before him were the production of a man who had himself visited the distant countries treated of, and had qualified himself for his travels by a long and severe study of their language and literature. In the former *brochure* the Count de Lauture's opinions on the future of China, and on the policy of France in reference thereto, were clearly and convincingly stated, under the title of "The Chinese Question;" and they possessed a piquancy and truth that could not but engage the public favour and attention for the subsequent instalments of the "Mémoires." This second portion is dedicated to "History," and the manner in which the Count treats his theme will be seen by the titles of the various chapters, which are as follows:—Preliminary Notice; Historical Elements; Chronology; Ancient Period; Middle; Modern; Ancient Monies; History of the Soil. As to the way in which the author has acquitted himself of the task he undertook, we need only say that he has thoroughly carried out the spirit that dictated the concluding lines of his Preliminary Notice—

I shall not enter into endless details that may be found elsewhere, and which present little interest. History is not a catalogue; the further it advances the more it gets rid of useless baggage. No man would now care to know who was the nurse of Hecuba. Even the history of the Romans, according to the profound thinking of Mommsen, becomes almost impersonal. Let us look behind the Royal trappings in which Time loves to muffle himself for the life of the peoples and the law of that life: the only true and only useful history—that alone worthy of our meditation, which is a portion of philosophy and the hand-light of policy.

Count de Lauture is no believer in the long series of civilisation and settled government so often claimed for the Chinese. "It seems to me," he says, "that the most ancient States of which we have any knowledge were founded about twenty-five centuries before our era, and that whatever may be the antiquity of man, civilisation does not reckon more than forty-five centuries at this very day. There is nothing to induce the belief that the Chinese monarchy counts more days than those of Chaldæa or Egypt. If, indeed, we take for demonstrated the alleged absence of the astronomical proofs so long alleged, we shall be brought to regard the foundation of the Chinese State as posterior to that of the two others." China, in fact, like every other country, has its prehistoric period, and the error or humbug has been in receiving or boasting as authentic a long list of monarchs, who rest on no better foundation than the descent of King Lud from Brutus of Troy, or that of Francis I. from Priam. Count de Lauture is a scholar, a philosopher, and a satirist, as the following pithy observations will show:—

Half of the histories current in the world are no truer; only, criticism has not yet passed sentence on them. Our own days have beheld the History of Egypt by Ouranios spring up out of a long oblivion, and the learned world was near giving credit to that pretended monument of the past. It may be that the books found in China were, like that, but a year and a-half old when discovered. Under the head of hypothesis a further range is taken. Priam is left behind. We have done with the Trojans—our business is with the Aryans. We know where they lived, how they were divided; and their route to India and to Europe is traced step by step, after a much clearer fashion than the itinerary of pious Æneas, or that of wise Ulysses in search of the Isle of the Blessed. And thus does science amuse herself, knowing that Voltaire is dead.

The truth is, says our author, the most ancient document as to Chinese history is a book entitled "Shoo-king," written or compiled by Confucius, which book is nearly contemporaneous with Herodotus, four centuries younger than the Iliad, and ten centuries younger than the Bible. When this work is found treating of events fifteen centuries prior to its date, little reliance can be placed on it, for the Chinese historians relate that three centuries before our era all the sacred books were destroyed, so that not even one single copy remained entire; that one alone, more or less defective, was discovered hidden in a wall, and was rendered complete from the recollection of an old man who knew the book by heart.

We must not dismiss this portion of the "Mémoires sur La Chine" without noting that it is illustrated by numerous engraved chronological scales, which enable the reader to compare the Chinese era of each dynasty with that of Europe; and also by a number of small maps, showing the extent of the empire and the provinces into which it was divided at every important epoch in its history. There are also engravings of the coinage of certain of the Emperors, a fac-simile of Mantchoo life after a Chinese picture, and a remarkable portrait of the celebrated Emperor Kang-shi (died A.D. 1723), whose handsome, open, and intelligent physiognomy, observes M. de Lauture, in no degree recalls the ridiculous assemblage of features designated as the Tartar type. Altogether, the author must be congratulated on the way in which he has completed this second portion of his labours, and the public will have, we are certain, reason to rejoice, at the termination of the whole, in the possession of a volume full of the instructive and the curious, as distinguished from the odd and the extravagant, sufficiently minute in every detail, and yet avoiding even the suspicion of tediousness.

OUR TRADE WITH JAPAN.

The following is the report of Mr. Consul Winchester from Yokohama for the year 1863:—

In 1862 there was an increase of 35 ships, of 15,609 tons, and in 1863 an increase of 48 ships, of 17,746 tons.

There was an increase under the American flag of—Entries, 5 ships, and 3,341 tons; of clearances, 9 ships, of 4,256 tons in 1863 over 1862.

The Dutch entries give the same number of vessels, and an increase of 162 tons for 1863. The clearances show an increase of 6 vessels, and 1,482 tons.

The French entries and clearances in 1863 are augmented by 3 ships, of 1,492 tons.

The Prussian shipping was represented in 1862 by [illegible] tons, the treaty commerce of that Power having only commenced on the 1st January, 1863.

The Russian flag is the only one which gives a decrease for 1863, viz., 1 vessel of 260 tons.

The principal feature of interest in the shipping is the increase in the direct British trade, represented in 1863 by 6 entries and 15 clearances, against 2 entries and 6 clearances in 1862. This increase has been the result of the rapid growth of the cotton trade, and will continue so long as the inducements to export that important staple exist as at present. This advance can hardly, therefore, be expected to be permanent.

The imports, valued at §1,595,170, give England four-fifths of the whole, and exports in fully the same proportion.

The total value of the trade in goods reaches the very considerable figure of £3,449,649. The following statement marks the balance of trade between Japan and foreign countries:—

Import side in 1863.

Imports	£811,146
Sale of British Steamers	175.000
Peking gold bars	225,351
Balance in silver bullion and dollars, and munitions of war	1,427,006
	£2,638,503

Export side in 1863.

Exports	£2,638,503

Leaving a balance of trade in favour of Japan of £1,652,357 paid for in gold and silver bullion and dollars, and munitions of war.

The coincidence of the early months of 1863, with the terminal half of the largest commercial season ever known in Japan has most perceptibly contributed to leave the year much in advance of those which preceded it. In spite of the falling off witnessed in the later months, the figures show on every item—shipping, exports, and imports—a notable increase.

That this should have been the case during a period in which Japan was convulsed by political disturbances, and the very existence of foreign commerce was keenly disputed between the principal parties who rule the country, is in itself a fact calculated to excite both astonishment and satisfaction. The crisis through which we have passed, including the menace of foreign, and the actual occurrence of civil war, would in many countries have sufficed to check trade altogether for the time. Here, however, we have found, as in China, though under different conditions, that hostilities or strife existing in one district do not immediately affect relations of commerce with the rest of the country.

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It could not be doubted by any one who during last summer contemplated the scene around him, that foreign commerce had struck deep roots, and was acquiring influence, when, from day to day, under the contingency—which must have appeared to the Japaneses almost menace—of an attack from the most powerful squadron ever seen in these seas, he witnessed advantage taken of every pause hurriedly to conclude large and important transactions. So considerable was the number and importance of these, up to the end of July, as to lead to the conclusion that the agents of the Princes, entrusted with the sale of the produce of their districts, took a keen advantage of the pressure we were bringing to bear on the Tycoon's party, to bring forward large stocks for sale under arrangements far more liberal than those usually enforced by the Government. Hence, when the pressure was removed, the determined efforts of the Government to prevent the conveyance of silk to Yokohama through any other channel than the established guilds at Yedo. It resolved to make a stand to levy the old, or rather increased, rates on this and other valuable staples, conscious that if the authority to do so slipped through its fingers, the principal source of its profits in the foreign trade was gone. To effect this the artifices usual to Japanese policy were called into play.

The Princes of the non-silk-producing districts were informed that the restrictions were imposed with a view to keep down the price of the fibre from which the garments of the privileged classes are fabricated, while at the same time they were encouraged to share in the exceptional profits disclosed by the sudden expansion in the export of cotton, an article grown in almost every district. Those who have most narrowly watched the progress of our intercourse with this country have long suspected that much of the antagonism to foreign countries, attributed by the Tycoon to the semi-independent Princes, was factitious rather than real; that foreign trade as between the two parties was a struggle—on the Tycoon's side, to open the door leading to the outer world, of which he was lucky enough in his representative capacity, according to the traditions and established institutions of Japan, to possess the key, at the highest price—on the side of the Daimios, to get cheaply through the carrier, and part with as little as possible of their profits. The statements of Satsuma's agent, both to Colonel Neale and others with whom they entertained business proposals, as well as other facts which have cropped up incidentally, leave no doubt that such is the true state of affairs.

I advert to some of those briefly. The detention and turning back of raw silk landed at Yokohama from seaward, the demand from the Gorogio that Japanese should be prohibited from shipping in or taking passages in foreign vessels, the almost instant effect of the statement in Colonel Neale despatch that there was nothing in the treaties prohibitive of direct commercial relations with the Princes, the credibly reported storage at Osaca of 15,000 packages of silk, so fine in quality that it cannot be worked profitably in the native looms. But while I am of opinion that the influence the Tycoonate is *at present* exerted to restrict for its own profit the trade which the Daimios for theirs are anxious to enlarge, I am desirous that it should not be supposed that I am insensible to the general value of the controlling influence exercised by the Tycoonate. Without it we could assuredly find the difficulties arising out of the antagonism of the individual feudal chiefs—if not insuperable, perplexing and entangling to a degree which past experience hardly enables us to realize.

Here, in the immediate neighbourhood of the Tycoon's military capital, we are not in the most favourable position for exercising the maximum of influence on the conflicting interests concerned in commerce. The imposition of such restrictions is easy enough at the seat of the Power [illegible] the feudal chiefs have only appeared to do homage; while at Osaca, the natural emporium of the whole country from its central position, where commerce has acquired traditionary rights, the Government of the Tycoon would hesitate to infringe the rights of the Daimios to bring forward their produce.

With all these discouragements, heightened by the general conservative impression which gives a colour to Japanese thought, even while it fails to influence the acts of men of power and authority, namely, that, after all, Japan was happier in its seclusion, as being less exposed to danger, the wonder is that the progress of trade has been so great. An instructive illustration of these comments will be found in a document published in the *Japan Commercial News* of the 9th inst., entitled "Views and Opinions of Matzdaira Shirugaka," the retired Prince of Etzizen, who has long been known to us as one of the most prudent and enlightened supporters of foreign intercourse in Japan. The occurrences of the past year, by the lessons which they must have taught, are likely to favour the spread of such opinions. The increase of shipping is partly due to speculative causes connected with the sale of steam vessels to the Government and Princes, and partly to the increased trade in an article so bulky as cotton. The following are the rates at which vessels have found employment:—Freights to London have varied from £4 to £7 sterling per ton according to the description of goods, the charges on cotton, tea, and silk, representing an ascending scale between these limits. The freights to Hong Kong have varied from $6 to $9 per ton, and to Shanghai from $3 to $6. These are rates which must have afforded good remunerative employment to shipping in general. Before dismissing the subject of shipping it may be remarked that the port, from the anchorage being on the lee side of an extensive bay, during the greater part of the year does not present the same facilities for the repair of shipping as Nagasaki. It is proposed to supply this defect by a floating dock, for which purpose a company is proposed to be formed. The Import Tables show a steady increase in all articles, with the exception of metals. The taste for articles of foreign manufacture is no doubt gradually strengthening. The large export of cotton is not unlikely to be attended with an increase hereafter in the supply of cotton fabrics from Europe. On the whole, this side of the account, though not exhibited, or perhaps susceptible of the rapid advances made in exports, may be considered as satisfactory. The steam vessels sold during the year may be fairly included among the imports, as also the very considerable sums which have been expended in the purchase of guns, firearms, and munitions of war. The ships bought have been merchant steam vessels, two of them known in this quarter of the world as models for speed. None of them, however, can be considered as capable of effective adaptation to warlike purposes.

The following are the names of the steamers sold in 1863:—

	Tons.
Shanghai	412
Leemin	181
City of Hankow	241
Lyeemoon	369
Yangtze	345

It is impossible to obtain any accurate account of the value of arms and warlike stores, it being an object with the Government to throw a veil over such transactions. That it was considerable there can be little doubt, for it is a principal object of ambition, both with the Tycoon and Princes, to increase their means of offence and defence.

Raw Silk.—The amount exported in 1863 exceeds that of the previous year by 3,937 piculs. Had the trade in this article not been checked during the latter six months by the interference of Government, there can be little doubt but that the increase would have been much more considerable. The commercial season, which dates from July, 1863, shows a diminished export, up to this time, of nearly 3,000 bales, against the same dates of the previous season. The only remark made as to the new silk was that it bore signs of having been reeled off less carefully than in former years—a fact which was not without reason ascribed to the desire to hurry forward produce, consequent on the high prices it then commanded. Some parcels of "ova" have been shipped under special permits from the Custom-house, in accordance with a promise given by the first European Embassy, but the prohibition against the shipment of cocoons still continues in force. It seems to be the general opinion that a very considerable portion of the raw silk supply (and the finest in quality) of the season, intended for the foreigner purchaser, still remains in store ready to be brought forward when the obstacles presented by the restrictive action of the Government are surmounted.

Tea.—The export of tea in 1862 was 41,245 piculs, in 1863, 45,098. The latter sum represents in round numbers 6,013,067 lbs. avoirdupois. Recently considerable facilities have been given for the preparation of tea for the foreign market in the abandonment of the claim for duties on certain imported articles employed in its firing and packing. A fair narrative of the tea and silk market, since the commencement of the present season, is contained in a commercial article in the *Japan Herald* of the 12th inst.

Cotton.—The most remarkable feature in the exports, however, is the sudden development of the trade in cotton, which, from 4,616 piculs in 1862, reached in the past year 46,697 piculs. Such a fact is alone sufficient to prove that the Japanese are quite alive to the advantages of foreign trade. Up to the day on which I write, the export continues to increase, the first two months of the year 1864 exhibiting an export of at least 30,000 piculs. No dependence can, however, be placed on the permanence of trade in this article, stimulated as it has been by the enormous value which the blockade of the Southern States has produced. Still the rapidity with which so considerable a quantity of a staple largely used by the people for their own garments has been brought to market, is in itself no mean proof of the wonderful fertility and resources of the country. I have no doubt an impulse has been given to cotton cultivation all over Japan, which will bear its fruit in future seasons, when the present inducements to export have ceased—in cheapening the dress of the poorer classes, and thus proving a permanent benefit to the country.

Before closing this part of my subject it is satisfactory to state that at the commencement of the current Japanese year, some fruit, though tardy, appeared as the result of the first mission to Europe in the reduction of duties on wines, glass ware, fancy articles, iron, &c., &c. The promise made by the envoys that the produce of the Daimios should come freely to market remains unfulfilled. Its accomplishment must be looked for rather as a result of the general strengthening of the commercial element than of any special engagement. The tariff is so moderate, and administered with so much liberality, as to leave little to be desired in the way of change, so far as principle is concerned. I should be glad to see the duties on imports limited to the one rate of 5 per cent., as is the case with exports. At the same time, in the interests of our own trade, it should be admitted that the Japanese are entitled to the full amount of duty authorized by the tariff.

The rate of exchange has been tolerably steady, considering the unsettled condition of political affairs, ranging from 4s. 10d. to 5s. 4d., and giving an average of about 5s. for the sight value of the dollar over the whole year. On the subject of the Japanese currency, as affecting and affected by the foreign trade, the relative rate between ichibus and dollars has remained, at Yokohama, pretty closely at what I have been led to believe is the natural level due to the preference, which, in a country like Japan, a preferred currency will secure. The extreme limits have been $100, $230, $250; but the general average has been from $236 to $242. This I consider to be mainly due to the large circulation of native coin involved in the presence of the large foreign squadron at anchor in the bay.

During the year 1863 the number of residents was very considerably increased. Four or five additional firms have commenced business, numerous large and comfortable houses have been built, and the locality known as the swamp is being rapidly covered with tenements of a humbler and less expensive character. An hospital was opened in April which has been eminently useful both to naval and merchant shipping and to other classes of the community. This excellent institution was commenced as an experiment, under the superintendence of my Prussian colleague as chairman, aided by Mr. E. Loureiro and Mr. Flowers, the Portuguese and British Vice-consuls, and has been almost self-supporting. The Japanese have with great liberality consented to find a lot for a permanent building in the neighbourhood of the Dutch Consulate-General, a promise to which they have doubtless been led by the kindness and attention shown to many Japanese who have received medical treatment in the establishment. Much of the success of the hospital is due to the skill and attention of the medical attendant, Mr. Jenkins, formerly the surgeon of our Legation. The year 1863 witnessed the opening of the British Episcopal Church, the first Protestant place of worship in this quarter of Japan. There has been a considerable increase in the number of permanent residents, who now amount to be about 300 foreigners of all nations (soldiers not included). Of this number 140 are subjects of Her Majesty, about 80 Americans, 40 Dutch, and the rest Prussians, French, Por-

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tuguese, and Swiss. There are about thirty-two commercial firms of the higher class, divided as follows:—

English	16
American	5
Prussian	5
Dutch	4
French	2
	—32

There are five large store-keepers, and two provisioning establishments, and, I regret to say, too many spirit shops and taverns. The increase in the population of Yokohama must have been very considerable during the past year, which has been one of all but uninterrupted building. These works have attracted numerous artizans belonging to the trades connected with building. The presence of a large squadron afloat, manned by 2,000 men, and of the numerous French and English guards, varying in strength from 300 to 500 men, have led to a most appreciable and marked rise in the cost of living. From being one of the cheapest places in the East, it has become only second to Shanghai in expensiveness. The supply of cattle attainable in a country not pastoral is becoming exhausted. The animals are procurable only at rates increasing every month, and are lean and ill-fed. Poultry and game have, under the increased demand, doubled in price. Oil, sugar, rice, and other articles have been influenced by the usual relations of a brisk demand and limited supply. This scarcity is, let us hope, not permanent, as the prices obtained are likely to stimulate both breeding and production.

The extension of the settlement has been accompanied by some of the disputes and difficulties incidental to sudden increase in centres of population not effectively met by police arrangements. I have throughout been anxious to encourage the residents to take the lead in such matters, being conscious that the necessity for such steps must be first recognized by the community, before any useful action can be initiated from above. This stage has at last been reached, and a committee has been formed to superintend the disbursement of a voluntary assessment. I hope this body may prove the germ of an effective municipal council.

The following memorandum of the ground rentals paid for the year 1862 gives the latest division yet attainable of real property between the subjects of the several treaty Powers:—

English		$10,255 40
American	$2,843 08	
Dutch	2,549 81	
French	1,736 19	
Prussian	422 91	
		7,551 99
		$17,807 89

The rise in the value of real estate was very great during the year 1863, in spite of all the elements of political trouble which manifested themselves. House rents doubled, and lots without buildings—when situated in favourable quarters—were sold for about $8,000. Even in those parts of the concession least suited to commercial purposes, building lots have commanded an average premium of $3,000.

The lapse of years has not been without its effects in improving the tone and standing of the foreign community. The pioneers of foreign trade, whose notions of commercial enterprise were moulded on the glorious times which witnessed the export of cobangs, have [illegible] to enjoy elsewhere any remnant of their strangely won gains, and though there is still a plentiful amount of irritation and discontent—the sure heritage of such a sacred thirst for gold as the events of 1859 and 1860 created—it manifests itself in less offensive forms.

Yokohama, January, 1864.

The following is the report from Mr. Consul Vyse, Hakodadi, for 1863:—

Shipping and Navigation.—To insure the safety of foreign shipping, when entering and leaving this bay, it is most essential that a survey of the harbour of Hakodate should be made, which, up to the present time, does not exist, and the buoys correctly placed upon the two or three dangerous banks, which are the cause of frequent disasters, owing to the locality being imperfectly known to master mariners, as well as the current setting a ship very often right on to them. The formation of the land at the entrance of the harbour is well adopted for a lighthouse, which is also most necessary, could the Japanese Government be induced to erect one, materials for which they already possess, having received them some short time past from the Russian Government. During the greater part of the year the arrivals of foreign ships at this port are but few, attributed to the inclemency of the climate, the violence of the winds, the thickness of the weather, and the force of the currents. It is with a view of obviating these impediments that I have to bring to your favourable consideration the expediency of opening another port on the west coast of the island of Niphon, in order that vessels may avoid passing through the dangerous Straits of Tsugar. There is a Government dockyard at this port, but no operations are carried on except in repairing two small schooners, but certainly nothing that can come under the category of shipbuilding.

Trade and Commerce.—The principal exports are seaweed, timber, potatoes, tobacco, awabe, deerskin, deers' horns, fish oil, and, occasionally, a few bales of silk. Copper, of which there must be an abundance, is a monopoly of the Government, and no native merchant is permitted to sell it. The quality is remarkably fine, but the price placed upon it by Government, viz., 48 dollars per picul, renders it impossible for the foreign merchant to invest, inasmuch as the best English copper could be brought to this port for 28 dollars per picul, and then leave a very handsome profit.

The aforesaid articles are, for the most part, adapted only for the China markets, with the exception, perhaps, of a little tobacco and oil, which have been exported to Europe. Silk and tea would be brought to this port from the Island of Niphon, but the passage across to Yesso is too dangerous for junks to attempt, and the duty imposed by the Government for its importation to Hakodate renders it unprofitable for the buyer as well as the seller; the result of which is the grower will not risk his produce, although, owing to the disturbed state of Japan, he knows he is unable to arrive at Yokohama with his silk. Several instances have lately occurred in which silk, from the Princes of Nambu and Shendai, destined for that port was stopped on the road, and has now been offered for sale here provided the foreigner will send his own vessel to Niphon to take delivery of the same. Again, another reason why I would respectfully request you to bring the question to the notice of Her Majesty's Government—viz., the expediency of opening another port on the west coast of the Island of Niphon. I am further led to believe the commercial relations of this port, blended with the political incidents and scenes of outage during the past year throughout Japan, have tended to engender a feeling of discouragement respecting the supposed want of success which has attended the trade carried on here by foreigners. The monopolies encouraged by the Government, and carried out, certainly, to some extent, by the Custom-house officials, have doubtless favoured these impressions. I have deemed it, therefore, very desirable to arrive at a positive knowledge of the exact position of British and foreign trade in general at this port during the past year. And with this view I issued a circular calling for the expression of opinion on the part of British merchants established here in respect to the actual condition of trade. This circular, of which a copy is also inclosed, has been responded to by letters from two out of the three British resident merchants. I have the honour to call your attention to the considerable diminution in the imports, which are quite insignificant. There is a small increase in the exports over the corresponding return of the year 1862.

The general character of complaints set forth in the merchants' letters relate to currency, credit, non-fulfilment of contracts, and the interference of the Custom-house with the free action of trade. The internal trade of the island of Yesso, however, is not very extensive, and a variety of regulations are in force, the object of which is to protect and encourage home industry. The prices of goods are not enhanced by imports of any kind, and communication between the great markets and all parts of the empire by numerous coasting vessels. Accounts are also published, from time to time, of the general state of trade and agriculture, and of the prices current for the chief articles of traffic at the trading towns of Yedo, Miaco, Osaca, Simonosaki, Sanga, Kokoura, Nagasaki, Tosa, and Matsmai.

An edict, published in 1637, and still in force, makes it a capital offence for the natives of Yesso to travel into other countries, and their seamen, even when accidentally cast on foreign shores, are, on their return, subjected to a rigorous examination, and sometimes tedious imprisonment, to purify them from the supposed pollution contracted abroad; and I have reason to believe that this law does not confine itself to Yesso only, but applies to the whole of Japan. The laws of Hakodadi are severe, vindictive, and sanguinary. Fines are seldom imposed; banishment to the mines, imprisonment, torture, death by decapitation, poison, and impaling on a cross, are the ordinary penalties of crime, the shades of which are little distinguished. It frequently happens, also, that the Courts visit with punishment not only the delinquents themselves, but their relatives and dependents, and even strangers who have accidentally been spectators of their crimes. The prisons are gloomy and horrid abodes, containing places for torture and private executions, besides numerous cells for solitary confinement. The police is extremely strict for the maintenance of order, the punishment of delinquents, and the registration of births, deaths, and marriages.

Agriculture.—The information that I am able to furnish is but little. [illegible] displayed in this line. The [illegible] prevents any great enterprise being with other parts of Japan, is very limited, buckwheat, hay, turnips, carrots, and onions being the chief productions. Rice is not able to be cultivated on account of the severity of the climate.

Population and Industries.—There is one lead mine in my district, at a distance of 12 miles from Hakodadi, but, from the imperfect manner in which it is worked, the Japanese Government lose more than they gain, half of what is dug up being washed away when undergoing the process of purification. The labourers of this establishment are, as I am informed, convicts. There are one or two foundries in the town, where they have made, during the past year, it is reported, about fifty pieces of brass ordnance, consisting chiefly of twelve-inch mortars; shells are likewise cast at the same foundry in large numbers. The principal occupations during the few summer months in this climate, of the natives, is felling timber to be converted into charcoal, besides that of fishing and collecting sea-weed. The population of Hakodate is exceedingly variable, the town having so rapidly increased that it is almost impossible to arrive at any correct estimation.

Public Works.—None, with the exception of two forts, plans of which I have the honour to enclose. The larger one of the two has been, I am told, in course of construction for the last three or four years, and is now far from completion. In the centre is a large building destined to be the future residence of the Governor. The smaller fort is situated at the entrance of the harbour, and is being completed under the supervision and direction of a Russian naval officer, attached to the Consulate. This fort, when finished, will mount twenty-four guns, which were presented to the Japanese by the Russian Government, once the armament of the Russian frigate *Diana*, lost some years past off Simoda.

General Remarks.—The interference of the Tycoon Government with regard to foreign trade is too apparent at this port, from the fact that no Japanese can enter Hakodadi, or have commercial intercourse with any foreigner, without the permission sought and obtained from the officials, who take note of any goods he may bring, or any business he transacts, and then claim an exorbitant per centage or squeeze, which is not only in the greatest possible degree detrimental to trade, but the severest check possible to its fair and natural development; but such is the fear of the lower classes for the officials, that they dare not come forward as witnesses to prove this, though the fact is well known to the residents here. The following is an instance:—M. Gaertner, representative of a Prussian firm called Messrs. Kniffles and Co., entered into a contract to purchase silk from some Namba merchants, who had come over to Hakodadi for the purpose of trade. The terms of the contract were 5,000 Mexican dollars in advance; but as security for this sum advanced, should the contract not be fulfilled, M. Gaertner required two Hakodadi merchants to enter into bonds for that amount, which was accordingly done by giving

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him a lien on their property. The contract was then taken to the Custom-house and shown to the officials, who became indignant that it had been made without their interference. One officer, named Shirotoru, sent for the merchants in question, and informed them that unless they gave him 1,000 cobangs, he would stop the contract and report them to the Governor for having given a foreigner security upon their land and houses, which, he said, was a disgrace for any Japanese to have done. Some other facts have lately come under my notice which convinced me that many of the reports spread about the generality of Daimios being inveterately opposed to foreigners are erroneous, and are set on foot by the Government for the express purpose of preventing any possible intercourse with them, and guarding the more jealously the monopoly of foreign trade which the Tycoon enjoys, to the detriment of these independent Princes, who are most anxious to have a share in it, and which would be immeasurably increased were it thrown open to all alike. The agent of one of these Princes came, not many months ago, to Hakodadi, and stated that his master was anxious to trade with foreigners, but did not know how he could manage to communicate with them, as, if the Government officials were to know anything about it, he would get into trouble—notwithstanding an officer himself of high rank, with considerable powers from his Prince who sent him; he was, therefore, at last compelled to leave Hakodadi without having fulfilled his mission. These instances are, of themselves, sufficient to show how extremely jealous the Tycoon Government is of foreigners coming in contact with any of the independent princes, and their only motive can be to keep for their own benefit the monopoly they at present enjoy. I do not feel at liberty to mention the names of any of those from whom I have learnt these facts, as by so doing I might cause trouble to them; but were it necessary, I might go on enumerating many more instances where the interference of the Government is prejudicial to the natural development of trade. I might also touch upon many other points not only to prove the continual interference of Government with trade, but also to show that they are ever ready with some plausible excuse to evade carrying out their part of the agreement, whilst foreigners are obliged to carry out theirs to the letter, which quite proves that their system is a bad one, and one which can never benefit commerce.

Hakodadi, Jan. 1, 1864.

MR. CONSUL VYSE TO MESSRS. PORTER, DENIS, AND BLAKISTON, OF HAKODADI.

BRITISH CONSULATE, HAKODADI, Jan. 1, 1864.

Gentlemen,—I have the honour to communicate with you, as members of the British mercantile community established at this port, for the purpose of eliciting the expression of your views in writing, respecting the workings of foreign trade at present conducted under the surveillance of the Japanese Government, and especially under that of the Custom-house authorities. The object of this inquiry on my part is to ascertain the real situation of British trade as derived from the practical experience of those most immediately and personally interested. It is not so essential to seek information respecting the extent or growth of the commercial operations, as this is derivable from the ship's manifests; but I am anxious to be exactly and correctly informed as to whether any other port on the west coast of Japan could be advantageously opened, and the name of the same; also as to the real obstructions and restrictions, or other measures directly detrimental to the permanent interests of commerce to which merchants are now subjected here, or difficulties removed, during the last twelve months, and what direct or indirect obstructions, if any, have been additionally imposed during the same period. Such observations as you may deem it necessary to make upon these points will, for obvious reasons, be more practically useful to me, while dealing with them in proportion as you are enabled to accompany your statements with facts which cannot fairly be questioned by the local authorities, although proof may be difficult of attainment.—I have, &c., (Signed) F. HOWARD VYSE, Consul.

The replies of Messrs. Porter, Denis, and Gaertner furnish the information requested. None from Capt. Blakiston.

The following is the list of Exports in vessels of all nations:—

Commodities.		1863.		1862.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			Dollars.		Dollars.
Awabee	piculs	2,501·73	22,703 11	1,036·71	14,495 20
Charcoal	,,	314·87	270 46	649·97	262 20
Comboo	,,	77,537·60	177,122 61	4,120·74	79,380 68
,, (cut) ...	,,	97·23	837 25	619·53	1,186 95
Cotton (manufactured)	,,	45·00	750 88	...	...
Cuttle-fish	,,	1,430·75	9,256 74	2,102·85	13,562 39
Deer-horns	,,	451·01	1,587 82	...	...
Deer-skins	,,	3·50	168 75	...	...
Firewood	sikies	6,037·84	526 80	3,898·20	467 02
Fish-oil	piculs	2,105 56	5,474 45	3,644·69	10,205 15
Gensing	,,	3·399	1,019 70	82·11	22,739 90
Hotadikaimf	,,	459·71	3,946 21	...	...
Trico	,,	612·25	10,648 83	262·69	5,085 05
Oars	pieces	386	6 88	1,044	257 83
Planks (hinoki) ...	,,	50,918	5,539 67	20,238	3,398 34
,, (hardwood) ...	,,	16,879	5,498 62	19,757	5,383 95
,, (Sugi)	,,	214,363	8,447 32	17,632	1,501 95
,, (pine)	,,	12·408	769 12	5,366	298 53
,, (tar'ki) ...	,,	5,714	154 06	34,685	705 60
Pony	...	1	13 00	2	13 57
Potatoes	piculs	939·03	648 68	4,054·47	2,230 78
Saltpetre	,,	118·50	486 45	343·50	2,438 06
Samenhile	,,	17·12	99 39	...	...
Seed-oil	,,	47·12	162 37	8 00	101 17
Silkworms	,,	0·87	87 00	...	...
Shark-fins	,,	12·00	67 50	...	...
Timber	pieces	3,511	6,151 20	1,147	2,718 99
,, (hinoki) ...	,,	1,629	688 09	2,090	212 76
Tobacco	piculs	2,259·62	5,936 58	106.00	379 69
Wax	,,	31·19	493 33	...	...
Total	...	...	269,050 92	...	167,025 71

There is no report from Nagasaki. What is H.B.M.'s Consul doing there? The China reports are not given; so we must conclude they are all behind.

OUR IMPORTS.

The Commissioners of Customs inform us that the imports of the year 1863 exhibit a certain feature which is entirely without precedent. Taking the principal articles imported—fourteen in number—they observe that eleven of these were imported in quantities greater than were received in the year preceding. Again, if we look not to the gross imports, but to the imports destined exclusively for home consumption, we learn that in eight of the principal articles a rise has been established, while in three only is there a fall. But, if these are remarkable facts as thus stated, they will become still more remarkable when stated otherwise, for the exceptions in reality are scarcely exceptions at all, and increase has been the rule throughout. Consumption and demand were actually greater in the case of almost every article, only it happened that in the case of corn and flour we produced such large quantities at home that we were less in need of contributions from abroad.

The "principal articles" purchased by Great Britain from foreign States may be classed under two heads—raw materials for manufacturing purposes, and provisions in aid of our own supplies. Some of these materials and some of these provisions are exotics, and could not be produced at home, such as cotton and tea; others, such as timber and corn, arrive in addition to our native produce. As enumerated by the Commissioners these articles stand as follows:—Cotton, coffee, hemp, provisions, spirits, sugar, tea, tobacco, wine, and wool. In all these the imports have been on an increased scale. That cotton should have arrived in larger quantities last year is but natural, considering the prices which were offered and the exertions which were made to procure supplies from all quarters of the globe. The actual result was a supply equivalent, as far as bulk went, to about six-sevenths of the old supply from America, but considerably inferior in quality. With this demand, too, we may connect the arrivals of hemp—an item in which jute is included—and of wool; but it is rather curious that flax and silk, which might have been expected to obey the same conditions, were in less request. It is true enough that as the cotton supply increased and the trade revived there would be less pressure on its substitutes, and less need, for instance, of silk and flax than there was at first. But by this rule the imports of hemp and wool should also have fallen off, whereas the contrary was the case, and perhaps, therefore, the conjecture of the Commissioners that the very large receipts of flax and silk in 1862 had glutted the markets may be accepted as probable.

In the imports designed for use at home, eight important articles have been taken in larger quantities, and three only in smaller—these exceptions themselves admitting of easy explanation, as we shall presently see. Cocoa, currants, raisins, tea, sugar, spirits, tobacco, and wine have all been in greater demand than before; for corn, flour, and coffee the demand was less. But foreign corn and flour were only dispensed with because we had such an abundance at home, while the decline in coffee may be very reasonably attributed to the increased consumption of tea following on the reduction of duty. Perhaps this leaves something still unaccounted for, but that decrease, such as it is, is literally all the decrease which really occurred. We did not retain for our own use in 1863 quite so much coffee as in 1862, though we actually imported a great deal more. Upon the whole, therefore, when the returns of the year are explained and appreciated, the result is more extraordinary than it appeared to be at first. Our imports may not only be said to have declined in fewer cases than [illegible] almost be thought not to have declined at all.

The Commissioners draw one or two curious inferences from the figures before them. From the cotton returns they argue that the blockade of the Confederate ports, however imperfect it may still remain, must certainly have been maintained with greater strictness and efficiency in 1863 than in 1862; although, on the other hand, it is evident that all the attempts of the Federals—and they have been very energetic—to obtain possession of the cotton crops, and re-establish the trade with Europe, have totally failed. It was on a mission of this kind that General Banks endured his disastrous defeat in Louisiana, and the anxiety shown by the Federals to open the navigation of the Mississippi arose from the same desire. Nothing, however, has been done. The direct supply of cotton from America was insignificant, the bulk of such as reached us at all having been brought through the blockade. From the tea returns it appears that we now supply both America and Russia with that important article. We bring it from China, and then re-export it; so that either the overland trade between China and Russia must have decreased, or else the consumption of tea must have increased so far as to leave room for both modes of supply. In tobacco a large rise in the imports from Maryland shows that the Federal Government, in the midst of its troubles, has found time for the cultivation of this important staple in a state which they have steadily held against the feelings of its population and the successive invasions of the Confederates.

More immediately important, however, than any of these deductions is the evidence collected by the Commissioners of what is termed the "elasticity" of the national revenue, or, in other words, of the rate at which the increased consumption of a cheapened article will replace the income lost by the reduction of the tax upon it. In the years 1860, 1861, 1862, and 1863 remissions of Customs' duties were made to the extent in the aggregate of £4,335,051. This amount of money therefore should, in the absence of any compensating influence, have been lost to the public revenue. But the loss actually experienced, as proved by the accounts, was only £1,486,687; so that the balance of £2,848,364 was restored by the mere increase of consumption. Of the average reductions of about £1,000,000 a year, fully £700,000 came back again, a "highly satisfactory conclusion," as the Commissioners observe. Nothing could be more desirable than to ascertain the exact point to which this principle could be successfully carried.

We derive from these Customs, or from the toll we take of imported articles, one-third of our whole revenue, that is to say, about £24,000,000. Of this large sum, tea, sugar, tobacco, and alcoholic drinks contribute £20,000,000 in not very unequal proportions, the three former articles yielding somewhat over £5,000,000 each, and the latter somewhat less than £4,000,000. The Commissioners, therefore, look with natural solicitude to the returns on these items, and in each case the imports are rising. It is only, however, in the case of wine and spirits that we find much comment offered on the results. The increase in the importation of spirits applies solely to brandy and gin; rum has fallen off, as, indeed, has

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sugar of West Indian growth, so that the trade of the islands does not seem to be improving. Of the course of the wine trade we have already spoken, and the conclusions of the Commissioners entirely confirm the views which we expressed some time ago. It is evident that the habits which were introduced by the Treaty with Portugal a century and a half ago remain stamped upon us still. That treaty, much to the annoyance of Englishmen of those days, banished claret and established port. The result was that wine came to be regarded less asa beverage than as a strong drink, and so it is considered now. A "glass" of wine is taken as a stimulant, and as it must often be indifferent, and indifferent sherry is less intolerable than indifferent port, sherry, or what passes for it, carries the day against the world. The wines of Madeira and Sicily, being full-bodied "white wines," are also rising in favour, and the Capegrowers, we learn, so far from being disheartend by the loss of protection, appear to have determined on a fresh struggle." Thus the end of a measure designed to promote the consumption of light wines has been to establish the predominance of a strong wine in the public taste, and to make that wine, notwithstanding all reductions of duty, considerably dearer than it was before.

ENGLISH SHRUBS IN THE FAR EAST.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—The acclimatisation in tropical countries of English trees and plants has hitherto been delayed, if not prevented, by the difficulty of sending those plants and trees in such a manner as to secure their vitality and yet prevent their growing in the course of the long voyage they have to make.

The question of safe transportation is a question of packing. The means generally resorted to for sending plants to and from the East is the Wardcan case, which may answer well for valuable plants of small growth, but being constructed partly of glass, since the plants require light, it cannot be carried in the hold of a steamer, but must be kept on the deck, where it is in the way, and where, in spite of the greatest precautions, it is liable to breakage. Captains consequently object to Wardean cases, and, if taken at all, a high rate of freight is fixed.

In case of breakage, the cost of the case, the plants and the freight, are lost, and also, for that season at least, the opportunity.

Some time since, I designed a wooden case of peculiar construction, lined with zinc and felt, to ensure an equal temperature sufficiently high to maintain the vitality of the trees, and low enough to keep them from growing.

My idea was skilfully executed by Mr. John Waterer, of the American Nursery, Bagshot, Surrey, and the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, who felt the liveliest interest in the success of the experiment, most handsomely contributed their part by conveying the first case, free of charge, to Shanghai. This experimental case was treated exactly like merchandise, and bore no distinguishing mark for special care, and, by accident, at one of the stations of the Company, missed being transhipped, and was therefore some weeks longer than necessary *en route*, which is not at all to be regretted.

The experiment proved eminently successful. All my fruit trees, 30 in number, reached Shanghai, and by latest reports all are thriving most satisfactorily.

Having resided in the East and felt the want of our English fruit, I determined to try this experiment, and its success enables me to recommend the plan to all who take an interest in the acclimatisation of our fruit and forest trees. I may add, Mr. John Waterer informs me that he can deliver at Southampton similar cases of, say 30, worked fruit trees of the best sorts, including peaches, nectarines, pears, apples, plums, cherries, gooseberries, and currants, and, in fact, any other fruit tree or rose trees that may be required from this country, for £6 per case.

To facilitate the introduction of fruit trees, and other plants by this means, the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company have made arrangements for the conveyance of these cases at a uniform rate of freight of £4 each to Shanghai, Calcutta, Bombay, and Yokohama.

I would advise any one ordering them to send home a clear address, and also make arrangements with an agent at the port of arrival that the case may be immediately forwarded to its destination, to prevent its being unnecessarily left exposed to the rays of the sun.—Yours, &c.,

28, Pall Mall. THOS. CHRISTY, JUNR.

Monetary and Commercial.

A meeting was held on the 25th, for the purpose of confirming the arrangements made by the directors of the Imperial Bank of China for amalgamating with the Bank of Hindustan, the terms of which were announced in our last issue. The chairman, Mr. J. Mackrill Smith, moved the adoption of the agreement, pointing out the advantages that would accrue from it to the shareholders, placing them in a position to be in the immediate receipt of a share of 10 per cent. dividend. Mr. Green strongly opposed the resolution, and moved as an amendment that the consideration of this subject be postponed. The general feeling of the shareholders present being adverse to postponement or delay, Mr. Green withdrew his amendment, and the terms of agreement were sanctioned and agreed to. It appears that Mr. Green held one share! A resolution was also passed assenting to the voluntary winding-up of the bank, and appointing liquidators for the purpose.

The biddings for 30,00,000 (£300,000) rupees in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were—to Calcutta, 17,95,000 rupees; to Bombay, 12,00,000 rupees; and to Madras, 5,000 rupees. The minimum price was, as before, 1s. 11½d. per rupee on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11¾d. per rupee on Bombay. The applications within the limits amounted to 228 lacs (£2,280,000). Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 2s. will receive about 51 per cent.; on Bombay at 2s. 0¼d., about 61 per cent, These were the highest prices tendered. On the last occasion the applications within the limits amounted to the large total of £2,380,000 or £100,000 more than before.

The French mail steamer *Tampico*, which arrived at St. Nazaire from Mexico, has brought only about £2,000 in specie. It appears that, owing to excessive rain, the roads in Mexico had become almost impassable, and the *conducta*, with about £800,000 in specie, did not, therefore, reach Vera Cruz in time to catch the *Tampico*. Intelligence has now been received, however, of the arrival of this large amount at Vera Cruz, and it is expected to come forward by the next English packet, due at Southampton towards the end of the month. The aggregate in gold and silver by this opportunity may exceed £1,000,000 sterling.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Delta*, from Southampton on the 20th inst. was, in gold to Mauritius, £45,000; to Madras, £1,905. In silver, to Calcutta, £10,000; to Singapore, £2,500; to Hong Kong, £163; to Shanghai, £900; to King George's Sound, £200. Total in gold, £46,905; in silver, £13,763.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Business done.
100	Agra and Masterman's	50	138 to 142 xd.	...
50	Do. New	25	—	...
50	Do. "	5	—	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	37 to 38	...
20	Do. New	All	16 to 17 pm.	...
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	64 to 66	...
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	—	...
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm.	2½	5 to 7 pm.	...
50	Imperial of China, India, and Japan	5	1½ to 1¾ pm.	...
50	London Joint Stock	10	47 to 49	...
100	London and Westminster	20	96 to 98	...
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	57 to 59	...
50	Union of London	15	51 to 53	...
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	8 to 9 pm. xd.	...
100	Do. New	13	7½ to 8½ pm. xd.	...
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	2½ to 2¾ pm.	...
20	Do. New	10	—	...
25	Bank of Egypt	All	27 to 28 xd.	...
100	Bank of London	50	163 to 168	...
	[illegible] Bank of India	4	1½ to 1¾ pm	...
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 3¼ xd.	...
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	79 to 81	...
50	Do. New	30	18 to 20 pm.	...
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	—	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	—	...
2	Telegraph to India Company	2	—	...
5	Bombay Gas	All	4¼ to 5¼	...
10	E. I. and London Shipping B.	All	—	...
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	8	3¼ to 2¾ dis.	...
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	¼ to ½ pm.	...
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	19 to 20	...
1	Oriental Gas	All	1¼ to 1½	...
1	Do. New	All	¼ to ½ pm.	...
10	O. Inland Steam	All	3 to 3¼	...
100	West India Steam Company	60	91 to 93	...
20	Ceylon Company	7	3 to 4 pm.	...
20	International Finance Society	5	4¾ to 4¾ pm.	...
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2¾ to 3 pm. xd.	...
50	London Financial Association	15	9½ to 9¾ pm.	...
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	2	1¾ to 1¾ pm.	...
20	Société Financiére d'Egypte	6	1 to ¾ dis.	...
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	16½ to 17	...
20	British Indian Tea	11	¼ dis. to par	...
1?	Upper Assam Tea	1¼	2 to 3 pm.	...
10	Do.	All	14 to 17	...

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—The Tea market, since our last advices, has undergone no change, and the little business transacted has been chiefly in tea offered at the late public sales, at which an unusually large proportion were finest Kaisow and Moning, the former fetching 2s, 2d. to 2s. 3d. per lb., and the latter 1s. 11d. to 2s. 2d., amongst which were a portion of the finest chops of last season. The four chops new season's black leaf—Teen-wo, Teen-Heong, Cheong-Fat, and Ming-Sing—which reached this per overland route, only about 150 chests have been sold at 3s. to 3s. 1d. per lb., and we understand that the balance are unsaleable except at 4d. to 5d. per lb. discount on these prices. In the new Kaisows no sales have transpired. In red leaf there is some business doing, in Kaisow kinds, at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 7d. per lb. for export; and there is inquiry for common black leaf at 1s. to 1s. 0½d. per lb., but little offering under 1s. 1d.; in other grades there is no change to notice. In Scented Tea, Canton Orange Pekoe of medium to fine quality is wanted; Caper of good common to medium quality is in more request with only a small supply on offer; Foo-chow make of Pekoe and Caper is without change, fine and finest will come to a bare market. Green: There have been further arrivals from New York, which have been placed on the market, and where sales have been made they have been in favour of the buyers. At the sale of China growth commencing on 16th inst., 29,000 packages were offered of which 12,700 sold; of India growth on 24th inst., 2,629 packages passed, 2,504 sold.

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COTTON.—The market has been dull for some days. In London 1,400 bales were disposed of yesterday, including 1,000 at public sale. Low Surat, 10¼d. to 1s. 2d.; China, damaged and all faults, 10d. to 1s. 3½d. At Liverpool yesterday, a fair inquiry, but very little business done. Sales, 3,000 bales; of which 300 American, 28½d. to 30d.; 400 Egyptian, 27¾d. to 33d.; 2,230 Surat, 16d. to 25½d.; Madras, 20d.; Bengal, &c., 17d. to 17½d.; China, 18½ to 22d.

SILK.—There has been a good demand for silk during the fortnight, but business has been somewhat curtailed by the scarcity of available stock, while consumers show hesitation in paying the high rates demanded by importers. Tsatlees have been rather more inquired after during the last week, on account of their relative cheapness as compared with Japans. Deliveries from the 1st to the 24th inclusive: China, 2,488 bales; Japan, 1,550 bales; total, 3,988 bales. China: Tsatlees, No. 1, 25s. 6d. to 26s.; Taysaam, No. 1, 22s. 6d. Japan, Mibash, No. 1, 26s. to 27s.

SUGAR.—An active demand prevailed since our last for some days, stimulated principally by advices of higher rates in France, consequent on unfavourable reports of the Beetroot crop, and an improvement took place of, on the average, 1s. per cwt., and in some instances 1s. 6d.; but the same spirit was not exhibited at public sales as on the private market. On Wednesday the market was less animated, at barely previous rates.

COFFEE.—At the close of last week there was more disposition to buy, and prices advanced 6d. on those of the previous seven days. On the 19th, 310 casks, 84 barrels and 78 bags Plantation Ceylon, in public sale, were taken freely at fully the above advance. 60 cases pale Neilgherry sold from 70s. to 70s. 6d. 400 bags fine fine ordinary washed Rio brought 75s. 6d. to 77s. 6d.

RICE.—4,900 bags Bengal offered by public sale have all been taken, bold pearly white at 13s., fair Ballam 10s. to 10s. 6d., pearly red 9s. to 9s. 6d., and common cargo 8s. to 8s. 6d.

CAMPHOR.—Quiet, apparently owing to a little increase of the supply, and no buyers at the moment except at a reduction of 5s. per cwt. 250 boxes at auction retired.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Recent importations, 1,376 chests, brought to auction, and 1,200 sold at 87s. to 93s. per cwt. for 2nd to 1st pile, and 84s. to 87s. broken. Buds: Cheaper, and in very partial request; of 100 boxes at auction very few sold at £14. 10s. per cwt. for good.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Flat; and 152 bags at auction, all retired. Dragon's Blood: Very quiet; of 12 cases at auction, one-third sold at £5 per cwt. for middling lump. Galangal Root: Very dull, and of 72 bags at auction very few sold at 19s. per cwt. Rhubarb: Good and fine inquired for at fully previous value, but ordinary and middling neglected: and of 55 chests at auction three-fourths sold at 3s. 6d. to 3s. 7d. per lb. for ordinary round and flat, being 4d. cheaper.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Steady; and of 34 cases Sumatra at auction half sold at £12. 10s. to £12. 12s. 6d. per cwt. for false packed 2nd quality and £6. 5s. fair 3rd. Damer: More enquiry, especially for good quality of 124 packages at auction, a small portion sold at 44s. per cwt. fai picked. Gamboge: Continues scarce and firm; only 8 cases at auction; 2 cases sold at £11 per cwt. for good pipe.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Market very unsettled, and much lower prices accepted; of 21 tons at auction a small portion sold at 1s. 7d. per lb. for fair.

INDIA RUBBER.—Very Quiet; 35 bags Batavia at auction retired. 84 cases Assam retired.—Market very dull, with little demand: of 3,887 bales at auction a very small proportion sold—Lupez at £44. 5s. per ton, and good roping at £34.

HIDES AND HORNS.—On the 18th, 1,078 Batavia buffalo hides offered and sold—best yellow, 6½d. per lb.; best heavy, 6½d. per lb.; seconds, 5½d. per lb.; light, 6d. per lb.: 831 Singapore buffalo hides sold as above. No business in horns to report.

JAPAN WAX.—100 cases good saucer sold on the 24th at 64s. to 68s.

OILS.—Anniseed: Flat and lower; of 30 cases at auction, half sold at 6s. 4d. to 6s. 5d. per lb., but subsequently our reduced quotations accepted, and only in small parcels. Cassia: Very dull, 10 cases at auction retired; a few cases sold at the lower quotations. Cinnamon: Steady, but quiet, 3 cases at auction retired.

SAGO.—Prices are again 6d. per cwt. lower, and 4,172 boxes at auction mostly sold at 19s. to 21s. 6d. per cwt. for middling to fine small, and 20s. 6d. to 21s. good medium. Flour: Steady; and of 2,849 bags at auction, one-third sold at 16s. per cwt. for good.

SHELLAC.—Rates show a further reduction of 5s. to 7s. 6d. per cwt., without exception, and Button even at a greater reduction is almost unsaleable; of 1,972 packages at auction, less than one-third sold; Orange at £7 to £7. 15s.; Liver, £6. 2s. 6d. to £6. 10s.; Ruby, £7; good Garnet, £6. 5s. to £6. 7s. 6d.; Native, £6. 10s. to £6. 12s. 6d.; Button, £7. 10s. to £9; and Block, £6. 10s. to £6. 12s. 6d.

SPICES.—Cloves: Penang rather dearer, and 58 cases sold at auction at 1s. 1¾d. to 1s. 2½d. per lb.; Zanzibar firm, and of 347 bags offered, a small portion sold at 4¼d. to 4¼d. Mace: Firm, and the better kinds of ready sale; of 21 cases Penang, and 17 cases Cochin at auction, three-fourths sold at 1s. 6d. to 1s. 10d. per lb. for middling to fair palish, and 9d. to 1s. 3d. low to fair reddish. Nutmegs: Are rather cheaper, except the fine bold; and 68 cases Penang, 63 cases Cochin, and 30 packages Batavia at auction, mostly sold at 2s. 9d. to 3s. 9d. per lb. for middling mixed to very good bold, and 1s. to 1s. 9d. inferior small to fair medium. Pepper (Black): Singapore is slightly, and Penang ⅛d. per lb. cheaper; of 7,198 bags of the former at auction, half sold at 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb., and of 7,659 bags of the latter at auction, half sold at 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb., with Trang at 3¼d. to 3¼d. Of 1,526 bags Batavia, two-thirds sold at 3¼d. per lb. White: ¼d. per lb. cheaper, and of 1,287 bags Singapore at auction, half sold at 5¼d. to 5¼d. per lb. for middling to fair.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Is fully 1s. per cwt. cheaper, and of 4,492 bags Pegue at auction, half sold at 24s. to 24s. 6d. per cwt. for good. Gambier: Is also lower, and very quiet; 1,330 bales at auction sold at 25s. 3d. per cwt. for good block, and 30s. cubes.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Blacklead: Continues very quiet, and lump is much cheaper; of 1,318 barrels at auction only one-third found buyers at 12s. 6d. to 15s. per cwt. for fair to good lump; and 6s. 9d. to 9s. dust. Galls: Quiet, without business of consequence. Japan cheaper; 752 boxes just landed sold at auction at 62s. 6d. to 65s. per cwt. for good. Musk: Small sales of fine Tonquin at 30s. per oz. Rattans: Scarcely maintain the former value, and 3,946 bundles Batavia sold at auction at 4s. 4d. to 7s. 4d. per 100. Sapanwood: Very firm; 18 tons Batavia sold at auction at £10 to £11. 10s., and 7 tons Ceylon at £8. 7s. 6d. to £9. 7s. 6d. per ton. Mother o'Pearl Shells: At auction 139 cases Manila were all retired. Star Aniseeds: Cheaper; and of 280 cases at auction, three-fourths sold at £5. 17s. 6d. to £6 per cwt. for good, and £5. 7s. 6d. to £5. 10s. mouldy. Sticklac, Siam: Steady; and of 298 cases at auction, three-fourths sold at 52s. 6d. to 53s. 6d. per cwt. for good bold. Tortoise-shell: Auctions have included 9 cases Singapore; 4 cases sold at 14s. to 15s. middling, in sorts, and 11s. 6d. to 12s. inferior; 14 cases Manila, 4 cases hoof sold at 17s.; 2 cases Sydney sold at 15s. 6d. to 16s. 6d.; 1 case Penang sold at 10s., and 2 cases Batavia, 1 sold at 16s. per lb.; prices being very firm for the moderate proportion placed. Vermilion: Some inquiry, but no business doing.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 15s. to £8; nail rod, £9. 10s.; hoops, £10. 10s.; sheets, single £11. 10s.; Staffordshire bars, £9. 10s.; rails, £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £16 to £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £105 per ton; yellow metal, 8½d. to 8¾d. per lb.

TIN.—104s. for block; 105s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 30s. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £20. 5s. to £20. 10s.; W.B., £22. 10s.; shot, patent, £23. 15s.; sheet, £21. 15s.; spelter, £24. 15s.; zinc, English sheet, £28; quicksilver, £8.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£174,405
Foo-chow-Foo	—	7,930
Hong Kong	£15,000	360,309
Amoy	—	—
Singapore	£720	191,355
Penang	—	50,470

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£40,316
Hong Kong	£31,568	—
Singapore	—	840
Penang	—	21,233
Foo-chow-Foo	—	1,000

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	—	£224,440
To Saigon	£120	49,300
To Hong Kong	—	288,653
To Batavia	£1,571	144,795
		6,778

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0 to 3 17 0
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4
Silver in Bars	0 5 1½
Mexican Dollars	0 5 2

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

Mr. Mendel's Circular states that prices are slightly weaker, owing to a less active demand: Grey Shirtings, 7lbs., 18s. 3d. to 18s. 6d.; 9 lbs., 25s. 6d. Cotton Yarns, 16-24, 2s. 10d. to 3s.; 28-32, 3s. 1d. to 3s. 3d. Maddapollams, 8s. Long Cloths, 21s. T-Cloths, 14s. White Spot Shirtings, 21s. 9d.; White Brocade do., 22s.; White Damask, 37s. 6d.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Aug. 10	Off Falmouth	Bassein	Isabella	Mauer.
— 10	Do.	Do.	Borgund	Myrseth.
— 10	New York	Shanghai	Mercara	Robbins.
— 10	Do.	Manila	Sea Serpent	
July 9	Callao	Macao	Julian	Arrobarcoa.
Aug. 12	Off Queenstown	Rangoon	Cestrian	
— 15	Off Falmouth	Akyab	Thomas Dryden	Thompson.
— 15	Do.	Do.	Leontine	Rentges.
— 15	Do.	Rangoon	Europa	Reed.
— 15	Do.	Do.	Amity	Stinson.
— 1	Aberdeen	Maulmain	Winifred	Watt.
— 6	Off the Wight	Batavia	Leading Star	Graham.
— 8	Falmouth	Akyab	Neptune	Varey.
— 9	Do.	Sarawak	Duke of Roxburgh	Parnall.
— 10	Liverpool	Shanghai	Lauderdale	Hutchins.
— 16	Off Falmouth	Akyab	Highland Chief	Allison.
— 15	Liverpool	Shanghai	Fort William	Kennedy.
— 15	Queenstown	Bassein	Richard III.	Greenough.
— 12	St. Nazaire	Sourabaya	Bougainville	Fay.
— 16	Off Queenstown	Hong Kong	Berwickshire	Thomas.
— 19	Off Falmouth	Rangoon	Victory	Gregory.
— 18	London	Akyab	Lawrence Brown	Pearce.
—	New York	Manila	Solo	
— 15	Off Scilly	Batavia	Baron v. Heemstra	Nepperus.
— 3	New York	Singapore	Hartzburg	Wachter.
— 4	Do.	Amoy	Hermann	Koppelmann.
— 22	Antwerp	Akyab	Montebello	Kelley.
— 17	Gibraltar	Maulmain	Johannisberg	Stilphen.
— 22	Bordeaux	Akyab	Asil	Girand.
— 25	Deal	Rangoon	Amity	Stinson.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

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DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Aug. 7	Sunderland	Singapore	Antonia	
— 9	Swansea	Do.	Exonian	Mann.
— 10	Deal	Padang	Isaac da Costa	Klein.
— 10	Do.	Samarang	Henrietta	
— 10	Do.	Sourabaya	California	
— 10	Do.	Batavia	Gebroeders	
— 11	London	Hong Kong	Annie Archbell	Blacklock.
— 13	Liverpool	Shanghai	Polmaise	
— 12	Do.	Cape & Hong Kong	Nancy Bryson	
— 12	London	Shanghai	John Norman	Edwards.
— 12	Do.	Do.	Alexandrina	Baird.
— 11	Cardiff	Singapore	Amazone	Bellstedt.
— 11	Shields	China	Pei Ho	
July 17	Pernambuco	Hong Kong	Gustav Adolph	
Aug 16	Liverpool	Shanghai via Cardiff	Coromandel	Smith.
— 6	Sunderland	Singapore	Confucius	Meyer.
— 8	Deal	Batavia	Theodora Machtilda	
— 8	Do.	Do.	Johanna Elizabeth	
— 5	Off Portsmouth	Batavia	Scheveningen	Annokkee.
— 7	Cardiff	Singapore	Cecilie	Smidt.
— 13	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Eudora	Barker.
— 14	Do.	Shanghai	Shakspeare	Thomas.
— 14	Off Dungeness	Batavia	J. Maria Wilhelmine	
— 15	Deal	Batavia	Hollandia	Wap.
— 12	Texel	Japan	China	Horner.
— 18	Liverpool	Manila	Espana	Cartillo.
— 16	Off Dover	Japan	Yokohama	
— 16	Deal	Batavia	Wm. Koong	
— 13	Off the Start	Hong Kong	Antelope	Hubert.
— 15	Off Dungeness	Java	Ortelius	Groot.
— 16	Newport	Shanghai	Vincenzo Gianello	Cop:llo.
— 16	Off Dover	Macassar	Bengalen	Hjelmstrom.
— 16	Off the Goodwin	Singapore	Maria Wilhelmina	Niemann.
July 20	Rio Janeiro	China	Equinox	Hogg.
— 14	Do.	Batavia	Ocean	Sandstrom.
— 20	Do.	Do.	Helden	
— 16	Bahia	Singapore	Woizlava	Malchin.
Aug. 20	Liverpool	Do.	Nile	Johnston.
— 20	Do.	Do.	Governor Langdon	Davies.
— 20	Do.	Do.	Princess Dagmar	Lewis.
— 17	Off Scilly	Batavia	Tonia	Werner.
— 19	Shields	Shanghai	Webfoot	
— 22	London	Sunderland & Shanghai	Iona	Berryman.
— 23	Liverpool	Singapore	Ellen Sears	Bartlett.
— 20	Clyde	Do.	Norval	Taylor.
— 24	London	Cardiff & Shanghai	Sanspareil	M'Alpine.
— 20	Glasgow	Hong Kong	Tamana	Main.
— 22	South Foreland	Japan	Adriana Johanna	Nollerd.
— 25	London	Kanagawa	Cymbeline	Labey.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa: Macedon, Sea Witch. For Nagasaki: Dwina, Swanley. For Shanghai: Cissy, Norwood, Peep o'Day. For Hong Kong: Millbrook. For Hong Kong and Canton: Kensington Bengal, Borealis, Arab Steed. For Manila: Tetuan. For Singapore; Early Dawn, West. For Penang: Devonvale. For Batavia and Samarang: Stad Assen. For Batavia: Cornelia and Geertruda. For Bankok: Costa Rica.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: [illegible] Neptune's Car, Gossamer. For Hong Kong: Agamemnon, London, Abeona. For Hong Kong and Canton: Banda. For Singapore: Wm. Dixon, Veloz, Macassar. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Hercules. For Manila: Iberica, Thomas Roydon, Maria y Vicenta.

At GLASGOW.—For Batavia and Sourabaya: County of Ayr. For Batavia and Singapore: Helen Finlayson. For Singapore and Penang: Edinburgh Castle. For Manila: Iloilo and Zebu Nodales.

SPOKEN.

MELITA, Newcastle to Hong Kong, June 27, 25 S., 29 W

NOACH, Rotterdam to Batavia, June 19, 13 S., 33 W.

OITHONA, London to Hong Kong, August 8, 48 N., 9 W.

MARIANNE (brig), Cardiff to Singapore, July 9th.

OCEANUS, New York to Batavia, June 24, 6. N., 24 W.

BATAVIA (Dut. barq.), Amsterdam to Batavia, June 28, 24 S., 28 W.

ANTAGONIST, Cardiff to Hong Kong, July 5, 8 S., 26 W.

PRESIDENT VAN RYCKEVORSEL, Rotdm. to Bat., July 4, 6 N., 23 W.

BONI, Shields to Batavia, 48 N., 11 W.

AMSTERDAM, Amsterdam to Batavia, July 1, near Batavia.

QUINTET, Amsterdam to Batavia, July 1, near Batavia.

KANDANGHAUER, Amsterdam to Batavia, July 1, near Batavia.

GENERAL DUNLOP (Dut. sch.), Ams. to Bat., May 14, 5 N., 22 W.

HENRIETTA GERTRUDE (Dut. barq.) Ams. to Bat., June 25, 6 S., 30 W.

VELOCIDADE, London to Japan, July 10, 10 N., 28 W.

WHITE ADDER, London to Shanghai, April 25, 1 N., 1 (?) E.

EGEAN, Shanghai to New York, May 20, 20 S., 74 E.

HEROES OF ALMA, London to Shanghai, June 15, off Pernambuco.

MARIBELLE, New York to Hong Kong, June 11, 6 N., 24 W.

HANOVER, or HANSEAT (?) Liv. to Sin., June 20, 20 S., 31 W.

METEOR, Copenhagen to Amoy, March 29.

QUEEN OF NATIONS, London to Shanghai, June 13, 28 S., 105 E.

KOSMOPOLIET, Rotterdam to Batavia, July 4, 11 N., 25 W.

BOUGAINVILLE (Fr. bar.), Sourabaya to Belle Isle, lat. 40, lon. 33.

OCEANUS (Dut.), New York to Batavia, June 24, 6 N., 24 W.

MERCATOR (Dut. bar.), Schiellam to Batavia, June 30, 20 S. 26 W.

VICTORY, Shanghai to Liverpool, June 10, 30 S., 40 E.

HOOGLEY (Fr. bar.), Bord. to Sing., July 28, S. W. off Cape Finisterre.

MARIA FRANZISKA (Dut.), Java to Amstrdm., June 16, 8 N., 25 W.

CONINGLYKE, Nederlandsche Yt. Club, Ams. to Bat., July 10, 5 N., 24 W.

JUBILEE, New York to Shanghai, July 6, 4 N., 30 W.

FRIESLAND, Batavia to Ams., Aug. 1, 46 N., 29 W.(?)

VESSELS EXPECTED.

(*Exclusive of this day's Advices.*)

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Meppel, Witness, Lady Ebrington Twe Cornelissen, Patricia, and Merse, Harwood, W. W. Smith, Alexander, Ann Adamson, Abbotsford, and Anglo Indian. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, and Vampyre. At FALMOUTH: Auld Reekie. At NEW YORK: Osborne.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Ethel, Monarch, Belle, Benvoirlich, Sea King (str.), City of Aberdeen, Yang-tsze, Fiery Cross, Flying Spur, Serica, Min, Young Lochinvar, Belted Will, Robin Hood, P. J. F. Burchardt, Keepsake, Echo, Chandanagore, Rajah (str.), Volunteer, Aunt Lizzie, Holmesdale, Rifleman, Isabella Robinson, Zelia, Vimeira, Zarah, Lady Wharncliffe, Gloucester, Lorton Vale, Iceni, Netherby, Sarah Ralston, Wm. Thompson, Spirit of the North, Queen's Own, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Magnus, Josephine, Glaramara, Sappho, Charles Davenport, Bahia, and Osborne House. At LIVERPOOL: Advance, Simoda, Cyclone, Fanny, Joshua Bates, Wm. Dawson, Lauderdale, Ziba, Glencoe, Neville, Cornelia, Inamhore, Express, Mayflower, Regina, Victory, Glencairn, Bristow, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Unrivalled, Glenlee, Helvellyn, Australia, Eliza Nicholson, and Ann Forster. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama, and Linda. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Vulcan. At BORDEAUX: Johanna. At HAMBURG: Mecklenburg, and Gravina. At NEW YORK: Eva, Dorchester, Egean, Regnago, St. Paul, Sophia, Luson, Anita, and Gleam.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Alavesa and Cambodia. At LIVERPOOL: Bella Galega, Aureliana, Diadem, Trafalgar, Patriot King, Alicia Annie and Barinaga. At FALMOUTH: Der West, Canaan, and Albuera. At COWES: John Banfield. At QUEENSTOWN: Victoria Cross. At HAVRE: Nouvelle Antoinette. At NEW YORK: Tropic and George Peabody.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Oscar, Confidence, Pet, Polly, Daniel Rankin, Bonanza, Miss Nightingale, Eleanor, Rena, Couranto, Najade, Athelstan, Dewa Gungadhur, Dunkeld, Tartar, and Princess of Wales. At LIVERPOOL: Bella Gallega, C. C. Chisholm, Victory, Agra, Beloochee, Ferris, H. Puddemsey, and Bombay. At FALMOUTH: Sarah Jane and Hindustan. At BORDEAUX: Salares and Java. At NANTES: Suez. At NEW YORK: Ocean Home, Gertrude, Caroline, Rudolf, and Reynard. At BOSTON: Ceylon, Aristides, Alexander, and Magnet.

From BATAVIA.—At FALMOUTH: Fredrika.

From PENANG.—At FALMOUTH: Schlosser. At CORK: Ceylon. At BORDEAUX.—Sophia.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Berth freights still remain without much animation both from London and the outports. Homeward charters have been fixed from the rice ports, also for teak from Maulmain, but the rates are now somewhat lower. There is more demand for tonnage from China, as it is expected that the shipments of cotton from Shanghai during the next few months will be very large.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Penang: [illegible] measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £36 to £37 and £1. 15s. For Shanghai: £50 and £2. 5s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £27 and £1. 1s. For Penang: £24. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of a quantity of Government stores (eighteen tons heavy shot in boxes, and three tons light measurement), from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Philip van Marnix, V. Ruyven, from Rotterdam for Batavia which put into Rio Janeiro, July 4, with masts split, reports that on June 11, in lat. 5 N., lon. 26 W., she was caught in a squall, which carried away her topmasts, &c., and broke mainmast and chain plates; on the 28th she encountered a heavy gale, and on the 2nd July was taken into Rio Janeiro by a steamer. The master hoped to have the damage repaired in twelve days.

The Cornucopia, Legresley, which arrived at Lynn, July 26, from Marseilles, took eight half-chests tea, marked E. E. and Co., from the derelict ship Childe Harold, from Shanghai to Liverpool, on the — April, in lat. 37 N., lon. 16 W.

The Arab, from Liverpool for Singapore, put into Rio Janeiro July 22, leaky, and with part of cargo thrown overboard.

The grounding of the Netherby on the Pescadores has been reported at Lloyd's, also that the Lady McNaghten, from London to Shanghai, had been spoken near Anjer, leaky, and short of provisions.

At St. Vincent, C. V., July 18, Labourdonnais, steamer, from Marseilles for Hong Kong.

Intelligence has been received here of the total loss of the Yaratilda, from London to Shanghai, in the China seas, but this has been contradicted by a telegram from Liverpool.

The Egmont, Morgan, which sailed from London 4th August for Shanghai put back to Plymouth on the 24th August.

At TABLE BAY.—July 6: Rajah (steamer), from Shanghai and Batavia (with damage to hatching about the screw), and left 13th for London.

At ALGOA BAY.—July 1: Advance, from Shanghai.

At SIMON'S BAY.—July 1: Whirlwind, Hughes, from Manila for St. Thomas, with damage to rudder, having experienced heavy weather. June 30: Antonia Terry, Lucas, from New York for Hong Kong with damage to bulwarks, and loss of some sails, having met with heavy weather.

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BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, and JAPAN (Limited), has REMOVED from 16, Cornhill, to No. 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury.

By order,
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

1, Bank-buildings, Aug. 24, 1864.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA' and JAPAN (Limited).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Company will be held at the Banking-house of the Company, No. 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, in the City of London, on MONDAY, the 12th day of September next, at One o'clock, p.m., and the business to be transacted will be to Confirm certain Resolutions passed by the Company in Extraordinary General Meeting on the 25th day of August, 1864, of which the following are copies:—

1. It was Resolved—"That the agreement dated the 24th day of August, 1864, between this Company of the first part, and the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan (Limited) of the other part, be approved, and the Directors be authorised to affix the seal of the Company to the same, and do all things necessary to carry it into effect."

2. It was Resolved—"That the capital of the Company be increased by the creation of 20,000 new shares of £100 each, to be issued at £6 per share premium to the persons and upon the terms stated in the before-mentioned agreement, and that the resolution of the Board to the above effect be ratified and confirmed."

3. Resolved—"That the Directors be authorised to add four Directors to their present Board, to be selected by them from the existing Board of the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan (Limited)."

Dated this 25th day of August, 1864.

By order,
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, and JAPAN (Limited).
1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London, E.C.
CAPITAL.

Subscribed £2,000,000
Paid and called up 500,000

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And Branches at Bombay, Calcutta, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

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Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of passengers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the [illegible] other description of banking and agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA. Incorporated by Royal Charter. Paid-up capital £760,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Kandy, Singapore, Galle, Penang, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Mauritius, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the overland route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office, in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

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Paid up Capital, 200,000 taels.

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H. H. Wiggins, Esq., Manager Commercial Bank of India, Chairman.
F. B. Johnson, Esq. (Messrs. Johnson and Co.).
H. D. Stewart, Esq. (Messrs. Turner and Co.).
F. Porter, Esq. (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston, and Co.).
J. Thorne, Esq. Messrs. Thorne Brothers and Co.).
David Reid, Esq.

Agencies are about to be established at the several ports in China and Japan.

L. JOSEPHS, Secretary.

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Amoy, 1st January, 1864

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Pickled Limes...	1s. 6d.
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Essence of Chillies...	1s. 9d.
Tamarind Fish	2s. 6d. and 5s.
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Do. Jamaica Ginger	from 3s. 6d.
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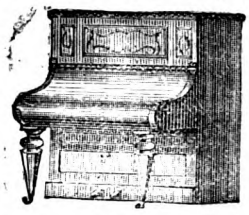

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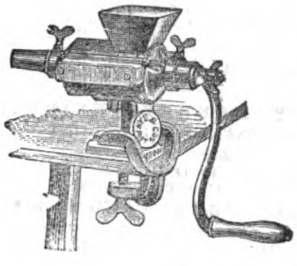

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H. Kong & Whampoa	Kensington .	W.I.D.	With des.
Kanagawa	Sea Witch ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Nagasaki	Swanley ...	W.I.D.	3rd Sept.
Manila	Tetuan ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Manila	San Fernando	W.I.D.	To follow.
Penang	Devonvale ...	W.I.D.	With des.

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Singapore	Early Dawn .	S.K.D.	20th Aug.
Bangkok	Costa Rica ...	W.I.D.	With des.

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To sail 12th September.

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HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, first ship, the splendid new clipper-ship ARAB STEED, A 1 ten years, 634 tons register, H. F. WALKER, Commander; loading in the East India Docks. This beautiful vessel, built by Messrs. W. Pile Hay and Co., is confidently recommended to shippers.

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HONG KONG and WHAMPOA (to follow the Arab Steed), the splendid Dundee built clipper ship BENGAL, A 1 nine years; — tons register; H. P. BRUMELL, Commander; loading in the East India Docks.

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SINGAPORE Direct.—Notice to Shippers.—The splendid fast-sailing clipper barque WEST, A 1 thirteen years, 409 tons per register; is now rapidly loading in the St. Katharine's Dock, and will shortly be despatched.

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Has the greater portion of her cargo engaged, and will sail 15th September.

DIRECT for BOMBAY, the beautiful clipper ship, LORD BROUGHAM, 3-3rds 1 1, 1,057 tons register, G. BANDALL, Commander; East India Docks. This fine vessel offers a first-rate opportunity to shippers desirous of despatch.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS," A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 148.] LONDON, TUESDAY, SEPT. 6, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—	Kanagawa	April 27	June 18	June 30
	Nagasaki			July 15
	Hakodadi			
CHINA—	Peking			June 22
	Tien-tsin			„ 24
	Hankow			„ 26
	Shanghai	May 26	July 11	July 17
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 10
	Amoy			„ 12
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	June 10	„ 22	„ 23
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—	Manila	May 10	June 27	„ 6
COCHIN-CHINA—	Touron			
	Saigon			„ 25
SIAM—	Bankok			„ 11
BORNEO—	Labuan			
	Sarawak			„ 9
JAVA—	Batavia			
MALACCA STRAITS—	Singapore	June 17	July 19	„ 30
	Penang			„ 23

The telegram of the next mails was received from Suez this morning. They may be expected on the 15th.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Massilia, Sept. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Lieut. Eaton, R.N., Lieut. Thompson, Miss Robinson, Lieut. G. Morice, Miss Manuel, Mr. and Mrs. Adams, Miss Pagden, Mr. I. P. Mollison, Col. and Mrs. Gray, Miss P. Plumridge, Miss Longstaff, Mr. P. Bird. To Shanghai: Mr. E. Iveson, Mr. R. A. Mowat, Mr. H. G. Arnold, Rev. C. H. and Mrs. Butcher, Mr. F. Stokes, Miss Nelson. To Singapore: Mrs. Braddell. From Marseilles, September 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Marsh. Mr. Leonard. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Coutts.

Per P. and O. steamer Ripon, Sept. 12, from Southampton.—To Singapore (via Bombay): Mr. J. Nagle.

Per P. and O. steamer, Sept. 20, from Southampton.—To Shanghai: Miss J. Provanst. To Hong Kong: Mr. Newton. To Singapore: Mr. Dunlop. From Marseilles, Sept. 28.—To Singapore: Mr. P. C. Keake, Lieut. and Mrs. Burn. To Shanghai: Mr. L. Russell.

Per P. and O. steamer, Oct. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Preston and infant. To Shanghai: Mrs. Jarvie, Mr. Turnbull. From Marseilles, Oct. 12. To Shanghai: Mr. Gordon and friend, Mr. A. Schultze.

Per P. and O. steamer, Oct. 12, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. F. M. Gibb. From Marseilles, Oct. 20.—To Penang via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Davidson.

Per P. and O. steamer, Oct. 28, from Marseilles.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. Tait. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Wood and lady friend, Messrs. W. and C. Degener.

Per P. and O. steamer, Nov. 12, from Marseilles.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Wheeley. From Alexandria.—To Singapore: Miss Cook.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

We have received no journals direct from Yokohama by the present mail; but we have intelligence from thence to the 30th June, brought to Shanghai by the *Elgin* steamer. Our news is therefore only three days later than that which appeared in the *London and China Telegraph* of the 29th ult.

Nothing of a political nature had occurred requiring record. A soldier of the 20th Foot, named Thomas Bambury, had been tried in the Consular Court for an assault on a Japanese on the 18th June, with intent to slay or do some grievous bodily injury. The facts deposed to were as follows:—

The prisoner, who had been absent from barracks the previous night, had, on the day charged in the indictment, been disporting himself in a state of intoxication about the village, and had been sitting in Denkitchi's house. He spoke to Denkitchi and took hold of him by his coat, and thrust at him with his open hand; Denkitchi then ran away, and was closely pursued by the prisoner with a huge threshing mallet—*i.e.*, a large wooden-headed instrument, the head of which was about eighteen inches in circumference, with a handle about four feet long. Not overtaking him, the prisoner threw this formidable instrument at Denkitchi, and striking him with it, brought him to the ground. He then took up the same weapon, and going up to the prostrate man, struck him a violent blow on the back. He was then surrounded by the villagers and secured with ropes. The Japanese lying in one spot and the soldier in another, having been seen by a little boy who was riding out that way, he rode in towards town and reported it to the first he met. The report soon spread, and Lieut. Barkley, of the *Havock*, and Lieut. Goldsmith, adjutant of the 20th, and others, went to the spot, and found the two men lying as described. A piquet was sent for, and the prisoner brought into town, the foreigners standing by the wounded man until the Japanese officers came up.

The prisoner made no defence, merely saying he was drunk at the time. In the course of the evidence it appeared that the character of the prisoner in his regiment was but very indifferent.

The prisoner was found guilty of an aggravated assault with intent to do a grievous bodily injury; and, restricting the charge to that extent, he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

Dr. Hyde, the surgeon of the 20th, had pronounced Denkitchi out of danger, and with no indication of internal lesion. The *Japan Herald* observes on the incident:—"No one can read the above account, slight as it is, of this brutal assault without a feeling of horror and indignation, and of sympathy with the unfortunate object of it—an inoffensive Japanese fisherman. We would be very glad to hear that the men of the 20th had stepped forward and evinced their sympathy by contributing each a trifle towards a sum to reimburse the family of the poor fisherman for the loss of their usual means of support. As the man is reported by Dr. Hyde to have suffered but slight injuries, he will probably be able soon to resume his occupation; and therefore a very trifle would suffice for this purpose—not only good in itself, but highly useful perhaps in respect to the position of esteem in which we all desire to be held amongst the industrious and kind-hearted villagers whom we frequently encounter in our rambles in the neighbourhood."

NAGASAKI.

By the arrival of the Spanish war-steamer *Narvaez* at Hong Kong, we have advices from this port to as late a date as the 15th July. General Brown and Sir Rutherford Alcock were both at Nagasaki at that date, on their way to the Straits of Simonoseki. It is clear, therefore, that the resolution to open the passage of the Inland Sea to foreign vessels has been definitively taken. As we hear of no fleet or land force accompanying these high officials, it is very possible that whilst General Brown may embrace the opportunity of reconnoitring what may prove to be the scene of future hostile operations, Sir Rutherford will endeavour to settle whatever points are in dispute by direct negotiation with Tsiosiu, the powerful Daimio who at present stands opposed to the free navigation of the Inland Sea by foreign vessels, and whose fortresses have been the sole impedimet to their making use of it.

Prior advices, to the 26th June, state that Her Majesty's ships *Rattler* and *Swallow*, and gunboat *Dove*, were then in port. The British barques *Celicia* and *Assyria* were also there, the former loading for Hong Kong, and the latter for Shanghai. The *Delaware*, American barque, was taking in cargo for Chefoo. The British brig *Clairmore* was discharging part of a general cargo from Hamburg, the rest to be discharged at Kanagawa.

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The *Swallow* and *Dove* were about to proceed to survey, or complete the survey of, the Cazen (?) Straits. One of the Dutch men-of-war in harbour would leave for Kanagawa as soon as the weather permitted. A Dutch barque had arrived from Singapore, with stores for the Dutch fleet. In addition, there were two Japanese steamers and one barque in the harbour.

CHINA.

PEKING.

The following notifications are from the *Peking Gazette* of the 3rd and 16th June:—Li Hung-chang reports the help that was obtained from a god, and requests that a commemorative tablet may be erected. Such is the substance of his despatch.

The Imperial army in Keangsoo having surrounded the city of Chang-chow, floods of rain descended both by night and by day, and rendered it all but impossible to fire the guns. But the Governor reverentially addressing Kuan-ti, and begging his aid, the sun immediately appeared, and at the moment of attacking the city the wind veered round as an answer to the prayer. Guns, muskets, and other fire-arms were suddenly endowed with a force which they had not possessed before. Thus was Chang-chow-fu taken without delay.

Li Hung-chang further states that he has made careful enquiries as to Chang-chow-fu, and has discovered that it was in the tenth year of the Emperor whose style was Hienfeng, the fourth month and the sixth day between twelve and two o'clock that the city was taken by the rebels, while it was recaptured on the sixth day of the fourth month of this year, and at the same hour.

We have considered the above despatch, and are, in truth, much moved by it. We order the doctors of the southern library respectfully to write an inscription for a tablet to be transmitted to Li Hung-chang, who will reverently place it in the temple of Kuan-ti at Chang-chow. We also present ten sticks of Thibetan incense to the shrine to mark our gratitude to the Divinity.

Formerly, on account of Gordon having acted as leader of our Imperial forces against the enemy, and having assisted to take Chang-chow, we issued an Edict, expressing our will that he should be elevated to the honorary rank of Ti-t'u, and should be presented from ourself with a banner and a medal to mark our appreciation of his services. Li Hung-chang now reports that the "ever victorious army" which Gordon used to lead has been disbanded in the most satisfactory manner, and he begs us to heap further distinction on Gordon's head. Such is the substance of his despatch. Since the spring of last year Gordon has headed the "ever victorious army," and aided the ordinary Imperial forces in the subjugation of Fushan, the relief of Chang-shu-hsien, the capture of Taitsang-chou, Quinsan-hsien, Wu-kong-hsien, and, at last (towards the close of the year) the provincial city of Soochow. Then again he this year captured Yih-shing-hsien and Li-yang-hsien, while he compelled the retreat of the rebels at Yang-shai. He finally captured Chang-chow-fu, thus continually heaping meritorious acts one upon another. Moreover, he has, in the most satisfactory and peaceful manner, completed the disbandment of the disciplined army. There was no uncertainty (or vacillation) about Gordon's services; he was ever inspired with that bravery and strategic talent which enabled him to prove so formidable. He was also intimately acquainted with the relations existing between China and other Powers. It is therefore most necessary for us to mark our approval. Gordon is therefore presented with the Yellow Jacket, and a short peacock's feather. He is also presented with the official robes and paraphernalia belonging to the rank Ti-t'u. Thus will our favour be manifested to him.

Respect this.

SHANGHAI.

The dates by the present mail are down to the morning of Sunday the 17th July. The leading item of news is the typhoon. The heat appears to have been excessive, but we find no complaints of cholera in our files. The American citizens celebrated the 4th July with great *éclat*, accompanied with a pyrotechnic display.

The following account of a severe typhoon is from the *North China Herald* of July 16:—

THE RECENT TYPHOON.

Judging from the experience of Wednesday night, Shanghai must in future be considered liable to an infliction from which it has hitherto been deemed exempt. A gale blew from 9.30 P.M. on that evening, to 4.30 A.M. on Thursday morning, which presented every characteristic of a cyclone, both in the violence of the wind and its circular motion; commencing from about S.E., and working gradually round to N.W. before it exhausted its strength; heavy rain falling during a great part of the night. We have been favoured with the following series of barometrical observations taken in the settlement during the progress of the storm, from which it will be seen that the glass fell slowly from the commencement of the gale till daylight; after this the force of the wind abated, and the weather became gradually calm.

9.30 P.M. 29.80.	3.00 A.M. 29.18
1.50 A.M. 29.48.	3.15 A.M. 29.07
2.00 A.M. 29.38.	4.50 A.M. 29.05
2.35 A.M. 29.25.	6.00 A.M. 29.50

Up to 8 P.M. on Wednesday evening there had been no indication of the coming storm, the barometer stood at 29.80, and the night was calm and clear. Between 9.30 and 10, heavy rain set in, accompanied by gusts from the south-east, while the barometer commenced to fall rapidly. The wind increased in force until a quarter past three in the morning, when it suddenly lulled to almost a calm. This is to be accounted for by the centre of the cyclone passing over the settlement at the time. The calm lasted for about five minutes, when with redoubled force the wind came from the south-west, the barometer at the same time standing at 29.07, and the Board of Trade sympiesometer registering 28.80. From this time, however, the wind gradually fell, veering round to the north-west, while the barometer rose to 29.50. The storm seems to have been travelling towards the north-east, making it exceedingly dangerous for vessels off the coast or on their way between Shanghai and Ningpo. Land-locked as the course is, they had little chance of lying to and braving the storm. Fears were entertained for the safety of the *Whampoa*, *Kiangse*, and *Fire Dart*, the first two of which left Shanghai on Wednesday, and the latter was due here on Thursday. The *Fire Dart*, however, came in on Thursday afternoon, having ridden out the gale at Chin-hai. We have been favoured with the following account of the progress of the gale, by a gentleman who was on board her when she anchored for shelter. The storm commenced about 8.30 P.M., the glass rapidly falling, and gradually increased until, at 2.30 A.M., it reached its greatest force, having in the meantime veered round from E.S.E. to W. The barometer had meanwhile fallen to 28.60, the lowest point noted. About half an hour after the *Fire Dart* had anchored, the *Emperor*, which had left Ningpo some time before her, put back. After the wind had veered to the westward, several junks drifted past the steamers, and went heavily ashore. At about 3 A.M. the wind commenced to moderate, while the glass rose steadily, and at 5 A.M. the weather seemed sufficiently settled to admit of the vessel again getting under way. When she rounded the point the scene presented was truly horrible, the water being literally covered with wreck, which prevented her from making her way by the usual course. A Hankow raft had been split in halves, one portion embracing the right shore, while the other was tossing against the left bank. The work-sheds built on Messrs. Collyer and Lambert's property had been blown down.

The *Whampoa* rode out the gale at anchor, ten miles inside the lightship, with eighty fathoms of cable out. Her boats were washed away, and her main steampipe broken by the violence of her working.

The damage done to the foreign shipping in the harbour was very trifling. H.M.S. *Acorn* and *Perseus*, owing to having been somewhat slackly moored, grazed one another, but no injury was suffered by either. Naturally enough, most of the foreign vessels dragged more or less; the steamer *Argus* was literally blown up on the bank of the river, and a portion of the roof of the *Berwick Walls*, hospital-ship, was neatly removed. But the British barque *Teresa* alone suffered damage of any importance; her bowsprit, jib-boom, fore-top, top gallant, and royal masts, with yards and rigging, were taken over the side by the American ship *Ruthven*. On the whole, the injury to foreign property afloat was not by any means so great as might have been expected. The loss of life and property amongst the native boats was very serious. The eccentric position of several cargo-boats, and the number of *sam-pans* lying bottom up on the bund, showed that the small craft had not escaped disaster. A large boat opposite the Custom House was thrown high and dry broadside on to the bund; and a little further on, a second was lying completely across a stone jetty, while others had gone foul of the piles of the Soochow-bridge. The *sam-pans* appear to have been blown into a heap and to have pounded each other; while several house-boats came to condign grief.

It is known that at least three large chops, together with several smaller boats, were destroyed; while we have received reports to the effect that two hundred lives and some

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100,000 taels worth of property were lost by the foundering of native boats and junks, many of which were full of cargo, and crowded with sailors and passengers. Amongst the casualties ashore, we may mention the overthrow of the look-outs at the Ningpo Joss House, and at No. 10 Redoubt. The latter observatory was smashed to pieces and deposited in the Defence Creek. A chimney in Nanking Road was blown down, and a block of houses lately erected in the Maloo completely overset, many others being more or less damaged. The iron godowns on Messrs. Dent and Co.'s wharf and on Messrs. Hall and Holtz's property at Pootung were blown down. In Hongque, part of a block of Chinese houses in course of erection on the lately reclaimed waste ground at the top of Broadway, immediately behind the Astor House, was blown over and is now a mass of ruins.

At the police station in Hongque a wall, one brick thick, in the sergeant's office, fell down, a window which had been built into it remaining, curiously enough, unbroken. On the bund several trees were torn up by the roots, fences blown down, and the bunding itself much injured in several places. Throughout the settlements generally, glass, venetians, sunblinds, and roofs suffered very considerably. The bunding was damaged, boats were stranded on two jetties, injuring one of them (that running out from the Hangchow road), while the remarkable height of the tide, overflowing the banks of the river, contributed its share to the general work of destruction. The most serious results were, however, felt at Woosung, where the beacons set up for the guidance of ships entering and leaving the port were blown down. Steps were, of course, immediately taken to secure their rapid replacement. Our reporter has sent us the following interesting account of the effects produced at Woosung by the gale.

WOOSUNG.

The typhoon has committed fearful destruction in this neighbourhood. The wind commenced to increase gradually after 8 P.M., and by 11 P.M. it had risen to a perfect gale, with a deluging rain. The scene amongst the junks must have been something dreadful, but as night had shrouded the sufferers in darkness we are compelled to pass them over and leave them to their fate. Cries for help occasionally came across the water as the flood made, and huge dark masses could be seen through the darkness rushing on to utter destruction. By 3 A.M. it blew a perfect hurricane, the howling of the wind being almost deafening, and the spray blinding. As we stood on the jetty watching the progress of the storm, every now and again we could indistinctly hear a death-cry uttered during the struggles of some doomed victim. Suddenly we heard a fearful crash close behind, which not a little startled us, but we soon discovered that it was only one of the side walls of Messrs. Remi, Schmidt, and Co.'s godowns that had fallen. The river by this time had swollen considerably, and the black masses became more numerous. Streaks of light were at last visible in the eastern horizon. The country people now began to assemble and move about in groups, straining their eyes for plunder. To watch them was, however, more easily wished than done.

One large boat, which had been engaged landing bricks during the previous day, suddenly came to grief, and the yulow and many of the boards were washed over Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co.'s newly-made jetty. A little boy and his father were the only persons belonging to the boat, and they were saving all they could of the wreck. The little boy was in the act of dragging along the yulow when he was seized by one of the ruffianly plunderers. The child called for help: it was now fortunately grey dawn, and when assistance did come he was in the act of being thrown overboard. The wretch had certainly greased himself for the occasion, as he slipped through our fingers like an eel. [At 4 A.M. it was still blowing heavily; the wind had by this time veered round to the N.W., but began to show signs of abating. At 4.30 it moderated; it was now light, but what a sight the river presented! Junks of every description, some with their masts only above water, others bottom up, some on their beam ends, others scarcely visible, with small craft and sampans innumerable floating up at the rate of six miles an hour. Two large junks were crushed against the jetty at the village. A huge pig found its way into the hands of some of the French sailors, and was immediately put to the knife. The marks outside the Woosung village were blown down, and the beacons on the bar creek levelled—the outside or southernmost one being completely blown away. A lull in the gale now occurred for about half an hour, when it came on terrifically from the N.W. and N.W. by W., drawing out of the ground the 8-foot stakes to which the flag-staff is stayed, while the river became one complete mass of foam. Fortunately this only lasted for about an hour, when it again moderated, and the weather has since remained calm.

The Hamburg barque *Elise* reports that on the morning of the 14th, the small fore-and-aft schooner *Rebecca*, bound outwards, foundered close to her, about four miles above the wreck of the *Ocean Mail*. All hands reached the shore with the exception of the captain's wife and child, who were lost by the upsetting of the boat. The British barque *Syrian*, which was entering the river on her return voyage from Nagasaki, was seen lying high and dry, with her back broken, below the Kintoan beacon. No foreigners were seen either on board or in the neighbourhood, and it is to be feared, therefore, that the captain and crew were compelled to desert her and that their boats were swamped. The *J. T. Wright* has also been wrecked on Lan-shan crossing; the crew were saved by the *Huquong*.

An expedition which left Soochow to complete the subjugation of the southern portion of the province has succeeded in capturing the city of Chang-shing, situated between Yih-shing and Hoo-chow.

From the Che-keang province we learn that the apprehensions felt as to the effect of the destruction of the sea wall on the north side of Hangchow bay have proved well founded, although naturally somewhat exaggerated. At present at each tide a space of about fifty square miles is covered by salt water, and is, of course, thus rendered utterly unfit for cultivation. It is supposed that Hangchow is about fifteen feet higher than Shanghai, hence the brackishness noticed in the water of some of the creeks running into the Wong-poo. The Chinese estimate that a sum of three millions of taels will be necessary in order to restore the wall to its former state, and even then that an annual expenditure of three hundred thousand taels will be rendered necessary. The members of the surveying expedition sent down from Shanghai to report on the wall, state that to construct an adequate barrier, an outlay of five millions of taels would be requisite, but in this case fifty thousand taels would amply suffice for annual repairs.

A correspondent at Hankow reports that a Chinaman was, on the 20th June, shot by Dr. Rice, a medical man lately established at that point. It would seem that a crowd had collected in front of Rice's residence to watch the performances usual at the Dragon feast, which was going on at the time. Some of the crowd were forced into the house, and Rice, to frighten them or to compel their departure, fired off three chambers of his revolver, which he states he believed was loaded with powder only. A Chinaman was, however, shot through the heart, and Rice has been tried, convicted, and sentenced to a fine of five hundred dollars, and deportation.

The third regular meeting of the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society was held on the 6th July, at the Shanghai Library, Sir Harry S. Parkes, K.C.B., president, in the chair. Present:—Dr. Henderson, V.P., Dr. Lamprey, 67th Regiment, Messrs. T. Hanbury, Morris, Gould, Andrews, Gundry, Alabaster, Jamieson, Anderson, Lieut. Wood, and Captain Drummond, 2nd Belooch Regiment, Messrs. Cull, Thorne, Gamble, Marston, &c., &c.

The following mercantile notices have appeared:—

We have established a branch of our firm in Yokohama under the style of Shaw, Cull and Co., the partners being James Cull, China; Charles Shaw and Co., Liverpool.—Shaw Brothers and Co., Shanghai, 4th July.

We have established ourselves at this port as Merchants and Commission Agents under the style and firm of Strachan and Thomas.—W. M. Strachan, T. Thomas. Yokohama, 1st July, 1864.

We have established ourselves at this place, as Public Silk Inspectors and General Commission Merchants, under the style and firm of Maertens, Latham, and Co.—Aug. H. Maertens, Thos. Stanley Latham.

TRIAL OF THE "TSATLEE" ROWDIES.—THE QUEEN V. KAVANAGH AND MACLEAN.

The prisoners were arraigned on two separate charges, 1st for having, in company with other persons, boarded the *Tsatlee*, assaulted the master, and carried off the vessel; 2nd, with having attempted to deliver her to the rebels, in violation of the neutrality ordinance of 17th January, 1855.

The prisoners pleaded Not Guilty.

Mr. Robinson, who appeared for the defence, objected that

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the prosecutor ought to elect on what charge the prisoner should be tried.

The Court over-ruled the objection, at the same time promising to take it into consideration as the case proceeded.

Mr. Eames having briefly stated the case for the prosecution, called

Archibald Coomb Lowell, who stated: I was in command of the *Tsatlee* in March last. I recollect the night of the 7th of that month. I was asleep in my berth, when I was awakened by feeling my hands grasped, and, starting up, saw three men in my cabin. I only know the name of one of them. The man who held my hands said that if I kept quiet there would be no harm done. I saw the mate run out of the after-door, and at the same time heard a noise on deck, and the engine working. I was detained in my room till morning. I was several times asked to join the captors, and offered an equal share if I would do so. They said if I would not they would let me go in the morning. After daybreak I repeatedly asked them to release me and the mate, but they each time refused, telling me to hold on a little longer till we had passed the Imperial lines. Shortly after we came to some stockades, and some Europeans on the bank hailed the steamer. I attempted to go on deck, but was prevented. They ran by the stockades, but came to a barrier, which they could not get across; and I then told them that, if they would give me up command of the steamer, I would do the best I could for them when they got back to Shanghai. Whilst they were debating, Captain Curtis was hailing them from the bank. Having taken command, I answered the hail, and went back to the spot where he was standing, and made fast to a gunboat. Shortly afterwards General Ching sent for me, and I went to him. In reply to his question as to what I was doing there, I told him I had come on an excursion. I was allowed to return to the steamer, but was again sent for about half-an-hour later, and questioned as to how I came up, and who were the men I had with me. I asked him to give me a guard to go on board; I told him that they had stolen the steamer and had compelled me to accompany them. He sent the guard, and at my request took the captors out of the vessel. I then asked to be allowed to take the steamer away; but he refused, though he gave me a letter to the Futai asking his will on the subject. The Futai also refused, but allowed me to come down to Shanghai, where I gave my testimony before the United States Consul.

George Murray, the chief mate of the *Tsatlee*, and Stanley Bennett, a captain in the Imperial service, were here examined, and corroborated the above statement in its main points.

Ly-chee stated as follows through the medium of an interpreter: I am a sailor on board the steamer *Tsatlee*. I remember the day was Monday. I don't recollect the date. On Monday morning was anchored off Customs. Came up to tow vessels, and anchored at the Hongque wharf. Three sailors, three stokers, and one cook were on board. The cook asked leave to go on shore. The captain and mate told the men not to keep watch. The cook went on shore, leaving six men on board. We all went to sleep, and then heard a noise; we started up and found the hatches locked. We all slept beneath the hatch. At 7 o'clock (in the morning) the hatch was opened, and we were called up to carry a bag of coals to the engine room. The vessel was steaming at the time. We came to Kahingfoo, near Soochow. The captain went to speak to an Imperial officer there. The steamer was fastened to Ching's stockades; this was between 4½ and 5 o'clock. I carried one bag of coals; six of us went into the engine-room. Nobody was there but the head engineer. I see him in court. The captain or mate did not tell me to do anything at Kahing. After carrying the coals to the engine-room we went below again. We were not told to do so. There were eight persons on deck. The noise by which we were awakened was the noise of the wheels and the engine. I did not hear anyone speak. I am certain we were all below. I had been ten or twelve days in the boat. Some of the strangers gave orders, but I don't know which. No orders were given to me. I heard none given to the others. I was ordered in Chinese by one of the foreigners to carry coals from the after-cabin to the engine-room. We were below at the time. The coal was stowed under the dining table The captain does not understand Chinese. I did not see the person who spoke. I got up and saw that it was not a Chinaman. The engineer never gave orders in Chinese. None of us were ill-treated that night or the following day. The steamer went to Soochow some ten days before. I was taken to General Ching's at nine o'clock in the morning. Nobody tied me up nor threatened to cut my head off. Nobody else was taken to General Ching. A black man took me to General Ching. I had seen this black man before, when he took me at nine o'clock in the evening to General Ching's stockades. I was keeping watch when taken by the black man, and was asked by General Ching whether I knew any particulars of the occurrences on board while under hatches. I told the black man nothing. On hearing the noise at the hatch we stayed for one hour huddled together, being frightened. At twelve o'clock at night we found it shut. I never knew the hatch shut in that way before. The hatch being fastened and hearing the steamer going ahead was the cause of our fear. I heard of no one being tied up at Kahing,

Alum, one of the stokers on board the *Tsatlee*, was next examined:—The steamer used to get up steam at six or seven o'clock and go to Woosung to tow up ships. On Monday (March 7) we went up at one and came back at about four o'clock, and anchored at Hongque wharf. In the evening I was told that the fires were not wanted, but that a little fire should be kept. The men finished work at five o'clock, had chow-chow, and went to bed at eight o'clock. On hearing a noise caused by the engine and the wheels they awoke and tried to get up, but found the hatch shut. They could not get out till daylight, when they were called up in Chinese. They were never called up in Chinese before. There was no Chinaman on board except themselves. They were sent to the engine room to make up the fire. A foreigner sent them to the engine-room. It was neither the captain nor mate. I went into the engine-room: There was the engineer and a foreigner whom I did not know in the engine-room at the time. I do not know either of the three prisoners now in the court. I now recognise the engineer. The engineer told me to put on 60-lbs. of steam. The steamer then went to Kahing-fu. I did not go on shore there. I came back to Shanghai in the steamer.

M. KING, a policeman, stated:—I arrested a man named Kavanagh on the 26th June. He offered resistance, by flinging himself on the ground and throwing mud. This happened not far from the American Consulate. I know he was intoxicated. He said he was an American. He, besides throwing mud, tried to strike me on the head with a handcuff.

Mr. Eames closed the case for the prosecution by an able address. He first referred briefly to the disturbed state of affairs in Shanghai; and urged that their increased importance of late rendered it necessary to exercise double vigilance. He hoped that there were no questions which at first seemed doubtful, that had not been cleared up satisfactorily. After briefly recapitulating the particulars of the case, he added that if the prisoners were not convicted of robbery, which he could not imagine possible, they must be still liable for larceny. Kavanagh was the most guilty of the prisoners; his conduct had been very peculiar on different occasions. The testimony of the crew was also to a great extent against him, as had been satisfactorily shown. In fact, it seemed quite evident that there was a sympathy and understanding between the men that came on board the steamer and the prisoner. It was quite evident that the captain was not a man of ordinary nerve, otherwise he would not have acted in such a quiet way as he did when held by his assailants. He did not doubt that the case for the prosecution had been proved beyond a question.

Mr. Robinson then made a few remarks for the defence. He considered the case for the prosecution one totally unsupported, the evidence being quite contradictory. The prisoners were not guilty of robbery. They were at a great disadvantage, not being in a position to call witnesses for their own defence. He would ask two things, that the cardinal principles of English law might be attended to—that, until a man be proved guilty, he is virtually innocent; and, secondly, he would ask for that justice which it is the prerogative of every Englishman to claim. He must bear testimony to the fairness with which Mr. Eames had conducted the case. It was impossible to understand the captain's conduct. There must have been watches in all the ships around, and assistance could easily have been procured. His anxiety afterwards to have the men arrested was merely moonshine. He had volunteered falsehoods on different occasions, and consequently his testimony could not be relied on. On the part of the prisoners he thanked the Court for the patience they had displayed, and had no doubt that their decision would be favourable.

JUDGMENT.—The Court find that the steamer *Tsatlee* was

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feloniously and violently stolen, taken, and carried away from this port of Shanghai on the night of the 7th of March ; that this robbery was committed with the foreknowledge and active participation of Kavanagh, and also with the participation in a less degree of Dyas and Maclean. The Court accordingly sentence Kavanagh to twelve months' imprisonment, and Dyas and Maclean to nine months' imprisonment, in H.B.M.'s Consular gaol.

TIEN-TSIN.

The following regulations have been published by the Municipal Council :—At a general meeting of the land renters held at H.B.M's Consulate, on the 1st of June, 1864, the following scale of wharfage dues was agreed upon, and will be levied from and after Wednesday, the 15th of June, 1864, on all merchandise imported or exported, passing into or through the British settlement at Tszechulin. These dues will be collected quarterly.

RATES ON IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Cotton piece goods	2	cts. per	50 pcs.
Woollens	1	„	packge.
Cotton mixtures	2	„	„
Velvets, velveteens	½	„	piece
Silk piece goods	3	„	packge.
Nankins	1	„	100 pcs.
Raw cotton, wool, camel's hair	2	„	bale
Cotton yarn	2	„	„
Raw silk	5	„	„
Opium	10	„	chest.
Metals	1	„	picul.
Coals	3	„	ton.
Chinese medicines, fruit, and other Chinese goods	2	„	packge.
Paper	1	„	10 „
Tobacco, window glass	½	„	packge.
Seaweed, rice, sugar, rattans, sandal and other woods, oil, grain and pulse	½	„	picul.
Tea	1	„	„
Timber and planks	2	„	10 feet cubic.
Bricks	2	„	1,000.
Cattle	10	„	head.
Copper cash	1	„	picul.
Stores	2	„	packge.
Personal luggage free	free.		
All unenumerated goods	2	„	packge.

All vessels mooring alongside the Bund at the British settlement Tszechulin shall pay a mooring charge of 5 candareens per register ton.

By order, JOHN HANNA, Hony. Secy., M.C.

HONG KONG.

Dates are down to the morning of Saturday, the 23rd July. The English mail of the 10th June arrived out on the 22nd July. We have a file of the *Evening Mail*, but the items of news are scanty. We make the following extracts :—

The British ship *Euphrates* reports having left Sydney for Hong Kong on the 7th of April, with 79 Chinese passengers. During the latter part of May they revolted, obtaining possession of the boarding pikes, and attempting to murder the captain. A few days after they made another attempt to murder the carpenter and boatswain. Captain Cowen then had them battened down in the 'tween decks, and put into Koepang, a Dutch settlement on Timor Island, where they were handed over to the civil authorities for conveyance by steamer to Singapore to be tried. The attacks were evidently premeditated, as a number of loaded revolvers were found stowed away among the coals.

The British steamer *Dumbarton* reports that she left Glasgow on April 23rd. On the 29th, in lat. 37.34 N., long. 16.23 W., the cross-head guide block set fast, which forced her to put into Madeira to repair. She had to make for that port with only one engine, but arrived on 1st of May ; and having completed repairs, she sailed again on the 4th. Her various stages were made as follows :—Arrived at St. Vincent May 9th, sailed on May 12th ; arrived in Table Bay (Capetown) May 31st, sailed June 2nd for Simon's Bay, where she arrived the same day ; left for Singapore June 8th, arrived there on July 6th ; sailed for Hong Kong July 9th, at 4 P.M., and arrived in the harbour at 8 A.M. this morning, having made the passage in 82 days, including stoppages. She steams fast, and only consumes from 15 to 18 tons of coal a day. During the passage she has had moderate weather, with the exception of the last three days, when it blew very hard, with a heavy sea. She saw the *Trafalgar*, of Sunderland, bound to Hong Kong, outside.

We hear that the contract for the building of the Post-office has been given to a gentleman hailing from the United States. As contracts are generally given to Chinamen, and always actually executed by them, we may safely enough take the liberty of being astonished at this change in the practice that has hitherto prevailed. The contractor in such a case as the present must always be a middle-man, and he can only get a profit by sub-letting the contract, or by some process of nigger-driving with which he is acquainted. In a few weeks the old Post-office will be among the things that were, and a new and larger edifice will rise upon its site. The new building has been planned by the Surveyor-General, and comprises every convenience for accommodating the public and facilitating the duties of the Post-office employés.

SIAM.

BANGKOK.

A Bangkok correspondent writes to the *Java Times* on the 20th June :—

The *Chow Phya* left this last on the 30th ult. for Singapore, taking amongst her passengers H.B.M. Consul Sir Robert Schomburg, whose probable departure was previously referred to, and who left amidst many tokens of the respect borne him by the European as well as native community here. On the passage of the *Chow Phya* down the river, flag after flag of consulates and vessels were lowered in parting salute. Many of the principal residents of Bangkok accompanied the steamer part of the way to the bar, and a sumptuous collation was provided by the Chinese owner of the steamer in honour of the occasion. A few days before Sir Robert's departure he had the satisfaction of ratifying the new Russian treaty.

His Majesty the First King of Siam forwarded by this opportunity, in charge of H.B.M. Consul, an autograph letter to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, the same being conveyed on board the *Chow Phya* by H.S.M.'s steam yacht *Ocean Goddess*, under the customary salute of twenty-one guns and the usual Siamese honours.

Some days ago the calm repose of the Siamese dignitaries was disturbed by the announcement that another and a beautiful specimen of the White Elephant (a superstitious sign of prosperity to the country) had been secured up country, and kings, lords, and commons were compelled to pack up on a hurried visit (we are not informed whether the "gone-on-business-will-be-back-in-a-few-days" card was visible on any of the Government offices) to the noble animal, pronounced by one and all to be an exceedingly fine one. Preparations on a grand scale are making for the state entry of same into the capital. His Majesty the First King is expected back to-day.

The Siamese steamer *Illustrious Conqueror* went down the river on the 14th for a cruise outside in the gulf, in search of a lorcha commanded by a Maltese gent, reported by some Chinese junks as having committed sundry piracies, and as this is very probably true, we hope soon to hear that a stop has been put to such misdeeds.

On the 1st proximo we learn that an English newspaper is to be printed and produced here. This will be a great boon, provided management of same is conducted in a proper manner, due allowance being made for any little scandal (though in such a small community it will be difficult to have any) and private feeling. Could some articles be provided in the Siamese language and character, doubtless many of the nobles and people would patronise it, anxious as they always are to be informed on European matters. A copy of first issue will be duly forwarded to you, though as we have no "*Tweede kamer*," no such slashing articles as your contemporaries in Java can furnish you with, anent such subjects as "schutterijen" and "Batig saldo," must be looked for.

Trade remains brisk, as many vessels are arriving from day to day to load for China. Rice has again advanced a little. Tonnage plentiful. Last rates 50 cts. all round to Hong Kong for rice. Exchange on Hong Kong, 5 per cent. discount 30 d/st. ; on Singapore, 1 per cent. discount 10 d/st. ; on England, 2/11 p tical 6 m/st.

JAVA AND NETHERLANDS INDIA.

Our dates are to the 26th July. The European mails of 10th June reached Batavia on the 18th July, and those of the 17th arrived on the afternoon of the 23rd July.

The British brig *Alicia Annie*, belonging to Liverpool, Wm. Kirby, master, from Manila for London, with a cargo of sugar, hemp, and sapanwood, has put into Batavia to repair damages, having been in collision, at 1 A.M. on the 22nd of June, with a vessel unknown, in lat. 2 deg. 54 min. N., long. 108 deg. 26 min. E. The captain reports that, after the vessels got clear of each other, the stranger bore away without offering the least explanation, though the blame was entirely on his side.

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The *Javasche Courant* reports the loss of the Oldenburg ship *Australia* on one of the Kangean Islands. The ship was plundered by pirates, notwithstanding the strenuous efforts of the crew to save both her and cargo. The steam tug *Eersteling* has been sent to her assistance.

The British ship *Wolverene*, from Adelaide, has brought a cargo of Australian horses and sheep.

A correspondent, signing himself "T. M.," writes as follows to the *Locomotief*, on "the cultivation of silk in Java :"—

The introduction of a new branch of industry is not without its difficulties, more especially when, as is generally the case, public opinion characterises such as needless waste of money, time, and trouble. Never have worse results been foretold than in the case of the attempts now made to introduce the culture of silkworms. Remembering the scant success which had attended former attempts, people were led to regard the hope of a future production of silk on the island as a fallacy. The difference between the former and present attempts was lost sight of. Was the Siam silkworm known in former years? Was the cultivation of the *Bombyx Cynthia* and *Bombyx Arrindia* thought of? Was any effort made to utilise the many varieties of the Java silkworm? These questions may, I believe, be all answered in the negative; for, if I mistake not, all trials were made with the Chinese and European *Bombyx mori* only.

The last attempts on the contrary were made with the tame silkworm of Siam, and with several varieties of what is known as "wild silkworms." The cultivation of the tame and wild species differs greatly; most of the trials were made with the first.

It is generally known that the Siam silkworm was brought over to Buitenzorg by Mr. J. E. Teysman, Honorary Inspector of Cultures, in 1862. The first results were made public; not so those latterly obtained. In the commencement of 1863, Mr. Teysman showed me the small establishment for the culture of silkworms which he had just erected. It consisted of two small buildings, constructed of bamboos, the sides worked in the Kepang pattern, with roofs of atap. The surrounding grounds (some two and-a-half to three bahoes) were planted with mulberry trees (*Morus indica*), and in the immediate vicinity was the dwelling of the Cochin-Chinaman André Locas, who, with his household, had the care of the worms. Everything was simple, and arranged in the Chinese fashion. One of the erections served for the development of the worms, the other for the winding and for the preparation of the cocoons. The whole establishment, inclusive of the plantation, I computed to have cost *f.* 400; and at the end of one year Mr. Teysman had the satisfaction of being able to bring to market 80 lb. (Amsterdam weight) wound, and 89 lb. of floss silk, which were sold on the 24th December last at Batavia for the sum of *f.* 400. This year's yield will be still greater, for now, after a lapse of six months, 50 lbs. (Amst.) of wound, and much more floss silk, have been offered for sale.

But not only at Buitenzorg were favourable results obtained; at Samarang too, and at Malang, the trials were attended with success. The degeneration of the worms which was so much feared is nowhere visible; the cocoons have, on the contrary, increased in size since the worms have been carefully tended. The quality, too, of the silk is better. The first musters sent to Europe were taxed at *f.* 10 to *f.* 12 per kilo; the Buitenzorg silk fetched, at the auction alluded to, the average of *f.* 14¾, whilst a muster lately sent to Europe was valued in France at *f.* 22 per half-kilo. I believe that the facts here spoken of are so many reasons for asserting that a lucrative culture of the silkworm is not wholly imaginative. Mr. L. Weber says, on the subject, in the introduction to his *Handleiding voor eenige kultures op Java* (Handbook of Cultures in Java), "that the culture of the silkworm will in time be a means of existence for the European as well as for the Malay, as will certainly be experienced by those who apply themselves to it; from the results which I myself have obtained, I do not hesitate to recommend its extension, and am convinced that the aid of our rulers may be reckoned upon."

Government, which lost such heavy sums with former attempts, is, we are informed upon good authority, endeavouring to introduce the culture of the Siamese silkworm on a large scale, the inducement to do so being the fortunate results which have attended the late trials. Already the planting of mulberry trees in the residency Krawang has been commenced. Private industry, too, should devote more of its attention to the subject. Not that it is necessary to erect extensive and costly establishments; it is sufficient if many small and inexpensive ones be founded; favourable results will then lead to extension. The trials with the so-called "wild silkworms" are not yet so far advanced. Although several trials on a small scale have been successful, the varieties of the worm are so numerous as to make it difficult to decide as to the best. Of the known varieties of the wild silkworm, not less than ten sorts might be used for spinning purposes in Java. In other tropical countries, as Surinam (Dutch Guyana), the Argentine Republic (la Plata?), and in Brazil, the *Bombyx Cynthia* and *Arrindia* have already been introduced; but Java herself has many silk-spinners, which are found in a wild state, and perhaps one or other of these deserves the preference above the two just named.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

The dates are down to the 30th of July. The ex-Sultan of Lingga, who has caused us some trouble, is dead. The weather has been very hot, dry, and dusty. There are no items of news to be gathered from the *Singapore Free Press* of the 28th, which is the only paper we have.

The following items reach us from Bombay :—

"A sanguinary affray between a number of Chinese coolies, imported into Bombay by W. Nicol and Co., and a number of townspeople, took place in Bombay on the 5th of August, when two men were killed and a number of persons were seriously injured.

"A corps of Muzbee Sikhs is to be raised and officered for service at Singapore in guarding the convicts there.

"The *Ta-pang-Nyo*, a screw steamer of 527 tons burthen, commanded by Captain Grindle, has made the passage from England to Bombay in 51 days and 4 hours, being the quickest passage on record. The vessel proceeds to China, where she is owned."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTH.

NIESEN—At Rhio, on 22nd July, Mrs. C. A. Niesen, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

PRICE—PATRIDGE.—On the 13th July, at the British Consulate, Ningpo, J. F. Price, of the firm of Price and Co., at that port, to Helen Jessie, eldest daughter of the late Andrew S. Patridge, of Madras.

DEATHS.

BOSWELL—At Shanghai, on the 8th July, of cholera, U. R. Boswell, of the Footai's service, Soochow Arsenal.

CRUMPTON—At Shanghai, on the 6th July, of cholera, William Crumpton, in the employ of Nicholas Stubldt.

FISHER—At Shanghai, on the 6th July, of cholera, on board the Floating Hospital, Richard Fisher, Runner for the Sailors' Home.

JACKSON—At Ningpo, on the 5th July, James Cole Jackson, B.A., B.Sc., and B.LL. Born at Kingston, Jamaica.

MADDEN—At Shanghai, on the 12th July, at the Hospital, Richard Owen Lloyd Madden, Lieutenant of H.M.S. Osprey, aged 23 years.

OLIVER—At Shanghai, on the 7th July, of cholera, J. Oliver, assistant to Messrs. Grumel and Chausse, photographers.

THOMSON—At Shanghai, on the 9th July, at the Victoria Hotel, George Thomson, mercantile clerk, of heat apoplexy.

WILDE—At Shanghai, on the 4th July, of cholera, Napoleon Wilde, master of the steamer Nora Crcina.

WOODRUFF—At Shanghai, on the 16th July, Samuel C. Woodruff, of Southampton, Long Island, U.S.A., aged 53 years.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1864-65.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to June 30, 1864	32708	4722573	9174300	—	2061641	15991522	810
Corresponding period last season	551300	11392600	5591522	—	2180189	19715911	1102

SHIPMENTS IN JULY.

Ship	From	
Coulnakyle	Shanghai	781,880
Taeping	"	1,115,100
Whinfell	Foochow	1,057,600

TO UNITED STATES.

From June 1 to June 30, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	766901	Piculs. ...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	..	547586	...

SHIPMENTS IN JULY.—None.

TO THE CONTINENT.

From June 1 to June 30, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	...	Bales. ...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

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TO SAN FRANCISCO.

						Tl. pkgs.	
From June 1 to June 30, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	500	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	13,241	...

SHIPMENTS IN JULY.

Ship	From	
G. C. L. Meyer ...	... Hong Kong ...	... 890
St. Thomas Packet	... „ ...	... 735

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	...	...	...	51,022,600	...
„ 1845 to 1846	...	...	...	57,334,200	18,604
„ 1850 to 1851	...	...	...	63,972,000	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854	...	...	...	77,327,800	61,280
„ 1855 to 1856	...	...	...	92,240,300	50,480
„ 1857 to 1858	...	...	...	76,990,255	68,311
„ 1858 to 1859	...	...	...	65,789,792	83,136
„ 1859 to 1860	...	...	...	35,560,452	64,163
„ 1860 to 1861	...	...	...	90,066,160	70,644
„ 1861 to 1862	...	...	...	109,854,040	79,199
„ 1862 to 1863	...	...	...	121,273,580	72,848
„ 1863 to 1864	...	...	...	117,463,586	46,605

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to June 30, 1864...	52108	154	1218	403		

SHIPMENTS IN JULY.

Ship.	From	Cotton, pcls.
Edward Percy ...	... Hong Hong ...	... 10,066

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to June 30, 1864...						

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to June 30, 1864...						

SHIPMENTS IN JULY.—None.

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to June 30, 1864...	290	870	2099	300	1175	18600

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to June 30, 1864...			1750	725		

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months	sight.	7s. 2d.	7s. 2d. to 7s. 3d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 10½d. to 4s. 11d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 0d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 10d. to 4s. 10½d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 0d.
At Manila	6	ditto	4s. 7½d.	4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 338 to 340 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 232 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 10 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 70 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 32 to 34 discount.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

AT SHANGHAI.—From London: July 2, Yaratilda and Solent; 6, Lady McNaughten. From Liverpool: 4, Madagascar. From Sunderland: 2, Royal Mint; 5, Comus. From Dartmouth: 3, Prince Kung (steamer). From Bristol: J. Stanton, Jun. From New York: June 30, Leopondine, Baner; and, July 3, Moyone (steamer).

AT HONG KONG.—From London: July 15, Lord Raglan. From Liverpool, 16, Verbena. From Glasgow: 16, Dumbarton (steamer). From Sunderland: 18, Trafalgar and Aboyne. From Shields: 18, Carisbrook. From Cardiff: 19, Quick and Beatrice; 20, Ocean. From Newcastle: 20, Orion. From New York: 12, Promise (steamer); 15, White Eagle.

AT SINGAPORE.—From Newcastle: July 24, Eddystone.

DEPARTURES.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: July 1, Taeping; 8, Pegasus and Robert Lowe (str.), Silver Eagle and White Adder; 11, Highflyer; and 12, Fychow. For Liverpool: 4, Surry; 8, Affghan.

From HONG KONG.—For London: July 13, Marlborough. For Liverpool: 14, Jessie Beazley. For New York: 15, Cornelia.

From SINGAPORE.—None.

LOADING.

At SHANGHAI—For London: Assyrian, Caractacus, Castle Howard, City of Quebec, Essex, Gresham Knight Templar, Shakespeare, and Southern Cross. For Liverpool: Brockham, Hougoumont, Sea Snake, Southern Empire, Thomas Bell and City of Quebec.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Canute, Childers, Dartmouth, Holmsdale, Red Riding Hood, Star of China.

At HONG KONG.—For London: Adriatic, Benlomond, Cathaya, Coulnakyle and Yeavering Bell. For Liverpool: Chaa-sze, Delhi, General Windham and Lord Dalhousie.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—July 2, Stanley, Sunderland to Shanghai; Marave, Liverpool to Shanghai; 6th, Perle, Bordeaux to Saigon; Delhi, London to Shanghai; 7th, Fluro, Liverpool to Singapore; 10th, William Cundall, Liverpool to Singapore; Palawan, Sunderland to Hong Kong; and Milton, Liverpool to Hong Kong.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—July 7th, Cleiro Babioyan, New York to Shanghai.

From CHINA, &c. to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—July 4th, Cerica, Foochow to London; Petronella, Bantam to Amsterdam; 10th, Esperanza, Singapore to Europe; Patriot King, Manila to Liverpool; 14th, Scawfell, Canton to London; 17, Invincible, Singapore to Liverpool; Chanaral, Sarawak to London; and 18th, Dewa Gungadhur, Singapore to London.

From CHINA, &c. to UNITED STATES.—July 4th, Ocean Home, Singapore to New York; and 9th, Trofrie, Manila to New York.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Sept. 1, at Havre, from Rangoon, Verena Collet; Aug. 23, at New York, from Foo-chow-Foo, Eva; from Shanghai, Egean; Sept. 3, at Deal, from Batavia, Baltimore; 2, at Falmouth, from Maulmain, Clontarf; from Akyab, Dagmar; 3, off Falmouth, from Akyab, Louis Henry; at Liverpool, from Rangoon, Uncowah; from Akyab, Exodus; 2, at Queenstown, from Akyab, Fanny Buck; 1, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Francina Wilhelmina, Dordrecht; from Tjilatjap, Jacob; 2, at Falmouth, from Rangoon, Skane; 4, Union, Wildflower; 2, from Akyab, Anna Decatur, Brandon; from Bassein, J. L. Baker; 4, from Maulmain, Salween; from Akyab, Herbert; at Deal, from Singapore, Hindoostan; from Rangoon, Agra; 5, at London, from Shanghai, Rajah (str.); 2, off Falmouth, from Iloilo, P. C. Kinch; 2, at Scilly, from Manila, John Banfield; 4, at Liverpool, from Shanghai, Express; Aug. 27, at Bordeaux, from Singapore, Java; Sept. 4, at Falmouth, from Akyab, Kooria Mooria; 5, at Falmouth, from Bassein, Norwegian; from Akyab, Southern Chief; at Queenstown, from Akyab, Solo; 3, at Bremen, from Rangoon, Matador; 5, at Liverpool, from Akyab, Eddystone; from Rangoon, W. C. Libbey; 6, at Deal, from China, Ethel; at London, from Kanagawa, Meppel.

DEPARTURES.—September 2, from Liverpool, for Hong Kong, London; 1, from Shields, for China, Daybreak; August 31, from Sunderland, for Shanghai, Appelina; July 26, from Rio Janeiro for Batavia, Philip V. Marnix; August 1, from Bahia, for Singapore, Johore, (str.); September 3, from London, for Shanghai, Cissy; 2, from Shields, for Singapore, Britannia; 3, from Liverpool, for Hong Kong, Albertina (late Agamemnon), for Singapore; for Singapore, Veloz; 2, from Shields, for Shanghai, Adelina.

SPOKEN.—Maria and Elizabeth, Rotterdam to Batavia, June 29, 18 S., 31 W.; Pak Wan, London to Hong Kong, July 30, 5 S., 33 W.; Spirit of the North, Shanghai to London, August 18, 44 N., 26 W.; Glasgow (str.), Clyde to Manila, August 14, 47 N., 14 W.; Insulaneren, Cardiff to Singapore, July 30, 10 N., 25 W.; Koophandel, Batavia to Rotterdam, July 31, 11 N., 24 W.; Doesborgh, Batavia to Amsterdam, August 17, 24 N., 32 W.; Theodore Dill, Batavia to Rotterdam, July 22, 18 S., 3 W.; John Ripon, Sunderland to Singapore, July 22, 3 N., 22 W.; Ranee, Liverpool to Singapore, August 8, 14 N., 24 W.; Queensberry, Liverpool to Shanghai, August 1, 11 N., 26 W.; Twilight, Liverpool to Shanghai, July 28, 5 N., 23 W.; Catharine, Batavia to Amsterdam, August 13, 30 N., 38 W.; Conubia (?), Fr. barque, Saigon to Marseilles, August 11, 36 N., 12 W.; No. 7,840 3rd d.p., from Macao, August 6, 22 N., 34 W.; Baron (?), Batavia to Dordt, July 14, 17 S., 5 E.; Madura, Java to Amsterdam, July 29, 10 N., 27 W.

CASUALTIES.—The Arab, from Liverpool to Singapore, which put into Rio Janeiro 22nd July, leaky, and with part of cargo thrown overboard, has been surveyed and recommended to be discharged.

The Coulnakyle, from London to Shanghai, has had to put into Hong Kong, in distress.

At St. Vincent.—July 27: Fire Queen, (st), Johnson, from New York, and left 5th August for China. July 23: Glengyle, (st.), O'Sullivan, sailed for China.

At Mauritius.—July 6: Amanda Petit, from Singapore; 15, H.M.S. Vulcan, Strode, from Hong Kong, sailed 19th for Portsmouth, with troops. August 1: H.M.S. Adventure, from Plymouth, for China July 25: Malta, Duncan, from Singapore; 23, Meander, Harvey, from Singapore; 16, Corea, (st.), from Southampton for Japan.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A REGISTER is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the FAR EAST and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

Subscription 54s. per annum, including Postage. Export Supplement 12s. extra.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, TUESDAY, SEPT. 6, 1864.

THROUGH SIBERIA TO CHINA.

In our last issue we noticed a communication in *The Times*, describing a journey from London to Peking. The writer stated that he believed he was the first traveller over the route from London. The following letter has appeared on the subject in *The Times*:—

Sir,—In *The Times* of Friday, the 26th inst., I observe a communication "From a Correspondent," a traveller to China through Siberia. Although generally pretty correct in the information given, yet there are some mistakes which I desire to point out.

Having been engaged in gold-digging operations for upwards of ten years in Eastern Siberia, I am perfectly acquainted with all parts of the country, and have travelled from west to east and from south to north for thousands of miles (in fact, few, if any, have travelled there so much) in the Wilderness (there called *Tàïga*, a Tounguss word, meaning uninhabited part) on horseback, in rude palanquins slung between two horses, with reindeer in exploring expeditions, down the Lena in post boats, with bells tinkling attached to the oars (a distinctive appurtenance to all post boats on Siberian rivers), and on the Angara from its outlet in the Baikal to its confluence with the Enisey, a distance of 1,800 versts (or 1,200 miles English), down its 78 falls and rapids (never done before by any foreigner or European, except by a very few Russian Government officials, for topographical purposes), this latter journey undertaken on an exploring expedition, not alone for gold seeking, but more for a scientific purpose, combined with commercial enterprise. On all these journeys, except the latter, I was accompanied by my wife, an English lady, who, although during all her married life in very weak health, went through all the fatigue most heroically. In 1862, at the end of July, we left Krasnojarsk, and proceeded through Irkutsk to Kiakhta, over Mongolia to Peking, where we arrived at the end of October same year. We were hospitably received by Sir Frederick Bruce, at whose residence we stopped some days, and then proceeded with an escort over Tanchow, further to Shanghai, next spring returning to Peking, where we remained till August; thence again to Shanghai; and in October, 1863, left for England round the Cape. The journey through Mongolia and China was undertaken to mark out the route of a proposed telegraph line, projected by Mr. J. Reuter, of London (solely at his expense), and to procure the permission of the Chinese Government for establishing this line from the southern ports of China over Peking, through Mongolia, and in Siberia to join the Russian telegraph, a permission unfortunately refused by the Chinese Government, although the proposal was backed by the representatives of the principal foreign Powers at Peking. After this, you will perceive I have some right to a knowledge of the route.

Your correspondent mentions that from Perm a post cart is given from every station to the next gratis; for every station long or short, whether a half-covered cart (kibitka) or uncovered, you have to pay 12 copecks (about 8d.), and cheap enough. A tarantass (a very comfortable travelling equipage) you either purchase for about £12 to £15 English money, or engage one for the whole route of a contractor, and have only to pay besides for the greasing of the wheels, a mere trifle.

General Korsakoff (not Karzakoff) introduced me at Irkutsk in his own house to the Commissary of the frontier, M. Pfaffius. The latter gentleman, a Pole, with the greatest kindness wrote to Kiakhta to have two of the Chinese carts he had bought of M. and Madame Bourboulon and Madame Baluzeque, as they then became perfectly useless to that party, accommodated for our use, and this was done in a most comfortable and convenient manner, combined even with elegance, for which I paid about £18 sterling, and resold them at Kalgana for about £7. He, however, returned to Kiakhta before our departure thence, and was kind enough personally to superintend our starting for Mongolia and China. At that time there was a Governor there, M. Despot-Zinovitch, originally, I was informed, a Polish exile, a most polished and perfect gentleman, speaking many foreign languages, who, by directions from General Korsakoff, furnished us with a Bouriat Cossack as interpreter through Mongolia as far as Peking. Now, how your correspondent could imagine he was the first Englishman who went that route, one year or more later, or how Mr. Pfaffius could have told him so, as he writes, I cannot imagine.

At Yurga we stopped at the Russian Consulate three days, a courier having been sent forward by Colonel Babarikin, the Russian Consul-General there, to whom I was also introduced by General Korsakoff at Irkutsk, to have his house prepared for our reception. Major Shishmareff, the Vice-Consul, speaking no other language but Tuss, Mongol, and Chinese, most likely could not communicate sufficiently with your correspondent to make him aware of not being the first. I must undoubtedly claim for myself, and most particularly for my wife, the merit of the enterprise of being the first English persons who crossed the desert of Gobi, &c., from Siberia to Peking, none but Russians attached to the mission at Peking having crossed before. Mr. Grant, the first Englishman, from Peking to Siberia; and Mesdames Bourboulon and Baluzeque, the first ladies—these all arriving the beginning of July (O. S.), 1862, at Krasnojarsk, where we met them. We left the end of the same month. Another mistake.—The pass over the Kingan Mountains dividing Mongolia from China proper is not 5,400 ft. above the level of the sea, but above the level of the plain below, the table land of Mongolia and desert of Gobi being from 12,000 to 14,000 feet above the level of the sea. A much more dangerous and precipitous passage is within 20 or 25 miles of Peking (about 150 miles further), descending altogether from the mountains. I travelled with a passport from Lord Napier, our Ambassador at St. Petersburg, and only had the passport for conveniency, and through the politeness of the Governor, Monsieur Zinovitch, translated into Mongol and Chinese, and at his desire the Chinese authorities at Mac-Matchi sent forward couriers to insure our reception and kind treatment at all Chinese stations and towns, as he considered that our being the first foreigners going that route we might meet with difficulties from the Chinese mandarins, and even not be allowed to proceed. Further, all the English gentlemen who returned from China over that route in 1863 did so by my advice and from my directions. Some of them are now here, and can testify to the same.

Should you deem this communication worthy of a place in your valuable paper I should feel much obliged.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

Wall Cottage, Twickenham, Aug. 29. EDWIN E. BISHOP.

The following letter from Mr. Howell has also been published:—

Sir,—In Mr. Bishop's letter of the 29th of August, published in *The Times* this morning, he alludes to "the English gentlemen who returned from China over the Mongolian route in 1863," and states that in doing so "they were guided by his advice and directions." He further claims the honour, which undoubtedly belongs to him, of being the first Englishman who made the overland journey from St. Petersburg to Peking. Being one of the party alluded to, I have great pleasure in corroborating Mr. Bishop's statements, and in acknowledging the full and accurate information he gave me while organising the expedition upon all points connected with our journey. His perfect knowledge of the Russian language and intimate acquaintance with the whole of Eastern Siberia made him a fitting pioneer of this route to China, and his experiences being quite fresh when I consulted him, in January, 1863, I found his information perfectly correct in every particular.

I strongly recommend all travellers from Peking to Kiachta to make their arrangements for crossing the desert at Tungchow, a short distance from the capital and the great station from which the tea-caravans are despatched for Siberia. They can appoint a day of meeting at Kalgan, the frontier town, and proceed thither from Peking in mule litters, stopping a day at Champing-Chow to visit the Ming Tombs, which are objects of the highest interest, and reconnoitring the wonderful remains in the Nan-kow Pass, terminating at the village of Cha-tou. They should so arrange as to have two or three days at Kalgan, to explore the monasteries in the neighbourhood, and especially the Great Wall of China, which runs through the town and over the mountains on both sides of it. We were detained there three weeks by the difficulty of getting camels, which, after all, we were forced to purchase at exorbitant prices, instead of hiring them, which we could have done at Tung-chow. The customary rate of hire is from 12 to 15 taels per camel; whereas we were forced to pay 45 taels a head for the camels, two of which were lost on the journey, the other eight realised three taels a head at Kiachta. On one occasion our whole train of camels bolted during a night stage in the middle of the desert, and we had the greatest difficulty in tracking them; our tents, provisions, and bedding were strewn in all directions on the plain, and it cost us eight days, in addition to much hard work and anxiety, to recover our beasts and their sadly diminished burdens.

Mr. Bishop seems to me to err in correcting your correspondent on the subject of the height of the Kingan-pass. By the kindness of Brigadier-General Stavely I was furnished with the valuable sketch of the route from Peking to Kiachta, published by the Topographical Department of the War-office (without a copy of which I recommend no one to start on this journey), and in this sketch the height of the pass is given at 5,400 ft., agreeably to your correspondent's statement. Mr. Bishop gives the height at 12,000 ft. to 14,000 ft. above the sea-level, which, for several well-known and sufficient reasons connected with the physical conformation of this part of Asia, I apprehend is a mistake.

I am, Sir, your very obedient servant,

The Hurst, West Moulsey, Sept. 1. W. G. HOWELL.

Naval and Military.

The 1st company of Royal Engineers has received orders to undergo a course of field-work instruction and sapping and mining at head-quarters, Chatham, previously to embarking for colonial service. The 1st company, now stationed at Devonport, will be relieved by the 8th company of Royal Engineers, now on passage home from China, and shortly expected to arrive at the Royal Engineer establishment, Chatham.

On Saturday, the 27th August, the Royal Sovereign turret ship, Captain Sherard Osborn, C.B., started from Portsmouth for Portland on her first cruize since her conversion to a turret ship. The dockyard mechanics were at work on board the ship in Portsmouth harbour at 1 P.M., but at 6 P.M. the ship was rid of them and steaming out of the harbour. That night she anchored in the Solent. On Sunday morning the anchor was weighed, and [with three boilers out of her six, working at the lowest

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grade of expansion, the ship steamed through the Needles against a fresh breeze, making 5.4 knots. The same day she anchored in Portland Roads, and remained at anchor till Tuesday morning, the interval being occupied in clearing up ship and setting matters straight. On Tuesday morning steam was got up in two boilers, the anchor weighed, and the Royal Sovereign steamed about the bay between Portland Roads and Weymouth, her crew being exercised in bringing the ship to anchor and weighing again under different circumstances. During Tuesday night it blew very heavy from about S.W., and continued to do so the following day. On Wednesday morning steam was got up in four boilers, two-thirds power, and the ship was taken outside, and off the Race made a good eight knots against a strong wind and a heavy head sea. Captain Osborn then took the ship into the Race, and when fairly in the midst of the roughest water put her broadside to it and let her roll and tumble about as she pleased in order to test her turrets in as conclusive a manner as possible. The vessel rolled quickly 11 deg. to leeward and 10 deg. to windward, and under these circumstances the turrets and guns were manned, and the former revolved and the latter run in and out as would have been the case in action with an enemy in the same position and under the same conditions. It was found that the turrets were perfectly manageable, and the guns could be handled with the same ease as in smooth water, excepting, of course, that a little more care was required from the men in working them. The ship being still kept in her rolling position the guns in the turrets were next trained nearly fore and aft, the winch handles let go and breaks slacked up, and turrets and guns left to themselves, the ship rolling in an arc of 21 degrees. As, however, everything remained immovable, and it was found that the men could take hold of the winch handles and set the turret revolving, or leave them as they pleased, without leaving any check upon the turret's movement, this was deemed both by Capt. Osborn and Capt. Coles quite sufficiently conclusive of the turrets' steadiness and working under as almost unfavourable conditions as could be met with, except in a gale of wind. The guns were secured, and the Sovereign returned to her anchorage in Portland Roads, where, as she lies at anchor, she has the look of a monster gunboat, and as a gunboat simply has she been handled by Capt. Osborn since leaving Portsmouth harbour. In steaming through the Solent on Saturday the Royal Sovereign's steering gear from the pilot-house forward answered admirably, and the vessel answered every movement of her rudder as quickly as a wherry could have done.

The history of the celebrated rams El Tousson and El Monassir is well known, and their future career, under the names of the Scorpion and the Wyvern, will also be watched with interest, the greater because of their former history. Both are now national property. On the 8th ult. they were placed in the hands of Messrs. Laird Brothers, their builders, for completion. They had suffered some injury from their long exposure in the open river, but Messrs. Laird used great despatch, and on Tuesday the Scorpion took the builders' trial trip. The Wyvern will follow in a few weeks. The following description of the vessels (sister ships) and their armament will be interesting:—Each has length on water-line, 224 ft.; beam, 42 ft. 6 in.; depth, 20 ft.; measurement, about 1,890 tons. Their engines, also manufactured by Messrs. Laird Brothers, are 350-horse power, on the horizontal principle, with double piston rods. The cylinders are 56 in. long, with a 3 ft. stroke. There are four distinct boilers, which may be used separately or together, and 16 furnaces. The whole of the machinery is below the water-line. The ordinary hull is of iron, of extra strength; over this is a coating of 10 in. of teak and armour-plates 4½ in. thick, nearly the whole length of the side, but tapering in thickness at bow and stern. The stem curves outwards five feet below the water-line, and, being formed of massive wrought iron, forms a ram of immense penetrating force. This prow, as regards the propulsion of the vessel through the water, really forms part of the hull. The stern is shaped with the view of protecting the screw propeller and glancing off shots. The whole arrangements display a great combination of strength. There are two turrets, the greater portion of which is below the main deck, with two guns to each. These towers are built on a strong iron spindle fixed to the vessel, and their enormous weight is supported by a number of roller wheels. The plating of the turrets is 5½ in. thick. Each turret will be mounted with two guns, each weighing 12 tons. The guns will be placed parallel to each other, and only six men will be required to man them—three to each gun. The accommodation for officers and crew is ample. There is a steering apparatus on the main deck. The trial was conducted in private, but Messrs. Dinney and Hobbs, Admiralty Inspectors, were present. The Scorpion, with 200 tons of coal on board, drew 13 ft. forward and 14 ft. 9 in. aft. Her steering qualities were found to be admirable, and she made a complete circle in an average time of five minutes. The Government inspection is expected to take place shortly. The following is the official report of her achievements:—"The exact speed of the ship was tested by running between the Queen's Channel Fairway buoy and the Victoria Channel Fairway buoy, a distance of 0·906 of a knot. This was done first at full power, all four boilers being at work, and afterwards at half power, with two of the boilers shut off. The result of the trial at full power was as follows:—First run, 10·036 knots; second run, 10·945 knots; mean of the two, 10·490 knots. During these runs the engine made from 69 to 70 revolutions, the pressure of steam being about 18 lb. to 20 lb. The trial with two boilers gave the following results:—First run, 10·192 knots; second run, 9·292 knots; mean of the two runs, 9·745 knots; engines making 59 to 60 revolutions, with 14 lb. to 15 lb. of steam." The starting gear of the engines is worked by a small engine, instead of by hand, which gives the engineers a great command over them. In reversing, the plan was found to work admirably.

REINFORCEMENTS FOR CHINA.—It is stated that Her Majesty's troop-ship *Tamar* is ordered to be ready at Portsmouth about the middle of October, to embark troops for Hong Kong. Lieutenant H. G. Thompson, 1st Battalion 1st Royals, has been appointed aide-de-camp to Major-General Guy, C. B., the new commander of the troops in China.

MEXICAN DOLLARS.

The large amount of Mexican dollars by the *Shannon* were sold for China at 5s. ¾d. per ounce, showing a reduction of 1¼d. Considering the expected arrival of the steamer *Plantagenet*, from Vera Cruz, with a further total of £100,000 in this coin, the rate now obtained is considered satisfactory. The value of this coin is also prejudiced by the announcement from Shanghai that considerable supplies were being melted into bar silver, owing to the latter carrying a premium.

ANOTHER VESSEL FOR THE CHINA TRADE.—The *Lydia Hilton*, a fine little clipper of 148 tons register, classed A 1 10 years, built for Messrs. Henry Vickers and Co., London, was launched by Messrs. Pickersgill, of Southwick, on the 24th ult. Her dimensions are:—Length of keel and rake of stem, 97 feet; breadth of beam, 22 feet; depth of hold, 10 feet; and 216 tons builder's measurement. She is full coppered, and is for the China trade; she is a three-masted schooner, and is the smallest vessel ever built on the Wear for the China trade.

THE BISHOP OF VICTORIA.—The Bishop of Victoria has just returned from a tour in the north of Europe; during which he held confirmations under commission from the Bishop of London, at Dunkirk, Hamburg, Copenhagen, Gothenburg, Christiania, Stockholm, Rige, Berlin, and Dresden. On the 25th of July the Right Reverend prelate, previous to his continental trip, also held an ordination at Islington under commission, at which eleven missionaries of the Church Missionary Society were admitted to the Ministry of the Church for stations abroad. One of the number, the Rev. C. F. Warren, has been designated for Hong Kong, and is expected to sail for China in the early part of September.

COTTON FROM THE PACIFIC.—Among the other places where the cultivation of the cotton plant is spoken of as successful (says the Commercial Article of the *New York Herald*) is the Sandwich Islands. In the Island of Tahiti the experiment in its growth has been eminently successful. Surrounded by water, the atmosphere is necessarily moist; near the equator it is abundantly hot; and the only remaining requisite, labour, is secured from the natives, through the great rewards which it secures in the high prices which cotton now commands. So great has been the success of the experiment that increased preparations are making for another year, and it is confidently expected that cotton will henceforth be one of the great staples of the Pacific Islands. The new line of steamers about to commence running between New Zealand and Panama affords an outlet for the cotton grown there, and it can easily be shipped from Panama to Europe or New York. Many of the South Sea Islands, as favourably situated as Tahiti, will also engage in the cultivation, which will tend to lessen existing cotton rates. Those islands which are now occupied by cannibals, it is confidently expected, will be reclaimed by enterprising emigrants, induced by the natural facilities for cotton growing, and the high prices paid for the staple; and thus the middle Pacific will become civilised and productive. Nearly all of the Pacific Islands are possessed of great agricultural as well as commercial advantages, which time and application will develop and reward. A late Panama steamer brought two thousand and six bales of Pacific cotton, of which eleven hundred were shipped to New York.

WOOL-FLAX A SUBSTITUTE FOR COTTON.—The importance of wool-flax (says a New York journal) promises to rapidly grow in the public appreciation, when its merits become a little better understood. We learn that there is a manufactory in Dayton, Ohio, where flax is converted into this material, more commonly called "er-o-lin," which takes the place of cotton in the extensive and important manufacture of "mixed goods." It has been in practical use for a year or more, and the concern finds ready market for all it can produce. It can take the place of cotton in all mixed fabrics in which cotton and wool form the component parts. It has the remarkable property of being worked in any proportions, with, and exactly like wool—an advantage that no other vegetable fibre possesses in a very great degree. The machinery now set up in Dayton works up several tons of raw material per day into flax-wool. In use, spinners treat it precisely as they do sheep's wool, and twenty-five to thirty per cent. can be added without interfering with the fulling or felting of the cloth, while its presence in the fabric can only be detected by experts. It gives strength and firmness to the cloth, and, it is supposed, will add to its wearing qualities. Though it has not been spun by itself, it is said that it will only require a slight modification of the railway heads and draw-frames of the cotton spinners to produce a yarn of ordinary fineness.

Shipping Intelligence.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Aug 13	New York	Batavia	Catherina Maria	
— 22	Shields	Shanghai	Vanguard	Scott.
— 26	Newcastle	Hong Kong	Orion	Mathield.
— 23	Shields	Batavia	Anna and Elizabeth	
— 23	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Camoens	Marques.
— 30	London	Batavia	Stad Assen	Haverbult.
— 30	Liverpool	Hong Kong	London	Anderson.
— 30	Do.	Do.	Abcona	Murray.
— 26	Newcastle	Singapore	A. O. Anderson	
— 29	Shields.	Do.	Britannia	
— 29	Do.	Do.	Wm. Mitchell	
— 31	London	Bankok	Costa Rica	Mollin.
— 31	Plymouth	Shanghai	Egmont	Morgan.
— 29	Sunderland	Do.	Chalmers	Brinton.
Sept. 3	Liverpool	Singapore	Veloz	Howard.
Aug 16	New York	Shanghai	City of Mobile	Cole.
— 23	Do.	Do.	Oliver Cutts	Bay.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

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ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Aug. 25	Falmouth	Akyab	Pride of the Ganges	Jack.
— 25	Do.	Do.	Zeepaard	Tjebbes.
— 25	Off Falmouth	Do.	Julia	Rauschenberg.
— 21	Bremen	Bassein	Isabella	Mauer.
— 25	Off Queenstown	Akyab	Hypatia	Thomson.
— 24	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Hendrika	Bus
— 11	New York	Singapore	Reynard	Seymour.
— 27	Queenstown	Akyab	Hippolyta	
— 27	Falmouth	Do.	Amelia Ghering	Haynie.
— 27	Do.	Batavia	Anne Foster	Clarke.
— 26	Off Kinsale	Akyab	Beloochee	Mitchell.
— 29	Falmouth	Rangoon	Albert Edward	Lyons.
— 29	Off Falmouth	Akyab	Ludwig Holm	Leigh.
— 29	Falmouth	Bassein	Fanny	Carlton.
— 29	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Bristow	Justice.
— 26	St. Nazaire	Rangoon	Etoile de la Mer	Ravilly.
— 10	New York	Hong Kong	Sophia	Beverly.
— 12	Do.	Padang	Ternate	Cars.
— 29	Falmouth	Rangoon	William Libby	Bishop.
— 30	Do.	Do.	Jeannie	Smith.
— 30	Off Falmouth	Do.	Matadore	Kiume.
— 30	Do.	Do.	Josiah L. Hale	Graves.
— 30	Do.	Bassein	Herzog Johan Albrecht	Brandt.
— 30	Do.	Akyab	Chapman	Morch.
— 29	Liverpool	Manila	Aureliana	
— 29	Do.	Shanghai	Glencairn	Garriock.
— 25	Zierikzee	Batavia	Baron v. Heemstra	Nepperus.
— 30	Falmouth	Akyab	Baltimore	Brakke.
— 30	Do.	Do.	Carl XV.	Neusen.
— 30	Do.	Sarawak	Cordelia	Gilmore.
— 31	Deal	Kanagawa	Alexander	Dempster.
— 30	Falmouth	Maulmain	Fanny Kirchner	Ahlers.
— 30	Do.	Rangoon	Solide	Anderson.
— 31	Liverpool	Do.	John Paul	Marr.
— 30	Queenstown	Shanghai	Spirit of the North	Halliday.
— 29	Aberdeen	Sarawak	Duke of Roxburgh	Parnall.
— 31	Liverpool	Shanghai	Victory	Moon.
Sept. 1	London	Kanagawa	Anglo-Indian	Bird.
Aug. 29	Channel	Do.	Abbotsford	Venus.
— 29	Texel	Bassein	Richard III.	Greenough.
Sept. 1	Falmouth	Rangoon	Lion	Gribble.
— 1	Do.	Akyab	Veritas	Brodin.
— 1	Liverpool	Do.	Appelles	M'Lay.
— 1	Do.	Manila	Bella Gallega	
— 1	Do.	Do.	Peppina	
Aug. 29	Bremen	Akyab	Leontine	Renjes.
— 29	Do.	Rangoon	Alardus	Popp.
— 31	Liverpool	Shanghai	Advance	Campbell.
Sept. 1	London	Akyab	Highland Chief	Harrison.
Aug. 31	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Friesland	Sipkes.
— 27	Off the Wight	Java	Quatre Bras	Nieuwenhuys.
— 29	Off St. Alban's Head	Batavia	Willem Daniel	Zeylstra.
Sept. 1	Falmouth	Akyab	Hedwig	Hammargren.
— 1	Do.	Rangoon	Potomac	Fulton.
— 1	Do.	Akyab	Carin	v. Matern.
— 2	Liverpool	Do.	Monsoon	Lewis.
— 2	Queenstown	Do.	Madge Wildfire	Murray.
— 2	Havre Roads	Rangoon	Louise Collet	Alvarez.
— 2	London	Shanghai	Queen's Own	Rhynas.
— 3	Falmouth	Manila	P. C. Kinch	Pulsen.
— 3	Do.	Akyab	Dagmar	Lombard.
— 2	Do.	Do.	H. B. Wright	Park.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa: Macedon, Sea Witch. For Nagasaki: Dvina, Swanley. For Shanghai: Cissy, Norwood, Peep o'Day, Lalla Rookh. For Hong Kong: Millbrook. For Hong Kong and Canton: Kensington, Bengal, Borealis, Arab Steed. For Manila: Tetuan. For Singapore: Early Dawn, West. For Penang: Devonvale. For Batavia: Cornelia and Geertruda.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Thomas Seddon, Lauderdale, Nonpareil, Fort George, Neptune's Car, Gossamer. For Hong Kong: Agamemnon, Monsoon. For Hong Kong and Canton: Banda. For Singapore: Wm. Dixon, Macassar. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Hercules. For Manila: Iberica, Thomas Roydon, Maria y Vicenta.

At GLASGOW.—For Batavia and Sourabaya: County of Ayr. For Batavia and Singapore: Scotland, Helen Finlayson. For Singapore and Penang: Edinburgh Castle. For Manila: Iloilo and Zebu, Nodales.

SPOKEN.

ARMON, Batavia to Amsterdam, July 8, 35 S., 20 E.
A. R. FALK, Amsterdam to Batavia, July 30, 13 N., 25 E.
CHIEFTAIN, Sarawak to London, Aug. 9, 31 N., 40 W.
COUNTY OF LANARK, Glasgow to Batavia, July 22, 10 N., 24 W.
PAK-WAN, London to Hong Kong, July 21, 11 N., 26 W.
STAFFORD, for Singapore, July 21, 11 N., 26 W.
JOHN BANFIELD, Manila to Queenstown, Aug. 13, 34 N., 36 W.
DON RICARDO (barque), Tyne to Shanghai, July 9, 13 S., 35 W.
ROY VISITOR, Penang to Liverpool, May 4, 4 N., 93 E.
BARROW I. (? Barros I.), from Batavia, July 17, 12 S., 9 W.
MACCASSAR (Dut. ship), Batavia to Rotterdam, July 14, 23 S., 2 E.
JUNO (Dut. ship), Amsterdam to Batavia, Aug. 3, 12 N., 26 W.
CHRISTINA (barque), Batavia to Amsterdam, Aug. 2, 32 N., 39 W.
JEANNETTE & CORNELIA, Newcastle to Sobya., Aug. 11, 48 N., 7 W.
IDA WILHELMINA, Dort. to Batavia, Aug. 15, 49 N., 3 W.
HOLLANDIA, Rotterdam to Batavia, Aug. 18, 49 N., 7 W.
JENNY WREN, Canton to London, Aug. 3, lat. 4, lon. 18.
ANNA, Amsterdam to Batavia, June 30, 22 S., 24 W.
MARY & HILLEGONDA, Rotterdam to Batavia, July 29, 16 N., 25 W.
SIMODA, Shanghai to Liverpool, June 29, 31 S. 38 E.
EDWARD (Rus. bq.) New York to Hong Kong, July 21, 11 N., 26 W.
KOOPHANDEL, Batavia to Rotterdam, July 27, 21 (?) N., 23 W.
ANNA (Oldenburg), New York to Shanghai, June 30, lat. 21 lon. 22.
JUANPORE, Liverpool to Hong Kong, July 19, 2 N., 23 W.
A FRENCH SHIP, T.B. in foretopsail, China to Havre, Aug. 13, 41 N., 32 W.
JOHANNA ELIZABETH, Amsterdam to Batavia, Aug. 18, 45 N., 12 W.
DELIGANTE, Liverpool to Shanghai, June 20, 35 S., 16 E.
TUBKU, for Manila, July 20, 12 N., 25 W.
DOESBORGH, Batavia to Amsterdam, June 20, 35 S., lon. 23.
QUEENSBURY, Liverpool to China, July 29, 12 N., 26 W.
ADRIANA JOHANNA, Amsterdam to Japan, 47 N., 8 W.
POLLUX, Batavia to Amsterdam, July 31, 11 S. 12 W.
MARIA ADOLFINA, Amsterdam to Singapore, August 8, 5 N., 22 W.
COLOMBO, Genoa to Macao, August 8, 5 N., 22 W.
TAGAL (Dutch barque), Dordrecht to Batavia, July 31, 13 N., 29 W.
CONSTANTIA, Rotterdam to Batavia, August 5, 45 N., 15 W.
YOKUHAMA, Amsterdam to Japan, August 19, 48 N., 8 W.
ANTON GUNTHER, Batavia to Rotterdam, August 7, 29 N., 39 W.
THEODORE DILL, Batavia to Rotterdam, July 22, 18 S., 3 W.
DUTCH BARQUE, No. 6,073, 3rd d. p. Middelburg to Batavia.
CONCURRENT, Batavia to Schiedam, July 4, 36 S., 20 E.
WILLEM (barque), Padang to Rotterdam, August 3, 12 N., 24 W.
MINISTER V. HALL (Dut. barq.), from Japan, July 30, 14 N., 26 W.
SELINA JANE, Hamburg to Nagasaki, July 20, 7 N., 25 W.
DANISH BARQ., No. 6,270, 3 d.p., Philip. I. to Fal. Aug., 7, 22 N., 34 W.
STUART WORTLEY, London to Shanghai, July 26, 11 N., 21 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

(Exclusive of this day's advices.)

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Meppel, Witness, Lady Ebrington, Twe Cornelissen, Patricia, Merse, Harwood, W. W. Smith, Red Deer, and Ann Adamson. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, and Vampyre. At FALMOUTH: Auld Reekie. At NEW YORK: Osborne.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Ethel, Monarch, Belle, Benvoirlich, Sea King (str.), City of Aberdeen, Yang-tsze, Fiery Cross, Flying Spur, Serica, Min, Young Lochinvar, Belted Will, Robin Hood, P. J. F. Burchardt, Keepsake, Echo, Chandanagore, Rajah (str.), Volunteer, Aunt Lizzie, Holmesdale, Rifleman, Isabella Robinson, Zelia, Vimeira, Zarah, Lady Wharncliffe, Gloucester, Lorton Vale, Iceni, Netherby, Sarah Ralston, Wm. Thompson, Marlborough, Robt. Lowe (str.), Ellen Rodger, Dora, Whinfell, Glenaros, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Magnus, Josephine, Glaramara, Sappho, Charles Davenport, Bahia, and Osborne House. At LIVERPOOL: Geologist, Simoda, Cyclone, Fanny, Joshua Bates, Wm. Dawson, Lauderdale, Ziba, Glencoe, Neville, Cornelia, Inamhore, Express, Mayflower, Regina, Edward Percy, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Unrivalled, Glenlee, Helvellyn, Australia, Eliza Nicholson, and Ann Forster. At FALMOUTH: Divina, Panama, and Linda. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Vulcan. At BORDEAUX: Johanna. At HAMBURG: Mecklenburg, and Gravina. At NEW YORK: Eva, Dorchester, Egean, Regnago, St. Paul, Luson, Anita, Gleam, and Mandarin.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Alavesa and Cambodia. At LIVERPOOL: Diadem, Trafalgar, Patriot King, Alicia Annie and Barinaga. At FALMOUTH: Der West, Canaan, and Albuera. At COWES: John Banfield. At QUEENSTOWN: Victoria Cross. At HAVRE: Nouvelle Antoinette. At NEW YORK: Tropic and George Peabody.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Oscar, Confidence, Pet, Polly, Invincible, Daniel Rankin, Bonanza, Miss Nightingale, Eleanor, Eena, Couranto, Najade, Athelstan, Dewa Gungadhur, Dunkeld, Tartar, and Princess of Wales. At LIVERPOOL: Bella Gallega, C. C. Chisholm, Victory, Agra, Beloochee, Ferris, H. Puddemsey, and Bombay. At FALMOUTH: Sarah Jane and Hindustan. At BORDEAUX: Salares and Java. At NANTES: Suez. At NEW YORK: Ocean Home, Gertrude, Caroline, and Rudolf. At BOSTON: Ceylon, Aristides, Alexander, and Magnet.

From BATAVIA.—At FALMOUTH: Fredrika.

From PENANG.—At FALMOUTH: Schlosser. At CORK: Ceylon. At BORDEAUX.—Sophis.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Outward freights remain without animation, the tonnage on the different berths being still large, and the rates consequently low both for general cargoes and coals. Several homeward charters have been fixed from the rice ports, but even at reduced rates it is difficult to place vessels. The importers of teak are also well supplied. Ships are, however, still wanted from Shanghai; also small vessels of good class from Hong Kong and Singapore.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £36 and £1. 15s. For Shanghai: £48 and £2. 3s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £25 and 19s. For Penang: £27. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have engaged freight in the Kensington for the conveyance of the following Government stores from the River Thames to Hong Kong—viz., 140 tons navy provisions, &c., 18 tons heavy shot (in boxes), and 3 tons light goods (including a few combustibles), and have invited tenders for the conveyance of 158 tons heavy shells (100 loose and in boxes), 21 tons light stores, and 54 tons gunpowder, to Shanghai, also from the River Thames.

CASUALTIES.

NEW YORK.—August 11; the Sophia, Beverly, from Hong Kong, arrived here, reports having passed through quantities of icebergs on the 7th of August.

The Taeping, from Shanghai to London, has put into Amoy dismasted.

The Gustav Adolph (British vessel), from London and Pernambuco to Hong Kong, put into Rio Janeiro on the 1st of August, with damage to spars.

The Australian (Old. barque), Reiners, from Shanghai to Liverpool, has been totally lost in Bally Straits, crew saved.

OFF ASCENSION.—July 23; Johanna, Marsan, from Hong Kong for Bordeaux, not Vrouw Johanna, as before reported.

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BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, and JAPAN (Limited), has REMOVED from 16, Cornhill, to No. 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury.

By order,
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

1, Bank-buildings, Aug. 24, 1864.

The Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited).

NOTICE OF CALL OF £5 PER SHARE ON 10,000 NEW SHARES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Directors have this day made a CALL of £5 per Share on the 10,000 New Shares in this Company, PAYABLE on the 1st day of October next, at the banking-house of the Company, 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

By order the Board,
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

1, Bank-buildings, Sept. 5, 1864.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London, E.C.

CAPITAL.

Subscribed £2,000,000
Paid and called up 500,000

BANKERS.

Bank of England; Alliance Bank.
And Branches at Bombay, Calcutta, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

Deposits received at 10 days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed periods, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued, and bills negotiated, payable in India, China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of passengers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government Loan Notes effected, so that the interest may be paid in England.

Every other description of banking and agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, and JAPAN (Limited).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Company will be held at the Banking-house of the Company, No. 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, in the City of London, on MONDAY, the 12th day of September next, at One o'clock, p.m., and the business to be transacted will be to Confirm certain Resolutions passed by the Company in Extraordinary General Meeting on the 25th day of August, 1864, of which the following are copies:—

1. It was Resolved—"That the agreement dated the 24th day of August, 1864, between this Company of the first part, and the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan (Limited) of the other part, be approved, and the Directors be authorised to affix the seal of the Company to the same, and do all things necessary to carry it into effect."

2. It was Resolved—"That the capital of the Company be increased by the creation of 20,000 new shares of £100 each, to be issued at £6 per share premium to the persons and upon the terms stated in the before-mentioned agreement, and that the resolution of the Board to the above effect be ratified and confirmed."

3. Resolved—"That the Directors be authorised to add four Directors to their present Board, to be selected by them from the existing Board of the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan (Limited)."

Dated this 25th day of August, 1864.

By order,
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

THE IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA, INDIA, AND JAPAN (Limited).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Company will be held at the Offices of the Company, No. 8, Walbrook, in the City of London, on MONDAY, the 12th day of September next, at Twelve o'clock at Noon precisely, to confirm certain resolutions passed by the Company in extraordinary general meeting on the 25th day of August, 1864, of which the following are copies, viz.:—

"1. That an agreement, dated the 24th day of August, 1864, and made between the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited), of the one part, and this Company of the other part, having been read and submitted to this meeting, this Company do hereby approve of the same, and do authorise the directors to affix the seal of the Company thereto.

"2. That this Company be wound up voluntarily.

"3. That the Honourable James Frederick Stuart Wortley, Richard Cooke Coles, Esq., Joseph Mackrill Smith, Esq., and Henry Turner, Esq., be appointed Liquidators, for the purpose of winding up the affairs of this Company, and distributing the property; and that the Liquidators be authorised to receive in compensation or part compensation, for the business and property of this Company shares in the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited), upon the terms specified in the above-mentioned agreement; and if any member shall express his dissent from this resolution by a notice in writing to the Liquidators, not later than seven days after the meeting at which this resolution is passed, and shall require the Liquidators to purchase the interest of such dissentient member, the Liquidators shall raise the purchase money to be paid to such dissentient member by the sale of the share or shares in the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited), which under the terms of the said agreement, would have been allotted to such dissentient member."—By order of the Board,

HENRY TURNER, Manager.

8, Walbrook, August 30, 1864.

DOCKS.
PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caissoon Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864

MESSRS. EVANS and Co., Merchants, Shanghai, beg hereby to give their friends and the public notice that the only person who can now lawfully pledge the credit of the firm is Mr. HENRY EVANS, whose authentic signature may be seen at the office of Messrs. Godwin and Son, Solicitors, Newbury, Berks.

VICHY.
THE PROPERTY OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

Natural digestive Pastilles.—These lozenges made with the Vichy Salts are a sovereign remedy against the maladies contracted in hot countries, and aid materially the action of the mineral water taken internally. A very agreeable sweetmeat.

SUPERINTENDENCE AND CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Sold in boxes containing one pound each.

PARIS, 22, BOULEVARD MONTMARTRE.
MARSEILLES, 9, RUE PARADIS.
London, 27, Margaret-street, Regent-street.

PAYNE'S
INDIAN CURRY POWDER

IS unequalled for its delicious flavourn a stimulating qualities.

In Bottles, 3s. 6d., 2s. 3d., and 1s. 6d. each.

Curry and Mulligatawny Paste, jars, 3s. 6d. and 2s. 3d each

Royal Combination Pickle, bottles, 2s. each.

N.B.—This pickle is highly approved, and as a zest for cold meat, &c., will be found unrivalled.

LIST OF CONDIMENTS, &c.,

repared by PAYNE and CO. at the Belatee Bungalow Calcutta.

	Bottles.
Pindaree Chutnee	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Bengal Club, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s
Green Mango, do.	1s 6d. and 3s
Cashmere, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s
Lucknow (sweet), do.	1s. 6d. and 3s
Curry Sauce	1s. 6d.
Tap, do.	1s. 6d.
Pickled Limes...	1s. 6d.
Pickled Mangoes	2s. 6d and 5s.
Essence of Chillies...	1s. 9d.
Tamarind Fish	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Balachow...	1s. 6d.
Genuine Cayenne	1s. and 2s.
Nepaul Pepper	1s. and 2s.
Guava Jelly	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Preserved Mangoes	2s. and 3s. 6d
Do. Jamaica Ginger	from 3s. 6d.
Do. Chinese Ginger	jars, 5s. and 10s

Genuine Arrowroot, 1 lb. tins, 2s.; 7 lb. tins, 10s. 6d each.

PAYNE and CO.

FOREIGN WAREHOUSEMEN, WINE MERCHANTS, AND IMPORTERS OF INDIAN DELICACIES.
328, REGENT-STREET, & 46, MORTIMER-STREET, W.

OPPOSITE THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA. Incorporated by Royal Charter. Paid-up capital £700,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Kandy, Singapore, Galle, Penang, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Mauritius, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the overland route, erms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office, in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

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CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

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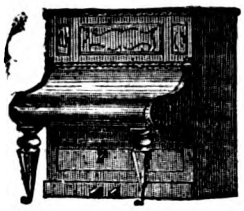
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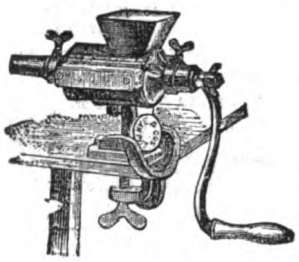
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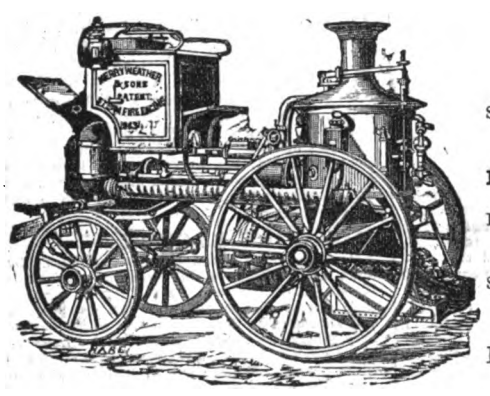

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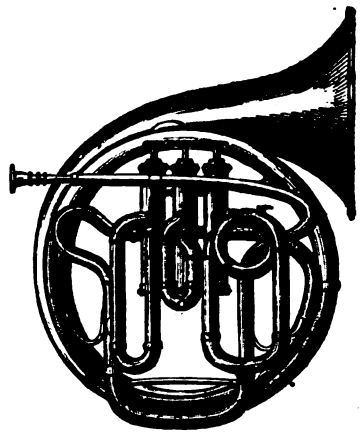

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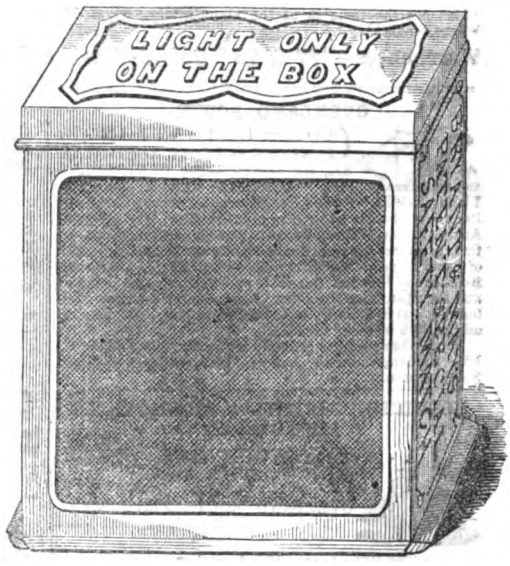

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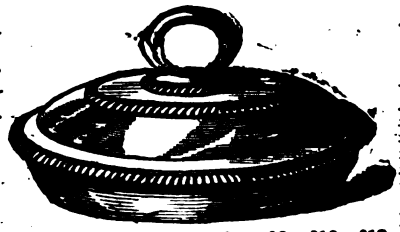

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OFFICE, 12, GEORGE-YARD, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 149.] LONDON, THURSDAY, SEPT. 15, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Kanagawa	May 17	July —	July 12
	Nagasaki			„ 15
	Hakodadi			„ 1
CHINA—				
	Peking			„ 1
	Tien-tsin			„ 1
	Hankow			„ 19
	Shanghai	„ 26	„ 11	„ 22
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 23
	Amoy			„ 24
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	June 17	„ 28	„ 29
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	May 26	„ 11	„ 21
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Touron			
	Saigon			„ 26
SIAM—				
	Bankok	June 17	„ 20	„ 30
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			
	Sarawak			„ 28
JAVA—				
	Batavia			„ 31
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	„ 27	„ 29	Aug. 6
	Penang	„ 27	„ 27	„ 8

The cable between Malta and Alexandria is still out of order.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per Delta, arrived Sept. 13.—From Singapore: Mr. Potter. From Shanghai: Mr. E. Sturgis. From Hong Kong: Mr. A. Fayard, Mariano Gil, Rev. P. D. Aquilino Ban, D. A. Comy.-Gen. Green.

To Southampton, per Syria, expected to arrive Sept. 19.—From Shanghai: Mrs. Reynolds. From Hong Kong: Capt. Murray and European servant, Lieut. Campbell, Capt. Findlay, Mr. and Mrs. Carbis. For Gibraltar: Rev. Cervera and eight Spanish soldiers. From Penang: Mr. and Mrs. Scott and five children, two native servants, Major Tweedie. From Singapore: Mr. Thos. Dyson.

Per steamer Sea King.—From Shanghai: Mrs. John and two children, Mrs. Cammidge, Miss De Fray, Mr. Brodermann, Mr. Cartright, Mr. Norris.

Per steamer Rajah.—From Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Mangum, Mr. Carter, Captain Mackay, and two officers of H.M.'s 67th Regiment.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Massilia, Sept. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Maj.-Gen. and Mrs. Grey, Lieut. Eaton, R.N., Lieut. Thompson, Miss Robinson, Lieut. G. Morice, Miss Pagden, Mr. I. Mollison, Miss P. Plumridge, Miss Longstaff, and three second-class passengers. To Shanghai: Mr. R. A. Mowat, Mr. H. G. Aston, Rev. C. H. and Mrs. Butcher, Mr. F. Stokes, Miss Wilson. To Singapore: Mrs. Braddell, Miss Manuel, and four second-class passengers. To Calcutta: Mrs. Gerrard, Col. Voyle, Messrs. J. I. Lane, R. W. Leven, C. J. Bateman, Hullett, G. Lineaton, Hunter, Turnbull, G. Reid, Bell, J. F. Trotter, and J. W. Anderson, Mrs. Percy Hill, Miss Luard, Capt. Passingham, Mrs. Knight, Mrs. J. Bellamy, Paymaster Huddlestone, Major and Mrs. W. Davis, Miss Davis, Lieut. A. Munro, Miss Tissindie, Miss A. Tissendie, Capt. F. Green, Mrs. Standerwick, Mrs. Anderson, and seven second-class passengers. To Madras: Dr. G. H. Alexander, Mr. A. J. Atkinson, Mrs. Donaldson, Major Fraser, Dr. Dorward, Miss Dorward, and four second-class passengers. To Ceylon: Mrs. Imray and infant, Mr. M. Bethune, Mr. and Mrs. J. Davidson, Miss Macready, Miss Anderson, and six second-class passengers. To Alexandria: Messrs. Ackland, Joyce, and Taylor, Mrs. George and child, Mrs. Almond, and three second-class passengers.

From Marseilles, September 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Adams and Mr. Leonard. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Coutts, Mr. E. Iveson. To Singapore: Mr. Charlton. To Calcutta: Mr. G. Dickson, Miss Dickson, Mr. and Mrs. Browne, Dr. J. M'Neile, Mr. H. B. Harrington, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Clark, Miss Fisher, Mr. S. Pell, Miss Troup, Mr. Morrell, Mr. H. G. Morrell, Messrs. Watson, A. Connal, Warwick, Ellison, E. Willmott, Dickson, Capt. C. K. M. Walker, and three second-class passengers. To Madras: Mr. Franklyn, Miss Franklyn, Lieut.-Col. Fielden, Mr. J. B. Cross, Capt. and Mrs. Read, Major Hinxman, Lieut. Pearson, Mr. Edwards. To Ceylon: R. B. Tyller. From Suez.—To Madras: Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Ryder, Rev. Mr. Schaffer.

Per P. and O. steamer Ripon, Sept. 12, from Southampton.—To Singapore (via Bombay): Mr. J. Nagle.

Per P. and O. steamer, Sept. 20, from Southampton.—To Shanghai: Miss J. Provants, Asst.-surg. Veale. To Hong Kong: Mr. Newton, Mr. J. H. Hargreaves, Mr. D. H. Speer, R.N. To Singapore: Mr. Dunlop. From Marseilles, Sept. 28.—To Singapore: Mr. P. C. Keake, Lieut. and Mrs. Burn. To Shanghai: Mr. L. Russell, Mr. D. Anderson. To Hong Kong: Mr. Marsh.

Per P. and O. steamer, Oct. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Preston and infant. To Shanghai: Mrs. Jarvie, Mr. Turnbull. From Marseilles, Oct. 12. To Shanghai: Mr. Gordon and friend, Mr. A. Schultze.

Per P. and O. steamer, Oct. 12, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. F. M. Gibb. From Marseilles, Oct. 20.—To Penang via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Davidson.

Per P. and O. steamer, Oct. 28, from Marseilles.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. Tait. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Wood and lady friend, Messrs. W. and C. Degener.

Per P. and O. steamer, Nov. 12, from Marseilles.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Wheeley. From Alexandria.—To Singapore: Miss Cook.

Per French steamer Peluse, from Marseilles, Sept. 19.—To Shanghai: Mr. Pryor. To Hong Kong: Mr. G. Simpson. To Batavia: Mr. T. Purvis.

QUARANTINE NOTICE.—LISBON, SEPT. 3.—By an order of the Board of Health of Aug. 29, in "Diario" of 30th, the ports of Macao, Shanghai, and Hong Kong are declared "infected with cholera," and all the other ports of China "suspected."

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

We have advices from hence to the 12th July. The London mail of the 10th May, and the French mail of the 17th, had both arrived out.

A very material addition to the military strength at the disposal of Sir Rutherford Alcock had reached him in the shape of an augmentation of H.M.'s 20th Regiment. They were brought on by the steamer *Chanticleer* and ship *Queen of England*, and had a passage of nine days, having left Hong Kong on the 30th June, and arriving at Yokohama on the 9th July. The men had not yet disembarked, the accommodation for them on the heights being unfinished. They were to land on the 14th, and march up to the barracks where the first detachment of the regiment is quartered. The troops seemed to have benefited by change of climate already, notwithstanding they had been cooped up in a vessel at anchor since their arrival. Several vessels of war of different nationalities had also arrived, constituting, with the fleet already in harbour, an imposing naval display. The *Japan Herald* believes that the Yedo Government had had twenty days given them to consider whether they will or will not permit foreign vessels to pass through the Inland Sea for purposes of commerce, and been informed that if they refused the demand will be enforced. The 25th of July was designated as about the time when the movement would take place, should the Japanese not have yielded the point amicably before. The course resolved on by the Tycoon and the Council of State had not transpired, but nothing indicated an intended co-operation of a Japanese force with ours against that truculent Daimio the Prince of Nagato, which was reported some time back by the Yokohama journal before referred to.

We have no confirmation by these advices of the fact of Sir Rutherford Alcock being at Nagasaki, as reported from Hong Kong in our last issue. Neither is anything said of an intention on the part of Sir Rutherford to leave Yokohama; but General Brown had left Hong Kong for Japan. There can now, we regret to say, be very little uncertainty about an hostile demonstration being intended by Her Majesty's Minister to Japan, since, in addition to the large accession of naval and military force spoken of above, we have it from Shanghai that two companies of the 67th Regiment and half a battery of Artillery left there for Yokohama on the 21st July by the American steamer *Ta Kiang*.

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CHINA.

PEKING.

POLITICAL RELATIONS OF FOREIGNERS WITH THE CHINESE.

The following despatch has been published from the American Embassy:—

The U.S.A. Minister at Peking to the U.S.A. Consul-General.

Legation of the United States, Peking, June 15, 1864.

SIR,—From many letters received by me from the ports, it appears that a misunderstanding prevails as to the extent of the rights and duties of American citizens under the treaty, and the regulations made in pursuance thereof. I have felt, therefore, that it might facilitate the administration of our affairs, if I express my opinions in relation to those questions about which there has been controversy. I accordingly address you, and through you the other consuls and my countrymen, giving my construction of the treaty and regulations upon several disputed points, as well as a few directions in relation to ships, passports, &c.; and some general suggestions in reference to the co-operative policy agreed upon by the representatives of the Treaty Powers at Peking.

I hold that the Chinese Government has the right, as an incident of its unyielded sovereignty, to enforce its own revenue laws, and to make such regulations as may be necessary to that end. [See Rules 6 and 10 of the Supplementary Treaty, and my despatches to the Department of State, approved by Government, Nos. 30 and 32.]

That the foreign Minister, when notified of regulations, if he find them to be in accordance with the treaty, is, after having in his diplomatic character done what he could to perfect them, under obligation to notify them to his countrymen, upon whom they then become binding. [See letter of E. Hammond for British Government in reply to the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, and despatches of British and American Ministers in relation to the Yangtsze regulations, approved by their Governments.]

That no authority inferior to that which made and approved the regulations can absolve persons from their observance.

That the Chinese Government having by treaty yielded jurisdiction over the persons of our citizens so that it cannot punish them even by fine, it is obligatory upon us to punish them for infractions of the Treaty and regulations. [See despatch of Mr. Marshall to Mr. Marcy, November 25th, 1853, and same to Mr. Cunningham, Vice-Consul at Shanghai, November 1st, 1853; Mr. Cushing to Mr. Marcy, September 19th, 1855, Fitzroy Kelly and James Stephen, Temple, May 22nd, 1862.]

The manner of doing this is pointed out in Sec. 7 of the Act of Congress approved June 22nd, 1860. It is to be done through the Consuls, the Minister only having original jurisdiction in cases of felony, murder, and rebellion, and where a Consul is interested. [See Secs. 13, 24, and 27 of the Act.]

The Chinese Government cannot withdraw a Consul's exequatur, for it has yielded this right under the law of nations, in the grant of entire jurisdiction over our citizens. Besides, the Consuls in China have a peculiar status; they are judicial officers, and exercise many powers under the treaty unknown to similar functionaries in the West. [See my despatch (72) and discussion with the Chinese Government, also letters of Mr. Cushing to Sec. Marcy, Nov. 7th, 1854, and Oct. 8th, 1855.]

That, though the Chinese Government may not sue in the Consular Court as a party to the record, still it may go there to make complaint and to give information, which the Consul is bound to entertain. This is political action. [See Cushing, idem, G. Wingrove, Cooke and James Hennen, Temple, Jan. 13th, 1862, Ms.]

If the Consul shall fail to do his duty in respect to punishment, then the question becomes one for reference to the "superior officers of the Government, who shall see that full inquiry and strict justice shall be had in the premises." [Art. 10 of the Treaty.]

The Chinese Government cannot be compelled to plead in the Consular Court at the suit of any one. Hence controversies between the consulates and the customs, if they cannot be arranged, become diplomatic questions to be referred to Peking. [See Cushing, idem. Sir Frederick Bruce *in re* Bowman *v.* Fitzroy, Blue-book No. 3, approved by British Government, also my despatch to Mr. Mangum, Consul at Ningpo, Dec. 9, 1862, in case of barque *Agnes*, approved by U. S. Government.]

A citizen of the United States in the Chinese customs' service, cannot, in that character, be held to answer in the Consular Court of his country for acts done in the line of his official duty under the orders of the Chinese Government. In such case the remedy is against that Government. [Opinion of Sir William Atherton et al. Ms., Temple, March 6, 1862.]

The Chinese Government may confiscate goods landed in breach of port regulations, but only those in respect to which the infringement of the regulation was committed—that is to say, those landed and not those still on board. [Sir F. Bruce in case of the *Blackburn*, Blue-book No. 3.—Also my despatches in case of the *Agnes*, and that of Prince Kung, admitting this doctrine.]

In cases of fine, where the words "not exceeding" are attached to the penalty, the consul may fix a smaller sum; but where the sum is fixed there is no option, and the consul upon proof must inflict the fine, and all efforts to mitigate such fine must proceed upon equitable grounds, and not as matter of legal right. [Sir F. Bruce in case of the *Blackburn*.]

Only three ports are now by treaty open to trade on the River Yangtsze, viz., Chinkiang, Kiukiang, and Hankow; and trade at any other ports subjects ship and cargo to confiscation. There can be no trade, directly or indirectly, by tacit consent of local authorities—by towing and permitting the Chinese to cut the line where they please, or in any manner whatsoever. [See Art. 14 of U. S. Treaty, and Art. 30, and Arts. 10, 11, of British Treaty in connection therewith; also Provisional Arrangements for the navigation of the R. Yangtsze, Dec. 5th, 1861; and those adopted Nov. 10th, 1862, and approved by British and American Governments.]

If the Chinese authorities confiscate without sufficient proof of breach of regulations, then the aggrieved party may, through the consul, appeal against such action to the minister at Peking, whose duty it will be to reclaim against the Chinese Government; but in no case is the citizen, or the consul for him, to take the law into his own hands. This would relieve the Chinese Government from that responsibility which should attach to it, and render all friendly relations impossible.—[Sir F. Bruce in case of the *Pearl*; also his correspondence with Consul Gingell, at Hankow, approved by the British Government; and instructions to Admiral Kuper, Blue-book No. 3.]

To secure an honest application of the confiscation power, I have, in conjunction with my colleagues, urged the establishment of a joint tribunal, or mixed commission, to sit in cases of confiscation. The Chinese authorities have yielded this in principle, leaving the details to be arranged by the consuls and local authorities—first at Shanghai provisionally, and afterwards at the other treaty ports if found to work well. This will satisfy both sides, and facilitate settlements at the ports; or, if the cases shall come to Peking, by classification and arrangement of the evidence, make decisions practicable. [See despatch of Prince Kung to me, June 13th, 1864.]

The greatest care should be taken before extending the protection of the American flag to purchased vessels. The proof of citizenship and the *bona fide* character of the purchase should be required. The flag should not be lent or sold to dishonour, or "be abused by the subjects of other nations as a cover for the violation of the laws of the empire." [See Consular Manual, page 273, and regulations of the Treasury Department there referred to. Also U. S. Treaty, Art. 14.]

A wise discretion should be exercised by the consuls in granting passports to travel into the interior. The right to grant these is derived from Art. 9 of the British Treaty through the favoured-nation clause (Art. 30). And though I do not hold that we are bound to take the construction of a treaty from the power through which we derive a privilege, still a desire for uniformity would suggest that such construction should receive our respectful consideration. [See my despatch No. 26, approved by the Government.]

I, therefore, call your attention to Sir Frederick Bruce's Circular of Nov. 21st, 1860, to the British consuls, approved by his Government, and commend its several suggestions to you for your guidance. "When an application is made by a person claiming to be a native citizen of the United States, for a passport, before it be granted he should make a written declaration to that effect, stating also his age and place of birth, which paper should be filed. The consul may, however, require such other evidence as he may deem necessary to establish the facts of the applicant's citizenship. If the applicant claims to be a naturalised citizen, he should be required to produce either the original or a certified copy of his certificate of naturalisation, or such other evidence as shall be fully satisfactory to the consul." [Extract from instructions to the Diplomatic Agents of the United States, page 17; and my letter to Acting Consul Pomeroy at Tientsin.]

I have already written you in relation to the so-called concessions. There are no such things as concessions in the sense generally understood by that term. It is the right of our citizens to buy, sell, and live in any part of the treaty ports; and any claim by a Treaty Power of a concession of territory from the Chinese Government, by virtue of which it can exercise jurisdiction over the persons or property of our citizens, would, if admitted, be an abridgement of our rights. [See despatch of Mr. Marshall to Mr. Marcy, July 26th, 1853, with history of efforts of Consuls Griswold and Cunningham against concession claims, and disavowal by the British Government of concession views through Consul Alcock. Letter of Sir Frederick Bruce to Consul Medhurst approved by British Government; and my despatch (42) approved by U. S. Government in Mr. Seward's despatch (40), and that in relation to municipal affairs at Shanghai (37), approved by Government.]

We have no right, for municipal or other purposes, to take jurisdiction of Chinese, or of the subjects of non-treaty powers, even though requested to do so by the Chinese authorities. We should seek to strengthen the Chinese administration in the direction of order, to see to it that they should not shirk their treaty obligations. [See my letter to Consul-general Seward, and Sir F. Bruce to Consul Sir Harry Parkes at Shanghai.]

With reference to the entrance of American citizens into the Chinese service, I can only say that there can be no objection to their entrance into the civil service; but there are strong objections to their active participation in the strife in which this people is unhappily engaged. The penalty for entering the rebel service is well known; and the decree of my predecessor, Mr. McLane, of December 5th, 1854, is still unrepealed, against taking military or naval service under the Government against the insurgents. In the peril of our interests at Shanghai from the rebels, this decree was not enforced; but subsequent events, leading to the death of General Ward and the Burgevine imbroglio, convinced me that the taking of such service not only endangered our relations with China, but might lead to complications with other treaty powers. I, accordingly, in my despatch No. 44 expressed myself in this sense, and my views were "specially commended" by the Government. I, therefore, reiterate them, to the end that such service may be discouraged. The British Government has already withdrawn its permission to its officers to take military service; and every effort has been, and is being, made, by the British Minister at Peking, to induce the Chinese to strengthen themselves so as to relieve the British Government, not only from the expense of keeping troops in China, but from the common danger of a Chinese force headed by adventurers.

Major Gordon, who has done so well, earnestly wishes to be relieved but is retained by a common sense of danger until he can weed the force of its dangerous elements, and hand it over safely to the entire control of the comparatively well drilled and patriotic Chinese officers. Mr. Berthemy, the enlightened representative of France, is equally desirous with the British Minister of removing all cause of expense and anxiety to his country, and looks forward with hope to the day when the Chinese shall triumph over their difficulties, and be able to maintain order without external aid. I am happy also to inform you that Mr. Vlangali, the able Minister of Russia, is deeply impressed with the importance of repressing that adventurous element which, if fostered, can only lead to disaster in China.

At an early period of my mission I was instructed by the Government to co-operate with the other Treaty Powers in China. In my despatch No. 42, you will find a history of my efforts in that direction, and of the

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policy agreed upon; that policy has been fully approved by our Government, and I believe by that of every other Treaty Power. It is briefly this:—To consult and co-operate in China upon all material questions; to defend the treaty ports so far as shall be necessary to maintain our treaty rights; to support the foreign customs' service in a pure administration and upon a cosmopolitan basis; to encourage the Chinese Government in its efforts to maintain order; to neither ask nor take concessions of territory in the treaty ports, nor in any manner to interfere with the jurisdiction of the Chinese Government over its own people, nor ever menace the territorial integrity of the Chinese Empire.

I call your attention to this policy in order that you may know the commitments of our own Government and ourselves with the other Treaty Powers. You will perceive that we are making an effort to substitute fair diplomatic action in China for force; that we seek to do justice that we may have justice, and thus co-operation becomes the rule in carrying out these relations. It should be sincere; and to be effective requires, in the first place, a predisposition to get on well with one's colleagues; and, in the second, that just moderation which cannot fail to win the respect and confidence of one's associates.

While such are our obligations with respect to the foreign representatives in China, they are equally strong towards the Chinese officials, whether native or foreign, for it is through these that we maintain our relations with China, and any want of courtesy or consideration for them at once re-acts upon ourselves, and destroys our power for usefulness. (See my despatch approving the conduct of Consul Clark at Fuhchau.)

Hoping for your continued support, together with that of the other Consuls and my countrymen generally, of the views I have expressed, and the generous policy I have stated,

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

ANSON BURLINGAME.

P.S. I have submitted the above letter to the British, French, and Russian Ministers, and they authorise me to inform you that they entirely approve of its views and policy.

TIENTSIN.

Our advices from Tientsin extend to the 1st July, but are not of importance. The weather had been oppressive, the thermometer standing at 85 deg., but little sickness had been noticed amongst either natives or foreigners. Occasional thunder-storms had cleared the air, and kept up the supply of *ozone*. Cholera had not appeared amongst foreigners, and the number of deaths amongst the natives was but slightly above the average of the year. Business, as might have been expected, was dull, and transactions strictly limited. Quotations, for almost all descriptions of goods, were nominal. Cotton alone was in demand at Tls. 15.5.0 to Tls. 16 per picul. The Prussian prize, late Danish schooner, *Falk*, sailed under the Prussian war flag, with a cargo of peas and cotton for Hong Kong.

NEW-CHWANG.

Advices from this port are up to the 4th July, by the gunboat *Osprey*, arrived at Shanghai. This vessel took Mr. Consul T. T. Meadows from Tientsin to his post at Newchwang.

SHANGHAI.

The dates are down to the 22nd of July. The English mails of the 26th of May arrived out on the 11th of July. We find no further allusion to the typhoon detailed in our last issue on the 6th inst.

The following are extracts from the *Friend of China* of July 19:—

"With exception of a case of cholera or typhoid fever now and then, we hear of but little sickness; and think it may be settled that the present season is much healthier than it was at the same period last year in Shanghai. Always prone to ascribe the cause of a plague to some local circumstance, we overlook the fact that such terrors as cholera, and fevers of peculiar stamp, such to wit as bore in 1843 the name of the Hong Kong fever, are borne in upon the community they afflict, not by reason of any specific inducement, but simply because they are part of a train which has had its origin at a distance so remote that it is difficult to trace. Do we not, for instance, hear of cholera being at a certain place northwards, in one year, the next year further south, and its course spoken of as proceeding in a direction indicated; just in the same way that we reason on the probable path of a cyclone when we first know that in this locality or in that it exhibited certain features? And speaking of cyclones, there is no doubt but that which recently passed over us effected a wondrous deal of good in purging the atmosphere of malific vapours, and we may hope that the worst to be experienced all the rest of the summer is the unpleasantness of heat.

"It was with extreme regret we heard on Sunday of the decease of the Right Rev. Bishop Boone. This time last year the respected divine seemed a hale man for his age, and having spent nearly three decades in this trying country, there seemed every probability of his reaching at least the three score years and ten which the psalmist has proclaimed to be the average limit of man's stay on earth. The continued illness of Mrs. Boone, however, compelled him to leave the field of his labours for a time, and the death of the lamented lady, when about midway between this and her native land, had, no doubt, a most depressing effect on the nervous system of our respected pastor. It would seem, indeed, that he could not rest or be happy until he rejoined the flock over whom he had so long presided in love and esteem; his act of returning to China at the most dangerous and trying season of the year, being, as the result has proved, highly indiscreet. Hardships endured on board the disabled steam-ship *Candia*, too, will all have had their effect on the frame of the deceased gentleman, and from the day he landed here to the day of his death, his distressing debility gave, we believe, too sure an earnest of what would follow.

"On the occasion of his funeral at the cemetery in the British settlement yesterday evening, the large attendance, first at the service which was performed in the Hongque Church, by the deceased's domestic chaplain, the Rev. Elliot Thomson, assisted by the Rev. F. R. Mitchell, and afterwards in the graveyard, gave amplest proof of the high regard—the deep affection—entertained for one who, in his day of health and strength, worked well. Happy will it be for us all if our end be like his!"

The following extract from the *North China Herald* shows the position of Colonel Gordon and the Chinese forces. We have no further news of the operations at and about Ningpo under the French:—We are happy to be able to state that it is the intention of the British authorities to place the Fawha battalion of drilled Chinese, and the gun lascars now attached to the Royal Artillery, in a camp near Sungkong for the purpose of instruction. The neighbourhood of Sungkong has been chosen, as there is no place in the vicinity of the settlements suitable for artillery or musketry practice. We are further informed that it is General Brown's intention to place Colonel Gordon in temporary command of these troops, until the decision of the home Government shall become known. Colonel Gordon will be assisted by several officers of the 67th regt., and by the drill instructors at present attached to the Fawha battalion. So soon as the service will admit of it, an artillery officer will also be appointed. The system to be pursued differs essentially from that which has hitherto obtained. The men will not be under the command of foreigners, should it be necessary for them to take the field. The intention is that this new body of drilled troops shall be placed under native officers, whose military education will be carefully attended to. For the present, these men will be serviceable simply as guardians of the frontier line, but arrangements are being made by which, should the Chinese authorities wish it, the more highly drilled will be withdrawn, and drafted off to some purely Imperial army, while their places will be filled by recruits. We may reasonably expect that by this means an important change will in time be effected in the entire Imperial army. For, whereas the Chinese have hitherto looked with distrust on the drilled battalions, they will now see that the system of officering the men with native mandarins leaves no room for suspicion or jealousy. The Futai, who is fully convinced of the necessity for reform in the Imperial army, is most favourably disposed towards this scheme. Every assistance which it is in the power of the local government to afford will therefore be placed at Gordon's disposal. Gordon will remain completely under the orders of the English military Commander-in-Chief, and, in the absence of the latter, under those of the Commandant of H.M.'s troops at Shanghai. That the Futai is impressed with the great advantages thus thrown in his way may be judged from his having ordered Li Aidong, who is now at Quinsan in command of 600 men, to repair to the same camp with his troops and place them under instruction. While Li Aidong's men are thus engaged they will be under the supervision of Major Thomson, late of the Quinsan force, and now Li's A.D.C. Such is at present the design of the British authorities, which, if carried out, is likely to prove far more serviceable to China than has the organisation of an independent force under foreigners of every class and every shade of character."

HONG KONG.

In our advertising columns will be found a prospectus of a local bank for China, in which it appears that Messrs. Dent and Co. take the leading part. The project is a very proper one. We have always argued that China could support a bank for itself. We trust that the board of directors will not be influenced by the following comments of the *Daily Press*, expressed, as usual, with more force than elegance:—

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It is very singular that the lack of public spirit, which is the bane of this colony, should have so pervaded the minds of the merchants resident here as to have made them appear like dolts or superannuated fogies, in a financial point of view, with respect to the development of the resources of the place. It really must have appeared to the mercantile community of other ports that the Hong Kong merchants had no money. How many banks have been "concocted" in Bombay and London, and being established here have driven a splendid business and have divided large dividends? Even the company for supplying the colony with gas was formed in London, and the only shares offered for sale here were the few which formed the reward to the nose of wax whom it was necessary to put forward to perpetrate the shameful job.

The fact is that there has been so much favouritism and snobbism in this community—so much prejudice and disgusting sycophancy, with such a contempt for intelligence and independent notions, that really nothing remained to form a bond of union—not even the commonest sense; and if perchance it pleased the pigs to form a joint-stock company the whole proceeding resolved itself into a series of absurdities which soon reduced it to a laughing-stock.

For instance, a company was formed to run steamers between this and Canton, and after all the mysteries, the superciliousness, the hauteur, and the vapid dignity of officialdom had been played out, the result appeared in the shape of two boats with immense capacity for the consumption of fuel, but with none whatever for the stowage of cargo. They had four chimnies each, and could accommodate two passengers to each chimney; and in order to make the passengers as warm as the chimnies, the quarter deck (below which the cabins were) was absolutely sunk. It was a difficult matter to walk along the deck without burning one's clothes. They were constructed by a pet builder, managed by a pet agent, and cost an enormous sum of money. The novelty of officialdom and of the boilers too having worn off, and a few heavy calls having been made on the proprietary, the whole concern was wound up with the loss of lock, stock, and barrel, and we believe something besides.

Then, again, there was the club which formed a hobby of the notorious Colonel Caine. The estimate was a given number of shares at $400, which money being paid up and received it was found that $600 per share additional was required. And even then, after that sum had been received, the establishment was in debt, and hobbled along petted, dirty, ill-managed, and indebted until its sale became necessary.

And in fact it has been adopted as an axiom by this community themselves, that any joint-stock company started by themselves must of necessity come to grief—assuredly for the reasons we have indicated and for none other. Thus it came to pass that a few enterprising Parsees and Scotchmen in Bombay invented and achieved so many banks in China. They had little money, but they had eyes in their heads and sense too. They saw a clear field before them with a lot of swell donkeys browsing on it, and they turned it to pretty good account.

The adage runs that even a worm, if driven to desperation, will turn on its oppressors—so, in the case before us, the success of the numerous joint-stock banks which have been established here eventuated in such an excitement in Bombay and London that new banks were "invented" with extraordinary rapidity, and consequently, the business being overdone and the ground overoccupied, the Hong Kong wiseacres began to collect their ideas, and to form a combination to grind some of their own flour.

It is but fair to mention that the Whampoa Dock Company is an exception to the general rule above laid down. That company was, however, got up entirely by a man of great wealth and influence, who has ever been at war with the principles which have actuated this community, whether as regards the frail, rotten, and mutable foundation whereon society is based, or as regards their deeds of omission or commission in a public point of view. The exception, therefore, corroborates the rule!

The following announcement, taken out of a Bombay daily paper, reads to us most ludicrously, and has, in fact, dictated these remarks. The liberality of the projectors in assigning one-sixth of the shares to people in China is most profuse—the gas company appear quite niggardly in comparison:—

THE BANK OF CHINA (LIMITED).

We have to announce the formation of a new bank under the above title, with a capital of sixty lakhs of rupees (with power to increase to three crores), in 30,000 shares of rs. 200 each. The head offices will be in Hong Kong, with branches in Shanghai and other parts of China. The promoters are—The Hon. Michael H. Scott, the Hon. Walter R. Cassels, Richard Willis, Esq., A. F. Wallace, Esq., Robert Hannay, Esq. Cowasjee Jehangheer, Esq.

The Bank of China is projected to occupy in China a position similar to that which the banks of Bengal, Bombay, and Madras hold in India.

The board of directors in China will be composed of gentlemen of high standing and local influence.

The promoters will immediately apply to Her Majesty's Government for a charter.

The bank will meantime be registered under the Companies' Limited Liability Act of 1832.

The promoters will memorialise the British Government in China to establish the same relations with the "Bank of China" as exist between the Indian Government and the three Presidency banks.

Five thousand shares will be reserved for allotment in China, and four thousand will be taken up by the local Financial Association of India and China.

We believe that the promoters have made arrangements with the Financial Association to receive applications for shares.

Buckstone, the celebrated horse, which was backed for a mint of money for the Derby, 1862, and won the Ascot Cup in the following year, died at East Point Stables, Hong Kong, on the 10th of July last. The price paid for him in England was 4,500 guineas, and his death in the Celestial Empire adds one more instance to the many on record of the fatality attending blood stock in the tropics. He was intended for stud purposes, and never ran since his arrival at his new home. Sir William and Millionaire are in the same stable.

On the subject of Sir R. Alcock's policy in Japan, the *China Mail* says:—

"Next to writing upon China, the hardest work in the world is to write upon Japan. Sir Rutherford Alcock, according to the Japan journals, makes a deep mystery of the impending British policy in that country. This is simply making a mountain of a molehill, for the only serious point at issue between ourselves and the Japanese is the closing of the Inland Sea by the Prince of Nagato.

"Now, as it happens that Sir R. Alcock has long been on the look-out for a sound cause of quarrel with the Japanese, and, further, that there is a peculiarly strong force of men and *materiel* in this part of the East at present—and these mainly at Sir Rutherford's disposal—we may safely expect to hear of hostilities being opened very shortly. Perhaps Sir Rutherford Alcock is right. The Japanese may possibly enough be all the better for a thorough licking. Prince Satsuma does not appear to be the worse for what he got from Admiral Kuper, and, so far as we know of our Japan Minister's views, he is likely to push the policy of coercion to a considerable extent, if not to its utmost limit. In point of fact, Sir R. Alcock's present position in Japan is one peculiarly suited to his own temperament. Some years ago he was rebuked by the Foreign Secretary (Lord Russell, if we mistake not) for threatening war with the Japanese; now he is in a position to make war or abstain from doing so precisely as he considers best. He is a dangerous man to have charge of such means of offence, and we can only hope that he will use them judiciously."

The Kowloon land sales went off better than expected. The first day eleven marine and two inland lots were knocked down at an aggregate premium of $745, the annual rental being $6,440. The second day, fourteen marine and thirteen inland lots were sold at an aggregate premium of $2,205; the annual rental being $8,900. In all 40 lots were sold, premium $2,950, rental $15,350.

His Excellency the Governor is pleased to make the following promotions and appointments in the Hong Kong Volunteers.

Commandant Frederic Brine, to be Lieutenant Colonel Commandant.

Atwell Coxon, Esq., Private Hong Kong Volunteers, late sub-officer Singapore Rifle Volunteers, to be Captain.

Second Lieutenant Henry Cohen, to be Lieutenant, vice Fraser, resigned.

William James Henderson, Esq., Serjeant-Major Hong Kong Volunteers, late Private 1st City of London Rifle Volunteer Brigade, to be Second Lieutenant, vice Cohen, promoted.

Lieutenant Kearns D. Tanner, Instructor of Musketry H.M.'s 99th (Lanarkshire) Regiment, to be Hon. Rifle Instructor.

William Stanley Adams, Esq., M.D.C.M., Gunner Hong Kong Volunteers, to be Hon. Assistant Surgeon.

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Mr. Charles Thorne's company performed "Othello" in the theatre to a numerous audience. As might have been expected, the experiment of producing one of Shakespeare's plays was found to be somewhat difficult as regarded its results upon the audience. On the whole, however, the performance met with approval. The part of *Othello* was well sustained by Mr. Charles Thorne, who appears to be a veteran upon the boards. The character of *Desdemona* was excellently sustained, while those of *Emilia* and *Iago* were well up to the mark, the former, indeed, being perhaps the best-rendered character in the play.

CANTON.

The *China Mail* correspondent writes:—

Canton is still dull as regards commercial vitality, although there are some slight indications of life remaining. The leading houses continue to maintain branches either on the Honam side of the river or on the well-known Shamien site, which latter has been beautified by tasteful matshed bungalows. The native traders with foreigners are still subjected to the most galling mandarin squeezes, and many of them have ceased to do business in consequence. In the adjacent district, towards the West, there have been clan fights, and recent information is to the effect that an army of Hakkas, 10,000 strong, is moving about, plundering and destroying Punti villages. They are armed in European fashion, and fire in platoon at the word of command, a circumstance which indicates the presence of foreigners in their ranks. The growing appreciation among the Chinese of Western fire-arms is one of the signs of the times, and so is the mischievous uses to which they are being so readily turned.

We deeply regret to record the death of the Rev. S. W. Bonney, who has been for many years a missionary at Canton in connection with an American society. He was a hard-working, pious, and devoted man, and his place will not be easily filled. In fact, he was a model to missionaries in China.

The following comments, the result of a personal visit of the Editor of the *Daily Press*, whose residence at that port dates, we believe, from 1840:—

"Having been absent from our desk on a visit to Canton for upwards of a week past, our readers generally may probably expect from our pen an attempt to express the sentiments and impressions which occupied our thoughts during our stay at that once far-famed emporium, as also such gleanings of political intelligence as we were enabled to gather. As far as the native trade of the place is concerned, a manifest improvement has taken place within the last six months—that is to say, there is more bustle in the streets, more merchandise in the shops, and more traffic on the river. Money is declared to be very scarce, and things generally appear uncommonly cheap.

"The Shameen site is beginning to develop itself. The permanent buildings now erected on it are the church, the parsonage, and the hongs of three British firms. There are besides about ten commodious mat bungalows on the site. The three firms who have erected permanent buildings on Shameen, have their offices there as well, but the dwellers in the mat bungalows have their offices in Honam, and resort to Shameen for the sake of the refreshing south breeze which blows up the Macao passage. Strange as it may seem, the Shameen site is cooler in midsummer than either Macao or Poke-fo-lum. We speak from the experience of the past week, during which a refreshing breeze never ceased night or day—generally speaking, it was inconveniently strong, and the nights were so cool that it was out of the question to sleep without bedcovering. We do not know a pleasanter trip than a visit to Shameen presents. These American steamers are glorious craft to travel in—the fare, the attendance, the cleanliness and everything are unexceptionable. A few days' residence at Shameen is highly agreeable and conducive to health, whilst a visit to the city shopping, or to the heights "prospecting," or to Poontinqua's garden botanising, form an agreeable variety.

"As for the Shameen site *per se*, we fancy that at the present moment it is rather out of the way of business, but we think, should the foreign community make it their head quarters, that the shopmen will come behind them, and the tea and cotton men settle at Honam. In this case Shameen will become very central and convenient. We think, however, that the plan adopted for laying down the Shameen site is on rather too magnificent a scale, and that, large as it is, it will prove quite incapable of holding the foreign community which dwelt in Canton at the time of the *Arrow* outbreak. There is a praya of fifty feet all round, and then a street up the middle of 100 feet, and the hongs are being built one after the other isolated so that really little, if any, more than half the ground will be occupied.

"The foundations for the new British Consulate are being proceeded with. We heard that it was necessary to sink deeper than anticipated, and that the contractor hesitated about signing. By the way, the mat bungalows on the Shameen site are, we think, quite as commodious and well built as the barracks at Cowloon. We were told that the former only cost about $400 whilst the contract for the latter was $1,300! Our military authorities should see to this.

"Regarding the chances of Canton recovering itself, we think that all depends on the action of the Government. It cannot be doubted that the Canton province is most productive, populous, and wealthy; its population is the most energetic, intelligent, and enterprising of all Asiatics, save and except the Parsees. Yet their wealth is hoarded, their energy paralysed, their enterprise curbed. Feud fights prevail throughout the breadth of the province—the communications are rendered perfectly unsafe by marauders—and the especial mission of the mandarins appears to be the practice of extortion. The only place in the province where trade can be carried on is the colony of Hong Kong—the communication between which and Canton is open and free by means of the daily steamers; money can be safely deposited here, until an opportunity for investment presents itself, and insurable vessels can be engaged to carry merchandise to any part of the coast. But we should suppose that this one outlet for enterprise and capital has been overdone, and that hence arises the complaint of dull times.

"It seems abundantly clear to us, that if the communication between Canton and the hundred large towns and cities contained within a radius of fifty miles, were clear and uninterrupted—if the vicinity of all such towns and villages were secure from faction fights—and if the success of a merchant ceased to be the signal for extortion being practised on him—then we maintain that the Cantonese would resume their wonted habits of enterprise, and that confidence, in fact, being restored, old Canton would rise from her ashes. Half this desideratum would be accomplished if foreign steamers were to run from Canton to the towns up the river; but even this the mandarins will not permit, although tempting offers have been made to them for the purpose. Their obstructiveness and their rapacity are on a par.

"For instance, the opening of Hankow has proved prejudicial to Canton in so far as country Congous are concerned. The Canton teamen were determined not to yield the trade without a struggle, and, consequently, last year they secured a number of chops of Congou which they had brought down to Canton, and on which they lost heavily; and little wonder, seeing that the mandarins squeezed 7½ taels per picul out of them in the shape of transit dues."

Our Soochow correspondent informs us that an expedition which started about three weeks ago for the purpose of completing the subjugation of the district around the provincial capital, returned on the 3rd July, after having captured the walled city of Chang-shing, situated between Hoochow and Yih-shing. The rebels, it is said, made a stout resistance. The position was of great importance to them, as a means of communication with Hoochow. On the 5th, the Futai left Soochow for the purpose of establishing a municipal government at Chang-shing.

The double screw steamer *Far East*, Captain Henry Jones, left Shanghai for Hankow on the 21st July, and will, we understand, load at that port for England. Rate of freight has not transpired.

JAVA AND NETHERLANDS INDIA.

A daring case of forgery had been detected in Batavia. A native entering the office of Messrs. M., M., and Co., presented an acceptance for *f.*10,000, signed by Kouw Tjeng Po, and endorsed with the signatures of the firms of J. Speet and Tiedeman and van Kerchem. One of the clerks detected that the signature of the latter endorsers was a forged one, and it was soon discovered that the whole was a case of one of the most daring forgeries heard of for many years past. The native was arrested, when he acknowledged he had been sent in to discount the acceptance by a Chinaman then waiting outside to see the issue of the mission. Our celestial friend was also immediately arrested, notwithstanding his protestations of innocence. It has since been discovered that the same Chinaman has already succeeded in discounting forged acceptances to the

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extent of *f.* 40,000, and that one or two large houses will have to suffer the loss. The delinquent is a young man of good connections, but who has managed to run through a large fortune within the space of one year. He was assisted in these forgeries by a fellow countryman, who is also in custody, and who has confessed having made the false signatures at his instigation.

The Governor-General has granted a patent for a period of fifteen years to Messrs. Van Vriesendorp and Gaade, of the Hague, attorneys of Mr. S. Carpmael of London, for the introduction into Netherlands India of improvements in centrifugal machines.

An insane attempt at a revolt had lately been discovered. The leader was a young man employed at the Supreme Court. It seems that he had persuaded a few native soldiers of the garrison to join him. He was, however, betrayed, and is now in close confinement together with his accomplices.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Our dates come down to the 6th August. The London mail of the 27th June arrived on the evening of the 29th July.

The commerce of the three stations of the settlement, taken together, amounts to over sixteen millions sterling, and it is worthy of observation, that though the American war has materially interrupted the supplies of the great import staples from Great Britain, yet the stoppage has not affected the total of the trade

Singapore was suffering from a condition of the weather altogether unexampled in the memory either of the European residents or of the natives themselves. The heat was excessive; and a complete absence of those refreshing showers which have hitherto been such a characteristic of the climate rendered it well nigh unbearable, and at the same time seriously prejudicial to agriculture. Singularly enough, however, the fruit crop had not suffered, but on the contrary had been brought into market in greater abundance than in any previous year.

PENANG.

The Governor was at Penang, from whence he was visiting various parts of Province Wellesley.

The Government steamer *Pluto* had been with letters to the Rajah of Purlis asking information with reference to the death of five Siamese, who were supposed to have been murdered by people on board a Chinese junk. A junk was found at Purlis, the Nacoda of which admitted that he had landed men from Penang, but that they had immediately proceeded across the peninsula to Sangora. Suspicion being aroused, the Nacoda of the junk was apprehended, and placed in custody until information shall have been received from Sangora.

Remarking on the burning of the *Louisa* by pirates, and the slaughter of the captain and mate, the *Penang Gazette* observes:—"There is no doubt, we should be inclined to think, that several of the vessels bound to China which have never been heard of are not always destroyed by typhoons: pirates in the China Sea are probably as destructive. About a twelvemonth ago two vessels, the *Sarah Maria* and *Jacatra*, left this for China, and after sailing from Singapore nothing has ever been heard of either."

SIAM.

Report by Consul Sir Robert Schomburgh on the Trade of Bangkok for the year 1863.

SHIPPING.—During 1863 the entries, not including junks, were 304 vessels of 139,743 tons; the departures were 296 vessels of 115,914 tons. Compared with 1862 this shows an increase of about 9,000 tons in entries, and a decrease of 16,000 tons in departures. A large number of ships were lying in port at the close of the year waiting for rice, and also several large American ships were laid up, fearing capture by the *Alabama* if they ventured out.

The average shipping employed in the port during the last five years has been 282 vessels of 120,205 tons; hence, considering only the clearances, the employment during 1863 was above the average.

BRITISH SHIPPING.—During 1863 the entries were 82 vessels of 30,363 tons, and the clearances 78 vessels of 28,603 tons which is an improvement of about 3,000 tons on 1862, and is very close to the average for five years, viz., 79 vessels, and 30,300 tons.

IMPORTS.—The table of imports furnished by the foreign inspector of customs does not appear to me to be very complete, some large items, such as machinery imported for the Government, and presents to the King, being omitted; the trade in precious stones is also much understated; however, I believe it to give the best information obtainable.

It shows an increase over 1862 in the importation of piece goods, but I am informed by some of the largest importers that the piece goods trade has not flourished during the year, as buyers have seldom offered remunerative prices.

EXPORTS.—The total value of the exports has been about £880,000, rather above a five-year average.

RICE.—The export has been about 1,632,000 piculs, which is rather less than the amount exported in 1862, but just about the average export during the last five years.

SUGAR.—82,700 piculs were exported, being about 20,000 piculs less than the amount exported in 1862, and 47,000 piculs less than a five-yearly average.

SALT.—The salt trade with Batavia, which arose under contract with the Netherlands Government, having been mismanaged by the Siamese contractor, who failed to provide cargoes with any regularity, has now ceased.

COTTON has commanded a high price, having been in demand for shipment to Bombay. The quantity has been insignificant. Sticklac has been exported in unusual quantities.

Nothing noteworthy has occurred in respect of other articles of trade.

Bangkok, January 24, 1864.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BUYERS—On the 4th Aug., at Singapore, James, the youngest son of Mr. J. C. Buyers, aged 2¼ months.

COW—On the 6th Sept., at 419, New Cross-road, Deptford, the wife of Charles B. Cow, Commander of the ship Himalaya, of a daughter.

GORDON—On the 4th Sept., at Woolwich, the wife of Captain H. W. Gordon, C.B., of a son.

KNEVITT—On the 5th Sept, at 19, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, the wife of Robert K. Knevitt, Esq., of a daughter.

MAPPIN—On the 8th Sept., at Queen's-road, Clapham-park, Surrey, the wife of John Newton Mappin, jun., Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

ABBOTT—CREIGHTON.—On the 3rd Sept., at the parish church of Kinsale, county Cork, Ireland, by the Rev. J. W. Hopkins, M.A, assisted by the Rev. William Baldwin, M.A, Duncan Dunbar Abbott, Esq., of Pembridge-square, Bayswater, to Marian Clara Vincent, eldest daughter of George Gray Creighton, Esq., M.D., of Kinsale.

ROUTH—AIRY.—On the 31st Aug., at the parish church of St. Alphage, Greenwich, Edward John Routh, Esq., Fellow of St. Peter's College, Cambridge, son of the late Commissary General Sir Randolph Isham Routh, K.C.B., to Hilda, eldest surviving daughter of George Riddell Airy, Esq., Astronomer Royal.

RODRIGUES—RODRIGUES.—On the 16th July, at Hong Kong, Henrique Rodrigues, to Germinia Rodrigues.

SEVERS—BALDOCK.—On the 30th Aug., at Walcot Church, Bath, by the Rev. W. Williams, assisted by the Rev. E. Brown, Henry H. Severs, Esq., of Hong Kong, to Julia Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the late Wm. Baldock, Esq., Royal-crescent, Bath. No cards.

SANGSTER—WALSH.—On the 26th July, at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, Colonial Chaplain, Charles Frederick Augustus, fourth son of John Sangster, St. John's-wood, London, to Jane Mary Josephine, third daughter of the late C. Walsh, of Sydney.

STARK—LE CAIN—On the 2nd Aug., at the Presbyterian Church, Singapore, by the Rev. John Mathison, Robert Stark, Esq., to Harriett Jessie, only daughter of the late Walter W. Le Cain, Esq.

WALFORD—DAVIS—On the 3rd Sept., at St. Marylebone Church, Euston-road, London, W. H. Walford, Esq., Chief Officer P. and O. Service, to Miss Emma Davis, of Woodfield House, Aspley Guise, Bedfordshire. No cards.

WIGNALL—BARKER.—On the 1st Sept., at Salem Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. Wm. Hudswell, J. H. W. Wignall, Esq., of Shanghai, China, to Emma, youngest daughter of the late Henry Barker, Esq., of Leeds. No cards.

DEATHS.

BARBER—On the 7th Sept., at Merton Abbey, Surrey, Captain James Barber, formerly of the Hon. East India Company's Service, aged 77.

BARTHOLOMEW—On the 12th July, at Hong Kong, Alexander Bartholomew.

BOONE—On the 17th July, at his residence, Hong-que, Shanghai, the Right Rev. W. J. Boone, aged 53 years.

BULLY—On the 24th July, at Macoa, Edward Bully, ship chandler.

BOOTH—On the 4th July, on board the S.S. Elgin, on her passage from Japan to Shanghai, Thos. Booth, Chief Engineer.

BONNEY—On the 26th July, at Canton, after a lingering illness of 2 months, the Rev. S. W. Bonney, aged 49 years and 4 months.

CRAWFORD—On the 29th July, at Milport, Scotland, Captain Robert Crawford, aged 70.

COOPER—On the 28th Aug., at Malta, on board H.M.S. Orlando, Edward Cooper, Esq., Midshipman, only son of Captain Cooper, of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, aged 19. Friends will please accept this intimation.

CORDEIRO—On the 21st July, at Macoa, Albano A. Cordeiro.

DOYLE—On the 23rd July, at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, William Doyle, Private H.M.'s 99th Regt., aged 26 years.

ELIOTT—On the 3rd Sept., in London, Sir William Francis Eliott, Bart., of Stobs and Wells, Roxburghshire, N.B., aged 72.

FLADSEN—On the 18th July, at Hong Kong, H. P. E. Fladsen, Master of the British ship Mount Stuart Elphinstone, aged 45 years.

GAYNER—On the 11th July, at Hong Kong, the wife of Capt. Gayner, H.M.'s 99th Regt., of a son.

HAPEL—On the 17th July, at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, C. Hapel, Customs, Canton.

JAMIESON—On the 10th Aug., at Upper Brunswick House, Southampton, after a few hours' illness, Thomas, eldest son of Capt. Jamieson, P. and O. Company's ship Pera, aged 10 years and 4 months.

KITTO—On the 17th July, at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, J. Kitto, destitute seaman.

LAWRENCE—On the 19th July, at Shanghai, E. B. Lawrence, chief officer of steamer Soochow.

POTTS—On the 15th July, at the Seamen's Hospital, Hong Kong, William Potts, late second mate British ship Zenobia, aged 19 years.

SEAVERS—On the 20th July, at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, S. W. Seavers, destitute seaman.

WESTCOTT—On the 20th July, at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, William Westcott, acting clerk, Victoria Jail.

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COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—MACAO.—Tyshans: Arrivals of the third crop amount to 1,500 bales, making up 21,571 bales, equal to about 13,000 piculs, for the season to date; contract deliveries for the fortnight are 1,900 half-chests, 200 boxes Congou, 1,600 half-chests and 500 boxes Souchong of the better kind. There have been no sales on the market. The Banian, principally laden at Whampoa, took in here about 100 tons of the best for London.

CANTON.—One or two chops of country Congous have actually come orward, and it is expected that 100 chops may be received in all. A fair amount of business continues to be transacted in Tayshan Congous. For Scented Teas a good demand exists for fine, which are scarce and tend up; medium and common being plentiful and cheaper. In Canton Greens the business is restricted to Gunpowder, fine being scarce and dear, middling and common plentiful and cheap. Tayshan Congou: 1,250 boxes and 500 half-chests at 22 taels for brownish blackish leaf up to 30 taels for finest imitation Kaisow. Plain Orange Pekoe: 1,000 half chests at 25 to 31 tls. for fine to finest. Souchong: 1,000 half-chests at 16 to 18 tls. for common. Scented Orange Pekoe: 4,000 boxes at 23 tls. for fair up to 34 tls. for very fine. Scented Caper: 7,000 boxes at 22½ tls. per middling up to 35 tls. for superfine. Canton Greens: 5,000 boxes Gunpowder at 12½ to 25 tls. for common to fine, and 2,000 boxes Imperial at 12½ to 15 tls. for common to fair. The stock is uncertain, being in a variety of stages of preparation.

FOOCHOW.—There has been a brisk demand during the fortnight for all descriptions—large purchases of common to medium Congous have been made for the Australian market, and prices for those descriptions have advanced from 1 to 2 tls. The better kinds have been in less inquiry, and rates have tended down. For the past day or two settlements of Congou have been on a more moderate scale. A fair demand has continued for Souchongs at previous rates. Pekoes are very dull. Ooolongs and Scented Teas are in moderate request at rather easier rates. The settlements since last report are stated as under:—Congous: 38,000 chests, 34,000 half chests, and 1,000 boxes, at 6.5.0 to 16.00 tls., for siftings to good common 18 to 22 tls., for coarse to good flor'y, 24 to 34 tls. for Souchong flavoured, and 35 to 36 tls. for fine Kaisows. Souchongs: 5,500 chests, and 2,000 half chests at 20 to 40 tls. Pekoe: 400 chests at 25 to 40 tls. Oolong: 4,300 half chests and 500 boxes at 18 to 29 tls. Scented Teas: 8,400 boxes at 18 to 44 tls. The arrivals to date are as follow:—Congou and Souchong, 284,000 chests, against 274,000 chests same period last season. Oolong, 68,500 half chests against 62,000 do.

SHANGHAI.—Black: The settlements show in many instances an advance of fully one tael, and holders are decidedly firmer since exchange has declined. Settlements amount to 39 chops, at prices from 18½ tls. for common Oonhams to 43 tls. for finest Oopacks or Ningchows. Arrivals from Hankow have been very large, but most of the teas have been re-shipped without being offered on our market. A few chops of second crop Oopack have been shown, and their quality appears about equal to last year's crop. Settlements on the market, 33 chops or 21,751 chests Oopacks, Oonhams, Ningchows, Hohows, and F. Pekoe. Re-shipped on owners' account, 85 chops or 42,275 chests, do. do.; total 124 chops 64,026 chests; making total to date 100,549 chests. Stock waiting shipment and for re-sale, 28 chops. We quote first crop Oopacks, 31 to 43 tls.; Ningchows, 28 to 43 tls.; Oonhams, 18½ to 28 tls.; Hohows, no settlement. Green: The only transaction during the fortnight have been the settlement of two chops of new season's Pingsuey, at 43 and 44 tls. respectively; for other classes there has been no inquiry. Re-shipments and settlements:—1,887 half-chests Fychows, &c.; 4,789 hf.-chests Pingsuey; total, 6,676 hf.-chests—making total to date, 10,599 hf.-chests. Stock of Green tea is estimated at 3,668 hf.-chests Fychow, &c.; 524 hf.-chests Shanghai packed Japan; 8,294 hf.-chests Pingsuey; total 12,486 hf.-chests.

HANKOW.—In consequence of the continued unfavourable advices from Shanghai, of the depressed state of the money market there, and the high rate of exchange ruling, operations during the past fortnight have been somewhat checked. Notwithstanding, however, the falling off in settlements the teamen remain firm for last quoted rates. Second crop, the arrivals of which have been moderate, turn out rather superior, both in leaf and liquor, to those of last season, and for good mediums the teamen ask very full prices:—Settlements for the fortnight are 105 chops, including 8 contracts, and 4 sent to Shanghai on Chinese account, making the total settlements for the season 332 chops, and leaving a stock on the market of 35 chops. Quotations are, good medium 19 to 24 tls., 2nd crop, good finest 20 to 27 tls. Oonhams common to good 15 to 22 tls.

KEWKIANG.—Black Teas: The stringency of the money market in Shanghai had the effect of checking operations, and the only business done during the fortnight had been the settlement of 4 chops medium Ningchows at 25 to 27 tls. in barter against imports. Supplies had been limited, the total arrivals to date amounting to only 48 chops, whereof 43 had been shipped, 5 remaining in stock. Quotations were nominal, but the holders preferred selling on the spot to shipping to Shanghai. Ningchows, were quoted 31 to 32 tls. fair to good 25 to 28 tls. The total settlement and and shipments of the season to date amounted to 24,095 chests against 29,326 chests same period last season. Green Teas: There are no additional advices to those quoted in last report. It seems certain that supplies will be short, and rates high.

YOKOHAMA.—Of old teas the stocks are now reduced to a very few piculs of good ordinary and common: about 150 piculs have been settled during the fortnight. The new crop is beginning to come in somewhat more freely, but yet in very limited quantities, and for these very extreme prices, showing an advance of about $1 to $2, have been demanded and submitted to, to the extent of about 3,000 piculs, principally for the American market. Quotations are as follows:—Ordinary, $1.00 to 3.00; good do., $4.00 to 6.00; common, $8.00 to 12.00; good do., $14.00 to 19.00; medium, $20.00 to 26 00; fine, $28.00 to 30.000; finest, $31.00 to 32.00; new medium, $26.00 to 32.09.

NAGASAKI.—Tea has continued to come in but slowly, in consequence of the high prices demanded by the manufacturers in the interior. About 2,000 piculs of leaf ranging from $18 to 33 have been purchased at $3 over last year's rate, chiefly in order to keep the firing-places going. At present there is no stock on the market, continued rain having presented any supplies coming forward. Native dealers report a plentiful crop this season.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—Early in the fortnight the market was moderately quiet, and although prices were very firm, there was no alteration in quotations, until the English mail of 26th May arrived with telegrams to the 2nd June, advising an active home market, with an advance of one shilling per lb: for fine silk. This enabled the dealers to establish an advance of 5 to 10 tls. per picul, and at the close there has been considerable excitement in the market, with very irregular prices. The settlements may be estimated at 3,000 bales, the bulk of which are medium and inferior Tsatlees. Of really fine silk the market has been almost cleared of all the parcels offered for sale, but as some of the Chinamen have withdrawn their musters, in the hope of realizing higher prices, a small quantity is still included in our present stock. A portion of the second crop has been received and proves inferior in every way to the first, and the dealers confidently assert, that the yield is less than last season. It is expected that there will, in consequence, be a large proportion of common and inferior silks, especially Taysaams, some few lots of which have already arrived and found buyers at very extreme prices. The receipts from Japan have been 314 bales, the latest advices announce the arrival of a few bales of new silk which sold at high prices. Further arrivals were daily looked for. The following are the current quotations:—Tsatlees: No. 1 chops, 405 to 410 tls.; No. 2, 385 to 390 tls.; No. 3, 365 to 370 tls. per picul. Market: No. 3 chops, 350 to 360 tls.; No. 4, 340 to 350 tls.; No. 5, and common, 325 to 335 tls. per picul. Taysaams: No. 1, 350 to 460 tls.; No. 2, 330 to 340 tls.; No. 3, 315 to 325 tls.; No. 4, and inferior, 260 to 305 tls. per picul. Yuenfa: No. 1, 360 to 370 tls.; No. 2, 345 to 355 tls.; No. 3, 330 to 340 tls.; No. 4, and inferior, 320 to 325 tls. per picul.

CANTON.—The 2nd crop cocoons are nearly all reeled off, and the 3rd has commenced; musters of the latter have been received, and as far as can be judged the quality appears good, but the quantity it is now said will fall short of what was at first anticipated. The reported rise in Europe for fine Silk brought on by last advices has not had the effect of stimulating purchases here, ruling prices being 8d. to 1s. per lb. over latest Home rates. The quotations for this departure are thus given, viz: Loong-kong No. 1 $435 to 440. Do. No. 2 $420 to 425. Kow-Kong $405 to 410. Rereeled Cumchuck (nett) $485 to 490. Waste Silk, No. 1, $53 to 54. Do. No. 2, $44 to 45. At these prices there are no buyers for Europe. 24 piculs have gone forward to Southampton and about 80 piculs for Bombay.

YOKOHAMA.—A few parcels have come down, some portion of which was either new silk of last year's cocoons lately reeled, but mixed with old silk, and generally inferior. Some 50 bales have been settled at from $525 to 535, which prices appear to us to be very high, if we take the quality of the silk into consideration. Since then a few more bales have come to market, the quality of which seems to be improving, and, consequently, they are held for higher prices.

CHINA EXPORTS.

DRUGS, &c.—Camphor: Sales at $17.60 unpacked, and $19 packed. Stock, 600 piculs. Cassia Lignea: A somewhat better quality has arrived, and quotations have advanced 10 cents. Settlements reported, 700 piculs, at $15 to $15.80. Stock, 1,500 piculs. Cassia Buds: The stock has been augmented to 80 piculs. The article is now being offered at $53.50, which shows a decline of 50 cents. China Galls: A fresh supply of 400 piculs caused a depreciation in value. A settlement of 300 piculs is reported at $12.50. Stock, 200 piculs, held at the same price. Vermilion has fallen 50 cents, and is now offered at $42.50 to $43 per box of 50 catties. Rhubarb: 55 pls. good ordinary quality have been taken at $72, and shipped per Marlborough to London. For another chop of low middling the extravagant price of $130 is asked. Musk: The old stock of 180 catties is still held at extreme rates. Galangal $2.90 to $3, nominal, no buyers. Essential Oils: None on the market.

COTTON.—At Hong Kong sales of Northern arrivals at $32 to $36. At Shanghai, quotation 19 tls. and buyers holding off. At Yokohama, market stiff at $28.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael)	6	months sight.	7s. 0d.	7s. 0d. to 7s. 2d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 9½d. to 4s. 10d.	4s. 10d. to 5s. 11d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 10d. to 4s. 10½d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 0d.
At Manila	6	ditto	4s. 7d.	4s. 7d. to 4s. 8d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 335 to 338 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 232 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 12 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 71 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 34 to 35 discount.

The following is from the circular of Messrs. Sharp and Co. Hong Kong, July 28:—

GOLD.—Since last report we have received one and a half lacs of dollars' value; whilst the exports, including the shipments per *Malta* on the 12th July and excluding those to leave by the *Carnatic* to-morrow, amount to four lacs and ten thousand dollars. The price, after some fluctuations, has returned to the point of last mail's quotation.

SILVER.—This bullion has been in very small supply, and very large demand. There has come to hand one hundred and twenty thousand dollars value, and there has been half that amount sent North, the balance will go on by the French mail to-morrow after this account has been closed. There is a most pressing necessity for some coin suitable for the North of China, and it is to be hoped that the new Hong Kong dollar of a silver tael piece may ere long supply the want.

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DOLLAR CURRENCY.—During the fortnight we have received three qundred and eighty thousand dollars, and have sent away one million and four hundred thousand. Clean coin have rallied a little from their depression, on account of the slight improvement in Shanghai; these occasional improvements being continually checked by an attempt to realise a portion of the immense sums at present pawned at exorbitant rates of interest.

DISCOUNT AND MORTGAGES.—These have been done respectively at 8 and 9 per cent. per annum.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN.—No report.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: July 6, Lodge M'Norton. From Liverpool: 16, Wild Deer. From Bristol: 6, J. Stanton, jun. From Sunderland: 5, Comus. From Newcastle: 18, Ariadne.

At HONG KONG.—From London: July 15, Lord Raglan; 23, Gauntlet; 26, Southern Belle. From Liverpool: 16, Verbena. From Glasgow: 16, Dumbarton (str.); 20, Elizabeth Ronneberg, and, 28, Hermslen. From Newcastle: Cassiterides; 20, Orion. From Sunderland: 18, Trafalgar and Aboyne; 23, Harkaway. From Shields: 18, Carisbrook. From Cardiff: 19, Quick and Beatrice; 20, Ocean. From Hamburg: 23, Laura. From New York: 15, White Eagle.

At MANILA.—From Liverpool: July 17, Olano, and, 20, Josey Maria.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: Aug. 5, Spirit of the Deep. From Newcastle: July 23, Eddystone. From Cardiff: 28, Bravo.

At BANGKOK.—None.

At PENANG.—From Glasgow: July 12, Dunnikier.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—None.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: July 8, Silver Eagle and White Adder; 11, Highflyer; 12, Fychow; 20, Knight Templar. For Liverpool: Affghan.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: 11, Holmsdale; 13, Star of China, and, 14, Dartmouth.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: July 24, Chanticleer (*via* Macao). For Liverpool: July 14, Jessie Beazley. For New York: 15, Cornelia.

From MANILA.—For Liverpool: July 19, Indiaman. For New York: 15, Bengal, and, 27, Continent.

From SINGAPORE.—For Liverpool: July 29, Volunteer.

From BANGKOK.—For New York: July 3, Eastward Ho.

From PENANG.—For London: July 21, Empress, and, 23, Sunium.

LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Amoy, Vigil, Fleda, Lucknow, and Anna Maria. For Liverpool: Gyrn Castle.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Gresham, Assyrian, Caractacus, Castle Howard, Claramont, Toftscomb, Essex, Shakespeare, Southern Cross, Wild Deer, City of Quebec, and Stirlingshire. For Liverpool: Brockham, Southern Empire, Sea Snake, and Thomas Bell.

At FOO-CHOW.—For London: Canute, Horsa, John Temperley, Cauransius, Rajah of Cochin, and Race Horse.

At AMOY.—For London: Willy.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Adriatic, Cathaya, Ben Lomond, Yeavering Bell, Peterborough, Valdivia, Aboyne, Hyacinth. For Liverpool: Chaa-sze, Everest, General Windham, and Delhi. For New York: Roslin Castle.

At MANILA.—For London: Seaforth, and Staffordshire. For Liverpool: Constance, Frederick, Jupiter, Kathay, and Labrador. For Falmouth: Gondola, Ocean Express, and Voladora. For New York: Franklin.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Prince Alfred, Rangoon, Spirit of the Deep. For New York: Panic.

At BANGKOK.—None.

At PENANG.—For London: Spitfire, and Marengo.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

JAPAN.—To London: Cotton and tea, £4 to £4. 10s.; silk, £5 to £5. 10s.

SHANGHAI.—The following are the settlements for home during the fortnight: Essex (1,256 tons), to London, £3; Comus (375), Kanagawa to London, £4. 5s.

FOOCHOW.—To Great Britain, £3 to £3. 10s.

HONG KONG AND CANTON.—To London: George Holmes' Circular gives the following:—The Peterborough (560 tons) at £3. 10s. per ton; Valdivia, Aboyne, Hyacinth, Horsa and Johnny Temperly on the berth at current rates; and the Delhi for Liverpool. To New York: The Maggie Leslie (478), Bedford (620), to load at Amoy or Foo-chow at £3. 5s. per ton. The Sailor's Home (1,240) proceeds to Shanghai for $2,000 in full, and thence to London or Liverpool at £2. 10s. per ton. To Bangkok and back: The rates are 40c. per picul, and 15 to 20c. additional if to north.

MANILA.—The only vessel fixed in the Staffordshire for London, at £3 for clayed sugar and £4 for tobacco. An improvement on these rates is looked for.

BANGKOK.—Tonnage is but little inquired for, the rates are as follows:—To Hong Kong: 40 to 45c. per picul, and to Shanghai or Ningpo 70 to 75c.

PENANG.—To London: £3 dead weight; £3. 10s. light freight; and £4 measurement.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

FROM ENGLAND AND CONTINENT TO CHINA, &c.—From Liverpool to Shanghai, 19 July, Agincourt; 23, Bantam, Amsterdam to Singapore and Castor, Liverpool to Singapore; 25, Jubilee, London to Hong Kong; Prata (orders), Jacob, and Anna, Rotterdam to Japan, via Catharina; 27, Vulbore, Bordeaux to Saigon, and Bangainville, Bordeaux to Saigon.

FROM CHINA, &c., TO ENGLAND AND CONTINENT.—July 10, Dewa Gungadhur, Singapore to London; 14, Scawfell, Canton to London; 17, Invidcible, Singapore to Liverpool; Chanaral, Sarawak to London; 20, Twee Cornelissen, Japan to Falmouth; and 25, Eliza Sheen, Shanghai to London.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

The following vessels from Foochow, with the new season's teas, are now daily expected:—Fiery Cross, Serica, Young Lochinvar, Flying Spur, Min, Yang-tsze. H.M.S. Vulcan, from Shanghai, with returned troops and stores, is also due.

According to the bullion table of Mr. Page, the export in August was:—

	Gold.		Mex. Dol.		Bar Silver.
Singapore, Java, &c. ..	£1,143	...	£57,130		
China	200	...	22,608	...	63,840,

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Sept. 6, at Helvoet, from Batavia, Ferdinand and Louis; 5, at Zierikzee, from Batavia, Concurrent; 7, at London, from Sarawak, Chieftain; 8, at Deal, from Rangoon, Satana (?); 6, at Copenhagen, from Akyab, Ludwig Holm; 7, at Havre, from Rangoon, Charlotte; 6, at Bordeaux, from Hong Kong, Johanna; 7, at Texel, from Akyab, Hedvig; 7, off Queenstown, from Maulmain, John Kerr; 8, at Texel, from Tjilatjap, Madura; 10, at Deal, from Akyab, Atlantic; 11, at Liverpool, from Shanghai, Neville; Dunkeld, from Singapore, Hurry Puddensey; at New York, from Manila, Isabella; 12, at Falmouth, from Akyab, Krimpenaan de Lek; 10, at Liverpool, from Akyab, De Salabery; 2, at Gibraltar, from Sumatra, &c., Rattler; 13, at Falmouth, from Rangoon, E. Sherman, from Akyab, City of Boston; 10, at Copenhagen, from Akyab, Freid; Aug. 29, at Boston, from Manila, Fearless; 30, from Singapore, Alexander. Sept. 12, at Plymouth, from Rangoon, Matilda; 14, at Falmouth, from Rangoon, George and Johan; 13, at Liverpool, from Manila, Diadem; 10, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Albrecht, Beyling.

DEPARTURES.—Sept. 9, from London, for Singapore, Early Dawn; 11, for Hong Kong, Borealis; 12, Arab Steed; 13, for Shanghai, Norwood; 13, from Liverpool for Manila, Thos. Royden; for Shanghai, Water Witch, Gossamer; July 29, from Callao for Macao, Cæsar; Sept. 14, from London for Shanghai, Abbotsford, in ballast.

SPOKEN.—Akbar, Penang to London, July 11, 35 S., 24 E.; Provincie Drenthe, Amsterdam to Samarang, June 10, 29 S., 19 W.; Osborne House, Canton to London, July 23, on the line, 36 (?) E.; Johanna Christina, Rotterdam to Batavia, Aug. 1, 11 N., 23 W.; Admiral de Ruyter, Amsterdam to Batavia, September 4, 50 N., 2 W.; John Bartlett, of Dundee, for Shanghai, July 15, 2 S., 23 W.; Stratford, of Liverpool for Singapore, July 21, 11 N., 26 W.; Insulaire, Cardiff to Singapore, July 30, 9 N., 25 W.; Presto, Amsterdam to Samarang, Aug. 1, 12 N., 26 W.; Susanna Johanna, Rotterdam to Sourabaya, Aug. 2, 11 N., 26 W.; Falcon (barque), Callao (?) to Hong Kong (?) July 18, 12 S., 31 W.; Ship, No. 7,410, 3rd d.p. (Oasis), Liverpool to Sumatra, July 26, 6 N., 26 W.; Lady Ebrington, Japan to London, July 4, 28 S., 50 E.; Velocidade, London to Japan, July 21, 1 S., 25 W.; Ida Elisabeth, Rotterdam to Samarang, May 21, 3 N., 24 W.; Rudolf, Rotterdam to Batavia, July 30, 14 N., 25 W.; Talleng (Dutch barque), Amsterdam to Batavia, July 31, 14 N., lon. 46; Isabella (barque), Swansea to Hong Kong; Aurora Australis, London to Shanghai, August 6, 13 S., 34 W.; Marianne, Bristol to Singapore, July 30, 24 S., 32 W.

NEW CLIPPERS FOR THE CHINA TRADE.

A fine clipper ship, to be named the *Flying Cloud*, will be launched in about a month from the ship-building yard of G. Peverall, Esq., of Sunderland. Her length is 180 feet, beam 34 feet, depth of hold 20 feet. The framework is of iron, with diagonal fastenings. The beams are 30 inches apart, and she is planked with teak. Her masts are of iron, and fitted with steel yards. Her owner is John Patten, Esq., of Weston, Durham. She is to be commanded by Captain Shield, late of the *Capriolani*. Her building and fitting out has been conducted under the special superintendence of Captain Winchester, late of the *Carribean*.

About the end of October will also be launched the *Coral Queen*, from the ship-building yard of Messrs. Pile, Hay, and Co., of Sunderland. The *Coral Queen* is a fine clipper of 800 tons. Her length is 180 feet, beam 33, depth, 19 feet; iron frame, diagonally fastened and planked with 6-inch teak. She is fitted with every modern improvement, and will be a very superior ship. She is owned by John Hay, Esq., of Sunderland, and will be commanded by Captain John Winchester, late of the *Carribean*, under whose superintendence she has been built.

The Chinese and Japanese Repository for August presents a greatly-improved appearance as regards type and paper, and we observe the publishing office is removed to 31, King-street, Cheapside. The present number contains another section of that most interesting tale, "The Story of Han-wan and the White Serpent." The "Distinguished Men of the Tang Dynasty" is devoted to an account of Li Tai-pi, the Chinese Anacreon, whose rhapsody "In the midst of the flowers I pour out my wine," and manner of death reminds one forcibly of his Grecian prototype. "The Study of Chinese by Europeans" is the summary of a lecture delivered by Sir John F. Davis, Bart., at the Asiatic Society in June last. The continuation of Mrs. Lockhart's paper on "Medical Missionary Practice in Peking in the Year 1863" gives, as might be expected, a considerable insight into the habits of life of the poorer inhabitants of that great city, and of their modes of thinking and feeling. For those who delight in more abstruse knowledge there is another portion of "The Science of the Chinese Algebra."

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Foreign Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, Sept. 10.

The dead season is nearly past; the session of the Parliament will be closed within a week, while the new session will be opened as usual on the third Monday of this month. The Ministers are all returned home from their trips to Germany, and are preparing the several Bills that will be delivered in at the opening of the session. The different Budgets have already arrived at the offices of the Council of State. When they have been discussed, the debates on the Government Act (*regeringsreglement*) for the West Indies will begin. Nothing has yet been heard about the Bill to abolish the heavy duty upon the journals. Indeed, it seems that the abrogation of that miserable tax upon knowledge will be deferred *ad kalendas Græcas*, notwithstanding the urgent protests of our press, whose ruin it is, and of the public.

The rumours that Mr. Betz, the head of the Financial Department, will be obliged to ask for his retirement, continue to circulate. It seems impossible for him to content the several members of Parliament with his long-promised modifications of our system of taxes; he endeavours, by all sorts of combinations and manœuvres, to disarm the Opposition; but I do not believe that he will succeed again, now that everyone is convinced that Mr. Betz is not the *specialite* he was thought to be when he sat upon the Opposition benches.

The ministerial *Haagsche Courant* assures us that the Budget for the East Indies (*comptabiliteitswet*) is ready to be presented at one of the first sittings of the Second Chamber of the States General. The rumour that the indisposition of Mr. Fransen van de Putte, the Minister of the Colonies, was dangerous is by this fact officially contradicted.

His Majesty has returned from his seat "het Loo" to the Hague; and within a few days her Majesty will leave for a journey of some weeks.

The Archduke Nicolas of Russia left our bathing-place, Scheveningen, for Copenhagen. The alliance between the Grand Duke, the heir to all the Russias, and the Princess Dagmar, sister of your Princess of Wales, is regarded as certain in our political circles.

At last the Palace of Industry is opened at Amsterdam, after it has taken about eleven years to carry out a plan which, I believe, was executed in England in about seven months. The exhibition, however, is worth the time and trouble consumed in getting it up. The appearance of the building is indeed very striking, and is an ornament to our capital. It was opened with great solemnity in the presence of the uncle of the King, Prince Frederick. Mr. Sarphati, the well-known banker, who projected the plan, has been created by the King Knight of the Order of the Netherlands Lion, and Mr. S. A. C. Dudok van Heel, the builder, Knight of the Luxemburg Order (*de eikenkroon*).

According to the latest news from Batavia (14th July), it seems to be impossible to construct the Ambarawa branch line of the network of railways in Java. Should this be true, then the Srobogan line must be laid down, and as this cannot be done without the consent of the States General, it is more than probable that the Bill authorising the construction of the Java railways must be re discussed.

The demand made by Mr. H. G. Uhlenbeck, ex-Minister of the Colonial Department and ex-Director of the Public Works in the East Indies, for increase of pension, is rejected by the Council of State. The Prince of Orange, in his quality of General of the Infantry, has been employed in inspecting the troops, now in the camp of Milligen.

The Government intends to send this year two or three more detachments to the East Indies than the limited contingent of 1,200 soldiers.

Civil engineer Mr. J. van Bosse is appointed engineer for the service in the East Indies. The Nestor of the Amsterdam traders, Wilhelm Willink, Esq., has died at Amsterdam, and the pensioned rear-admiral N. A. Vries at Kampen.

His Majesty's steamer *Zoutman* started yesterday for Japan, *via* Batavia; H.M. corvette *Maurets der Nederlanden* will sail within a few days for the West Indies, to return in six months.

The wife of the Rev. Vanden Berg, clergyman at Batavia, now temporarily residing at the Hague, has destroyed herself by taking a large quantity of sulphuric acid. Domestic quarrels seem to be the reason for this deplorable act.

Yesterday the institution for the instruction of East Indian functionaries at Delft was opened by a speech of the director, Mr. G. Keyzer.

COMMERCIAL.

According to a Government Trade Return, some of our Exports consisted in :—

Articles.	During the Month of June.	During the First Six Months of 1864.	During the Twelve Months of 1863.	During the 12 Months of 1862.
EARTHENWARE :—To Java	45,000f.	213,000f.	409,000f.	1,264,000f.
To Japan	1,000f.	2,000f.	34,000f.	55,000f.
To England	4,000f.	92,000f.	49,000f	75,000f.
VINEGAR :—To Java ...	15,000 litres	93,000 litres	82,000 litres	77,000litres
BEER .—To Java	198,000 „	820,600 „	1,250,000 „	968,000 „
BUTTER : To Java ...	68,000lb.	287,000lb.	684,000lb.	453,000lb.
To England	1,559,000lb.	7,366,000lb.	12,749,000lb.	13,998,000lb.
DRUGS :—To Java ...	2,000f.	26,000f.	66,000f.	44,000f.
To England	46,000f.	209,000f.	312,000f.	379,000f.
MACHINERY :—To Java ...	36,000f.	192,000f.	372,000f.	777,000f.
To Japan	—	1,000f.	108,000f.	4,000f.
COTTON YARNS :—To Java	—	26,000f.	24,000f.	23,000f.
Do. (coloured) :—To Java	25,000f.	315,000f.	111,000f.	564,000f.
SPIRITS :—To Java ...	367,000 litres	1,707,000 litres	2,451,000 litres	1,838,000 lits.
To the Engl. Indies ...	107,000 „	427,000 „	2,371,000 „	3,472,000 „
To England	337,000 „	2,427,000 „	4,885,000 „	5,819,000 „
PERFUMES :—To Java ...	11,000 „	37,000 „	44,000 „	30,000 „
GLASS (Window) :—				
To Java	6,000f.	31,000f.	56,000f.	46,000f.
To Engl. Indies ...	—	5,000f.	15,000f.	29,000f.
To Japan	15,000f.	32,000f.	20,000f.	18,000f.
BOTTLES (Glass) :—				
To Java	4,000f.	22,000f.	54,000f.	36,000f.
To England	1,000f.	4,000f.	28,000f.	8,000f.
GLASS WARES :—To Java	4,000f.	87,000f.	219,000f.	703,000f.
To Japan	4,000f.	6,000f.	33,000f.	59,000f.
To China	—	—	16,000f.	51,000f.
GOLD WORKS :—To Java	—	3,000f.	101,000f.	72,000f.
To England	—	28,000f.	24,000f.	47,000f.
SILVER WORKS :—To Java	36,000f.	60,000f.	—	—
To England	—	3,000f.	—	—
FLOUR AND MEAL :—				
To Java	26,000lb.	154,000lb.	301,000lb.	525,000lb.
To England	2,000lb.	9,000lb.	299,000lb.	266,000lb.
IRON :—To Java	49,000f.	223,000f.	270,000f.	229,000f.
RAILWAY BARS :—To Java	—	48,000f.	—	—
GAS PIPES :—To Java ...	—	44,000f.	—	—
IRON NAILS :—To Java ...	15,000lb.	296,000lb.	698,000lb.	785,000lb.
To British India ...	6,000lb.	101,000lb.	83,000lb.	145,000lb.
LEAD :—To Java	77,000lb.	110,000lb.	300,000lb.	314,000lb.
To England	141,000lb.	834,000lb.	1,537,000lb.	494,000lb.
WHITE LEAD :—To Java...	56,000lb.	113,000lb.	110,000lb.	77,000lb.
COTTON & LINEN (Manuf.) AND WOOL :—To Java...	1,347,000f.	7,567,000f.	11,222,000f.	19,247,000f.
To Japan	96,000f.	643,000f.	490,000f.	792,000f.
To British India ...	197,000f.	1,215,000f.	632,000f.	540,000f.
PAPER :—To Java... ...	31,000f.	175,000f.	285,000f.	303,000f.
To England	135,000f.	529,000f.	914,000f.	905,000f.
CARPETS :—To Java ...	2,000f.	8,000f.	16,000f.	31,000f.
TAR :—To Java	223,000lb.	803,000lb.	1,150,000lb.	537,000lb.
WATCHES :—To Java ...	4,000f.	4,000f.	—	—
MEAT (all sorts) :—To Java	133,000f.	799,000f.	1,051,000f.	793,000f.
WINE :—To Java	108,000 litres	1,393,050 litres	1,109,000 litres	1,072,000 lits.
SALT :—To Java	119,000lb.	304,000 lb.	512,000lb.	376,000lb.
PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.				
TEA :—From Java ...	90,000lb.	851,000lb.	950,000lb.	1,061,000lb.
From China	—	—	773,000lb.	949,000lb.
TIN :—From Java... ...	458,000lb.	3,088,000lb.	3,458,000 b.	5,111,000lb.
TOBACCO :—From Java ...	756,000lb.	1,700,000lb.	7,442,000lb.	4,858,000lb.
SUGAR :—From Java ...	13,289,000lb.	67,751,000lb.	119,110,000lb.	88,944,000lb.
SPICES :—From Java ...	39,000f.	432,000f.	731,000f.	1,674,000f.
RICE :—From Java ...	1,080,000lb.	9,730,000lb.	8,715,000lb.	8,010,000lb.
COFFEE :—From Java ...	4,619,000lb.	40,120,000 b.	56,263,000lb.	62,196,000lb.
INDIGO :—From Java ...	25,000f.	137,000f.	454,000f.	403,000f.

COFFEE.—The market was, since the last auction of 83,000 b., offered by the N.T.C., very active. An advance of 1 to 1¼c. was willingly paid for the qualities which were sold from 41 to 41½ c.; there is much inquiry for the fair and green sorts. On the 14th September 122,800 b. will be offered by the N.T.C., mostly ordinary qualities. The 2,200 b. Macassar, ex Maassluis, were sold at private auction at 31¼ to 42 c.; the 3,400 b. Java at 37½ to 42 c.; the 560 b. Java, ex Æolus, at different prices. Stock 426,600 bales, against 545,800 b. in 1863.

SUGAR.—The market is very animated by the bad reports from Java and France. There is much inquiry at July prices, but sellers are not inclined to operate. About 7,000 kr. were sold, No. 15¾ at 40f.; No. 16¼, at 40¼f.; No. 17, at 40¾f. The 1,121 kr., No. 17, ex Friesland, were sold at 40½f. for export. The quality was humid. The private stock amounts to 8,222 kr. The N.T.C. will offer by public sale on the 23rd of September, 20,700 kranjangs.

HIDES.—5,254 p. Singapore ox were sold at 20¼ to 38 c. The market remains unaltered.

RICE.—The market is dull. No inquiry for Java sorts. Only 9,000 b. Necranzie were sold at secret prices. Stock, 56,300 b. against 9,600 in 1863.

COTTON.—The market is not so firm as at our last report. The auction of the N.T.C. was very dull. The 2,390 b. middling Tinnevelly valued at 112 to 114c., were sold at 99½ to 102½c.; the 459 b. middling fair East Indian, valued at 94 to 96c., were sold at 83½ to 86c.; the 4 b. middling fair East Indies Sawginned were sold at 90c., and the 87 b. fair Japan at 107½ to 112 c. An advance of 2c. on these prices is now willingly paid.

TEA.—At a public auction 671/4 and 887/12 ch. China Congo were partly sold at 75 to 119c.; 160/12 ch. finest Pecco Souchon at 157c., 144/4 ch. China Pecco at 160c., 500/12 ch. China Pouchon at 61 to 89c., and 58/4 and 5/8 ch. Java; Boey at 51c.; Congo at 84c., Souchon at 88c., Oolong at 69c., Pecco at 134c., Tonkay at 65c., Schin at 52c., Hysant at 90c., Uzim at 118c. The market is now very inactive. Stock, 16,100/4 ch. against 21,900/4 ch. in 1863.

SPICES.—At the public auction of the N.T.C., on the 21st of August the whole quantity offered was sold, viz.: Nutmegs, 437 casks No. 1, at 88c.; 827, No. 2, at 76c.; 84 casks, No. 3, at 51c.; 24 casks, No. 4, at 43 to 44c.; 4 casks damaged, at 46c. Mace: 412 casks D, at 71c.; 301 casks E, at 69c. Cloves: 63 casks, No. 2, at 35c.; 7 casks, No. 3, at 33c.; Java Cinnamon, 142 fard, No. 2, at 81 to 86c.; 886 fard, No. 3, at 77 to 83c.; 337 fard, No. 4, at 74 to 76c. Black Pepper: 1,660 b.,

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No. 1, 909 b., No. 2, and 1,458, No. 3, at 21f. The prices now quoted are nutmegs, No. 1, 90c.; No. 2, 80c.; No. 3, 57c.; No. 4, 45c.; Mace, D, 75c.; E, 73c. Cloves, No. 2, 34c.; No. 3, 33c. Stock: Nutmegs, 378 casks. Pepper, 1,950 b. The market is firm.

INDIGO.—The confidence in this article is always improving. 250 chests (private import) were sold at full prices. On the 5th October the N.T.C. will sell at auction 390 chests Bengal, 345 chests Java, and 163 chests Java Cochineal.

COCHIN COCOA NUT OIL.—With much demand at 25f. to 25½f.

RATTANS.—Dull. Only 1,081 b., ex Vincentius de Paulo, were sold at prices that did not transpire.

TIN.—Market very firm; business to a fair extent done privately. Large quantities, 81,371 bl., were delivered last month by the N. T. C. Sellers decline to operate under 62½f. 300 bl. Billiton were sold at prices that were kept secret. Stock, second hand, 98,900 bl.; N. T. C., 17,352 bl.

ARCAK.—150 casks, ex Henrietta Maria, were sold.

TOBACCO.—The 1,278 b. Java, GP, offered by subscription, were not sold. At public sale were offered and partly sold, 1,230 b. Kotta, in average, at 86 1-5th c.; 168 b. Kepet, at 5½c.; 50 b. Wonor, at 50c.; 117 b. Sentanan, at 73½c.; 76 b. Gedek, at 93c.; 65 b. L/A, at 36 1-6ths c.; 67 b. L/L, at 49½c.; 100 b. L/P, at 49½c.; 252 p. HZ, at 14c.; 79 b. I/S, at 24⅝c.; 133 b. Singahan, at 67 2-5ths c.; 1,277 b. SBS, at 58⅜c.; S, at 72¾c.; SS, at 21c.; RS, at 49½c.; 608 b. CHdB, at 19¼c. The market is since very inactive, only 1,796 b., ex Fransina Wilhelmina, from Batavia, trade mark Blitar, were sold. Stock, 9,548 b. Java.

CURCUMA.—Java, firm; nothing to have under 12f.

DRUGS.—Chin Rhubarbar 9 ch. offered at public auction, but retired at 3½f. to 4f.; 18 ch. Oleum Ricini sold at 30 to 31c., 45 ch. Japan wax sold at 33¾ to 36¾; 25 ch. gum Damar sold at 22 to 23c.; 7 ch. gum Benzoe (Sumatra) retired at 60c.; 30 b. gum elasticum E. I. sold at 90f., 10 ch., Getah Gitang at 53f., all per 50 kilos.

MONEY firmer. Discount (Bank) 5 to 5½; open market, 5 to 5½; N. W. S., 60⅜ to 7-16ths; Three Per Cents., 72¼ to 72½; Four Per Cents., 96. Handelmaatschappy, 138½. Change, London, 3 pm., 11.68f.; short, 11.92f. Paris, 3 pm., 46.32f.; short, 47f. Hamburg, 3 pm., 34.95f.; short, 35.50f.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Banjoewangie, at Brouwershaven, per Hendrika, Capt. Bus: Messrs. J. G. Jansen, 2nd lieut. infantry, and Mr. Spring with family.

From Batavia, at Zierikzee, per Baron van Heemstra, Capt. Nepperus: Messrs. Rochell, Velu, Quack, V. D. Veen, Koert, and fourteen soldiers.

From Batavia, at Brouwershaven, per Dordrecht, Capt. Loos: Messrs. Stieler, le Clercq, van der Beek, Blogg, Blok, van Eibergen Santhagens, Watson and family, Miss van Driel, and nine soldiers.

From Batavia, at Texel, per Sourabaya Packet, Capt. Olivier: Messrs. Olivier, Prins, V. D. Linden, Caspers and Boekholst.

From Padang, at Brouwershaven, per Koning Willem III., Capt. Kilian: Mr. van Bostraten and family, Mr. Kropveld, Miss Turick and seven soldiers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

From Amsterdam to Japan, per Yokohama, Capt. Comfurius: Mr. M. Frisch.

From Amsterdam to Batavia, per Electra, Capt. Landweer: Messrs. Munters, commander and Voorman, 1st lieut. and 102 soldiers from the colonial recruiting depot at Harderwyk.

From Texel to Batavia, per Admiral de Ruiter, Capt. Mollinger: Messrs. J. F. W. v.d. Willige, von Schmidt auf Altenstadt, E. v. Beek, J. A. Tange, R. C. Krouse, H. J. v. Fiegen, J. A. Horestadt, M. Brunsveld, van Hulten.

From Rotterdam to Batavia, per Eva Johanna, Capt. A. J. B. Hordyk: Mr. Guise and family, Mr. Prevost and family, Miss Prevost, Miss A. C. de Thouars, Mr. D. de Wit.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	Ship.	From
Aug. 24	Brouwershaven	Hendrika	Banjoewangie.
— 25	Zierikzee	Baron van Heemstra	Batavia.
Sept. 1	Brouwershaven	Francina Wilhelmina	Do.
— 1	Do.	Dordrecht	Do.
— 1	Do.	Jacob	Tjilatjap.
— 1	Texel	Friesland	Batavia.
— 1	Do.	Willem Daniel	Do.
— 1	Do.	Quatre Bras	Tjilatjap.
— 1	Do.	Hollandia	Batavia.
— 1	Do.	Johanna	Samarang.
— 4	Brouwershaven	Otto	Batavia.
— 4	Do.	Koning Willem III.	Padang.
— 5	Do.	Koophandel	Batavia.
— 5	Do.	Macassar	Tjilatjap.
— 4	Hellevoet	Zanzibar	Manila.
— 4	Texel	Sourabaya Packet	Batavia.
— 4	Zierikzee	Grondwet	Do.
— 6	Brouwershaven	J. C. Schotel	Do.
— 6	Zierikzee	Concurrent	Do.
— 6	Hellevoet	Ferdinand & Louis	Do.
— 6	Texel	Christina	Banjoewangie.
— 6	Do.	Australie	Batavia.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	Ship.	For
Aug. 15	Texel	Yokohama	Japan.
— 15	Zierikzee	Haamstede	Batavia.
— 20	Texel	Adriana Johanna	Japan.
— 20	Do.	Jan van Schaffelaar	Batavia.
— 20	Do.	Hellevoetsluis	Do.
— 20	Do.	Texel	Do.
— 26	Do.	Admiraal de Ruiter	Do.

READY TO SAIL.

At TEXEL.—Engel, for Japan; Vrede, for Batavia; Herman de Ruyter, for Samarang; Regina Maris, for Sourabaya.

At BROUWERSHAVEN.—Argo, for Batavia; Eva Johanna, for Batavia; Singapore, for Singapore and Hong Kong; Edouard and Marie, for Sourabaya; L. J. Enthoven, for Batavia; Kaapstad Packet, for Cape of Good Hope and Batavia.

LOADING.

At AMSTERDAM.—For Kanagawa and Decima: Maria. For Padang: Maria Agnes. For Batavia: Ymuiden, 3 Gezusters, Zeenimph, Java Packet. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Henrietta Maria, Holland. For Samarang: Waalstroom, Peking, Nederland, Celebes, Sourabaya Packet.

At ROTTERDAM.—See "Freights."

FREIGHTS.

The following quotations are from the circular of Messrs. Fauchey and de Vletter, shipbrokers, Rotterdam:—

For Batavia: Nova Zembla (979 tons), 15 f. to 20 f. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Eersteling (726), Medea (753), Neptunus (687), 15 f. to 25 f. For Sourabaya: Stad Dokkum (390), Nieuwe Waterweg (1,360), 20 f. For Samarang: Vesta (437), 18 f. to 20 f. For Padang: Lammechina Elizabeth (637), Maarten van Rossum (723), 30 f. to 35 f., all with 15 per cent. and per ton of 2,000 kilogrammes. For Singapore: Maria Louisa Antoinetta (613), 35s., and 10 per cent. per ton of 40 English square feet. For Singapore and Hong Kong: Jan van Galen (366), 40s. to 50s., and 15 per cent. per 40 square English feet. For Kanagawa: Niphon (360), 60 f., and 15 per cent. per 80 English square feet. For Melbourne: Sophia Koningin der Nederlanden (741), and Professor van der Boon Metsch, 30s. to 50s., and 15 per cent. per 40 square English feet.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

HAMBURG, SEPTEMBER 10.

The Danish Consul at Hong Kong, in a despatch to the Minister for Foreign Affairs at Copenhagen, reports that the Sonderberg schooner *Chin-chin*, which had been captured by the Prussian steam corvette *Gazelle*, was released, as the commander of the corvette had received special orders from Berlin to respect all vessels hailing from the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein. The same consular report states that the Danish schooner *Tordenskiold*, owned at Faaborg, in Jutland, had succeeded in eluding the pursuit of the Prussian ships of war.

From Russia we learn that the most important feature in the march of the great annual fair at Nyni Novgorod is the overland tea, which had risen in value. Last year the price obtained for this description was 100 roubles, whilst 115 r. are now willingly paid. This is accounted for by the two-fold circumstance that the supply is considerably less, and the quality far better than usual. Of Canton tea there were only 10,000lbs. on sale, which realised from 75 cop. to 1 r. 65 cop., according to quality. Of refined sugar 10,000 poods (of 40lbs. each) were brought to the fair, which sold for 8 r. 30 cop. to 9 r. for first quality, and 7 r. 90 cop. to 8 r. for second. Formerly the sugar refiners never attended the fair in person, the business being conducted by middle houses as agents, but this year several refiners are on the spot. Very little coffee had been brought for sale, chiefly from St. Petersburg, and prices were 1 rouble higher than last year.

The Senate of Hamburg, in conjunction with the Senates of Lubeck and Bremen, have jointly appointed Mr. G. A. Schoettler to be Hanseatic Consul at Newchwang.

Among the latest arrivals in this city from the East are Mr. and Mrs. Bullock, from Akyab, Mr. Consul R. von Carlowitz, from Canton, and Mr. G. W. Schwemann, from Shanghai.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The deliveries both for consumption and shipment have been very extensive since last outward mail, and the market is in a favourable state, several large purchases having been made on speculation even at the present high prices.

SUGAR.—Importers have had to submit to a further decline of 4 to 8 sch. bco. per 100 lbs. for all descriptions of raw, but this reduction had the effect of attracting purchasers, and very considerable transactions ensued, after which the market closed rather firmer. Refined goods found buyers to an ample extent at stiff prices.

RICE.—For rough grain there has been but little demand, while cleaned descriptions were in great request, though the prices obtained were slightly in favour of purchasers. Among the transactions were 2,000 bags of good middling Bengal, and by public sale, for underwriters' account, 2,300 bags of sea-damaged Arracan.

SPICES.—Market for all articles firm, but with dealings to a very limited extent.

TIN.—Business confined to the execution of small orders for consumption and conveyance to the interior of Germany.

SPELTER.—Market dull, and prices have a downward tendency. Arrivals from the interior in August, 54,400 centners. Total arrivals from 1st January to end of August, 373,400 centners, against 136,000 for the corresponding period of last year, 140,000 in 1862, and 65,000 in 1861. Present stock, 15,000 centners, against 48,000 last year, 140,000 in 1862, and 65,000 in 1861.

COPPER.—Stocks being small, holders are not inclined to sell at the present rates, but demand higher prices, in consequence of which the business of the fortnight was but trifling.

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SHIPPING.

SAILED.—Sept. 3, Marie Lucie, from Cuxhaven to Singapore; Leopold, from Hamburg to Hong Kong; Ino, from Hamburg to Hong Kong.

LOADING AT HAMBURG.—For Singapore: Nordstern. Macassar and Hong Kong: Chefoo. Singapore and China: Turandot. Manila: Arizona.

LOADING AT BREMEN.—For Rangoon and Akyab: Everhard Delius. Rangoon direct: Von Berg and Ottone. Shanghai: Andreas. Honolulu: Libelle.

CONSULAR TRADE REPORTS.

FOREIGN-OFFICE, Sept. 6.

The following despatches have been received at the Foreign-office, from Sir Frederick Bruce, Her Majesty's Minister in China, and from Mr. Caine, Her Majesty's Consul at Swatow:—

Peking, June 7.

"My Lord,—I have the honour to enclose 'Returns for Shanghai of import and export trade under foreign flags' for the year 1863, published by the Chinese Custom house. On the last page there is a table giving the yearly amounts of foreign commerce, beginning with 1854.

"The import trade has increased from 41,000,000 taels (about £13,000,000) in 1860 (the last year before the opening of the Yangtze and the northern ports), to 81,000,000 taels (about £27,000,000) in 1863.

"The increase is due, in a great measure, to the large and increasing trade, from the ports opened on the Yangtze, in Chinese produce of all descriptions. Owing to the violence of the winds and the rapidity of the currents in certain places, the application of steam to navigation was required before the Yangtze could be made available as a highway for transport. The decks of the steamers are now crowded with Chinese passengers, and their holds are filled with produce destined not for foreign export, but for Chinese consumption. The practical advantages of foreign inventions are thus brought home to masses of the population in the very centre of China, and they can now avail themselves of the natural outlet for the productions of those rich internal provinces, instead of being driven to the slow and circuitous method of artificial water communication, and exposed to the exactions of officials of the different provinces they had to pass through.

"The large amount under the head of re-exports embraces the trade in imports and exports which have been brought to Shanghai as an *entrepot*, and are thence distributed to different ports of China, to Japan, and to the Western world.

"The exports of Shanghai itself have suffered from the diminution of the silk crop, due to the advance of the insurgents into the silk districts, and the flight or forcible seizure of the labouring population.

"The entries of foreign-owned tonnage employed in carrying this trade have increased within the same period from 293,568 to 996,890.

"I have, &c.,

"FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

"The Right Hon. Earl Russell, K.G., &c."

"Her Majesty's Consulate, Swatow, June 27, 1864.

"Sir,—I have the honour to forward a copy of my report upon the trade of this port during the year 1863.

"I have, &c.,

"E. Hammond, Esq." "G. W. CAINE.

"REPORT ON THE TRADE OF SWATOW FOR THE YEAR 1863.

"BRITISH SHIPPING.

"The shipping returns for the year 1863 exhibit a large increase in the number of British vessels entering this port. This will best be seen by a glance at the following table:—

"ENTRIES.

With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Tonnage.	
1862.	1863.	1862.	1863.	1862.	1863.
130	215	33	23	62,965	93,085

or, total arrivals 238 against 163 of 1862, being an increase of 75 vessels, and a tonnage of 30,120 over the previous year.

"CLEARANCES.

With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Tonnage.	
1862.	1863.	1862.	1863.	1862.	1863.
101	184	58	52	60,815	92,382

"The above shows an excess of 83 vessels leaving with cargo.

"The trade between Singapore and this port has been almost completely driven away by reason of the heavy sums demanded by the Chinese officials on each voyage, and also in consequence of the extortions levied by the villages near Swatow on all Chinese passengers. The amount charged for merely landing them is $10 per head, whereas passengers from Hong Kong by steamer save $2, the charge being $8. These are most iniquitous charges, but the officials appear unwilling, or, perhaps, are unable, to put down extortions levied by such powerful clans as those inhabiting the villages of Swaboe, Goswa, &c. The Singapore vessels now discharge their cargoes into lorchas at Hong Kong, which can, being native owned, dispose of their goods at any of the ports between this and Hong Kong, many going to Cupchi, between which port and Hong Kong a large trade, I am told, has sprung up.

"FOREIGN SHIPPING.

"There has been a very large increase in the number of vessels under flags of continental States frequenting this port as compared with former returns. The subjoined table will best illustrate this:—

"ARRIVALS.

Flag.	1862.	1863.	Increase in 1863.	Decrease in 1863.
American	20	29	9	—
French	4	2	—	2
Hamburg	15	54	39	—
Bremen	2	19	17	—
Danish	7	14	7	—
Dutch	12	7	—	5
Swedish	7	8	1	—
Siamese	5	9	4	—
Other flags	9	14	5	—

"These vessels average from 150 to 300 tons, and are better suited to the coasting trade under Chinese charter than our larger vessels, which require more cargo than can be stowed at Swatow, where there is a paucity of godown room; goods have, therefore, to be retained up country until the vessel is ready to take in her cargo, when it is sent down in boats which go at once alongside to put it on board. Nearly all the vessels employed in the trade of the port, exclusive, of course, of steamers, are chartered by Chinese merchants, who much prefer these smaller craft, which are besides chartered at a lower rate than either British or American vessels.

"It will be perceived that foreign shipping has increased in much greater proportion than the British; and if steamers be not taken into account foreign ships exceed the British by 69 vessels, the tonnage of the former being 55,147, and of the latter 31,803, or an increase of 23,341 tons in foreign bottoms. The coast trade in steamers is, however, still monopolised by British vessels.

"IMPORTS.

"The total value in sterling of the import trade for 1863 is estimated at £1,770,635, while that for the previous year was £1,264,444, being an increase of £506,191 over the year 1862, this excess being principally in the following items, viz.:—

In bean cake	£232,053
In beans and peas	50,424
In opium	97,035
In native cotton	84,596
In tin	14,635
In cotton yarn	9,867

"In the above imports foreign goods in native bottoms have been taken into account; the value of this trade for the year 1863 amounts to £22,029, which, as compared with 1862, shows a falling off of £35,734. This has been caused by the preference which is now given to foreign vessels by the native merchants over their own unwieldy junks, very few of which now visit the port. The lighter and smaller built vessels of the lorcha or west-coast boat class trade between Hong Kong and this, a line on which there is no traffic in foreign bottoms except by steam vessels. Goods shipped in west-coast boats have a great advantage, as, being native craft, they can visit any of the ports, and so choose their market. Much smuggling is carried on in this way.

"EXPORTS.

"The total value of the export trade for 1863 amounts to £808,069, which, when compared with that for 1862, shows an increase of £84,479. This excess is chiefly perceptible in sugar, the increase in this article being £51,818. There is also an increase in the quantity of tobacco exported of the value of £21,273.

"Sugar, tobacco, paper, coarse chinaware, and grasscloth are the principal articles of export.

"The total estimated value of the trade of this port for 1863 (exclusive of native trade in native vessels, of which I have been unable to procure any returns), is, therefore, £2,578,704, or an increase of £590,670 over the previous year, being an excess of considerably over half a million sterling, which, considering the many disadvantages this port labours under in its foreign merchants being denied access to the chief cities through the non-reception by the Chinese officials of Her Majesty's Consul at Chao-chow-foo—the heavy mulcts demanded by powerful village clans on all goods sent inland—as well as the disturbed state of the country—village feuds being the rule and not the exception—will afford a very fair idea of the steady advance of the trade of the port.

"Since my last report was written the Consulate has been removed from Double Island to Kahchio, immediately opposite Swatow, between which two places all the shipping lie. Some dwelling houses have lately been built at Kahchio, as well as godowns, and more of the latter are in course of erection.

"I understand that much extra ground has been set apart this year for the cultivation of sugar, in consequence of the demand in the north of China for this product. The Chinese mode of pressing sugar is most rude; the cane is passed between two perpendicular granite cylinders; one being turned by oxen gives a motion to the other by means of cogs cut in the granite and shod with hard wood. The juice is thus expressed, and runs through a channel cut for that purpose into a large wooden tub, from which it is removed to the boiling hut closely adjoining. These cylinders are not at all firmly fixed, depending altogether upon their weight to keep in position. I believe a company of Europeans, working one of the modern sugar mills, might make a large profit, if the Chinese would consent to sell their crops when ready for cutting. They cannot be induced to use the European sugar mills themselves. Messrs. Bradley and Co. imported one, but the natives refused to purchase, or even try it.

"Swatow, June 15, 1864. G. W. CAINE, Consul.

THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

To the Editor of the London and China Telegraph.

SIR,—My attention has lately been directed to your article of the 8th August, which had hitherto escaped my notice, and I concur in much that is therein said respecting the future government of the Straits Settlements.

It is a subject of greater importance than most suppose, especially now that the Dutch are extending their influence in Sumatra, and the French are gradually progressing in Cochin-China and Cambodia.

Whether the Settlements are to continue under the India Board, with a direct reference home, as some propose, or whether they are to be transferred to the Colonial-office, the important position of Governor should no longer be given to those who, though actuated by the best of goodwill, cannot be expected to possess the necessary diplomatic education, or who are but too apt to treat delicate questions with a military abruptness ill-suited and unpalatable to those with whom they have to treat, or with whom they are brought in contact. I have no doubt that the attention of those more deeply interested than myself has been brought to bear on this subject, and I trust that some of them will move in the matter before it is too late.—Your obedient servant, VIATOR.

London, Sept. 4th, 1864.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, THURSDAY, SEPT. 15, 1864.

RETURN OF SIR FREDERICK BRUCE FROM PEKING.

AFTER an absence of about five years from England, Sir FREDERICK BRUCE has returned on leave of absence from his diplomatic mission at the Court of Peking. As the first British Minister accredited to the Emperor of CHINA, his name will be handed down with the annals of British relations in the Chinese Empire under extraordinary circumstances, that would not otherwise belong to his post if he had been appointed to any ordinary State. The post was one of no small importance to fill at the juncture of his arrival in China, when he had to conciliate a semi-barbaric Power just after the conclusion of a long and sanguinary war. As brother to the late lamented Lord ELGIN, who concluded the Treaty of Tien-tsin, Sir FREDERICK doubtless was indebted to that connection for the high and onerous post of Minister Plenipotentiary to the greatest empire in population on the habitable globe. Patronage of this nature, in too many instances, has been used to the sacrifice of the public interests. But we candidly confess, after an intimate knowledge of Sir FREDERICK BRUCE'S career in China, we are of opinion that he was the right man in the right place at the Court of Peking. Not that we have uniformly agreed with every shade of policy he has carried out. But we maintain that few men would have exhibited the unflinching moral courage, combined with a dignified *suavitor in modo*, towards the punctilious mandarins of an effeminate and *effete* Government, that he has done on occasions of vital interest to peace and commerce. Nor have his diplomatic relations with his colleagues at Peking been less conciliatory, dignified, and successful. On all occasions in his intercourse with the Ministers of France, America, and Russia, he worked for a diplomatic union, so that the jealous administration of the EMPEROR should not profit by dissension in the foreign camp; and here his efforts were crowned with success. He maintained, at the same time, the dignity of the British name so pre-eminently that his colleagues unanimously chose him as their exponent with Prince KUNG and the Regency on all matters of high import, affecting the Western Powers. In his immediate relations with the Foreign-office he likewise exhibited a firm confidence in his own course of action, that partook of an independence unusual, even in the conduct of a plenipotentiary armed with full powers, towards the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. In one of his despatches on the LAY-OSBORN business, he rebukes his superior for the course pursued in handing over to Mr. LAY the power of organising an Anglo-Chinese naval force without first consulting him. This point was recently debated in the House of Commons, when the Premier seemed rather to applaud the boldness of the Foreign Secretary's subordinate.

While he never flinched from his duty towards the Chinese Government, his foreign colleagues, or his own Government at home, he never descended to truckle with the contending claims of British residents in China. On the contrary, he was deemed a severe Minister, especially in his capacity of Superintendent of British Trade in China, which brought him in contact with the mercantile community—of which nine-tenths of the civilians consist. The stringent regulations issued for the control of commerce at the open ports bear testimony to this; and his determination not to allow merchants to step with impunity beyond the bound of the stipulations laid down in the Treaty of Tien-tsin, show that he dispensed justice with an even hand, and respected the native authorities. Moreover, where there was even a certainty of England securing large concessions in which her less powerful allies would have been unsuccessful, Sir FREDERICK never sacrificed the *entente cordiale*, that so happily subsisted among the representatives of the foreign Powers, by grasping at material advantages not conceded to them. By this line of policy he disarmed the least scrupulous Powers in extending their territorial acquisitions; and demonstrated, to the surprise of the Chinese Government, that the policy of England towards China was of a much more disinterested character than they had hitherto entertained; while it was the glory of her diplomatic, military, and naval officers to uphold the unsullied honour of their country. A great deal of disapprobation, and some degree of contumely, from time to time assailed Sir FREDERICK, as his independent course of action ran counter to the interests of other nations, and the self-aggrandisement of the foreign Residents at the open ports. But time has smoothed down these asperities, as subsequent events have shown the wisdom of British policy in China as carried out by this astute Minister, who has battled successfully with contending interests, that would have made more experienced diplomatists of inferior calibre shrink from the post, or lead the country into never-ending wars. He accepted the post while the ruins of the late EMPEROR'S palace of Yuen-ming-yuen were still smoking after its destruction by the allies; he held it firm while the Government was overturned by a *coup d'etat*, of the most sanguinary description among its leaders; and now, after a residence of nearly four years within the precincts of the ancient sacred city, he leaves the British Legation at Peking in full accord with the Chinese authorities of every degree, as well as all the contemporary legations established there. That his conduct has been approved of by his Sovereign is evinced by the title of K.C.B., which adds to the nobility of his name what it did not possess on his departure from England. It is possible that further honours may await him on presentation to HER MAJESTY, not only for his honourable career in China, but his connection with the noble House of BRUCE.

The following is a *résumé* of the chief events in the diplomatic career of Sir FREDERICK BRUCE, K.C.B.:—Attached to the late Lord ASHBURTON'S Special Mission to Washington, February 9, 1842; Colonial Secretary in Hong Kong, from 1844 to 1846; Lieut.-Governor of Newfoundland, June 27, 1846; Consul-General, in the Republic of Bolivia, June 23, 1847; Charge d'Affaires in Bolivia, April 14, 1848; to the Oriental Republic of the Uruguay, August 27, 1851; Agent and Consul-General in Egypt, August 3, 1853; accompanied Lord ELGIN'S Special Mission to China, in April, 1847; brought home, September 18, 1857, the Treaty with China, signed at Tien-tsin, June 26, 1858; appointed C.B. September 28, 1858; appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Emperor of CHINA, December 2, 1858; Chief Superintendent of British Trade in China, March 1, 1859. Mr. BRUCE'S Mission was prevented from proceeding to Peking by the opposition of the Chinese, when the Taku forts, in the Peiho, were attacked, June 25, 1859, by the British and French allied forces. The Mission returned to Shanghai, where it remained till after the conclusion of hostilities, and the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty of June 26, 1858, at Peking, October 24, 1860. Mr. BRUCE proceeded to Peking November 7, 1860, but withdrew to Tien-tsin for the winter, whilst arrangements were being made for putting a residence in proper order for his reception. The Mission was established at Peking March 26, 1861, but it was not till April 2, that Mr. BRUCE paid a visit to Prince KUNG. Was made a K.C.B. December 12, 1862.

During his absence, we learn from the local *Gazette* that T. F. WADE, C.B., HER MAJESTY'S Secretary of Legation, assumes charge of the British Legation, and Chief Superintendency of Trade in China. This gentleman is the well-known sinologue—one of those whom WINGROVE COOKE facetiously designates the fifteen-years-in-China-and-can-speak-and-write-the-language-men. With all due regard for his capabilities as a linguist, we are afraid that his native idiosyncracies may lead him into the mazy labyrinths of Chinese philosophy so far, in discussing politics with Prince KUNG, that he may possibly overlook the substance of British policy, as inaugurated by his chief. Bred

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to the Scottish bar as an advocate, Sir F. W. A. BRUCE applied himself to the diplomatic task before him with a legal knowledge and comprehensive judgment that rarely falls to the lot of men in that service, which is too often recruited from quarters least capable of qualifying its officers for the delicate missions they have to perform. It is to be hoped that Mr. WADE, as *locum tenens*, will maintain with dignity the position he temporarily occupies, and, above all, to refrain from undoing any of the fabric Sir FREDERICK has reared. He cannot do better than follow in the footsteps of so able a master of diplomacy.

THE TAIPING REBELLION.

NOTWITHSTANDING the disbandment of GORDON'S native disciplined force, the campaign of the Imperialists against the Taipings progresses successfully. Of course, it was to be expected that a knowledge of this event, on reaching the leaders of the rebellion, would instil renewed courage into them, and fresh hopes of overcoming their undisciplined countrymen under the command of cowardly mandarins. If such was the case it has not led to any decisive movement on the part of the CHUNG WANG, their brave and skilful military chief, who, it appears by the latest accounts, has either joined the garrison at Nanking, or proceeded further into the interior, to make a last dying effort in the cause of the TIEN WANG. As to that mysterious personage claiming to have a divine mission and the essence of the Godhead in his veins, but whilom HUNG-SIU-TSIUEN, the poor scholar—it would appear that he is reported dead; so that the "Imps." will not have a chance of capturing a real live deity, to exhibit in one of their human cages, should the army now investing Nanking starve the garrison into surrender. That he was alive when his delectable preceptor, the American missionary ISSACHAR ROBERTS, fled without his carpet-bag from Nanking—which he called the "Den of Thieves"—we have the testimony of that crack-brained propounder of the Gospel of the fact up to the end of 1862; and if we can trust the indirect evidence of the Reverend Mr. LOBSCHIED, the Emperor of Taipingdom was "alive and kicking" in June, 1863. But there came rumours to Shanghai in the interval that his "Divine Majesty of the Heavenly Kingdom of Great Peace" was defunct. If we remember aright, it was said that he had "shuffled off this mortal coil," like many a Taiping "coolie king" around him, from over-indulgence in the luxuries of his table, to which he had been unaccustomed in his early life; while his deluded followers in the camp were actually devouring human flesh, with cannibal ferocity when it was that of a slain "Imp." Be that as it may, there were many and valid reasons at one time that he had died, of which the independent movements of the CHUNG WANG, and other fighting chiefs, gave corroborative evidence. If he had succumbed in the summer of 1862, there were obvious reasons that it should be kept secret, in order to prevent the defection of fanatical adherents who believe in his personal immortality. We now learn, by the latest accounts from North-China, that three spies from Nanking, being discovered at Soochow, to save their lives divulged the fact that the TIEN WANG had died on the 4th of July last; and otherwise gave intelligence to the Viceroy of KIANG-SOO of the dreadful straits the inhabitants and garrison of Nanking were put to in obtaining the necessaries of life, on account of the perfect investment of the city; all of which tallied with what was previously known to the Imperialists. There is, therefore, strong testimony that HUNG-SIU-TSIUEN, the orginator, and, for at least fourteen years, the soul of this extraordinary movement and insurrection, is no longer alive to manage the helm of affairs, which he held with such power and skill. It is reported also through St. Petersburg that Nanking has capitulated.

This being the case, we may look for the extinction of the rebellion sooner than was anticipated; that is, the breaking up of the rebellion as a united religious and political movement; for we may expect that out of its dismemberment the military element will hold on for years to come, as they must of necessity seek subsistence by the sword in other provinces not yet impoverished by their desolating presence. Already it is reported that marauding bands from Nanking have appeared in the central provinces of Hoo-peh and Hoo-nan; and the Government, urged into some degree of shame at their inactivity by the foreign Ministers at the Court of Peking, have organised new levies of militia, and sent some of their best troops into the disturbed districts. Moreover they are arming their soldiers, as far as their limited means will permit, with efficient muskets and rifles, to displace the antiquated jingal. On this point the official mind is now convinced of the superiority of foreign weapons of war; and the urgent necessity of drilling the army into their use. We observe that Major GORDON, instead of deserting the country where he has won his laurels, by a speedy departure for his native land after his "occupation was gone," remains for some time at Shanghai to organise a native camp for military instruction on the European system. This is but another gratifying phase in the character of our gallant countryman, in his devotion to the military profession, and the abnegation of self, wherever he deems his services to be of use to his fellow-men, irrespective of creed or country.

Accounts from Che-kiang are not so satisfactory, where the suppression of the rebellion in that province was handed over to the Franco-Chinese disciplined contingent under Captain D'AIGABELLE. The rebel garrison of Hoochow still holds out against the army brought against it. And easily they may do so when their besiegers are encamped some ten miles off the city. One would almost imagine that the French commander of this force has no desire to end the campaign too soon, if we may judge of the pertinacity with which he keeps his artillery at that distance, when they ought to be under the city walls; while the enemy have all their approaches free to communicate with their friends for supplies of food and ammunition. Our gallant allies, on these points, are not so scrupulous as Major GORDON and his English officers. What that true soldier sought for after the treachery at Soochow, Captain D'AIGABELLE seems to avoid; and would deem it, probably, a misfortune should he be called on by the native authorities to resign his post and disband his men. We shall not venture to remark further upon the dilatory operations near Hoochow. At the same time we cannot refrain from joining our contemporaries in China in reprobating the conduct of the detachment of French chasseurs of the Imperial army and sailors of the navy stationed at Ningpo. Here the ruffianly fellows assigned for this service have been conducting themselves in the most abominable manner; not only towards the inoffensive inhabitants, but the English officers of Colonel COOKE'S Anglo-Chinese force, which forms the garrison of that city. Recently a drunken miscreant jostled against a sedan chair, in which one of these gentlemen was being carried to his quarters, when, taking offence at the apparent awkwardness of the chair-bearers, he butchered one of them on the spot. On one occasion, also, a body of soldiers and sailors endeavoured to disarm the guard at one of the gates, and force their way into the city for purposes of plunder and rapine. But they were kept at bay by Colonel COOKE and a strong guard of his disciplined force, which compelled these French marauders to retire to their camp outside the walls, and the gunboats anchored in the river, from whence they had issued. From remonstrances made by the British Consul, and the officers of the Anglo-Chinese force, it would appear that the discipline of the soldiers and sailors at this post is so lax that the French Consul and officers in charge have no control over their men. At least they say so in reply to our remonstrances—which is an admission that should reach head-quarters in Paris; as not only reflecting upon the efficiency of the French army and navy in the Far East, but ought to be remedied by the Ministry of Marine and War without delay. We observe also that the French at Ningpo have built and launched two gunboats at Ningpo, the first of a flotilla of five, for the service of the Chinese Government, as the nucleus of a Franco-Chinese navy, after the failure of establishing the LAY-OSBORN fleet. These boats are reported to be of inferior build and machinery, from the wood being unseasoned and the latter old. The armament of them is unusually heavy, and doubtless intended for bombarding Nanking, should it not surrender before these steamers enter the Yang-tsze. As we anticipated in our remarks on this subject in former issues, the French are going "the whole hog" into active assistance by sea and land, in the Imperial cause against the Taipings, and nobody mentions the word "neutrality." Evidently they have been delighted at our vacillating policy, and hail the retirement of British officers from the Chinese service as the signal for their having the biggest finger in the Imperial pie. They have settled down at Ningpo, where dockyards are constructed, and numbers of French shipwrights are at work, so that in time they may have as extensive an arsenal as at Saigon. Our authorities had better look to it. The progress of French ambition in the East is rapidly under-

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mining British influence in China; and with their naval reserve in Cochin-China, they could at any time bring into these waters a formidable fleet that might defy all comers.

NEW FRENCH TREATY WITH THE ANNAMESE.

THE telegraphic communication which we publish below has been received in Paris by the last mail, per Messageries Imperiales from Saigon, announcing the conclusion of the new French treaty with TU-DUC, King of Cochin China and Annam. As we previously pointed out, the French have nominally yielded up the six provinces of Lower Cochin China, which they had wrested from that King, on consideration of their holding a protectorate over them, and receiving the sum of 20,000,000 dollars. Doubtless the Annamese imagine that when the French are paid the money they will take their departure, and leave only a few soldiers and sailors at Saigon, whom they might easily overcome in the event of a fresh rupture. But in this they will be mistaken; and there is every probability of dissensions and pretexts occurring in Cambodia for the French to extend their protectorate to that region also. The result may be that they will hold in a few years the destinies of the whole of Indo-China in their hands, and will be able to dictate any terms they choose to the kings and governments of that vast territory. Of course they will take care that these "pay the piper," while the Emperor of FRANCE will hold a country for the employment of his fighting subjects in the Far East, to emulate the power of England in India.

Advices received here from Saigon to the 26th of July announce that a new Franco-Annamite treaty was signed on the 15th of that month. The principal clauses of the treaty are the following:—

The establishment of a French protectorate in six provinces of Lower Cochin China.

The opening of three important ports on the Annam coast, with the concession of nine kilometres of ground in the vicinity of each port, where French merchants shall be at liberty to travel and trade.

Entire liberty is granted to French missionaries to propagate the Christian religion throughout the whole kingdom.

The establishment of Consular agents at Hué and the ports open to commerce.

Payment of an indemnity of 100,000,000f. to the French Government.

THE SHANGHAI SILK RETURNS.

SIR,—I read with considerable surprise in *The Times*, dated this morning, the following paragraph of a despatch from Sir Frederick Bruce, dated Peking, June 7, 1864, respecting the export and import trade of Shanghai, and addressed to Earl Russell, K.G.:—

"The exports of Shanghai itself have suffered from the diminution of the silk crop, due to the advance of the insurgents into the silk districts, and the flight or forcible seizure of the labouring population."

Sir Frederick Bruce accepts as true such reports as the European officer in the service of the Chinese Government at Shanghai may please to make to him; but I am in possession of the bi-monthly overland reports of the export trade of China for some years past, published for the information of the mercantile community, and so far from there being a diminution in the annual export of silk since the insurgents captured Soochow on the 8th of May, 1860, and possessed themselves of the silk provinces, there has been an annual increase in the export of silk until the present year, when, in consequence of Majo Gordon having obtained possession of Soochow by the treachery of the Futai, and the subsequent expulsion of the insurgents from the silk provinces, there has been a diminution in the export of silk, reported to amount to 40,000 bales in 1863 4. Either, therefore, the bi-monthly reports of exports in my possession are untrue, or the report of the Chinese Custom-house officer at Shanghai is untrue; but there can be no doubt the statement is unfounded that the falling off in the export of silk is owing to the "advance of the insurgents into the silk districts,' the fact being that the silk districts have been desolated by having been made a battle-field by Major Gordon in effecting the expulsion of the insurgents.—Your obedient servant, W. H. SYKES.

Literature.

Memoires sur La Chine: Religion. Par le COMTE D'ESCAYRAC DE LAUTURE. Paris: Librairie du Magasin Pittoresque.—In noticing the appearance of the new part of M. de Lauture's most interesting work, we shall confine ourselves to an indication of the important nature of its contents. Religion, with reference to China, is a topic which the author admits to be too extensive even for him, and which, in fact, he has but glanced over, though he boasts that he "shall perhaps have done more for the study of the Chinese religions than many more learned and more competent men than himself." Some of the difficulty felt in dealing with the matter arises from the fact that, as with laws, and customs, and sciences, China has the peculiarity of absorbing rather than adopting whatever new ideas time or man may have the mission to impress upon her. The usual operation is reversed: China remains unchanged; the new ideas it is that undergo modification. Thence there is an immense magazine for future thinking in the opening sentence of the portion of the "Mémoires" now before us:—

China, one of the most ancient empires of the world, has religious forms and notions which she did not borrow. She has received in succession the cults and dogmas that number most disciples on the earth, and are followed by the peoples of greatest celebrity. Religion, equally with man, has not escaped that profound modification that China imposes on whatever approaches her; and as every one of the imported forms has continued to maintain itself in some part of China and among some of the population, the study of the religion of the Chinese would be the study of religion as a whole, under every aspect and in every phase.

The Confucian worship our author considers, since the days of Kang-chi, to have simply a political value, though the sacrifices may seem to give it a religious one. "But the modes of Asia are different to those of Europe: symbolism has assumed there bolder forms than ours." Buddhism, again, "at least in China, that is, in its largest area, is destitute of faith, and has no influence that can be recognised, either on the public habits or on the government of the State." No such simple and comparatively pure worship as either one or the other of those just mentioned would satisfy the craving of two or three hundred millions of uneducated minds for something more decided in its symbolism and more apparent to the senses. Hence the worship of the Chinese is in reality the grossest idolatry, consisting in the adoration of the immense number of gods constituting the Chinese Olympus, whose multitude is receiving constant additions. Here is the history of a very recent promotion, who owes his apotheosis to British bullets:—

One example will show how Saint-ship is arrived at. In 1840 Tshen-kwa-tsheng, a Chinese general, had to defend Woo-sung against the English. He was a pious man, compassionate to others, though rigid to himself, and his habits were of the simplest kind. The peasantry, whom he protected against violence, called him, after the Old Buddha, Lao-fo. He displayed great activity in his preparations, but the inequality of the weapons left him no chance of victory. When the day of battle came, he put on his Court dress and proferred fervent prayers to heaven and earth. He fought with great courage, and fell riddled with bullets, invoking Heaven, his face turned in the direction of the Imperial residence. The terrified people exclaimed, "The Great Wall of China is broken down; what is going to become of us?" Ten days after death the corpse was found, which, says his biographer, was not at all decomposed. The Emperor ordered that tablets should be put up in the temples of two cities, and conferred honours on his family. A statue was made of him, said to be an excellent resemblance, which, when dressed like him, was placed in the temple of Tsheng-kwang, at Shanghai. The story is also current in the country, that Tshen-kwa Tsheng had made it known to the visitors of the temple of divination at Soong-Kiang that on his reaching the skies he was raised to the dignity of Second General of Thunder.

Under the head of Foreign Creeds M. de Lauture gives what is known of the small Jewish colony that appears to have been seated for centuries at Kai-fung, in the interior. It now numbers only seven families, who are in a state of the greatest poverty. The Mahometans are very numerous in some parts of China, and there are no less than twenty-four mosques in Peking itself. Islamism, as we had occasion before to notice, M. de Lauture considers to be an element of great peril to China. He remarks:—

This peril is revealed by frequent revolts and conspiracies, not only on the side of Turkistan and Central Asia, but even in the Chinese provinces of the empire—recently in Sham-si, Shen-si, Honan, Shan-tung, and in the very neighbourhood of Peking. Yun-nan, where the revolt has existed for some years, has not yet returned to order. It must, however, be stated that the revolt was provoked by the restless despotism of China. It is asserted that the Governor of Yun-nan meditated the massacre of the Mussulmans; it is certain that he himself was massacred. Islamism is in great force in China. The English can make no use of it, because of India being so near, and they have inspired the Mussulmans of that country with too great a hatred of them to gain the confidence of those elsewhere. We are better situated in that regard, Algeria being farther off; but Islamism is a dangerous force to employ; it must neither be relied on nor assisted; if China were Mussulman it would be an immense Morocco; we should be violently ejected, and the country would decline so quickly under the sway of fanaticism and indolence that it would not be even worth the trouble of returning to.

To complete his picture of religion in China the author has of course to refer to the efforts made by the missionaries of the various forms of Christian faith to effect the conversion of the inhabitants; but he entertains little hope of their success for the present, giving it as his opinion, "if it be allowable to reason humanly on things divine, that Christianity will make no greater progress in China than it has in Mahometan countries or in India." The dissensions among the Christians themselves must interpose grave obstacles to the propagation of the faith they seek to spread. M. de Lauture observes:—

The Catholic missions suffered a rough check when the Dominicans and others came to dispute possession with the Jesuits. The situation is still more difficult now than at that epoch; the Dominicans opposed to the Jesuits a religion they styled more pure; in the present day, in the same way, the Protestants oppose their reform to the Catholics; and these Protestant divided into a great number of sects, think more of disputing and combating with one another than of convincing the Asiatics and combating for Jesus Christ. They are not agreed either with the

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Catholics or among themselves on the Chinese translation of the name of God, or on that of the greater portion of the terms used in the Bible or in the Catechisms. They appear to affect not even to speak the same language; they have created what they already call *missionary Chinese*—a sort of hybrid and variable language that will never have its Academy; and it is natural that the Asiatics, witnessing the quarrels of the Christians, offer to be converted only when the others have been able to agree among themselves. Matters sometimes go even farther, and deep discredit is thown on religion by respectable and honestly convinced men, who are the victims of odd fancies, such as a belief in the millennium, in spiritualism, or are tainted with the mania of the Quakers.

In conclusion, we must not omit to mention that the present part of the "Memoires" is illustrated by numerous prints of deities, temples, and other such objects, excellently and spiritedly engraved after original Chinese drawings.

The Foreign Office List; Compiled by EDWARD HERTSLET, Librarian, and Keeper of the Papers, Foreign-Office. Harrison, Pall-mall.—This is the "twenty-fifth publication, corrected up to July in the present year," of what is in the title-page most properly designated a Complete British Diplomatic and Consular Handbook. Mr. Hertslet's position necessarily affords him every facility for making the compilation perfect, and having taken note of the volume for several years past, we have observed with pleasure how it has continued to grow in size and comprehensiveness. As all the appointments in China and the Far East fall, not under the Colonial, but under the Foreign-Office Department, the "List" is as necessary to the counting-house of many a merchant, here or abroad, as a Gazetteer. Nor will it be less welcome, handsomely got up as it is, to the parlour or drawing-room table, since the sketch of his services appended to each individual's name makes it invaluable as a reference-book on subjects that must daily form the topic of conversation. Let us take as an example one of the latest appointments to the Staff of the Legation in Japan:—

Macdonald, John, was for some time in the Secretary's department of the Great Western Railway Company at Paddington. Was appointed Student Interpreter in the Consulate-General in Japan, January 4, 1859. He was in attendance on the Japanese Ambassadors from the time of their departure from Japan, January 31, 1862, till their arrival at Marseilles, when he gave over his charge to the French officer deputed by the Emperor for that purpose during their stay in France. He resumed his attendance during their stay in England, in May, 1862. Was appointed Second Assistant at Yedo, in Japan, April 1, 1864.

The information as to the internal constitution of the Foreign Office is precise, and the list of past holders of offices, beginning in 1761, suggests a curious train of reflections. The First Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, when the arrangement of the departments was remodelled in 1782, we find to have been Charles James Fox, with Richard Brinsley Sheridan for his Under-Secretary. In fact, what with remodelling, and what with the extension of the scope embraced by our commerce and political action, countries appear to have been allotted in Downing-street by some trick of chance rather than by design. One department, we learn, with a chief clerk at its head, and five gentlemen under him, takes charge of "China, Japan, Haiti, Siam, and the United States." How on earth did they get together? Certainly, neither alphabetically nor geographically. We must hope all is for the best. The book before us, at least, will go far to convince whoever may consult it, that there a perfect system does exist, where one might be led to infer haphazard and disorder. How vast the information at the reader's service will be understood when we add that the book contains 246 closely printed pages, and has maps showing at a glance every place throughout the world where a British consular agent of any rank whatever is to be found. Besides this the indexes of names and subjects are very full, and there is a list of foreign embassies, legations, and consulates in all parts of the British dominions.

Impressions d'un Japonnais en France, suivies des Impressions des Annamites en Europe; par RICHARD CORTAMBERT. Faure, Paris.—This is one of the amusing little books which result from the appearance of Eastern envoys in our Western world of Europe. M. Cortambert is a well-known writer on subjects connected with geography, and is versed in matters relating to the Far East. The small volume, the title of which stands at the head of this notice, contains two separate works; one purporting to give the impressions of a Japanese *savant* during his visit to France, the other, those of the Interpreter of the Annamite Embassy. The former reminds one of the famous letters, by Goldsmith, of Mustapha Rub-adub-Keli Khan—we quote from memory—the other having all the appearance of being, if they be not really, the production of an Annamite educated in Europe, and conversant with the languages of the West as well as of the East; and both supply amusing comments on the state of society in Europe, and especially in France. "How," says our author, "will the learned Japanese judge of France? What will he think of this artistic and literary people which metamorphosises itself and becomes manufacturer, merchant, banker, and agent, on account of the imperious demand for lucre? What will he think of this really generous nation, which labours to cover itself with the mantle of egotism, and which glorifies egotists? What will he think of this misery in silk—of this rascality in a black coat—of these audacious infamies in triumphal cars? What will he think of these powerful European States, that vow eternal friendship one day and tear up the treaty two days afterwards?" What, indeed! Of Japan, the *savant* says:—"As everyone knows, Nagasaki is a large city which has opened its ports for a long time to the Chinese and the Dutch; the former are suspected, but are left nearly free; the latter are more respected, but are carefully watched. The Japanese trade with them because custom orders it, and because of existing treaties. The Japanese, nevertheless, act with extreme reserve towards strangers, and their prudence resembles pretty nearly that of an honest man who finds himself obliged to deal with people of doubtful respectability. Our empire is at the present moment on the eve of dissolution—its isolation is its strength; and if the Europeans ever plant their foot on its virgin soil, the poor country will become as corrupt as the rest of the civilized world. If I were sovereign of an honourable nation, I would take good care not to deliver up my subjects to the corrupting contact of men who use vice and perjury as a ladder?"

M. Cortambert takes his Japanese through the principal scenes of Parisian life. We see him at the Grand Hotel, at the Louvre, in the libraries, amongst the students, the thieves, the actresses, and hear his remarks on all these differently characteristic classes.

"Which is the first nation in the West?" says another Japanese doctor:—"Is it the English, which continually scuds over the globe, like the hungry and fleet albatross, picking up here an island, there a port, and making a mouthful of immense territories, which it never allows to be taken away again? Is it the Dutch nation, which, in spite of all the annoyances we have inflicted on it, still persists in purchasing our commodities? Is it the Spanish or the Portuguese, once masters of half of the globe? Is it the French, those hardy warriors who make heroic geography all over the globe, and who do not know how to keep the colonies they acquire? . . . . They tell me of incessant quarrels between France and England, who, although embracing each other on both cheeks, diplomatically, three or four times a year, abuse and tear at each other like Manchou and Chinese. Is it just, in fact, that the English should have a malicious pleasure in constantly insulting France, which thought fit to conquer in the Crimea and in the Celeste Empire?" It does not take a wizard to tell us here that we have only to scratch our *pseudo* Japanese and find a *neighbour* beneath!

Most authors describe best that which they know most about, and M. Cortambert shines when he touches the main features of Parisian life. The Academy is nicely touched off:—"Messieurs," says one of the bald occupants of the famous chairs, "our assembly is not only the sanctuary of the intellect, but that of classic style in its purest expression. If we diverge for an hour from that right line, French literature, of which we are the chiefs, will crumble to pieces; we shall fall into complete anarchy. There is nothing grand but that which is dead." On the great characteristic of France, ability, our author is bitterly satirical and amusing in turns; he knows his countrymen and he does not spare them; he lays on the rod like a loving parent—bearing in mind the old French adage, "He who loves well strikes hard!" "Take note," he says, "of the immense advantage which men of talent have over men of genius; the first are always understood, the second rarely during their lifetime; the former know how to make use of the fancies of the moment, the latter go ahead of their age, and are more admired by posterity than by their contemporaries. Talent is everywhere petted and idolised, while genius terrifies while it fascinates. The one is the cat while the other is the lion." The following is a general estimate of France that fortunately does not come from an English pen:—"The French form a great and fine nation, neither more barbarous nor more civilised than Japan. They have noble principles: to raise up the feeble, to bring down tyrants, to do good, prevent evil, and reign over the world by means of justice and

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benevolence. But I am not quite sure that this magnificent doctrine is faithfully carried into execution. This I know, that the heart of France palpitates at the recital of a painful event; that the whole country trembles with fury at the news of a disgraceful action, and that an immense cry of indignation arises from all parts when another people, in defiance of humane laws, oppresses a generous nationality. The French people hate the abuse of force, and everywhere, by a strange contradiction, are the first to make use of it. Its principal faults are, first, inordinate pride (vanity?), and secondly, a detestable habit of vilifying others. Pride impels it to place military virtue in the first rank—it must have victories, and it achieves them. Yet it thinks itself so grand, so superior, that it does not attempt to improve itself. Its contempt of others—which results, doubtless, from the brilliant quality of its intelligence" (aided possibly by the extreme narrowness of its information) "must strangely impede its own progress. An open attack should stimulate genius; raillery disconcerts it; contempt seems sterile". This is a clever sketch, not all in honey colours.

We can honestly, recommend M. Cortambert's little volume to the attention of those who enjoy that kind of examination which shakes the dust out of old corners and clears away old cobwebs, although at the cost of some little interference with our comforts and our prepossessions.

The British Army and Navy Review for September is a great improvement on the two former numbers, good even as they were. "The Church in the Navy, by a Commander R.N.," is one of the most valuable articles that has appeared in any United Service periodical for a very long time. How religious matters are at present managed for the navy may be learnt from the following fact:—"An officer having acquainted himself with the details of the excellent system by which each soldier is supplied with a neat portable-sized Bible, Prayer and Hymn-book, in one volume, brought the subject before the Senior Chaplain of Greenwich. The reverend gentleman informed him that the supply of Bibles, &c., was not his duty, and that he did not know whose duty at the Admiralty it was." Wherever a better system, or any system at all, is in operation, the sailor is indebted for it to the conscientious feeling of individual commanding officers. The China squadron has been pre-eminently favoured in this respect. The writer says:—

"Head money," and the sense of strength and security, had created in the China squadron an utter disregard of the sacredness of human life and of private property. The former incentive had been wisely done away, but still many poor Chinese had cause to bless Sir Michael Seymour that within sight of his flag the horrors of war were so unfelt by non-combatants. His successor, Sir James Hope, inflexible in his own example and person in putting down robbery and wrong, felt that, to influence his outlying ships, a reminder of their duties as Englishmen and Christians was exceedingly needful. Accordingly, in 1859, he was the first commander-in-chief of our days to order daily morning prayer in the ships of his fleet, together with reading of Holy Scripture, and, where a chaplain was borne, brief exposition. It being mentioned to him how much the indifferent observance of the Sabbath scandalised the converts from heathenism, he ordered, among other things, that no salute should be fired on Sundays; and if a foreign vessel coming into harbour did so, his flag-lieutenant was sent to say that "it was the English custom to return the salute on Monday morning." This was a small matter, yet, being a public one, it was a witness to his own squadron, as well as to foreigners, of the temper of their chief. Nearly frozen in the Gulf of Pecheli, in 1860, and with "salt junk" and weevily buscuit for Christmas cheer, thirty well-trained voices sang Christmas carols in full harmony on the maindeck of the *Chesapeake*, as few parishes in England would have equalled, none excelled.

CHINA—THE NEW EL DORADO.

(THE TIMES.)

Every Englishman has his part in the inheritance derived to him from the energy, the wisdom, and the courage of generations of Englishmen passed away. The narrow area of these little islands would be but a poor sphere of action for thirty millions of persons, all more or less ambitious, all more or less impatient of the inconveniences of a crowded country, and all alive to the truth that, although the more may be the merrier, the fewer will be apt to have the better fare. Three hundred years ago adventurous leaders and resolute followers were already engaged in sowing our language and religion over distant continents. They were then initiating those measures which have had the result we see. An English boy is born, not only to the rights of a native in the islands of his birth, but to full and wide enjoyment of the sparsely peopled regions of Canada, to an equal chance in the varied fields of industry in the American States, and to a share in the tremendous destiny of those great countries at the Antipodes, compared with which England shows but as a speck upon the map. Our fathers gained for British industry this great inheritance; but what they did for industry the merchant conquerors of India did for the more disciplined enterprise of the better-taught classes. India has been to the unquiet spirits among our professional ranks what America and Australia have been to our more enterprising labourers—an opportunity of rising into wealth and power. It was also in its day a means of sudden success by a short career of commercial energy. This, so far as it was exceptional in its character, is now gone by, and India, now known and occupied by competing "houses" can only take rank with our other great markets as a theatre for commercial speculation. The present El Dorado of commercial men seems to be China, where there is still a vast void to be filled, where our merchants are entering as it were upon a virgin country, and the first comers have found fortunes at their feet. *More money has, it is said, been made in China during the last five years than in all the years of the East India Company's monopoly.**

How could it be otherwise? When the common sense of the English constituencies had swept away the quacks and fanatics who stood between the people of England and the people of China, and when by a wise and humane coercion of the Tartar rulers the line of demarcation was broken down, the adventurous pioneers who advanced into the country found a people who thoroughly appreciated every commercial appliance that could be brought before their eyes. The Chinaman well knew, and groaned under the knowledge, that every third cargo that went forth in his bamboo junk was taken by a pirate, and when the new adventurers offered him, first square-rigged vessels, and then steam-vessels, the whole carrying trade of the Empire was at their command, with no other drawbacks than the inadequacy of their means of grasping it. The Chinaman also well knew that no junk or even square-rigged vessel could venture into the Formosa Channel without imminent danger of being sunk by one of those fierce typhoons a specimen of which has recently made a northward circle as high as Shanghai and the Yang-tsze. "Can insure?" soon became the anxious inquiry of the Chinese consignor, and the insurance of the trade of one-third of mankind also lay at the feet of the new adventurers. The Chinaman had a banking system of his own, much older than any record of the Goldsmiths' Company can show, and every Chinese city has its Lombard-street. He feels, however, that the system is rather rotten, and he hoards much of that silver which is pouring so continuously into his country. All this is to be drawn out by the happy Europeans who shall gain his confidence and who shall make him believe that his principal is secure and his interest certain. Again, the Chinaman knows the value of peace and quietness, and the new adventurers were able to offer him for sale or hire a house which should be unto him as a castle, the garrison whereof should cost him nothing, but should be supplied gratis by the distant red-bearded barbarians. There was an undeveloped settlement called Shanghai, the land whereof was then of such minute value that a merchant could easily afford to attach a deer park to his house and warehouse in the best part of the setttlement. All that land is now sold by the foot like a frontage in Cheapside. A Chinaman will give as much for a bit of ground to squat upon within the magic influence of the British Consulate, or under the guns of the British man-of-war, as a stockbroker will give for a closet under the shadow of the Royal Exchange. Dream of the profits of all these things! Brokerage, freights, insurance, corner lots, and frontages, shipping sales and customs' speculations; add the mysterious, but not unprofitable, fluctuations of the exchange, and remember that money may be placed at Shanghai at 20 per cent. upon good Chinese security, and at 40 per cent. at no very terrible risk to a lender present on the spot. Surely this was opportunity enough for the few energetic men who, with some capital in hand, with any quantity of credit behind them, stood ready to take advantage of the moment? Surely, also, this is an Elysium to the imagination of penniless young plodders who have mastered the art of book-keeping and learnt to calculate exchanges? These things are only whispered among the initiated, and will, possibly, be denied, but it is the truth that China is the great opportunity of the day for the youth of the commercial classes, and it is right that their attention should be called to the fact. It is true that nothing human can be more forlorn than a friendless European in China, but nothing can be swifter than the fortunes of one who holds the conditions for a favourable start.

"A yellow jacket and a short peacock's feather" are Major Gordon's chief rewards for nearly suppressing the rebellion; and although it may not be wise in a public which looks with reverence upon heraldic garters to scoff at a peacock's feather, yet we may remark that great military services must be better appreciated at Peking and more solidly rewarded than they appear now to be before absolute quiet will be established in the Empire. It does not, however, appear that absolute quiet is essential to our commercial success there. Sir Frederick Bruce has just reported that in three years the import trade of Shanghai has risen from thirteen to twenty-seven millions; and he attributes this to the opening of the country up the Yang-tze and the introduction of steam. "The decks of the steamers are now crowded with Chinese passengers, and their holds are filled with produce, destined, not for foreign export, but for Chinese consumption." Perhaps, also, the Taipings have been a little our friends as well as our enemies in this matter. We do not, indeed, quite agree with Colonel Sykes that by devastating the silk districts the Taipings did good to the permanent culture of silk, although they doubtless increased the export for the time. If the Colonel saw a manufactory on fire, and the manufactured articles all in process of being thrown out of window he would probably congratulate the owner upon the rapidity with which his merchandise was "moving off." Such was the case with the silk of the silk districts when the Taipings appeared. But it is remarkable that the Taipings have helped to make the fortune of Shanghai by rendering it very dangerous for any Chinaman of substance to live outside the settlement. Thus much we are ready to grant in favour of Colonel Sykes and his amiable clients. Our chief object, however, in calling notice to the despatches from Sir Frederick Bruce, and in marking the progress of this European—might we not almost say British?—settlement of Shanghai, was to call attention to China as a great present opportunity for commercial enterprise. There are many labourers there, but the harvest is greater than can be gathered by the honest and industrious, and there is too much left to tempt the rowdy and the robber.

* Our China merchants would like to be able to say Amen to this.—ED.

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PRESENTS FROM SIAM.—The steamer *Eldorado*, from Alexandria, which arrived a few days ago at Toulon, brought a large collection of wild animals presented to the French Government by the Kings of Siam, as well as two enormous chests full of valuable seeds and vegetables. Among the beasts are a Thibet bear, a Camboge money, a Mongolian pheasant of extraordinary size and wonderfully beautiful plumage; also a miniature doe from Pegu, a magnificent Malacca tiger, a black Siamese panther, remarkable for its size and ferocity; a Burman peacock of singular beauty, two hooded pigeons, of which the fecundity is so extraordinary that it is expected to make the fortune of the fancier who may be able to acclimatise them in Europe; and a black water-serpent, the bite of which is said to produce the same effect as a violent attack of apoplexy. To the above are to added two Siamese buffaloes, which in that strange country are trained to run races, as horses are in England and France.

BULLION FOR INDIA.—A special train of seventeen bullion trucks arrived at Folkestone from London by the South-Eastern Railway on the 8th inst., bringing 1,316 cases, containing 2,632 bars of silver, the weight amounting to 61 tons 10 cwt., and the value being £333,191. Mr. T. G. Ledger, the Custom-house agent for the company, superintended during an hour and a-half its immediate shipment on board the *Prince Ernest* steamboat, Captain Mortleman, specially employed to convey the bullion to Boulogne, from which port it is being transported across France to Marseilles for the Indian mail. The charge for freight from London to Boulogne is nearly £500. The transport of this valuable consignment is under the charge of Messrs. Pickford and Co., and Messrs. Gaudet, Freres, and Co. Eleven or twelve hundred more cases of bullion for India were expected to follow last night.

TEA BRANDS AND THEIR MEANING.—The following will interest housekeepers:—"Hyson" means "before the rains," or "flourishing spring," that is early in the spring—hence it is often called "Young Hyson." "Hyson skin" is composed of the refuse of other kinds, the native term of which is "tea skins." Refuse of still coaser descriptions, containing many stems, is called "tea bones." "Bohea" is the name of the hills in the region where it is collected. "Pekoe," or "Poco," means "white hair," the down of tender leaves. "Powchong," "folded plant." "Souchong," "small plant." "Twankay" is the name of a small river in the region where it is bought. "Congo," from a term signifying "labour," from the care required in its preparation.

MAJOR-GENERAL GUY.—By the death of Lieutenant-General Frith, Major-General Thomas Wood attains the rank of a Lieutenant-General, and Colonel Guy, who has just embarked to take the China command with the local rank of Major-General, becomes a Major-General on the fixed establishment.

Naval and Military.

The 3rd battalion of the Grenadier Guards, under the command of Colonel his Serene Highness Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, have arrived at the Chelsea Barracks, from a month's duty under canvas. The battalion returned from the camp by road, bivouacking at Bagshot-heath and at Hounslow-heath.

Col. Said Bey, of the Turkish Imperial Service, who has been permitted by the War Department authorities to carry out a course of studies during the yast eight months, under Mr. Anderson, Assistant-Superintendent of the Royal Gun Factories in Woolwich Arsenal, on all matters connected with the manufacture of ordnance, has completed the requisite course, and is about to return to Constantinople, where the Turkish Government have the intention of erecting factories for the production of their own heavy ordnance, as well as the small-arms, &c., necessary for the equipment of their own troops, without having recourse to foreign assistance. Col. Said Bey is spoken of as being an officer of great ability and aptitude for all kinds of mechanical and manufacturing operations, and during his sojourn at Woolwich he has manifested much activity and perseverance.

The first instalment of the naval 100-pounder 6½-ton smoothbore wrought iron guns has arrived at Chatham, from the Royal gun factory, Woolwich, in the War Department transport Bomarsund, Mr. Spicer master, which went alongside the Ordnance-wharf to await orders from the War-office as to the landing of the guns. According to arrangements previously made, the guns were intended for shipment on board the ironclad frigate Achilles, 6,121 tons, 1,250-horse power, which is to be armed exclusively with the 100-pounders; but, in consequence of that vessel not being able to receive them for some days to come, the guns were unshipped from the Bomarsund and landed at the gun-wharf to prevent the transport being unnecessarily detained. In consequence of this misunderstanding between the Naval and War Department authorities the guns, after being landed at the Ordnance-wharf, will be reshipped in the course of a few days and conveyed down the harbour to the Achilles, this arrangement—or, more properly speaking, want of arrangement—entailing additional labour and responsibility on the part of the War-office officials at Chatham. The Bomarsund also brought a number of gun-carriages and other stores, and these, as well as the 100-pounders, were landed by means of No. 7 crane, the steam cranes erected at the gun-wharf not being used on this occasion to land guns of the weight of 100-pounders. The Bomarsund proceeded from Chatham to the Nore, for the purpose of receiving the guns from the screw-steam frigate Forte.

The Forte, 39, screw-frigate, Captain Arthur Mellish, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Richard Laird Warren, late Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's naval forces on the south-east coast of America, has arrived at Spithead, and on anchoring exchanged the usual salute with the flagship of the Admiral in command at Portsmouth. The Forte sailed from Rio de Janeiro on the 30th June, from Bahia on the 12th of July, and from Fayal on the 9th of August.

The Orontes, screw troopship, Capt. W. H. Hire, has been undocked at Portsmouth, and is ordered to leave Portsmouth on the 9th prox. for Dover, where she will embark troops for the Cape of Good Hope and the Mauritius, calling at Devonport on her way down Channel.

Monetary and Commercial.

The shareholders of the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan met at the bank in Walbrook, and confirmed the resolutions passed at a previous meeting accepting the terms proposed for amalgamation with the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan. The affairs of the bank are to be wound up voluntarily. The shareholders of the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan also met and confirmed the resolutions passed at their previous meeting, authorising an amalgamation with the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan, and increasing the capital of the bank to the amount of £2,000,000. Four directors of the Imperial are to be added to the Bank of Hindustan. Mr. Turner proceeds to Yokohama to open a branch of the latter institution.

There have been some trifling failures, amongst which is Palmer and Co., East India and China trade. Capt. Palmer formerly commanded the *North Star*.

There has latterly been much speculation in the shares of the Comptoir d'Escompte. And as naturally it has not been successful to all who engaged in it, attacks have been made on the directors of the Comptoir for the manner in which they draw up the monthly return of its position. This return, it is said, does not give month by month that clear idea of the profits realised which speculators find it desirable to possess. The answer put forward on behalf of the establishment is, that it is not its business to encourage speculation in its shares, and that in reality, the returns cannot be made up differently to what they are, inasmuch as it is impossible to get at shorter intervals than three or six months the results of the operations of the Asiatic and other distant agencies.

The Board of Trade Returns for the month, and the seven months, ended the 31st July, show to demonstration that the commerce of the United Kingdom continues in its course of progress. The total Declared Value of our Exports for the month was £14,394,364, being an increase of £745,524, or 5½ per cent., over the corresponding month of last year. Compared with July 1862, the increase is 18¾ per cent. The value of our cotton exportations was 13 per cent. in excess of those of the same month last year, but the quantity was less by about 3 per cent. Compared with July 1862, they show an increased value of 26 per cent., and a diminished quantity of 21 per cent.

The Exports to the countries and ports eastward of India, in regard to the articles distinctively enumerated, are as follows:—

CHINA AND HONG KONG.

	For the month ended 31st July. 1862.	1863.	1864.
Cotton yarn	240,450	—	322,610 lbs.
Cotton manufactures	6,813,786	3,371,697	5,192,717 yds.
Worsted stuffs	335,148	708,262	1,371,718 „
Woollen and worsted cloths	138,344	141,145	214,455 „
Lead	816	1,274	566 tons
	Value for the Seven Months ended 31st July.		
Cotton yarn	£165,609	£70,893	£153,266
Cotton manufactures	1,026,612	585,045	1,172,415
Worsted stuffs	203,462	327,654	513,791
Woollen and worsted cloths	162,292	197,851	175,084
Lead	114,781	210,644	93,962

The Cotton Manufactures exported to the other great centres of traffic in the Far East figure as follows:—

	For the month ended 31st July. 1862.	1863.	1864.
Singapore	4,403,286	1,908,294	940,280 yds.
Java	2,701,493	1,911,423	1,078,144 „
Philippine Islands	13,000	1,188,218	80,922 „
	Value for the Seven Months ended 31st July.		
Singapore	£465,890	£271,826	£505,971
Java	384,774	174,323	418,898
Philippine Islands	170,682	151,655	334,646

Of Cotton Yarn, 69,000 lbs. were exported to Singapore in July of the present year, against 236,600 lbs. in the same month last year, and 405,450 lbs. in 1862; the value for the first seven months of 1864 being £70,133, against £91,051 in 1863, and £81,365 in the year preceding.

IMPORTS.

Raw Cotton exhibits the same wonderful increase in the quantity entered as from China, which, no doubt, includes that sent from Japan, that we have had to call attention to in preceding months of the present year. The quantities and values present a comparison thus stated:—

	For the Month ended 31st July. 1862.	1863.	1864.
Quantity	1,451	27,724	71,959 cwts.
	For the Six Months ended 30th June.		
Value	£515	£793,888	£3,570,152

Of Sugar, the quantity imported from Java and the Philippine Islands in the month of July was all of 3rd and 4th quality—of the former 4,278 cwt., and of the latter 16,542 cwt. For the seven months

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ended 31st July, the import was—of 2nd quality, 2 cwt.; of 3rd quality (not equal to Brown clayed), 29,328 cwt.; of 3rd quality (not equal to Brown clayed, but equal to Brown Muscovado), 18,427 cwt.; 4th quality (not equal to Brown Muscovado), 47,769 cwt. As the effect of the new duties, which came into force on the 16th April last, is now very apparent, we give the value of the import from Java and the Philippine Islands, distinguishable according to the quality:—

	Value for the Six Months ended 30th June. 1862.	1863.	1864.
2nd quality..	£49,349 ..	£1,581 ..	£2
3rd (not equal to Brown clayed)..	242,071 ..	461,687 ..	41,205
3rd (equal to Brown Muscovado)..	— ..	— ..	20,231
4th (not equal to Br. Muscovado).	— ..	— ..	44,297

The Import of Hemp from the Philippine Islands in the month of July, 1864, was 23,848 cwt.; and for the seven months 98,076 cwt., against 195,917 cwt. in the same period last year, and 93,484 cwt. in 1862. The value for the six months ended 30th June was £130,783, against £204,129 in the corresponding half-year of 1863, and £112,380 in 1862.

The present Returns furnish the means of estimating the entire course of the traffic to and from the Far East for the first half of the present year, by giving the Imports and Exports to and from the United Kingdom. The results are these—

From	Imports for the Half-year ended 30th June. 1862.	1863.	1864.
Hong Kong	£118,799 ..	423,659 ..	1,800,091
Singapore and Eastern Straits ..	1,121,480 ..	785,278 ..	913,506
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	6,697,530 ..	7,400,054 ..	6,916,934
Japan	309,566 ..	671,586 ..	791,389
Netherlands India (Java, &c.) ..	76,115 ..	12,524 ..	8,378
Philippine Islands	446,027 ..	718,960 ..	269,987
Native Territories:—Borneo ..	7,664 ..	23,435 ..	6,634
Siam	35,285 ..	16,778 ..	14,522
Cochin China, Camboja, and Tonquin	— ..	— ..	4
To	**Exports (British and Irish Produce) for the Half-year**		
Hong Kong	£656,254 ..	£591,598 ..	£873,027
Singapore and Eastern Straits ..	646,136 ..	534,824 ..	783,891
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	1,226,908 ..	1,186,979 ..	1,435,531
Japan	— ..	43,842 ..	162,554
Netherlands India (Java, &c.)..	489,673 ..	224,805 ..	518,747
Philippine Islands	257,634 ..	187,724 ..	430,984
Siam	2,609 ..	10,586 ..	11,493
Cochin China, Camboja, and Tonquin	— ..	35,000 ..	—

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Busines done.
100	Agra and Masterman's	50	135 to 140	...
50	Do. New	25	—	...
50	Do. „	5	—	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	36 to 38	...
20	Do. New	All	15 to 17 pm.	...
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	63 to 65	...
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	—	...
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (7½ pd.)	12½	3 to 5 pm.	...
50	Imperial of China, India, and Japan	5	½ dis. to par	...
50	London Joint Stock	10	44 to 46	...
100	London and Westminster . . .	20	96 to 98	...
25	Oriental Bank Corporation . .	All	58½ to 59½	...
50	Union of London	15	51 to 52	...
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan . .	25	6 to 7 pm.	...
100	Do. New	13	5½ to 6½ pm.	...
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi . . .	10	2 to 2½ pm.	...
20	Do. New	10	—	...
25	Bank of Egypt	All	26½ to 27½	...
100	Bank of London	50	158 to 162	...
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India .	4	¼ to 1¼ pm.	...
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 3½	...
50	P. and O. Steam Company . .	All	79 to 81	...
50	Do. New	30	18 to 20 pm.	...
10	Labuan Coal Company . . .	All	—	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	—	...
2	Telegraph to India Company .	2	—	...
5	Bombay Gas	All	4¾ to 5	...
10	E. I. and London Shipping B. .	All	—	...
20	S. I. Irrigation and Canal. . .	8	3½ to 2½ dis.	...
2	Indian Carrying Company . .	1	¼ to ½ pm.	...
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal. .	All	19 to 20	...
1	Oriental Gas	All	1½ to 1¾	...
1	Do. New	All	¼ to ½ pm.	...
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2¾ to 3¼	...
100	West India Steam Company . .	60	94 to 96	...
20	Ceylon Company	7	3 to 4 pm.	...
20	International Finance Society .	5	3¼ to 3¾ pm.	...
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2¼ to 2¾ pm.	...
50	London Financial Association . .	15	7½ to 8 pm.	...
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	2	1 to 1½ pm.	...
20	Société Financière d'Egypte . .	6	1½ to ¾ dis.	...
20	Hudson's Bay Company . . .	All	15½ to 16½	...
20	British Indian Tea	11	1 to ½ dis.	...
10	Upper Assam Tea	1½	2 to 3 pm.	...
10	Do.	All	14 to 17	...

The biddings for 30,00,000 rupees in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were to Calcutta 18,00,000 rupees, and to Bombay 12,00,000 rupees. The minimum price was as before, viz., 1s. 11½d. per rupee on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11¾d. on Bombay. The applications with the limits amounted to 130 lacs. Tenders on Calcutta at 2s. 8d. will receive about 91 per cent., and on Bombay at 2s. ¼d., about 33 per cent. No allotment was made to Madras. On the last occasion the applications within the limits amounted to £2,280,000, and before that to 2,380,000, so that a diminution in the immediate demand for remittance to India is now indicated. It is probable, however, that the advices above referred to as just received may cause a revival.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Massilia*, from Southampton on the 4th inst., was:—In gold, to Galle, £2,500; to Madras, £889. In silver, to Calcutta, £143,000; to Penang, £6,900; to Singapore, £12,550; to Hong Kong, £4,500; to Shanghai, £5,000; to Kanagawa, £750. Total in gold, £3,389; in silver, £172,700.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Our market during the past fortnight has continued in a very depressed state, notwithstanding the more favourable position of the stocks, now showing a decrease of over 20,000,000 lbs. from the highest point at the end of May. The beneficial effect of this reduction has, however, been more than counterbalanced by the large export reported from China for the first two months of the season, coupled with the continued high rate for money, and as the trade still buy only for immediate wants, and importers show more desire to realise, prices for many kinds have ruled ½d. to 1d. per lb. lower. The chief feature has been the sales of considerable parcels of the Teas received by overland route, the Moning and Wopak kinds from 2s. 8d. to 2s. 10d. per lb., and the Kaisows from 2s. 7d. to 2s. 11d.—at this latter figure only a small parcel has been placed. The *Sea King* has arrived with a whole cargo of fine Moning and Wopak, and sales have been made at 2s. 6d. to 2s. 10d. Low and dusty kinds of Congou remain without alteration; fair to good common have been in request, and the latter is now difficult to buy under 1s. 0¾d. to 1s. 1d. per lb. Sales of fair to good flavoury kinds have been difficult to make, and prices have given way ½d. to 1d. per lb. Good to fine Kaisows, of old season, have been but little in request, and for the few remaining, lower prices would have to be taken. Common to good blackish-leaf kinds have sold ½d. to 1d. per lb. lower. Fine Monings and Wopaks, of old season, have sold rather under previous prices. Tayshans remain much as before; a few new make fine, from Canton, received Overland, have been sold at previous prices. Oolongs remain dull, fine only being wanted, of which there are scarcely any offering. Souchongs have sold at a reduction upon last quotations, but only in small parcels, the supply on offer being in excess of the demand. Flowery Pekoes show no improvement. Except for the finer kinds of scented tea there is but little inquiry, and prices rule in favour of buyers. Uncoloured Japans continue much depressed, even at the low rates now current. In Green Teas there has been rather more doing out of the arrivals from New York, and Young Hysons show a rally of about 1d. per lb. from the lowest point. Hysons are difficult of sale. Imperials have sold readily at previous rates; but Gunpowders, of fine to finest Moyune kinds, have been only saleable at a decline of 2d. to 3d. per lb. Canton Young Hysons show a reduction of fully 1d. per lb. Good to fine Gunpowders are wanted, but common to fair remain heavy of sale. Public sales commenced on the 6th instant, comprising 37,206 packages, of which 24,803 packages were printed without reserve, of these, 28,150 packages have passed auction, of which 19,684 packages have been sold, including 19,274 packages without reserve. The sales ended yesterday; 8,055 packages passed; 5,855 found buyers, all of which were "without reserve." There was no material alteration in prices, the decline previously noticed being fully established. Common black leaf congou sold from 10¾d. to 1s. 0¼d.; fair black leaf, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 5d.; common red leaf, 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 4½d. per lb. A break of common Canton gunpowder brought 8½d., and a parcel of very common hyson skin realised only 5d. per lb. Of the 37,206 packages which were brought forward at these sales, 25,445 packages found buyers.

SILK.—We have had a month of comparative quiet in silk, the particular season of the year and high range of prices inducing consumers, both home and continental, to limit their purchases as much as possible. Some little eagerness has been manifested during the last week to purchase the first arrivals of new silk from China, and about 700 bales have been sold at very full prices—generally at 1s. above our quotations of a month since. The stock of old silk is very small in all classes, both of China and Japan silk, and holders are very firm. Deliveries are comparatively good.

	Ordinary, s. d.	s. d.	Superior. s. d.	s. d.
Taatlee, No. 1 and 2 . . .	25 0 to	27 0		
„ No. 3 and 4 . . .	23 0	24 0	24 6	
„ No. 5 . . .	22 0	22 6		
Ditto, Hang-Chow . . .	22 0	22 0	23 0	
Yuenfa	15 0	22 0	23 0	25 0
Tayssam	19 0	22 0	23 0	24 0
Ditto, skeins	18 0	18 0		
Ditto, long reel . . .	19 0	20 6	21 0	22 0
Canton	13 6	18 6	19 0	20 0
Chinese Thrown . . .	18 6	20 0	21 0	22 0
Mahbash, dyepot Japan .	22 6	24 6	25 0	26 6
Ida, bricks	21 0	22 6	24 0	27 0
Sodai „	22 0	22 6	23 6	25 0
Oshu, re-reeled . . .	21 0	22 6	23 6	25 0
Koshu, Sclé	22 0	23 0	23 6	24 6
Acchezan, ships . . .	20 0	21 0	21 6	23 0
Mashtah „	20 0	20 6	21 6	22 6
Hatchojee, Tussah . . .	16 0	17 6	19 6	20 0

STATE OF THE WAREHOUSES.

	Sold Stock. Sept. 1, 1864.	Sept. 1, 1863.	Unsold Stock. Sept. 1, 1864.	Sept. 1, 1863.	Delivered. Jan. 1 to Sept. 8, 1864.	Jan. 1 to Sept. 8, 1863
Bengal.....	3,430 ...	1,154 ...	3,025 ...	3,921	4,978 ...	4,040
China	7,353 ...	6,363 ...	1,406 ...	9,353	20,170 ...	31,404
Japan	3,942 ...	4,182 ...	1,305 ...	5,741	13,012 ...	11,293
Canton.....	225 ...	801 ...	27 ...	576	1,963 ...	2,586
Chinese Thrown	468 ...	629 ...	25 ...	828	745 ...	1,024

COTTON.—The market has been heavily depressed by rumours from New York of approaching peace, and by the unsettled state of the Money Market. The week therefore closes irregularly with a decline of 1d. to 2d. per lb., the advance of the Bank rate checking any tendency to improvement. China has shared the general dulness, and quotations

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must be reduced 1d. to 1½d. per lb. The *Cotton Supply Reporter* gives the import for the first six months of the present year from the quarters named as follows:—China, 227,623 bales; HongKong, 183,746 bales; Japan, 27,094 bales; and Philippine Islands, 20 bales.

SUGAR.—Extreme apathy has prevailed in the market since our last, and although the supply on offer has not been large, sales on the spot even of small quantities were difficult last week at a reduction of about 6d. per cwt. The same dulness has continued during the present week, and prices have been barely maintained, even at the decline.

COFFEE.—This market has been sufficiently steady for both plantation and native, and good business was done in each at on the average former terms; but on Thursday the market became flat, and prices gave way 6d. to 1s. per cwt. At auction 740 casks, 283 barrels, 539 bags Plantation Ceylon sold at 82s. to 86s. 6d. for good middling to good bold coloury; 77s. to 81s. for fine ordinary to low middling; and 80s. to 86s. for peaberry.

RICE.—For cargo kinds the export demand has exceeded the quantity offering, and value has improved 3d. per cwt.; but soft grain is again 3d. cheaper. Quotations for Bengal range from 9s. to 13s. 6d., and for Java, from 9s. 6d. to 18s. On Thursday, 16,728 bags Necranzie, at auction, on account of the underwriters, brought 8s. 6d. and 9s., being the fair value.

CAMPHOR.—Auctions have included 66 tubs Japan, half sold at 92s. 6d. per cwt. for fine, and 87s. 6d. dirty: and 121 chests China, a small portion sold at 82s. 6d. for mixed with sulphur; buyers of good China at and a little over 85s., but no sellers.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Steady, with some inquiry upon previous terms, 85s. to 94s. Buds: Quiet, without buyers upon former terms, £14 to £15.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Flat; and of 40 bags at auction, three-fourths (damaged) sold at 90s. to 96s. 6d. per cwt., being cheaper. Dragon's Blood: Steady; and of 7 cases at auction, three sold at £6 to £6. 10s. per cwt. for fair lump. Galangal Root remains very dull; 103 bags at auction were all retired. Rhubarb: Very quiet, with scarcely any present demand (except for really good) at current rates, varying from 3s. 9d. to 8s.; and 98 boxes at auction were nearly all retired.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Of 168 cases Sumatra at auction, a few good second quality sold well at £14. 10s. per cwt., the remainder retired in the absence of demand, excepting two or three lots of trash sold at 35s. Damer: Rather dearer, and firm; of 189 cases at auction, three-fourths sold at 42s. 6d. per cwt. for middling pricked, and 35s. 6d. to 36s. 6d. ordinary small and dusty. Gamboge: Continues scarce and firm; only 4 cases at auction, and those retired.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Market very quiet, with scarcely any trade; no auctions, 6 tons, however, of fine quality are reported to have been sold at 2s. 6d. per lb.

INDIA-RUBBER.—Remains very quiet, with scarcely any demand at present rates, at which holders are generally firm; some business has, however, been done within the quotations, 1s. 2½d. to 1s. 5d.; 32 cases good Batavia kind sold at auction at 1s. 3½d. per lb., being cheap.

HEMP.—Manila: Market very dull, with scarcely any demand; a large quantity brought to auction, 7,700 bales, nearly the whole of which was retired at £30 to £32 per ton.

HORNS.—Auctions have comblued 75 tons Madras, 26 tons Calcutta, 10 tons Bombay, and 3 tons Singapore; about two-thirds found buyers at 30s. to 31s. 6d. per cwt. for 2 lb. average, and 24s. to 26s. 6d. for 1¼ to 1½ lb., being generally rather cheaper. 10 tons Calcutta Tips retired.

JAPAN WAX.—More enquired for; sales of mid fine saucer have been made at 62s. to 65s. and for good lump 61s. 6d. is offered. On Saturday last 48 cases good saucer sold at 65s.

OILS.—Anniseed: Limited business has been accomplished at 6s. 2d. per lb., at which there are still buyers, but no sellers at the moment under 6s. 3d. Only 8 cases at auction, which were retired. Cassia: Remains very dull; 10 cases at auction retired; a few cases subsequently sold at the higher quotation of 3s. Cinnamon: Firm, and of 6 cases at auction, half sold at 2s. 10d. to 2s. 11d. per lb. for good. Mace and Nutmegs: Steady, and of 3 cases at auction one sold at 2½d. per oz.

SAGO.—Very quiet; 361 boxes at auction, all retired. Flour: Remains steady, and 423 bags at auction sold at 16s. to 16s. 6d. per cwt. for good.

SHELLAC.—The heaviness of this market has become more intense; and there is a further reduction in prices of 5s. to 10s. per cwt.: of 744 cases at auction, less than half were placed: Orange at £6. 10s. to £7; Liver, £6 to £6. 5s.; dull pale Garnet, £6; and fine Button, £8. 10s.

SPICES.—Cloves: Steady; 26 cases Penang at auction retired; of 22 casks Amboyna, half sold at 5½d. to 5¾d. per lb. for middling; and 98 bags Zanzibar retired. Mace: Steady; 8 cases of Penang at auction sold at 1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d. per lb. for middling to fair palish. Nutmegs: Very quiet; and of 88 cases Penang at auction, half sold at 1s. 1d. to 1s. 10d. per lb. for ordinary small to good medium.

PEPPER.—Black: Some little indication of improvement, which appeared subsequently to our last, has since entirely disappeared; and of 5,146 bags Penang at auction half sold at 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb.; and 311 bags Singapore sold at 3¾d. White is again rather cheaper, and 420 bags Singapore at auction sold at 5½d. to 5⅝d. per lb. for ordinary to fair.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch Pegue is again 1s. per cwt. cheaper; and of 722 bags Pegue at auction, half sold at 23s. per cwt. for good, and 21s. good of very old import. Arrivals and sales advertised. Gambier had looked rather firmer, and 25s. 6d. per cwt. was realised in limited transactions, but it has become flat at 25s. 3d., at which price 592 bales at auction all sold.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Blacklead: Continues very quiet, and generally cheaper; and of 1,454 barrels at auction, half sold at 10s. to 16s. per cwt. for middling to very good lump, and 7s. 6d. to 8s. 3d. dust. Galls: Quiet, without business of consequence; Japan and China, at the moment, steady at previous rates, but inactive. Musk: Firm; and of 53 caddies Tonquin at auction, one-third sold at 26s. to 30s. per oz. for fair to fine; 4 tins Grain sold at 43s. to 50s. middling to fine. Rattans: Steady; 4,105 bundles Penang, and 1,568 bundles Calcutta, sold at auction at 4s. to 5s. 10d. per 100. Sapanwood: Continues firm; 20 tons Ceylon sold at auction at £10 per ton. Soy: Nothing doing; 6 casks at auction retired. Star Anniseeds: Again rather cheaper; and of 231 cases at auction, half sold at £5. 10s. to £5s. 17s. 6d. per cwt. for good, and £5. 5s. to £5. 7s. 6d. mouldy. Sellers of good sound privately at £5. 10s. Sticklac, Siam: Flat, and cheaper; and of 278 cases at auction, two-thirds sold at 36s. per cwt. for fair bold, but woody, and 32s. to 33s. 6d. blocky. Vermilion: Flat: and 9 boxes at auction all retired.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 15s. to £8; nail rod, £9. 10s.; hoops, £10. 10s.; sheets, single £11. 10s.; Staffordshire bars, £9. 10s.; rails, £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £16 to £17.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £105 per ton; yellow metal, 8¼d. to 8¾d. per lb.

TIN.—104s. for block; 105s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 29s. 6d. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £20. 5s. to £20. 10s.; W.B, £22. 10s.; shot, patent, £23. 15s.; sheet, £21. 15s.; spelter, £24. 10s. to £24. 15s.; zinc, English sheet, €30; quicksilver, £8.

The following is from the circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—The month of August was for the most part inactive, the uncertainty as to the course of the money market keeping a check on any but moderate transactions. Iron: In Scotch pig the fluctuations have been unimportant; occasionally a little activity is apparent, but the market seems too heavy to be easily moved. For rails and merchant bars there is a good demand. Staffordshire is steady. Copper: In the early part of last month was very quiet, but there is now some improvement, although the demand is but moderate. The supply of good ores at Swansea continues short. Tin: The English smelters have found some difficulty in supplying their customers with common Tin; of refined the supply continues ample. In the Foreign Tin Market the last few days we have seen considerable excitement, owing to the deliveries in Holland during the month past having reached the large figures 55,520 slabs. No doubt a great proportion of these deliveries is in store in London and elsewhere, instead of Holland. Tin Plates: Without improvements. The quantity shipped to all parts for the past month was 60,000, against 89,000 boxes in August, 1863. Lead: A little more in demand. Spelter has maintained the advance in price. The stock on 31st ult. was 11,481 tons. Quicksilver remains unchanged.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£179,405
Foo-chow-Foo	—	7,920
Hong Kong	£15,000	361,809
Amoy	—	—
Singapore	£720	203,905
Penang	—	57,370

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£69,516
Hong Kong	£31,568	20,390
Singapore	—	840
Penang	—	21,232
Foo-chow-Foo	—	1,000

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	—	£224,440
To Saigon	£120	49,900
To Hong Kong	—	288,653
To Shanghai	—	114,795
To Batavia	£1,571	6,778

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0	to 3 17 0
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4	
Silver in Bars	0 5 1¼	
Mexican Dollars	0 5 0¼	

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Aug. 23	New York	Foo-chow-Foo	Eva	
— 23	Do.	Shanghai	Egeon	
Sept. 2	Falmouth	Maulmain	Clontarf	Hutchinson.
— 3	Do.	Akyab	Dagmar	Lombard.
— 3	Off Falmouth	Do.	Louis Henry	Tegeler.
— 5	Liverpool	Rangoon	Uncowah	Follambee.
— 3	Do.	Akyab	Exodus	Williams.
— 2	Queenstown	Do.	Fanny Buck	Sweeton.
— 1	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Francina Wilhelmina	Winckel.
— 1	Do.	Do.	Dordrecht	Loos.
— 1	Do.	Tjilatjap	Jacob	Drenth.
— 2	Falmouth	Rangoon	Skaue	Holmgren.
— 2	Do.	Akyab	Anna Decatur	Pickering.
— 2	Do.	Bassein	J. L. Baker	Stevens.
— 2	Do.	Akyab	Brandon	Jolly.
— 4	Do.	Maulmain	Salween	Stout.
— 4	Do.	Rangoon	Union	Pichler.
— 4	Do.	Do.	Wildflower	Geddes.
— 4	Do.	Akyab	Herbert	Crocker.
— 4	Deal	Singapore	Hindostan	Williamson.
— 4	Do.	Rangoon	Agra	Evans.
— 5	London	Shanghai, &c.	Rajah, str.	Hutchinson.
— 2	Scilly	Manila	John Banfield	Sherris.
— 4	Liverpool	Shanghai	Express	Bell.
Aug. 27	Bordeaux	Singapore	Java	Changeur.
Sept. 4	Falmouth	Akyab	Koorin Mooria	Knight.
— 5	Do.	Bassein	Norwegian	
— 5	Do.	Akyab	Southern Chief	Higgins.
— 5	Queenstown	Do.	Solo	Deroto.
— 5	London	Kanagawa	Meppel	Van Dam.
— 7	Do.	Singapore	Eleanor	Silk.

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ARRIVALS—*continued.*

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
— 6	Deal	Hankow & Shanghai	Sea King, str.	Pinel.
— 3	Off South Foreland	Batavia	Otto	Fresling.
— 4	Off Dungeness	Do.	Christina	
— 5	Falmouth	Akyab	Atalanta	Farrow.
— 1	Texel	Batavia	Hollandia	Ruige.
— 1	Do.	Samarang	Johanna	Ouwehand.
— 6	Liverpool	Akyab	Eddystone	Carver.
— 6	London	Nagasaki	Ann Adamson	Hutton.
— 6	Liverpool	Akyab	Nagpore	Overton.
— 5	Queenstown	Rangoon	Luuna (?)	
— 5	Do.	Akyab	Delphine	Nichols.
— 5	Do.	Do.	Moreno	Whiting.
— 4	Texel	Banjoewangie	Sourabaya Packet	Olivier.
— 4	Helvoet	Batavia	Zanzibar	Mack.
— 4	Brouwershaven	Padang	Kon. Willem III.	Kilian.
— 5	Do.	Batavia	Koophandel	Wehrmeyer.
— 5	Do.	Tjilatjap	Macassar	Rip.
— 4	Zierikzee	Batavia	Grondwet	Kamminga.
— 7	Liverpool	Akyab	Jessie Brown	Thompson.
— 5	Antwerp	Do.	Succes	Uyttenhoven.
— 6	Deal	Canton	Ethel	Henrich.
— 8	Do.	Batavia	Baltimore	
— 5	Off Dungeness	Do.	Schottel (?J.C.Schotel)	
— 5	Off the Start	Do.	Euterpe	Knipers.
— 8	Falmouth	Akyab	Hindostan	Cameron.
— 6	Flushing	Maulmain	Diamond	Wheatley.
— 8	Deal	Singapore	Eena	Butcher.
— 8	Do.	China	Spirit of the North	
— 5	Texel	Batavia	Marie Elise	Westenink.
— 6	Do.	Do.	Australie	Lucas.
— 4	Palais B.L.	Rangoon	Goa	Bourdon.
— 4	Do.	Akyab	Vaillant Basque	Got.
Aug.25	New York	Manila	Ocean Eagle	Chisam.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Sept. 1	Shields	China	Daybreak	
Aug 31	Sunderland	Shanghai	Appelina	Chambers.
July 26	Rio Janeiro	Batavia	Philip v. Maruix	V. Ruyven.
Aug. 1	Bahia	Singapore	Johore (str.)	Sinclair.
Sept. 3	London	Shanghai	Cissy	Spencer.
— 3	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Albertina	Jones.
Aug. 30	Newcastle	Singapore	La Plata	
Sept. 5	Cardiff	Do.	Finke (senr)	Wolf.
— 7	London	Nagasaki	Swanley	Meldram.
— 3	Cardiff	Siam	Hampton Court	Crawford.
— 2	Shields	Shanghai	Adeline	Dennett.
— 8	London	Batavia and Samarang	Cornelia & Geertruda	Wielma.
— 9	Liverpool	Shanghai	Gossamer	Murphy.
— 9	Do.	Manila	Thomas Royden	Bethell.
— 6	Glasgow	Singapore and Penang	Edinburgh Castle	Inglis.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa: Macedon, Sea Witch, Eleanor. For Nagasaki: Dwina. For Shanghai: Norwood, Peep o'Day, Lalla Rookh. For Hong Kong: Millbrook. For Hong Kong and Canton: Kensington, Bengal, Borealis, Arab Steed. For Manila: Tetuan. For Singapore: Early Dawn, West, Eeua. For Penang: Devonvale.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Thomas Seddon, Lauderdale, Nonpareil, Fort George, Neptune's Car, Waterwitch. For Hong Kong: Monsoon. For Hong Kong and Canton: Banda. For Singapore: Wm. Dixon, Macassar, Advance. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Hercules. For Manila: Iberica, Maria y Vicenta.

At GLASGOW.—For Batavia and Sourabaya: County of Ayr. For Batavia and Singapore: Scotland, Helen Finlayson. For Manila: Iloilo and Zebu, Nodales.

SPOKEN.

BITTERN (?), Batavia to Amsterdam, off the Cape of Good Hope.
ABREL JAAB (?), Manila to Liverpool, June 13, 35 S., 23 E.
JOHANNA, Batavia to Amsterdam, 36 S., 35 E.
HOLLANDIA, Amsterdam to Japan, August 24, 49 N., 7 W.
MINERVA (Norw. barque), Newcastle to Shanghai, June 4, 20 N., 25 W.
BOIJ (Dutch ship), Ams. to Padang, June 9, 8 N., 23 W.
SIX SIXTERS, Ams. to Bat. 53 days out, 3 N., 25 W.
ANGLO-SAXON, London to Sarawak, June 30, 22 S., 27 W.
GOETHE (Hamb. barque), Boston to Hong Kong, July 8, 1 S., 26 W.
IONA, Rotdm. to Batavia, August 18, 49 N., 6 W.
EDDYSTONE (Amer. ship), Borneo to Livpl., 50 days out, 28 S., 41 E.
ST. JEAN (Fr. ship), from Cheribon, July 14, off St. Helena.
PETRONELLA, Amsterdam to Batavia.
JOHANNA MARIA, Rotterdam to Batavia, August 21, 47 N., 13 W.
HORATIO, New York to Shanghai, off Cape of Good Hope.
VORWARTS, Rotterdam to Batavia, August 3, 13 N., 13 W.
SIMODA, Shanghai to Liverpool, July 20, 34 S., 15 E.
EDUARD, New York to Hong Kong, July 24, 8 N., 26 W.
ISABELLA, Manila to New York, July 10, 26 S., 6 E.
ANTIPODES, London to Shanghai, August 1, 14 N., 28 W.
PRISTIA, Amsterdam to Samarang, August 7, 12 N., 26 W.
IDA ELIZABETH, Rottm. to Batavia, May 21, 3 N., 24 W.
PROVINCIL GRONINGEN, Amstm. to Samarang., June 10, 29 S., 18 W.
HENRY DARLING (barq.), London to Singapore, June 22, 39 S., 24 E.
STUART WORTLEY, London to Shanghai, July 26, 11 N., 21 W.
TAMERLANE, of Greenock, London to Shanghai, July 31, 4 S., 3 W.
DREADNOUGHT, Philp. Islands to Falmouth, Aug. 7, 22 N., 34 W.
ENIGMA (D. barq.), Middlesboro to Batavia, August 1, 12 N., 25 W.
S. VAN HEEL, Batavia to Rotterdam, July 12, 34 S., 16 E.
EXONIAN, Swansea to Singapore, August 22, 41 N., 14 W.
GALILEI, Batavia to Amsterdam, Aug. 8., 5 S., 23 W.
MARIA MAGDALENA, Tjilatjap to Rotterdam, July 9, 34 S., 28 E.
MARIA AND ELIZABETH, Rotterdam to Batavia, June 29, 18 S., 31 W.
PAK WAN, London to Hong Kong, July 30, 5 S. 33 W.
GLASGOW, (str.), Clyde to Manila, August 14, 47 N., 14 W.
INSULANEREN, Cardiff to Singapore, July 30, 10 N., 25 W.
DOESBORGH, Batavia to Amsterdam, August 17, 24 N., 32 W.
THEODORE DILL, Batavia to Rotterdam, July 22, 18 S., 3 W.
JOHN RITSON, Sunderland to Singapore, July 22, 3 N., 22 W.
RANEE, Liverpool to Singapore, August 8, 14 N., 24 W.
QUEENSBERRY, Liverpool to Shanghai, August 1, 11 N., 26 W.
TWILIGHT, Liverpool to Shanghai, July 28, 5 N., 23 W.
CATHARINE, Batavia to Amsterdam, August 13,30 N., 38 W.
CONUBIA (?), Fr. barque, Saigon to Marseilles, August 11, 36 N., 12 W.
No. 7,840 3rd d.p., from Macao, August 6, 22 N., 34 W.
BARON(?), Batavia to Dordt, July 14, 17 S., 5 E.
MADURA, Java to Amsterdam, July 29, 10 N., 27 W.
ARTARES (?) Bordeaux to Hong Kong, July 22, 4 N., 20 W.
BURGEMEISTER v MIDDELBURG, Flushing to Bat., Aug. 1, 12 N., 25 W.
ALBRECHT BEYLING, Banjoewangie to Rottm., July 22, 9 S., 14 W.
VICUNA, Nagasaki to London, 154 days out, Aug. 28, 44 N., 27 W.

At ST. HELENA.—July 3, Ferdinand and Louis, Nolting, from Batavia, and sailed, 4, for Rotterdam; 8, Java, Changeur, from Singapore, and sailed, 9, for Bordeaux; 8, Meppel, v. Dam, from Yokohama, and sailed for London; 14, Dordrecht, Loos, from Batavia, and sailed, 15, for Dordt; 16, Australie, Lucas, from Batavia, and sailed, 18, for Amsterdam; 17, Koning Willem III., Kelion, from Padang, and sailed, 18, for Rotterdam; 18, Johanna, Marsan, from Hong Kong, and sailed for Bordeaux; Hindostan, from Singapore; 19, Eena, Butcher, from Singapore, and sailed for London; Levant, Smith, from Padang, &c., and sailed for New York; J. C. Schotel, Groot, from Batavia, and sailed, 20, for Rotterdam; 25, Pollux, Cruys, from Batavia, and sailed, 27, for Amsterdam.

Off ST. HELENA.—July 4, Willem Daniel (Dut. barq.) from Batavia; 15, Maria Eliza (Dut. ship), from Batavia, for Amsterdam.

Off ASCENSION.—July 9, Christina, from Batavia, for Amsterdam; 23, Marsan Johanna, from Hong Kong, for Bordeaux; Muscongus, from Batavia, for Holland.

At ALGOA BAY.—July 31, Anita, Williams, from Shanghai, for New York.

At ST. VINCENT.—July 27, Fire Queen (str.), Johnson, from New York, and left 5th August for China. July 29, Glengyle (str.), O'Sullivan, sailed for China.

At MAURITIUS.—July 15, H.M.S. Vulcan, Strode, from Hong Kong, sailed 19th for Portsmouth, with troops. August 1, H.M.S. Adventurer, from Plymouth, for China. July 25, Malta, Duncan, from Singapore; 23, Meander, Harvey, from Singapore; 16, Corea (str.), from Southampton, for Japan. July 27, Jeannie Douglas, Donaldson, from Newcastle, for Shanghai, with damage; 12, Courser, Griffin, sailed for Penang.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Outward freights remain without animation, the tonnage on the different berths being still large, and the rates consequently low both for general cargoes and coals. Several homeward charters have been fixed from the rice ports, but even at reduced rates it is difficult to place vessels. The importers of teak are also well supplied. Ships are, however, still wanted from Shanghai; also small vessels of good class from Hong Kong and Singapore.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £36 and £1. 15s. For Shanghai: £48 and £2. 3s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £25 and 19s. For Penang: £27. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have engaged freight in the Kensington for the conveyance of the following Government stores from the River Thames to Hong Kong—viz., 140 tons navy provisions, &c., 18 tons heavy shot (in boxes), and 3 tons light goods (including a few combustibles), and have invited tenders for the conveyance of 158 tons heavy shells (100 loose and in boxes), 21 tons light stores, and 54 tons gunpowder, to Shanghai, also from the River Thames.

CASUALTIES.

ST. HELENA, JULY 26.—The Kiandra, v. Kuffeller, from Passaroeang to Amsterdam, which put in here leaky 18th July, had also lost bulwarks, split sails and rudderhead, and apparently started cutwater, &c. She has been surveyed and recommended to be lightened for further examination. The Eunice, Lewis, from Colombo to London, which put in here 3rd July, and proceeded on the 5th, took on board part of the cargo of the Teide, Becards, from Manila to Liverpool.

The Arab, from Liverpool to Singapore, which put into Rio Janeiro 22nd July, leaky, and with part of cargo thrown overboard, has been surveyed and recommended to be discharged.

The Jeannie Douglas, Donaldson, from Newcastle for Shanghai, which put into Mauritius July 27 with damage, had experienced a very severe hurricane June 27 in lat. 42 S., lon. 14 W., which lasted three days, during which she had her cabin filled with water, cargo shifted, &c.

Amsterdam, September 7.—The Christina, Remeens, from Banjoewangie, which arrived in the Texel, September 5, reports having encountered much bad weather from May 31 to June 16, and it is feared has damaged her cargo, as she had the hood of her cabin stove in, through which much water made its way below.

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In 20,000 Shares of 250 dols.

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E. H. POLLARD, Esq.

The scheme of a Local Bank for this Colony, with Branches at the most important places in China, has been in contemplation for a very long period.

The local and foreign trade in Hong Kong and at the open ports in China and Japan has increased so rapidly within the last few years that additional Banking facilities are felt to be required.

The Banks now in China being only branches of Corporations, whose head-quarters are in England or India, and which were formed chiefly with the view of carrying on exchange operations between those countries and China, are scarcely in a position to deal satisfactorily with the local trade, which has become so much more extensive and varied than in former years.

This deficiency the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Company will supply, and will, in fact, assume the same position with relation to this Colony as the Presidency Banks in India, or the Banks of Australia in their respective localities.

The establishment of a Mint in Hong Kong, providing an adequate supply of proper currency, will render a local Banking medium essential to carry out its operations, and the almost certain disappearance of the existing Compradorie system (so far as money is concerned) will also ensure Banks becoming in course of time the exclusive medium for the transactions of the monetary operations connected with trade.

For the anticipated success of this enterprise there are therefore ample grounds; and the great prosperity which has attended the working of other local associations in China clearly shows that the largest profits are obtained by those public companies which possess an interested local body of proprietors or shareholders whose support naturally forms a chief element of remunerative success.

The Bank will commence operations simultaneously in Hong Kong and Shanghai, and as the importance of its business at the latter place must be very great, it is intended to establish a Local Board of Directors there for more effectually meeting the work. As circumstances render it advisable the Bank will establish Branches at other places.

In the distribution of Shares Hong Kong and Shanghai will equally participate. Shares will also be reserved for the other ports in China and Japan and for persons residing elsewhere, who are directly interested in the China trade.

Applications for Shares must be addressed, until further notice, to the Provisional Committee, care of—

MESSRS. DENT AND CO.

BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, and JAPAN (Limited), has REMOVED from 16, Cornhill, to No. 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury.

By order.

R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

1, Bank-buildings, Aug. 24, 1864.

The Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited).

NOTICE OF CALL OF £5 PER SHARE ON 10,000 NEW SHARES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Directors have this day made a CALL of £5 per Share on the 10,000 New Shares in this Company PAYABLE on the 1st day of October next, at the banking-house of the Company, 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

By order the Board,

R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

1, Bank-buildings, Sept. 5, 1864.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London, E.C.

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Subscribed £2,000,000
Paid and called up 500,000

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Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of passengers per overland route.

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The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Kandy, Singapore, Galle, Penang, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Mauritius, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the overland route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office, in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

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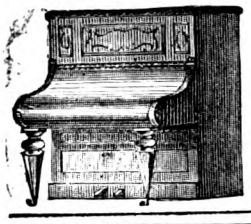
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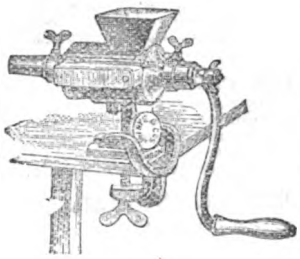
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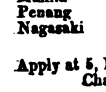

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

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The London and China Telegraph.
新聞紙

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 150.] LONDON, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 28, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Kanagawa	May 26	July 17	July 27
Nagasaki			„ 20
Hakodadi			„ 19
CHINA—			
Peking			„ 25
Tien-tsin			„ —
Hankow			„ 26
Shanghai	June 17	Aug. 2	Aug. 4
Foo-Chow-Foo			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	„ 26	„ 5	„ 12
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	„ 10	July 29	„ 5
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			„ 10
SIAM—			
Bankok	„ 17	„ 20	„ —
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			„ —
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 15
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	July 16	Aug. 20	„ 20
Penang	„ 19	„ 9	„ 23

The cable between Malta and Alexandria is again in working order.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per Euxine, arrived Sept. 26.—From Yokohama: Mr. Barton. From Kanagawa: Mr. P. V. James, R.N. From Shanghai: Mr. Leighton, Mr. Evans. From Hong Kong: Surg. and Mrs. Lawrence and infant, Mr. Mason. From Singapore: Mr. Couver.

To Southampton, per Massilia, expected to arrive Sept. 31.—From Hong Kong: Capt. Stevens, Staff-surg. Bain, Messrs. Wm. Maud, S. Burns, and H. K. Newland, Mr. J. G. Ronald, Lieut. and Mrs. Cracroft and child, Mrs. Brandreth, two infants, and European female servant, Dr. and Mrs. M'Clelland, and native female servant, Major and Mrs. Smith, Messrs. Irwin, and W. E. Parry, Dr. Gavins, Lieuts. Reid and W. G. Webb, Messrs. E. Stewart, H. W. Stainforth, Farquharson, and Geo. Lawson, Mrs. Cullen and two children, J. Cullen, F. Julyan, E. Budden, J. Coulbourne, and W. Unwin. To Gibraltar.—From Hong Kong: Don Jose Roca y Pazza. To Malta.—From Hong Kong: Mr. T. G. Le Marchant.

To Suez, per Simla, arrived Sept. 16.—From Hong Kong: George Foster. From Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Chevallier. To Aden.—From Singapore: Mr. M'Lean.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, Sept. 20, from Southampton.—To Shanghai: Miss J. Provand, Assist.-Surg. Veale. To Hong Kong: Mr. Newton, Mr. J. H. Hargreaves, Mr. D. H. Speer, R.N. To Singapore: Mr. Dunlop. To Madras: Miss Sibley, Mr. and Mrs. St. John Shaw, Capt. and Mrs. Mainwaring and infant, Major and Mrs. Peyton and child, Mrs. C. B. Powell and infant, Archdeacon and Mrs. Dealtry and infant, Messrs. Hardinge, Shaw, D. Buick, and C. Kilgour, Mrs. Twiss. To Calcutta: Mrs. and Miss Ronald, two Misses Swaine, Mr. J. C. Lethbridge, the Rev. W. and Mrs. Lethbridge, Mrs. A. Hunter, Miss White, Mrs. Evans and infant, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Lepage and infant, Mr. H. Dead, Mrs. H. Haldane, Mr. L. J. Guise, Mr. and Mrs. Mellor and child, Mr. B. Howes, Mr. J. Baynes, Mrs. R. J. Richardson and infant, Mr. J. Tucker, Colonel and Mrs. Tibbert, Mr. Farncombe, Mr. Martin, Mrs. S. Wilson, Major Rothney, Miss Llewellyn, Mrs. R. Louis and infant, Mr. V. Bell, Miss Harvey, Mr. J. Phillips, Mr. J. Henderson, Mr. R. S. O'Connor, Mr. Richd. Peppard, Mrs. Stainforth, Mr. Smith, Mr. F. C. Bainbridge, Mr. H. A. Mackey, Mr. J. R. Henderson, Mr. Witham, Lieut. Charles Key, Miss Sherlock, Miss Armstrong, Dr. Elmslie, Mr. Rundle, Mr. J. W. Jamieson, Mr. J. H. Galwey, Paymaster Rundle, Assistant-Surgeons G. Atkinson and A. Mintz. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Kelson, Mr. Bois, Mr. N. F. Winter.

From Marseilles, Sept. 28th. To Singapore: Mr. P. C. Keake, Lieut. and Mrs. Burn. To Shanghai: Mr. L. Russell, Mr. D. Anderson. To Hong Kong: Mr. Marsh. To Calcutta: Major and Mrs. Bosk, Mr. B. and Mrs. Lane and infant, Mr. E. Macnaghten, Mr. Teil, Rev. E. and Mrs. Pixley, Capt. and Mrs. and Miss R. Carr and child, Lieut. A. F. and Mrs. Harcourt, Mrs. Cowley, Mr. and Mrs. G. Watson, and Miss Wallace, Capt. Jonathan Reed, Mr. H. D. Fergusson, Capt. C. Ogilvie, Hon. C. T. and Mrs. Addington, Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. and Miss Verner, Mr. W. Ruddell, Mr. F. R. Browning and friend, Capt. A. W. Owen, Col. and Mrs. Man and Son, Mr. Man, Mr. Browne, Mr. S. V. Gordon, Mr. Jenkins, Mr. E. Darlington, Dr. Leitner, Mr. A. Finch, Mr. M. F. Stephen, Mr. C. Macnaghten. To Madras: Mr. John Brown, Col. and Mrs. A. Biddulph, Mr. Biddulph, Capt. Twiss, Dr. Rutherford. To Ceylon: Mrs. Forlonge, Miss Forlonge. From Suez to Madras: Capt. and Mrs. Drever.

Per P. and O. steamer, Oct 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Preston and infant. To Shanghai: Mrs. Jarvie, Mr. Turnbull. From Marseilles, Oct. 12. To Shanghai: Mr. Gordon and friend, Mr. A. Schultze.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Our dates are down to the 27th July. The London mail of the 26th May arrived out on the 17th July.

The intelligence for the fortnight is of considerable importance. Her Majesty's ships *Barossa* and *Cormorant* left on the 21st July on a cruise to Choshiu (Tsiosiu), for the purpose, it was said, of communicating to the Prince of Nangato certain despatches from the representatives of foreign Powers. Two of Nangato's officers, who have just returned from Europe, were on board the *Barossa*, and, we believe, some officials appointed by the Government. The captain of the *Semiramis*, French war steamer, Mr. Enslie, and several other officials, also accompanied the envoy. The *Djambi*, Dutch war steamer, it had been expected, would also leave with them, but at the last moment this arrangement was altered. Sir Rutherford Alcock remained at Yokohama.

A change in the Governorship of Yokohama is reported. The newly-appointed holder of that office is Ookaski, who was formerly one of the Secretaries at the Custom-house. It is also said that Matzdaira Yamato-no-Kami and Etakura Suwa no Kami, and many smaller officials, have been degraded from their office for alleged mismanagement in the affair of notifying foreigners as to the resolution of the Government concerning the closing of the port of Yokohama.

Our Yedo intelligence, indeed, indicates anything but the existence of a satisfactory condition of affairs in the native Government. It is averred that there is some more than ordinary split in the Cabinet. The Tycoon is left entirely without the aid of his Council, every member of which is taken with an unusually severe fit of sickness immediately upon the receipt of summons to his duties. The opinion prevails that this malady has no other cause than an intense panic, induced by the conviction that events of great and serious import are now hovering around them, to the emergencies of which they feel incapable. The provinces of Hidatchi, Schimotsuki, Shimosa, and Musashi, are said to be in a most disordered condition in consequence of ravages and disorders committed by the Shaeshing-Cumi, a body of rebels or fanatic patriots, dating its start from the ancient college in Mito. They have established their headquarters upon the hills in the neighbourhood of the great river Bandotaro, from whence they levy black mail of money and men from the neighbouring smaller daimios and other inhabitants, with the professed purpose of organising a formidable force to aid in any measures for the expulsion of foreigners.

The Tycoon, it is said, will leave Yedo again very shortly to return to Miako, where he feels that, in the present state of affairs, he would be in greater safety.

Many and very serious disturbances continue to be reported from the neighbourhood of Yedo. Bodies of Loonins are reported to have ensconsed themselves in the Tonkuba Yama, whence they will doubtless be dislodged by considerable numbers of the Government troops, sent for their dispersion or capture.

General Pruyn, the American Minister, has paid a visit to Yedo—according to the *Japan Herald*, with reference to certain negotiations and business arrangements which have been going forward with the Japanese Government, for the

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purchase and building in America of vessels of war. The *Commercial News* affirms that his Government has ordered General Pruyn to resume permanent residence at Yedo, and that the Dutch Government has sent similar orders to its Consul-General, M. van Polsbroek. Commander D. McDougall, of the United States war steamer *Wyoming*, has been promoted to the rank of captain, for services at Shimonoseki.

The remainder of the 20th Regiment, which, as stated in our last, arrived from Hong Kong on the 9th of July, landed on the 14th, and marched up to the new barracks on the Bluff. Since the disembarkation, the *Japan Herald* says:—"We regretted to observe so many of these brave fellows with evidences of their long residence in an unhealthy climate, and heartily wished that the fine one in which they will probably be located for some months at least, might reinstate them; up to this, however, we regret to say it has not appeared to have had such effect, for there has been a most lamentable mortality to notice. There has been scarcely a day that once or twice, at least, the mournful muffled drum and fife has not sent its thrilling tones to the hearts of their comrades, as some poor fellow has been borne to his final rest. We have not heard distinctly the cause of this mortality. We expect in most cases it is low fever induced by the causes above mentioned; but we believe it is also in part undoubtedly caused by indiscreet indulgences in vile liquors—and that vilest and most unwholesome of all (to the European stomach) Japanese saki. We rejoice to hear, while compiling this issue, that the reports from the barracks are much more favourable."

An unsatisfactory state of things exists in the silk market, some hitch having arisen as to the importation of the article from Yedo. The *Japan Herald* states on this point:—"All our anxious inquiries with regard to the non-arrival of silk from the country have been met with ominous shakes of the head, and such replies as the following:—'There is a deal of trouble in Yedo with the officers;' or, 'The officers refuse to inspect the silk, and to let it come down to Yokohama.' Now, what all these replies mean is not precisely clear; but they are sufficient to show there must be a preconcerted plan laid down by somebody to prevent or restrict the operations between the native dealers and the foreigners. All the silk coming from the interior of the country to Yokohama has to pass through Yedo, and cannot be conveyed thence to this place without paying a heavy squeeze, and being accompanied with a permit. These regulations leave the native merchants entirely in the power of the Japanese authorities, who can at their pleasure either grant or withdraw their permit." Our contemporary suggests that the British Minister should direct his Consul to call a meeting of merchants in the settlement to gather their opinions and experiences on the repeated annoyances and grievances they are made to suffer.

On the 22nd July the case of Blum Brothers and Co. v. A. Marks and Co., was adjudicated by Mr. G. S. Fisher, the American Consul. This was an action brought by Messrs. Blum Brothers and Co., of Shanghai, merchants, against Messrs. A. Marks, and Co., of Yokohama, auctioneers, to recover the sum of $238, amount of sales of a consignment of goods. The defendants satisfied the Court that they were instructed to sell the consignment of goods by auction at not less than cost price, with the option, if they thought fit, to take them over; that under this power they had taken them over, and had paid the amount of the invoice to Messrs. Dunn and Co. (a firm lately absconded from this place). The American Consul held the defendants to have been justified in regarding Messrs. Dunn and Co. as the agents of Messrs. Blum Brothers and Co., and consequently judgment passed for the defendants with costs.

COMMERCIAL NOTICES.—Shaw Brothers and Co. have established a branch at Yokohama, under the style of Shaw, Cull, and Co., the partners being James Cull, China, and Charles Shaw and Co. Liverpool. W. M. Strachan and T. Thomas have established themselves as merchants and commission agents at Yokohama; and R. Lindau and Co. as general commission merchants. The partnership subsisting between Henry A. Ballard and Thomas Hegg was dissolved on the 1st of July.

NAGASAKI.

The Prince of Nagato (or, as it is sometimes spelt, Nangato) appears determined to have a full score of offences run up against him. His last exploit, as we learn from Nagasaki, has been to fire upon the *Monitor*, an American steamer. That vessel left Hakodadi with only a limited supply of fuel and ammunition, in the belief that she would reach Nagasaki in ten days; but meeting with adverse winds, her supplies were exhausted before she neared the latter port, and she was obliged to seek assistance on the coast. Running inland, the first port she sighted was Fukugawa, where she determined to enter. The officials who boarded her promised to refer the captain's report to their superiors, and left on apparently friendly terms. But during the night fire was opened on her without any warning, from a small battery on the S.E. of the town, and steam was got up with all possible despatch. As she was getting under weigh, a number of men who had assembled on the beach, fired a volley from jingals and muskets; but, fortunately, neither these nor the larger guns of the battery injured her. As soon as she got out of their range, she opened fire from two small Parrott's rifled cannon which she had on board, with good effect, destroying several houses. Proceeding under sail to the island of Susima, she renewed her requests to the officers who boarded her, to be allowed to take coal or firewood, and water, and they promised she should be supplied on the morrow. That day, however, elapsed without any one coming near her; and on the following the captain sent a party ashore, to cut firewood and fill water-casks, who, it appears, were not interfered with. With the supplies thus obtained, the *Monitor* proceeded on her voyage; but meeting with foul winds was again obliged to resort to the same expedient, on another part of the coast; and eventually had to burn spare spars to enable her to reach port.

The Spanish frigate *Narvaez* visited Nagasaki on the 9th July, to coal and procure provisions; but as Spain is not only not a treaty Power, but regarded by the Japanese with feelings of the strongest enmity, she appeared at first likely to find some difficulty in gaining assent to her wishes. Eventually, a direct application to the Governor was successful, and permission was given to her captain to procure whatever he needed, and for himself and officers to go ashore. It will be recollected that the *Narvaez* brought down to Hong Kong the report that General Brown and Sir Rutherford Alcock were both at Nagasaki, and that it was determined instantly to vindicate the right of foreign commerce to navigate the Inland Sea. Possibly "the wish was father to the thought" in the Spanish breast, for, as we now know, there was no foundation for the statement.

The following, from the *Japan Herald*, is a valuable contribution towards enabling us to form a judgment of the character and policy of Nangato:—"We have before related somewhat of the history of the family of Mowori—Matzdaira Daizen no Daiboo, Sin no chioojoo. It is not to our purpose now to refer to it further than to remind our readers that the ancestors of the present Prince were once the Princes of no less than eleven of the finest provinces of Japan, viz., Nangato, Sono, Aki Bingo, Harima, Bitjou, Inaba, Hoki, Idzoomo, Iwami, and Bizen, and were despoiled of them all, save the two first named, by the first Shigoon of the present dynasty. Reduced thus to so inferior a position amongst the peers of the realm, the pride of his haughty family has continually fretted and festered, ready to break out into open fury at any moment when the course of events should point to some hope of revenge for the past, and the regaining to the house its ancient possessions. In the furtherance of these aims he succeeded in inducing one of the Prime Ministers of the Mikado to conspire with him; and it was by this friend that the forged order to the Tycoon, professing to issue from the Mikado, for the expulsion of foreigners, was issued; the intended purpose of this cabal being to lead the Tycoon into conflict with foreigners, which the wily Prince of Nangato saw would induce a condition of things from which his views could be more easily worked; or that, even if this scheme failed of the result, through the disobedience of the Tycoon to the mandate of the Emperor, then that he might be denounced by Nangato as in rebellion against the Emperor. The whole plot, however, happened, by some lucky chance, to be discovered by the Tycoon when at Miako. The treachery of Nangato became fully seen through; and Nangato's position became of the most critical character with respect to his own Government. He then, as reported by us some time since, left his former city of Hangi in the province of Choshiu, and retired to his stronghold, Yama-Goutchi, in the province of Suwo, whither he was accompanied by his fellow-conspirator. We have every reason to believe this to be correct. If it indeed be so, it is no matter of surprise if the Tycoon's party, though disinclined to bear the burden themselves, should be willing

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spectators, rather than else, of the probable coming chastisement of the haughty Prince of Nangato, who doubtless showed but little tact or judgment in attempting to make his own acts of aggression upon foreigners a part of his plot against the Tycoon."

HAKODADI.

Several vessels have lately visited this port on the chance of sale to the Japanese; the ready sale and high price obtained for the brig *Meteor* having served as a bait to owners. They have been disappointed, however, and the vessels have been obliged to leave, taking low freights for China. The Governor of Hakodadi has made a ceremonious exodus from the town to the new fort near the village of Kamida, about two and a half miles distant. He is to take up his residence there, and there is consequently to be some change in the distribution of the troops stationed in and about Hakodadi. Everything is perfectly tranquil, and the small amount of trade of which the place is capable, is going on as usual, and would get on much better were it not for Japanese official interference. The Governor, who is himself rather a favourite amongst foreigners, appears to be led by his officials—who not having his responsibility, are said to advise him to the pursuit of the most illiberal policy; so that, although civil and apparently friendly, they would seem at the Northern port, as elsewhere, entirely oblivious of the fact that treaties convey some rights and privileges. The whole of the trade of the port is conducted by a system of contracts; very few if any of these can be made without submission by the Japanese dealer to a considerable squeeze for "registering." A few silk contracts with neighbouring Princes are reported to have been agreed upon; owing to this interference, one, if not more of them, was totally broken, and others only partly fulfilled. The like interference prevails in respect to the sale of steamers, and produced the disappointment referred to above. We hear that a Prince of the Province of Tsoogaroo (Etsjiu no Kami, we expect), had sent his officers to Hakodadi with $158,000 for the purchase of steamers; but the Governor, under the pretext that they had no right to go on a trial trip in a foreign vessel without his consent, which he would not give, spoilt the bargain with respect to the *London*.

CHINA.

PEKING.

Our dates are to the 25th July, at which date the foreign Ministers were rusticating in the hills in the neighbourhood of Peking. The weather had been excessively hot, and no rain having fallen, there were well-founded apprehensions lest the crops should utterly fail. One of the eight iron-helmet princes and several high officials had three times visited a sacred pool, known as the pool of the Black Dragon, at a spot about seventeen miles to the west of Peking. Here and at other famous shrines kotowing, gong beating, cracker firing, and every other manifestation of Chinese religious feeling were kept up for several days. At length rain did fall, and revived the hopes of the agriculturists.

Rumours of a threatened attack on the foreign Legations had been circulated, but created little alarm. Reports of a more extraordinary character have, however, gained credence amongst the lower orders in the capital. Some ingenious individual started a rumour to the effect that the foreigners are in the habit of kidnapping little boys and girls, and utilising them in various ways, amongst others by picking their eyes out for photographic purposes. The Chinese authorities took the matter up *con amore*, and succeeded in arresting several of the people who were found spreading the rumour. This and the public execution of five men who were proved to be really kidnappers, set the matter at rest. Lyne's murder still remains enveloped in mystery. Vaccination (not inoculation) establishments have been opened by the Chinese authorities in Peking and at Tientsin. The foreign doctors at each place have been supplied with lymph from the native hospitals.

SHANGHAI.

The French mail, of 17th June, arrived out on the 2nd August. The dates are down to the 4th.

The shipping reporter to the *Recorder* gives the following narrative of piratical attacks on foreign vessels:—

From accounts which reach us from time to time, it would appear that the Formosa Channel, and more especially the neighbourhood of the Pescadores, is at present the hotbed of a very formidable and desperate fleet of piratical junks, so much so that within four days from the 25th to the 28th July we have to record an attack made by these marine banditti on two distinct vessels, one on the 25th July, the other two days subsequently; the particulars of one vessel only have come to hand, which we publish below:—

The *Baron Kellner*, an Austrian barque of 381 tons register, anchored at Woosung on the 1st Aug., from Hong Kong, deeply laden with coals. She experienced heavy weather after leaving—a strong easterly gale with heavy sea on the 15th July, 150 miles S.E. of Hong Kong, and a typhoon on the 21st, in lat. 21.43, long. 116.26, commencing from the N.E. and veering to S.S.E., with a heavy cross sea, moderating after 24 hours; and experienced fine weather up to the 25th; and when about 25 miles to the S.W. of the Pescadores, with a three knot breeze from southward, observed six piratical junks making towards the ship, forming two divisions, each junk pulling about 50 oars, and sailing and overhauling the barque fast, in consequence of her being deeply laden with coals.

One of the junks out of the three foremost ones stood to the windward of the ship, while the other two shortened sail to enable her to do so. Only about a dozen men could be seen on board—the others had evidently stowed themselves away ready for a rush—as their object was to come alongside and board; while performing that manœuvre, they hailed and said in English that they wished to come alongside, still bearing down on the vessel, while the other two made sail and tried to perform the same feat on the other side; they were hailed in English to keep away, but not heeding the caution, and as the distance had been shortened to only 100 yards, a shot was fired well ahead, so as to check them if possible, but nothing daunted, on they came;—the same dose was given to the two other junks on the starboard side. Their intention was now evident; they intended to board on both sides simultaneously, and make short work of her. The smell of the powder did not check them; on they came, and hot work was expected, as the distance had been shortened to only about thirty yards. This was certainly more close than pleasant, when one of the 12-pounders belched forth her iron messenger, striking the junk between wind and water. This electrifying shock turned the tide of affairs in favour of the barque, and in an instant, as if by magic, the decks of all three junks were crowded with men; it was evident that the junk was sinking, as she bore down on the other two, who also altered their course.

The *Yokohama*, a three-masted schooner, hove in sight about this time, from Swatow bound to the Gulf of Pechile, and fears were entertained that the second division of the junks would attack before the schooner came near enough to signalise, and a musketry fire was kept up for some time. The sight of a second antagonist appeared to terrify them, so that they took the sinking junk in tow and shaped their course for land. The *Yokohama* remained in company all night with guns loaded and shotted, and nothing having occurred, each vessel steered their course in the morning. The Danish brig *Elora Maria* was spoken two days after, from Copenhagen, bound to the Amoor, and was informed by her that the *Yokohama* had an engagement with a fleet of junks the day previous, but succeeded in beating them off.

The *Commercial Recorder* says:—"Little has occurred in the settlement itself to call for much remark. The typhoon is forgotten, and everyone is engaged in watching the tea and silk markets with eager eye. The latter market is somewhat at a standstill, owing to the high prices demanded by sellers. There have been no trials of any consequence of late, but next week an important insurance case regarding opium comes off, which promises to be of unusual interest, and likely to last several days.

"Cholera, we regret to say, still hovers in our midst. Mr. Whistler, tea inspector in the firm of Jardine, Matheson, and Co., was seized with the complaint on the 30th July, and after a short illness expired. It seems to be a malady which comes and goes here, and great as the care is which is bestowed on the settlement, it is not easy to refute the remark that the increasing Chinese population within the limits of the settlement may be one of the many causes that add to the unhealthiness of the summer months.

"The Custom-house returns have been published for the year ending December, 1863; and despite Mr. Cobden's 'accurate' speech regarding trade in China, it is not easy to notice any falling off. Foo-chow-Foo has sent home 47,811,871 lbs.

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of tea, including black and green, while Shanghai heads the list with 53,596,923 lbs. during the past year."

Bernard, or Barney Morriss, the American colleague of the Englishmen cast for capturing the *Tsatlee*, was brought to trial at the American Consulate, and to his plea of "Guilty" was sentenced to the punishment of ten years' imprisonment in either China or the United States. As one year's imprisonment was deemed sufficient for the Englishmen, ten times one seems heavy—very heavy. If he remains here long, however he will escape—so its no odds!

CAPTURE OF NANKING.

The following account is from the *North China Herald*:—

The ancient southern capital has at length reverted to the Imperialists. The campaign in Keangsoo having been brought to a satisfactory conclusion, supplies were completely cut off from Nanking, and it accordingly became a mere question of time how long the beleaguered garrison could hold out. On the 17th ult. news was received that the rebel Emperor, the Tien Wang, or Heavenly Prince, had committed suicide by swallowing gold-leaf. The besiegers pushed on their work still more rapidly than before, and on the 19th an enormous mine which had been run up to the Taiping men (north-east gate) was exploded, and a portion of the wall, about one hundred and twenty feet in length, completely destroyed. The wall at this place is some sixty feet high and forty feet thick, and it is said that sixty-eight thousand pounds of gunpowder were used in the explosion. The spot chosen was the same which had been selected by the rebels for their attack when Nanking fell into their hands. The Imperialists state that they lost five thousand killed and wounded in the breach, but for this assertion there is not the slightest foundation, as on the day following the assault there remained no trace of a struggle. Having passed the wall, a rush was made for the Tien Wang's Palace, which was at a distance of about four miles from the breach.

The palace was surrounded by a wall, about twenty-five or thirty feet in height, not loopholed. The only difficulty experienced by the attacking party was, therefore, at the gate, and here they state their loss was immense. This assertion is in like manner utterly false. The gate must have been forced with little or no difficulty, or quietly given up, and the very citadel of Taipingdom was in the hands of the enemy. Many of the Tien Wang's wives were found hanging on trees in various parts of the grounds, and his body was likewise found. It had been thrown into a small compound or garden in the rear of the Imperial apartments in the palace, and still remains there. The work of destruction then commenced. The city itself was found to be a mere desert, very thinly inhabited. Parties went out to plunder in different directions, but returned without having obtained any articles of value. Hardly any rice was found, but the streets were in many places almost choked by the bodies of men who had evidently died from starvation. The Palace was gorgeously fitted up, and although it was burned on the day after the capture of the city, there still remains sufficient proof of its magnificence. The Imperial seals, three in number, were found, and are now in Tseng Kuo-fan's possession. One of them is of solid gold, and weighs about thirty pounds.

Meanwhile the Chung Wang (the Faithful Prince), who had escaped with the Tien Wang's son, was captured by some villagers a few miles from the city, and brought in triumph to Nanking. It is said that when the Chung Wang saw that at least a portion of his party must be captured, he insisted on Tien Wang's son taking the pony which he was riding—a pony which has attained a name for great strength and swiftness—and escaping. The young Prince did so, and Chung Wang was taken prisoner. He is now kept rigorously guarded, but is not unkindly treated, in a cell within the building occupied by Tseng Kuo-fan. He has been shaved, and is not ironed. He converses freely with everyone, and conceals nothing with regard to the state of Nanking. He places the population at a very low figure, and reduces the strength of the garrison to about eighteen or twenty thousand men. He is at present engaged in writing a history of his life. Meanwhile, he awaits his sentence from Peking. What that sentence will be there can be no question. Indeed, it were madness to allow one so renowned as the Chung Wang to escape. His name would be the signal for revolt, and myriads in all parts of the country would flock around him if he raised his standard.

The capture of Nanking was disgraced by none of the sanguinary scenes which were anticipated. No doubt isolated looting parties were guilty of outrage and murder in various parts of the city, but there was no systematic slaughter by the Imperialist troops as such. Tseng Kwo-fan is about to return to An-king for a short time, pending the completion of the necessary arrangements at Nanking; but in a few weeks he will return and make Nanking the centre of his government. The Kiang-ning-foo, or chief magistrate of the city, has already taken up his residence at his Yamen, and it is expected that within a short time the civil power will be fully established and in working order.

The object so long desired and expected during the campaign against the rebels having at length been attained in the capture of Nanking, it is but fair to inquire what advantages are likely to accrue to foreigners from a result to which they have contributed so materially. The dismay which struck the Chinese Government, when on March 19th, 1853, the ancient southern capital of the empire fell into the hands of the insurgents, seems gradually to have passed away, and the loss of the city to have been recognised as a fact, melancholy it is true, but, irremediable. Years passed by, while Hsiang Yung and Chang-Kuo-liang, Ho-chun, and finally, Tseng-kuo fan, sat down before the walls without effecting any influence on the growing importance of the rebellion. Yet from the month of April 1853 the Imperialist forces invested Nanking, and were continually reported as achieving important successes. We may, however, safely assert that but for foreign interference not only would Nanking be still in the possession of the insurgents, but that the entire extent of territory embraced within the provinces of Keang se, Keang-su and An-huei would also have fallen into their hands. Under these circumstances the claims of foreigners to derive some advantage from the capture of the city should not be passed over. As a matter of course, Nanking will be opened to England, France, and America, under the sixth Article of the French Treaty of 1858, and the "favoured nation" clauses in the other treaties. But we doubt that Nanking will ever prove valuable as a place of trade, or desirable as a residence for Europeans. The prospects of trade are not encouraging, and even were Nanking the natural outlet for any description of native produce, the length of time which must elapse before merchants and traders will again settle in their former haunts, and divert business into its ancient channels, would render the opening of that port a doubtful advantage to foreigners. The prospects of trade being thus dull and discouraging, the question of salubrity of climate claims attention. As to this there is but one opinion. Situated in the centre of a marsh, and deficient in all the appliances used by more civilised nations to obviate the disastrous effects of miasmatic exhalations, Nanking may fitly be described as a hotbed of disease and death. The English forces sent up in 1842 to enforce, if necessary, the conclusion of Sir Henry Pottinger's treaty, suffered very severely, and "did not recover from the maladies which then attacked them until their return to Hong Kong." A writer in the *Annales de la Propagation de la Foi*, Tome xvi, page 293, quoted by Williams in *The Middle Kingdom*, draws the following dismal picture of the situation of foreigners at Nanking:—

"This vast plain being only a marsh half drained, the moisture is excessive, giving rise to many strange diseases, all of them serious and not unfrequently mortal. The climate affects the natives from other provinces and Europeans. I have not known one of the latter who was not sick for six months or a year after his arrival. Every one who comes here must prepare himself for a tertian or quotidian. For myself, after suffering for two months from a malignant fever, I had ten attacks of a malady the Chinese here call the Sand, from the skin being covered with little blackish pimples resembling grains of dust. It is prompt and violent in its progress, and corrupts the blood so rapidly, that in a few minutes it stagnates and coagulates in the veins. The best remedy the people have is to cicatrize the least fleshy parts of the body with a copper cash. The first attack I experienced rendered all my limbs insensible in two minutes, and I expected to die before I could receive extreme unction. After recovering a little, great lassitude succeeded."

With regard to this extraordinary disease it is probable that what the writer calls *Sha ping*, "the sand disease," has been confounded with *Sha ping*, a common name for cholera. We may thus expect to find an old foe with a new face in the shape of a malignant form of cholera, a prospect which does not add to the pleasures of anticipation when directed towards Nanking. It will, therefore, be a matter for consideration whether the interests of both natives and foreigners would not be advanced by the selection of some more suitable port, to take the place of Nanking, A commission has been sent up the river to report upon the state of the city, and on its return we shall probably be in a better position to judge of the advantages to be derived from forming settlements there. At present, however, from the facts we have elicited, it would seem that the opening of the southern capital to foreign trade will not prove a boon of any considerable importance.

HANKOW.

A correspondent's letter from this place reports:—Cotton is being grown very abundantly in the plains both above and below this, and the crop will be larger than for years, if rain will come in about ten days. Hemp, enough and to spare, is of fine quality this season. It is a pity this hemp, or properly speaking grass, cannot be more largely adopted in France and England; it would be such fine freightage for ships. I remember it was a "hope" when first I came soon after the opening of the port; since then in France it has been found very suitable for certain manufactures, which are, however, somewhat carefully hidden.

Freights to Shanghai have been as low as 1½ taels offered, although it is maintained only 2 taels have been taken. It is feared the S.S.N. Company must find it unprofitable, and that unless the vessels are more economically worked, and the en-

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gineers given less latitude with the beverages of the company as also with the coals, the company will find itself coming under that clause of its "deed of settlement" which provides for 10 per cent losses. The river is evidently overdone with steamers worked as now. Nanking is taken; this may do much for the river traffic, and cause many drafts to be despatched. Exchange has ruled in favour of steamers, treasure going up and down without being landed; at rate of 2½ to 3 per cent. discount, certainly shows cheap money here.

The defence rampart is progressing, and the battlements are giving it an imposing appearance. The United States Consul-General has been here investigating the proceedings of the United States Consul, with whom the Chinese authorities, it is reported, refuse to have further communication.

The English Consular gaol is finished; it is unfortunate as much cannot be said for the levelling of the Bund.

I should not omit to mention the efforts being made to discover either gold or coal some fifty miles up the river from this. Under direction from two influential merchants here, it is reported a gentleman is engaged boring, and that already he has obtained a depth of 80 to 100 feet. It is to be hoped the result may be made public. Much better coals are to be obtained in Hankow now than formerly, and it may be assumed that they will come into more general use for steamers.

NINGPO.

We have been requested to insert the decision given in the American Consular Court at Ningpo by Mr. Vice-Consul Edw. C. Lord, in a case brought by certain Chinese bankers against Robert Rayner, Esq., a partner in the firm of J. Bohstedt and Co., the plaint having been laid against him as he is the only partner in that firm whose nationality was represented by a Consul at Ningpo. The plaintiffs claimed about $47,000 borrowed from them by Yng-Cha-fah, lately defendant's compradore, under pretext that he had borrowed such money for account of his employers. An attempt was made to support this statement by a number of witnesses, but the case broke down, it being quite evident, from the testimony given, that Messrs. Bohstedt and Co. never instructed or authorised the compradore to borrow money, and that they had no knowledge whatever of his dealings with the banks. Judgment was therefore given as follows:—"Inasmuch as the testimony in the case fails to show that the position and authority of defendant's compradore differed in any respect from those of compradores generally, it follows that no action can be sustained against him for the debts in question, except on the principle that foreign houses generally are responsible for all debts contracted by their compradores. And as the Court does not regard this principle established either by law or equity, it decides that the plaintiffs have failed to sustain their claim against the defendant, and are therefore liable for the costs of the suit."

A correspondent of the *Friend of China* writes in reference to the French forces:—

Recent information from Hankow informs us that the Imperial soldiers and French Contingent frequently forget that they are allies; the former freely showering missiles from the walls down upon the latter, who, in return, open fire with a coolness that is seldom displayed even against a recognised enemy. It is very evident that the French have a footing in this province which the united efforts of Chinese diplomacy and foreign intrigue will not cause them to surrender. What with French dockyards, French missionaries, and a French Contingent, who receive their instructions from the French Government, though paid by the Chinese, these are certainly not good omens for the reflective mandarins to think over, but something that will teach them that, if they choose to employ foreigners to do the work which they themselves have not the courage and ability to perform, they must be prepared to make any sacrifices which their employes in the field may demand. I fancy the French are acting on the principle that—

"He who fights, conquers, and toils,
Is surely entitled to share in the spoils."

AMOY.

The following items from this port are from a correspondent, under date 26th July, to whom we beg to tender our thanks:—

The British ship *Tuiping*, Capt. M'Kinnon, from Shanghai to London, with a cargo of tea, was towed into this harbour on the morning of the 23rd inst., by H.M. gunboat *Flamer*, Lieut. Gooch, with the loss of all her spars (except main and mizen masts), figure head, iron bowsprit, part of bulwarks, boats, &c., &c., having encountered a severe typhoon when in lat 20.8 N. and 125.54 E.; on the 11th July it blew frightfully hard, and had the foremast not fallen when it did she would have foundered. Those on board say they never expected to see any more of this world! She is going into dock and will have to discharge a small portion of her cargo, of which I believe there is not a package damaged. Her repairs will probably take a month to complete, when she will again sail for her previous destination, and it is to be hoped make a quick and prosperous voyage, as she is a magnificent vessel. The *Fychow* and *Highflyer* left Shanghai the day after the *Taeping*, bound to London, and it is expected they met with the same blow.

The Hamburg brig *Hever* is reported to have gone down at her anchors in Kelung harbour (Formosa), all hands lost with the exception of the captain and two men.

There are forty-nine ships in harbour to day. The British brig *Willie* sailed for London on the 23rd inst., with 212,100 lbs. Congou tea. The American ship *Samuel Russell* is loading here for New York on owner's account.

HONG KONG.

The English mail, of 26th June, arrived out on the 5th August. Dates are down to the 12th.

The following account is from the *China Mail*:—

The gunboat *Grasshopper* has made some progress in the suppression of piracy in this neighbourhood by destroying a number of junks at anchor and suspected to be piratical. Of course, we shall not know the evidence upon which the lieutenant in charge of the vessel acted until the next parliamentary blue-book is issued. In the meantime, we give an account of the affair which has been furnished to a local contemporary:—

On Thursday morning last (August 7), about ten o'clock, H.M.'s gunboat *Grasshopper*, under the command of Lieutenant Walker, left this harbour under sail, getting up steam as she went, to endeavour to capture four pirate junks which were reported to have attacked and taken possession of a large trading junk on the 26th ult. A Chinaman who was a passenger in the trading junk when she was captured by the pirates, and had managed to effect his escape, went in the gunboat to give information of the whereabouts of the pirates, and to identify them if seen. The *Grasshopper* proceeded to a place called Pak-sui, near Kewlan, where she arrived on Friday morning, and had great difficulty in getting near the village, owing to the shallowness of the water. At this place a large number of junks were seen, some of which the Chinaman recognised as being those which had captured the trader, and amongst them was the junk which they had taken, with the cannon with which the pirates opened fire on the gunboat immediately she put in an appearance. Boats were manned, and the crew of the gunboat boarded the junk, whereupon the pirates fled, leaving most of their prisoners confined under hatches. Several of the latter, when set free, being alarmed, attempted also to take to flight, and mingling with the pirates some were killed by the shots fired at the fugitives, of whom about thirty in all fell killed and wounded. The decks of the trader in which the passengers and crew had been confined below, was found to be strewed with powder, the pirates evidently imagining that the gunboat would fire shell into her and thus blow her up. One of the crew of the trader was picked up mortally wounded and two found dead. One of the pirates was taken prisoner and is sworn to as having been with the others during the attack on the trading boat on the 26th ultimo.

The *Grasshopper* having taken possession of the captured trading junk then proceeded to Macao, where she remained till midnight on Saturday, when, leaving the prize in charge of the British Consul, she proceeded again to Paksui, where on Sunday she captured and destroyed twenty-six or twenty-eight piratical junks and boats, all of which were heavily armed and were fitted in every respect as pirates. All the guns, arms, and ammunition found in these boats were likewise destroyed, and attention was directed to the village itself, which was also found to contain a large quantity of arms and ammunition, besides being stocked with sugar, hides, and rice in immense quantities. It is estimated that the property in the village was worth not less than $200,000. No captures were made on shore, the pirates, of whom there were at least six hundred, having fled to the hills. A large quantity of empty bags were found ready to transfer cargo to, in order to effect sales without fear of detection. On the approach of the gunboat two or three of the pirate junks managed to get away; with these exceptions, the whole fleet, as well as the village, were totally destroyed by the *Grasshopper*.

It was ascertained from the liberated captives that the pirates had received information of the intended visit of the gunboat and that they were in hopes to have been able to get away before her arrival, but finding they were unable to do so they had calculated on the gunboat blowing up the prize. The chief of this desperate gang is named Yow-wing sing, and is said to have been a noted pickpocket in Hong Kong. Some of his vessels are reported to have been at Hainan about a fortnight since, and doubtless are the same which attacked the junk as reported to-day in another column. These are also stated to be connected with the *Parana* massacre and to have had a hand in the *Louisa* piracy. The *Grasshopper* returned to Hong Kong yesterday morning, the recaptured junk being still at Macao in charge of the Consul. None of the gunboat's officers or crew have received the slightest wound.

The suppression of piracy privilege is, in our view, one so liable to abuse, that the strictest vigilance should be observed in examining the proofs submitted, as to the piratical character

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of the junks destroyed by H.M.'s gunboats. Without casting any reflection upon the procedure of Lieutenant Walker, who was in command of the *Grasshopper*, we may be allowed to suggest to the Home Government that all such cases, involving as they do a serious destruction and loss of property, should be carefully reviewed, in order that Her Majesty's gunboats do not get into loose habits with regard to their chartered liberties of destruction in Chinese waters.

The *China Mail* takes up the cudgels against a writer in the *Standard* on the rebellion who signs "Taiping." The same journal also announces a change in the governorship.

"We have heard that Sir Hercules Robinson is likely to go to Ceylon as Governor, and that Mr. Mercer will succeed him in Hong Kong. Sir Hercules worked very hard the first two years he was here, turning his attention earnestly to business. Partly through his own ability, and partly through good luck, he was able to place the Colonial revenues on a good footing and the annual balance-sheet, when sent home, was doubtless the means of drawing favourable attention to his administration. Both our contemporary and ourselves cordially acknowledged the 'smartness'—as our cousins would call it—of his gubernatorial operations during 1859-60; but no man is infallible, and Sir Hercules missed one good chance in delaying the sale of land at Kowloong, which we hear is turning out very miserably. Indeed, the sale of this land has been utterly blighted by the mistaken action of the Government in not offering it on fair and liberal terms. Should our information prove correct, we can only congratulate Governor Robinson on his promotion, which he deserves on account of the aptitude he has shown for getting up new subjects and addressing himself to fresh duties.

"Were the matter one of private feeling, Mr. Mercer might command the suffrages of the whole community, but the case must be viewed on public grounds. For a few years—the fewer the better—we might be content to see Mr. Mercer at the head of affairs, so that he might be able to retire to England with *eclat* after a long and creditable service here; but, beyond question, we want new blood in the local administration—a new man, in fact, who will work hard in originating and carrying out plans for the good of the colony, not merely a man who can move through the traditional and perfunctory duties of the office with grace and courtesy."

The following records the progress of the new bank:—

"With reference to the progress of the new banking company at present in course of formation, we learn that matters have become so far advanced that a committee drafted from the provisional committee are engaged in receiving applications for the three principal appointments in the establishment, viz., a manager, a secretary, and an accountant. For the first of those offices we hear that a gentleman well known and respected as a bank manager in this colony is likely to be proposed; and if the duration of his services in his present situation should not interfere with his acceptance of the high terms likely to be offered him, the probability is that he will receive the appointment at once.

"With regard to the accountantship, we cannot see that any one unacquainted with such duties in a bank can possibly be chosen for such an important post; and as for the secretaryship, we have heard that a gentleman not wholly unconnected with the army is likely to be first favourite for this post, although it is well enough known that many others have a strong predilection for the office, some of them, doubtless, well qualified, others hoping to come in first in the race owing to what they consider to be incontestible influence in their favour. We can only hope that in this, the first of our independent local banks, the best man will get the first place."

The cargo from the *Coulnakyle*, from London, has been very much damaged, and it is reported that as much as one-third of it has been condemned to the auctioneer's hammer. We hear that Mr. W. H. Fittock, Vice-Consul at Canton, has been removed to Ningpo as Acting Consul. We are glad to find that, by the *London Gazette* of yesterday, he is announced as full Consul. Our readers may remember that some three years since we pointed out the injustice of appointing some juniors as Consuls while Mr. Fittock was left out.

The British barque *Eva*, sold by auction, was knocked down to Captain Farr for $12,600.

The British schooner *Salamander* arrived in Amoy with the crews of the Hamburg brig *Hever* and the Dutch brig *Johanna Fredericka*, both vessels having been totally lost at Keelung on the night of the 12th July. The mate and five of the crew of the *Hever* were washed overboard and drowned.

SIAM.

We have much pleasure in acknowledging the first copy of the *Siam Times*, and we trust it will continue to reach us regularly. We have hitherto found great difficulty in procuring the current items of news from Siam.

From the *Siam Times* we gather that the lorcha which was supposed, and with good reason, to have gone on a piratical excursion was called *Ale Margupi*, and that the master's name was James Hopkins; Thomas W. Webb being sailing-master, and the crew consisting of ten Chinese. Hopkins seems to have met with the fate he intended for others. Our contemporary gives the facts of the case as follows:—

Previous to the lorcha sailing from Bangkok, the master had contracted several large debts here, and suspicion being aroused, that the lorcha was out on a piratical expedition, the creditors became anxious regarding their money; warrants were accordingly issued for his apprehension, and Capt. Bush was entrusted with their execution, besides, having authority to arrest him on the criminal charge, if he found sufficient existing grounds to justify his doing so. That Hopkins was prepared to fight may be gathered from the fact of his having taken two guns from Paknam, belonging to the schooner *Water Lily*, the property of Captain Bush, and concerning their disposition, he thus wrote under date 18th April, 1864:—"The two guns I took from Paknam I have in my possession, on board my vessel, lorcha *Ale Margupi*, where I intend to keep them, and they shall remain, as I brought them on board myself for use, and not to look at, but to do execution, if requisite. They are, I can assure you, in good working order, both being fixed on pivots abaft my mainmast, &c;" and in another paragraph he "defies John Bush to take his vessel." These preparations for fighting and defiances clearly prove his intentions on leaving Bangkok were far from honourable, and this opinion is further upheld by the statement of one Siaboo, who took a letter from the Acting Consul (British) to the Governor of Mung Kraat, concerning Hopkins' debt to Siaboo, with instructions to apprehend him; this the Governor could not do without an order from H. E., the Prac klang, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Hopkins was sent for, and the tenor of the letter being explained, he pulled out his revolver, pointed it at the Governor, who was frightened, and concluded his menaces by declaring he did not care for the Consul. On his return to the lorcha, Siaboo saw Hopkins break a Chinaman's arm, and strike Webb, his sailing-master, on the face. It must be evident the language and acts we have mentioned do not seem to infer that Hopkins was at all inclined to be either an honest man regarding his past transactions or future proceedings, and though a cruel death has prevented the ends of justice being met, it would be charitable to wish he had been less severely dealt with.

JAVA AND NETHERLANDS INDIA.

Dates from Batavia are to the 14th August.

The British schooner *Japonica*, Capt. Lindsay, which left Macassar on the 30th July last, bound to Macao, with a cargo of tripang, green peas, rattans, hides and ebony, valued at 140,000f., on the morning of the 31st, struck on a reef to the east of Pulo Dewaken. The vessel speedily became leaky, and it was feared would be a total wreck. A gunboat was despatched from Macassar to protect the property.

BANCA.—On the 13th June a barque struck on the reef south of Lepar straits and stretching in a south-easterly direction from Tandjong Roe towards that island in the vicinity of the wreck of the Belgian brig *Charles Henri Stow* lost there last year. The barque was the *Isle o' May* of London, 392 tons, Gray, master. Nothing was found in her but stone ballast, a few water-casks, and some provisions consisting of a few barrels of flour, bread and beef. No ship's papers nor instruments were found. The crew seems to have left the ship in some haste and to have gone on board of one of the three ships sailing in the neighbourhood and which were seen on the morning of the 14th by some Lepar men. The barque seems to be strongly built, for after five days knocking about in the surf, no leak was found in her when the administrator of Toboali went on board, so that it is hoped, that with some little pains, she may still be saved.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates thence are to the 20th August. The London mail of the 11th July arrived out on the 11th August; and the mail of the 16th July on the 20th August.

Mr. Whampoa has been appointed Vice-Consul for Russia at Singapore, and Mr. Ferdinand von der Heyde Vice-Consul for the Free and Hanse towns, Lubeck, Bremen, and Hamburg. Mr. C. B. Plunket has been appointed Deputy-Coroner of Prince of Wales' Island.

A case of disobedience of the lawful commands of the master of the British barque *Joadel Manaan*, against the chief mate of the said vessel, was investigated by the Marine Magistrate on the 16th August. After a lengthened investigation which occupied the Court over seven hours, his Worship sentenced the defendant to three weeks' imprisonment in Her Majesty's Gaol.

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A coffee and reading room has been opened at Fort Canning, under the sanction of Brigadier de Sausmarez, for the men belonging to Nos. 4 and 6 batteries, 17th Brigade, Royal Artillery. The Brigadier stated on the opening night—"About four years ago, while he was in command of a garrison with five times the number of men, a great deal of petty crime was daily committed, where he and three other officers, in considering what steps should be taken to employ the leisure hours of the men, became convinced that a reading-room would best suit the purpose. The place he alluded to was Hong Kong. A reading room was opened there, and both they and the men themselves came to see the salutary effects of such an institution—crimes were rarely committed, and there were fewer courts martial."

Thomas Smith, the flag-staff keeper at Mount Faber, was so severely assaulted and wounded by Emerico de Souza on the night of the 13th July that he subsequently expired. The delinquent had been sentenced to a fine of 400 rs., which was paid.

The Administration Report for the past official year has appeared, whence it appears that the revenue from purely local sources, and excluding such receipts as those from the Post-office, and others which properly belong to other settlements, is £191,909. This exceeds by very nearly £20,000 the receipts of any previous year, and is brought about by the Stamp Tax, and an improvement in the returns of the excise farms. Under ordinary circumstances, there would have been a surplus of £25,000, but the military expenditure, which in previous years has averaged about £50,000, last year rose to £81,000, and as the whole, under present arrangements, is charged against the settlement, the result is a deficit of £5,000. "How the cost of the military has so far increased in this past year (remarks the *Straits Times*) it is impossible for any one except those connected with the Madras Government, from whom our troops are derived, to make out. It almost seems as if the Indian Government now, when they are about to lose us, have resolved to take the most they possibly can out of our improved resources."

The following are the returns of the Imports and Exports of Singapore during the year 1863-64 :—

IMPORTS.	Rupees.
Great Britain	12,990,111
North America	295,865
Europe	3,658,151
Australia	358,336
Calcutta	7,142,551
Madras	304,575
Bombay	1,557,030
China	9,698,588
Cochin-China	1,088 366
Siam	2,071,568
Manila	746,084
Java, Rhio, Bally, &c.	7,349.377
Borneo	1,585,102
Celebes	509,896
Sumatra	1,432.477
Malayan Peninsula	1,652,011
British Burmah	3,143,514
Miscellaneous	7,886,452
	Lacs 63,470,054

EXPORTS.	
Great Britain	7,770,341
North America	732.488
Europe	508,169
Australia	239.056
Calcutta	5,646.874
Madras	601,764
Bombay	2.414,885
China	13,003,155
Cochin-China	2,853,827
Siam	3,180,375
Manila	648.473
Java, Rhio, Bally, &c.	3.749.627
Borneo	1,203,710
Celebes	656.245
Sumatra	1,051.747
Malayan Peninsula	1,824,423
British Burmah	931,627
Miscellaneous	6,924,652
	Lacs 53,977,438

PENANG.

On the 8th August, as the barque *Marengo* was moving out of the harbour, with the intention of proceeding to sea, she came into collision with the *Nonpareil*, which had been lying astern of her. The *Nonpareil's* anchors having started, both vessels drifted with the tide upon the Swedish barque *Fredrik*. The *Marengo*, having her sails set and anchors off the ground, was enabled to get clear very quickly, but the *Nonpareil* and the *Fredrik* were entangled by their chains and could not easily extricate themselves. Some damage was done to the *Fredrik* by the collision, in consequence of which the captain of the *Fredrik* brought an action against the *Marengo* for damages done to his ship. The case was tried before the Recorder, who decided that the *Marengo* was primarily the cause of the *Nonpareil's* coming into collision with the *Fredrik*, and found her liable in damages to the *Fredrik*, to the extent of $107, with $50 of costs.

On the 7th August a fire broke out in Victoria Estate, which destroyed the building containing the rum distillery, though most of the rum casks were saved. The distilling apparatus was nevertheless seriously injured. The exertions of the manager, ably seconded by the police, saved the entire works from being consumed.

THE mishap to the Persian Gulf submarine cable, between Cape Monze and Guadur, has been followed by the parting of the wire between the latter place and Mussendom ; and the land line is reported not to be in good order. The *Amberwitch* was on the spot, but in consequence of the roughness of the weather she had been unable to execute the repairs.

THERE has been another sanguinary affray among the Chinese coolies at Bombay. It took place at Elephanta, when in the most barbarous manner they murdered one of their own people, and set the few Europeans who were on the island at defiance. Subsequently a detachment of the Tanna police, under Major Henderson, arrived on the scene, and in the most gallant manner seized upon the persons of the ringleaders and conveyed them to Tanna.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

AITKEN—On the 15th July, at Hankow, the wife of James Aitken, of a son.

CASTRO—On the 9th Aug., at Hong Kong, the wife of J. M. D'Almada e Castro, of a son.

DICKINSON—On the 12th Sept., at Farleigh House, Surbiton, the wife of Geo. F. Dickinson, Esq., of a daughter.

HAY—On the 22nd Sept., at 56, Bedford-gardens, Kensington, the wife of Eugene Hay Esq., of a daughter.

HENDRICKSON—On the 10th Aug., at No. 8 Police-station, at Hong Kong, the wife of Inspector Hendrickson, of a son.

LEGGE—On the 7th Aug., at Hong Kong, the wife of the Rev. Dr. Legge, of a daughter.

LOBSCHEID On the 6th Aug., at Hong Kong, the wife of the Rev. W. Lobscheid, of a daughter.

WILSON—On the 17th July, at Hankow, the wife of Frank H. Wilson, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

ANDERSON—POLLARD—At St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, on 2nd August, by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, D.D., Colonial Chaplain, John Graham Anderson, to Rosa Mary Pollard, of Sydney, New South Wales.

DALY—POLLEY.—On the 13th Sept., at the parish church, Clapham-common, Robt. Daly, Esq., late of Shanghai, China, to Georgina Elizabeth, eldest daughter of William Polley, of High-street, Wandsworth.

FISHER—SIMPSON.—On the 13th August, at Singapore, by the Rev. J. C. Waterhouse chaplain, Mr. John Fisher, of Singapore, to Amelia Ferrell, relict of the late Capt. Simpson.

MIALL—FRANKS.—On the 15th Sept., at Lower Norwood Chapel, by the Rev. B. Kent, Arthur Miall, Esq., of Forest-hill, to Harriett Norton, fifth daughter of William Franks, Esq., of Upper Norwood. No cards.

SCOTT—COCHRANE—At the residence of H.B.M.'s Consul at Cologne, by the Rev. Frederick Glover, Chaplain to the Consulate, Thomas Charles Wake Scott, Esq., of Rochswood, Forfarshire, to Maria Theresa Sutherland, daughter of Admiral Sir Thomas Cochrane, G.C.B.

STARK—LECAIN.—On the 2nd August, at Singapore, by the Rev. John Mathison, Robert Stark, Esq., to Harriett Jessie, only daughter of the late Walter W. LeCain, Esq.

DEATHS.

ALLEN.—On the 8th August, on board the British ship James Booth Hong Kong, Capt. J. Allen, her commander, from the effects of an overdose of laudanum.

BOYLE—On the 25th July, at Shanghai, of excitement caused by the severe affliction of losing his wife and son, Captain Boyle, of the wrecked schooner Rebekka.

BROAD.—On the 17 h July, at sea, on board the Edwin Fox, in the passage from Calcutta to Hong Kong, James Broad, chief officer.

CASE—On the 25th July, at Hakodadi, at the United States Consulate, of Typhus fever, Andrew J. Case, H.M F.M.'s Consul for Hakodadi.

D'ALMEIDA—On the 5th August, at Singapore, Miss Caroline D'Almeida, aged 41 years.

GENAHR—On the 7th August, at Ho-an, China, the Rev. F. Genahr, Missionary of the Rhenish Society at that station, of cholera. Also, on the 7th August, Theodore, eldest son of the above, of cholera; and on the 9th August, Traugoth, another son, of cholera.

JONES—Lost, about January last, in the Conflict, on her passage to Hong Kong, Airey Prime, youngest son of Prime Raban Jones, aged 21.

JUNE—On the 4th of August, at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, Peter June, Bombardier, Royal Artillery, aged 35 years.

MCDONALD—On the 4th of August, at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, John McDonald, Sapper Royal Engineers, aged 25 years.

THORNE.—On the 5th of August, at the Hotel d'Europe, Hong Kong, Thomas Wm. Thorne, aged 31 years.

WILSON—On the 22nd July, at Ningpo, George Harry Wilson, of Liverpool.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN.—From London: July 8, Mountain Ash.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: July 22, Queen of Nations; 22, Finzel and Beemah. From Liverpool: 23, Mercator. From Newcastle: 23, Fear Not and Queen of the Ocean. From New York: 27, Promise (steamer).

At HONG KONG.—From London: Aug. 9, Jubilee. From Liverpool: 8, Veronica.

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At MANILA.—From London: July 22. Perla.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: Aug. 16 Eddystone. From Liverpool: 14, Lorton. From Bristol: 18, Lady Love. From Newport: 8. Alfred. From Newcastle: 13, Schoonderloo. From Hartlepool: 16 Ravensbourne. From Dundee: 18, Victoria.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—None.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: July 23, Shakespeare; 25, Castle Howard.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: July 9, Childers; 17, Red Riding Hood, and Bride of the Sea.

From HONG KONG.—For Liverpool: Aug. 8, General Windham; and for Bordeaux: 6, Leon.

From MANILA.—For London: Aug. 4, Seaforth. For Liverpool: July 27, Labrador; and Aug. 2, Jupiter.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Aug. 8, Rangoon; 10, Prince Alfred; and for New York: Aug. 10, Eastward Ho.

From AMOY.—For London: July 23, Willie.

From PENANG.—For London: Aug. 16, Marengo.

LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Amoy, Fleda, Lucknow, and Anna Maria. For Liverpool: Gyrn Castle, Jane Isabella, and Vigil.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Gresham, Assyrian, Caractacus, Claremont, Tofiscomb, Essex, Southern Cross, Wild Deer, City of Quebec, and Stirlingshire. For Liverpool: Brockham, Southern Empire, Sea Snake, and Thomas Bell.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Canute, Cumberland, Philomela, Horsa John Temperley, Caransius, Rajah of Cochin, and Race Horse.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Cathaya, Ben Lomond, Yeavering Bell, Peterborough, Valdivia, Aboyne, and Hyacinth. For Liverpool: Everest and Delhi.

At MANILA.—For London: Staffordshire. For Liverpool: Constance, Frederick, and Kathay. For Falmouth: Ocean Express, Voladora, and Gondola. For New York: Franklin.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Castor, Tweed, and Queen of India. For Liverpool: C. H. Soule, and Tigris. For Falmouth: Queen Bee. For New York: Panic.

At AMOY.—For New York: Sam. Russett.

At PENANG.—For London: Spitfire and Golconda.

At BATAVIA.—For Channel: Peeress, Sirius, and Celeritas. For Rotterdam: Voornit, Albert the Good, and Mary Goddard. For Amsterdam: G. P. Servatius, Reflect, Hochelagd, Sinnevelly, and Lovestein. For United States: Borneo and Vellore.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—July 27, Spirit of the Deep, London to Shanghai; 30, Canadian, London to Shanghai; 31, Crown and Arita, Cardiff to Hong Kong; Aug. 6, J. Vinicombe, Sunderland to Hong Kong; 3, Lord Macaulay, Cardiff to Hong Kong; 4, Henry Darling, London to Singapore; Anna Helen, Cardiff to Shanghai; 5, Bosworth, Shields to Shanghai; 6, Langdale; 7, Galabo, Cardiff to Hong Kong; and, 8, Esperance, Sunderland to Shanghai.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—Aug. 1, Alfred, New York to Singapore.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—Aug. 6, Peerless Shanghai to Liverpool; 7, Gazelle, Singapore to Prussia.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—Aug. 5, Agnes, Singapore, to Boston.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

JAPAN.—For London and Liverpool: £4. 10s. to £5. Hong Kong: $5 to $6. Shanghai, by sailing vessel, $3. Little offering.

SHANGHAI.—To London the rates for tea are £3. 10s. to £4. To Liverpool: Cotton, £3 to £3. 10s.

HONG KONG.—The following from George Holmes' Circular will show the principal settlements:—Isabella, 1,100, Shanghai to London or Liverpool, £2. 15s. per ton. Harkaway, 611, Foochow to London, $3. Cassiterides, 370, Foochow to New York, £3 per ton of 40ft., if to London, £3. 12s. 6d. per ton of 50ft. The rates to Bankok and back are 40c. per picul, with 15c. to 20c. extra, if ordered north.

MANILA.—There are no settlements to report. The nominal rates to the U.K. may be called £3 for clayed, £3. 15s. for unclayed sugar, and £4. 5s. for hemp.

SINGAPORE.—Freights generally show an improvement. To London and Liverpool the following are the rates:—Tin, £2; sugar, £2. 15s.; measurement goods, £3. 15s. per ton of 50 cubic feet.

BATAVIA.—The rates remain good, notwithstanding numerous arrivals seeking. To Holland: For sugar the rates are £4. 11s. to £4. 16s. per ton.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—CANTON.—The two chops of country Congous mentioned in last report as having arrived, have been placed at high rates. A few chops additional are shortly expected. Tayshaans are rather lower; Scented Orange Pekoes are quiet, and but a small business has been done in Capers. Common Canton Gunpowders are cheaper, but the better kinds are firm at quotations. The following are the transactions of the fortnight:—Congou: 2 chops, blackish wiry leaf, little pekoe flavour, at taels 31½ to 33. 1,000 half-chests and 500 boxes Tayshan, at 22½ taels for fair, up to 36 taels for finest imitation Kysow. Scented Orange Pekoe: 2,000 boxes, middling to very fine, at 25 to 35 taels. Scented Capers: 30,000 boxes, common to very fine, at 18 to 35 taels. Canton Gunpowder: 3,000 boxes and 500 half-chests, at 14 to 21 taels for common to fair. Stocks are moderate, but being in various stages of preparation, cannot be stated with precision.

SHANGHAI.—Black: We can again report a considerable business during the past fortnight, at prices which show in advance of fully two taels on our previous quotations. The bulk of the settlements have been composed of second crop Oopacks, at from 1d. to 2d. over last home rates. Our stock is considerable, but as holders are not generally anxious sellers, we do not look for any decline in price. We make the quality of second crop Oopacks superior to last season's, but the Oonhams, Ningchows, and Hohows are inferior. Settlements on the market, 22 chops, 10,989 chests Oopacks, Oonhams, Ningchows, Hohows, and F. Pekoe. Re-shipped on owners' account, 38 chops, 18,288 chests, do. do., total 60 chops—29,287 chests; making total to date 149,826 chests. Stock, waiting shipment and for re-sale, 55 chops. We quote 1st and 2nd crop Oopacks, 28 to 31½ taels; Ningchows, 28 to 34½ taels; Oonhams, 20 to 28 taels; Hohows: No settlement. Green: Very little has been done during the past fortnight, the unfavourable news from New York checking buyers for that market. About 15 chops of Pingsuey have arrived from Ningpo, but they have generally been re shipped without being offered. Only one chop has been settled at taels 43, and a few parcels of Shanghai-packed at taels 35 to 37. Re-shipments and settlements—866 half-chests Fychow, &c.; 12,277 half chests Pinsuey; 626 half-chests Japan and Shanghai packed; total, 13769 half chests—making total to date, 24,368 half-chests. Stock of Green Tea is estimated at 2,489 half-chests Fychow, &c.; 1,778 half chests Shanghai packed Japan; 7,746 half-chests Pingsuey; total, 12013 half-chests.

FOO CHOW.—The Circular of Messrs Fussell and Co. states:—We have again to report a very large business having been transacted in our tea market. In our last printed report we noted that the second crop Congous had commenced arriving in quantity, and that owing to the heavy rains in the country the quality was inferior; we have now to advise that on the departure of the mail a very large business was done in these kinds at high prices; during the past few days there have been but few buyers in the market, and as the latest arrivals of Congou from the country prove to be much better in quality, purchases have been effected at rates, quality considered, showing a reduction of fully 2 taels per picul. There has been an active demand for fair common to fair flavoury sorts for shipment to Australia and America, and these kinds may be quoted slightly dearer. Souchongs have been taken to a fair extent for England on rather easier terms.

SILK.—SHANGHAI.—Since last report the market has been in an excited state, buyers influenced by the late improved advices from Europe, have shown great eagerness to purchase. The prices in the interior, however, have advanced considerably, and the value of Carolus dollars having also improved, the dealers have in many instances withdrawn their stocks from the market, being unable to replace sales made at present rates. The difficulty experienced in purchasing has alone prevented large settlements, but 1,500 bales have been sold during the fortnight. Prices have advanced taels 30 to 35 per picul, Chop No. 3 Tsatlees having been sold at taels 400, but at present the dealers are very unwilling sellers and are demanding still higher rates. The arrival of the French mail of 17th June with telegrams to the 25th, conveying unsatisfactory political news, has so far had little effect on this market. By last advices from Japan, there appears to be barely any stock and quotations were nominal. About 87 bales have arrived during the fortnight.

CANTON.—The advices lately received from the country respecting the third crop are discouraging, and it is generally stated as being smaller than the 2nd; consequently our prices are firmly maintained, and no decline can now be looked for until it is ascertained whether the 4th crop is likely to prove more abundant. The rather favourable accounts from the Home Markets have not encouraged speculative purchases for London, and beyond a few mixed parcels belonging to Indian firms, there is nothing to report as gone forward this season. Quotations for fine Silk are nominally a little higher, but the coarser kinds are rather easier. viz:—Loong-Kong, No. 1. $440 to 445; do. No. 2, $425 to 430. Kow-Kong $405 to 410.—re-reeled Cumchuck (nett) $480 to 485. Waste Silk, No. 1, $53 to 54; No. 2, $44 to 45. The settlements have been 80 piculs for Bombay and 100 boxes re-reeled Cumchuck for New York.

DRUGS, &c.—CANTON.—Cassia Lignea: No settlements, stock 2,000 piculs, held at former rates. Cassia Buds: 20 piculs have been sent to Macao for sale there, reducing the stock to 60 piculs. China Galls: The old stock of 200 piculs is now offered at $12.25, showing a further decline of 25 cents. Vermilion: As before, $42.50 per box of 50 catties. Rhubarb: The stock on the market alluded to in last report, viz., 100 pls. low mid., is still unsold, $85 to $90 being the rate demanded. Musk: A fresh supply of 50 catties has arrived—fine middling good flavour, 34 catties were at once taken for Chinese consumption, and the remaining 26 catties for export at $86; 50 catties good middling superior flavour sold at $87, and 55 catties good ordinary weak flavour sold at the same rate; 35 catties of the old stock have also been taken for native use, leaving an unsold stock of 40 catties fine middling on the market, the same being held firmly at $95. Galangal: $2.90 to 3.20 nominal, no buyers. Essential Oils: None on the market.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—During the early part of the fortnight the value of all descriptions of yarn was maintained at the rates previously current, and quotations for lower and medium numbers continue unchanged. Nos. 38 to 42 have however declined slightly during the last few days. Settlements are put at 146 bales. Grey Shirtings: Have met with a moderate amount of inquiry in this market during the fortnight, but quotations are maintained with difficulty, and in some instances a decline of 5 to 10 cents per piece is noticeable. The sales are estimated at 10,250 pieces. White Shirtings have met with a fair demand at about the prices previously current, and 5,250 pieces have found buyers during the past fortnight. T-Cloths: A decline in price to the extent of 5 to 10 cents must be quoted for these fabrics, which meet with but little attention at the hands of the Chinese dealers. The transactions of the fortnight are limited to sales of about 4,300 pieces. American drills: A small parcel of 40-yard drills amounting to 750 pieces has been placed at $9.50 per piece. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: The inquiry which, during the month of July, existed for these fabrics has apparently been satisfied, and the sole transaction to be noticed is a sale of 1,000 pieces coloured brocades, which actually took place prior to the departure of the last mail steamer, but was not then reported.

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Damasks remain without inquiry or sales to notice. Chintzs: 200 pieces reported as sold during the past fortnight. Handkerchiefs: There are not any sales of these goods to notice.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies'& Habit Cloths: A fair demand, which has been freely met, has been exhibited for these goods since the commencement of the present month, and prices remain much as before quoted, the sales of the fortnight comprise 3,638 pieces of all descriptions. Long Ells: A moderate amount of business has likewise been transacted in these goods since the date of last circular, and the total sales reported since the departure of last mail steamer amount to 750 pieces. Camlets: Without alteration to notice in value, have found buyers to the extent of 660 pieces. Lastings: Have also been in fair demand during the past fortnight at about the quotations previously current, and sales of 820 pieces of these goods are reported. Blankets: 250 pairs have found buyers.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: The market in this colony for all descriptions of metals has been without any animation, and the sales to be reported of iron are exceedingly limited, comprising only 450 piculs of nail rod and 250 piculs of wire at previous rates. Lead: Only 60 piculs have been sold during the fortnight. Tin: The sales amount to 110 slabs. Tin Plates: Remain as quoted under date of 28th ultimo, with sales for the fortnight amounting to 450 boxes. Steel: Without sales to notice.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.		6s. 10d. to 6s. 11d.	6s. 11d. to 7s. 0d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 9d. to 4s. 9¾d.	4s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 9d. to 4s. 9¾d.	4s. 10d. to 4s. 11d.
At Manila	6	ditto	4s. 6d.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 330 to 332 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 230 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, taels; at Hong Kong, 12 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 30 to 32 discount.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

The Malta and Alexandria cable is again in working order. The screw steamer *Sea King* has been sold into another trade.

The Circular of Sam Mendel, Manchester, of yesterday says:—During the past week prices have further given way both for yarns and goods. The sales to-day are on an increased, but by no means active scale, the market is weak, and the feeling of depression is scarcely less than previously reported. Grey shirtings, 7 lbs., 14s. 9d. to 15s. Cotton Yarn, Nos. 16 to 24, 2s. 5d. to 2s. 7d.

Mr. J. C. Stilar, late of China, has established as a tea broker. The following is from his Circular of 24th:—"The news brought by the mail of continued heavy shipments, coupled with the stringent state of the money market, had the effect of throwing a gloom over the trade; large public sales were advertised for the 20th, which have terminated, passing off heavily and at very irregular prices, a fall being established in some instances of 1d. to 2d. per lb. upon common and medium kinds, and 2d. to 3d. upon medium to fine. 31,113 packages passed the hammer, of which 24,735 sold, 23,758 being 'without reserve.'"

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLE.—Sept. 21, at Texel, from Batavia, Josephine Bernhardina; 23, at Liverpool, from Shanghai, Elisabeth Nicholson; 27, at Liverpool, from Rangoon, Fearnought.

DEPARTURES.—Sept. 21, from Bremen, for Shanghai, Andreas; 22, from off Portland, for Batavia, Argo; 22, from Liverpool, for Shanghai, Lauderdale; 28, From London, for Cardiff and China, Pioneer, for Newcastle and Batavia, Glenforth; 23, from off the Eddystone, for Singapore, Marie Lucie; 24, from Cardiff, for Hong Kong, Desdemona; from off the Lizard, for Batavia, Eva Johanna; 23, from Sunderland, for Singapore, Ocean Pearl.

SPOKEN.—Echo, Canton to London, June 3, 17 N., 124 E.; Bentinck, Liverpool to Singapore, Aug 31, 16 N., 27 W.; Prince Arthur, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Aug. 28, 16 N., 27 W.; Robin Hood, from Foo-Chow-Foo, August 8, 35 S., 21 E.; Young Lochinvar, from Foo-Chow-Foo, August 19, 26 S., 3 E.; Almora, from Nagasaki, off the Cape of Good Hope; Suez, of Nantes, Penang to Belle Isle, July 25, lat. 30, lon. 31; W. W. Smith, Japan to Liverpool, June 17, 4 N., 134 E.; Tartar, Singapore to London, July 30, 32 S., 34 E.; Albuera (which had spoken the Moka, ship, from Manila), Manila to London, August 9, 35 S., 22 E.; Wilhelmina, Batavia to Amsterdam, July 6, 21 S., 67 E.; Anna Sophia, Batavia to Amsterdam, August 13, 33 S., 15 E; Alaveza, Manila to London, August 3, 36 S., 22 E.; Kykduin, Amsterdam to Batavia, August 21, 13 N., 24 W.; Dolphin, Cardiff to Shanghai, August 14, 16 S, 31 W.; Athelstane, Singapore to London, August 2, 35 S., 25 E.; Akbar, Penang to London, September 8, 33 N., 37 W.; Canaan, Manila to Falmouth, August 7, 17 S., 4 W.: Jubilaum, New York to Shanghai, July 23, lat. 28, lon. 34, Boni, Shields to Batavia, August 24, 12 N., 27 W.

At ST. HELENA.—Aug. 5, Ferris, Messenger, from Singapore, and sailed for Liverpool; 6, Benvoirlich, Jenkins, from Shanghai, and sailed for London; Caroline Chisholm, from Singapore, and sailed, 8, for Liverpool; 7, Lady Ebrington, from Yokohama, and sailed, 8, for London. The Dutch transport Fop Smit, 63 days from Batavia, with 140 soldiers for Rotterdam, touched at St. Helena on the 8th of August. The English ship Netherby, Captain Hulman, 110 days from Foo-chow-foo for London, on the 10th; in the Formosa Channel she had been attacked by 150 Chinese pirates in about 100 sampans; they robbed the ship of a portion of her cargo of tea, and were only repulsed by the use of firearms, when several were killed. The Glencoe, [illegible] days from Hong Kong for Liverpool, on the 17th; the Bahia, 117 days from Whampoa for London, on the 18th; the ship Glenlee, 92 days from Hong Kong for Liverpool, on the 20.h; the ship Unrivalled, 100 days from Shanghai for Liverpool, on the 25th; the schooner Auld Reekie, 133 days from Yokohama for Falmouth, on th 26th; the bark Harwood, 112 days from Yokohama for Liverpool, on the 25th; the Flying Spur, on the 23rd.

At TABLE BAY.—July 9, Lord Palmerston, from New York, and sailed, 12. for Shanghai.

At ASCENSION.—Aug. 30, Clio, from Batavia, and sailed for Amsterdam. Off Ascension, Aug. 7, Dunkeld, from Singapore; 13, Gazehound, from Manila, for Falmouth; 14. Brothers Saeluna (?), from Batavia, for Rotterdam; 25, Spahis, from Penang, for Bordeaux; 28, Young Lochinvar, from Foo-chow-Foo, for London; Anna Sophia, from Batavia, for Amsterdam; 30, Antoinette, from Manila, for Havre.

At ST. HELENA.—Aug. 4, Pantaloon, v. Geyt, from Batavia, and sailed 5 for Rotterdam; 5, Marie, Biesthorst, from Batavia, and sailed 6 for Rotterdam; 6, Maria Magdalene, Willenbrink, from Tjilatjap, and sailed 7 for Rotterdam; 20, Jacqueline and Elise, Krukkenberg, from Batavia, and sailed 21 for Amsterdam; 24, Jonkhr, Mr. v. d. Wall v. Puttersholk Lammerts, from Batavia, and sailed 26 for Rotterdam; 25, D. T. Visser, v. d. Linden, from Batavia, and sailed 26 for Amsterdam; 26, Billiton, from Batavia, and sailed 27 for Amsterdam; 28, Wilhelmina, Koster, from Batavia.

At ALGOA BAY.—July 19, J. G. Fichte, sailed for Singapore; 31, Anita, Williams, from Shanghai, and sailed, Aug. 2, for New York; Aug. 13, Oscar I., Lansen, sailed for Anjer; Aug. 5, The Wildeman, Drisst, sailed for Java.

At SIMON'S BAY.—Aug. 15, Glengyle (str.), O'Sullivan, from the Clyde, for Hong Kong; 17, H.M.'s Ringdove, from Hong Kong; 9, H.M.'s str. Vulcan, from Shanghai; Aug. 5, Antonia Ferry, Lucas, sailed for Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.—The Bahia, Le Fanu from Canton, for London, which put into St. Helena, 18th August, was making water; she shipped extra hands, and proceeded. Further surveys have been held on the Kiandra, Van Kuffeler, from Pasaroeang to Amsterdam, which put into St. Helena, 18th July, leaky, and she has been found in such a decayed state that the surveyors have declared her irreparable at that port.

The Palmerston (barq.), Maillard, from Cardiff to Shanghai, which put into Simon's Bay, 27th July, had sprung a leak on the voyage, making nine inches of water per hour; she had been surveyed and lightened by the discharging of a portion of her cargo of coals, and it was supposed that she would shortly proceed on her voyage.

H.M.S. Ringdove, from Hong Kong, which arrived at Simon's Bay on 7th August, was reported to have been obliged to throw her guns overboard during a gale; she left on 18th August for London.

FOREIGN OFFICE.

SEPT. 3.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint Charles A. Sinclair, Esq., now Her Majesty's Consul at Chinkiang, to be Her Majesty's Consul at Foo-chow-foo; Frederick Harvey, Esq., now Her Majesty's Consul at Ningpo, to be Her Majesty's Consul at Chinkiang; and William Henry Fittock, Esq., now a British Vice-Consul at Canton, to be Her Majesty's Consul at Ningpo.

SEPT. 26

The Queen has been pleased to approve Said Abdullah ben Omer el Djenid as Consul at Singapore for his Imperial Majesty the Sultan; and M. Eustratio Petrococchino as Consul at Malta for his Majesty the King of the Hellenes.

TREASURY WARRANT.

The Commissioners of the Treasury, by warrant dated the 24th of September inst., have fixed the rates of postage to be levied subsequently to the said date on packets consisting of patterns or samples of merchandise of no intrinsic value, posted in any part of the United Kingdom, addressed to any part of the East Indies, Ceylon, or Hong Kong, or posted in any part of the East Indies, Ceylon, or Hong Kong, addressed to any part of the United Kingdom, and transmitted by British packet-boat, direct or *via* Egypt, and on similar packets transmitted in closed mails *via* France (the sea conveyance being by British or French packet-boat).

CAPTURE OF NANKING.

(THE TIMES.)

"Nanking has been captured by the Imperialists." Such was the brief and simple message which gave us first to know that the head of the Ming dragon, rival to the orthodox dragon Manchoo, has at length been cut off. We have full details of the event in the advices which we publish to-day. The important fact, however, is that the Taipings have lost their capital. It was only the possession of Nanking which lent them the semblance of a public cause. Without it they had been as any other horde of robbers. But there was something impressive to a Chinese mind, and even to some European minds, in the acts of a Government which could date its edicts from Nanking. Fourteen hundred years ago, when Peking was unbuilt, and its site was a desert, Nanking was a province of palaces, where men swarmed like ants upon the earth, and pagodas, which were wonders of the world, rose unto the skies. For a thousand years, and amid the contentions of successive dynasties, all falling and rising in violence, this immense city was for the most part in name, but always in reality, the metropolis of the empire. It had been the capital of the Ming dynasty, and however vain might have been the pretence, yet the chiefs of a great army who called themselves Kings, who proclaimed to the world that their object was to overthrow a foreign race of Princes and to re-establish a purely Chinese rule, and who had been for ten years in possession of this ancient capital, had some specious claim of right to distinguish them from robbers upon the inland waters and pirates on the seas. Now this shred of respectability is gone. Nanking has been restored to the Imperial rule. The Taipings seem to have been utterly dispersed. The bulk of them will probably shave their heads and tie on false tails of silk and hair, and either seek a subsistence in the Imperial ranks, or spread themselves westward, where they will meet with no foreign officers and well-drilled Imperialist soldiers. In an over-peopled country and under a corrupt Government the elements of disorder will always be rife, and the adven-

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turers who still hold together will not want for recruits wherever they may go. There always will be, as there always have been, armed hordes of plunderers and robbers; but, as a political fact, the Taiping rebellion may be said to be extinct.

As to the manner in which this result has been brought about the best account yet received will be found in a very interesting report which we publish elsewhere. The capture has been evidently the effect of the moral influence of General Brown's direct and indirect assistance. Our General seems to have taken up the Imperial cause with great zeal, and to have continued his aid after all hope had passed away that Europeans would be permitted to direct the consequences or mitigate the effects of Imperial successes. When Captain Sherard Osborn appeared in the Chinese waters with his flotilla the dread produced was so great that the Taiping chiefs at once prepared to make their submission. When this fleet disappeared they seem to have taken heart again. But Colonel Gordon's continued successes soon deprived them of all hope, and spread a belief among their followers that their case was desperate. Even in this last storm Colonel Gordon, at General Brown's instance, presided in the councils of the Imperialists, although he did not formally command; and, as he pushed his reconnaisance to within fifty yards of the Taiping defences, he must have advanced far within the walls of the ancient city, and even within the more contracted lines of defence of the modern town. All recent accounts have told us that the condition of the insurgents has been for some years wretched even beyond the ordinary measure of Chinese miseries; and it is creditable to the courage of these bandits that, with gunboats shelling them from the river, and a numerous disciplined army assaulting upon a plan made by an English officer, they should have defended their walls so stoutly, and should have suffered themselves to be surrounded at last in the fortified palace of that mysterious personage whom they pretended to obey as their Emperor. The very existence of this "Heavenly King" has sometimes been doubted, but as it is positively affirmed that he poisoned himself to avoid falling into the hands of those who would have had little respect for his divinity, and that his body has been found, this disputed point is now satisfactorily cleared up. Chung Wang, the resolute and able Taiping general, who is already known to Europe, not only by his defence of Soochow but also by acts of moderation, and even more than moderation, towards his European and American mercenaries, was supposed at Hong Kong to have eluded or to have cut his way through the besieging army with 2,000 of his followers. This, however, proves to have been a mistake, for he is undoubtedly a prisoner in the hands of the Imperialists. This Chung Wang is the only man whom the Taiping movement has produced on the rebel side who gave any proof of military talent, or any sign of having learnt the prudence of moderation in the conduct of war. We hope that whatever "Peking" may decide his life will be saved.

What the cost of human life has been on this occasion we cannot yet calculate. It is plain that no mercy was extended, and, although the treacherous deeds at Soochow must have acted as a warning to the European officers, the account of the European eye-witnesses makes it evident that the carnage was very great. It is a coincidence that just 900 years ago an Emperor of China, Tai Tsou, the first of the Song dynasty, had besieged and reduced to famine this same city, which, according to the Chinese historians, contained at that period four millions of people. The Emperor, we are told by Du Halde, foreseeing the carnage which must infallibly follow upon the capture, feigned to be sick. His generals and officers of State were alarmed, and surrounding the bed of the Prince suggested, each according to his own notions, the remedy best to be adopted. "The remedy," said the Emperor, "depends only upon you. Swear to me that you will not shed a drop of Chinese blood when you enter Nanking, and I shall be cured." The chiefs of the army took the oath, and kept it so far that "very few" of the inhabitants were killed. The Emperor sent a hundred thousand measures of rice to the famished wretches. This is said to have happened in the year 964, and it is disappointing to find that the precedent of ancient date, although doubtless well remembered, was lost upon the Chinese leaders of to-day. They had not, indeed, the full opportunities for carnage which the merciful conqueror of early times possessed and dreaded. The four millions of which the Chinese traditions boast have long since dwindled down to some 200,000 souls; the ancient walls, of which it was said that if two horsemen passed out at the same gate, and rode all day round them in opposite directions, it would be night before they would meet, have for centuries been only mounds and ruins; the city just captured had shrunk up into a corner of that great marshy plain which was once covered with yamuns and palaces, and Courts of Justice and offices of State, as well as with the habitations of the satin weavers and the warehouses of commerce. Even the great porcelain tower itself, which was the toil of a generation of builders and artists, had decayed to a ruin, and had fallen under the barbarous hands of the Taipings. The contrast between what we hear of Nanking as it is when torn from the Taipings, and what we read of it in its days of grandeur is a striking lesson of the desolation which civil war and bad government may bring upon the cities of an industrious people, and even upon a land teeming with the elements of wealth and plenty. Still, Nanking as it stood in our day was to the Taipings a capital, and its loss is the loss of the last symbol of a political cause under which they might attempt to disguise mere robbery and murder.

Here all aid of ours to the Imperialist rule ought surely to end. It may be doubtful whether we have not already done too much. The Government of Peking are our very good friends, but it does happen that the manifestation of their friendship is sometimes in an inverse proportion to their strength and prosperity. It would be a pity to accumulate upon them too great a burden of gratitude. When the Taipings threatened the actual destruction of all government in China, and seemed about to spread anarchy over the provinces with which we trade, it was our right and our duty towards ourselves to throw our influence, and so far as was necessary to our own interests even our power, into the scale against them. We pertinaciously advocated that policy then, and under similar circumstances we should do so again. It is still our interest to protect our trading establishments against them or any other assailants. Beyond this, however, let us have no more meddling. We can see a most unpleasant point at which an increasing strength in the Imperial Government may act as a necessary cause to increased strength in the British fleet in China.

Continental Intelligence

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, Sept. 24.

After an adjournment of nearly five months, the Parliamentary Session was closed on Saturday last by a speech from our Premier, Mr. Thorbecke, in which he praised all that had been done and would be done by his Cabinet. The new session was opened by the King, with the following speech:—

"Gentlemen,—It is with extreme gratitude to Divine Providence that, in opening the present legislative session, I am able to announce to you that the condition of the country may be considered as generally satisfactory.

"Our relations with foreign Powers continue upon the most favourable footing.

"The land and naval forces in the mother-country and our colonial possessions continue to afford me reason for satisfaction.

"Although the condition of our Eastern Indies is in many respects satisfactory, I deeply regret that a violent epidemic has committed ravages in Java, and it is my most ardent desire to hear soon that this malady has ceased to afflict that colony.

"The results of the emancipation of the slaves in our East Indian colonies are not unfavourable if compared with those which an analogous measure has entailed elsewhere.

"The administrative regulations of the Government of the colonies of Surinam and Curacao will be again submitted to you for deliberation.

"I shall have recourse to your assistance in the establishment of the tariffs of import and export duties and of transit dues to be introduced in the Dutch East Indies, and to regulate various questions affecting industrial and agricultural enterprise in that colony.

"Great developments are taking place in public works. The corps of the Engineers of Roads and Bridges fulfils with laudable zeal duties which have recently acquired great extension. A revision of this important branch of the administration, conformable to the exigencies of the day, has been prepared.

"The construction of the State railways is being regularly continued. The returns from these portions open to traffic exceed previous calculations. Conventions for the connection of our railways with foreign lines have been concluded with the neighbouring States. New concessions will give the Dutch network of railways an extension which will require fresh labours upon the roads and at maritime ports.

"I observe with much satisfaction that the execution of the law for middle-class education is everywhere received with lively interest and frank co-operation.

"The results of the harvest have been better than could be hoped. The returns from the deep sea, river, and coast fisheries, have been good, but many lives have unfortunately fallen victims to storms.

"Our trade continues in active development.

"Although the state of war in which several countries are engaged may have exercised an unfavourable influence upon commerce, it is satisfactory to observe that shipbuilding is upon the increase among us.

"Bills regulating medical supervision, the communal guards, and military quarters, will again be laid before you.

"The Bill for the code of examination in criminal cases, which is intended to replace the code now in operation, will also be submitted to you for deliberation.

"The state of our finances will allow of provision being made for the requirements of the public service, and of continuing the redemption of the national debt.

"Bills for the complete suppression of the city tolls (octrois), and for other undertakings of a financial character, will be laid before you during the present session, as well as Bills regulating the method of keeping the accounts of the State finances.

"May the important labours to which the present session summons us tend, under God's blessing, to the great prosperity of the country.

"I declare the ordinary session of the States-General open."

The First and Second Chambers have both been occupied with the examination of the credentials of new members, that being done, the debate on the address in answer to the speech was commenced. The King again appointed Mr. J. A. Philipse President of the First Chamber, and Mr. G. C. J. van Reenen to that of Vice in the Second Chamber; the first according to the proposition of the Cabinet; the latter, on the proposal of the majority of the members of the Second Chamber.

The first sitting of the International Association for the Promotion of Social Science will be held on the 26th inst., at Amsterdam. A large number of French and Belgian Liberals will be present, including Garnier Pages, Eugene Pelletan, Jules Simon, Henri Martin, Louis Uibach, Lavertujon, Albert Leroy, &c. The first question to be discussed in the section of Comparative Legislation is:—"What are the most practical means for ensuring the liberty of the electors and the security of votes under representative Governments?" Some very important speeches may be anticipated upon this subject.

In my last letter I mentioned the University festival at Groningen. On that occasion several gentlemen received diplomas as Doctors, *honoris causa*. Amongst them was Mr. John Lothrop Motley, the eminent writer of the "History of the Dutch Republic."

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The N.T.C. has chartered to convey coals from England to Cheribon, Willem Carel and Christina Maria; to Tagal, Cornelia Hendrika, to Pekalongan, Francina Wilhelmina; to Samarang, Otto.

His Majesty has appointed Rear-Admiral G. Fabius commander of H.M. squadron in the East Indies, in place of Rear-Admiral J. May. He will depart by the overland mail of the 19th of next month.

The revenues of the State during the eight months ending August last, amounted to f.41,709,257.24½ against f.39,751,694.05 in the same period of 1863.

A very important collection of pictures, painted by the eminent Ary Scheffer, has been proffered by his daughter, Madam C. Marjolin, to the town of Dordrecht (his birth place), and duly accepted.

His Excellency W. J. C. Knight Huyssen van Kattendyke, Minister of Marine, has received from the Emperor of Austria the insignia of the Order of the Iron Crown, first class.

Some days ago the following gentlemen were nominated members of the Royal Institute for promoting knowledge in reference to the people of India, their language, and country:—J. W. C. Diepenheim, Director of the Cultures; A. W. Kinder de Camerecq, Resident at Java; J. H. Tobias, Resident at Madura; N. Fraknanen, P. C. van Oosterzee; T. P. de Bordes, Engineer of the East India Railways at Batavia; J. H. G. Vosmaer, Adm. of the tin mines at Banca; A. Ligtvoet, and J. C. H. M. Denie, East Indian functionaries.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The market is in a favourable state. The 122,827 b. offered by the N.T.C. in public sale, were sold at ¼ to ½c. under the August prices. An advance of 1c. is now demanded. Owing to the failure in the crop in the East Indies, which will produce no more than 600,000 piculs, the N.T.C. will offer only 200,000 b. in Oct. and Nov.; while in Dec. and Jan. no auction will be held. The 397 brls. and 170 b. Plantation Ceylon, offered by the Society of Commerce and Industry, were sold from 46½ to 51c.

SUGAR.—Prices somewhat lower, with very small transactions, waiting for the great public auction on the 23rd. Only 500 kr. were sold.

TEA.—The market remains firm.

RICE.—Dull.

COTTON.—Very dull. Only 200 b. E. India sold at lower prices.

SPICES.—Nutmegs are at auction prices; cloves, at 1 cent advance; Java cinnamon at an advance of 5 to 10c. Pepper: 1,390 b. ex Friesland were sold at prices that did not transpire.

INDIGO.—Without transactions, but firm.

MANZANILLA WOOD.—In good demand at 5¾f.

BANCA TIN.—500 b. were sold at 60¼f., 500 b. at 60½f., 500 b. at 60f. Market dull.

COCOA OIL, COCHIN.—25½f. No stock.

MANILA HEMP.—67f.

JAVA TOBACCO.—There are no transactions to report. Stock, 7,112 b.

MANILA SEGARS.—At auction, to day, 375,000 2nd Cortados 1863 were sold at 35f. to 36½f. cons.; of the 180,000 2nd Habanos 1863, 60,000 were sold at 34¾f., and the rest retired at 35f. cons.

MONEY easier. Bank discount 5½ to 6 per cent.; open market, 5½ per cent.; N.W.S. 60 15-16ths, 3 per cent., 7 27-8ths, 4 per cent. 96 7-16ths, Handelmaatschappy, 137½.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	Ship.	From
Sept. 16 ..	Brouwershaven ..	Graaf Dirk III. ..	Batavia.
— 16 ..	Texel ..	Pollux ..	Do.
— 19 ..	Do. ..	Galilei ..	Do.
— 20 ..	Do. ..	Willem Hendrika ..	Do.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	Ship.	For
Sept. 16 ..	Brouwershaven ..	Argo ..	Batavia.
— 16 ..	Do. ..	L. J. Enthoven ..	Do.
— 16 ..	Do. ..	Eva Johanna ..	Do.
— 16 ..	Do. ..	Edouard and Marie ..	Sourabaya.

LOADING.

AT AMSTERDAM.—For Kanagawa and Decima: Maria, Libra, Waalstroom. For Padang: Maria Agnes. For Batavia: Drie Gezusters, Zeenimph, Java Packet. For Batavia and Samarang: Friesland. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Henrietta Maria, Holland. For Samarang: Peking. For Sourabaya: Celebes, Sourabaya Packet.

AT ROTTERDAM.—See "Freights."

READY TO SAIL.

AT BROUWERSHAVEN.—Nova Zembla, for Batavia; Eersteling and Medea, for Batavia and Sourabaya; Stad Dockum, for Sourabaya; Lammechiena Elizabeth, for Padang; Maria Louisa Antoinetta, for Singapore; Singapore, for Singapore and Hong Kong; Sophia, Koningin der Nederlanden, to Melbourne.

AT TEXEL.—Nederland, Vrede, Herman de Ruyter, Regina Maris, for Batavia; Engel, for Japan; Padang Packet, for Padang.

FREIGHTS.

Quotations of Messrs. Fauchey de Vletter, Shipbrokers, Rotterdam:—

FOR BATAVIA.—Ouderkerk a/d Amstel (725 tons), Jacob (593 tons), and Maria Anna (553 tons), are engaged.

FOR BATAVIA AND SOURABAYA.—Neptunus (687 tons), 15f. to 20f. for B; 20f. to 25f. for S; Dordrecht (754 tons), 18f. to 20f. for B; 25f. to 30f. for S.

FOR BATAVIA AND SAMARANG.—Dorothea Henriette (419 tons), 18f. to 20f. for B; 25f. to 30f. for S.

FOR SOURABAYA.—Nieuwe Waterweg (1,360 tons), 20f. to 25f.

FOR SAMARANG.—Vesta (437 tons), 20f. to 25f.

FOR PADANG.—Maarten van Rossem (723 tons), 30f. to 35f., and 40f. to 45f.; all with 15 per cent. per last of 2,000 kills., or 120 cubic feet Amst.

FOR KANAGAWA.—Niphon (360 tons), 60f. per last of 80 cubic feet English, and 15 per cent.

FOR SINGAPORE AND HONG KONG.—Jan van Galen (— tons), 30s. to 40s. for S; 40s. to 50s. for H; per ton of 1,000 kils., or 40 cubic feet English, and 15 per cent.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SEPT. 20.

Important despatches have been received at St. Petersburg from Siberia with regard to the movement that commenced some months ago among the Mahomedan inhabitants of Western China, called the Dunganes, and which has now assumed the dimensions of an insurrection. According to the latest accounts from Senupalatinsk, these fanatics are greatly extending their influence, and making every day proselytes and supporters, especially in Kashgar. The Governor of the Province of Ilú, in West China, appears not to have a sufficient military force at his disposal to enable him to crush the insurrection, though there are people who accuse him of supineness, and others who even go so far as to assert that he is secretly in league with the rebels, and does all in his power to favour their exertions without publicly compromising himself. Reports were current that innumerable hordes of the ferocious Dunganes had already taken possession of the cities of Yarkand and Aksa, and were beleaguering Kashgar. Certain it is that all communication with the above-named Province of Ilú was cut off, and the roads leading to the other provinces blocked up. Some Chinese reinforcements that had been sent against the Dunganes from Turpan and Kuldsha were defeated and fled ingloriously. One of the principal leaders of the Dunganes—name not given, but only mentioned as a Hadji—was endeavouring at Kashgar to centralise the movement and organise an armed force.

The Russian *Mining Journal* gives an interesting description of a large bed of auriferous sand lately discovered at the eastern end of the mountainous district near Nertschinsk on the Amoor. It is situated at the confluence of the Tcherny Urjum with the Bjely Urjum, which, combined, are called the Tchernaya. The sand is described as exceedingly rich, but the quantity of grains extracted is variable and their size uneven. This bed of auriferous sand is forty-four fathoms wide and about six in depth. According to an estimate made by the director of the Siberian mines, the quantity of pure gold that it is calculated to contain is equal to 800 poods or 32,000 lbs. It is now being worked on account of the Russian Government. The quantity of gold obtained in 1863 by private individuals in the beds of the rivers in East Siberia was 3,988 lbs.

Cotton from Bokhara has been selling this year at the great fair of Nijnynovgorod at from 22 to 28 roubles per pood. Last year the same production fetched only 14½ roubles.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—In the general state of this market there is but little alteration. There is an abundant demand for all descriptions, and the deliveries continue large. Fresh supplies come very sparingly to hand, in consequence of which importers hold back and demand an advance of ½ Sch. Bco., which, in some instances, has been conceded. Stocks of coffee here are so much reduced that the assortment has become very imperfect. Sales of the week, 10,000 bags.

SUGAR.—A further decline of 8 Sch. Bco. per 100lb. has to be recorded, but it caused buyers to come forward very freely, and some heavy transactions were entered into. Refined goods, on the contrary, are firm at last week's currency, at which 10,000 loaves were disposed of.

RICE.—There has been a considerable demand for cleaned East India descriptions, both for shipment and for land conveyance to the interior, fears being entertained for the safety of the potato crop in consequence of the heavy rains of the last fortnight. The market is therefore very firm and looking up. Importers of rough grain were, for the same reason, very unwilling to sell at present values, and no sales of any importance were concluded.

SPICES.—Cassia Lignea commands an easy sale at full prices. Ginger: Firm; 138 chests of Cochin, lately arrived, found immediate purchasers at remunerating quotations. Cloves are rather dearer and looking up. Pepper is firm, with a low stock. Pimento is in demand; 2,500 bags just imported sold readily by private contract, and realised 2 5-16ths Sch. Bco. per lb.

TIN.—The favourable accounts of the Dutch markets have had no influence here. The demand is languid, and prices nearly nominal.

SPELTER.—The calmness in the market last week has been succeeded by an animated business at rising prices. Market closes firm. Sales since last mail 3,000 centners at 16 marks 6 Sch. Bco., and 10,000 centners at 16.8.

TEA.—Market steady. Sales since last mail, 400 ½-chests of Congou ex. Margaretta, 200 chests of Congou, Souchong and Pecco, together with sundry parcels of Imperial and gunpowder.

GALLS.—Chinese and Japanese are rather cheaper. For the former some parcels have been disposed of at 63 mks. Bco. per 100lb.

CARGO LISTS.

JULIE, from Akyab: 8,200 bags rice, to order.

P. C. KINCH, Paulsen, from Manila and Hong Kong: 14,493 bags of sugar, 800 chests of Cassia Lignea, 100 chests oil of anniseed, 100 packages of galangal root.—Ross, Vidal, & Co.

JEANNIE, Smith, from Rangoon: 8,000 bags of rice, 2,000 bundles of rattans.—Order.

LINDA, von Bethen, from Cochin: 211 bales and 41,887 bundles of cocoanut yarn, 103 chests of ginger, 428 casks of cocoanut oil, 351 casks of train oil, 580 coils of rope.—C. Woermann.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 28, 1864.

THE CAPTURE OF NANKING.

IN our last issue we reported, through the Siberian telegraph from China, by way of St. Petersburg, that Nanking, the head stronghold of the Taipings, had fallen. By the present mail from Shanghai, we are in receipt of the details of that important capture, with the information that the TIEN WANG, the CHUNG WANG, and other rebel chiefs, were within its walls during the siege. We learn, also, that HUNG-SIN-TSIUEN, the originator of this gigantic politico-religious movement, committed suicide, in order that he should escape the tortures prepared for him by the "Imps;" but before that consummation he, like a second "Blue Beard," hung up all his wives, so that the captors found them dangling by their necks from the trees in the Yamun, a holocaust to the remains of the defunct Emperor of the "Heavenly Kingdom of Great Peace." *Requiescat in pace!* say we. Let us not crow over these deluded people in their day of punishment. Suffice it to say that all lovers of law and order in China will rejoice at this last, and we hope final, blow to the monster of Taipingdom. Even those foreigners who sympathised with the movement from a belief that it foreshadowed a path through the vale of Christianity to the regeneration of the heathen in that immensely-peopled empire, will now see that in looking for support to their missions by espousing the cause, they were leaning upon a broken reed. As to those renegade traders and adventurers who espoused the cause from motives of pure self-aggrandisement, at the cost of honour and legitimate trade, we have no doubt that they will suffer sufficiently in character and pocket to give them a lesson that the old adage, "Honesty is the best policy," would have been a safer game to follow than the risks attending contraband traffic. The honourable merchant, who discountenanced this kind of commerce with the Taipings, will now see the advantages that will accrue to the prosperity of the country, through which he derives a profitable import and export trade, by the extinction of this rebellion in the provinces on the Yang-tsze Kiang. It may be some years before the native traffic recovers its former position, but once it does in the centres of population at Soochow, Chin-kiang, and Nanking, there will be no limit to the trade in that part of China.

In the details of the capture, we are glad to see that there was less than usual of the atrocities committed by the conquerors in carrying out the sanguinary system of Chinese warfare. Doubtless this may be attributed to the influence of General BROWN and Colonel GORDON over the councils of the mandarins in command of the imperial army before Nanking. Although the latter-named gallant officer had retired from the Chinese service, still he appears to have been the directing spirit of the capture. From his special rank as a colonel in the Royal Engineers, he was eminently qualified to direct the operations of the Imperialist force; and had he been in a position to do so before, there is no doubt that the city would have been captured years ago. From its extensive lines of circumvallation, it was almost impossible to invest the city with less than two or three hundred thousand men—a force which, with the requirements elsewhere, could not be brought into the field. As it was, TSEU-KWO-FAN, one of the best military mandarins in China, sat down before the western walls with an army varying from 50,000 to 80,000 men, and a flotilla averaging 300 Chinese gunboats. Here the forces remained in position for nearly three years, only attacking the gates of the city at long intervals; while the Taiping garrison made sorties upon the besiegers from time to time, without any decided advantage on either side. But the capture of Soochow and other strongholds, with the dispersion of the greater part of the rebel army and the seizure of prisoners, weakened the resources of the fighting men at Nanking, while the Imperialists were enabled to bring reinforcements to the camp on the west of the city, and stop the communication of supplies on its southern and eastern flank. Hence the garrison had no external communication but by the river, and that was watched by the flotilla. Under these circumstances the attack was made at the east gate of the city, after a breach had been made in the outer wall by a mine containing 60,000 lbs. of gunpowder, opening up 120 feet of wall to the invading force. In another portion of our columns the details will be found. From these it will appear that the garrison made a gallant resistance; especially when we take into consideration their weakened condition. So that, on the whole, the capture of Nanking was, after all, but an ordinary affair in the annals of this Taiping rebellion. There were many more deadly struggles between the belligerents at the capture of smaller cities, and when they encountered the British troops near Shanghai. Consequently, without detracting from the skill of Colonel GORDON in directing the reconnaissances and engineering tactics, or the bravery of the disciplined Chinese in the assault, the reduction of the ancient southern capital of China and the last stronghold of the Taipings does not figure pre-eminently as a military success in the final campaign.

On the other hand, if we look upon this victory in a moral point of view, it is the greatest that has occurred. Here fell the originator of the movement by his own hand, while his brave coadjutor, CHUNG WANG, and no less able chief in the political part, the KAN WANG, were taken prisoners. In thus capturing these men the Imperialists have secured within their power the mainstay of all that is left of the rebellion; and as their fate may be easily supposed to be decapitation, if not worse, their death, added to that of the TIEN WANG, will end the history of Taipingdom. Fifteen years have elapsed since this upas tree was first planted in the Southern provinces of China, and sent its baneful influence into the central and northern districts. For twelve years it grew apace so rapidly that it attained a climax which threatened the dismemberment of the empire. Had its leaders confined their rapine and warfare to the interior, where foreigners have comparatively small influence, it is just possible that it would still be revelling in its strength. But these chiefs, in their unweening confidence, in the fanaticism of their followers, deemed themselves invulnerable against their countrymen, and able to dare the foreigners on the seaboard. In doing this they shipwrecked their cause, and brought the movement to a rapid close. Not more than three years sufficed to crush the rebellion, when attacked by the prowess and military appliances of Western nations. In 1861 it reached its culminating point at Shanghai, threatening to destroy that great foreign commercial emporium; and in 1864 the last remnant of its power has been destroyed at Nanking. Thus we may consider that the Taiping monster has been crushed by British skill and valour; so that peace and prosperity may return to the desolated homes of the industrious and suffering children of HAN.

THE FRENCH IN COCHIN-CHINA.

THE new treaty made by M. AUBARET, and of which the particulars only reached the French Government the other day, has given rise to some sharp words in Paris. In the first place, there is a want of trustworthy information on the subject—a common cause of all ill-feeling in political matters, in France and elsewhere. One party declares that M. AUBARET has ceded the whole of the provinces obtained by France in exchange for a general protectorate over the kingdom of Annam, and that the affair is thus settled; while another declares that such is the tenor of M. AUBARET'S arrangement, but the Government here, in Paris, has repudiated this act of its diplomatic servant. The Ministerialists explain the matter in another way, and although the terms of their statement are as vague as usual, we are inclined to think that their version is the true

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one; namely, that M. AUBARET has negotiated a treaty upon the basis of general instructions given him by his Government, but that he was necessarily compelled to depend upon his own judgment as regarded the details, and that what he has done requires to be confirmed by the Imperial fiat. There is good reason to believe that this is the true state of the case, for M. AUBARET does not hold the rank of Ambassador or Minister Plenipotentiary, but only of Envoy Extraordinary; and therefore it would be in accordance with ordinary usage that he should only have been authorised to negotiate the terms of a convention to be afterwards approved or modified by his Government. Besides, the probability is that delay would be favourable rather than otherwise to French views, and the Annamites are not in a position to take advantage of it on their own account. Contradictory stories have been sent home from Saigon, but that is a policy to which the world is no stranger.

The feeling in France against the Cochin-Chinese business is remarkably strong: the views of the French do not extend to the Far East. In this the people are behind the Government in policy, the great mass of the former being ready to applaud almost any incursion on European grounds, but averse to distant expeditions, no matter with what object; while the Government is desirous of extending its power in the East, and of following Great Britain in its commercial crusades. That the Imperial Government has achieved something considerable in this way, there can be no question; France is better known now than she ever was in the Indian and China seas, and her manufactures and commerce have reaped some, and will probably reap much greater benefits from the extension of her influence, provided that her efforts be not rendered futile, as they have so often been before, by the substitution of naval and military domination for commercial enterprise. The desire of the EMPEROR to push his power in the East is exhibited upon all occasions, and at the present moment the Ministerial organs are occupied in informing the public how rapidly French influence is growing in China proper. We are told that the Franco-Chinese force is about to be increased, and that before long not only the Taipings, but all other rebels, will be crushed beneath the strong arm of Imperial China led by Imperial France. There is a strong confirmation of this idea to be found in our Ningpo summary of news.

With respect to China as well as Cochin-China, it is well to record the assertion of the *Constitutionnel* that—"The Imperial "Government knows how to extend and increase the legitimate "influence of France, and to protect all her interests." There is no doubt that if French merchants and French manufacturers knew how to push commerce and colonisation as well as those of England, the Government of LOUIS NAPOLEON would afford them magnificent opportunities.

Since the above was written it has been rumoured that the concessions proposed by M. AUBARET are to cost the Annamites four millions sterling. The *Presse* says on the general subject:—"We look upon long expeditions as a fault, and we "think that when a mistake has been committed the wisest "thing is to correct it as soon as possible. Between the cost of "immense establishments and inevitable embarrassments in "future and the treaty of M. AUBARET, it appears to us there "can be no reason to hesitate." And this view is partaken of by a great many. The Government, when it went to Saigon, made a most specific declaration against any territorial acquisition; it forgot its promise to its own people, and it is now suffering inevitable consequences.

THE MISSIONARY CAUSE AT PEKING.

The following letter from the Rev. Joseph Edkins, dated May 30, appears in the *Patriot*, as also the letter from Dr. Lockhart, lately returned to England:—

Everything is peaceful here, and foreign residents come and go without exciting much remark among the Chinese population. Occasional rumours of an intended rising against the European residents deserve and receive little attention. The native Roman Catholics have made themselves famous by transmitting or originating these rumours. It is supposed that they wish, by so doing, to induce the French to send a force for the defence of the Catholic religion and priesthood.

Peking is a great gathering-place for the *literati*, who take all the higher degrees after examination here. The Emperor is the literary as well as political and sacrificial head of the nation. He summons the scholars of the nation to his presence, and rewards them after trial. What at home are university honours are here Imperial honours. This is true so far that many a scholar bases his intention to be loyal to the existing Government on the fact that he is under obligations to it for the bestowal of the literary titles which he wears. A few days since I was visiting the Confucian temple, an old establishment, dating from the Mongol dynasty five centuries ago. The Imperial college, with which it is connected, contains the monuments of the classics, on which are engraved in stone the whole text of the sacred books. There is also a fine palatial building in which the Emperor occasionally expounds the Confucian doctrine. A crowd of young aspirants for the honours bestowed through the medium of this college were traversing the courts, leaning on the marble balustrades, or standing in groups earnestly conversing. I inquired the occasion of so many of them being there, and learnt that the Emperor, to promote diligence in study, invites the young Manchus and Chinese of Peking to a triennial examination. A small money reward is bestowed on the most promising. After examinations of greater pretensions, when the degree of doctor is conferred, it is customary to inscribe the names of the doctors on a monument erected in the front court of the Confucian temple. Several hundreds of these monuments are to be seen there.

We have learned recently that vaccination is practised extensively in Peking among the people and in the families of the Princes. There are two public vaccinators in Peking. One of them, whom I met at a gratuitous vaccine institution in the Chinese city, nearly two miles from this hospital, has been there for many years. The vaccine lymph was originally brought from Canton nearly forty years ago. Two years since it was lost, but a new supply was obtained through the kindness of Dr. Lockhart, who is gratefully remembered by the vaccinator. At present as many as sixty or seventy children are operated on in a day. The days for vaccination are at intervals of a week. The expenses of the institution are borne by official subscriptions, and no charge is made for vaccination; so far from this, a gratuity is conferred on every mother who brings her child a second time. The gratuity (ten cash, or one penny of our money) is a preservative against the loss of the lymph. On other days the operator visits families in any part of the Chinese or Tartar city, to practise for his own advantage. Not having glass tubes to carry the lymph, he takes a boy with him in his cart, whom he pays for the purpose. Beggar-boys are enticed to submit to the operation, consenting to it only on receiving a considerable bribe. They are afterwards, on a suitable day, conveyed to the residences of the noble and rich, in order that the lymph may be transferred from their arms to children born in a more happy position of life.

FRANCE AND THE FAR EAST.

(FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.)

In spite of the absence of everybody from Paris, somebody still busies himself about what is going on in those far off oceans of which Frenchmen never talked and rarely ever thought of ten years since. Now everything connected with China and Japan has a special interest to political and commercial ears. With the late announcements by telegraph came many private letters from the Far East, all full of comments concerning the intentions of the English in Japan; some portions of these have ouzed out, and the tenor of them seems to be pretty much as follows. That very grave events are in preparation, that Sir Rutherford Alcock has now some 400 troops at his command, with a small siege train; that reinforcements are expected, and that the attack on the works in the Straits of Simono-Saki will probably have taken place before the departure of the next homeward bound mail. There is not very much in all this that will be new to your readers. It is not the text but the comment in this case which is of value. It is said in Paris that probably, by this time, the English are masters of the Strait of Simono-Saki, "which will lay all Japan at their feet." At the same time it is asserted that the Tycoon has determined to remain entirely neuter because he will not place himself in hostility with the English. The occupation of the Strait of Simono-Saki, say certain French critics, will be immediately followed by that of Kanagawa and the two other most important strategetical points. The English, they say, have therefore arrived at what they have been so long working for, namely, the possession of Japan, which is capable of feeding so largely their commerce and industry; and one writer kindly informs us that:—"If the representative of England at Yedo is to be believed, they will create a trade of two hundred millions per annum within three years." If the prophet speaketh in sterling the prospect is magnificent, and if in francs, not bad. All this sounds very fine, and to read it one would suppose that the success and domination of England in Japan were dead certainties, while France stands quietly by with folded arms utterly unconcerned in the matter. This is possibly not quite the precise state of affairs, and if things do not take exactly the course predicted probably nobody will be less surprised than the prophet who foretells them with such confidence and who looks into the future with such a piercing eye.

The frigate *Eldorado* brought 1,864 soldiers and others, sent home from Cochin-China, from Alexandria not long since; and she brought home also a very fine collection of animals and birds, sent as a present to the Imperial Government by the Kings of Siam. It also brought two immense cases, containing, the plants and seed which supply a peculiarly fine perfume but the name of which is not given. Amongst the freight was a Cochin-China carriage, which has been sent to the Museum of Colonial Productions in the *Palais de l'Industrie*, in the champs Elysees.

The *Eldorada* has just left for Alexandria with five com-

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panies of marines, a large number of naval officers, infirmary men and artificers, a large quantity of arms, 150 casks of military clothing, besides arms and accoutrements for native spahis; 100 cases of medicines, and the whole furniture for a floating hospital; eight large anchors and chain cables, and a mass of other things, all of which are to be taken up in the Red Sea by the *Sarthe*, which recently arrived from Cochin-China.

CHEQUES AND A CLEARING-HOUSE FOR PARIS.

FEW things seem so strange to an English man of business as the system of paying, as it were, over the counter, common to even great establishments in Paris and other continental towns. You have a draft on a merchant or wholesale house, and you are astonished to see a huge iron chest open within a wirework cage that looks almost like a railway-ticket office, and the cashier takes out a heap of notes and gold and hands you over the amount. In the same way you go to a public office for an account due to you, and after being wearied to death by the interminable forms which have to be gone through, and having to wait at the end of a *queue* of people, who seem to have nothing on earth to do but to wait, first at one pigeon-hole window and then at another, till you get a clerk's signature, a superintendent's initials, an inspector's tick, the sub-cashier's note, the cashier's initials on that, or what not, according to the nature of the affair, or the office with which you have to do—you are agreeably surprised to find that at last you really get your money itself and not a cheque on a banker, entailing the waste of the rest of your morning. There is a good side to almost everything, and this is the bright spot in the most complicated, wearying, and extravagant system that ever was invented to multiply officials and keep down the growth of commerce.

But France, or at least Paris, is beginning—indeed, has fairly begun—to study and to imitate, more or less exactly, the English system of economising time and increasing business. She, like all the world, has adopted our postage stamps; and after a few years' practice in cutting them off with scissors singly, and neatly nipping off the corners, just to pass away the time, she has pierced the sheets, and now tears them off like a Christian. She has adopted our town telegraph system, and now you may send a message from one end of Paris to another for half-a-franc. France and Italy have given the whole world the go-bye in the matter of international post-office orders, which must be adopted between all nations before long; and, lastly, Paris is now gradually adopting our general banking system.

For some time past several banking and financial companies have opened accounts current and furnished their customers with cheque books—or rather with a book of *receipt* forms—and a good many commercial houses have adopted the system. If, however, one of these receipts is given to one of the uninitiated in the cheque system, he will turn and twist it about and generally conclude with the inquiry whether he can *touch* the amount off hand—the habit, you must understand, of most small tradesmen, and even of many others, in Paris, being to give you a note of hand payable at the "end of the month," and you may meet with scraps of paper of this kind for all amounts down to a few francs passing from hand to hand without endorsement or any kind of formality.

The cheque system, however, obtained the sanction of the Legislature during the last session and is now coming gradually into practice. The form in use is that of a draft at sight, and it may be payable to bearer, to any given person or to order; but if *crossed* they are then payable only to a banker, an *agent de change* (stockbroker), notary, or any other person or firm known to the banker as a responsible party.

But it is clearly seen by men of business that without a regularly organised system it will take many years to render the cheque system universal, and release the large amount of capital which now necessarily lies unproductive from day to day and from year to year in private hands. In short, nothing less than the introduction of the *Clearing house* system in Paris. With this conviction M. P. J. Coullet, one of the directors of the *Messageries Imperiales*, has just issued a *brochure* explaining in detail the whole method of clearing in London both as regards the London and country banks, and stating what modifications will, in his opinion, be necessary to fit it to the wants and circumstances of the commercial and financial world of Paris. There are some differences which must be taken into account; one very important one being the greater dissemination of business in Paris than in London. Upon this point M. Coullet says:—

"Let us remember that in London the great mass of business is confined to the city; for example, out of the eighty-six establishments to which we have referred (the clearing bankers), fifty-five are situated within the limits of the city, and only thirty-one in other parts of the town. Still, in spite of this disproportion, one cannot help being struck with the fact that even in a city in which all the commerce is grouped in one spot, it has been found necessary to open thirty-one banks of deposit in other parts. In applying to Paris the reflections to which this state of things gives rise, we arrive at the conclusion that branch or district banks are much more necessary in Paris than in London. We need not develop this idea, which is evident to all who are acquainted with the commerce of Paris, its habits, and local distribution. We therefore believe in the success of the branches which the great establishments have opened in many quarters. If we admit the necessity, or even the utility of multiplying such branches, we find ourselves obliged to recognise as a natural consequence the utility and the necessity of the Clearing-house."

M. Coullet goes minutely into the details and modes of working the Clearing-house in Paris, which he suggests should be in, or close to, the Bourse; and gives, moreover, all the forms required from the note of deposit and cheque-book, with the regulations of a bank of deposit, up to the final liquidation ticket of the Clearing house. These details are peculiarly valuable for the financial and commercial world of London, and the more so from the perspicuous manner in which they are drawn up, but would have interest for a comparatively small number of our readers, and are entirely beyond the scope of an ordinary article.

The grand thing for the commercial world of England to know is, that enlightened men in France are now fully awake to the necessity of making a grand reform in the method of conducting business; and that, although slowly, perhaps, the system will eventually be assimilated in the two countries. It is true that the introduction of the cheque and clearing system in Paris will not, directly, much affect the trade between the two countries, but it proves the growing sympathy between them, and is one of the most promising signs of greatly increased commercial relations.

INDIA.—THE DANGER OF ANOTHER MUTINY.

The Times' correspondent's letters have been full of warnings to the authorities on the danger of depriving the Governor-General of the ample powers possessed by predecessors. The semblance of power, says the writer, is here the substance and reality at the India-office in London. The danger of arming the police with rifles and swords is particularly dwelt on. These remarks have called forth the following letter:—

(To the Editor of *The Times*.)

Sir,—The letter of your Calcutta correspondent published in *The Times* of to-day reflects so accurately the dissatisfaction and the fears of Anglo-Indians of every class, that I venture to ask a little space at this slack season to endorse the writer's views, and to add a few comments of my own. The great and general disgust in India at the manner in which the local Governments, including the Supreme Government, are treated by the home Administration cannot be exaggerated. The natives are not adverse to this system. They are too shortsighted to perceive its disadvantages to themselves, and they like to be able to snap their fingers in the face of governors, commissioners, and even viceroys, by appeals to the Secretary of State. I have just had personal knowledge myself of a case in which a native official had applied, without success, to his own Government and to the Supreme Government for redress of what was certainly a very great wrong done to him in the reduction of a certain establishment. He is a very respectable man, and a very good officer. But the claim was for a refunding of money, and under the new regulations the local Government could only promise promotion at the first opportunity, and the Supreme Government declined to entertain the case. The claimant appealed to the Secretary of State, and received in reply a complimentary letter from that high official, and an order for the payment of the claim. Now, anyone acquainted with India will recognise at once the effect even a single occurrence of this kind must have in a large Eastern city. All of this man's caste will hear of the beneficence of the great man and real ruler of India in London. To him all will direct their eyes and address their prayers. The local authorities will sink into insignificance, if not into contempt, in the minds of the people. The local rulers themselves will fall to the level of their reduced importance, and ultimately, in place of having men in India equal to great emergencies, and accustomed to govern, we shall have simply a number of chief clerks, unaccustomed to responsibility, shrinking from action, successful enough probably in fair weather, but totally unequal to the perils of a storm.

In India Sir Charles Wood is blamed for all this, and is often called not untruly the "best abused" of English statesmen. But those who, like your correspondent, can occasionally peep behind the scenes, know that the Indian Council is the real author of all this miserable meddling.

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It is worth while inquiring what are the objects and the advantages of this Indian Council. It doubtless affords a number of superannuated Indian officers the satisfaction experienced by the retired tallow chandler in the anecdote. It is pleasant to those gentlemen, no doubt, to "look in on boiling days" in Victoria-street; but the system of boiling may have changed since they were in the trade, and their old fashioned ways may impede instead of expediting operations. Beyond this personal gratification to a few of our Indian magnates—"retired from business," what good does this Council effect? The Supreme Government has a council composed of official and non-official members, natives and Europeans of high rank or position in the country. The subordinate Governments of the Presidencies have similar councils conversant with the local wants of their respective territories. Thus, if a measure is initiated—say in Bombay or Madras, having passed through the local Legislative Council, it may be assumed to be adapted to the special wants of the Presidency it originates in. It is then referred to the Supreme Government of India lest it should contain provisions inimical to the interests of the country as a whole. Over the Supreme Council presides the Viceroy, and in it sits one of the most eminent masters of jurisprudence we possess. The widest and most varied experience and the most complete knowledge of principles are there concentrated on the new candidate for legislative honours. When it has passed this second ordeal one would naturally suppose that its final sanction by Her Majesty's Ministers was almost a matter of course. One would naturally suppose that the duty of the Ministers was simply to see whether local pressure or prejudice had in any way warped the judgment of the legislators in India, and made them swerve from those great principles of government which have the confidence of the Parliament and people of this country. But this would be an error. The measure is referred to the Secretary of State for India in Council, and the whole business has to be done over again by much less efficient performers in Westminster. Perhaps one Councillor has occupied a high official position in the territory to which the measure applies, and his local experience (of ten years ago, or upwards) exercises a far greater influence on the fate of the new Act than the local Governor and all his Council. Even if the Secretary and a majority of the Council side with the Indian authorities, it is always possible for a recalcitrant member to get the ear of a Cabinet Minister ambitious of filling the Viceregal office in India, and the measure approved in the Council may be reversed in the Cabinet. In India we are often startled by contradictory despatches following close on the heels of each other. Orders of the most precise nature, written, apparently, with all the vigour and decision of thorough conviction, arrive at some Indian Presidency, and meet with a prompt and willing obedience. In a month's time, lo! out comes a second despatch on the same subject of a tenor so completely and elaborately opposite to the first that common people can scarcely help believing that in the interval the Secretary of State and all his Council have been turned inside out or upside down. Thus in great measures there is a vacillation, and in small ones a perpetual and mischievous activity, which threatens to ruin our prestige in the East.

Of what use, as your correspondent well asks—of what use is a Governor-General without power? If he is to be merely the secretary of a Secretary of State, if India is to be governed from London, abolish the Supreme Council, for it is an absurdity. But if India is to be governed in India, abolish the Indian Council, which is worse than an absurdity, for it is a mischief. At present, India is evidently over-councilled.

A few words as to the native army—not as to its grievances, but its constitution. Your correspondent is scarcely fair towards it. The Bengal native army mutinied, and a portion of the Bombay army, but the Madras army, composed of about fifty regiments, remained steadfast and faithful to its salt. I place little reliance on the affection of the natives for us. Fear, respect, and habit are the foundation on which we should build our security. But prior to the late mutiny the native army did us good service. With it we conquered India, and the disgrace that has fallen upon it is due to an ill-constituted section of it, and not to the whole of it. A Madras regiment is a little country—it may almost be called a large family. The families of the men live in the lines and move about with the corps. The male children are enrolled when yet in their mothers' arms, and the son serves under the same colours as his father and grandfather did. Families intermarry, the whole regiment becomes thus knit together; all the affections and interests of the men are bound up with their corps; no land, no village, or distant cottage with wife and children dwelling in it distract their thoughts or alienate their sympathies. You will admit, I think, that a better system could not be devised for securing the fidelity of alien soldiers. It was well proved in 1857. When the men were asked if they also were going to mutiny, they replied, pointing to the huts round which their wives and children swarmed, "Are not our families here? How could we mutiny, even if we wished?" The Bengal system is about the reverse of that I have described. The men alone go on duty with their regiment; wives and children remain in their villages. The regiment is recruited in the ordinary way. There is little hereditary service or common bond. Thus the strongest securities for fidelity are wanting. Yet at the present moment the Madras army is being largely reduced; and active recruiting is going on among the old pandies of Bengal.—Your obedient servant,

INDOPOLITE.

Naval and Military.

—o—

H.M.S. Vulcan is now daily expected from China, with time-expired troops and stores.

Captain John Borlase, C.B., who has been appointed by the Board of Admiralty to the command of the Trafalgar, 72, coast-guard ship at Queensferry, North Britain, vice Captain C. F. Schomberg, who has been placed on the retired list, entered the navy in November, 1823, and after serving in the Mediterranean until 1835, next at Portsmouth, then three years in the Pacific, and again eighteen months at Portsmouth in the Excellent, was made lieutenant June 11, 1841. After next serving two years on the coast of China, and again four years in the Mediterranean, he was advanced to commander June 13, 1849. In December, 1850, he was sent to Constantinople to give instruction to the Turkish navy in gunnery, and which duty he continued to perform until August, 1854, when he joined the Ceylon in the Bosphorus, and rendered most important assistance to the late Rear-Admiral Edward Boxer. He subsequently landed with the Naval Brigade in the Crimea, where he served in the batteries at the bombardment of Sebastopol, and was gazetted for his meritorious conduct in command of a rocket party at the battle of Inkerman. He commanded the Melampus, 42, at Constantinople, from December, 1854, until advanced to post rank, April 7, 1855, and paid her off in October, 1856. He commanded the Pearl 21, from August, 1859, until paid off, June 18, 1864, chiefly employed in China, including the action at Kagosima, in August, 1863.

The Russian Imperial storeship Guilack sailed from the Motherbank, off Ryde, Isle of Wight, for the river Amoor, calling in at Rio de Janeiro. She conveys a large quantity of specie for the use of the settlements on the Amoor.

The *Gazette* contains a notice that preparations are now being made for the intended distribution of the proceeds of certain piratical junks captured on the 5th of September, 1860, by Her Majesty's ship Grasshopper and the pinnace of the Esk. Agents or other persons having a demand against the said proceeds are required to transmit the particulars to the Registrar of the High Court of Admiralty; and agents and others holding powers of attorney or other instruments, by virtue of which they may be legally entitled to claim the share belonging to any captor, are to transmit the same, with the usual documents, to the Prize Branch of the Department of the Accountant-General of the Navy. Due notice will be given of the date proposed for the commencement of the distribution, and of the shares in their respective classes.

The 1st Battalion of the 10th Regiment, under command of Major Barlow, sailed from Kingstown, on board the Mary Sheppard, for the Cape of Good Hope. The numbers embarked were 11 officers, 232 non-commissioned officers and rank and file, 15 women, and 17 children. The officers were—Major Barlow, Captain Lucas, Stammer, Armstrong, and Rudge; Lieutenants Scott and Armstrong; Ensigns Palmer, Orton, Austin, and Hood; and Assistant-Surgeon Dunlop. The Mary Sheppard is a sailing vessel of about 800 tons burden, and, judging from the time she took in coming to Kingstown from England, her voyage is not likely to be a rapid one.

The Royal Sovereign turret-ship, Capt. Sheiard Osborn, C.B., now at Portland, has been almost daily under weigh since the 1st of September, testing her many novel fittings and accustoming her officers and crew to working her guns and turrets. The ship, from her extraordinary beam of 63ft. 4in. and her barrel shaped bottom, tests the turrets to their utmost, and it may safely be said that when they can be worked in such a ship with such ponderous ordnance as her present 12-ton guns, they will work anywhere. The ship never was intended for and never can be a sea-going ship. Some of our contemporaries run away with the idea that Captain Osborn is testing the sea-going qualities of the Royal Sovereign, whereas he is merely testing the sea-going fighting qualities of the cupolas or turrets. The guns were worked and have been repeatedly fired with the ship rolling 10 and 11 deg. each way in a minute. No ship, it is supposed, in the service could have cast loose a 100-pounder of five tons under similar circumstances without some serious accident. The 12 ton 150-pounders have now been fired 30 times each, and not a single breeching has been carried away. We know a ship in the Channel Fleet which cannot fire a 100-pounder five or six times in a seaway without calling for a fresh breeching. The wooden gun carriages show symptons of the trial to which they have been subjected, and all on board the ship call for iron carriages as well as iron guns and turrets. The unaccountable manner in which the Royal Sovereign was sent away from Portsmouth without her defects and alterations being completed, although the dockyard found time to plaster 40 tons more of wood and iron over the already overladen sides of this ship, has occasioned great discomfort to all on board during the broken and rainy weather recently experienced, and prevented all the experiments being carried out which Captains Osborn and Coles would have desired. Had she been an Admiralty pet, no care or expense would have been spared; as it is, no one, we are told, at Whitehall would break their hearts if the crew of the Royal Sovereign declare her to be everything that was wretched.

By direction of the Admiralty a survey has been made of a number of the vessels composing the sailing reserve in Chatham harbour, preparatory to their being sold out of the navy, the whole of them, with some few exceptions, being altogether unsuited to the present requirements of the service. There are about 50 vessels of various rates and sizes. The greater number belong the "Symonds" class of frigates and sloops, which, although considered perfect models of naval architecture a few years ago, are now, for all practical purposes, perfectly useless as ships of war. Of the number stated some of the old line-of-battle and other ships, such as the Ocean, the Benbow, the Devonshire, and the Glocester, are doing good service as receiving, hospital, and coal ships; but the majority, including the Ganges, 84, the Vanguard, 80, the Chichester, 50, and the fine frigates Nankin, 50, Vernon, 50, Southampton, 50, and a vast number of sloops and frigates of lesser tonnage, are rotting in the harbour. They impede the navigation, and each ship requires a staff of warrant officers and men to be kept on board for the purpose of "looking after" the vessel. Several of the squadron of sailing vessels in the Medway have been turned to profitable use by being fitted for training and school ships, and sent to the Thames, Liverpool, Bristol, and many other of the principal ports, and it is deserving of the serious consideration of the Admiralty whether, considering that probably not one of the numerous sailing vessels of war now lying at Chatham will ever again be required for service in war are, it would not be advisable to utilise all the available vessels of this class for purposes of seamanship connected with the mercantile marine rather than keep them in idleness until they are only fit to be broken up, as it is expected will be found to be the case with the majority of those now in the harbour.

We (*United Service Gazette*) understand that Sir Charles Wood has prohibited the Indian Government from taking any offensive measure against Bhootan. This step has been taken without consultation with Sir John Lawrence or any of the Indian officials.

The stem of the iron frigate Bellerophon having been completed at the smithery in Chatham dockyard, has been removed to the factory,

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where it is undergoing the cutting and planing process previously to being fixed in its place. Unlike the other iron frigates, the stem of the Bellerophon is forged in three separate pieces, and is the largest work of the kind ever undertaken at Chatham dockyard. Its gross weight is nearly 30 tons but this will be considerably reduced during the time it is undergoing the necessary preparation before it can be fitted in its place. The peculiar formation of the bow of the Bellerophon, which resembles nothing so much as the lowest part of a capital S, renders the operation of smoothing and cutting it a difficult and somewhat tedious undertaking, but some additional powerful machinery has recently been erected at Chatham dockyard, to be used in operations of this kind. Some new machinery, of a more powerful kind than any hitherto in use at Chatham, has recently been erected in the factory adjoining the dock in which the Bellerophon is building, to be used in the preparation of the 6-inch and other armour-plates destined to incase that vessel, which, according to her present rate of progress, will be ready to receive her first plate early in the ensuing year.

The Thunderer, sailing line-of-battle ship, has been cut down to her maindeck port sills in dock at Portsmouth, and is being fitted as the future target ship for testing armour-plates at Portsmouth.

TRIAL TRIP OF THE "LONDON."

The success of the auxiliary screw steamer *Great Britain* in the Melbourne trade is stimulating the owners of Australian liners to produce vessels of her class. On the 22nd inst. the iron screw ship-rigged steamer *London*, belonging to Messrs. Money Wigram and Co., made a trial run from Gravesend to the Nore. Starting at 2 P.M. she proceeded against a strong flood tide down the river, returning to her anchorage at Gravesend at 5.50, thus accomplishing the distance of 44 miles in 3h. 50m., the revolutions of the engine ranging up to 80, and the maximum speed over 11 knots. This vessel was built by the owners at their yard at Blackwall, her dimensions being 267 feet length, 35 beam, 24 depth, and her tonnage, including the engine-room, 1,752 tons. The engines are by Messrs. Humphreys and Tennant, of 200-horse power nominal, and considering the power, the rate of speed is a great success.

A very handsome luncheon was provided, and as the visitors numbered nearly 200 there was no difficulty in filling every corner of the very capacious saloon. The cabins in the poop, with their fine large ports, almost seduce a landsman to take a trip to Melbourne. Each of the cabins on the lower deck are also fitted with two scuttles, and in all parts of the vessel there is ample room—that great desideratum on board ship. The berths, which number 90 first-class and 160 second and third, are nearly all engaged. Captain Martin, formerly of the *Suffolk*, in the same employ, has been appointed to command the *London*. Messrs. McLeod, Allport, and Co., the brokers for Messrs. Money Wigram and Co. will despatch the vessel for Melbourne on the 22nd October from Gravesend, and it is expected that she will make the passage in 60 days.

NEW FRANCO-ANNAMITE TREATY.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—The sketch you give of the New Franco-Annamite Treaty, in your issue of the 15th inst., is somewhat incomplete, and your remarks thereon not exactly correct.

The French yield up the three conquered provinces for a protectorate over the six composing Lower Cochin-China.

Saigon, Mitho, and another point are to be occupied militarily by the French.

The laws are to be administered and revenue collected by the Annamese, but no new laws or taxes are to be enacted without the consent of the French.

Three ports on the east are to be opened to French trade, and a certain quantity of ground ceded in each place for a settlement.

Liberty is granted to French missionaries to propagate their religion.

Consular agents are to be established at the capital and trading ports.

Payment of an indemnity of 100,000,000f. to France is demanded.

The difference is not great, but still it is worth noting. The French by this treaty have obtained the command of the five mouths of the Cambodia River, which they had not hitherto possessed. The missionary clause secures them the right of interference whenever they wish it, as those "mild Christians" are always persecuted. The country is handed over to French trade exclusively. Not a word is said for the Spaniards, who contributed largely to the conquest of the three provinces, and the interests of other nations are ignored. We were more liberal in China, at any rate.

The indemnity clause shows that our gallant allies sometimes fight for rather substantial ideas, and that the civilisation they carry with them (Heaven save the mark!) is in their consideration worth a trifle.

It is to be hoped that our Government will also claim similar advantages from the Court at Hue, and that the English also may be allowed to trade in Cochin-China and Cambodia, on the footing of the most favoured nation. Let Mr. Layard see to this before Parliament meets, because it is possible he may be applied to for information on a subject of some importance to our Eastern trade.—Your obedient servant,

London, Sept. 19, 1864. S. M.

IMPORTANT MARITIME DECISION.—A case of considerable importance to the owners and masters of vessels and also to ships' crews was heard at the Falmouth Police-court on the 14th inst. Captain Jolly, of the ship *Brandon*, of London, 900 tons register, summoned John Copeland and 17 other seamen belonging to the ship's crew for disobeying his lawful orders. It appeared from the captain's evidence that he had sailed from London on the 15th of July, 1863, for Melbourne, thence to Akyab; East Indies; thence to Falmouth, with a cargo of rice. At Falmouth he remained some days awaiting orders, which he received on the previous day, directing him to proceed to Antwerp to discharge his cargo. He accordingly went on board and ordered the men to man the windlass and get the ship under way. This they refused to do, stating that they would not sail for any Continental port, as their articles did not bind them to go there. Mr. Moorman, who appeared for the plaintiff, said the only question for their worships to decide, as the refusal to work was admitted, was whether or not the voyage was really concluded at Falmouth, according to the ship's articles. The articles were dated London, July 16, 1863, and were in the following terms:—"For a voyage from London to Melbourne, or any port or ports in the Indian Ocean, or Pacific Ocean, or Chinese Seas, or West Indies, or wherever freight or employment for ship may offer; trading backwards or forwards in any succession till her return to a final port of discharge in the United Kingdom, voyage not to exceed two years." He submitted that according to these articles the vessel could trade to any port where freight might offer, so that she ultimately came to a final port of discharge in the United Kingdom within the two years for which the seamen were articled. Antwerp was not a final port of discharge, but an intermediate port, where freight might be earned, and there was still plenty of time to make a voyage from Antwerp and return to the United Kingdom within the time specified. Mr. Jenkins, for the defendants, submitted that the law was that if the captain wanted to take the men to a place not named in the articles they had a right to refuse, and such refusal could not be construed into an act of disobedience to lawful orders. The judgment of Lord Stowell, in the case of the *Minerva* (1, Hagg Rep., 347 and 356), was decisive on the matter. Lord Stowell said, "if the master propose to take the vessel on a voyage not designated by the articles, the mariners may leave a ship without being guilty of desertion: and words of indefinite meaning inserted in the ship's articles, as 'or elsewhere" will be construed in favour of the mariners; and with reference to the general course and routine of the voyage described in the context such words must receive a reasonable construction conformable to the interests of commerce; they are not to be taken in the indefinite latitude in which they are expressed; they are not to be admitted as an universal *alibi* for the whole world, including the most remote and even pestilential shores." Mr. Jenkins contended that the words in the *Brandon's* articles, "or wherever freight or employment for the ship may offer," were of the same nature and of the same "indefinite meaning" as the words "or elsewhere," quoted by Lord Stowell. The sailing "backwards and forwards" meant between those places named in the articles; and as there was no mention of the Continent the men were clearly entitled, on the principles laid down by Lord Stowell, to refuse to proceed there, and had a right to their discharge at Falmouth, which was the port in the United Kingdom to which they had returned. After some consideration the Bench decided that had the vessel continued to trade between those places mentioned in the articles there could be no doubt that the captain could have compelled the men to serve for two years, but as the ship had returned to England, and there was no Continental clause in the articles, the men must be discharged. The court was densely crowded during the hearing, as there were many captains and crews in that port whose articles were stated to be similarly drawn up to the articles of the *Brandon*.

THE ANOMALY IN JAPAN.—The Kanagawa correspondent of the *New York Times* writes:—"If Japan can be classed among civilised nations, the action of the English in landing forces here would be a declaration of war of itself, as well as the edict of expulsion which she has been under for the past nine months. The absurdity of the position assumed by both parties strikes one at once, when we make the comparisons, in supposing America should order all Englishmen from her soil, and while an embassy was over attempting negotiations on the subject an English admiral should arrive in New York harbour, and demand a place on Staten Island for troops, and require barracks for the same to be built by the United States Government within a stipulated time, which should be immediately complied with. But such is exactly what is being done here."

Monetary and Commercial.

The present high rate of discount (9 per cent.) adopted by the Bank of England is causing a purification which would not have taken place except in a "regular smash." It is very probable that, the system of over advancing being now checked, we may see the end of the year without a crisis similar to 1857, with one exception, and that is "peace" in America. Should that event take place, it will cause a disruption of business in this country which will certainly produce a panic. Our merchants tremble in the balance for this event. We believe, however, that the effect on the supplies of cotton will be overrated for the moment. No one knows the quantity of cotton which has been grown and is now to be found throughout the length and breadth of the Southern States, but we do know the enormous stimulus which has been given to its growth in other parts of the world, and that the supplies from these sources will continue to pour in long after the word "peace" has run along every telegraphic wire in existence.

The following comments on the fall in the price of cotton are from the *Daily News*:—

The reduction of 4d. or 5d. per lb. which has taken place in the price of cotton since the commencement of the peace discussions in America, is calculated to bring about a certain degree of relief in the money market. It stands to reason that if we have to pay 4d. or 5d. a pound less for cotton than we reckoned upon paying a few weeks ago, our pecuniary position is to that extent benefited; and the gain in a national sense—whatever may be the result to speculative holders overtaken by the fall in prices—is not slight if regard be had to the proportion which this fall bears to the total price of cotton in the years preceding the outbreak of the American war. In view of the present altered and uncertain position of the Liverpool cotton market, and of the great results which might ensue to the cotton trade in the event of an armistice being arranged in America, it is probable that additional caution will henceforward be exercised by all engaged in the cotton import trade. Foreign correspondents will no longer

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be allowed to draw so heavily as heretofore on London firms; the trade will be conducted with a smaller amount of speculation; and it is by no means improbable that before long the shipments of bullion to Egypt, India, and others of the new cotton growing countries, may receive some check. We have yet to learn the effect produced in the Indian markets by the idea of peace in America, and by the heavy fall in the price of cotton here. By many it is anticipated that the immediate effect will be a favourable movement to a rather important extent in the Indian exchanges. From these considerations it will be seen that there is a prospect of some of the discouraging features now presented in our money market being obviated.

The period for the introduction of the Egyptian Loan for £5,000,000 sterling, depends greatly upon the course of our money market; but, circumstances permitting, it will probably be issued about November. The loan is intended to cover liabilities already incurred here and in Paris, representing very nearly the amount above-mentioned, and which become due during the next twelve months. These liabilities consist of £2,400,000, due by the Viceroy of Egypt to the promoters of the Suez Canal, on the arbitration of the French Government; £750,000, due to the Egyptian Trading Company; and Treasury bills to the amount of about £2,000,000, held in London and Paris. A large portion of these liabilities have accrued through the purchase here of agricultural implements and machinery, chiefly required for the cultivation of cotton. It is thus believed that the loan will involve no drain of gold from England.

The new bank in formation at Hong Kong has been well spoken of in the City. Some dissatisfaction has been expressed that the advertisement does not name any agents in London to whom applications for shares could be sent by parties residing in England. On application to Messrs. Dent, Palmer, and Co., we found that no request had been conveyed to them on the subject. Even if the business is confined to local transactions, and exchange operations excluded, representatives in London will be desirable.

A call of £5, payable half as capital and half as premium, is to be paid on the shares of the Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East by Oct. 8, and interest at 10 per cent. will be charged beyond that day.

An extraordinary meeting of the shareholders of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China is called for Oct. 5, to declare an *interim* dividend for the half-year ended June 30 last.

The meeting of the Oriental Bank was announced in our last as fixed for Oct. 13. The interim dividend will be declared at £2 per share.

A special meeting of the Central Darjeeling Tea Company (Limited) is called for the 30th inst., when it will be proposed, in consequence of the large number of dissentient shareholders, to wind up the undertaking "under the direction of the Court of Chancery."

The shareholders of the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan met at the bank in Walbrook, and confirmed the resolutions passed at a previous meeting accepting the terms proposed for amalgamation with the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan. The affairs of the bank are to be wound up voluntarily. The shareholders of the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan also met and confirmed the resolutions passed at their previous meeting, authorising an amalgamation with the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan, and increasing the capital of the bank to the amount of £2,000,000. The undermentioned gentlemen, formerly on the Board of the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan, have been elected directors of the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan, viz., Mr. J. Mackrill Smith, Mr. James Levick, the Hon. Frederick Stuart Wortley, and Lieut.-Col. French. Mr. Turner proceeds to Yokohama to open a branch of the latter institution.

The directors of the Upper Assam Tea Company (Limited) have declared a dividend of 20 per cent., payable on the 14th instant, making, with the *ad interim* dividend of 10 per cent., paid in June last, a total of 30 per cent. on the year's operations ending 30th September, 1863.

The biddings for £300,000 in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were:—To Calcutta, £177,700; to Bombay, £120,000; and to Madras, £2,300. The *minimum* price was, as before, 1s. 11½d. per rupee on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11¾d. on Bombay. The applications within the limits amounted to £980,000. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 2s. will receive about 23 per cent., on Bombay at 2s. ⅛d. about 60 per cent., and all above these prices in full. These terms indicate a diminished demand for remittances to the East. On the last occasion the lowest of the successful tenders was 2s. 1⅛d. on Calcutta, and 2s. 1¼d. on Bombay, and the applications amounted to £1,300,000.

The annexed "official" account of deliveries of tea, both for home consumption and export, for the first seven months of the years 1863 and 1864, shows an increase of seven million pounds, or at the rate of twelve million pounds per annum.

Duty Paid.	1864. lbs.	1863. lbs.
London	33,065,821	30,582,727
Liverpool	2,539,425	2,852,553
Bristol	943,637	833,620
Hull	116,156	177,121
All other English ports	3,154,108	3,39 ,905
Leith	1,537,109	1,511,719
Glasgow	2,747,657	2,617,554
All other Scotch ports	1,041,244	990,130
Dublin	3,076,472	3,010,287
Belfast	1,531,782	1,479,886
Cork	574,655	545 173
All other Irish ports	1,467,800	1,465,112
Total	51,795,866	49,457,467
Exported and Stores.	lbs.	lbs.
From London	10,587,055	11,871,978
„ Liverpool	710,857	699,879
Total consumption and export	69,093,778	62,029,624
"Official" stock, July 31	100,466,432	89,381,486

According to the bullion table of Mr. Page, the export in Augus was:—

	Gold.	Mex. Dol.	Bar Silver.
Singapore, Java, &c.	£1,143	£57 130	
China	200	22,608	63,840,

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Poonah*, from Southampton, on the 20th inst., was, in gold—to Hong Kong, £2,000. In silver—to Singapore, £17.500; to Hong Kong, £3,030; to Shanghai, £14,500; to Yokohama, £750. Total, in gold, £2,000; in silver, £35,780.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices August 26.
100	Agra and Masterman's	50	133 to 137	138 to 142xd.
50	Do. New	25	61½	...
50	Do.	15	42½	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	35 to 37	36 to 38
20	Do. New	All	14 to 16pm.	15 to 17 pm.
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	65 to 65	64 to 66
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	—	...
25	Do New, issued at 10 pm (7½ pd.)	12½	3 to 5 pm.	5 to 7 pm.
20	Eastern Exchange	3	1 dis. to par	1 to 2 pm.
50	London Joint Stock	10	43 to 45	47 to 49
100	London and Westminster	20	94 to 96	96 to 98
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	57 to 59	57 to 59
50	Union of London	15	50 to 52	51 to 53
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	3 to 4 pm.	8 to 9 pm. xd.
100	Do. New	13	2½ to 3½ pm.	8 to 9 pm.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	1 to 1½ pm.	2½ to 2¾ pm.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	26½ to 27½	27 to 29 xd.
100	Bank of London	50	158 to 162	163 to 168
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	¼ to ⅜ pm.	1½ to 1¾ pm.
	Miscellaneous.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 3½	3 to 3½ xd.
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	79 to 81	79 to 81
50	Do. New	30	18 to 20 pm.	18 to 20 pm.
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	—	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	—	...
5	Bombay Gas	All	4½ to 5	4⅞ to 5⅛
20	S. I. Irrigation and Canal	8	3½ to 2½ dis	3½ to 2½ d's.
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	¼ to ½ pm.	¼ to ½ pm.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	19 to 20	19 to 20
1	Oriental Gas	All	1⅛ to 1⅛	1⅛ to 1⅛
1	Do. New	All	¼ to ½ pm.	¼ to ½ pm.
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2⅞ to 3⅛	3 to 3⅛ pm.
100	West India Steam Company	60	91 to 96	91 to 93
20	Ceylon Company	7	3 to 4 pm.	3 to 4 pm.
20	International Finance Society	5	1⅛ to 2½ pm	4⅛ to 4⅜ pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2 to 2½ pm.	2½ to 3 pm.
50	London Financial Association	15	6½ to 7 pm	9¼ to 9½ pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	2	⅛ to ¼ pm.	1⅛ to 1¼ pm.
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	6	½ to 1½ dis. xd	1 to ¾ dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	15 to 17½	16½ to 17
20	British Indian Tea	11	⅛ to ¼ d's.	¼ dis. to par.
10	Upper Assam Tea	2½	2½ to 3½ pm.	2 to 3 pm.
10	Do.	All	14 to 17	14 to 17

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—There has been more business transacted in Tea the last fortnight, fresh arrivals of old and new offering a better selection than for some time past. Prices continue to rule in favour of buyers, as the advices from China and dear money are against importers. The *Serica* has made the fastest run home with the new Kaisows, followed a few hours after by the *Fiery Cross*. Samples have been freely circulated, and a considerable portion of the cargoes sold. The general quality is disappointing after the favourable reports from Foochow, but we believe the finest Teas are yet to arrive. The *Belted Will* has brought the first cargo of new Canton Teas. The new Teas

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have realized the following: Kaisows, second class or medium quality, 2s. to 2s. 3d., fine 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d., finest and extra fine 2s. 7d. to 2s. 9d., —the proportion of the latter is very small. Pakhlings, (for export and which are run after, although not up to last year in quality, smelling too much of the fire) half chests 2s. 9d. to 3s., boxes 3s. 6d. per lb. The few fancy Teas to hand have sold quickly, Oolong ½ chests 1s. 10d., boxes 2s. 2d. per lb. Scented Orange Pekoe 2s. 10d. per lb., Canton scented Caper, medium 1s. 8d., fine 1s. 10d. to 2s. per lb., Orange Pekoe, finest 2s. 10d. per lb., Gunpowder 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d. per lb. There are several chops of the new Monings, ex *Sea King* still unsold, and reduced prices will have to be taken to finish them up. In old tea several chops out of late arrivals from Canton have been sold by private contract, mostly Oopack kinds ripe with strength and Pekoe flavour, at 1s. 5½d. to 1s. 8d. per lb. Green: The *Spirit of the North* with 250,000 lbs., and further arrivals from New York, keep the market fully supplied; prices have ruled more steadily at the decline established a month ago. Sales of uncoloured Japans, at a slight advance. The public sales which commenced on the 20th current comprise 30,000 packages, with the unusually large proportion of 24,000 packages without reserve. The sales are progressing with great heaviness, and the prices realised for red and black-leaf kinds up to 1s. 6d. per lb. are lower than at any period during the present year.

SILK.—The circular of Waithman, Jacomb and Hogg quotes Tsatlee, No. 1, 26s. to 26s. 6d.; Taysaam, No. 1, 24s. 6d. Japan: Mibash, No. 1, 27s. to 27s. 6d. We have had on the whole a quiet market for silk during the past fortnight, and for a time prices appeared weak, but since the receipt of the China telegram, announcing small settlements and higher prices, there has been more disposition to buy, and very full rates are being paid for the silk now unloading, especially for Taysaams. In Japans we are still without any arrivals of importance. Deliveries from 1st to 23rd inclusive: China, 2,550 bales; Japan, 1,387 bales; total, 3,937 bales.

COTTON.—Early in the week there was an improved demand, and business was done at a recovery of ¼d. to 1d. per lb. from the late lowest point, but since Tuesday the market has again become depressed, owing to forced sales by weak speculators, and the value has materially given way, being about ¼d. to 1d. per lb. below that of this day se'nnight. China participated in the advance, but (say our Liverpool advices) has again been much pressed, and must be quoted 1d. per lb. lower. In London, during the week from the 16th to the 22nd, we note sales of 930 bales China at 14½d. to 15d. for fair, and 15½d. for good fair; and 100 bales Japan at 16¾d. for fully fair. The public sales on the 23.d passed off very flatly, and nearly the whole quantity offered was withdrawn or bought in. Out of 342 bales Japan, only 50 were sold at 14¾d. to 15½d. The stock of cotton continues to be exceedingly well maintained at Liverpool, and even increases. On the 16th it amounted to 393,989 bales, which is more than double what it was in September, 1863, and more than four times what it was in September, 1862. This gratifying result, it must be remembered, has taken place in the presence of a largely increased consumption. Of China and Japan, the stock in London on Friday last was 28,240 bales, against 637 at the same time last year.

SUGAR.—Prices generally show a decline of 1s. per cwt. on the rates of the 16th. By private contract, 12,000 bags clayed Manila have been sold at 31s.

COFFEE.—The market closes with a flat appearance. Considering the liberal supply of Colonial offering, the public sales of Plantation Ceylon amounting to 1,970 casks, 2,120 barrels and bags, have gone off with a fair competition, and have found buyers at slightly reduced prices, fine ordinary to low middling 75s. to 77s. 6d., middling to good middling colory 78s. 6d. to 83s.; 145 casks, 1,950 bags Native also went rather lower, small 62s. to 63s., good ordinary 65s. to 66s., superior 69s. 6d. On Friday 930 cases, 323 bags Neilgherry and Tellicherry, 921 bags Malabar and Mysore, and 93 casks 91 bags Naidoobatum went off languidly at a decline of 1s. per cwt.

RICE.—The market has been extremely inactive during the week; nothing of importance has occurred by private contract, and 2,024 bags White Bengal and 2,000 bags Rangoon, at auction, meeting few offers, were withdrawn.

PEPPER.—1,600 bags Black Singapore were offered at public sale, and (including the damaged) the greater part was realised at rather easier prices, middling to fair 3¾d to 3¾d.; as also 261 bags fair Penang at 3¾d. to 3¾d., and 81 bags Singapore White at 5⅛. to 5¼d. per lb. On Friday 314 bags White Penang were bought in at 5¼d. per lb.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—There are no sales to report. 29 boxes Cassia Buds, at auction, were bought in at £14. 10s. per cwt.

CLOVES.—368 bags Zanzibar were offered, but finding no buyers, were withdrawn, at a reduction of ¼d. to ½d. per lb. on the late value; common to fair 3¾d. to 4¼d.

NUTMEGS.—73 cases at auction were disposed of at lower prices, small to middling, 10d. to 1s 3d., one lot fine 3s. 10d. per lb.

SAGO.—By auction, 375 boxes middling small Pearl were taken at their full value, 19s. to 19s. 6d. 320 boxes large grain were bought in. On Friday, 394 cases sold steadily at 20s. 6d. to 21s. for fine small; and 22s. 6d. to 23s. 6d. per cwt. for good bold grain.

SAGO FLOUR.—120 bags fair quality were withdrawn at 16s. 6d.

TAPIOCA.—In public sale 234 bags middling white Penang were sold at 2½d. per lb.

HEMP.—Manila is lower, a parcel having sold at £28 per ton cash, for fair roping quality; and a parcel, barely fair dressing quality, at £24. 5s. to £24. 15s.

SHELLAC.—The 460 chests and 200 bags offered to-day met so dull a demand that only about 20 packages were disposed of at 10s. decline; livery orange, £5: button sort, £5. 5s.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 15s. to £8; nail rod, £9. 10s.; hoops, £10. 10s.; sheets, single £11. 10s.; Staffordshire bars, £9. 10s.; rails, £7 to £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £16.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £103 to £105 per ton; yellow metal, ¼d. to 8¼d. per lb.

TIN.—101s. for block; 102s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C, 29s. 6d. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £20. 5s. to £20. 10s.; W.B., £22. 10s.; shot, patent, £23. 15s.; sheet, £21. 10s.; spelter, £24. 10s. to £24. 15s.; zinc, English sheet, £30; quicksilver, £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—Iron: Manufactured maintains its price, with a moderate demand; Scotch pig fluctuates but little. Copper is in fair demand. Tin: Foreign has again given way owing to some speculators forcing parcels on the market. In Holland, Banca is 60 to 60¼ florins. Here it may be purchased at 100 for large parcels, 101 for small. Straits is quoted 99 This fall in foreign made it compulsory on the English smelters to reduce their price. They yesterday declared a reduction of 3s. per cwt. Tin Plates: Stationary, with but little demand. Lead is unchanged. Spelter also without alteration.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£193,935
Foo-chow-Foo	—	7,920
Hong Kong	£17,000	367,839
Amoy	—	—
Singapore	£720	221,405
Penang	—	57,370

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£198,066
Hong Kong	£31,568	187,295
Singapore	—	88,940
Penang	—	87,532
Foo-chow-Foo	—	1,500

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	—	£226,940
To Saigon	£420	86,680
To Hong Kong	—	875,053
To Shanghai	—	176,195
To Batavia	£3,063	6,778

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0 to 3 17 0
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4
Silver in Bars	0 5 1⅛
Mexican Dollars	0 5 0½

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

In sellers' prices 7lb. shirtings, which were 18s. 6d., are quoted now at 16s., and for 8½lb. shirtings, which were 21s., the quotation is 19s.; but sales have, in fact, been made at lower figures, and no doubt business generally could be done at less. There has hitherto been some attempt on the part of manufacturers to ignore the decline, and to keep their terms as vague as possible, but this is not so much the case to-day. Both the offers made, however, and the prices taken are very irregular, varying a good deal with the position of the seller and his anxiety to realize. 6lb. shirtings are quoted 14s., and 9lb. 22s. 6d.; 5lb. T-cloths are quoted 10s., 6lb. 12s., and 8½lb. long cloths 16s. 6d., while 9lb. ditto are 18s., and 10lb. 20s.; 9lb. printers are quoted at 23s., but generally speaking where sales have been effected they have been made at less than these quotations. Messrs. John Slagg and Co. report:—"Since last week our market has been tending downwards, and so few offers have been made that it has been impossible to arrive at the exact value of goods. To day there has been more inquiry and more offers obtainable, but at much reduced rates. Holders have to some extent responded to these offers, but the sales effected have been at very irregular prices."

Shipping Intelligence.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Sept. 9	London	Singapore	Early Dawn	
— 11	Do.	Hong Kong	Barcalis	Henderson.
— 12	Do.	Do.	Arab Steed	Walker.
— 13	Do.	Shanghai	Norwood	Bristow.
— 13	Liverpool	Manila	Thos. Royden	Bethell.
— 13	Do.	Shanghai	Water Witch	Worthington.
— 13	Do.	Do.	Gossamer	Murphy.
July 29	Callao	Macao	Cesar	Nissen.
Sep. 14	London	Shanghai	Abbotsford, in ballast	Venus.
— 15	Do.	Kanagawa	Macedon	Summerfield.
— 12	Hamburg	Singapore	Marie Lucie	
— 15	Liverpool	Do.	Macassar	Peterson.
— 13	Broughty Ferry	Do.	Lord Raglan	Law.
— 16	London	Shanghai	Laila Rookh	Bird.
— 21	London	Kanagawa	Sea Witch	Hughes.
Aug. 9	Buenos Ayres	Singapore	Johanna	Nordenholz.
— 11	Rio Janeiro	Batavia	Bravo	Nordstrom.
— 24	Do.	Singapore	Orion	Hespe.
Sep. 15	Shields	Do.	Johanna and Oluffa	Smidt.
— 16	Cardiff	Shanghai	Caremantel	Smith.
— 15	Sunderland	Do.	Hesperia	Jarvis.
— 15	Do.	Singapore	Waterdew	Gregor.
— 16	Liverpool	Do.	Wm Dixon	Smith.
— 21	London	Shanghai	Peep o'-Day	Johnson.
— 20	Do.	Cardiff & Singapore	Sirocco	Angeline.
— 17	Rotterdam	Sourabaya	Edouard and Marie	v.d. Kolf.
— 19	Liverpool	Shanghai	Nonpariel	Smith.
— 21	London	Cardiff & Shanghai	Bessie	Davies.
— 18	Hamburg	Hong Kong	Ino	Banman.
— 20	Cardiff	Singapore	Arab	Bruhn.
— 18	Liverpool	Shanghai	Thos. Seddon	Dodd.
— 3	New York	Do.	Washington	Mcgrath.
— 4	Do.	Do.	Volunteer	Watton.
— 4	Do.	Do.	Haversham	Pierce.

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ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Sept. 6	Helvoet	Batavia	Ferdinand and Louis	Nolting.
— 5	Zierikzee	Do.	Concurrent	
— 7	London	Sarawak	Chelfrain	Borlase.
— 8	Deal	Rangoon	Batana (?)	
— 6	Copenhagen	Akyab	Ludwig Holm	Leigh.
— 7	Havre	Rangoon	Charlotte	Pimont.
— 6	Bordeaux	Hong Kong	Johanna	Marsan.
— 7	Texel	Akyab	Tedvig	Hammergren.
—	Off Queenstown	Manilmain	John Kerr	Sweet ir.
— 8	Texel	Tjilatjap	Madura	v. Bruggen.
— 10	Deal	Akyab	Atlantic	Tarras
— 11	Liverpool	Shanghai	Neville	Robinson.
— 11	Do	Do.	Dunkeld	Kennedy.
— 11	Do.	Singapore	Hurry Puddemsey	Moir.
—	New York	Manila	Isabella	Sorensen.
— 12	Falmouth	Akyab	Kroopen aan de Lek	Rotgans.
— 10	Liverpool	Do.	De Salaberry	Davies.
— 2	Gibraltar	Sumatra, &c.	Sattler	Montechiaro.
— 13	Falmouth	Rangoon	E. Sherman	Blanchard.
— 13	Do.	Akyab	City of Boston	Baker.
— 10	Copenhagen	Do.	Fricia	Sorensen.
Aug. 29	Boston	Manila	Fearless	Homans.
— 30	Do.	Singapore	Alexander	Dekker.
Sep. 12	Plymouth	Rangoon	Matilda	Blake.
— 14	Falmouth	Do.	George and Johan	Jordan.
— 13	Liverpool	Manila	Diadem	Sawyer.
— 10	Bronze shaven	Batavia	Utrecht Beyling	Burz.
— 15	Falmouth	Akyab	Expounder	Irwin.
— 15	Liverpool	Manila	Whirlwind	Hughs.
— 14	Off Dungeness	Java	Pollux	
— 16	Liverpool	Shanghai	Sinoda	Drysdale.
— 15	Havre	Akyab	Valiant Basque	Got.
— 18	Deal	Foo-chow-Foo	Serica	Innes.
— 18	Do.	Manilmain	Johannisberg	
— 18	Do.	Akyab	City of Bristol (?)	
— 17	Cowes	Manilmain	Johanna	Weborg.
— 19	Deal	Foo-Chow	Fiery Cross	
— 18	Falmouth	Rangoon	Blanch	Care.
— 17	Flushing	Akyab	Brandon	Jolly.
— 20	London	Hong Kong	Belted Will	Graham.
— 19	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Almelo	Tjebbes.
— 2	Falmouth	Bassein	Galathea	Petersen.
— 19	Texel	Batavia	Gabbei	V. D. Mey.
— 19	Erbe	Akyab	Veritas	Brolin.
— 20	Texel	Batavia	Willem Hendrik	Beckering.
— 22	Off Falmouth	Rangoon	Jane Frances	M'Intosh.
— 23	Liverpool	Shanghai	Elizabeth Nichols	Ewert.
— 20	Bremen	Rangoon	George and Johann	Jordan.

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa: Eleanor. For Nagasaki: Dwina. For Shanghai: Garrawalt, Serica. For Hong Kong: Millbrook. For Hong Kong and Canton: Kensington, Bengal, Fiery Cross, Belted Will. For Manila: Tetuan. For Singapore: West, Eena, Gloucester. For Penang: Devonvale.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Lauderdale, Fort George, Neville. For Hong Kong: Monsoon, Berwickshire. For Hong Kong and Canton: Banda. For Singapore: Advance. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Hercules. For Manila: Iberica, Maria y Vicenta.

At GLASGOW.—For Batavia and Sourabaya: County of Ayr. For Batavia and Singapore: Scotland. For Manila and Iloilo and Zebu: Nodales.

SPOKEN.

ADMIRAL DE RUYTER, Amsterdam to Batavia, September 4, 50 N., 2 W.
JOHN BARTLETT, of Dundee, for Shanghai, July 15, 2 S., 23 W.
STRATFORD, of Liverpool, for Singapore, July 21, 11 N., 26 W.
INSULAIRE, Cardiff to Singapore, July 30, 9 N., 25 W.
SUSANNA JOHANNNA, Rotterdam to Sourabaya, Aug. 2, 11 N., 26 W.
FALCON (barque), Callao (?), to Hong Kong (?), July 18, 12 S., 31 W.
LADY EBRINGTON, Japan to London, July 4, 28 S., 50 E.
VELOCIDADE, London to Japan, July 21, 1 S., 25 W.
IDA ELIZABETH, Rotdm. to Samarang, May 21, 3 N., 24 W.
RUDOLF, Rotdm. to Bat., July 30, 14 N., 25 W.
TALLENG (Dut. barq.), Amstdm. to Bat., July 31, 14 N., lon. 46.
ISABELLA (barq.), Swansea to Hong Kong.
AURORA AUSTRALIS, Lon. to Shang. August 6, 13 S., 34 W.
Marianne, Bristol to Singapore, July 30, 24 S., 32 W.
ROYAL (?) Shanghai to London, 12 S., 10 W.
AKBAR, Penang to London, 23 S., 3 E.
DANISH PRINCESS, Cardiff to Shanghai, June 19, 37 S., 29 E.
JOSE MARIA, Liverpool to Manila, July 3, 1 N., 106 E.
QUEEN OF THE EAST, Sunderland to Shanghai, July 6, off Natuna Island.
GLENAROS, Hong Kong to London, July 9, 12 N., 111 E.
QUEEN OF NATIONS, London, to Shanghai, July 9, 12 N., 113 E.
STANLEY, Cardiff to Shanghai, July 11, 17 N., 114 E.
GRAF DIRK III, (barq.), Bat. to Dordrecht, June 20, 27 S., 48 E.
ALMELO (barq.) Bat. to Ams. July 8, 34 S., 29 E.
No. 2,085, 3rd d.p. (Fr. ship), Havre to C. China, Aug. 17, 13 N., 26 W.
VRIENDSCHAP, from Batavia July 14, 32 S., 33 E.
ST. JAN, Batavia to Schiedam, 33 S., 28 E.
J. M. JOSHUA, of London, for H. Kong, July 20, 25 S., 34 W.
TJIELINGSIE, Ams. to Bat. July 31st, 14 N., 26 W.
SCHEVENINGEN, Shields to Batavia, Aug. 9, 39 N., 14 W.
VIRGINIA, Cardiff to Singapore, Aug. 23, 18 N., 27 W.
TOLLENS, Rotterdam to Batavia, Aug. 1, 12 N., 24 W.
CATHERINA MARIA, Zierikzee to Batavia, Aug. 8, 14 N., 26 W.
REDBREAST, for Singapore, Aug. 11, 4 S., 18 W.
JOSEPHINE BERNHARDINA (Dut. bar.) Bat. to Am., Aug. 26, 22 N., 33 W.
ST. DE PAUL (?), Toulon to Saigon, July 21, 21 S., 29 W.
JUBILAUEM (Brem. ship), New York to Shanghai, July 6, 4 N., lon. 80.
CONGRESS, Sunderland to Shanghai, July 7, 3 S., 27 W.
LIMA, Hamburg to Hong Kong, Aug. 22, 8 S., 29 W.
AUTOMATIA, Batavia to Rotterdam, June 19, 29 S., 43 E.
OTTO, Batavia to Rotterdam, Aug. 10, 10 N., 24 W.
W. F. WILLETT (? E. F. Willett), Hong Kong to Liverpool, June 26.
BONN, Newcastle to Sourabaya, Aug. 24, 12 N., 27 W.
DARDANELLES, for Batavia, April 29, 1 N., 21 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Natal, Yokohama, Canton, Marmora, Witness, Lady Ebrington, Twe Cornelissen, Patricia, Merse, Harwood, W. W. Smith, Red Deer, and Ann Adamson. At LIVERPOOL: Marion, and Vampyre. At FALMOUTH: Auld Reekie. At NEW YORK: Osborne.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Ethel, Monarch, Belle, Benvoirlich, Silver Eagle, White Adder, Highflower, Fychow, Childers, Knight Templar, Star of China, Dartmouth, Chanticleer, Thos. Blyth, Eliza Shaw, Guinevere, Chattenger, Falcon, Kelso, Coulnakyle, Taiping, Red Riding Hood, Banian, City of Aberdeen, Yang-tsze, Flying Spur, Min, Young Lochinvar, Robin Hood, P. J. F. Burchardt, Keepsake, Echo, Chandanagore, Volunteer, Aunt Lizzie, Holmesdale, Rifleman, Isabella Robinson, Zelia, Vimeira, Zarah, Lady Wharncliffe, Gloucester, Lorton Vale, Iceni, Netherby, Sarah Ralston, Wm. Thompson, Marlborough, Robt. Lowe (str.), Ellen Rodger, Dora, Whinfell, Glenaros, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Magnus, Josephine, Glaramara, Sappho, Charles Davenport, Bahia, and Osborne House. At LIVERPOOL: Geologist, Cyclone, Fanny, Joshua Bates, Wm. Dawson, Affghan, Jessie Beazley, De Jex, Warwick Castle, Peerless, Reigate, Esk, Surry, Pegasus, Hugomont, Lord Dalhousie, Ziba, Glencoe. Cornelia, Inamhore, Mayflower, Regina, Edward Percy, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Unrivalled, Glenlee, Helvellyn, Australia, and Ann Forster. At FALMOUTH: Divina, and Linda. At ENGLAND: H.M.S. Vulcan. At HAMBURG: Mecklenburg, and Gravina. At NEW YORK: Dorchester, Regnago, St. Paul, Luson, Anita, Gleam Mandarin, and Cornelia.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Alavesa and Cambodia. At LIVERPOOL: Indiaman, Trafalgar, Patriot King, Alicia Annie and Barinaga. At FALMOUTH: Der West, Canaan, and Albuera. At COWES: John Banfield. At QUEENSTOWN: Victoria Cross. At HAVRE: Nouvelle Antoinette. At NEW YORK: Tropic, George Peabody, Bengal, and Continent.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Oscary Confidence, Pet, Polly, Invincible, Daniel Rankin, Bonanza, Miss Nightingale, Volunteer, Couranto, Najade, Athelstan, Dewa Gungadhur, Dunkeld, Tartar, and Princess of Wales. At LIVERPOOL: C. C. Chisholm, Victory, Agra, Beloochee, Ferria, and Bombay. At FALMOUTH: Sarah Jane. At BORDEAUX: Salares. At NANTES: Suez. At NEW YORK: Ocean Home, Gertrude, Caroline, and Rudolf. At BOSTON: Ceylon, Aristides, and Magnet.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Empress and Sunium. At FALMOUTH: Schlosser. At CORK: Ceylon. At BORDEAUX: Sophis.

From BANGKOK.—At NEW YORK: Eastward Ho.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Outward freights continue very low, and but little export business is doing. Coal freights are also scarce, but a few ships are wanted for Java at somewhat better rates. In homeward charters there is nothing to report.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £3 3 and £1. 15s. For Shanghai: £4 8 to £50, and £2. 5s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £25 to £26 and £1. 3s. For Penang: £27. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of two tons naval timber, 4 tons heavy, and 6 tons light stores, 8 tons sails, 4 tons cordage, and 1 ton anchors, from Deptford to Singapore.

CASUALTIES.

RIO JANEIRO.—August 24: The Arab (Brit. ship), from Liverpool to Singapore, which put in here July 22, leaky, has discharged the whole of her cargo.

DUBLIN.—September 21: The Edinburgh Castle, from the Clyde to Singapore, get on Arklow bank yesterday at 7 P.M., and remained until 1 A.M. to-day, when, after having thrown overboard 100 tons of coal, she came off, making water, and has now put back for Glasgow.

The Bahia, from Canton, which had sprung a leak, was spoken August 2 off Table Bay by the Belted Will, arrived at London.

At ST. HELENA.—Argonaut, Norton, from Manila, and sailed August 9, for New York. August 10: Netherby, Nulman, from Foo-chow-foo, and sailed 12th for London. 12: St. Jan, Sommerse, from Batavia, and sailed for Schiedam; 17, Glencoe, Hutton, from Hong Kong, and sailed for Liverpool; 17, Duc de Richelieu, Bernard, and sailed for Saigon; 2, Akbar, from Penang, and sailed for London. Caroline Chisholm, from Singapore.

THE "FIERY CROSS."—QUICK DISCHARGE.—The ship *Fiery Cross*, from Foo-chow-Foo, arrived in the St. Katharine Dock at four o'clock on Tuesday morning, and by ten o'clock on Wednesday morning she had discharged the whole of her cargo, 14,000 chests of tea, and in the course of the afternoon's tide she was hauled out of the dock into the river.

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BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, and JAPAN (Limited), has REMOVED from 16, Cornhill, to No. 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury.

By order,
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

1, Bank-buildings, Aug. 24, 1864.

The Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited).

NOTICE OF CALL OF £5 PER SHARE ON 10,000 NEW SHARES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Directors have this day made a CALL of £5 per Share on the 10,000 New Shares in this Company PAYABLE on the 1st day of October next, at the banking-house of the Company, 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury London.

By order of the Board,
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

1, Bank-buildings, Sept. 5, 1864.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.
Capital, £4,000,000.
Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

DIRECTORS.

JAS. NUGENT DANIELL, Esq. Chairman.
RICHARD SPOONER, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.
William Frederick Baring, Esq.
Thomas Cotterell, Esq.
J. H. Reynell de Castro, Esq.
Philip Shore Fletcher, Esq.
Lieut.-Colonel French.
Wm. Harrison, Esq.
Deane J. Hoare, Esq.
James Levick, Esq.
J. Mackrill Smith, Esq.
Hon. Frederick Stuart-Wortley.
Henry Young, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER—John Ouseley, Esq.
SECRETARY—R. Swire Tomlin, Esq.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England.
The Alliance Bank (Limited).

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Flux and Argles.

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Calcutta—W. H. Fuller, Esq., Manager.
Colombo—David Hean, Esq., Manager.
Kandy—W. G. Proctor, Esq., Manager.
Hong Kong—Edward Mc lish, Esq., Manager.
Shanghae—Charles Colnett, Esq., Manager.
Yokohama—Henry Turner, Esq., Manager.
Singapore—Messrs. Paterson, Simons, and Co., Agents.
Point de Galle—Messrs. Alex. Reid and Co., Agents.
Manila—Messrs. Russell and Sturgis, Agents.
Foo-Chow—Messrs Smith, Kennedy, and Co., Agents.
Ningpo—Messrs. Davidson and Co., Agents.
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The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government Loan Notes effected, so that the interest may be paid in England.

Every other description of banking and agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA.

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The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Kandy, Singapore, Galle, Penang, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Mauritius, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the overland route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office, in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 2.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Subscribed Capital, 2,000,000 taels, in 400 Shares of 5,000 taels each.
Paid up Capital, 200,000 taels.

DIRECTORS.

H. H. Wiggins, Esq., Manager Commercial Bank of India, Chairman.
F. B. Johnson, Esq. (Messrs. Johnson and Co.).
H. D. Stewart, Esq. (Messrs. Turner and Co.).
F. Porter, Esq. (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston, and Co.).
. Thorne, Esq. Messrs. Thorne Brothers and Co.).
David Reid, Esq.

Agencies are about to be established at the several ports in China and Japan.

L. JOSEPHS, Secretary.

DOCKS.
PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

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Amoy, 1st January, 1864.

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Singapore—Messrs. Cumming, Beaver, and Co.
Hong Kong—Messrs. Johnson and Co.
Shanghai—Messrs. Johnson and Co.

JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

RE-OPENING OF THE

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QUEEN'S ROAD, BAYSWATER.

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MESSRS. EVANS and Co., Merchants, Shanghai, beg hereby to give their friends and the public notice that the only person who can now lawfully pledge the credit of the firm is Mr. HENRY EVANS, whose authentic signature may be seen at the office of Messrs. Godwin and Son, Solicitors. Newbury, Berks.

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2.—THE CHINA MAIL,
ONCE A WEEK.
(On Thursday Night.)

PRICE—15 dols. per annum; Single Copies, 44 cents.

ADVERTISING.—First insertion, Five lines, 1 dol., each additional line, 20 cents. Subsequent insertions, 50 cents and 10 cents.

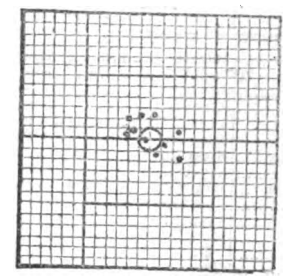
3.—THE OVERLAND MAIL.
ONCE A FORTNIGHT.
(The Morning of the Mail's despatch.)

PRICE—To Subscribers to the Weekly issue, 8 dols., to Non-subscribers, 12 dols. Single copies, 50 cents.

ADVERTISING.—The same as in the Weekly. All "Notices of Firms" appearing in the Weekly will be inserted in the *Overland*, and charged for, unless otherwise ordered. A. SHORTREDE & CO.

Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

AMMUNITION.



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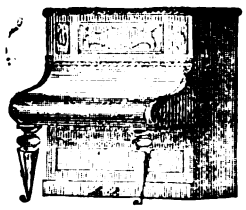

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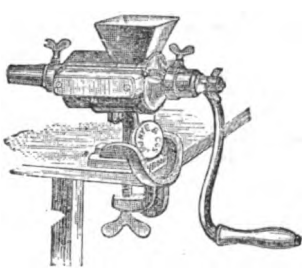

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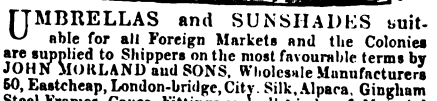

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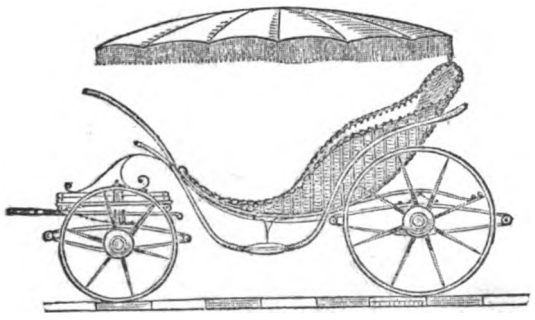

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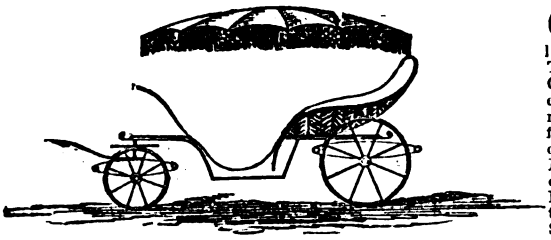

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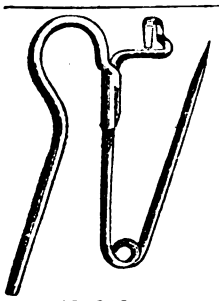

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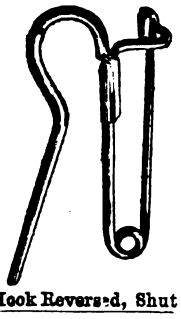

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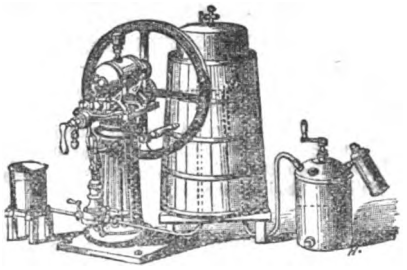

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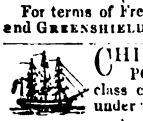

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

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A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 151.] LONDON, SATURDAY, OCT. 8, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Kanagawa	May 26	July 17	July 27
	Nagasaki			„ 20
	Hakodadi			„ 19
CHINA—				
	Peking			„ 25
	Tien-tsin			„ —
	Hankow			Aug. 10
	Shanghai	June 26	Aug. 11	„ 17
	Foo-Chow-Foo			
	Amoy			
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	July 10	„ 18	„ 23
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	June 10	July 29	„ 5
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Saigon			„ 28
SIAM—				
	Bankok	„ 17	„ 20	„ —
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			
	Sarawak			„ —
JAVA—				
	Batavia			„ 28
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	July 26	Aug. 26	Sept. 1
	Penang	„ „	„ 24	Aug. 23

☞The telegram from Suez of the P. and O. mail, due on 13th inst., has been received.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Baroda, Oct. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Preston and infant. To Shanghai: Mrs. Jarvie, Mr. Turnbull. From Marseilles, Oct. 12.—To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Gordon, Mr. A. Schultze, Mr. Scott, Mr. G. M. Seymour. To Alexandria, en route for Shanghai: Miss Cooke and servant. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. C. Schlesicke.

Per P. and O. steamer Ellora, Oct. 12, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong via Bombay; Mr. Reimer, Mr. F. M. Gibb. From Marseilles, Oct. 20.—To Penang, via Bombay: Miss Forbe, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Davidson. To Hong Kong via Bombay: Messrs. Austin and W. Paterson, Col. Kirkham. To Shanghai via Bombay: Mr. A. G. Henry, Mr. and Mrs. Turner.

Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, Oct. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. E. Stokes, R.N. From Marseilles, Oct. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. Tait. To Singapore: Messrs. W. and C. Degener, Mr. Vander Zweep.

Per P. and O. steamer Massilia, Oct. 27, from Southampton.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. Dunlop, Mr. Fenwick, Mr. M. Fenwick. To Shanghai via Bombay: Mr. Clark, Mr. H. and Mrs. Wilkinson, Mr. C. F. Jackson. To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. J. G. Glover. From Marseilles, Nov. 4.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. Weiderhold.

Per P. and O. steamer, Nov. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mrs. Swinhoe. To Shanghai: Miss Thompson. From Marseilles, Nov. 12.—To Shanghai: Messrs. W. Watson and W. Eking.

Per P. and O. steamer, Nov. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Miss B. E. Collett, Miss Lee. To Singapore: Mrs. W. W. Willans and infant. From Marseilles, Nov. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. T. F. Ballance, Mr. B. Macintosh, Mr. P. G. Lawrie. To Shanghai: Mr. Hyslop. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Caw.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Marseilles, Dec. 12.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Wood and lady friend.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Marseilles, Jan. 12, 1865.—To Hong Hong: Mr. M'Donald.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

A notice of the news from Japan will be found in our leading article.

CHINA.

NEW-CHWANG.

A correspondent writes under date from this port June 21st:—

At a sale of apparel of the American barque *Penguin*, the two ship guns were bought by the Lieutenant of the "Yang-tsze Volunteer Rifle Corps," for the greater efficiency of that body to resist any attempts which might be made upon the foreign settlement during the ensuing winter. Another purchase was made of two lots of suitable sized rope, by the hon. secretary, for the Yang-tsze Jockey Club, to be used in the partitioning off of the race-course. The first meeting of the members of the Jockey Club, for the transacting of business connected therewith, &c., the deciding upon suitable time for the next races, is to be held at the British Consulate to-morrow evening.

A few days ago a subscription was made for the providing of bats, balls, wickets, gloves, leggings, &c., for facilitating the formation of a cricket club by inducing a love of the sport. About $150 was immediately subscribed.

All members of the foreign community have been invited to attend, in a private way, at the British Consulate, from 5 to 7 A.M., to go through the club, dumb bell and parallel bar exercises and boxing. A quoit tournament was proposed, but failed.

FOO-CHOW.

The circular of Messrs. Fussell and Co., dated August 17, says:—The steamer *Undine* arrived here on the 4th, with the English and Australian mails, bringing dates from London to the 26th, Melbourne 26th and Sydney the 23rd June, since when we have received telegraphic advices from London to the 4th July.

IMPORTS.—The following sales are reported:—2,000 pieces 8¼lbs. grey shirting, at $5.50 per piece; 300, 6¼lbs. T-cloth, 3.65; 500, 7lbs., grey shirting, 4.95; 220 piculs lead, 7.00 per picul; 2,900 green peas, 3.00; 2,500 yellow peas, 3.00; 5,000 beancake, 2.40; 120 Shanghai cotton (common) at 20.00; 2,000 Saigon rice, 2.52.

OPIUM.—Sales have been: 75 chests Malwa, 33 chests Patna, and 7 chests Benares. We quote: Malwa, $765; Patna, $585; Benares, $570.

EXPORTS.—TEA.—During the interval (shorter than usual) which has elapsed since the date of our last circular but a very moderate amount of business has been transacted in our tea market, though as yet prices have not given way to any extent. In Congous there have been a few settlements of low common and dusty kinds at late quotations, common flavory kinds being in full supply have been realised at a decline of about one tael, but the arrivals of the better grades have been on a very limited scale and the few sales made have been at full rates. The third crop teas have arrived in quantity, but so far the quality is considered to be very poor, though it is said that those still to come to hand from the Kaisow and Sinchune districts will be fine. A few sales of Souchong are reported at about previous rates. Business in Oolongs has been somewhat checked by the late unfavourable advices received of the state of the American markets. Scented teas remain without alteration, the teamen still holding for extreme rates. Holders have been willing to accept lower rates for Flowery Pekoes which has led to a more extended business.

SHANGHAI.

The dates are down to the 17th of August. The English mail of the 27th of June arrived out on the 10th of August.

The S.S.N. Co.'s steamer *Chekiang* was totally destroyed by fire on the morning of Monday the 8th. The fire was discovered about one in the morning, and so rapidly did the devouring element spread, that the captain, officers, and crew scarcely saved anything. She arrived there on the 7th, that day being Sunday. No goods were discharged, so the whole of the import cargo, and several boxes of treasure were lost. She was cast adrift, and the burning wreck drifted down; she fouled the steamer *Moyune*, and British steamer *Far East*—both vessels had a narrow escape, as well as the *Kiangloong*, and Messrs. Olyphant and Co.'s vessels *Kiukiang* and *Northern*

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Light, which were moored just ahead of the S.S.N. Co.'s premises. A sharp breeze blowing from the N.E. hastened the work of destruction. The *Moyune* had to slip both her anchors, also the *Tunsin*; she drifted down the Yang-tsze, and her remains were brought up in a bight about twelve miles from here.

Shanghai tea is abundant, prices declining. Rain had been plentiful, and the weather, though hot in the day, was pleasantly cool by night. Freight 2 taels per ton. A good deal of Manchester goods were being sent up country.

The following items are from the *North China Daily News*:—

"We have been informed on reliable authority that in order to mark the Imperial gratification at the fall of Nanking, Tseng Kuo-ian has been made a How, a rank equivalent to 'Marquis,' while Tséng Kin-ta-jen and Li Futai have been made *Pes*, or 'Earls,' and decorated with the two-eyed peacock's feather.

"News has been received from Ningpo, to the effect that the Imperialists and the Franco-Chinese have experienced a defeat at Hoochow, by which five or six officers have been killed, and more than fifty wounded. It is said that M. D'Aiguebelle is likely, in consequence, to come to Shanghai to ask advice from the French military authorities here. We have received no particulars; but believe the above information to be reliable."

A Ningpo correspondent informs us that Colonel Reynolds, who was wounded in the recent attack on the rebels at Hoochow, has since died. Previous to the engagement an artillery reinforcement arrived from this province, commanded by a mandarin, consisting of one 32, two 24, two 12-pounder guns, and two mortars, with 7,000 men. The besieging force was repulsed, and compelled to retire some distance.

We published some days ago a rumour that reached us to the effect that Chung Wang had been executed at Nanking. We have, however, received later information of the most reliable character by which it would appear that not only is the Chung Wang still alive, but that orders have been received for his transmission to Peking, where his fate will be decided.

A Shanghai rebel paper writes:—"We have received intelligence per S.S. *Wokee* regarding Nanking, which may interest many of our readers who are curious as to the number of decapitations which take place annually throughout the Middle Kingdom. On the 3rd the *Wokee* was at anchor at Kiukiang; in the course of the same day the steamer *Elfin* arrived from Nanking, and reported that upwards of 30,000 rebels had been beheaded, and the stench in the streets, arising from the headless trunks left in all directions, was 'quite unbearable.'"

If no slaughter took place at the assault, which we are sure did take place—of Nanking, the Imperialists have made up for lost time, and we hope the arms of the headsmen were not put "out of Joint" in the course of their "shamble" recreation.

We pity the unfortunate victims, as Chinese knives are not always being sharpened, but rather blunted on a *Cote Curenta*.

The action brought by Chinese for 14,000 taels against the British and Foreign Marine Insurance Company (limited) for the loss of the *Melita*, has been given in favour of the Company.

HONG KONG.

The dates are down to the morning of 23rd August. The English mail of 10th July arrived out on the 18th August.

The following items are from the *Evening Mail*:—

"Several inquests have, we understand, been held during the week. In the case of a European sailor found on the Kowloong beach, the verdict returned was 'found drowned;' in that of the midshipman killed on board the *Light of the Age*, 'accidental death' was returned; and a third, of 'found drowned,' was pronounced on a Chinaman found floating in the harbour. The inquest on the body of Captain Allen, of the *James Booth*, terminated to-day; but the evidence being deemed insufficient to prove the cause of death, the formal verdict of 'found dead' was given. We learn that a Hindoo, residing in Gate-street, died this morning from the effects of an overdose of opium. It is not certain, but there may have been some foul play in the administering of the drug, and an inquest is to be held this afternoon, at five P.M. Two restaurant keepers were brought before the magistrate the other day, the one for selling spirits without a licence, and the other for the same offence, coupled with that of keeping a billiard-table on his premises. They were both fined fifty dollars."

"The Hong Kong Volunteers, we are glad to say, are advancing in their drill at the big guns, upwards of forty being likely to be reported as 'passed' by Monday next. Although this number will make up the minimum complement of efficient gunners required before entering upon a competition for the prize to be given by his Excellency the Governor, we should strongly recommend all volunteers to avail themselves of the opportunity of 'passing,' which is at present offered by the circumstance of an officer of the Royal Artillery having kindly placed his services at the disposal of the corps. These may be continued, it is true, and they may not even be voluntary, but in any case the gentlemen volunteers should view them as something to be availed of, and should not expect that an Artillery officer is always to be at their beck and call as if he were a flunkey.

"With regard to the prize given by his Excellency, we hail it as a proof that encouragement is not likely to be wanting on the part of the local government towards the corps, in more ways than one. The recognition has indeed been tardy, the prize being the latest of a long list of prizes given by a private gentleman in the colony; but as there has always been a strong Conservative feeling towards new movements exhibited by the present Governor, or in other words, a slowness to acknowledge or assist public undertakings until they have shown themselves to be perfectly feasible, we may look upon his Excellency's prize as a crowning proof that the Hong Kong Volunteers have fully vindicated their right to recognition in the very highest quarters. Even our contemporary, who in some matters is doggedly Conservative in practice, has acknowledged the movement as a *fait accompli*. In these circumstances, we cannot be wrong in calling upon effective members to continue steady, and also upon those whose membership has practically lapsed through long non-attendance at drill to come forward once more and take up their places in the ranks. The time was when the sight of a Volunteer uniform in the streets was received with a kind of good-humoured sneer; now, no one sees it without a feeling of respect if he thinks anything about it at all. The matter has become as much a local institution as the ice-house, the racket-court, or the gymnasium.

"On Saturday afternoon, the Hong Kong Volunteers (both companies) went to Kowloong in the steamer *Fame* and commenced their long-promised practice with big guns and round shot. As usual, the excursion was rather of the nature of a pic-nic party than otherwise. Everybody seemed satisfied with the trip, and the discipline maintained was, notwithstanding, very fair. There is, we believe, room for improvement in this respect, and we have no doubt that the gentleman who supervises the corps will take the hint. Volunteers when handling large ordnance, cannot be too careful, and if our information be correct, the vent of one the guns was somewhat carelessly served. We are compelled to speak plainly, as the volunteers are no longer a private body, but are, as it were, public property, and have become a matter of general interest and respect. We claim to have some little right to criticise the corps, as we have stuck to them from the beginning through good report and through bad report. In point of fact, it was in our own columns that the movement was first mooted, and all the thanks we have got from them of late is a cessation of the usual advertisement, which we look upon rather as an expression of contempt on the part of a particular individual, whose name it would simply be a waste of type to print, than as a mark of disrespect on the part of the gallant and flourishing corps.

"With regard to the firing, we understand it was remarkably good, but, at the same time, it must be stated that the laying of the guns was superintended by an Artillery officer of great experience at his profession. The target was very nearly hit several times, but was never—as the Yankees would say—blown clean out of the water. The distance was 1,400 yards, and the firing, as we have already said, was remarkably good. Our reporter informs us that he has had considerable experience in the witnessing of artillery practice in different districts of the United Kingdom, but chiefly at Leith; and he adds that he has rarely seen better practice than that of Saturday night. We have already referred to the imperfect manner in which one of the guns was served, and we sincerely trust that, on every future occasion, more attention will be paid to this part of the performance. So far as we can learn, the gallant volunteers in attendance upon the gun in question seemed to view the entire affair as an excellent joke; and we are assured that their bearing when the gun was being served was, 'to say the least of it,' the reverse of soldierly.

"The foregoing fact—if it be a fact—reflects the utmost discredit upon the officers in charge, and we have reason to be-

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ieve that their attention was drawn to the circumstance by competent spectators on the spot. Of course, as both officers and privates are all excellent fellows, they are sure to take these remarks in good part. We candidly affirm that they are meant for the best, and are based upon the best information at our command. Our reporter's name is at the disposal of anyone belonging to the corps, and we shall be extremely glad should any of his unfavourable hints prove to be incorrect. It is quite clear that, in firing off shotted guns, some little attention must be paid to details, were it for nothing more than the safety of the onlookers, whose lives are frequently of importance."

The Legislative Council met on the 15th August, at noon, for the despatch of business. There were present:—H.E. the Governor, the Hon. Acting Chief Justice, Attorney-General, Colonial Treasurer, Colonial Secretary, Auditor-General, and the Hon. Messrs. Chomley, Murray, and Whittal.

The business was chiefly of a formal nature, the following ordinances having been read a first time:—An Ordinance to authorise the commissioners appointed to compile a new edition of the Ordinances to make certain alterations thereon; An Ordinance to facilitate the remedies of bills of exchange and promisory notes by the prosecution of frivolous or fictitious defences to actions thereon; An Ordinance to amend the laws of trade and commerce; An Ordinance for consolidating and amending the laws for jurors and juries; and an ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding $613,000 to the public service of the year 1865. On the reading of the latter ordinance, the Governor drew attention to the new item of expenditure of £20,000 for military expenses, and stated that a correspondence had taken place with the Secretary of State on the subject, which was put into the hands of the members of Council. He (the Governor) had used every argument which could be brought forward against the payment of the above sum, but the home authorities still held the opinion that the arrangement was only reasonable and just. The safety of life and property afforded to the colony by the military garrison was held to be a very fair return for the payment of one-fifth of the £100,000 spent by the home Government for its maintenance. He recommended the members of Council to read the correspondence, and they would then be in a position to consider it and discuss it at a future meeting; so large a sum, he said, would necessitate a careful consideration on their part of the financial state of the colony. In regard to the 100,000 and odd dollars of a balance now in the treasurer's hands, he warned the Council that such a sum was absolutely necessary to meet the immediate demands which were continually made on the Government, such as monthly expenditure before the quarterly or half-yearly revenue was forthcoming, and the subsidiary coin retained for the public demand. It was agreed to meet on the 5th Sept. to consider the subject.

An Ordinance for preventing fraud upon creditors by secret bills of sale of personal chattels was read and carried.

We give below the financial statement laid upon the table:—

FINANCIAL ESTIMATE FOR 1864.
Corrected to June, 1864.

Excess of Assets over Liabilities on Jan. 1, 1864		$445,000.00
Probable Revenue for 1864		600,000.00
Total		$1,045,000.00
Probable Expenditure for 1864:—		
Ordinary Expenditure	$400,000.00	
Public Works	460,000.00	
		860,000.00
Probable Excess of Assets over Liabilities on Dec. 31, 1864		$185,000.00

FINANCIAL ESTIMATE FOR 1864.

Estimated Excess of Assets over Liabilities on Jan. 1, 1865	$185,000.00
Estimated Revenue for 1865 as per Schedule A of present Estimates	700,535.00
Total	$885,535.00
Estimated Expenditure for 1865, as per Schedule B of present Estimates	$779,426.00
Probable Excess of Assets over Liabilities on Dec. 31, 1865	$106,109.00

In the Vice-Admiralty Court—before the Acting Chief Justice and Mr. Thomsett, Assessor—the case of collision between the Bremen schooner *Charlotte* and Hamburg ship *Arracan*, was concluded, having occupied the Court nearly three days. It was decided in favour of the *Charlotte*, with costs, it having been proved to the satisfaction of the Court that the collision took place in consequence of the *Arracan* failing to keep a good look out. The damages of the *Charlotte* are laid at about $6,000, whilst the *Arracan's* damage was very trifling. Mr. Pollard represented the owners of the *Charlotte*, and Mr. Kingsmill those of the *Arracan*.

The British steamer *Chanticleer* left Yokohama on the 4th August, experiencing very boisterous weather most of the way. On the morning of the 14th she saw the British steamer *Soochow* ashore in Owick Bay, when she proceeded to her assistance, and managed to save her crew and a large portion of her cargo. The *Soochow* had anchored for shelter on the night of the 13th, and her cables parting, she was driven bodily ashore, and has become a total wreck. The *Chanticleer* must be a fortune to her owners. It was only a month before she made a handsome salvage, which she took into Hong Kong. The Government charter to Japan with troops, on which trip she had just returned, must have netted several thousand dollars. When she left England we stated that she would prove a useful and profitable craft.

CANTON.

A correspondent dating 16th August writes:—

"The heavy rains of the past few days have caused the river to rise to an unusual height. Yesterday, nearly all Honam was under water, and I hear from a native resident at Cumchok that that place and Fatshan are inundated.

The ebb tides too are strong, the water running down like a sluice the greater portion of the four-and-twenty hours. Two boats were capsized by a squall in the Macao passage yesterday, and it is feared several lives lost.

The barometer keeps steady at 29.60 to 29.70, while the thermometer is down to 80 and during the night to 75, the air being quite cool. The heavy rains and flooded streets put business quite in the background.

AMOY.

A correspondent at Amoy, under date of August 8, writes:—"The British ship *Morning Star*, Captain Johntston, from Liverpool to Shanghai, with coals for the P. and O. Company, put into this port on the 16th inst. in a disabled state, having met with, a typhoon on the 12th, and lost topmasts, sails, bowsprit, &c. She will discharge her coals and go into dock, and will probably be five weeks here. She was 120 days out to this port. We have had two severe tyhoons very recently, and a great many vessels are supposed to have foundered.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates hence are to the 1st September. The P. and O. Company's steamer *Aden* arrived on the 26th August, with the English mails of the 26th July.

On the evening of the 16th August, a public entertainment, consisting of a ball and supper, was given in the Town Hall by the bachelor residents to Mr. and Mrs. James Davidson. Mr. Davidson is the late manager of the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India and China, and the entertainment was generally understood as a demonstration of the high esteem and respect in which he is held by the residents; no such display has taken place since the ball and supper at Singapore, given to Sir James Brooke in November, 1861. Mr. Davidson has done a great deal by his individual influence to place the bank of which he was the manager in its present high position; and the merchants here take it little complimentary to themselves that the losses incurred in an exceptionally bad year should be grounds with the proprietors at home for superseding a gentleman with whom they have done business agreeably for now nearly five years. Among those present were Sir Richard Bolton McCausland, Recorder, Commodore Montrésor, the Hon. Resident Councillor, besides all the principal residents.

At a sitting of the Municipal Council on the 10th August, it was resolved, as the Loan of 1860 will be due next year, that a new loan of $70,000, bearing interest at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum for eight years, be raised to pay it off. Preference to be given to holders of bonds of 1860 who may wish to let their funds remain. The president was requested to solicit the sanction of the Governor, and on receipt of his Honour's approval, the secretary is to advertise the loan.

A Chinese clerk, named Lee Cho Guan, was apprehended on the 24th August, at 1 A.M., on Beach Road, whilst endeavouring to get on board a Malay boat bound to Malacca. The man is charged with larceny of a cheque for $352.70 whilst in the employment of the Oriental Bank. On being examined before

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the sitting magistrate on the 31st he readily acknowledged having committed the alleged fraud. A letter was also produced addressed to the manager of the bank, in which the prisoner stated his having committed a grievous fault. After a lengthened investigation, the magistrate ordered the defendant to take his trial at the next ensuing criminal session.

This is the first day (remarks the *Straits Times* of the 1st September), on which the toll of one quarter cent is to be collected at the foot bridge across the river. We have seen the turnstiles, and anything more inconvenient it is difficult to imagine; a portly person will find some difficulty in passing through; a Chinaman's basket, even of small dimensions, will have to be lifted over, and it is a fortunate circumstance that we have few pedestrian ladies in the settlement; for crinolines the turnstiles are simply impassable. We would recommend our stout friends to commence at once with Mr. Banting's regimen.

Captain Reid, of the British barque *Henry Darling*, arrived on the 23rd August, reports that on the 14th, when off Pulo Laut in Gaspar Straits, saw a vessel which proved to be the British ship *Eastern Light*, Captain Cruikshank, ashore on a reef off the north end of the above island. The *Henry Darling* anchored, as well as the *Heroes of Alma*, and *Langdale*, which vessels were in company. They found the vessel's fore part on the reef, but during Sunday night she slipped off and the anchor was let go in deep water. All hands, as well as men from the three ships, turned to the pumps and continued pumping twenty-four hours, during which time they had only gained one foot. On Tuesday morning the Dutch Resident from Billiton went on board, and having sent divers under the vessel, who reported a large hole in the bows, it was determined to strip the vessel and save what they could. The vessel, a large one, was coal loaded in the lower hold, and had deal planks in the 'tween decks, which probably assisted to keep her afloat. On Wednesday morning, the 17th, the *Henry Darling* left, bringing five of the crew. The vessel then had twenty-one feet of water in the hold. Capt. Cruikshank and his wife went on shore with the Dutch Resident and the remainder of the crew were distributed between the other vessels. It was intended to attempt hauling the vessel on to the reel again, but there was every chance of her sinking.

Captain Napier, of the *William Simpson*, from London, arrived on the 20th of August, reports having passed the meridian of the Cape of Good Hope on July 4th, meeting there with a quantity of boards or deals painted white, as if belonging to some vessel's deck.

The bark *Conference*, Captain Reid, arrived on the 29th of August from Birkenhead, made the passage from the meridian of the Cape in the remarkably short period of thirty-three days, although deeply laden.

From the Macassar paper we learn that the Portuguese garrison at Timor-Delhi revolted on the night of the 30th May, having had no pay for three months, and being badly fed and clad. The majority of the Council fled on foot to the interior leaving everything to its fate. A new Government was elected the next afternoon, and order is again restored.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BIRD—On the 17th Aug., at 18, Wyndham-street, Hong Kong, the wife of Shearman G. Bird, of a daughter.

FEARON—On the 29th Sept., at 4, Palace-road, Streatham-hill, the wife of Charles A. Fearon, Esq., of a daughter.

HARRIS—On the 17th Aug., at Shanghai, the wife of Capt. Harris, of the steamer Waratah, of a son.

STANFORD—On the 29th Sept., at Lowestoft, the wife of Mr. George Stanford, of Shanghai, of a daughter.

TENNENT—On the 11th Aug., at Shanghai, the wife of C. Emersen Tennent, M.D., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

DICKINSON—NEALE.—On the 5th Oct., at West Wickham, Kent, by the Rev. M. S. Farrer, uncle of the bride, Henry, youngest son of William Dickinson, Esq., of Wickham Hall, to Henrietta Vansittart, eldest daughter of Edward Vansittart Neale, Esq., of West Wickham.

LIFE—SULLIVAN.—On the 24th Sept., at St. George's, Hanover-square, by the Rev. William Cardall, M.A., William, eldest son of Thomas Life, Esq., of Peterborough, J.P., to Fanny Rosina, daughter of the late George Grey Sullivan, Esq., R.N., H.M.'s Consul for the Port of Amoy, in China.

ODELL—ROE.—On the 27th Sept., at the parish church, Clara, by the Rev. H. J. Flynn, M.A., assisted by the Rev. E. Newland, B.A., Thos. S. Odell, of Canton, China, eldest son of T. A. Odell, of Peckham-rye, Surrey, to Madeleine, second daughter of Thomas Roe, Esq., of Coulfinn, Queen's County, Ireland. No cards.

TIDMAN—KERSHAW.—On the 28th Sept., at the parish church of St. Leonard's, Streatham, by the Rev. Joseph Wallis, M.A., Paul Frederick Tidman, of Singapore, to Frances Amelia, daughter of the late Jas. Kershaw, Esq., M.P., of Uplands, Streatham. No cards.

DEATHS.

ADAM—On the 6th Aug., at Shanghai, Alexander, youngest son of Robert Adam, Paisley, Scotland, aged 32 years.

GIBBS—On the 7th Oct., suddenly, at his residence, Elmwood, Upper Tooting, Richard Gibbs, Esq., in the 75th year of his age.

GILLON—On the 25th July, at Shanghai, China, of Asiatic cholera, Mr. John Gillon, eldest son of the late Mr. John Gillon, jun., Leith, aged 21.

HARTWELL—On the 7th Aug., at Fuhchau, eldest daughter of Rev. C. and Mrs. L. E. Hartwell, of the American Board Mission, in the 12th year of her age.

KRAEMER—On the 5th Aug., at Shanghai, Mr. Carl Kraemer, of Wiesbaden, Grand Duchy Nassau, Germany, aged 30 years.

LEIGH—On the 21st July last, washed overboard in the China Seas, James O. Leigh, aged 26 (second son of the late Robert Leigh, of Bardon, Somerset, solicitor), chief officer of the ship Childers, from China to London.

LIMEBER—On the 22nd July, at Shanghai, of cholera, Christopher Baynes Limeber, Esq.

LORING—On the 15th Aug., at Hong Kong, William J. Loring, of Boston, U.S.A., of the firm of Messrs. A. Heard and Co., aged 38 years.

NEEDHAM—On the 5th Aug, at Hong Kong, on board the Light of the Age, from a fall, which he survived only one hour and a-half, Robert Charles Needham, cadet, aged 19, second son of the Hon. F. H. Needham.

NOKES—On the 3rd Oct., at 9, The Terrace, Kensington, Ellen Catherine, wife of George Nokes, Esq., and eldest daughter of Edward Hogg, Esq., of Norland-square, Notting-hill.

SHAW—On the 24th July, at Hankow, Frederick Shaw, aged 26.

SMITH—On the 15th Aug., at Shanghai, Mr. Henry T. Smith.

TERRY—On the 17th July, at Hankow, of dysentery, Richard Terry, in the employ of Morrison and Watt.

VALBERG—On the 30th Aug., at Singapore, William Henry Valberg, aged 67 years and 2 months.

WHEELER—On the 16th July, at Hankow, very suddenly, John Wheeler, Sergeant of Police.

WHISTLER—At Shanghai, of cholera, R. Whistler, Esq., tea inspector, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 6¼d.	6s. 7d. to 6s. 8d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6 ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 9¼d.	4s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.
At Singapore	6 ditto		
At Manila	6 ditto		

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 310 to 311 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 229 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 12 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 75 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 27 to 28 discount.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At AMOY.—From London: Aug. 18, Morning Star.

At HONG KONG.—From Cardiff: Aug. 14, British Crown. From Southampton: 15, Corea (str.).

At SHANGHAI.—From Newcastle: Aug. 5, Orion. From New York: 4, Clara Babuyan. From Liverpool: 4, Truro. From Sunderland: 6, Palawan. From Shields: 13, Cleveland. From Cardiff: 15, Pembrokeshire. Fram Bordeaux: 9, Siam.

At NAGASAKI.—From England: Aug. 3, Alice.

DEPARTURES.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: Aug. 11, Philomela.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Aug. 5, Essex; 13, Zodiac. For Liverpool: 8, Brockham. For New York: 13, Mary.

FREIGHTS.

FOO-CHOW.—To London: £3. 10s.

SHANGHAI.—To London: Tea, £4. 10s. to £5. London and Liverpool: Cotton, £3 per ton of 50 cubic feet.

THE TRADE OF SHANGHAI.

In our issue of the 15th Sept., we noticed the statistics of the trade of the port of Shanghai for 1863, as published by the Foreign Customs Commissioners. We have now a copy of the document (borrowed by the way, and we may take this opportunity of reminding the Commissioners that we will be obliged if they will in future forward us a copy of any returns *via* Marseilles).

The returns reflect great credit on the compilers and printers, and appear to shadow forth the truth *pur et simple*. The imports for 1863 are given as imported in 2,870 vessels, square rigged and local craft, of the aggregate tonnage of 884,755.

	Value.—Taels.
Camlets	1,318,944
„ Dutch	8,190
„ Imitation	15,015
Long Ells	725,935
Grey Shirtings	1,162,947
White do.	463,462
Spanish Stripes	662,173
T Cloths	518,845
Copper Sheathing, &c.	82,428
Iron—Nail, Roll, &c.	335,063
Lead—Sheet, &c.	654,591
Tin Plates	151,246
Flints	155,352
Silk from Japan	2,877,948
Tea do.	521,616
Timber do.	2,762,603
Coal	1,256,328
Rice	5,703,134
Sugar	4,476,181
All other articles	49,273,349
	61,704,099
At 6s. 4½d.	£19,603,906

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The exports are as follow :—

	Taels.
Copper Cash	.. 1,796,355
Cotton	..11,081,181
Nankeens	.. 1,618,970
Silk Piece Goods	.. 861,746
„ Raw..	.. 7,632,341
Tea, Black	.. 8,008,627
„ Green	.. 4,801,066
Sundries	.. 2,685,179
	38,485,465
At 6s. 4½d.	.. £12,227,153

The amount of revenue derivable from this trade, and collected by the Customs, was 2,526,621 taels, of which 717,104 taels was collected on 36,851 chests opium, which is not included in the above list of imports. The equivalent, at 6s. 4½d, is £894,239, which we may assume is quite double what it would be if left entirely in the hands of the Chinese.

The grand total of the trade is :—

Imports, General	£19,603,906
„ Opium	6,434,040
„ Treasure	3,671,628
	£29,709,574
General Exports	12,227,153
	£41,936,797

Of this sum the re-exports from Shanghai to other ports of imported goods was £18,578,997.

Hankow.

We have not the particulars before us, but the figures are as follow :—

	Taels.	
Opium	750,000	
Shirtings	1,120,000	
General	8,056,317	
Imports		9,926,317
Exports		12,741,908
		Taels 22,668,225
Say, at Exchange, 6s. 8d.		.. £7,556,075

Foo-Chow.

Imports, General		.. $5,669,066
„ Opium		.. 5,054,824
		$10,723,890
Exports, General	.. $1,957,584	
„ Tea	.. 16,585,888	
		18,543,472
		$29,267,362
At Exchange, 4s. 10½d.		.. £7,137,840

Che-Foo.

	Taels.	
Imports, General	..	2,359,742
Exports, do.	..	1,545,632
		Taels 3,905,374
At Exchange, 6s. 3d. to 6s. 6d. ..		.. £1,258,109

Amoy.

Imports, General	$8,430,991
Exports, do.	4,092,574
Treasure	2,259,294
	$14,782,859
Sterling	£3,591,066

The returns from some of the new ports, and of Canton, we have not yet seen.

CONSULAR REPORTS FROM CHINA.

(TO BE NOTICED IN OUR NEXT.)

FOREIGN OFFICE, Oct. 5.

Reports have been received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Peking.—1. On the trade of Canton, by Mr. D. B. Robertson, Her Majesty's Consul; 2. On the trade of Kewkiang, by Mr. Vice-Consul Hughes; and, 3. On the trade of Tamsuy Formosa, by Mr. Vice-Consul S. P. Blanne l all for the year 1863.

THE REBELLION IN CHINA.

(SATURDAY REVIEW.)

The fall of Nanking has for some time been looked forward to, alike by Imperialists and rebels, as the last act in the insurrection which has so long devastated the most fertile provinces of China; and the suicide of the Tien Wang, two days before the taking of his capital, has removed the only bond which gave even an apparent unity to the movements of the insurgents. It is curious to remember that, only a few years since, the ultimate success of the rebellion was regarded by many persons both as extremely probable in itself, and as equivalent to the establishment of Christianity throughout the Chinese empire. For this latter belief the early history of the Taipings had afforded some little excuse. Their creed was so far Christian that the first notion of it was derived from the Christian Scriptures. But it was not derived directly from this source, and the intervening medium was no better than the diseased imagination of a clever but disappointed enthusiast. Hung-siu-tsuen, the "First" (and last) "Emperor of the Taiping dynasty," seems to have been a boy of an ambitious and studious temper, prevented by the poverty of his parents from obtaining the education he desired, consequently unable, after repeated trials, to obtain the literary degree which forms the indispensable preliminary to a public career in China. On one of his numerous visits to Canton, the capital of his native province, to undergo the prescribed examination, he fell in with a native catechist who gave him some tracts containing portions of the Chinese Bible published by the Protestant missionaries. Hung-siu-tsuen is said to have just looked at these tracts and then thrown them aside; but they must have made a deeper impression upon his mind than he was conscious of at the time, or than he afterwards thought fit to acknowledge, for, in the course of a long illness two or three years later, he described a series of visions which, whether seen or invented, were evidently suggested by isolated texts of Scripture. He is led before a venerable old man, who weeps over the ingratitude of his children on the earth; he feels himself defiled, and is washed from his sins in a river; he has his side opened, and a new heart put into it; he is given a sword, a seal, and a fruit sweet to the taste: he is commissioned to turn men from the worship of false gods; he fights with devils for forty days, and is assisted in the struggle by a man of middle age, whom he calls his Elder Brother. This was in 1837, but it was not, it seems, until 1843 that his visions exercised any direct influence upon his actions. In that year he found among his books the tracts which he had brought from Canton. Their contents seemed to interpret the visions of his illness, and, accepting this discovery as a miraculous confirmation of the reality of what he had seen, he at once set about making converts. In his native province of Kwang-tung he only gained two; but on reading, in his tracts, that a prophet is not without honour save in his own country, he moved in the following year into the adjoining province of Kwan-si, where he shortly gathered round him a little religious congregation which, as it increased in numbers, became known as the God-worshippers.

The supposed holder of a Divine commission to "destroy demons," and to put down the worship of false gods, must have been early familiarised with the idea of a possible revolution in the Empire; but the actual transformation of the God-worshippers from a purely religious to a mixed religious and political organisation did not take place till some time later. The year 1850 was one of more than common political confusion in the south of China. The country was infested with disbanded troops, demoralised by their recent defeat in the war with England, with bodies of opium-smugglers, who set the revenue authorities at open defiance, and with secret societies leagued together to overthrow the reigning dynasty. To all these elements of disorder was added, in Kwan-si, a feud between two neighbouring clans—the Paulis and the Hakkas. In this the Hakkas were defeated, and in order to obtain shelter and support they joined the God-worshippers, and adopted their religious creed. This accession of numerical strength probably hastened the development of Hung-siu-tsuen's plans, while it naturally made him more formidable in the eyes of the authorities, who already viewed his followers with dislike, on account of their iconoclastic propensities. An unsuccessful attempt to arrest their leader drove the God-worshippers to take up arms. They seized and fortified a village, and presented so formidable a front to the troops sent to disperse them that the latter thought it wisest to leave them unmolested. Thus committed to open rebellion, they naturally gathered round them all the elements of disaffection in the province. During the first half of 1851 they had several skirmishes with the Imperial troops, in all of which they were victorious, and in the month of August they took the city of Yung-nan. Here the insurrection first received its permanent external form. Hung-siu-tsuen assumed the title of Tien Wang, or Heavenly King, was proclaimed Emperor of China, and nominated four of his followers as subordinate "kings," one for each quarter of the Empire. Throughout the winter Yung-nan was closely invested by the Imperialists, but on the 7th of April, 1852, the Taipings forced a passage through the besiegers, and marched northwards. City after city fell before them, and in December they captured Yoh-chow on the Yang-sze. Once launched on the great central river of China, their progress down its course was easy. The fleets of merchantmen which then crowded its waters furnished them with vessels, the great cities on its banks supplied them with money and provisions, and on the 8th of March, 1853, they sat down before Nanking. The ancient capital of the Empire held out only eleven days. It was taken on the 19th of March and the whole Tartar garrison, with their wives and children, 20,000 in number, put to the sword.

From the time of the taking of Nanking the tactics of the rebels underwent great changes. During their march from the south they had made no attempt to hold permanently any portion of the country. They had occupied the cities, provided themselves with all they stood in need of, enlisted the able-bodied male population as forced recruits, and then left each place in turn to be re-occupied by the Imperial troops, who followed at a safe distance in the rear. Now they decided upon concentrating their power upon the lower waters of the Yang-sze. They declared Nanking the Heavenly capital, and occupied with a strong force the neighbouring cities of Yang-chow and Chin-keang. It certainly seems that they committed a great blunder. If they had continued their march northwards from the Yang-sze, they might have overrun the northern half of the country as easily as they had already overrun the southern; they might have taken Peking; seized the control of the whole executive power of the Empire, and thus constituted themselves the *de facto* government of China. How easily all this might have been accomplished may be judged from the fact that a small body of 6,000 or 7,000 men which the Taiping leaders did despatch to the north was able to make its way, without any serious opposition, for 1,300 miles through the very heart of the country, and winter at Tsing-hae, less than

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a hundred miles south of Peking. With the exception of this episode, the military history of the rebellion from 1853 to 1856 wears a very uniform aspect. The cities on the Yang-sze as far up as Hankow were regularly occupied for a longer or shorter period, and then pillaged and evacuated, to be again occupied in the following year. Within the walls of the Heavenly capital, however, there were formidable dissensions. As far back as 1848, Yang-sin-tshin, one of the first converts, had claimed to be specially inspired by the "Heavenly Father." His pretensions had been acknowledged with some reserve by Hung-siu-tsuen, and in the first organisation of the rebellion he had been created Eastern King. Whether Yang-sin-tshin really entertained any design of overthrowing the Tien Wang, and putting himself at the head of the Taipings, we have no means of knowing, but he certainly turned his supposed powers to a use which could hardly have been agreeable to his superior. In an ordinary way he treated him with all proper respect, but in the trances in which he assumed to be actually possessed by the "Heavenly Father" he freely reproved the Tien Wang for his errors, public and private. On some occasions, the Eastern King paid a visit to his leader during these trances, in which case he was received with all the respect due to a present divinity. On others, the inspired utterances were taken down by an attendant, and then, on recovering his senses, the Eastern King communicated to the Tien Wang what he, as the mouthpiece of the Heavenly Father, had been compelled to say of him. For some time the Heavenly King submitted patiently to this correction, and even conferred on his subordinate the honorary title of "Comforter;" but at length either the discipline became too severe, or Yang-sin-tshin's designs too apparent, and in 1856 the Eastern King was put to death, together with a large number of his immediate adherents. During the two following years the prospects of the Taipings considerably declined. In 1857 the country actually in their hands was reduced to a narrow strip of land on the southern bank of the Yang-sze, from Ngan-kin to Chin-Keang, and in 1858 they were compelled by want of supplies to abandon the latter city, which they had held since 1853.

Throughout the period between 1853 and 1859 the Imperial troops had been besieging Nanking; but, as the city was only invested on three sides, and the Taipings retained the command of the river, the latter had no difficulty in obtaining supplies, in sending out troops, or in receiving reinforcements. Towards the end of 1859, however, the Imperialists began to press forward the siege with greatly-increased vigour. They stationed their fleet above the town, and thereby cut off the rebels from Hankow and those other cities on the Yang-sze from which their supplies had been principally drawn. The Taipings at first endeavoured to draw off the besieging force by ravaging the maritime province of Che-kiang, and on the 19th of March, 1860, they took the outer city of Hang-chow. But the Tartar garrison, warned by the fate of their brethren in other cities, held out in the citadel until the 24th, when they were reinforced, and the rebels defeated with tremendous slaughter. The defenders of Nanking were by this time reduced to great extremities, and the Taipings, finding that these indirect attempts to raise the siege were of no avail, at length united their forces, and on the 3rd of May attacked, and, with the aid of a vigorous sortie from the garrison, completely routed the Imperialists. The whole besieging army was scattered, and so great was the terror inspired by the news of the defeat that three weeks later Soochow, the last stronghold of the Government in that district, and one of the most important cities of Central China, opened its gates to the rebels. During the remainder of 1860 both parties remained inactive, and in 1861 the balance between them was pretty evenly preserved. To the west of Nanking, the rebels were defeated with great loss near Hankow, and the town of Ngankin surrendered to the Imperialists; while, to the eastward, Hang-chow and Ningpo fell into the hands of the Taipings. How long affairs would have continued in this condition if the combatants had been left to themselves, it is impossible to say. Neither of the opposing armies had any important superiority over the other, many of the soldiers fought indifferently in the ranks of either, according as the immediate prospect of plunder was greatest, and on the fall of a city it was a common thing for the besiegers and garrison to make common cause in pillaging the inhabitants. Meanwhile, the bulk of the population in the disturbed districts sided with neither party, but waited in hopeless apathy till it should please Heaven to remove the scourge. But the utterly destructive and anarchical character of the rebellion had become so apparent that the English Government at length felt itself justified in departing from its neutral policy. Unless order could be restored, the ruin of the whole trade of China seemed inevitable, and, as the Taipings were wholly destitute of any capacity for social or political organisation, such a restoration could only be effected by strengthening the hands of the Imperialists. With the course of events, from the time this determination was arrived at, we are all of us familiar. English officers were allowed to take the command of Chinese troops, and the introduction of this new element completely changed the military aspect of affairs. The history of the last two years of the rebellion is little more than the record of the unvarying success of that disciplined force which, first under Ward and subsequently under Colonel Gordon, has gradually re-established the Imperial authority over the whole of those vast provinces which at one time seemed to be for ever estranged from it.

CAPTURE OF NANKING.

(Standard.)

Nanking has been taken at last by the forces of the Emperor of China. Aided by the English, the Mandarins have made an end of the Coolie Kings. We are not at all sure that we ought to congratulate ourselves on the news. With an enemy in the field against him, occupying a portion of his empire, threatening new conquests, a standing menace to his throne, the Emperor of China was wonderfully complaisant to the English, upon whom he relied for something more than sympathy in his troubles. The "foreign devils," as both factions in China politely term us, have guns, and steam ships, and money, and a knowledge of the art of war, which render them most dangerous as enemies, most valuable as allies. So long as anything was to be got from us the Mantchoo dynasty was willing to be on friendly terms with us. It was anxious to oblige us in all matters of trade, it relaxed in our favour the old exclusive laws, permitting English subjects to penetrate into the interior of China, to navigate the great rivers, to approach Peking from the Gulf of Pecheli or from the steppes of Siberia. But all this time the terrible Taipings were in arms in the southern provinces, in actual occupation of a territory as large as the British islands, with a much larger population. The Taipings were opposed to foreign trade; they were audacious and foolish enough to attack British settlements on the coast; they did their best to cement an unnatural alliance between the Tartar dynasty and its late enemies. That alliance has done all that could be expected of it. General Brown, the commander of Shanghai, has actually despatched British troops against the Taipings. Gordon and other Englishmen have been permitted to take command in the Chinese armies. To the skilful operations of this brave leader, at the head of his disciplined Chinese and his European contingent, the overthrow of the Taipings is mainly owing. In the campaign of last year Colonel Gordon reconquered one by one all the great cities and towns on the Grand Canal. His two campaigns led to the capture of Soo-chow, but the atrocities perpetrated by the Imperialists on that unfortunate city led to his abrupt retirement from the Chinese service. But the military instinct within him was strong enough, apparently, to get the better of his humane scruples. By permission of General Brown he visited the camp of the indolent Chinamen who were dawdling at the siege of Nanking. Though in an unofficial capacity, he reconnoitered the place, and gave his advice on the assault. The very terror of his name seems to have led to the suicide of the chief of the Kings and the abandonment of the last stronghold of the Taiping insurgents. For having saved an empire Colonel Gordon is rewarded, we believe, with a yellow button. The reward of the English Government may, and doubtless will be, as unsubstantial and as paltry. If it be true that they have no more to fear from these truculent insurgents and no more to expect at our hands in the shape of military assistance, we may expect a change in the attitude of this perfidious Government. The murderers of Bowlby and Brabazon can no more change their nature than an Ethiopian can change his skin. With all his shrewdness, his mechanical and philosophical acumen, it will take some millions of years of Mr. Darwin's process to develop a Chinaman up to the moral standard of Europe. It is a thousand pities that we ever interfered in the wars of this miserable people, who give way to the most brutal passions whenever an opportunity is afforded them of glutting their revenge on unarmed men and defenceless woman and children. We have too much reason to fear that the Imperialists, in taking possession of Nanking, have perpetrated the most frightful cruelties on the remnant of the population which has been left alive by the Taipings. It is true that the Taipings themselves are cruel and remorseless. Murder, and robbery, and lust, run riot where their armies have trodden. They are the locusts of China, they make a desert where they penetrate, they lay waste fenced cities into ruinous heaps. But because the Taipings have slain one-half of the population there is the less reason why we should help the Imperialists to a position which will enable them to slay the half that remains. The Taiping movement began in 1850. From the southern province of Kwangsi these hordes of robbers spread over the province of Hoonan. Passing the great central city Hankow, they launched their boats on the Yang-tze-Kiang. Five hundred miles below it they paused, and established their head-quarters in the ancient Chinese capital of Nanking. For two years they were besieged, then the siege was raised. During the war between England and the empire they were left alone. Then came the expedition on the Yang-tze where the Wangs, or Kings of Nanking, received the English graciously. Then came their attempts on Ningpo and Shanghai, which made them our enemies. They were expelled from Ningpo; they were driven to a distance from Shanghai. Then came the campaign of Gordon, the fall of Sowchow-foo. Now, after some months' respite, the capture of Nanking.

In 1860 the Taipings held undisturbed possession of half of the province of Kiang-su, to the north of the Great River, and of Che-kiang, to the south of the Yang-tze. Their territory surrounded Shanghai. They held the shores of the river, which it was so desirable to open to trade. They held the Grand Canal, the highway between the North and South. Their position was a commanding one. They have now no position at all. They are wanderers, like Cain, upon the face of the earth. The long-haired men must shave their heads and wear tails, the fanatics who believed that their chief was a person of Trinity must make-believe to be orthodox Buddhists, if they would escape decapitation. There is an end of the poor Wangs. When he heard that Gordon was coming, the "Heavenly King," the Tien-Wang, without waiting for the explosion of the mine which made a breach in his walls, took poisoned gold-leaf, gave up his boasted immortality, and resigned himself to his fate. His wives are said to have hung themselves decorously round him. As there are said to have been about 1,000 of them, the luckless harem must have wanted a great many gibbets. Wretched impostor as he may have been—and we cannot well forgive him his blasphemous parody on our religion, in which he seemed to have aimed at being a sort of Chinese Joe Smith—This Taiping King was not without his admirable qualities. His courage was extraordinary. When the Imperialist leader, Ho-chen, occupied a hill just opposite his palace at Nanking, from which, had he chosen, he might have shelled it and destroyed it, the Tien-Wang hung out the sacred banner over the walls, and sat calmly composing doxologies for the use of his followers. The Wangs between them made the beautiful old city a heap of ruins, The tombs of the Ming dynasty are a haunt of owls. A great part of the area of the city is now a desert. Its population has been decimated, and those who remain are starving. The Porcelain Tower, one of the wonders of the world, is now a mound of rubbish. Being jealous of two other Wangs, with their followers, the King first set the Northern Wang upon the Eastern Wang till he extirpated him, and then quietly made an end of the survivor and his 10,000 men. As the Porcelain Tower was supposed to have been his vantage ground, it was blown up by the Tien-Wang. The Ching-Wang, or Fighting King, has been taken prisoner. So has the Kan-Wang, a sort of Minister of the Interior, who is described by Mr. Forrest, an English visitor, as a charming entertainer, and "the most intelligent Chinaman he had ever met." We trust that the influence of the English authorities

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in China may be exerted in time to save these unfortunate captives from the terrible doom with which they are threatened at the hands of the cruel Tartar Government at Peking.

CHINA AT THE BRITISH SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION.

At Bath the meeting of the British Association for the advancement of science terminated its proceedings with great *eclat*, and was considered the most successful congress of this gathering of *savans*, not omitting the large proportion of the fair sex present, since its foundation by Professor Phillips, thirty-four years ago. That eminent geologist described, at the sumptuous banquet given by the mayor of Bath, the feeble aspect of his bantling with paternal fondness, and declared his astonishment at the vigorous maturity to which it has arrived as something beyond his most sanguine expectations, and those of his coadjutors, Sir Roderick Murchison and others, who assisted at its birth. His election for president at the meeting next year, to be held in Birmingham, is only a just acknowledgment of his talents and eminent services in the cause of the advancement of science.

Excepting the untoward event which has deprived the world of a vigorous explorer in the prime of life, just as he had attained the acme of his career, the proceedings passed off without any *contretemps*. Among the different sections, the only one which produced any subject relating to China was in Section E, Geography and Ethnology, presided over by that veteran geographer Sir Roderick Murchison. This was at all times the most crowded and popular section of the meeting, there being seldom less than 400 and frequently upwards of 1,000 members and associates present. Among the papers read was one from the pen of A. Michie, Esq., of the firm of Lindsay and Co., Shanghai, which was read by the secretary, as that gentleman was not present, describing that part of Mongolia and Siberia through which he travelled during his recent journey from Peking to St. Petersburg. It was listened to with much interest, especially where the writer testified to the high moral and physical condition of the political convict colonies of Poles in Siberia. Murmurs were vented against the Russian Government at their tyranny over these people, and a feeling of incredulity was evinced by a portion of the audience at the favorable condition of the exiles given by Mr. Michie. When the reading of the paper was over, Sir Roderick Murchison not only vouched for the accuracy of the account, as coming from a gentleman of the highest integrity in China, but, from his own experience when travelling in Siberia some years ago, corroborated the general tenor of Mr. Michie's remarks.

When any topic was under discussion referring to China, Japan, or Cochin China, Sir John Bowring, ex-Governor of Hong Kong, John Crawfurd, Esq., F.R.S., ex-Governor of the Straits Settlements, and Mr. Samuel Mossman, late Editor of the *North-China Herald*, took part in it. The latter named of these representatives of the Far East at this meeting also read a paper on the climates of China and Australia, with a view to show that the atmosphere of the globe does not universally commingle, as generally supposed, on account of the great ærial currents, and that there is a difference in the volume of oxygen and carbonic acid gas, as its vital constituents, in the north and south hemispheres. He contended that the phenomena of the N. E. and S. E. trade-winds restricted the air to each hemisphere, and that the equatorial belt of calms neutralizing the currents prevented their amalgamation. Hence the organic conditions of the land on each side of the equator, tending to exhaust the vital elements of the atmosphere, from the earliest fossil period, had reduced their volume more in the north than in the south, in consequence of the greater extent of land containing carboniferous deposits, and the preponderating presence of the animal creation. While quoting the various analyses of the atmosphere by Humboldt, Dr. Priestly, and others, Mr. Mossman showed that not one had been made in the southern hemisphere, or further east than the African coast on the Mediterranean; and that was brought to Europe in bottles. In his paper, which is of some length, he suggests that it would be interesting, and further the elucidation of this important medical question, if some of the skilful physicians at Shanghai would make a series of experiments, especially in the summer months, to ascertain if the vital constituents in the air are less in the eastern than they are in the western hemisphere.

The following extracts refer to the climatology of China:—

"*For the human subject to enjoy all the conditions of climate in their highest degree, it is necessary that the atmosphere he breathes contains the largest proportion of the vital and deodorizing gases (oxygen and carbon) that support life and health.* Where these are deficient, I contend that the most robust individual cannot fully enjoy all the changes in the atmosphere that sensibly affect his organs, as stated by Humboldt.

"In looking abroad on this atmo-terraqueous globe for data to illustrate in its most vivid manner this part of my subject, it is not in this comparatively small patch of its surface that the natural philosopher can observe the great climatic operations of Nature in her atmospheric laboratory. However great and powerful this Island of Great Britain is in its moral, political, and commercial influence throughout the world, yet in its limited geographical area it is of lilliputian dimensions in determining meteorological phenomena. Nor does even the Continent of Europe furnish the most striking illustrations of climatology in the northern hemisphere to compare with the regions of the Far South. It is in Asia, especially in the Far East, where the multitudinous Empire of China supports one-third of our breathing humanity, that we find the extremes of malaria and disease, caused by the condition of the atmosphere. On the other hand, Australia presents a territory nearly two and a-half times the superficies of China, revelling in the pure oxygenised heavens of the south—a land that may be considered the grand sanitarium of this vitiated earth. Having breathed the airs of these two regions for many years, and studied practically their physical geography during a long residence and many thousand miles of travel, I flatter myself that I am no mean authority on their climatology.

"A greater contrast does not exist on the globe than in the physical condition of mankind, as affected by climate, than between China and Australia; and the existence of the human race in vitiating the atmosphere, proportionately to their numbers. In the eighteen provinces of China proper, the estimated area of land and fresh water is 1,297,999 square miles, or about one-third of Europe, with a population of 414,686,994—according to the latest authorized computation in 1842. So that if Europe was as densely populated as China it would contain 1,200 millions, or the whole human race; while at present, by the last census drawn up in 1851, its inhabitants do not count, in round numbers, more than 260 millions. It will be readily conceived that this enormous population, crowded within a limited territory compared with this and other civilized countries, even if it possessed a milder climate and its cities and towns enjoyed the sanitary improvements of modern times, yet would it be a pestilential overcrowding of the land. But this is abundantly manifest when we consider the following local features in its geographical conformation, atmospheric phenomena, climate, and hygiene:—

"1st.—On reference to any ordinary map of China it will be seen that although the country is open to the east and south along the sea-board of 3,350 miles, yet on its western and northern boundaries it is hemmed in by the mountain chains of Tartary and Thibet.

"2nd.—This geographical conformation prevents the currents of air from Western Asia sweeping along its vast intermediate plains, and confines the atmosphere within a defined locality, however great in extent; while the monsoon winds, which blow alternately from the south-west and north-east during the year, six months at a time, are seldom relieved by the great westerly current of air in the temperate zone, and rarely or ever by a direct east wind from the North Pacific Ocean.

"3rd.—The effect of this atmospheric phenomena is to localise, as it were, the winds that sweep across that region, where it becomes highly charged with malaria arising from the land lying under a scorching sun, with a humid atmosphere of saturated intensity; rendering its climate during the summer season insupportable to the European constitution.

"4th.—But that which, of all other causes, in my opinion, assists in vitiating the air in that region, and, to a large extent, exhausting its vital oxygenous element, is the multitudinous people who now inhabit it; their ejectamenta, and the remains of a thousand generations buried in the land. From my own knowledge of several provinces, and constant inquiry made by me of the intelligent natives and foreign travellers from those I had not visited, I do not exaggerate when I state that not less than 3 per cent. of the cultivated lands are covered with tombs, besides the cemeteries everywhere built in the mountains. So that in all probability it would be found by further inquiry on this point that one-twentieth, at least, of this immense territory is the receptacle of the dead; where the human remains are interred in strong coffins and metal sarcophagi, built into brick tombs almost hermetically sealed. Within these vaults are buried, perhaps, not less than a hundred thousand millions of human beings, who, in their time, exhausted the oxydizing principle of the air, and now absorb in a solid form the carbonates and phosphates necessary for the health of the living generation. Moreover, in their time, during the lapse of a hundred centuries, they have denuded the land of its trees and shrubs that formed the primeval forests, and gave it the ancient name of Chung Hwâ Kwŏ, signifying the 'Great Flowery Kingdom;' the effect of which has been to lessen the generation of oxygen from the foliage—which is rarely to be seen on the bare mountains' sides, or in the cultivated valleys and plains. Instead of these life-giving plants covering the land with their sweetness, the cultivated fields everywhere exhale the most pestiferous odours, poisoning the air with the mode of culture, and yielding but an infinitesimal production of oxygen gas from their leaves.

"The Chinese Kingdom is facetiously denominated the *Celestial Empire*; which, if applied in derision, will create a smile upon the lips, and tingling sensation of the nostrils among those who know the country; but if seriously spoken is the greatest fiction of the land, that is, if the term signify all that is pure and heavenly. Man in that country proves himself to be the dirtiest of animals; and his habits, pursuits, social condition, and even his religion, in the terse language of our great dramatist, are of 'the earth,—earthy.' The cities, suburbs, and cultivated lands, are strewed and saturated with the rejectamenta of the living, and the remains of the dead. This vast empire is a great dunghill and graveyard, befouling and poisoning the sultry air."

Naval and Military.

The Tamar screw troopship, Capt. Stirling, is under orders to proceed on troop service to Kingstown and convey thence the 86th Regiment to Gibraltar. From Gibraltar she will take the 2nd Battalion of the 8th Regiment to China, and from China she will transport the 67th Regiment to the Cape of Good Hope. From the Cape she will return to China with the 2nd Battalion of the 11th Regiment, to relieve the 99th Regiment, which the Tamar will convey to the Cape on her way to England.

The Vulcan was at St. Vincent, Cape de Verds, on the 20th Sept. She was from China with invalids. The Spanish men-of-war Berenquella and Blanca were at Rio on the 8th, on their way to the Pacific, and the Russian man-of-war Alma was there also, on her way to the Amoor.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* states that "all difficulties, financial and otherwise, between the Imperial and the Indian Governments respecting the arrangement for the transport of troops *via* Egypt, have been finally settled. Five new transports of nearly 4,000 tons each will be built for the service, and it is understood that three of them will be employed on the Suez, and two on the Alexandria side. The former will of course be available for the transport of troops between England and Ireland, the Mediterranean, and American colonies, when they are not employed for the Indian service; and we may presume that the latter will, in like manner, be available for the reliefs between Ceylon, China, and Australia. We may thus congratulate the service on what we hope will turn out to be a fleet of *Himalayas*. As a necessary consequence, the formation of a transport board, under the Admiralty, may be expected before long."

We regret to announce a fatal accident on board Her Majesty's ship Phaeton. On the 19th of August, on the passage from Fortress Monroe to Jamaica, Lieut. C. Paget, third son of Lord W. Paget, was officer of the first watch, when the maintopsail-tye was carried away in making sail, and he was struck on the head by the flyblock. The blow fractured his skull and he fell insensible and died in ten minutes. He was buried next day with the usual honours, deeply deplored.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A Register is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the Far East and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in China, Japan, Singapore, *and other parts of the* Far East, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the Far East.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCT. 8, 1864.

ASKING FOR THE ROD.

Scarcely could our readers have had time to peruse the interesting intelligence from Japan contained in the last issue of the *London and China Telegraph*, than its purport was confirmed by a telegram from Paris, acquainting us that the French mail steamer, arrived at Suez, had brought news of "two English vessels being fired into by a battery belonging to Prince Choshiu." It appears that we must wait for the next English mail steamer from the Far East for the details of what has occurred. The bare fact was brought to Hong Kong by the *Dumbarton* steamer, from Shanghai; and there also it had in like manner arrived by a merchant steamer from Japan. The *Dumbarton* met the *Cadiz*, the mail steamer from Japan, going up the Shanghai River as she was coming down; so that a telegraphic summary of whatever has happened may be looked for from Alexandria almost every hour. The mere brief report in the Hong Kong journals is to the effect that the *Barossa* alone had been fired into in the Inland Sea by Choshiu's (or Tsiosiu's) batteries. We incline to the belief that the statement of the Paris telegram that *two* vessels had been so attacked is the correct one; because, as reported in our last number, two of Her Majesty's ships, the *Barossa* and the *Cormorant*, had left for the quarter named, with the purpose of communicating to the Prince of Nangato, which is the title borne by the turbulent Daimio referred to, certain despatches from the representatives of the European Powers. That he would fire upon vessels coming to his port for the express purpose of warning him that he had already merited chastisement by hurling his shot against the vessels of first one and then the other of nearly all the nations authorised by treaty to navigate the Inland Sea, is no more than was expected from his antecedents, and, there is reason also to believe, no more than was hoped for by his suzerain, the Tycoon. We trust, therefore, we shall be spared on this occasion any outburst of horror and lamentation about "another war with the Japanese." Let it at once be understood that if the Prince of Nangota has been fool enough to shut his eyes to the fact that the Tycoon has dug for him a pit of the very same fashion that was contrived for Satsuma, and so, after wilfully blindfolding himself, perversely walks into it, if he should dash himself to atoms in the fall, his blood must be on his own head. The Dutch, the Americans, the French, and the English have all in turn been made the marks for the guns that line this madman's batteries. He has been accused more than once of conspiring against the authority and even the life of his own native Sovereign. That monarch has no force competent to deal with this really independent feudatory, whose extensive territories are far away from the central seat of Government. As in the case of Satsuma, the Tycoon's heart will swell with delight to see his ambitious vassal brought on his knees by the military science and perfected weapons of the foreigners, at no outlay of money or life to the Court of Yedo. Choshiu, though conscious that the rod was uplifted—though aware, from the example of Kagosima, that the blow fell heavy when inflicted—has persisted in asking for its application. There need be no sympathy when he is beheld wincing and writhing at the chastisement he has probably by this time received.

CORONATION OF THE KING OF CAMBODIA.

By the coronation of the new King of Cambodia at Udong, on the 4th of June last, the French have not only inserted the "thin end of the wedge" into the Indo-Chinese territory, but they have successfully opened up political relations with the King of Siam and his old dependency of a nature that in times not far distant may lead to the ancient kingdom of Cambodia being subject to their sway. The proposition to raise the Viceroy Ong Phra Naradom, appointed by his Siamese Majesty, to the throne was a master-stroke of policy, which other European nations may take a lesson from, if they are in quest of an East Indies. Certes! it has been the coolest and most impudent piece of diplomacy performed in modern times. In the first instance, when the matter was broached by the French Consul at Bangkok, the relations between Siam and France were of a distant, if not of an unfriendly nature. So that the Governor of Saigon, in hastening the ratification of the treaty recently concluded, under circumstances bordering on intimidation, ignored the legitimate power of the Siamese suzerain over the Viceroy of Cambodia, which produced a remonstrance from H.S.M. Phra Paramendr to M. Drouyn de Lhuys, the Minister for Foreign Affairs. This remonstrance of the King of Siam was deemed so important by the French Government that a *Charge d'Affaires*, better skilled in the subtleties of French diplomacy than his predecessor, was sent to Bangkok as special envoy to the Viceroy of Cambodia. On his arrival at Siam, he addressed the King in the most conciliatory manner, and made profuse professions of amity and peace on behalf of his Imperial master, declaring that there was not the slightest attempt on his part to seek for territorial acquisitions in Cambodia, beyond the necessary land grants at Udong and other towns to erect suitable dwellings and offices for diplomatic agents. At the same time he informed the King that the Emperor of the French considered the tributary rights of Tu-Duk, King of the Annamese, had fallen to his lot by the conquest of a portion of Cochin China. Moreover, France had no desire to interfere with the accustomed tribute sent annually to Siam, provided that her influence in the affairs of Cambodia were recognised. Every step taken by M. Aubaret, backed by a show of cool determination to enforce them, if necessary, by strong measures, so worked upon the fears of Phra Paramendr, that he acquiesced in the new order of things with the best grace possible, and ultimately agreed that his Viceroy of Cambodia should be installed King.

The success of these negotiations, without having recourse to harsh measures, emboldened the French to take the leading part in the ceremony of crowning Ong Phra Naradom, whether it was pleasing or not to the King of Siam and his representatives. Accordingly, we learn from a simple but graphic narrative of the journey of Phya Montri Suriywongse, the King's envoy, drawn up by him on the occasion, that a delegate from Admiral de la Grandiere, the Governor of Saigon, assumed the chief post during the ceremony, and usurped the rights of the lawful Sovereign, as will be seen in the following extract from the *Straits Times*:—

On Tuesday, 6th moon, 11th of the waning (31st May), one of the French military officers invited me to go to the temporary abode for consultation. The Commandant sent six soldiers bearing guns, and one bugler, in all 7 men to stand in line at his gate, salute and conduct me to the Commandant. I asked the Commandant, "You sought and consulted with Phra Naradom, about the coronation, what was the result?" The Commandant replied, during the consultation they came to nothing definite; I replied, "I was empowered and ordered by His Majesty the King of Siam to crown Ong Phra Naradom, and at present I was the bearer of two important things, the gold plate with his title engraved, and the crown. These I must deliver to Ong Phra Naradom." The Commandant replied, "It cannot be, what has been brought must be delivered beforehand." That he could not consent to their delivery at the time of the general assembling. I replied, "Other things might be delivered beforehand, but the gold plate with the engraved title, and the crown, must be delivered at the time of the general assembling. The Commandant replied, "If so, then let the Siamese officers sit in one row, and the French officers in another row; let the Gold Plate, with the engraved title, and the crown be placed upon a table. When the time arrives let Ong Phra Naradom take them himself if he could not consent to my delivering them into his hands." I therefore replied, "If they were not delivered from my hands it would be contrary to usage." The Commandant replied, "You may deliver the Gold Plate, with the engraved title;" but the Crown, the Commandant begged to deliver to Ong Phra Naradom. I replied, "This Crown His Majesty the King of Siam had sent out, I must be deliverer of it." The Commandant replied, "His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of France, and His Majesty the King of Siam were intimate friends, and what belonged to His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of France was the same as what belonged to His Majesty the King of Siam." With reference to the discussion, I received the Commandant as the nobleman of a great country; he begged to receive the crown which had been graciously sent, and deliver it to Ong Phra Naradom. He was determined, and should I refuse, there

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would be no conclusion of the matter, I therefore consented. Further, I informed the Commandant that ONG PHRA NARADOM wished him to come out, and be one of the parties to sprinkle him. The Commandant inquired, "Is the sprinkling a custom;" I replied, "It was? "The Commandant said if it was so, he would sprinkle him also. Friday, 6th moon 14th of the waning (3rd June), year of the Rat, 6th of the decade 14th of the reign of our Sovereign 8 A.M. the Commandant and three French officers came to my temporary abode. With twenty soldiers I and the Siamese noblemen, and the French noblemen, both parties dressed in full uniform went together, and performed the ceremony of Coronation upon ONG PHRA NARADOM, Brahmboriiaks Maha Uparat, Viceroy of the capital of Cambodia.

During the ceremony the French plenipotentiary is reported, by the *Courrier de Saigon*, to have delivered an address to the KING elect, of which the following is a translation :—

"France holds out her powerful hand to kings and peoples "who walk in the way of civilisation and who seek what is "right. If her intentions are for a moment misconceived, "soon her noble word removes the obstacles and dissipates the "error.' The presence of the Siamese Ambassador at this "Cambodian ceremony is a proof of this. This high personage "has travelled in Europe. He has seen France, and he com- "prehends that, while recognising the former relations between "Siam and Cambodia, we have the right to hold here the first "place, as much by the force of arms, as by the genius of our "civilisation. Such are the ideas of eminent men worthy of "governing. Sire! place this crown on your head without "fear; it will be secure there if you are loyal towards France. "Let the KING and Chiefs recollect these words; the Admiral, "the friend of this kingdom, charged me to speak them."

Well! we cannot help commenting on the *sang froid* and polite audacity of this Envoy Extraordinary. Not only did he usurp the ancient formula of the Kings of Siam, but he actually spoke as if the gold crown placed on the head of PHRA NARADOM had been manufactured in Paris, and paid for out of the Imperial treasury, whereas it was made at Bangkok from the King of SIAM'S gold. With what a patronising air he recognises the presence of the Siamese Ambassador; and pats the new King of CAMBODIA on the head and tells him to be a good boy while he wears the crown, and to be loyal towards France, if he wants to secure it. Be it remembered also, that this arrogant speech was delivered after he had made use of threats, implying a breach of peaceful negotiation, to withdraw from the ceremony, or prevent its consummation, unless his demands were agreed to. It was adding insult to injury. After this shall we be told that no intimidation was used on the occasion, as at the signing of the treaty? Bah! the flimsy expressions of impartiality without any desire to acquire territory or power in Cambodia, which the French despatches, echoed by the press, are continually harping upon, are imply subterfuges patent to all the world.

What next? is the question that arises to the mind of the inquiring reader. We think the celebrated American answer, "Why annexed, of course," is the correct one. We must confess that notwithstanding the apparent acquiescence of the native Princes to this assumption of power and patronage on the part of France, there is lurking behind a feeling of insult that will ere long burst out into open warfare, in which it is probable that the pacific King of SIAM may be involved. It is idle to argue the question of French ambition in these regions. In fact it would be better for themselves to declare at once their intention of annexing and protecting the whole Indo-China States, and form them into a French East Indies. It will come to this in the end, and we may see the day when the Kings of ANNAM, SIAM, and CAMBODIA will be subjects of the French EMPEROR. Many people who have been in these parts think that this would be better than the existing state of affairs, or what has been. We think otherwise, especially as regards Siam, which under the mild sway of its present ruler bids fair to reach a position of political and commercial importance in the Far East that will compare favourably with those of China and Japan; under these circumstances it would be a public calamity to the commerce of Eastern Asia if by some quarrel the French declared war against Siam. It is the duty, therefore, of all Governments friendly to that State, especially England, to shield her from any embroilment of the kind, that might lead to further complications on our Indian frontiers. We trust that the question is commanding the attention of Her MAJESTY'S Ministers, and that satisfactory steps will be taken by the SECRETARY for FOREIGN AFFAIRS to secure the favoured nation clauses in the French treaties with those countries. Sir ROBERT SCHOMBURGK is now in England, and, doubtless, will post up the Government on all matters essential for the maintenance of relations in their full strength and integrity with Siam and Cambodia.

THE GREAT SILK DIFFICULTY.

THE silk trade seems to be as hard up as the cotton trade for its raw material, and to be making as great efforts to obtain supplies. We referred some time since to certain expeditions made and projected with this view. It will be remembered perhaps that four Italians were imprisoned at Bucharest some time since; we have now the particulars of this affair. The travellers were Count LITTA, MEAZZA, an artist, Dr. GAVAZZI, and an interpreter named TESSIERES, and their avowed object was to study the country and to obtain silkworms' eggs for the Italian cultivators, who have suffered sadly from disease amongst the worms for two or three years. They had the imprudence to start without letters of recommendation for the Government of the country to which they were going, but, with £8,000 in their pockets, reached the capital of the Khanat with no more precautions than if they had been going to Turin, Paris, or London. They at once commenced purchasing silk, and their mode of proceeding, so unlike that of the natives, caused them, we are told, to fall under the suspicion of being English. They went about the place asking all kinds of questions and making sketches of whatever struck them as interesting, and the consequence was they were suddenly arrested, thrown into prison, and all their property confiscated. As soon as the news of their imprisonment reached Turin the Italian Government having never had any previous relations with the Emir of BUCHAREST, despatched a special envoy, M. BONHOMME, with a letter for the EMIR, to obtain their release. M. BONHOMME armed himself with letters to all kinds of people, and started by way of India and Afghanistan; in passing through Egypt he obtained a letter from the VICEROY, but on arriving at Calcutta the Indian informed him that any European attempting to enter Bucharia would do so at the risk of his life, in consequence of the hostility of that Government towards England. Warned by this information, M. BONHOMME went to Teheran with the intention of getting to Bucharia, through Persia, but there he was met with similar warnings being told in fact that his appearance would only cause the death of his compatriots and of himself on the instant. He therefore addressed a letter to the EMIR, which was forwarded by the authorities of Teheran, but the former did not even deign to reply to the missive.

Supported by the recommendations of his friends at Teheran, M. BONHOMME resolved to attempt to make his way through Russia, the only European nation having commercial and friendly relations with the EMIR. Arrived at Orenburg, the Governor-General of the province wrote four letters to his high mightiness of Bucharia before a reply was obtained to the effect that :—"The fate of the four *Englishmen*, as they pleased "to consider the Italians, did not deserve all the fuss made "about them, and their not being put to death already was "simply the result of consideration for Russia." Still baffled, yet determined, M. BONHOMME set out for St. Petersburg, with the view to consult with the Italian Minister there. In passing through Moscow the envoy encountered M. P. A. KLONDOFF, a Russian merchant, who went into Bucharest and succeeded in getting the interpreter out of prison on the plea that he was Russian by election, having lived in that country for many years, and speaking the language perfectly; at first the EMIR was suspicious, but being present and hearing M. KLONDOFF and the prisoner talk fluently in Russian, the latter was released. Unfortunately, the fate of the other prisoners still remains doubtful; there was a report a fortnight since that they had been set at liberty, but it has not been officially confirmed. It had been said that the three remaining prisoners had been executed, but the last advices from M. BONHOMME discredit this report, which is believed to have arisen from the fact that the unfortunate Italians had been removed to a prison from which it is said no prisoner ever yet issued alive. The last positive news received bore date the 28th May last, when the poor captives managed to inform their late companion M. TESSIERES that they were still living, and to beg him to communicate the fact to their families.

The demand for silks in Paris has increased considerably since the autumn set in. The raw material at the same time has become scarce in the south of France, and were it not for the large supply received from the East many mills would have been closed. There was scarcely any raw silk offered for sale at the last markets of Romans and Valence. The little that was exhibited sold for from 68f. to 72f. the kilogramme. The millowners in the departments of the Drome and the Ardeche are working chiefly with silk imported from Broussa-Bengal and China. Five hundred kilogrammes of cocoons from Cala-

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mata were sold at Marseilles at 22f. the kilogramme, and four bales of spun silk from Syria at 85f. the kilogramme.

THE CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following analysis of the Customs returns is from the *Friend of China*. It will be observed that the manner of doing so is quite in character with the paper, viz., "original":—

We have been favoured by the Inspector General of Customs, presently residing at Peking, with separate returns of the China Import and Export Trade during 1863, as carried on under foreign flags at the eleven Consular Ports of Canton, Swatow, Amoy, Foochow, Ningpo, Shanghai, Chinkiang, Kiukiang, Hankow, Chefoo and Tientsin—the only Consular ports not noticed being those of Newchwang, Tai-wan (Formosa), and that other port on the island of Hainan.

It is satisfactory to receive these returns connectedly—all, excepting Canton's, being printed, as the covers show, at the office of Mr. A. H. Carvalhoe, Shanghai.

In brief, these returns exhibit as follows:—

	IMPORTS. Value.		EXPORTS. Value.
Canton	$9,505,285	....	$16,083,062
Swatow	7,326,739	....	3,385,077
Amoy	8,430,991	....	1,092,574
Foochow	10,723,890	....	18,543,492
Ningpo	16,073,285	....	6,981,934
Shanghai	103,740,000	....	48,700,000
Chinkiang	5,800,000	....	800,000
Kiukiang	4,032,000	....	9,250,000
Hankow	12,565,000	....	16,130,000
Chefoo	775,000	....	45,800
Tientsin	8,376,000	....	1,156,000
	$187,348,190	....	$125,117,000
At 5 sh. per dollar	£46,837,047	....	£31,280,000

In framing this abstract of values we have had to assume arbitrary figures; because some of the tables are made in Mexican, some in Carolus Dollars, and some in Taels converted into sterling at different rates.

Returns made by.		Coinage.
Canton (not stated)	Mexican Dollars at 4 „ 9½ and 4 „ 9¾	
Swatow	H. D. Williams, *Acting Commissioner.*	Mexican at 4 „ 8
Amoy	Geo. Hughes, *Commissioner.*	Spanish at 4 „ 10½
Foochow	Baron de Meritens, *Commissioner.*	Mexican at 4 „ 10½ [to 4 „ 10¾
Ningpo	James Brown *Assistant in charge.*	Mexicans
Shanghai	Thos. Dick, *Commissioner.*	Taels at 6 „ 4½
Chinkiang	C. Kleczkouski, *Commissioner.*	Shanghai Taels
Kiukiang	I. K. Hammond, *Assistant in charge.*	Taels.
Hankow	A. McPherson, *Acting Commissioner.*	Taels.
Chefoo	C. Hannen, *Commissioner.*	do. at from 6 „ 3 [to 6 „ 6
Tientsin	J. Mackey, *Assistant in charge.*	Taels.

In converting taels into dollars we have employed the Shanghai mean for 1863, *viz.*, 79—and think that five shillings per dollar is a fair average between the 4 „ 8 of the South, and the higher figure in this quarter. In some succeeding articles we shall give a few illustrations of the grand commercial facts disclosed by these Custom-house returns; as a basis for comment and comparison being the following extract from an article in our issue of the 22nd of June, 1861, published at Canton.

While ready to accord a good deal of praise to those officers of H.I.M.'s Customs who drew up the China import and export tables of which we gave a partial analysis in our last number, we can but express the hope that, for the current and future years, the chief commissioner will arrange a form by which the returns of each port may be made alike; the labour of the working statist in ascertaining aggregates, as the present tables stand, being no light matter; to-wit, of the eleven returns cited in our last, three are prepared half-yearly, one quarterly, and the rest yearly.

It seems to us, again, that it would be exceedingly easy to give the import or export values under each tonnage heading; instead of, as now, in general total columns. In the several offices where these forms are prepared, such books are kept as a matter of course, though no use has been made of them in the returns before us, and the consequence is that, unless prepared to devote about a week to the preparation of such tables of values, the only mode by which we can arrive at an idea of the worth of each nation's trade with China is by a rule of three sums, such as we will exhibit presently. Each nation, we said. Not that, either. Only English, American, and French are honoured with separate columns in these import and export tables. All other nations on the face of the earth come under the small and very general designation of "sundry."

With regard to the table in our last issue of the respective values of import and export at the several ports, no account was taken by us of the statements of re-export, and yet they should hardly be overlooked if we would obtain a clear idea of what is really Chinese, and what is Japan trade; for, speaking generally, it is only from one Chinese port to another—or from China to Japan, that the re-exports go; excepting, by the way, that very remarkable case of Indian Cotton re-exported from Canton to England and America. We have heard, too, that it would pay to buy up Manchester goods in Shanghai, and re-export to the Straits, India, or even England! Perhaps this has been done, too, though we cannot learn the fact from any of the details under notice.

Before proceeding to a consideration of the re-exports, we will first endeavour to estimate the value of each nation's trade; by the same process of calculation eliminating the value of the quantity actually re-exported, and, consequently, forming no part of China's legitimate trade. The rule of three sum we speak of is this:—By the table in our last paper we showed that the total value of imports for 1863 was $187,348,190. Well, by the table to be found below, the total tonnage engaged in this import was $2,316,921; *ergo*, each ton imported was worth over, or say, for convenience of counting, $80. So that we have, in round numbers as follows:—

Great Britain	85 millions
America	53 „
France	½ „
All other countries	47 „

IMPORTS. 1863.	BRITISH. Tons.	AMERICAN Tons.	FRENCH. Tons.	SUNDRY. Tons.	STEAM CANTON. Tons.	NINGPO BOATS. Tons.
Canton	21,355	3,369	...	12,632	181,973	...
Swatow	78,775	13,091	...	38,770	...	...
Amoy	94,874	5,071	...	69,429	...	...
Foochow	94,493	31,294	...	13,361	...	...
Ningpo	107,796	28,724	5,386	80,047	...	7,920
Shanghai	485,014	257,917	...	141,824	..	...
Chinkiang	39,036	27,449	...	15,607	...	...
Kiukiang	42,988	164,362	50	819	...	...
Hankow	45,125	132,919	418	...	...	...
Chefoo	30,582	5,185	...	...	...	...
Tien-tsin	19,108	6,558	...	10,610	...	...
	1,058,946	678,929	5,854	383,090	181,973	7,920

Continuing our investigation of the Custom-house returns for 1863, we find as follows:—

From Canton the re-exports amounted to $404,581, or, say, one twenty-fourth of the whole import.

From Swatow there was no re-exportation.

From Amoy, $382,447, also about a twenty-fourth part of the whole import.

From Foochow $291,728, or, say, a thirty-eighth part of the import.

From Ningpo $219,674, or about a seventy-fifth part of the import.

From Shanghai the re-exports amounted to the immense value of forty-five millions of dollars, or 43 per cent. of the import.

From Chinkiang there was no re-export.

From Kiukiang $161,750, or about a twenty-fifth part of the import.

From Hankow $250,000, or, say, a fiftieth part of the import.

From Chefoo $104,500, or a seventieth of the whole import.

From Tientsin $434,000, or about a twentieth of the import.

Of the forty-five millions of re-exports from this port we may feel safe in concluding that the following imports formed a part:—

Chinkiang $5,800,000.

Kiukiang, less re-exports, $3,870,250.

Hankow do. $12,315,000.

Say, in all, $21,985,250; or not far from half of the 45. Of the net $670,900 at Chefoo, and net about eight millions at Tientsin also, a very large proportion will have gone hence. Not all, however. Sugar from the south of China and Straits produce figuring somewhat largely in the imports at the ports mentioned. Perhaps if we take six millions as the amount of re-export hence to Tientsin and Chefoo, and add it to the

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imports at the riverine ports, we shall not be far out in assuming 28 out of the 45 millions of re-export hence as the correct figures—so leaving the balance of 17 millions for the trade with Japan.

Taking into consideration the fact that the imports at the riverine and ports north of Shanghai do not amount to the aggregate of re-exports from the other ports, in estimating the value of the China trade, only imports at the ports south of and including Shanghai should form a basis; and assuming this as a proper principle to act on, we have as follows:—

—	Imports.	Re-exports.	Net Import.
Canton	$9,505,385	$404,581	$9,104,704
Swatow	7,326,739	—	7,326,739
Amoy	8,430,991	382,447	8,048,544
Foochow	10,723,890	291,728	10,432,162
Ningpo	16,073,285	219,674	15,853,611
Shanghai	103,740,000	45,000,000	58,740,000
	155,800,190	46,298,430	109,505,760

Say, real value of imports in sterling (re-exports assumed to be distributed as above-mentioned), thirty-nine millions of pounds.

Before proceeding to a notice of the chief articles of import, we may dispose of the export, which, including riverine and northern ports, amounts in the aggregate, as shown in our issue of the 28th ult., to £31,280,000. On the same principle, however, of rejecting a part of the riverine and northern imports, so will we reject a portion of the export, the difference then being as follows:—

Chinkiang	$800,000
Kiukiang	9,250,000
Hankow	16,130,000
Chefoo	45,000
Tien-tsin	1,156,000
	$27,381,000
Proportion assumed as sent over sea without touching at Shanghai	3,381,000
Balance	$24,000,000

or in sterling six millions; which, taken from £31,280,000, leaves a total export from China of twenty-five and a quarter millions of pounds sterling, against an import of thirty-nine millions. If the imports were sold, we should hence have to assume that China paid us in 1863, in hard coin, no less a sum than twelve millions and three quarters of pounds sterling.

But we do not assume anything of the kind, and incline with Mr. Cobden to believe that goods have been thrust upon the China market without the slightest prospect of their going off for years, or if vended, vended at a loss almost parallel with the figures exhibited as the balance of trade—viz., 13 against 39, or 33 per cent.

It would take too much time were we to attempt a closer analysis of the import returns than to ascertain the details of more than two or three leading articles. Say Manchester goods and woollens, opium and cotton. These we find to be about as follows, the estimated value of opium stored at this port being based on the figures 500 taels for Malwa, 400 for Patna:—

—	Cotton Goods &c.	Opium.	Cotton.
Canton	$2,453,600	$2,280,549	$742,000
Swatow	690,360	2,681,000	—
Amoy	692,900	2,211,000	1,048,121
Foochow	914,500	4,963,900	125,861
Ningpo	730,000	2,050,000	—
Shanghai	8,432,000	22,500,000	—
	13,913,300	36,686,449	1,915,982

The extraordinary sum of twenty-two and a half millions of dollars worth of opium into Shanghai alone, is perfectly startling, and lest our readers should think we have made a mistake, we give the quantities as specially set forth in a particular table:—

Malwa, 29,987 piculs at 500 Taels per picul.
Patna, 6,864 „ at 400 „ „

The amount of duty actually paid on opium in Shanghai for 1863 was over $900,000. Of the opium so brought to Shanghai 10,415 chests of Malwa were re-exported and 191 chests of Patna, so leaving, as for use in this quarter, about 12 millions of dollars worth of Malwa and two and a half of Patna. We should mention, though we have not thought worth while to notice it specially, that among the imports there is an item of twenty thousand dollars as value of native opium.

In our last number we pictured the difference between the present position of Englishmen in China, and the position which they held at various periods of the current century. But it was a meagre relation; and to be more complete we should show the increase of our trade at the various stages—the improvement in religious and social intercourse—and the altered position of the ruling powers.

As regards trade, the increase has been truly wonderful. In the year 1814, the total value of both imports and exports on British account was five millions and three quarters sterling. Twelve years later and the value had increased to seven millions and a third; while, for the last five years of the East India Company's monopoly, the average value of company's and private imports and exports was only £150,000 short of ten millions.

And now what have we? Why, in thirty-two years, an increase of over three hundred per cent.—the total value of British imports and exports for the year 1856 (the year of the breaking out of the war) being twenty-one and a half millions; the value of the imports and exports of all nations in Canton alone last year being close, we take it, on seven millions, or the equal of the trade between Great Britain and all China in 1826—say a third of a century ago. Thus Canton, with all its drawbacks, is far from being in the desperate condition its antagonists would have it appear; and whatever may be the vaticinations of others regarding the injury to be inflicted by the diversion of trade to Hankow, we are not of the number who opine that the change will be great and speedy; but rather the contrary, and this for the reasons given in former articles, *viz.*, the presence here in the south of the great money establishments.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

HAMBURG, OCTOBER 1.

It cannot be doubted that as soon as the Suez Canal is completed, which will be the case in a comparatively short time, a considerable direct trade between the ports in the Mediterranean and the Far East will necessarily spring up, and a new traffic be created. This was the leading idea of M. de Lesseps, and he anticipates great advantages for the port of Marseilles, which appears also to be fully alive to the chance of a great increase in the East India and China trade, to meet which in an adequate manner, docks and warehouses on a gigantic scale are now being constructed, and will be ready for public traffic when the new canal is opened. But there is another port in the Mediterranean—with enterprising merchants, excellent warehouse accommodation for goods, a safe and commodious harbour for shipping, and railway communication with the interior of Germany—that bids fair to become a formidable rival to Marseilles, and is equally bent on extending its commercial relations with China and Japan, when the barrier that has hitherto shut it out from the direct traffic—the Isthmus of Suez—shall fall, and open a direct and short route to the East.

I allude to Trieste. Seated at the very head of the Adriatic, with all the above-mentioned advantages and many more, among which may be reckoned well-built ships, manned by a hardy race of mariners, and commanded by captains second to no other nation for scientific education, and a full knowledge of their professional duties both theoretical and practical, she may well aspire to a great extension of her already very important trade; and it is even doubtful whether she may not eventually successfully compete with this city as far as regards the trade with the East—for the celerity of transport certainly, and, perhaps, when the railroad tariffs of Germany are somewhat reduced, also in cheapness.

From this point of view an agitation has already been commenced by some of the more enlightened and far-seeing merchants at Trieste; for the purpose of profiting eventually by their favoured geographical position, and making the needful preparations for this direct trade with the East. Hitherto that branch of commerce has been sadly neglected, and Austria has as yet taken no steps to secure protection for her merchants and their ships, by the conclusion of treaties of commerce with China, Japan, and Siam, and the right to appoint consuls in their ports as other maritime States of Europe have done. But now that the Danish war is over, the Austrian Government will be in a position to turn its attention again to the arts of peace and the extension of her foreign trade, now

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that the subject is taken up and brought before her notice. I said above that the trade of Trieste with the East has been sadly neglected, but it is not altogether a nullity. During the last ten years, as I gather from official documents before me, the number of vessels that arrived at that port from the East was 40, of 15,380 tons, and with cargoes of the value of 7,948,955 florins. Of these, 12 came from Bombay, 2 from Calcutta, 7 from Ceylon, 10 from Singapore, 3 from Batavia, 1 from Manila, and 5 from Sumatra. The goods they brought to Trieste were 709,054 centners of cotton, 159,261 of pepper, 94,283 of coffee, 61,346 of sugar, 54,702 of hides, 29,500 of sapanwood, 11,820 of cassia lignea, 10,920 of cloves, 3,677 of indigo, and 1,295 of tea; making a total of 1,135,858 centners, or an annual average of 113,585 centners, equal to 6,274 English tons.

The Board of Trade in this city give official notice that the Hamburg Consulates at Akyab and Singapore are now vacant. Gentlemen wishing to accept the office are requested to send in their offers, accompanied by testimonials, to the above board on or before the 12th of March, 1865, when they will be placed on the list of candidates, from which the Senate will make their selection. The Hamburg Consuls receive no direct salary, but there are many fees and other emoluments, which make them generally much sought after by the most respectable and wealthy merchants in all countries of the globe; and perhaps there is no other State that can boast of such a numerous and efficient staff of consuls.

The captain of the Hamburg barque *Kali Maas*, in a letter to his owners in this city, reports having seen a new coral reef not laid down in any existing charts. As this reef lies in the direct track of many hundred valuable ships and cargoes, a knowledge of the danger cannot be too widely circulated. He writes:—"Whilst proceeding on my voyage from Sourabaya to Falmouth, on the 24th of April, at 8 o'clock A.M., whilst the crew were employed aloft in reefing, the vessel sailing with a smart breeze, we came quite close to a white reef or bank of coral about 30 ft. long, though in some parts of a darker colour, and as the sea was then running, about 5 or 6 ft. below the surface, but in calm weather, perhaps rather deeper. The ship was running eight knots at the time. I ascertained the reef to be situated in 25° 9′ south lat., and 58° 28′ east lon., from Greenwich, by a chronometer that not only went correctly on our departure from Sourabaya, but was found to do so on our arrival at St. Helena."

THE CAPTURE OF NANKING.

FOREIGN-OFFICE, SEPT. 30.

The despatch dated July 29, 1864, of which the following is an extract, has been received by Earl Russell, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, from Mr. Adkins, Acting British Consul at Chinkiang:—

"I have the honour to inform you that the city of Nanking, so long the centre of disaffection in China, and the point from which so many bands of ruthless plunderers have started on their raids upon the peaceful and wealthy cities of Central China, has been captured by the Imperialist army, under the command of Tseng-kwo-chuen, the Governor of Che-kiang and brother of the Viceroy of the provinces of Kiang Nan and Kiang Su.

"The city was stormed on the 19th of this month through a breach, caused by a mine sprung under the wall, near the east gate. Rumours of its capture reached me on the day following the assault, but I paid no attention to them, having been so often deceived by reports of Chinese victories. On the 24th of this month, however, I obtained a copy of the memorial to the Throne formally announcing the capture.

"On the following day I started for Nanking in Her Majesty's ship *Slaney*, intending to congratulate the Chinese Commander-in-Chief on the auspicious termination of his two years' siege. I found his Excellency at his camp outside the south gate of the city.

"When the Imperialists made good their entrance into the city they found that the palace of the Tien Wang, the leader of the rebellion, and the claimant for many years past of Divine honours and attributes, had been burnt to the ground. It is said that the impostor and his immediate attendants lie buried in its ruins. I am inclined to credit this rumour, for the city has been closely blockaded since January last, and I think that nothing but a desperate sortie would have enabled him to get clear.

"But the most important fact of all is the capture of Chung Wang. This person has for many years been the most restless and determined of all the desperadoes Taiping-dom has sent forth. He it was who threatened Shanghai in 1860; he was Admiral Hope's antagonist in his operations near Shanghai; he fought against Colonel Gordon at Soochow. He tried to introduce the foreign element into his levies, and was said by rebel sympathisers to be the main hope of the Taiping cause in its declining days. After the assault he managed to leave the city with a few followers, but he was captured three days subsequently by a party of cavalry. I was much pressed to visit the Chung Wang in his confinement, but declined, as I had no personal acquaintance with him.

"On the day following my interview with the Commander-in-Chief I rode into the city and visited the breach. Words cannot describe the utter desolation of everything within the walls. The main thoroughfares traversed by me were the streets between the south-west and east gates, and those between the south-west and south gates. On either hand the houses left standing had the appearance of having been tenantless for years, while the gaudy gateways, denoting the residences of the Wangs or Princes, opened in most instances on to courts full of brickbats and charred timbers. As for the side streets, they were many of them overgrown with jungle four feet high.

"During my ride through the city I saw a great number of unburied bodies, and in many places the smell was so offensive that both myself and Lieutenant Lee, who accompanied me, were almost overpowered. But, on the whole, I came to the conclusion that the rebel force in the city at the time of its capture could not have been very large. The Imperialists, according to their own account, spared very few able-bodied males, so that the dead lying in the streets would be a fair criterion of the strength of the garrison. I estimate it at 10,000 men, against 50,000 under the Imperialist commanders.

"I think a ride through the streets of Nanking as they are at present would satisfy the most ardent advocate of the rebel cause of the dreadful hollowness of the system they support. Some eleven years ago the Taipings took Nanking, then one of the finest cities in China. Ever since its capture it has been their head-quarters. In it the chiefs of the movement built their tawdry houses, and from it they despatched their plundering bands in all directions. Meanwhile, the works of civil government and social organisation are entirely neglected, and when the city is retaken it is found to be a wilderness of empty houses."

THE CONFUCIUS SKULL SCANDAL.

The following appeared in *The Times*:—

SIR,—My attention has been drawn to a notice by your Shanghai correspondent of the absurd story that a skull which was disposed of at a recent sale of Chinese curiosities was none other than that of the revered moralist Confucius. Your correspondent very properly points out the preposterous nature of such an assertion; and I believe I am in a position to explain the actual history of this relic.

In the early part of the late Emperor Tao-Kwang's reign a rebellion of a serious character broke out in the Turkman regions, which were added to the Chinese colonial dominions by his illustrious grandfather, Kien-lung, but this rising was suppressed after an obstinate struggle. The leader, Jehanghir, known to the Chinese as Chang-ko-urh, was captured and carried a prisoner to Peking, where he was adjudged to death as an arch rebel, and condemned to suffer the extreme penalty of "slow mangling," the most terrible form of execution it is possible to conceive. He was executed, I believe, in 1829, and I was informed some years ago by a Chinese of position who was near the Court at the time that his skull had been presented to the Emperor and preserved in the Palace. This, doubtless, may have occurred in the case of other noted victims; but there is at least a strong probability that the skull in question was that of Jehanghir. If any lesion can be traced upon the forehead I should say the proof of identity would be complete.—I have, &c.,

Barnes, Sept. 30. W. M.

THE OVERLAND TELEGRAPH LINE TO RUSSIA.

The Western Union Telegraph Company, who, in conjunction with the Russian Government, have this great enterprise in hand, are actively engaged in fitting out an expedition under the immediate supervision of Captain C. S. Bulkley, United States army, for Oregon, the coast of Russian America and the country beyond Behring's Straits, to survey the route of the telegraph line and make other needful arrangements to put the whole extent of the line under contract the ensuing year.

Shipping Intelligence.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Sep. 21	Bremen	Shanghai	Andreas	Stolth.
— 22	Off Portland	Batavia	Argo	Ankringa.
— 22	Liverpool	Shanghai	Lauderdale	Hutchins.
— 23	London	Cardiff & China	Pioneer	Kidd.
— 23	Do.	Newcastle & Batavia	Henfor.h	Black.
— 23	Off the Eddystone	Singapore	Marie Lucie	
— 24	Cardiff	Hong Kong,	Desdemona	Poigndestre.
— 24	Off the Lizard	Batavia	Eva Johanna	Hordyk.
— 25	Sunderland	Singapore	Ocean Pearl	Newcombe.
— 29	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Kensington	King.
— 23	Do.	Singapore	Gloucester	Butcher.
— 27	Off the Goodwin	Sourabaya	Stad Dockum	Jaski.
— 26	Off the Start	Singapore	Bourse d'Anvers	Deswelgh.
— 26	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Medea	Teutem.
— 26	Do.	Do.	Eersteling	Bagchus.
— 26	Do.	Do.	Maria Anna	Van Monnom.
— 26	Do.	Samarang	Vesta	v.d. Eyk.
— 26	Do.	Padang	Maarten v. Rossem	Gerrebrands.
— 26	Do.	Singapore	Maria Lou. Antoinetta	Muysson.
— 26	Do.	Padang	Lamm Elisabeth	Pot.
Oct. 1	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Millbrook	Barron.
Sep. 29	Swansea	Hong Kong	Flora	Fontaine.
Aug. 30	Rio Janeiro	Batavia	Johann Kepler	Rahe.
Sept. 3	Do.	Macao	Gustave Adolph	Greenwood.
— 4	Do.	Singapore	Alberto	Brodersen.
— 30	Cardiff	Manila	Tewkesbury	Fowler.
— 30	Off Beachy Head	Batavia	Nederland	
— 30	Do.	Samarang	Herman de Ruyter	
— 29	Do.	Japan	Engel	
— 8	New York	Padang	Johanna Lange	Lange.
Oct. 5	London	Swansea & Singapore	Earl of Shaftesbury	Kronmann.
— 3	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Banda	Morr s.
— 4	Do.	Do.	Berwickshire	Thomas.
—	Do.	H. Kong via Swansea	Ann Holzberg	M'Guire.
— 4	Clyde	Batavia	County of Ayr	
— 3	Off Dungeness	Do.	Ouderkirk a.d. Amstel	Waters.
— 6	London	Nagasaki	Dwina	Rettern.
— 6	Do.	Singapore via Swansea	Hasty	Le Sueur.
— 4	Maryport	Shanghai	Sir Wm. Wallace	Turney.

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ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Sep. 21	Texel	Batavia	Josepne, Bernhardina	Willems.
— 23	Liverpool	Shanghai	Elisabeth Nicholson...	Ewart.
— 27	Do.	Rangoon	Fearnought	
— 26	Off Plymouth	Singapore	Couranto	
— 15	New York	Padang	Levant	Smith.
— 27	Queenstown	Rangoon	Cosmopolite	White.
— 30	Deal	Kanagawa	Lady Ebrington	Pill.
— 30	Falmouth	Manila	Canaan	Wilson.
— 27	Off Plymouth	Batavia	St. Jan	
—	Off Queenstown	Maulmain	Viola	
—	Do.	Do.	Fitzjames	
Oct. 1	Off Penzance	China	Flying Spur	
— 2	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Glenlee	Dunn.
—	Seaford Roads	China	Robin Hood	
Sep. 29	Zierikzee	Batavia	Noord Brabant	Loos.
Oct. 3	Portsmouth	Shanghai	Bonvoirlich	Jenkins.
— 4	Deal	Batavia	Maria	
— 4	Queenstown	Akyab	Florence Nightingale	
— 2	Off Plymouth	Foo-chow-Foo	Young Lochinvar	
— 5	Plymouth	Singapore	Couranto	Morton.

LOADING.

At London.—For Kanagawa: Eleanor, Dora. For Shanghai: Garrawalt, Serica. For Hong Kong and Canton: Bengal, Fiery Cross, Belted Will, Robin Hood. For Manila: Tetuan. For Singapore: West, Eena. For Penang: Devonvale.

At Liverpool.—For Shanghai: Fort George Nevile, Madge Wildfire. For Hong Kong: Monsoon. For Singapore: Advance, Hurry Puddemsey. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Helvetia, Hercules. For Manila: Iberica, Maria y Vicenta.

At Glasgow.—For Batavia and Singapore: Scotland. For Manila and Iloilo and Zebu: Nodales. For Hong Kong and Canton: Spanker.

SPOKEN.

Flora Maria, Copenhagen to the Amoor, July 27, in the China Sea.
Marie, Batavia to Rotterdam, Sept. 6, 31 N., 43 W.
Fop Smit, Batavia to Rotterdam, September 16, 40 N., 39 N.
New Jersey (?), Sing., to Lpl., 43 days out, July 10, 29 S., 43 E.
Arena (Amer. barq.), Swtw. to Bstn., 54 days out, July 21, 35 S., 23 E.
Petronella, Batavia to Amsterdam, Aug. 13, 31 S., 34 E.
Ocean Home, Singapore to New York, Aug. 19, 35 S., 20 E.
Zephyr, Rotterdam to Batavia, July 11, 23 S., 30 W.
Osborne House, Shanghai to London, July 29, 25 S., 58 E.
Thomas Mitchell, Clyde to Batavia, June 8, 16 S., 34 W.
John, Santos to Batavia, June 14, 21 S., 38 W.
Maria Elisabeth, Rotterdam to Batavia, July 21, 38 S., 39 E.
Moxa, Manila to London, Aug. 23, 28 S., 9 E.
Wm. Stanley (?), Manila to Falmouth, Aug. 31, 20 N.
Hollandstroun, Batavia to Amsterdam, Aug. 23, 18 S., 3 W.
Echo, Canton to London, Aug. 17, 35 S., 16 E.
Hooghley, Bordeaux to Singapore, Aug. 21, 7 N., 27 W.
India (Dut. ship), Rotterdam to Batavia, 19 S., 32 W.
J. H. Ransom, Newport to Shanghai, Aug. 11, 10 S., 27 W.
Magdalena, Batavia to Rotterdam, Sept. 23, 43 N., 25 W.
Zuid Holland, Rotterdam to Batavia, Sept. 7, 10 N., 26 W.
Abel Tasman, Shields to Batavia, Sept. 7, 10 N., 26 W.
Belladonna, Liverpool to Singapore, Sept. 7, 10 N., 26 W.
Fontibelle (?), Sunderland to Singapore, Sept. 7, 10 N. 26 W.
Black Prince (ship), Liverpool to Shanghai, Aug. 21, 9 N., 27 W.
Bengal, Padang to Hamburg, Aug. 13, 5 N., 17 W.
Bilderdyk (Dut. barq.), Rotterdam to Batavia, Aug. 13, 1 N., 25 W.
Ocean (Dut. ship), Liverpool to Batavia, 11 N., 25 W.
Akbar, Penang to London, Sept. 30, 49 N., 8 W.
Catharina Maria, New York to Batavia, Sept. 4, 26 N., 41 W.
W. W. Smith, Japan to London, June 26, 3 S., 128 E.
Alguazil de Manila(?), from Manila, 85 days out, Aug. 9, 35 S., 19 E.
City of Mobile, New York to Shanghai, Sept. 10, 34 N., 27 W.
Sisters (?) (Dut. barq.), Ams. to Bat., May 31, 24 N., 22 W.
Cambalu, London to Hong Kong, July 5, 36 S., 4 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Outward freights still continue low, as but little goods are offering, in coal freights we have likewise no improvement to report. Homeward charters are difficult to procure, as business in this direction also is very quiet, but small vessels can be fixed from Ceylon and Singapore.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £38 and £1. 17s. 6d. For Shanghai: £48 to £50, and £2. 5s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £1. 5s. For Penang: £27. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of about 600 tons naval stores, including 104 tons porter and a few combustibles, from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Kiandra, van Kuffeler, from Batavia for Amsterdam, which put into St. Helena leaky July 18, has been condemned there. The damaged portion of the cargo was sold, and a part of the undamaged was to be shipped by the Alexandrine, Capt. Dalrymple.

The Arab (ship), from Liverpool for Singapore, which put into Rio Janeiro July 22 leaky, and discharged her cargo, has been condemned and sold.

The Edinburgh Castle (ship), Inglis, of and from Glasgow for Singapore and Penang, which put back to Greenock Sept. 22 leaky, after being ashore, has gone into dock to discharge.

The "Glenlee," Dunn, arrived at Liverpool from Hong Kong, reports having experienced heavy N.W. gales off the Cape of Good Hope, from July 23, to August 6. On May 29 (ten days after leaving Hong Kong), Cape Varella, bearing S.W., by W., she passed a piratical "fast boat," with stinkpots strung to the mastheads.

At St. Helena.—Aug. 29, H.M.S. Ringdove, from China, and sailed, Sept. 1, for England; 30, Cyclone, Hossack, from Shanghai, and sailed for Liverpool; 31, Helvellyn, Dalison, from Shanghai, and sailed for Liverpool; Sept. 1, Gleam, Cameron, from Shanghai, and sailed, 2, for New York; Mayflower, Kerr, from Shanghai, sailed 2, for Liverpool.

At Table Bay.—Aug. 23, Dünelm, Robertson, from Sunderland for Singapore, crew refusing duty since July 12.

At St. Vincent, C.V., Aug. 21.—Foong Suey (s), Gray, sailed for China; 22, May Queen, Mundt, sailed for Batavia; 28, Anna Sophia, Hoekstra, from Batavia for Amsterdam.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).
1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.
Capital, £4,000,000.
Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

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Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of passengers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government Loan Notes effected, so that the interest may be paid in England.

Every other description of banking and agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

DOCKS.
PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

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Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caissoon Gate and Steam Pumps, is in com lete workir g order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864

ALBERT INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).
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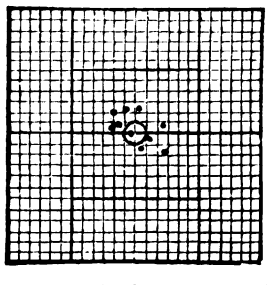

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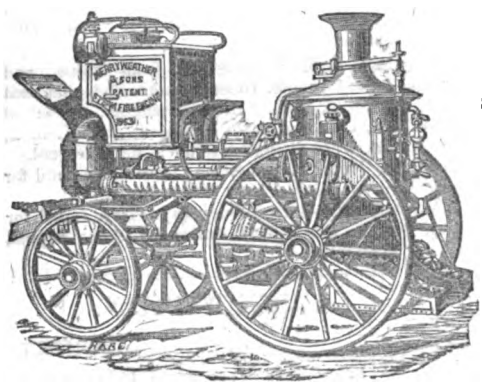

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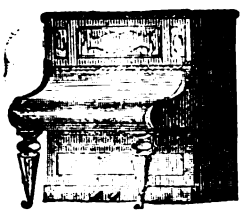

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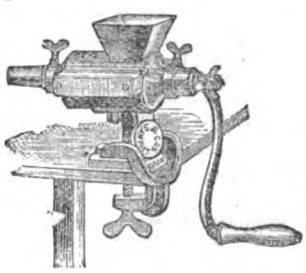

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HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, to sail 10th October, the splendid Dundee built clipper ship BENGAL, A 1 nine years; 784 tons register; H. P. BRUMELL, Commander; loading in East India the Docks.

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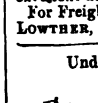
Under Engagement to H.M.'s Government.
Last Shipping Day 10th October.



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A. SHORTREDE & CO.

Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

SCINDE RAILWAY (Indus Steam Flotilla, Punjaub, and Delhi Railways) COMPANY.

AT the SEVENTEENTH HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the above Company, held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, in the City of London, on Wednesday, the 28th Sept., 1864,

W. P. ANDREW, Esq., Chairman of the Company, presiding,

The following Resolutions were carried unanimously:—

"1. That this Meeting receive and adopt the Report of the Directors.

"2. That the cordial thanks of this Meeting are tendered to W. P. Andrew, Esq., for his courteous conduct in the chair this day."

W. P. ANDREW, Chairman.

S. H. R. PARRY, Acting Secretary.

Gresham House, Old Broad-street,
London, 28th Sept., 1864.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE FIFTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 28th December, 1863. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 152.] · LONDON, MONDAY, OCT. 17, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	June 10	Aug. 3	Aug. 14
Nagasaki			„ 4
Hakodadi			„ 3
CHINA—			
Peking			„ 1
Tien-tsin			
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			„ 13
Kiu-kiang			
Shanghai	June 26	Aug. 11	„ 21
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 22
Amoy			„ 23
Swatow			
Hong Kong	July 10	„ 18	„ 28
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	June 26		„ 21
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			„ 28
SIAM—			
Bangkok			„ 8
BORNEO—			
Labuan			„ 10
Sarawak			„ 15
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 31
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	July 26	Aug. 26	Sept. 6
Penang	„ „	„ 24	„ 8

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

Per P. and O. Company's steam ship Poonah, arrived at Marseilles Oct. 15.—From Hong Kong: General Valdes and lady, and European man servant, Mr. Elzinger, Mr. E. Elzinger, Mr. Strubing, Mrs. Schneider, Mr. Van Hoften.

Per P. and O. Company's steam ship Delhi, expected to arrive at Southampton 21st inst.—From Hong Kong.—For Gibraltar: Signor Hidalgo. For Southampton: Messrs. Robson, Deans, Owens, D. Milligan, D. Macpherson, S. Phillips, E. Stebbing, D. Hutton, E. Hughes, J. Anderson, J. Harrison, J. Gould, A. Coleman, W. Cockburn, W. Stone, W. Stafford, C. Edwards, M. Breen, J. Harris, P. Peterson, W. Ward, O. Smith, eight firemen; Mr. W. Hamilton stayed at Suez. From Shanghai: Mrs. Thomson, Mr Harvey. From Penang: Lieut. Broughton.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per French steamer Peluse, Oct. 19, from Marseilles.—For Hong Kong: Mr. E. B Petersin, Mr. M. G. Buchanan, Mr. T. R. Shillito, Mr. J. B. Endicott. For Shanghai: Mr. Geo. Sturgis, Mr. Scholfield. For Singapore: Mr. Crawford, Mr. J. C. J. Moller.

Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, Oct. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. E. Stokes, R.N. From Marseilles, Oct. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. Tait. To Singapore: Messrs. W. and C. Degener, Mr. Vander Zweep.

Per P. and O. steamer Massilia, Oct. 27, from Southampton.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. Dunlop, Mr. Fenwick, Mr. M. Fenwick. To Shanghai via Bombay: Mr. Clark, Mr. H. and Mrs. Wilkinson, Mr. C. F. Jackson. To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. J. G. Glover. From Marseilles, Nov. 4.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. Weiderhold.

Per P. and O. steamer, Nov. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mrs. Swinhoe. To Shanghai: Miss Thompson. From Marseilles, Nov. 12.—To Shanghai: Messrs. W. Watson and W. Kking.

Per P. and O. steamer, Nov. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Miss B. E. Collett, Miss Lee. To Singapore: Mrs. W. W. Willans and infant. From Marseilles Nov. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. T. F. Ballance, Mr. B. Macintosh, Mr. P. G. Lawrie To Shanghai: Mr. Hyslop. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Caw.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Marseilles, Dec. 12.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Wood and lady friend.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Marseilles, Jan. 12, 1865.—To Hong Hong: Mr. M'Donald.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Intelligence from this port is to the 14th August. The London mail of the 10th June arrived out on the 3rd of that month.

Her Majesty's ships *Barossa* and *Cormorant* returned on the 10th August from the cruise on which they started on the 21st July. All the information to be obtained as to what befel them is as follows:—

"They arrived on the evening of the 27th July at Hima Sima, about thirty miles from Hangi, the residence of Nangato. The two Japanese who accompanied the expedition having donned the disguise of doctors, were landed, with a journey of thirty miles before them, and in great dread of Ronins on their road, and the reception that might await them on arrival. On the 1st August, steam was got up, and the *Cormorant* steamed down towards the entrance of the Inland Sea. As she approached, she easily discerned that a considerable number of new forts had been erected, on both sides of the channel. The *Barossa* anchored mid-channel of Hima Sima and the narrow entrance of the Inland Sea, and took soundings. On this occasion, so far as we can ascertain, nothing particular occurred, but on the 7th the *Cormorant* again went down to the entrance to the Inland Sea, and it was discovered that in the week's interval the forts had been further strengthened, having more guns than on her former visit. The Japanese fired shot and shell across the Straits on the approach of the *Cormorant*.

"On the same day, the 7th, the two Japanese envoys returned with the answer of the Prince Nangato,—the tenor of which we have not heard officially, but it is rumoured to be unfavourable. The two Japanese returned to the island, saying as they left that the Prince of Nangato would probably open the Straits in a little time.

"The people with whom intercourse was had are said to have been unusually uncivil—saying that they wished our ships would go away, they did not want us at all. They report that Nangato has some 16,000 *ronins* in his employ, independent of his regular army of 26,000."

The *Japan Herald* says, regarding the two subjects of Nangato referred to above:—"We had forgotten to mention previously that the two Japanese who accompanied the *Barossa* and the *Cormorant* were sent by Nangato with three others to England some year or more past. The other three now remain in London, studying civil engineering and mechanics. It is said that from what they saw in England they were so impressed with the futility of any endeavour on the part of their Prince to compete with our power, even so removed from home, that they determined, in the hopes of averting trouble from him, to acquaint him personally with the details of their experience, and they cast lots which two should return to Japan and advise with him. The arrival here of the two upon whom this duty thus chanced, fortunately was so opportune as to enable them to be made the channel of communication between the British authorities and their Prince."

A very untoward incident, trifling in itself, but capable at such a juncture of greatly adding to the difficulties of negotiation had occurred at Yedo. The American Minister had gone up there in the *Jamestown*, and it appears that some of the marines of that vessel, whilst marching through the city, met the norimon occupied by Matzdrira Oki-no-Nami, escorted by his retinue, and in consequence of the manœuvring, wheeling, clanging of arms, shouting of orders, and tramp of men, they were panic-stricken, and fled, leaving his Highness alone in the middle of the street in unbounded rage. Our Yokohama contemporary considers this one of the most unfortunate things that could have happened in the present condition of affairs,

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and remarks "that the diplomacy and military operations of other nations in Japan will prove but the waste of so much ink and paper, blood, and treasure, if all the furious passions and enmities of its great Princes are to be thus aroused by the ostentatious building of palaces in Yedo for the representatives—and the display of the glitter of the bayonets and tramp of the men—of a nation which, for any indications he can at present observe, is not prepared to aid to any considerable extent the maintenance of the probably coming struggle, and which, by these very things, may be precipitated and prolonged."

On the 28th July the *Ta-kiang* brought a further accession to the British force, consisting of 167 rank and file of the 67th Regiment, sixty Royal Artillery, and six Royal Engineers. On the 1st August, the 20th Regiment kept the 105th anniversary of "Minden," trooping their colours in the morning, and being reviewed in the afternoon by Major-General Brown, in the presence of Sir Rutherford Alcock. The vastly improved condition of the 20th was very remarkable. On the 2nd there was a grand review of the Naval Brigade. They landed in beautiful order, and in less than fifteen minutes' time from leaving their ships they had landed and formed line on the Bund. The Brigade consisted of two battalions, 800 strong, and a battery; one battalion under command of Captain Alexander and Captain Boxer, the other commanded by Captains Moresby and Nott; the battery under command of Captain Hunter. On landing the battalion formed line, flanked by the batteries; fired a number of rounds, formed squares; prepared to resist cavalry; dismounted the batteries, taking the wheels and other gear of the guns inside the squares; fired a number of vollies of musketry; remounted the guns; formed column of companies, and marched off the ground through the settlement and then re-embarked.

The men-of-war in harbour were the following:—British: Euryalus, Tartar, Argus, Kestrel, Bouncer, Coromandel, Havock, Scylla (left for Nagasaki on the 13th August), Pelorus, Conqueror, Coquette, Racehorse, Leopard, Hesper, Barossa, Cormorant. French: Semiramis, Dupleix, Tancrede. Dutch: Medusa, Djambi, Metulen Kruis, Amsterdam. United States: Jamestown.

The *Commercial News* of the 10th August had the following important "Communicated," which, we trust, may prove authentic:—

"News is reported from Osaca to the effect that merchants there are preparing for the expected influx of foreigners; that several Daimios have given their countenance to the scheme, and that they will allow no more shipments to Yedo to be conveyed to Yokohama, being of opinion that the Tycoon has had trade with, and governed foreigners long enough to his benefit and to the detriment of the Daimios; that owing to the restrictions and vexatious exactions, &c., in bringing them to Yokohama, tea and silk have been lowered in price in the interior, so that you can buy them for one-third of what merchants are forced to charge to make any profit. It is also said that the Mikado has been petitioned by the wealthy merchants of Osaca to be allowed to trade with foreign countries, and that a favourable reply is anticipated. The duplicity and treacherous course of the Tycoon's Government has been understood, and, as predicted several years back, true friends will yet be found amongst the Daimios who, owning producing districts, will be forced to remain and become our best friends. It is a source of congratulation to all merchants and friends of foreign intercourse with Japan to see the feeling of hatred gradually giving way, and that the greatest and wealthiest port in Japan, Osaca, will shortly be ours, without the tender care and guidance of the Tycoon's officers, with their well-known hatred to foreigners."

The *Japan Herald*, too, expresses an opinion that of the two parties now dividing Japan, the one favourable to foreigners is the most numerous, and it gives the following weighty reasons for that opinion:—"The Japanese are wholly dependent upon rice for their living. The wealth of the Government and of the Daimios depends upon the crops they gather in during the season. For some time past the Government has levied heavy taxes upon the Daimios in order to fortify their country. At the same time the Daimios have been storing up their rice in case of hostilities breaking out. The natural consequence of these deductions is, that their income has been gradually decreasing, and at the present time they complain very bitterly against the Government. They say 'we have given you all you require of us, but we see no improvements. Japan is not fortified, and you tell us you are not ready for war." This scarcity of rice affects the working-classes also no less than the Daimios. In many places the former are almost starved. The lower officials also, after expending a large portion of their small income in clothing (for they are obliged always to appear in silk), find that they have barely sufficient left to provide themselves with daily food. There are some who attribute these difficulties solely to the Government. Others trace back the primary cause to the arrival of foreigners in Japan, saying that if foreigners had not come, there would have been no fear of a war, and consequently no reason for the Daimios to store up their rice. The former again argue that the policy pursued by the Japanese Government towards foreigners has been such as to justify a war, and, therefore, maintain that the Government is responsible for all the present difficulties. Again, the merchants and some few of the Daimios have gained so much money by their intercourse with European nations, that they are very desirous foreigners should remain in the country; and one or two of the latter have requested the permission of Government to open their ports to foreigners. They have in every case received the permission, but with a conditional clause, viz., that a Government Custom-house shall be established at such a port, and that all trade shall be carried on through the Government officials.

A meeting has been held on the subject of the obtaining a grant of land for a race-course, and other recreative purposes, and resolutions setting forth the necessity of such provision, the readiness of the community to pay for it, and for addresses to the Consuls and the appointment of a committee to work details, were passed with great unanimity. Before separating, Mr. Markham, of Shanghai, addressed a few words complimentary of the community for their movement in the matter, and on behalf of the Shanghai community promised a cup, value 100 guineas, to be run for at the first meeting upon the new course, if obtained, which evidence of the kindly feeling of our Shanghai friends was, of course, received with loud applause.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

The English mail of July 10 had not arrived out. The dates are now down to August 21. The *North China Herald* of the 20th has the following:—

During the past week the weather has been generally fine, while a considerable diminution in the temperature has been noticeable. Few incidents worthy of notice have occurred in Shanghai since the date of our last Summary, and news from the outports is also scanty. The following Consular cases have been decided. In the case of Shi-Yoktien tried at the U. S. Consular Court, *versus* T. L. Macready, judgment was given for the defendant, with costs. At H.B.M. Consulate, in the case of Messrs. Milner and Sons *versus* Messrs. Dalkas, Pearson and Co., claim for tls. 1,843.74 for balance of proceeds of goods consigned to defendants—judgment was given for the plaintiffs by default. In the case of A. R. Tilby and Co., for master and owners of the *Little Edith*, *versus* Messrs. Smith, Kennedy, and Co., at the same Consulate,—claim for taels 2,573.49 for balance of freight on 650 tons coals shipped per said vessel from England to Shanghai, and interest at 1 per cent. per month from July 6th to date of payment—the following was the judgment:—

1. Defendants to pay plaintiffs at once £850 in approved bills on England at 6 months' sight.
2. To allow one month's interest at 1 per cent. per month on the above mentioned sum of £850.
3. To pay costs of proceedings.

By recent advices from Ningpo we learn the death of Colonel Reynolds. He was wounded when the besieging force were recently compelled to retire from before Hoochow. This repulse, we are informed, took place after the besiegers had received a reinforcement of one 32, two 24, and two 12-pounders, besides two mortars and seven thousand men, despatched to their assistance from this province under the command of a high officer.

The 15th Aug. having been the anniversary of the French national fete, the occasion was celebrated by races and games on the French bund, the firing of salutes, and a display of fireworks. The ships in the harbour dressed for the occasion, and presented a most gay and animated spectacle. The proceedings passed off without a single contretemps.

The native officials have been kept busy during the past week by various anniversaries and religious services. The 13th having been the birthday of the Emperor's mother, they re-

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paired at 4 A.M. to the Wan Shou Kung (Palace of Immortality), to perform the three prostrations and nine knocks. On the 14th, 15th, and 16th the Taotai and inferior officers visited three times each day Chên-hsiang-ko, the temple of the Goddess of Mercy, situated inside the old north gate, for the purpose of begging the Lung Wang or Dragon King to grant rain. The slaughter of animals and the sale of meat during these days were forbidden. Tuesday, the 16th inst., being the 15th day of the 7th month, the Great Spirit Day, known as Yu-lan-shen-huei, was celebrated in the usual manner, by processions of the gods, firing of guns and crackers and, salutation of ancestral tombs, while the 18th, having been the anniversary of a royal death, was kept as a day of mourning and retirement, no public business being carried on at the Yamens.

Advices from Soochow extend to the 14th, but with the exception of a long and somewhat uninteresting list of provincial appointments we note no items of importance. The old inhabitants are rapidly returning, and repairing the dilapidations caused by the rebel occupation.

HANKOW.

A correspondent at Hankow has sent us the following graphic account of the loss of the *Chekiang*, one of the S. S. N. Co.'s steamers.

The night of Sunday, the 7th of August, will long be remembered in Hankow for a spectacle such as has never before been witnessed at the usually quiet river ports, and will, it is to be hoped, not be soon again seen. Those only who saw the burning of the Cortes in Shanghai can realise the scene; and that conflagration, occurring as it did in open daylight, was far inferior as a display to its Hankow antitype. Two steamers, the Moyune, belonging to Messrs. Fletcher and Co., and the Chekiang, owned by the Shanghai Steam Navigation Company, both vessels of over 1,000 tons, left Kiukiang on Saturday morning, within three minutes of each other, for Hankow. They had raced up the whole way from Shanghai, having already been in collision on the bar off the Wong-poo, just after leaving Shanghai, by which the guards of each were considerably damaged. The Moyune arrived in Hankow at midnight on Saturday, beating the Chekiang by about forty-five minutes. The latter, as the Shanse, which was to leave Hankow at daylight on Sunday, was lying alongside the S.S.N. Co.'s wharf, anchored below the Concession, and on Sunday moved up to the berth vacated by the Shanse, and was moored to the wharf. The company's wharf consists of two large pontoons moored one below the other, alongside which the steamer lies. Just above and adjoining them is anchored Messrs. Olyphant and Co.'s hulk, which is also used as a wharf, being connected with the shore by a flying bridge. On Sunday, Messrs. Olyphant and Co.'s new steamer, the Kiukiang, lay alongside this hulk, moored to it; there being only a space of about 30 feet between the stern of the Chekiang and her stern. Below the Chekiang lay the Moyune at anchor; below her Messrs. Fletcher and Co.'s new twin screw steamer the Far East, loading teas for London; lower down were Messrs. G. Barnet and Co.'s steamer the Tunsin, Messrs. A. Heard and Co.'s Kiang-lung, and still farther down the English and French gunboats, Algerine and Kieu-shan. It being Sunday night, all the steamers, except the Chekiang which had had steam up during the day to move to the wharf, lay with their fires out and boilers blown off; and all with two anchors down, necessary to hold them against the 6-knot current that races by Hankow. The house next below Messrs. Russell & Co.'s, the agents for the S. S.N. Co., is now occupied by the Custom-house, and off it are moored two small pontoons to which the various lighters are brought for inspection. On Sunday night, or rather on Monday morning, at about a quarter to two, one of the two European watchmen remarked to the other, standing on the lower of these pontoons, that they were an unusual quantity of lights shining through the windows of the Chekiang. Before they had time to reach the upper pontoon, the steamer broke out in one vast blaze, giving the captain and crew only time to jump from their berths on the wharf, saving nothing whatever. Messrs. Olyphant and Co.'s hulk and the Kiukiang were so close that it was feared they must catch fire. The Chekiang was at once cut away from the wharf, and sheered out into the river. A moderate breeze is blowing up the river against the tide, and as she forges slowly away from the wharf, it is for a moment doubtful whether she will drift down on the Moyune with the tide, or up on the Kiukiang with the wind. After an interval, that seems an hour, of breathless expectation, she begins to move slowly down the river, a floating island of flame, her large funnel, gallows-frame and walking beam standing out grandly through the fire, that runs up and down the hog-frames like a living creature. All this time the captain of the Moyune is vigorously hailing the Far East to slip his cable, as he dare not slip his own for fear of drifting right athwart hawse of her. Now the Chekiang comes so near that he is obliged to go, and he drifts on to the huge iron ship that stands defiantly unmoving, and there hangs on across her bow till the Chekiang herself is brought up by the Far East's cables. Then the Moyune succeeds in getting clear, with the loss of a small portion of her upper house. For nearly five minutes the Chekiang hangs on to the Far East. The view from below is now magnificent. The latter looks enveloped in fire like a spectral ship, her iron masts and yards and rigging standing untouched by the flames that lick her hawse-holes and scuppers, vainly trying to force an entrance, and only succeeding in burning the paint from her iron sides. At length, finding her efforts fruitless, and seeing her former quarry gradually leaving her, the Chekiang moves away from the Far East and again drifts down in chase of the Moyune. The latter is bending and setting her jib and foresail, which delay her slightly until the wind fills them, and it seems as if she is again to be caught, when luckily they begin to draw, and she sheers gradually away into the middle of the river. Meanwhile the fire ship is pouring out volumes of steam, the fire having reached her boilers, in which steam was never generated so quickly before. And calmly through the flames the lamp at her mast-head and on her stern burns on, as though it were the steamer's soul unwilling to take wing. She drifts slowly down, her powder, which fortunately was loose, suddenly going off in one blaze: the Tunsin slips her cables and hauls into the bund; but foiled of the Moyune she passes by the other steamers, each of which slips one cable and takes a sheer as she comes by, unharming. Twice as she floats down the river she grounds, again slides off, and at last settles quietly on the shore, 12 miles from Hankow, leaving only her stern and blackened machinery to recall one of the finest steamers on the river. Some treasure which she had on board was completely melted and found mixed up with ashes, almost unrecognisable. The origin of the fire is still an open question. While the loss of so valuable a vessel is to be deplored, it is little short of providential that she involved no other in her fate.

The same journal, writing on the affairs of the Municipal Council, says:—

"It must be a source of great satisfaction both to the Municipal Council and to the general body of land renters, that a financial scheme for the ensuing year has at length been definitely agreed on. The extreme difference between the budget laid before the meeting held on the 16th April, and before that of the 18th August, cannot fail to create surprise in places other than Shanghai, where the exceptional construction of the settlement, and the peculiar difficulties which a government so constituted as the Municipal Council has to encounter, cannot be fully understood. The first project involved an expenditure of Tls. 457,000, and a taxation which should yield Tls. 511,000; whereas the second only contemplates an outlay of Tls. 221,000, and a revenue so little exceeding this sum that only Tls. 900 would remain in the hands of the Council at the end of the year, if their estimates turn out precisely and painfully correct. It was obvious that, with so trifling a theoretical balance, which might very well turn out to be a deficit, it was impracticable to carry out the desired Municipal arrangements satisfactorily; but rather than experience a second time the annoyance and trouble of revising their scheme, the Council carefully adjusted their estimates to produce this result, and made the demand for power to levy the additional taxes to give them a working balance, a supplementary measure. The large exodus of Chinese which has taken place since the fall of Soochow and gradual restoration of peace throughout the province, has of course furnished one powerful motive for the great reduction from the first to the last estimates; but the factious opposition of a few individuals, who were evidently determined to be dissatisfied with every thing, was sufficient to induce the Council to set down the lowest possible figures—lower than were necessary—in order to assure themselves of at length obtaining definite sanction to some settled scheme. By a judicious process of paring and wholesale expunction, they accordingly arrived at the conclusion that it would be barely possible to carry on the municipal duties with a revenue of tls. 221,000, and to have a balance of tls. 900 at the close of the year, provided every tax yielded the full amount calculated on; but they asked tls. 17,000 to be raised by additional taxation, to enable them to do rather more than live from hand to mouth, and to commence a reduction of the debt.

In the mercantile announcements we notice the following:—

Mr. Edward Charles Essex is authorised to sign our firm in China.—George Barnett and Co.

Mr. Walter Miller Norton is this day admitted partner in our firm.—Alt and Co.,—Nagasaki, July 1, 1864.

A contemporary writes:—"With the fall of Nanking the rebellion is simply at an end, the rest being merely a matter of detail, troublesome, probably, but still quite inconsiderable. The only formidable body of rebels now left is that at Woochoo, and they are holding their own with great spirit; but they cannot very well do much more, and must eventually succumb to the Imperial forces now at liberty from besieging Nanking or other places. The telegram published this morning announces that the city of Woochoo had been taken by the Imperialists."

HONG KONG.

The French mail of 17th July had not arrived. The dates are now down to the 28th August.

In our issue of the 8th inst. we noticed the impost of military expenses. We now give the proceedings of a meeting held to discuss the matter:—

Minutes of a public meeting held at the Court House, Hong Kong, the 23rd day of August, 1864:—

Present about 110 foreign residents, C. May, Esq., sheriff, in the chair. The chairman then read the notice above referred to, and declared the meeting duly opened.

Mr. C. W. Murray, subsequently followed by Messrs. E. H. Pollard and T. Sutherland, addressed the meeting at some length on the subject of the tax of £20,000 proposed to be levied on the colony.

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It was then proposed by Mr. A. Turing, seconded by Mr. J. Whittall, and carried unanimously:—

"That this meeting views with extreme regret and dissatisfaction the demand that has been made upon the colony by Her Majesty's Government for an annual contribution of £20,000 towards the support of the troops at this station, and adopts to the fullest extent the arguments which have been brought before the Secretary of State for the Colonies by H. E. the Governor and Mr. Mercer in support of their assertion that the presence of troops here is unnecessary for any purely colonial object."

It was then proposed by Mr. E. H. Pollard, seconded by Mr. R. Brand, and carried unanimously:—

"That the demand for a military contribution, even if otherwise tenable, would be unjust to the Colony, not only in view of the important services which it renders to Imperial interests by its Gaol, its Courts of Justice, and its (intended) Mint, but also in consideration of the great extent of immensely valuable building ground that has been absorbed for military purposes, and whereby the comfort of the Colonists and the Revenues of the Colony are seriously impaired."

It was then proposed by Mr. T. Sutherland, seconded by Mr. H. B. Lemann, and carried unanimously:—

"That this meeting, whilst acquiescing generally in Mr. Mercer's despatch of the 2nd December, 1863, is unable to concur with that gentleman in the opinion (para. 33) that the residents of Hong Kong are lightly taxed. It admits that the existing taxes may be necessary, but denies that in amount they can be termed light. The expenses connected with a residence here have, it is well known, deterred many respectable Canton Chinese from trying their fortunes in the colony, and it is understood that very little is wanting to cause many who are here to leave. This meeting, therefore, looking to the best interests of the colony, earnestly deprecates the imposition of any further tax (see para. 11 of Sir Hercules Robinson' despatch of April 9, 1864), which is not required to meet an urgent and admitted want."

It was then proposed by Mr. T. G. Linstead, seconded by Mr. G. J. Helland:—

"That the previous resolutions be embodied in a Memorial to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies urging the relinquishment of the demand for military contribution; and that a petition, as numerously signed as possible, be presented to H. E. the Governor, praying that he will withdraw the item of £20,000 for military contribution from the estimates for 1865, pending the Secretary of State's reply."

It was then proposed by Mr. R. S. Walker, seconded by Mr. H. Noble, and carried unanimously:—

"That Messrs. J. Whittall, F. Chomley, E. H. Pollard, T. Sutherland, T. G. Linstead, and C. W. Murray, be and hereby are appointed a Committee for carrying out the object of the preceding resolution."

It was then proposed by Mr. Storey, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, and carried unanimously:—

"That the thanks of the community are due, and be hereby tendered, to his Excellency Sir Hercules Robinson, for the able manner in which he has conducted the correspondence with the Secretary of State for the Colonies with reference to the demand made for the contribution to the military of this colony."

A vote of thanks was unanimously carried to the sheriff for his conduct of the meeting, and to Mr. C. W. Murray for the attention and care he had given to the subject under discussion.

The meeting then separated.

(Signed) C. May, Sheriff of Hong Kong, Chairman.

BORNEO.

A correspondent writes on the 29th of July from Labuan:—

There are few, of our readers, I think, but would like to know something of the doings and mark the progress of events of the Labuan Coal Company's (Limited) collieries at Labuan. Landing at Port Raffles there is a very fine landing-stage, also a jetty of about 300 feet by 20 enclosed, depth of water at jetty sufficient to enable small vessels to get alongside to load from the rail coal trucks. The company is now prepared to load ships at the rate of 500 tons of coal daily; in loading the barges the rail is so constructed as to go immediately over them, the bottom part of the truck is then let fall, and the barge beneath receives two tons from each. The length of the rail is one mile with a gauge of 2 feet 4½ inches, and an incline of 90 feet. The distance is travelled by the waggons in 3½ minutes. About one hundred and fifty tons of coals are conveyed daily from the pits to coal-sheds alongside the jetty. There is an abundance of coal at present in firm working order, and proved sufficient to last forty years at the rate of 300 tons per day, and other pits are being opened. The only drawback is native labour. The veins now being worked are five in number, two of which are 4½ feet thick, another 3 feet, and one 11½ feet, which give the good steam and gas coal now being used for gas purposes at Singapore. The length of the largest vein is proved to be three miles, and it would appear that there is at the least twenty square miles of coal in this island.

Bricks of very superior kind are made by the company, the fire brick being of the finest quality, hard and firm, equal to any imported to this country.

It is the intention of the company to lay a line of rails from Port Raffles to Victoria, about seven miles distant, in order to enable ships to load at any season in that safe and commodious harbour. The line of route has been partially surveyed, and no obstacle of consequence has been at present discovered. There is every material on the ground wherewith to commence operations, and in the space of twelve months we shall have on this little island in the China Sea a locomotive running.

The company have some very fine English cattle, fifty head in all. They are in splendid condition, and would do credit to a home park. There are about 600 head of the best English cattle on the island. We have fruit in abundance, limes, pummeloes, jack-fruit, mangoes, oranges, and cocoanuts all the year round.

The steamer *Sterling* is chartered for five years by the company to run between Labuan and Hong Kong, conveying each trip 1,000 tons to the British Government. The time occupied in loading the *Sterling* is three and a half days. Great praise is due to Captain Henderson for the efficient manner in which he carries out the works of the company afloat.

The climate is good; there are no Europeans sick on the island, and only three or four natives.

Intelligence had been received at Batavia that the Dutch Military Commandant Colonel de Neve, the Resident, Mr. Wynen, and a number of women and children were shut up in the fort at Sintang, and so closely was it pressed by the Malay and Dyak insurgents that fears were entertained of its safety unless reinforcements were speedily sent. In the last engagement eighteen of the small garrison, including two officers, were wounded, and three killed. The steamer *Kapuas*, which, by her fire, materially protected the fort, had been left fast on the ground by the falling of the river Melawie, and as it was thought that she could not be successfully defended in such a position she was set on fire. The Government, on receiving these tidings, sent two steamers from Sourabaya with two companies of infantry to reinforce the small garrison at Sintang. It was doubted whether this was sufficient for the purpose.

The *Java Times* says:—"We are glad to see that Government has issued a resolution which prohibits the importation of gunpowder and munitions of war into the Kupheas country. Pangerang Mas Nata Widjaja seems to be the greatest leader of the movement; he has, it would appear, promised his followers the capture of the fort and the remaining steamer, which latter he avers it is his intention to sell to Rajah Brooke, though on what grounds he believes the Rajah inclined to purchase her is not distinctly stated. His followers fanatically credit his assertions. It is to be regretted that the name of the noble Rajah should be mixed up with these disturbances, and none will, we believe, be more aggrieved at the circumstance than the Rajah himself."

JAVA AND NETHERLANDS INDIA.

BATAVIA.

Advices hence are to the 31st August. We extract from the *Jevasche Courant* the following important official statement of the probable out-turn of this season's crops of the undermentioned articles as compared with those of 1863. Our readers will see that there is an enormous falling off in Coffee, Sugar and Tobacco. The cause of the failure is to be attributed to the very inclement weather which prevailed during the early part of the season.

GOVERNMENT CROPS.

	1863.	Probable out-turn 1864.
Coffee	1,100,891 pic.	591,879 pic.
Sugar	1,731,480 „	1,593,274 „
Tobacco	21,500 Amst. lb.	„
Indigo	118,849 „	439,200 Amst. lb.
Tea	1,139,198 „	585,000 „
Cinnamon	159,373 „	165,506 „
Cochineal	8,872 „	15,000 „
Pepper*	18,699 „	625 „

* The cultivation of this article at Patjitan has, since December 19, 1863, been abolished and left to private enterprise.

PRIVATE CROPS.

	1863.	Probable out-turn 1864.
Coffee	137,818 pic.	76,566 pic.
Sugar	1,007,459 „	762,339 „
Tobacco	132,485 „	66,190 „
Indigo	206,646 Amst. lb.	215,900 Amst. lb.
Cochineal	16,000 „	

The state of the rice crops throughout the island is reported to be very favourable. At Pekalongan, however, no less than 17,775 *bouws* have failed.

It is said that the Dutch East Indiaman, *Nieuw Holland*, from Holland for Java, has been burnt at sea. No further particulars have come to hand.

The American ship *Mandarin*, J. B. Rennell master, has been lost on one of the Thousand Islands. Captain Rennell reports:—

August 19th, 1864.—At four P.M. a breeze sprang up from the northward. Shaped my course for North Island. At six P.M. up with N.E. island. We looked for the channel between N.E. Island and North Island marked in Horsburgh's charts as a safe and clear channel and showing no dangers. With all confidence we ran through, and when the islands were in proper bearing, according to the charts, bore away S.W. At seven P.M. we brought up on a reef of coral rocks, North Island bearing N.N.W., the small island to the eastward and northward of West Island bearing due west, and at daylight we saw the North Watcher, bore due north. These bearings put the ship nearly in mid channel of the charts. The ship thumped heavily all night. Every effort was made to heave her off without effect. I then sent to town for assistance. On Saturday, at seven A.M. the ship suddenly filled. At eleven the ship full of water to her cabin floor, and bilged. Sunday: The steamer *Ambon* came up at five P.M., transferred passengers and cargo to the steamer. Monday: Working at cargo, saving all possible. Tuesday: Steamer left the wreck with passengers and part of cargo, leaving three lighters with ship's crew to take away the remainder.

We have to report the decease of Mr. D. F. Schaap, of Batavia, whose intended retirement had been announced. He

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died from the effects of a fall from his horse when in a fit of apoplexy. From deaths we are naturally led to disease. Cholera has again showed itself at Samarang, which town has from the commencement suffered most. This is doubtless owing to the humid climate consequent on periodical inundation.

Banca.—The British barque *Isle o'May*, of London, which we reported in a former issue as having been found, by the authorities of Banca, abandoned on a reef in the Straits of Lepar, has been got off and brought into the roads of Toboali, where she now lies to be claimed by parties concerned. The *Java Times* remarks:—"This is another instance of the little trouble taken by some British shipmasters to act for the interest of underwriters in cases of shipwreck, and it would be well if insurance companies would inquire better into the character of the parties in charge of the ships on which they take risks before doing so. We do not wish, by any means, to insinuate that the master of the *Isle o'May* neglected his duty in this case, as we are unacquainted with what may have been done by him to save his ship, but we must be allowed to infer from the fact that the ship has been got off that she might as well have been got off by those on board as by the authorities at Tomboali."

Macassar.—According to telegraphic despatches received *via* Sourabaya, the greatest portion of the inhabitants of Binamoe revolted on the 4th. Of the patrol sent out, four native soldiers were killed and two mortally wounded, one of whom died soon after. A native clerk and a policeman were murdered. The barracks at Djeneponto were afterwards attacked. We had no losses, but the enemy's killed is reported to have been fifty or sixty, with a large number of wounded. Reinforcements were immediately sent from Macassar, but the revolt was already suppressed before their arrival. The troops, therefore, returned to Macassar on the 14th.

Captain D. Moss, of the British barque *Borderes*, has written to the harbour-master of this port to inform him of his discovery of a reef between the island of Boero and the Boeton passage in lat. 4°. 12′ S., and lon. 124°. 42′ E.

The loss of the *Japonica* was noticed in the *London and China Telegraph* of the 28th September. Further particulars have now been received:—On the morning of the 30th July the English schooner *Japonica*, 211 tons, Capt. J. Lindsay, left this place for Macao with a cargo of tripang, green peas, rattans, hides, and ebony, valued at about 140,000f. At five P.M. the northernmost of the Three Brothers bore S.E. ½ E. about eight miles, course W.W.S.W. ½ S. and W.. with which it was expected to clear Pulo Dewaken, a fresh breeze blowing at the time. A strong southerly current, however, carried the ship upon a reef at midnight, and at daylight it was found that she had struck on the reef east of Pulo Dewaken. The night had been dark and misty, so that nothing could be seen of the island which is otherwise visible at about two English miles. The high sea running had thrown the ship high upon the reef, and ere long there were three to four feet of water in her hold, so that no hopes were left of saving her, though everything was tried to get her off. The captain arrived here yesterday afternoon (August 3) to report his loss and to procure assistance from the authorities. The Government cruiser No. 55 was immediately sent to her assistance and to protect her from pirates. Captain Lindsay returned to his ship with the cruiser. The *Japonica* and her cargo have been sold by auction for about 20,000f.

Celebes.—At Jeneponto the Bugis inhabitants had taken up arms to resist a requisition upon them to construct a road. Troops were sent to the spot, and after some days the revolt was suppressed, although not without bloodshed, some 40 or 50 of the Bugis being killed and wounded.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are to the 5th of September. The British steamer *Ta-pang-Nyo*, from Bombay, arrived on the morning of the 25th August, and left for Hong Kong on the 29th. H.M.S. *Adventure*, Captain Waddelove, from Plymouth April 29, arrived on the afternoon of the 27th.

The Singapore *Free Press* again complains of the conduct of the Dutch authorities as injurious to the interests of British commerce. It remarks, on the trade with Celebes:—

"A report has reached us that in the Bugis countries that have been annexed by the Dutch Government within the last few years, goods brought from Singapore are made to pay 24 per cent. duty, while similar articles imported from Java or other Netherlands India possessions only pay, half if so much. If this should turn out to be correct, it will afford the best argument that could be used in support of the complaints made by the merchants of the Straits against the occupation of the ports on the east coast of Sumatra by the Dutch, as we may expect to find them pursuing a similar line of policy these, with the object of driving the trade to their own ports. This is all very well on the part of our neighbours, but it is very improper in our Government to look idly on and see our trade injured in so many different directions. The non-arrival of prahus from the Bugis porrt last season was ascribed to the early setting in of the northerly monssoon but if this report about the imposition of differential duties should turn out to be well founded, we suspect the absence of our Bugis friends is likely to be permanent. The loss will not be a light one, as may be judged from what the Governor says in his Annual Report for 1863-4:—"It is estimated that in consequence of the few arrivals from the Celebes during the past year, the import and export trade has suffered to the extent of upwards of ten lakhs of rupees."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

Blakiston—On the 9th Oct., at Shelton Lodge, near Stoke-upon-Trent, the wife of Matthew Folliott Blakiston, Esq., of a daughter.

Martin—At Grange Bungalow, Singapore, on the 28th August, the wife of Alex. M. Martin, Esq., of a son.

Medhurst—On the 8th Oct., at Bournemouth, the wife of Walter Henry Medhurst, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul at Hankow, of a daughter.

Paterson—On the 13th Oct., at Sydenham-hill, the wife of William Paterson, Esq., of Singapore, of a daughter.

Reid—On the 8th Oct., at Greenock, the wife of James Reid, Esq., late of Ceylon, of a son.

Robertson—At Singapore, on the 2nd Sept., Mrs. Robertson, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Annesley—Richards.—On the 11th Oct., at Christ Church, Upper Hyde-park-gardens, by the Rev. Frederick J. Richards, vicar of Bexley, Kent, cousin of the bride, assisted by the Hon. and Rev. Townshend Boscawen, the Hon. Algernon Sydney Arthur Annesley, only surviving son of the late Viscount Valentia, to Helen Sydney, younger daughter of the late Griffith Richards, Esq., Queen's Counsel.

DEATHS.

Chausse—On the 17th Aug., at his residence in Shanghai, H. Chausse, of Vervey, Switzerland, aged 35 years.

Dunn—At Ningpo, on the 8th Aug., of cholera, Henry William Frazer Dunn, aged 25 years, captain of the steamer William the Fourth.

Farrelmann—At sea, on July 29th, on board the Wilhelm, Captain L. Farrelmann, her commander, of dysentery.

Hamilton—At Hong Kong, on the 16th Aug., at the P. and O. S. N. Co.'s factory, at West Point, James Hamilton, engineer of the steamer Ganges.

Hamilton—At Yokohama, Japan, on the 12th Aug., while bathing, the Rev. Robert Hamilton, Chaplain of the Forces in China.

Inglis—On the 10th Oct., at Kirkcaldy, Andrew Lysaght Inglis, Esq., late harbour master at Hong Kong.

Smith—At the Central Police Station, Hong Kong, on the 16th Aug., Elizabeth Bridget, wife of T. W. Smith, overseer of Water Works.

Watson—At Singapore, on the 28th Aug., Mr. Robert Watson, late pensioned apothecary of the Madras Service.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

Tea.—Canton.—Eight more chops of new Congous have arrived, two of which have been taken at previous rates. Tayshaans have been taken to a small extent at prices last quoted. Oolongs have been in request for shipment to New York. Scented Teas of fine quality are scarce, and have advanced, whilst the common kinds have receded. Canton Gunpowders of fine quality are scarce, and wanted at an advance. The medium and common kinds are as before.

Shanghai.—Black: A considerable business was transacted during the early part of the fortnight, at rates equal to previous quotations, but when the exchange opened at 6s. 8½d., holders refused to sell, unless at higher prices. The market is now quiet, but the last few settlements have been at a further advance of one tael. There are no fine Teas on offer, and the stock is almost entirely composed of medium and common second crop Oonahms and Oopacks. The settlements of the fortnight are reported at 12,600ch. Oopacks, Oonahms, Ningchows, Hohows, and Flowery Pekoes, whilst there have been transhipped on owners' account 30,300ch., making the total for the fortnight 43,000 chests, the total for the season to date being 192,700ch. The stock for sale and transhipment is 61 chops. The quotations are:—First and second crop Oopacks, 29 tls. to 34½; Ninchows, 29 tls. to 34½; Oonahms, 21 tls. to 29. Green: There has been more doing in this class during the past fortnight, but settlements have been entirely for the London market. Nine chops of Pingsuey have been settled at rates which show a decline of about one tael. There is now a considerable quantity of Shanghai-packed tea on the market, but only one small settlement is reported. The new Moyunes and Fochows are expected to arrive at the end of the month.

Hankow.—Transactions at the earlier part of the fortnight had been to a fair extent, but latterly the market had been very quiet. Teamen, however, were firm, and no reduction had been made on previous rates. Settlements amounted to 22 chops, and the stock was reduced to 20 chops. Third crop Oopacks had arrived, and were considered of superior quality to former years' growth, being well made and possessing both strength and briskness. The *Far East* (str.), *Camilla*, and *Dovercourt* were on the berth for London. Quotations: Oopacks, fair to good, tls. 25 to 29; common, tls. 22 to 24. Oonams, fair to good, tls. 19 to 24; common, tls. 15 to 17 per picul. Total settlements and shipments, 327 chops, against 398 chops last year.

Kiukiang.—Green Teas: Overland musters of one large chop of Fychow had been received, but the low state of the rivers in the up country districts will delay arrivals for some time. 600 packages of local packed had been shipped to Shanghai, and one or two chops of this class were on offer at 30 to 32 taels. Black Teas: Settlements are reported of 6 chops of medium Ningchows at 23½ to 24½ taels, and 2 chops of good to fine Hohow at 21 to 23 taels, which prices show no change on former rates. Stock 2 chops of Ningchow and 3 of Hohow. Quotations:—Ningchow: Fine, none; fair to good, 25 to 28 taels: medium, 20 to 24 taels; Hoohow: Fine, 21 to 23 taels per picul. Total settlements and shipments—108 chops or 58,484 chests, against 57,932 chests last year.

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YOKOHAMA.—A good business in teas may be reported, but the demand for the American market being partially satisfied, the ruling prices have somewhat vacillated and declined about 4 dols. per picul from the highest point of the market. Supplies have come forward freely, but the teamen seemed disinclined to accept lower rates. A few musters of fine tea have found purchasers at about our quotations. Settlements we estimate at 4,500 piculs. Stocks: Ordinary, none. Good do., none. Common, none. Good do., 400. Medium, 3,200. Fine, 450. Finest, none. Quotations are as follows:—Good common, 14.00 dol. to 22.00. Medium, 23.00 dols. to 27.00. Fine, 28.00 dols. to 31.00. Finest, none. Of old teas only about 200 piculs remain on hand.

NAGASAKI.—The weather improved, and teas have been arriving more freely, the re-opening of the navigation of the Inland Seas, which there is now reason to hope will very soon be accomplished, would cause great improvement in the supply of produce of all kinds. There has been increased competition for the new teas, and prices are now fully $2 per picul above opening rates. The total export of tea, for the year ending 31st May last, is 3,594,079 lbs., of which to China is 2,887,600 lbs., Europe 606,879, New York 99,600.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—The activity noticed in last report has continued throughout the fortnight. The sudden material decline in the rate of exchange and the slightly more favourable political advices to hand by 27th June mail, gave operators more confidence, and the settlements have amounted to fully 2,500 bales. The advices from the interior report prices advancing there daily, and as the season advances the scarcity of good silk becomes more apparent. The dealers are therefore very firm in this market, and although they have succeeded in establishing quotations at a range of fully Tls. 20 per picul higher than last mail, there are still some holders who are unwilling to sell, being unable to replace there stock at present market rates. By the Japan mail about 450 bales of new silk came to hand, but as it has all been brought down under contract, no settlements have taken place in their market, and, therefore, no quotations can be given. The receipts since last steamer have been about 150 bales. The transactions of the fortnight are reported at 2,500 bales against 2,200 the corresponding fortnight of last season, and 6,500 of that the season before. The present unsold stock is 5,000 bales, against 14,500 same time last season, and 15,000 the season previous.

YOKOHAMA.—The same most unsatisfactory state of the market for this our principal staple, which we reported a fortnight ago, has continued until within the last few days, when some slight hope of a relaxation of the restrictions which have hitherto kept back supplies seemed held out by some 350 bales being brought down; these however were on contract supply, upon which, doubtless advances had been made, and they were not placed on the market. Prices and quality have not transpired. Further supplies are anxiously looked for. We have no data upon which to affix any quotations.

RAW COTTON.

HONG KONG.—The Market remained quiet until the 18th August, when the London mail arrived. The advices were considered favourable, Japan cotton being reported as worth 22½d. to 23d., the telegrams reporting a still further rise. This intelligence brought several purchasers forward, chiefly Indian firms, and about 13,000 bales have since been placed at the following quotations:—Shanghai, $32½ to 34. Ningpo, $34 to 35. Japan, 36.25 to 37. Stock are much reduced, being estimated at 7,000 bales, and holders are correspondingly firm.

SHANGHAI.—Transactions have only been on a moderate scale, the stock offering being small, and buyers generally are awaiting the arrival of the new crop, expected now in about three week. We quote No. 1 Shanghai, tls. 19.00 to 19.25; Hankow, tls. 18.00 to 18.50; Tien-tsin, tls. 19.00 to 19.50 per picul.

NINGPO.—1,000 bales of the new crop are said to have been contracted for at $26 per bale of 118 to 120 catties.

YOKOHAMA.—The market is steady at $27 to $28 for fine. The demand is not active, but prices are firm.

NAGASAKI.—No sales are reported. It is stated that the supply of the new crop will be double that of the preceding year.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—In the absence of any demand on the part of the Chinese dealers for this article of import, who state that prices are already much higher than they can afford to pay, the settlements of the fortnight have been restricted to 20 bales medium and higher numbers, and rates show a slight decline upon the quotations previously current. Some 39 bales of sea-damaged Yarn have also been moved off by public sale. Grey Shirtings: Have again met with an average amount of inquiry, but prices are quoted a shade below those ruling during the preceding fortnight. Settlements are estimated at 9,150 pieces, exclusive of 2,000 pieces of sea-damaged Cloths sold by auction. The sales reported from Foochow amount to 2,500 pieces, taken at $4.95 to $5.50 per piece for 7 to 8¼lb. goods. White Shirtings: Have likewise been in fair request during the past fortnight, and the settlements of these goods reported in this colony amount to 4,600 pieces, in addition to which 1,000 pieces damaged have been disposed of by public sale. T-Cloths: A further decline has been established in the quotations for these goods, which meet with no inquiry at the hands of the Chinese dealers, and the settlements which have been effected during the past fortnight have consisted almost entirely of purchases by foreign firms. 6,100 pieces (damaged) have been taken by the dealers at auction, and the sales of sound amount to 8,500 Pieces. American Drills: There are not any sales of these goods to notice. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White, and Coloured: There have not been any transactions effected in this class of imports during the past fortnight, and prices remain without change. Stocks are by no means heavy, and are confined to a few hands. Damasks remain without inquiry or sales to notice. Chintzes: The sales of these goods reported during the past fortnight amount to 550 pieces, prices are quoted a shade lower. Handkerchiefs: There are not any sales of these goods to notice. Raw Cotton: The intelligence brought on by the mail steamer *Orissa*, which was confirmed by the telegrams of the 18th of July from London, announcing a further advance in the home markets of a halfpenny per pound for this staple, had an immediate effect here, and prices have advanced fully $2 per picul upon the quotations given under date of last report, the amount of business transacted has also been upon a larger scale than for some time past, amounting to 14,000 bales for the fortnight, and there is now but a few small parcels of desirable cotton remaining in first hands. About 2,400 bales of inferior growth have likewise found buyers at public auction. In the Canton market the transactions of the past fortnight aggregate 4,880 bales purchased at some advance in price.

WOOLLENS—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: The demand for these fabrics has continued to be on a moderate scale during the past fortnight, but quotations do not show as yet any improvement; the sales are put at 835 pieces of the first-mentioned, and 208 pieces of the other descriptions of goods. Long Ells: Have not been in any request, and the settlements reported do not exceed 60 pieces. Camlets: A fair amount of inquiry has been manifested for this class of woollen manufacture since the date of last report, and sales of about 1,400 pieces have been effected. There is not, however, any change noticeable in the value of the article. Lastings have also been in some demand at the prices previously current, and the sales of the fortnight amount to 650 pieces. Blankets: 450 pairs have found buyers.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: There has been a little more business transacted in Iron than during the preceding fortnight, and the sales reported amount to 2,000 piculs of Nail Rod, and 850 piculs of Bar placed at previous quotations; while from Canton settlements of 1,400 piculs are reported. Lead: 1,250 piculs placed in this colony and 700 piculs in Canton constitute the transactions of the fortnight. Tin: 100 slabs sold. Tin Plates: Without change to notice in value have found buyers in this market to the extent of 300 boxes.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6	months sight.	6s. 6½d. to 6s. 7d.	6s. 7d. to 6s. 8d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 9¾d.	4s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.
At Singapore	6	ditto		
At Manila	6	ditto	4s. 6d.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 312 to 314 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 229 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 9 to 10 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 75 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 27 to 28 discount.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN.—From London: Aug. 8, Satsuma.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Aug. 3, Delhi. From Liverpool, July 31, Recife; Aug. 1, Patna and Maravi: 2, Mermaid, Anglia, and Agincourt; and 4th, Truro. From Cardiff: July 31, Dovercourt; Aug. 2 Countess of Yarborough, and 15, Pembrokeshire. From Sunderland: July 31, Queen of the East; Aug. 1, Carizal, and 6, Palawan. From Newport: July 30, Stanley. From Shields: July 31, Coeur de Leon; Aug. 13, Cleveland. From Newcastle: 2, Glimpse. From New York: July 28, Floretta; Aug. 4, Clara Babuyan.

At AMOY.—From Liverpool: Aug. 16, Morning Star.

At HONG KONG.—From Cardiff: Aug. 15, Areta. From Sunderland, 23, James Vinnicombe.

At MANILA.—From Antwerp: Aug. 4, Earl of Mar and Kelie.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: Aug. 20, W. Simpson; 23, Henry Darling; 31, Moneta. From Liverpool: Aug. 24, Hoang Ho; 25, Pladda; 27, Golden West and Conference; Sept. 1, King of Trumps; 2, Oceanica. From Cardiff: 23, Elise; Sept. 2, Mary Ann. From Plymouth: 27, H.M.S. Adventure. From Rotterdam: 29, J. Martinus. From Bordeaux: Sept. 2, David.

At PENANG.—None.

At NAGASAKI.—Aug. 2, Great Western, from Cardiff.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—For London: Aug. 6, Amoy. For Liverpool: 13, Jane and Isabella.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: July 28, Caractacus; 29, Gresham; Aug. 2, Assyrian; 3, City of Quebec; 5, Essex; 13, Zodiac. For Liverpool: July 29, Sea Snake; 8, Brockham; 18, Thomas Bell.

From FOOCHOW.—For London: July 29, Bride of the Seas; Aug. 1, Cumberland; 3, Canute; 11, Philomela.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Aug. 11, Adriatic. For New York: Roslin Castle.

From MANILA.—For Liverpool: Aug. 11, Kathay; 16, Gondola; 18, Frederick. For Falmouth: 16, St. Paul, *via* Iloilo. For New York: 12, Franklin.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Aug. 28, Tweed; 30, Eddystone. For Liverpool: Aug. 24, C. H. Soule. For Falmouth (for orders): Sept. 2, Queen Bee. For New York: Aug. 24, Panic.

From PENANG.—For London: Aug. 16, Marengo; Sept. 4, Spitfire. For Falmouth: Sept. 2, Frederick.

LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Anna Maria, Lucknow, Fleda, and Little Edith. For Liverpool: Gyrn Castle and Vigil. For New York: Brilliant.

At SHANGHAI—For London: Capiolani, John Banks, Marchioness of Londonderry, Napoleon III., Queen of Nations, Sarah Newman, Solent, Waverley, Yaratilda, Claramont, Toftscomb, Southern Cross, Wild Deer and Stirlingshire. For Liverpool: David M'Ivor, Finzil, Southern Empire, Sea Snake and Providence.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Horsa, John Temperley, Rajah of Cochin and Race Horse. Expected: West Derby, Ellenborough, Verbena, Southern Belle and Harkaway.

In CANTON WATERS.—For London: Cathaya, Ben Lomond, Yeaver.

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ing Bell, Peterborough, England, Aboyne. For Liverpool: Everest Delhi, Samarang, Mount Stuart Elphinstone and Gitano.

At MANILA.—For London: Staffordshire. For Liverpool: Constance. For Falmouth: Ocean Express, and Valadora.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Queen of India, and William Simpson. For Liverpool: Tigris, and Oceanica. For Boston: Borneo.

At PENANG.—For London: Golconda.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

JAPAN.—To England: Cotton and tea, £3 to £3. 10s.; silk, £4 to £4. 10s.

HANKOW.—To England, per steamer, £7; sailing ship, £4. 15s. per ton.

SHANGHAI.—The charters for home are:—The Waverley (999 tons), to London, at £3. 15s. per ton for tea; John Stanton, jun. (724 tons), to Liverpool or London, at £3; Camila (508 tons), Hankow to London, £4. 15s. To New York: The Mary (214 tons), at £3. 15s. per ton.

HONG KONG and CANTON.—The vessels on the berth for London and Liverpool are loading at £3 per ton.

MANILA.—The American ship St. Paul has been chartered at £2. 10s. per ton, to load a cargo of sugar at Iloilo for Falmouth. The English barque Earl of Mar and Kellie proceeds to Cebu to load a cargo of sugar and hemp for Liverpool, her rates being £4. 2s. 6d. for the former, and £4. 10s. 6d. per ton for the latter. These have been the only transactions, beyond some hemp engagements by the vessels loading for the United Kingdom at £4. 5s. and £4s. 2s. per ton.

SINGAPORE.—The tonnage in harbour is large, with little offering; rates, therefore, have declined, which are as follows:—Sugar, £2. 15s.; measurement, £3. 15s.

PENANG.—Rates remain unaltered. For England, the Golconda is the only vessel on the berth, with further tonnage in demand. The rates are £3 dead weight; £3. 10s. light freight, and £4 measurement.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—Aug. 9th, Prata, from Liverpool to Singapore; 10th, William Simpson, London to Singapore; 12th, Ceres, Scheidam to Batavia; 18th, Sir W. F. Williams, London to Shanghai; Medina, London to Japan; Star of the North, Liverpool to Hong Kong; Laurel, London to Hong Kong; 19th, Java, Cardiff for orders; Cambalu, London for Hong Kong; 20th, Dilkhoosh, London for China; Thomas Mitchell, Glasgow to Batavia; 21st, Melitor, Newcastle to Hong Kong; Wave, Shields to Hong Kong; Glenclune, Glasgow to Hong Kong; 26th, Eleanore, Hamburg to Hong Kong; Conchita, London to Manila; Chrysus, Liverpool to Hong Kong; 27th, Cesaria, Cardiff to Hong Kong.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—August 8, Eastern Light, New York to Shanghai; 18, Moldavia, New York to Hong Kong; 19, Rocket, Boston to Batavia; 21, Lancaster, New York to Shanghai.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—August 15, Banian, Hong Kong to London; Prince Alfred, Singapore to London.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—August 21, Bengal, Manila to New York.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

The Commercial Bank of India and the East has declared a dividend for the six months ending the 30th of June last, at the rate of 12 per cent., with a bonus of 3 per cent., making 18 per cent. per annum, carrying the sum of £22,500 to the reserve fund.

The scheme of Mr. Gisborne for laying cables to connect Singapore, Java, China, and Australia, will be revived when monetary affairs are more settled.

TEA.—The chief business done since our last has been in New Season's Foochow Congous, ex *Robin Hood* and *Young Lochinvar*; and for these, former prices have in most instances been obtained. The *Min's* cargo was put forward yesterday, and many sales made, ranging from 1s. 9d., to up to 3s. 2d. per lb., the great bulk, however, being from 2s. to 2s. 3d. per lb. Some small shipping business has been done in Congous at 9d. for broken, and 1s. per lb. for leafy; also 1s. 1d. for good bold Amoy kind. The flavory sorts now attract very little attention, up to 1s. 6d. per lb., and beyond that there are few offering. Of new season's, ex *Robin Hood, Young Lochinvar* and *Min*, some have been sold at 1s. 9d.; but the bulk of the sales have been from 1s. 11d. to 2s. 5d. per lb., and some few up to 2s. 8d., and Pak Ling at 3s. 2d. per lb. Low black leaf kinds are heavy at 11d., and the better descriptions at from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 9d. are dull of sale. Of fine none have been put forward since the *Sea King*, and her cargo goes off but slowly, as buyers generally hold out for lower rates. Of Scented Teas the few new parcels have gone off well, but old stock is difficult to move. New Oolongs have been taken at 1s. 8d. to 2s. 3d., but these latter are not very fine. Of true Greens there has not been much assortment, and the business done has been very small. The Indian auctions took place on the 11th, when of 2,156 packages printed, 325 were withdrawn, all the remainder being sold. The Assam Company's went off briskly at extreme rates, and those of private growths slowly, at about previous prices. For the next sales of China teas, catalogues are at present out for 18,774 packages, and of these upwards of 18,000 are printed "without reserve." The United Kingdom Stock was on the 30th ultimo, 84,500,000 lbs., against 80,000,000 lbs. on the 30th September, 1863.

SILK.—Demand rather slacker, but prices firm at last quotations.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Oct. 14, at Liverpool from Singapore, Bombay from Shanghai, Cyclone, 15th Unrivalled, 14th from Hong Kong, Glencoe, from Rangoon, Alfred Lamont, 17 at Deal from Singapore, Athelstan, from Manilla, Albuera, at Gravesend from Shanghai Robert Lowe (str.), from Penang Akbar, at Falmouth from Akyab, Constantia.

DEPARTURES.—Oct. 12, from Sunderland, for Shanghai; Ethel, from London, for Singapore; West, for Kanagawa, Dora.

SPOKEN.—Canton, Japan to Liverpool, September 21, 34 N., 38 W.; Robur, Antwerp to Singapore,, July 28, 37 S., 8 W.; Bombay, Singapore to Liverpool, August 12, 31 S., 11 E.; Zirine, Liverpool to Penang, September 3, 12 N., 25 W.; Scholde (Dutch barque) Newcastle to Batavia, 32 days out,; Amazone, Cardiff to Singapore, September 9, 10 N., 25 W.; Julie (ship), Marseilles to Sumatra, August 25, 16 S., 36 W.; Kenderdyk, Rotterdam to Batavia, July 5, 2 N., 23 W.; Antelope (Hanover schooner), for Hong Kong, September 10, 11 N., 25 W.

At MAURITIUS—Sept. 10, Peeril of the Peak, from Iloilo; and sailed 13 for Liverpool; Fire Queen (s), from New York, for Singapore.

THE DISTURBANCES IN EASTERN CHINA.—Some time back, says the *Invalide Russe*, we announced the invasion of several towns in the the part of the world we have just mentioned. The following are some details concerning the country alluded to:—Rashcan, or Turkestan, known also by the name of the province Hiss, is bordered on the north by the mountains of Tian-Chanoum, on the west by Mount Bolor, and on the south by the mountains of Konim-Lunom. The Desert Gubi forms its Oriental frontier. This country presents the aspect of a sandy steppe watered by a number of rivers falling from the chains of mountains just named, and which nearly all get lost in the sands, with the exception of those which form the river Tarin-Gala, coming from Lob Nor, or the Sea of Stars. The country produces wine, cotton, grass, and pot-herbs; but, on account of its natural barrenness, and constant dryness, it can only be fertilised by artificial means. The mineral riches which are known consist of sulphur, saltpetre, alum, jasper, &c., and the mountains contain copper and gold. The population, of Turkish origin, numbers about 600,000 souls, concentrated in the towns of Kashkar, Outchourfou, Aksar, Jarneut, and in the neighbouring villages industry is little developed, and commerce is in the hands of foreigners, who form a unmerous and influential class in Kashkar, and who are principally o Khokan origin. The staple article is tea, brought from China, which i exchanged for cattle coming from the steppes. There are also to be seen n the markets some products of Russian manufacture, such as cloth, inen, and metal tools. The inhabitants profess Islamism, which was introduced into the country about the fourteenth century by a self-styled successor of Mahomet, named Hadgi, only the new religion very little changed the primitive customs, as the women of Kashkar enjoy entire liberty. About the middle of the eighteenth century, Kasckaria and Djoungaria were conquered by the Chinese, and the Hadgi retreated to Khokan; a few of these representatives of Islamism contrived to remain in the country and exercise a great political and religious influence over the populations which detest the yoke of the Chinese, and consider the Hadgis as their rightful masters. The Chinese sent an army of 15,000 men to occupy the country, but, not interfering with the administration of the country, they contented themselves with a tribute. We can say that their authority at Kashkar is weak, and that they would not have been able to remain there long but for the rivalry of two parties, which divide the country, and are known by the denominations of Black Mountain and White Mountain. The Khokans have gained no less influence than the Chinese by supporting the Hadgis. They have been the instigators of the rebellions against the authority of the Chinese. The first rebellion took place in 1826, and terminated by the expulsion of the Chinese, who, however, soon returned with fresh forces, taken from the interior of the empire, and frightened the populations by cruel punishments. They perceived that the Khokans were the real authors of the insurrection, and tried to make them leave the country, but the latter succeeded in maintaining their former position, and even, in 1830, forced the Chinese to conclude a treaty, which conceded to them the right of commerce, and even a considerable share in the government. Two other rebellions took place, in 1847 and 1857, under the direction of Hadgi-Vali-Khan-Thuré, who was at last abandoned on account of his ferocity, and obliged to fly, notwithstanding the victories he had gained. It was during the reign of this terrible chief that a European, by the name of Schlagentweit, attempted to visit these countries, but his audacity cost him dear – he was hanged.

COLONIAL STATISTICS.—The Colonial Blue-book for 1862 has only been issued recently from the Colonial office. The volume iucludes, perhaps, by an oversight of the censor, a despatch from the Governor of Queensland, in which that functionary states that having observed that the official reports from the Australian and American colonies are not published in London till they are eighteen months old, and thinking that they then look very like "an old almanack" he determined to put in force that part of the Queen's Colonial Regulations (chapter vii., section 4) which provides for the stoppage of the salary of any public officer who may neglect to furnish the returns during the first quarter of the year. The consequence was that the statistics were ready in good time, and the Queensland report on 1862 was despatched to London in May, 1863; and the Governor "ventures to submit" that the reports from all the colonies would be transmitted as soon if the Colonial-office would press the observance of the Queen's regulation. But Governor-General Sir G. F. Bowen bestirred himself in vain. His report of May 12, 1863, issued from the Colonial-office in the autumn, not of 1863, but of 1864. We may venture to submit that as long as colonial governors know that they may take their time, they will put off a duty that involves some thought and gives some trouble, and, perhaps, at last send such a letter as one which appears in the present volume, written by a North American lieutenant-governor, who has to say: "I have unfortunately too long delayed the transmission of the report (for 1862), and now (in 1864) am unable to devote to its preparation that time and care which the subject demands."

NEWS FROM PEKING.—The date of this letter is incorrect, as the mails with dates to August 21, is only in to-day. Perhaps the whole thing is in advance of the facts. The *Moniteur de l'Armee* has received a letter from its private correspondent at Shanghai of the 25th of August which states that the Court of Peking has appointed the Mandarin Konan, Governor of Nanking. It is said that he is well disposed to Europeans, and well versed in all matters relating to commerce and navigation. The Taipings experienced a serious loss by the capture of their capital, but they are not entirely destroyed. They are endeavouring to collect their forces in the provinces of Nyang-wei and of Kiang si. One of their armies, commanded by the lieutenant of Chau-Omang, defeated a numerous division of the Imperial army in a pitched battle on the 3rd of August. The Peking Government has consequently seen that it cannot dis-

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band its army, and it has requested that the Franco-Chinese corps shall continue to serve. An arrangement had nearly been concluded for that purpose, and Lieutenant Aiguebelle, of the French navy, who commands that corps, had arrived at Shanghai to engage a number of European officers and non-commissioned officers, and to procure supplies. He has proposed to conclude contracts for that purpose for two years. Flying corps are moreover about to be formed in the Imperial army, which will scour the provinces traversed by the Yang-Tze-Kiang, to prevent any rebel bands being organized there.

Products and Trade of Peru.—Mr. Cocks, the British Acting Consul, states in his report this year:—The province of Loreto, in the north of Peru, is so extensive that it almost equals in surface all the rest of the departments put together. It produces the plantain, serving instead of bread, of which there is none. The sugar cane grows with the greatest luxuriance, and it is sufficient to plant it once to have constant yields from the roots. Coca yields six crops a year. This is a plant deserving to be more generally known on account of its extraordinary qualities. A Peruvian will endure the severest labour while chewing its leaves, and accompany a horse or mule for days together up hill and down, and through the deepest sand, with scarcely any other refreshment than chewing coca. Its effects are said to be truly surprising. Tea or a decoction of the leaves of this plant is a most wholesome, refreshing, and agreeable beverage. Tobacco is cultivated the whole length of the Hullaga, and yields magnificent crops, part of which is exported to Brazil. Cotton grows almost spontaneously in the neighbourhood of the houses, and serves the inhabitants; gray shirting is an article of exchange in this province. Coffee grows with extraordinary luxuriance, the branches being borne down with the weight of the numerous berries. The population of the province of Loreto, counting all the Indians reduced or submitted to the Government, is about 50,000, and there are 90,000 or 40,000 savages. Its commerce is yet in its infancy; the exports are almost wholly by the Amazon, the imports chiefly from the Pacific ports, owing to Brazilian import duties. In Moyobamba, the capital of Loreto, more than 3,000 women are occupied in spinning cotton, the clews or balls of which are current money. The Amazon, the Ucayali, and the Pachitea are navigable for a great distance. So stupendous is the mass of water which the monarch of rivers bears to the Atlantic Ocean that it exceeds that of eight great rivers of Asia, put together—namely, the Euphrates, Indus, Ganges, Oby Lena, Amur, Yellow River, and the Yang-tse in China. So deep is it, at least in its upper part, that no bottom has been found at a depth of 721 feet. Its declivity is so imperceptible and slow that were not its volumes of water so powerful, it would with difficulty flow. Scarcely is its descent in the space of 200 leagues 10½ feet—that is to say, 1-27th of an inch in 1,000 feet. From the Atlantic, as far as Jaen de Bracamoros—latitude 5 deg. 30 min. and longitude 75 deg. 40 min. west of Paris—it has no cataracts or currents which impede navigation. At that place its surface is 1,240 feet above the level at Para. The affluents of the Amazon form among themselves tens of thousands of leagues of navigable rivers, an immense net covering more than two-thirds of South America.

Charges at a St. Petersburg Restaurant.—A curious international case has just been decided by the Civil Court of the Seine. The plaintiff, one Vavasseur, is a Frenchman, settled at St. Petersburg, where he keeps the well-known restaurant Devaux; the defendant is a young Russian named Bazylewski, who had not only run up extravagant bills at his house, but borrowed money to the extent of £600 or £700. Bazylewski came to Paris, forgetting all about a bill of exchange he had given to Vavasseur, who quietly transferred the bill, and had his Russian client lodged in Clichy. The defendant admitted having borrowed money, but demurred to the "little account for suppers, &c." From M. Vavasseur's books, which were produced, it would appear that a dinner at Devaux's must be rather expensive. I subjoin a few items:—Supper and breakage, 470f. 40c.; 16th, supper for sixteen persons, with breakage 1,386f.; 19th, supper for fourteen persons, wines, and breakage, 1,092f. 80c.; July 7th, breakfast and breakage, 840f.; 15th, supper for twelve persons, 1,011f. 20c. The counsel for the defendant denounced these charges as an enormous imposition, and the Tribunal seemed to entertain the same opinion, for it declared that the plaintiff had not made good his additional claim, and gave a judgment condemning the defendant to pay the sum of 17,140f. only, at the same time fixing the term of imprisonment at eighteen months, in case of non-payment. I may add, that this Russian Lucullus is only twenty-two. It did not appear that he had been sued at home.

The "Royal Alfred."—In the launch of this frigate, which took place at Portsmouth on Saturday, the Admiralty have sent afloat another vessel that, when she has been clothed with her armour and fitted with her machinery, may be added to the list of England's ironclad fleet, and become one of the total number which now comprises some nine or ten descriptions of vessels varying in all the extremes of tonnage, speed, and mode of construction, which now form our somewhat heterogeneous collection of ironclads. The *Royal Alfred* is one of the Prince Consort and Royal Oak class, their frames designed and prepared as 92-gun screw line-of-battle ships, but afterwards cut down to a frigate's battery, altered in form at the bow and stern, and strengthened considerably in every part to carry the weight of 4½in. armour plating. The *Royal Alfred* was ordered to be built as a line-of-battle ship in October, 1859, of the following general dimensions:—Length between perpendiculars, 252ft.; length of keel for tonnage, 213ft. 9½in.; breadth extreme, 58ft.; breadth for tonnage, 57ft. 2in.; breadth moulded, 56ft. 4in.; depth in hold, 19ft. 10in.; burden in tons, 3,715 62-94.

Her Majesty's iron-clad frigate *Lord Clyde* has been launched. The *Lord Clyde* is a wooden ship, but plated completely round from stem to stern above her water-line with plates of enormous size and thickness. Hitherto all our vessels of war have been built with the great heavy rounded stem above the water, while every portion of the bow below the water has been sloped away, the consequence of which, as may be readily understood, is that all ships built on that principle plunge about in anything like a sea—a defect nowhere more observable than in the *Warrior* and others of the iron-clad fleet. In addition to this protruding bow, which is to be armed with a powerful cleaver-shaped steel weapon for cutting down any hostile ship, the designer of the *Lord Clyde* has carried the bow considerably beyond the upper deck, and this will be encased in armour throughout in order to contain a battery of four of the heaviest guns for firing right ahead.

The Anglo-Indian, China, and Australian Telegraph.—Sir Charles Bright, in a letter to *The Times*, states that in a few weeks will be completed another route from England to India, through Russia, by way of Tiflis to Teheran, thence to Ispahan, and Shiraz, and joining the Persian Gulf cable at Bushire. The Indian telegraphs are now advanced eastwards as far as Rangoon, and the routes thence to China and to Australia, by way of Singapore, Java, and Timor, are almost entirely in comparatively shallow water, so far as the submarine part of the line is concerned, and do not otherwise offer any difficulty which should prevent our having daily telegrams from Hong Kong, Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, and Brisbane, within three years from this day.

The Russian Telegraph Line.—The first working party connected with Captain Buckley's great expedition for the construction of the Russian and American Telegraph line left New York on the steamer *Golden Rule* for San Francisco, via Nicaragua. The party consists of Mr. Conway, telegraphic engineer, and a number of assistants, who, under the directions of Captain Buckley, will proceed to various points in British Columbia to make the necessary surveys preparatory to more active operations next spring.

The Straits Military Question.—The *Army and Navy Gazette* says:—"It is said that two more native corps are to be struck off the strength of the Madras establishment, as the Straits will hereafter be garrisoned by Europeans." We may add, what is the meaning of this? Garrison the Straits with Europeans at the expense of the Straits revenues! The thing is monstrous. The leaders of the "Straits Transfer" must not allow the change without protest. In any case they can obtain the same compromise that has been decided for Hong Kong, viz., pay one fifth of the cost of the garrison.

The Troopship "Tamar" for China.—The *Tamar* screw troopship, Capt. Stirling, sailed from Portsmouth on the 15th inst. on a long period of foreign troop service. This will comprise the transport of the 86th Regiment from Ireland to Gibraltar; the 2nd battalion of the 9th Regiment from Gibraltar to China; the 67th Regiment from China to the Cape of Good Hope; the 2nd battalion of the 11th Regiment from the Cape to China; and, should her services then not be required otherwise, the conveyance of the 99th Regiment from China to England.

Reception of English Volunteers at Brussels.—The *Independent Belge* thus describes the hearty reception given to the English volunteers who had crossed over to take part in the Brussels *fetes*:—"At 10 in the morning a battalion of the chasseurs-eclaireurs, accompanied by their band, and bearing with them the old colours of 1830, repaired to the Northern Station, where they awaited the arrival of the riflemen and the chasseurs-eclaireurs, who were to come from Antwerp, Bruges, Ghent, Liege, Louvain, and Tourain. After a short welcome, the column, increased by these new elements, re-formed, the riflemen, divided into companies, taking their place immediately behind the standard-bearers, and proceeded to the Hotel de Ville. Here the riflemen and the captains of the different detatchments were received by M. Anspach, the burgomaster, who addressed the English volunteers in a speech of welcome, the effect of which was the greater as it was spoken in their own language. This reception over, the column marched on to the Salle d'Orient, where a *dejeuner* of 400 covers had been prepared, under the superintendence of the Brussels chasseurs. The room, decorated afresh, and entirely transformed, presented an admirable *coup d'œil*. At the lower end the bust of the King and the portrait of the Queen of England, surrounded with garlands and green, showed the international character of the solemnity; whilst the British and Belgian flags crossed served to give the *fete* a patriotic significance. At the moment the riflemen entered the band of the chasseurs struck up "God Save the Queen." The *dejeuner* passed in an atmosphere of fraternity and enthusiasm. Major de l'Eau, the commander of the chasseurs-eclaireurs of Brussels, made an eloquent speech to the guests, both native and foreign, and expressed the pleasure which this fraternal meeting gave him—a pleasure increased still more by the presence of the representatives of a nation whose institutions were so closely allied with those of Belgium. He further remarked on what Belgium owed to England—the initiative in the practice of constitutional liberty—and on the feeling of admiration which that patriotic *elan* whence sprang the volunteer movement had excited throughout Europe. M. de l'Eau concluded by proposing the health of England and her Queen, which loyal toast was drunk with enthusiasm. The captain of the riflemen returned thanks, proposing in his turn the health of King Leopold and Belgium, a toast which gave rise to fresh storms of shouts and hurrahs. Other toasts succeeded, and at last—some English ladies having accompanied their husbands to this *fete*—a lieutenant of the Brussels Chasseurs proposed the health of the ladies, conforming thus to an English custom, the observance of which appeared greatly to please our guests. One of the ladies present, encouraged by her husband, a Volunteer officer, responded with a charming grace, heightened by a little natural timidity. The banquet finished, the chasseurs and riflemen re-formed, and marched off to where the national shooting was to take place. Before separating from their new friends, the chasseurs received an assurance from them that, next year, the British contingent should be much stronger, and that they would not forget in London the spontaneous feeling of brotherhood exhibited by Brussels. May this promise be realised."

American Blockade.—Halifax, Sept. 22.—The blockade runners the *Lady Sterling* and the *Armstrong*, cleared for Bermuda yesterday. The *Little Hattie*, which sailed a few days since, returned to-day. Havannah, Sept. 17.—The *Denbigh* arrived on the 15th from Galveston, and the *Susanna*, on the 12th, five days from Houston. The latter started with 325 bales of cotton, but reached this port with only 73, having thrown the balance overboard to facilitate her escape from a Federal cruiser off Cape San Antonio. The Federal steamer *Honeysuckle* reports the capture of the *Matagorda* (formerly the *Alice*), with 600 bales of cotton, and the arrival of the prize at Key West. The *Matagorda* was from Galveston for this port.

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MELANCHOLY DEATH OF MR. GIBBS.

On Monday night the 10th inst. Mr. W. Carter, the coroner for Surrey, held a lengthened inquiry at the Wheatsheaf Tavern, Upper Tooting, on the body of Mr. Richard Gibbs, aged 74, for upwards of half a century one of the largest tea brokers and merchants in the city of London, who met with his death under the following melancholy circumstances.

Mr. Bonner appeared to watch the proceedings for the relatives of the deceased. The deceased gentleman was highly esteemed, and both in the city and in the neighbourhood of his residence, Elmwood, Tooting, he was most charitable to the poor. The jury, which was composed of the gentry of the district, having viewed the body of the lamented gentleman, which lay at the mansion, and the cistern into which he had fallen and perished, the following evidence was taken:—

Sarah Barton said: I was in the service of the late Mr. Gibbs, at Elmwood. It was my usual custom every morning to take water into his bedroom for him to use. I did so on Friday morning at half-past seven o'clock. I expected to see him in the room. He was not there, and I thought he had gone to the closet. Mrs. Gibbs was in bed, and she asked me what I was going to give Mr. Gibbs for his breakfast. I put the jug of water down and left the room. I came up again at a quarter-past eight with his tea to his bedroom, as it was my custom to do. I found that he had not returned to the room. My mistress became alarmed, and flew out of bed, and we commenced to search for him. We tried all the doors and found them right. A fellow-servant called my attention to a sliding door of a small apartment which contains a tank, on the second flight of stairs in the house. I was surprised to see the door open, and on looking up I saw my master's feet on the edge of the cistern. I knew it was his feet by his stockings. I screamed out that my master was in the cistern, and the footman and other assistance came, and he was got out. He was lying with his face downwards in the tank. He only had on his nightshirt, flannel drawers, and dressing-gown, and his clothes were wet. He was quite dead.

Coroner: Can you account for his being found in the cistern?—Witness: No, I cannot; except that he went to the water-closet and found that water would not flow through the valve, he might have gone to the cistern and endeavoured to remedy the defect, and by so doing overbalanced himself and fallen in. I have known him do that some short time ago. He could easily have got up from the stairs to the framework which supports the tank. The top of the tank is about 2½ft. from the stairs, and the depth inside is 5ft. I don't think anyone put him there, and I think it very improbable that he intended to throw himself in. I last saw him alive at half-past ten on the previous evening, and he was cheerful and happy. He had been to the City on the day previous, and he brought a little medicine from town. He said he thought he was not so well.

By the Coroner: He had left a memorandum, written in pencil, in his room. It was to the following effect:—"Brown, go at once for the cravats." He was a master who did not wish to give much trouble to his servants, and if he found the valve wrong in the closet he was very likely to attempt to remedy it at once without calling for the servants.

Alfred Prior, the footman, spoke to having got the deceased out of the cistern. Saw the deceased on the previous evening, and did not notice any change or peculiarity in his manner. He lived on very happy terms with his wife, and he was a very good master. If he could not have got any water in the closet, witness thought it very likely that he might have gone to the tank and endeavoured to reach the valve or the place out of order.

Mr. William Weston said the deceased gentleman was his senior partner, and they carried on the business of tea brokers at 24, Rood-lane, Fenchurch-street. He was 74 years of age.

Coroner: Do you think it likely that he was put in the cistern by anyone?

Witness: No, I do not. He was a very powerful man, and no two men could have put him in the well against his will.

Coroner: You know of nothing that could have operated on his mind—no pecuniary difficulties?

Witness: Most certainly not. He was in very affluent circumstances, and I know of nothing in business matters that could in any way affect his mind. I saw him in the city on the previous day (Thursday). He complained of a palpitation of the heart when he awoke, and he had consulted Dr. Sewell.

Coroner: How do you account for his body being found in the tank? Witness: I believe, as stated, that he had attempted to adjust something in the cistern to make the water flow, when he overbalanced himself and fell in. He was an active, energetic person, and if he found anything wrong he was just likely to go at once with a view of putting it right without troubling the servants. He has done so at our late place of business in White Hart-court. He was the last man, I should think, who would take his own life.

The jury, after a brief deliberation, returned a verdict to the effect "That the deceased had accidentally fallen into the cistern, and was suffocated and drowned."

Naval and Military.

THE CHINA MEDAL.

(To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Gazette*.)

Sir,—In 1862, a British force, consisting of some Artillery, the 31st and 67th Regiments, two companies of the 99th Foot, the 5th Bengal Native Infantry, the 22nd Punjaubees, and some 400 or 500 blue-jackets and marines; together with an equal force of the French (chasseurs, zephyrs, and marines), the Franco-Chinese, and the Ward Contingents, were employed in the vicinity of Shanghai against the Taiping rebels, with whom engagements took place at Cheapo and Nai-hsain in April, Kah-ding, Nai-hsain (2nd), Tsingpoo, Naijao, and Tso-lin May, Tsingpoo (2nd), in June, and Kah-ding (2nd), in October of that year; resulting, on each occasion, in severe loss to the Chang-mous, and in small loss to the allies, this latter being the result of the skilful disposition of the allied troops, and the patient and very effective use made of their artillery, the maxim of the commanders-in-chief being "Forty shells before one man." It is now two years since these operations terminated, and, as yet, "no sign" has been made by the authorities of bestowing an additional clasp for these services upon those of the combatants (that is, the British ones) who are already in the possession of the China medal, or of extending the grants of the medal to those who, like myself, were detatched at Hong Kong during the successful "raid upon Peking" in 1860, or upon those who arrived, as the reinforcements did (which left England in July, 1860), too late to participate in the glories of Tung-ku and Sin-ho, or even in the loot at Hoo si-woo, or Yuen-ming-yuen. It may be objected by some that the services rendered by the troops, under Brigadier-General Staveley, C.B., the Navy, under Sir J. Hope, K.C.B., and by the French, under the late lamented Admiral Protet, were not of that importance to justify the grant of a medal or clasp to those concerned. But let those who so object reflect but for a moment that an immense, rapidly increasing, and wealthy city, the trade of which is alone worth, to England, the colonies, and America—more than £17,000,000 sterling annually—was threatened with devastation by the merciless hordes of the Tien-Wang, whose "heavenly children" already possessed nearly the whole province, and those adjacent to it, and an impartial verdict, in favour of the decoration, will be the conclusion arrived at. The General Order dated in 1861, promulgating the bestowing of the China medal upon those who were engaged in 1857, '58, '59, and '60, needs only to be extended so as to embrace 1862, and the desired effect will be attained. Perhaps his Royal Highness the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief is awaiting the outbreak and subsequent conclusion of a fourth China war, when all who will have been actively employed in that country since the end of the third war will be included in a comprehensive and gracious General Order. If so, the sooner the Celestials pluck out, hair by hair, the bushy beard, or spitefully and politically tweak the respectable nasal organ of his Excellency Sir F. Bruce, K.C.B., or commit some other equally internationally heinous offence, culminating in hostilities, and terminating in peace and the publication of the aforesaid graicous and comprehensive General Order, the better for us who are still

UNDECORE.

Her Majesty's sailing frigate Amethyst, 26, attached to the reserve at Chatham, which has been lent by the Admiralty to the Atlantic Telegraph Company to receive on board the Atlantic telegraph cable, for conveyauce to the Great Eastern steamship, in the Medway, left Chatham harbour, in tow of a private steamer, and without an Admiralty pilot, for the works o the company at Greenwich. There the first portion of the cable will be shipped, and conveyed to the Great Eastern. The consequence of allowing one of Her Majesty's ships to leave Chatham without the customary Queen's pilot on board, was that soon after the vessel had got clear of the harbour those in charge of her ran her ashore on one of the numerous shoals at Gillingham Reach, at the entrance to the harbour. No one in charge seemed to be aware of the intricacies of the navigation of the river at that spot, although these are perfectly familiar to the duly authorised Government pilots accustomed to the navigation of ships of war to and from Chatham. All attempts to tug the vessel off the bank on which she had grounded proved fruitless, and with a strong ebb tide under the bottom she soon settled down, straining herself, it is believed, very severely. At flood tide in the evening she was floated off, but the extent of the injury she has sustained, which, it is hoped, is not serious, cannot be fully ascertained until the frigate shall have been docked. The explanation given by the dockyard officials is that the vessel, having been handed over for temporary use to the Telegraph Company, they had virtually no further control over her subsequent movements.

The Vulcan, iron screw troopship, Captain Augustus C. Strode, arrived at Spithead on the 12th inst. from the East India and China station. She sailed from Hong Kong June 9; Singapore, June 23; and Mauritius, July 19. She arrived at the Cape of Good Hope on the 9th of August, and sailed thence on the 22nd August. She arrived at St. Vincent's on the 20th of September, and sailed again on the 22nd. She arrived at Madeira on the 30th of September, and sailed again on the 1st of October. Her Majesty's ship Ringdove, Commander Liardet, sailed from the Cape of Good Hope for England on the 18th of August. The Vulcan experienced very strong easterly winds from Madeira to the Isle of Wight. She had on board the following naval passengers:—Commander Belson, Conqueror, promoted; Lieutenant Denham, Havoc; G. C. C. Carter, Sub-Lieut., Valorous; and Lieut. Leeds R. M. A., Scylla, invalided; and ninety-two invalids. There died on the passage two naval and seven military invalids, and two children. There were two births. The following were her military passengers:—From Hong Kong: Major Stehelin, 67th Regiment; Lieut. Clements and Lieut. Maud, Royal Engineers; Lieut. Harvey, 99th Regiment; Rev. G. Wylde, Chaplain to Forces; Mrs. Wylde, Mrs. Stehelin, and Mrs. Thwaites. From Singapore: Captain Sanders, Madras Native Infantry, and Mrs. Sanders. From the Cape: Captain Marshall, 76th Regiment; Lieut. M'Kinlay; Lieut. Brome, and Lieut. Legge, 5th Regiment; Lieut. Salis, Military Train; Ensign King, 10th Regiment; 208 troops of various detatchments, time-expired men and invalids; five women and nine children.

The Whitworth guns, Storms's breech-loading rifles, shot, shell, sword-bayonets, and other warlike stores, recently supplied to the European Chinese force, and which have been brought back to this country, were sold by auction in London, and attracted a numerous attendance, amongst those present being agents from the Confederate and Federal States, who made large purchases on account of their respective Governments. The Whitworth 32-pounder rifle guns, with carriage, &c., complete, which cost £460 each, sold from £50 to £120 each; the 12-pounders, which cost £225 each, sold from £25 to £39 each; and the 1-pounders, which cost £111, from £8 to £12. The Storms's breech-loading rifles sold for merely nominal prices, and the shot, shell, &c. did not realise the value of the metal.

The Birkenhead "steam-rams," which have been re-named the Scorpion and the Wivern, now figure in the official Navy List. They are described as iron-cased cupola ships—each of 1,857 tons, and designed to carry four guns. The only other turret ship we have afloat is the Royal

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Sovereign, which has just been laid up at Portsmouth after a singularly brief probation.

The Rev. H. Huleat, formerly in China, who during thepast three years has occupied the office of principal chaplain to the forces at Aldershott, has been transferred to Hounslow, to succeed the Rev. Mr. Hodges, appointed to the principal chaplaincy of Aldershott.

The iron screw troop-ship Urgent, Captain Samuel H. Henderson, arrived in Portsmouth Harbour from Quebec and St. John's, Newfoundland, with the second battalion of Scots Fusilier Guards on board, under the command of Colonel Stephenson. The Guards consist of 550 officers and men, and there are also on board 120 women and children belonging to the regiment. The troops took train for London from the dockyard.

The paddlewheel steam sloop Centaur, 6, is now at Keyham-yard, where her engines and machinery of 450-horse power will be taken out. She will then be conveyed to Devonport dockyard, where a number of labourers have just been entered for the purpose of breaking her up. The Centaur was built at Portsmouth in 1845, on lines laid down by Sir William Symonds, and was for many years in service in China. Her burden is 1,270 tons. She is 200ft. long, 37ft. broad, and 23ft. deep.

CONSULAR REPORTS.

The following reports have been received at the Foreign-office *via* Peking. In publishing the reports from Japan about two months since we noticed the absence of those from China, and it is now accounted for by their having gone to Peking for transmission to England. This appears to us a very unnecessary delay. It is of course quite proper that our Ambassador should be informed on all matters, but a copy of the report forwarded to the Embassy while the originals are on their way to England would be more rational. We are not rabid anti-redtapists, as a great deal is necessary to keep things from running counter, but we do not see that any risk can be run in this case. The first report we have to notice is from the senior Consul, D. B. Robertson, Esq., Canton, and considering that he is at a port which is very generally considered to have outlived its trade, we think a very fair statement is made out. Mr. Robertson thus premises the report of trade:—

THE FOREIGN TRADE AT CANTON.

These returns, like those of the preceding year, have been compiled from the Custom-house reports, and in so far may be considered as correct; but they must not be assumed as representing the actual trade of this portion of the Chinese Empire, from the fact that a very large business in foreign manufactures and opium is done at the British colony of Hong Kong, and the goods and produce there purchased are conveyed chiefly down the coast, and being landed at the numerous towns, or carried up the rivers, find their way into the interior in all directions. To obtain, therefore, a true estimate of the amount and value of foreign trade with this part of China would require returns from all these various places, which is simply impossible. The position may be shown in a very few words. On a coast line of nearly 700 miles, studded with bays, harbours, cities, and towns, and with rivers, such as that called the West River, penetrating far into the interior, there is one treaty port, Canton, and an open and free mart, the colony of Hong Kong. It is but reasonable, therefore, that if Chinese traders can purchase goods at Hong Kong, and land them on the coast, they will not pass them through the foreign Custom-house at Canton, but will ship them direct to their destination. The same may be said with regard to exports from these places. Hence it follows that no estimate can be formed of the foreign trade in this part of China from the published Canton Custom-house returns, for they represent a local trade only. A comparison of the returns of the past with the preceding year will show a decrease generally in the trade of the port, but by no means to the extent anticipated.

IMPORTS.

The total value in sterling for the year 1863 is estimated at £2,281,354 against £2,412,515 in 1862, showing a decrease amounting to the sum of £131,161 in the past year's trade. As regards the causes of this decrease, the falling off must be attributed as much to failure in supply as to failure in demand, the rise in piece goods, owing to the American supply of raw cotton ceasing, having brought the foreign into competition with the native manufactures, and as the Chinese prefer the latter, from being heavier and of more lasting qualities, they abandon the former the moment its price places it beyond the denomination of being a cheap article for clothing. Compare, for instance, the imports of cotton manufactured goods for the two preceding years:—

		1862.		1863.
American drills	pieces	30,965	..	2,196
Shirtings, grey	„	126,529	..	48,829
Ditto white	„	49,788	..	44,695
T-cloths, 36 yards	„	4,570	..	6,055
Ditto 24 „	„	20,601	..	28,802
Cottons dyed—				
Figured, plain	„	21,627	..	20,100
Damasks	„	3,667	..	3,006
Printed	„	11,382	..	15,812
Muslins	„	510	..	1,984
Handkerchiefs	dozens	28,057	..	27,121
Velveteens	pieces	1,711	..	4,813
Cotton velvets	„	1,060	..	2,625
Yarn	piculs	20,334	..	14,819
Cotton, Bombay raw	„	35,928	..	488

and a large deficiency in plain goods will appear, and particularly in the article of Bombay raw cotton, whilst in fancy goods the difference is rather in favour of 1863. This latter may be accounted for in the heavy stocks on the manufacturer's hands, which rendered their going off beneficial to the holders, and therefore the prices were not affected in a ratio proportionate to that of the plain manufactures. But take the imports of woollen manufactures—

		1862.		1863.
Blankets	pairs	3,510	..	3,849
Broad cloths	pieces	157	..	148
Camlets, English	„	3,993	..	4,331
Do. Dutch	„	610	..	697
Do. imitation	„	644	..	1,761
Habit and medium cloth	„	566	..	1,496
Flannels	„	271	..	352
Lastings	„	3,441	..	4,641
Long ells	„	8,660	..	11,863
Sp. stripes	„	9,007	..	7,448
Woollen and cotton mixtures	„	8,769	..	5,769

It will be seen that the balance is in favour generally for 1863, and this arises from the fact that wool has not been subjected to the fluctuations of raw cotton, or deficiency in supply, and therefore, if anything, there has been an improvement, and not a deficiency, in this branch of the import trade. The result of these comparisons tends to show that the decrease in the value of the import trade of 1863, namely, £131,161, is owing as much to foreign as to native influences; and that, under such circumstances, the past two or three years will afford no criterion of the capabilities of Canton as a mart for foreign manufactures. The import of opium in 1863, as compared with 1862, differs in amount but little. The temptation to smuggle so valuable an article, and the facilities the coast affords for that purpose are so great that in all probability what passes through the Canton Custom-house is for local consumption only, and so it will be until the Chinese authorities establish a preventive service.

EXPORTS.

The value of the export trade may be taken at £3,862,039, against £4,060,746 in 1862, showing a decrease of £198,707. This may chiefly be attributed to the short supplies of teas, the export of 1863 being less than in 1862 by at least 7,418,890lb.; but less though it be, it is more than was anticipated, the opinion being at the close of last season that little or no teas would come again to Canton. But notwithstanding this, not only did they come down, but the teamen held out for high rates, and generally obtained them. As regards silk, the export of the two years, 1862-63, is much on a par. Of a trade stationary as this is there is little to be said. Hong Kong is, doubtless, a formidable rival to Canton, because, as before observed, it is a free port, and a depot for the neighbouring coast of China; but Hong Kong produces nothing and consumes nothing, and it is to the interior provinces we must look for both. At present the disordered state of the empire paralyses its capabilities, and the necessity of raising a revenue to meet its war expenditure presses heavily on the people; but it is to be hoped, and, indeed, there is every prospect of an improvement in this state of affairs, and with internal peace will come a development of those mercantile energies which are now only in abeyance and not extinguished. For, seeing that the province of Kwan-tung alone comprises an area of seventy-nine thousand four hundred and fifty-six square miles, with a population of about twenty millions; the adjoining one of Kwang-si, seventy-eight thousand two hundred and fifty square miles, with a population of above eight millions; Sze-chum, bordering on the latter, one hundred and sixty-six thousand eight hundred square miles, and a population of twenty-two millions; and Hu-nan, immediately adjoining that of Kwang-tung, seventy-four thousand three hundred and twenty square miles, with a population of nineteen millions, showing a total of three hundred and ninety-eight thousand eight hundred and twenty-six square miles, and a population of sixty-nine millions of inhabitants, it may be safely assumed that our trade with these alone, independent of the other portions of this vast empire, is as yet undeveloped, and their capabilities of production and consumption unknown. It is true that the ports of Hankow and Foo-Chow have withdrawn from that of Canton the chief trade in teas, and on the other hand foreign events have swept away from it the great trade in raw cotton which formerly existed; but Canton has seen its worst, and what it is this year it will probably be next, neither better nor worse, unless peace in the west and peace in the empire follow, and then indeed there is a hopeful future before it, rich in promises and certain in results.—D. B. Robertson, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.

British Consulate, Canton, June 20, 1864.

The tabular statement of shipping shows that 110 British vessels arrived at Canton, chiefly from Hong Kong, of an aggregate tonnage of 48,215 tons, and the departures consisted of 25 vessels of 15,244 tons to Great Britain, and 62 to Kong Kong, &c., of 32,239 tons. The arrivals from the ports in China, Manila, &c., consisted of 117 vessels of 49,960 tons, and the departures 113, of 60,402 tons. The total number of British and foreign vessels entered inwards from all ports was 867, of 300,520 tons, and the same number cleared out.

KIUKIANG.

Report by Mr. Vice-Consul Hughes, on the Trade of Kiukiang during 1863:—

SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION.

The year opened with favourable prospects for river steamers of a desirable class, there being few such vessels running at the time, and cargo offering freely. The rate of freight to Shanghai, during January and February, ranged from 7 taels to 9 taels per ton of 40 cubic feet, but during March, in consequence of lighter shipments, it fell to 4 taels. After that period, steamers of large carrying capacity were continually arriving from America, and these additions to the tonnage on the river led to farther reduction in rates. Accordingly, during the closing months of the year the rate varied from 2 taels to 2½ taels and 3 taels per ton. The preference for vessels built after the model of American river steamers is still manifested. The peculiar fitness of these boats for river work, to which reference was made in my report of last year, becomes daily more apparent.

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So far as steamers are concerned, the English flag is now represented by only two vessels, one of which, the "Fusi-Yama," was built in Shanghai, but had her boilers, machinery, and fittings sent from America; the other, the "Express," was built in Glasgow, partly at least after the American model. The tonnage of British and American vessels which arrived at Kiukiang during the year 1863, amounted to 348,347 tons. There were also a few native-built boats under the French flag.

EXPORTS.

TEA.—The quantity of black tea exported during the year 1863, considerably exceeds that of the previous year. This increase does not arise from the growth of larger crops, but from the diversion from Hankow of teas grown in districts more easily accessible from this port. When the river was first opened to trade, the teas were sent to Hankow, because a greater number of foreign buyers were at that place, and in consequence it presented a larger market to the native dealers. The increase of resident merchants in Kuikiang has in turn attracted the teas to their natural port. It may reasonably be expected, that the Ninchow teas, for instance, will hereafter almost invariably find their way to Kuikiang, as also some of the tea which, though grown in the province of Hoopek (Oopak), is produced in districts easily accessible from this port. The crop of green tea is smaller this season (1863-64) than last. This result is attributable in part to unfavourable wheather during the packing season, but mainly to inroads of rebels from cities around Nanking into the Hwng-chow (Fychow) tea districts, which led to the destruction of a large quantity of leaf, and, in some instances, to the abandonment of extensive tracts covered with trees, until it was too late to pack the tea for this season. Compared with the tea season June, 1862, to June, 1863, it is expected that the season ended June, 1864, will shown a falling off, and this expectation has tended to raise prices; on the other hand, the export of the year, ending 31st December, 1863, exceeds that of 1862.

The following statement has been supplied by the gentleman in charge of the Chinese Customs at this port:—

AMOUNT OF TEA EXPORTED TO SHANGHAI DURING 1863.

Description.	In British vessels. lbs.	In American vessels. lbs.	Total. lbs.
Green	5,034,965 ..	10,689,149 ..	15,724,114
Black	4,903,728 ..	4,914,880 ..	9,818,608
Leaf	278,550 ..	606,684 ..	885,234
Total ..	10,217,243 ..	16,210,713 ..	26,427,956

Last year (1862) there were no foreigners engaged in the collection of the duties, and it was difficult to obtain accurate returns; the approximate estimate given in my report for 1862, I have since had reason to believe erred on the side of excess, so that the increase on the export of tea in 1863, as compared with 1862, may be safely set down as not less than five millions of pounds. Of the three kinds of tea enumerated, the black and green teas are intended for export to foreign countries from Shanghai, while the leaf is chiefly used for native consumption.

Paper continued to be largely exported during 1863. From the proximity of this place to the pottery districts, chinaware will always be one of its staple articles of trade. Hemp, tobacco, tallow, and dye colours are among the miscellaneous products frequently shipped to Shanghai. As the Customs' Returns, when completed, will furnish accurate statistics, merely approximate estimates need not now be given.

IMPORTS.

Upwards of 2,000 chests of Malwa opium were imported during 1863; transactions in cotton goods have been very unsatisfactory, in consequence of the extreme range of prices demanded by foreign merchants. In the beginning of the year, grey shirtings were quoted at 3 taels, they are now at 3 9-10ths per piece. But, in fact, the country surrounding Kuikiang, is still too poor to be a good market for foreign goods; it is only just commencing to recover from the devastations of the rebels, and of the Imperialist braves who infested this neighbourhood a few years since.

During the first six months of the year the imports of grey shirtings were:—

In English vessels	34,004 pieces.
In American „	34,882 „
	68,886

During the last six months none, it is believed, were imported in British vessels, and not much more than 13,000 pieces in American vessels. The falling off in the import of grey shirtings and other cotton manufactures, during the last half of the year, is attributable, in part, to the better position of the Shanghai market, and partly also to the greater demand which always exists for these goods during the spring and summer. The import trade in coast and Japanese products, such as sugar, seaweed, &c., is also increasing. Copper cash continued to be largely imported; the amount imported in 1863, in vessels under foreign flags, cannot have fallen far short of 2,500 tons weight.

CURRENCY, &c.—The tael weight of silver is the standard of value in commercial transactions here as elsewhere in China; dollars are not in favour. At present 95 43-100 Kiukiang taels are equal to 100 Shanghai taels; the taels used in the purchase of land is 2½ per cent. more than that used in ordinary commerce, and the Government tael, in which duties are paid, is of still higher value; 100 taels are equal to 106 31-100.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The total amount of duties received during 1863, at the Chinese Custom-house, under foreign management, is taels 868,747·173, which, at 7s. per tael, equal £304,061. 10s. 3d. The import duties, it may be remarked, are usually paid in Shanghai.

The general business of the port has greatly increased during the year. Ten British and three American firms have branch establishments here, and in addition there are three British local firms. Several large houses, godowns, &c., have been built within the British concession. The Chinese city and suburbs have also undergone a great change; numbers of handsome shops have been erected, and the Canton storekeepers, of whom several have established themselves, are doing some good to trade by popularising the taste for articles of foreign manufacture. The chief obstacles of development of foreign commerce offered by the Chinese authorities are their failure to carry out the Tariff Regulation respecting trade in the interior under transit passes, and their unwillingness to open the Poyang Lake.

With regard to the first of these obstacles, it is found that the authorities of the province of Hoopek, do not recognise passes issued in this province; consequently a merchant has to pay all local dues as if his produce belonged to a native, and applications have in vain been made to the Chinese authorities for a refund of the amount paid in excess of legal transit duty. Worse than this is the case in this province, and in that of Ganhwuy, where the passes are recognised, but before the tea is allowed to be put into the junks to be conveyed to Kiukiang from the tea districts, a tax of taels $1\frac{25}{100}$ per picul in some cases, in others of taels $1\frac{4}{10}$ is levied ostensibly upon the native dealer, but really on the foreign merchant, who has also to pay the transit duty of taels $1\frac{25}{100}$ per picul on the arrival of the tea at Kiukiang. The treaty transit passes are now practically abolished, as the merchant finds it his interest to have the tea brought from the place of production as Chinese property, or to give up trade in the interior altogether, and purchase produce at the ports of trade. Practically this state of things works well enough at present, but the objections to it are that it leave merchants to some extent at the mercy of the mandarins, and does away with the protection provided by treaty against extortionate charges in the interior upon goods belonging to British subjects.

Endeavours have been made by private individuals to induce the Chinese authorities to consent to the employment of steamers on the Poyang Lake, but without effect. There is no doubt but that the measure would be attended with the most beneficial results. The shallowness of the greater portion of the lake, and the narrowness of the navigable channels which traverse it, will always prevent the employment of any but very small steamers, which, though adapted for the short trip between places on the lake and Kiukiang, could not be employed with profit for direct communication with Shanghai. At present, boats laden with tea often remain windbound for weeks in the lake; if permission were given by the authorities, these boats could be towed to Kiukiang in a few hours. Rapid and direct communication with the green tea districts, and the potteries near the south-east border of the lake, and with Woo-ching would confer great benefits upon both the native and foreign trader. Woo-ching is the most important mart for foreign manufactures in this province. It is also the spot at which the Ningchow teas from one direction, and the Hokow teas from another are, when on their way to Kiukiang, transhipped into junks fitted by their size to cross the lake with safety.

The steam navigation of the lake has been noticed as a subject which well deserves attention in connection with the trade. The project which must sooner or later be carried into effect, seems to be the most natural and feasible means of increasing the prosperity of this port.

TAMSUY—FORMOSA.

Mr. Acting Vice-Consul Braune gives the following returns for 1863:—

IMPORTS IN BRITISH VESSELS.

		Value.
Opium	512 chests	$364,544
T-cloths and Shirtings	35 bales	8,650
Long Ells, &c.	—	8,424
Lead	—	1,850
Wood	—	1,500
Bricks and Tiles	20,000*	180,000
Sundries	—	17,284
		$582,262

* This must be an error in value or quantity.

IMPORTS IN FOREIGN VESSELS.

		Value.
Opium	53 chests	$38,690
Cotton Fabrics—Native ..	—	264,672
Foreign Cotton Yarns and Sundries	—	Unknown.

EXPORTS IN BRITISH VESSELS.

		Value.
Camphor	13,670 piculs	$205,050
Coals	10,800 „	194,418
Hemp	1,086 bales	12,432
Indigo	307 tubs	3,684
Rice	7,725 bags	23,175
Sugar	826 „	3,471
Sundries	—	6,116
		$448,346

EXPORTS IN FOREIGN VESSELS.

		Value.
Rice	15,901,080 catties	$305,790
Camphor	90,482 „	1,176,266
Indigo	361,000 „	25,270
Coal	1,259,152 „	25,180
Sugar (coarse and white) .	37,949 „	8,992
Hemp	166,675 „	21,658
Ground Nuts	125,150 „	2,502
Ground-nut Cakes ..	209,340 „	Unknown.
Timber, of sorts	12,905 pieces and 12,300 catties	„
Charcoal	53,625 catties	503
Dried Fruit, Lorgans, &c.	8,534 „	765
Sesame	43,475 „	6,510
Rattans	7,200 „	252
Tea	7,177 „	852
Rice-paper	5,681 „	336
Ground-nut Oil	1,000 „	120
Dried Fish	3,800 „	380
Native Spirits	1,007 „	25
Skins	980 „	Unknown.
Grass Cloth	455 „	280
Betel-leaf and Arica-nut ..	1,700 „	85
Miscellaneous	152,834 „	Unknown

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A Register is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the Far East and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office, or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in China, Japan, Singapore, *and other parts of the* Far East, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, OCT. 17, 1864.

THE QUESTION OF "THE INLAND SEA."

The announcement received by telegraph this morning, under date of "Shanghai, Sept. 5," that "it had been determined the fleet at Yokohama should force a passage into the "Inland Sea," seems to follow in a natural order from the intelligence that will be found in our present issue under the head of "Japan." The nations of Europe, with Great Britain in the front, can in no way be accused of rushing hastily into war, or of wantonly outraging the weak, when that decision was come to. So long ago as the 20th July last year, it was resolved, at a formal meeting of the representatives of foreign nations accredited to the Tycoon, that "after discussion it has been agreed on as indispensable, for the maintenance of those rights consecrated by "the treaties concluded with Japan, to proceed immediately to "re-open the Inland Sea." We now know enough of the Island Empire of the Far East to be aware that the control of the Tycoon over the five or six great Daimios is nearly nominal. By himself he can do but little: it is only when the feeling of the other great feudatories is with the Sovereign that he is enabled to undertake the chastisement of one of their number. The arrival of the two Japanese who can testify, from their personal knowledge, to the resistless might of Armstrong guns, may be just in time to save the Prince of Nangato from persisting in his fatal blunder. Our advices state that unless some satisfactory assurance was received from that personage within ten days from the date—say, before the 24th August—an important demonstration would be made. But the two Japanese had intimated that the Inland Sea would be opened within a brief space. Nangato himself evidently has his misgivings; and is determined, it is said, to have the sanction of the Japanese Government for the course he may definitively resolve on. With this view he had despatched a high officer of his Court to Miako, with a stately and enormous retinue, to beg the Emperor's instructions. This envoy was said to be directed to use the utmost despatch in effecting his return, though the number of his suite would be calculated, one might suppose, to produce the very opposite result. Perhaps, indeed, delay may be the object of this embassy, and Nangato will plead for time, on the ground that he is still without orders from his Sovereign. At present, matters must be admitted to be progressing with some degree of regularity. England has no insult on her flag to avenge with a sudden and instant stroke of her thunderbolts. She has but to vindicate a right acquired by treaty. The mere firing across the bow of the *Cormorant* was simply the usual warning for her to proceed no farther, and may amount to nothing more than that Nangato considered the point unsettled. The people of England will certainly be unprepared to hear of any fort being attacked, of any attempt being made to force a passage through the Straits of Simonoseki, till it has been clearly and unmistakably ascertained that the right to pass through them is denied either by the Tycoon or Nangato. If the obstacle is raised by the former, then the war is with Japan as a State, and ships, and shot, and shell should be directed to some more vital aim than this distant strait. If by the latter, then care should be taken, before the blow is struck, to warn him of the consequences, and to let him know that he is to be held responsible, not only in his purse but with his life, for the slaughter he will bring upon his unoffending retainers. A lesson on the sanctity of engagements, and on the consideration due to human life thus enforced, one of their petty tyrants would win for England the respect and love of the unnumbered millions of the Japanese people.

RELATIONS OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE WITH INDIA AND CHINA.

It is surprising how the official and literary mind of France are drawn towards the Far East. The press teems with productions relating to Oriental Asia. In 1863 M. Reinaud, a member of the *Institut* of France, published a volume entitled "Political and Commercial Relations of the Roman Empire with "Oriental Asia during the five first centuries of the Christian "era, derived from Latin, Greek, Arab, Persian, Indian, and "Chinese sources," and now M. A. Pierron, a professor of the Lycée Louis Le Grand, makes M. Reinaud's work the text of an article in the official *Moniteur* on the subject. According to both these writers, and, indeed, all the French *savans* who have touched upon the subject, there existed a regular intercourse between the Roman Empire and Oriental Asia—Professors Lassen, of Bohn; Benjeg, of Gottingen; Charles Muller; A. Wobleer, of Berlin; Spiegel, of Erlangen; and many other eminent scholars are of the same opinion. M. Reinaud believes that the first treaty between the Romans and the Far East dates from the time when Mark Anthony represented Rome in the East, and before the battle of Actium. This is based on the fact that when a Buddhist temple on the banks of the Indus was pulled down by Allard, a French officer in the service of the King of Lahore, in 1830, there were found beneath it several coins of the last years of the Roman Republic, the more recent bearing the heads of Julius Cæsar and Mark Anthony:—"This tower, therefore," says M. Reinaud, "must have been erected between the death of "Julius Cæsar and the definite triumph of Augustus, during "the Eastern Government of Mark Anthony, and was, in fact, "an act of homage to the last-named hero, as well as an evi"dence of the good understanding established between the "two countries." Passages in the second book of Virgil's "Georgies" seem also to support the hypothesis.

The souvenirs of Kanichka, who built the tower alluded to, were fresh in the middle of the seventh century, when Hwuen-Thsang set out from China to visit the shores of the Indus and the Ganges, in order to collect information relative to the traditions of Buddha. It was during the reign of Augustus that the use of silk became known in the West, and that the Greeks and Romans had a name for the people of those lands whence silk came—the *Sères*. Virgil, Horace, and their contemporaries, often speak of the *Sères*. The cultivation of silk is still called *sericiculture*, or *sericulture*, in France.

M. Reinaud says that the Chinese knew nothing of India and Persia, or the latter of the former, till the last century which preceded the Christian era. The Chinese annals speak of the arrival of Chinese armies on the banks of the Jaxarte, between the years 87 to 49 before Christ; and it was some years afterwards that the Chinese began to be spoken of in the West, and the intercourse between the two was almost as rare and as difficult as that between England and the interior of Africa at the present day. The word *sères* has given rise to much discussion; one party supposes it to be compounded from that which signifies *silk* in China; Pansanius says it was derived from the name of the Chinese river *Ser*, which M. Reinaud believes to be the Yellow River, and he adds:—"It "should be known that this (the Hoang-Ho) is in fact the prin"cipal river of China, and, according to the most trustworthy "traditions, the valley which it waters was the cradle of Chinese "civilisation." According to this theory, the word *sères* would represent the inhabitants of the valley of the Hoang-Ho. If M. Reinaud be correct, the origin of the word Chinese is odd enough. Ptolemy used the word Thines, the name of a tribe in India, for that of the Chinese; this became Tchnia, whence our word, China and Chinese. M. Reinaud is now occupied in researches into the relations which existed between Europe and Eastern Asia to the end of the fifteenth century, when the Portuguese appeared in the Indian seas.

Literature.

The book announcements continue to show that the coming publishing season is to be a very busy one; and, as is usually the case, just on the brink of so much novelty, the new appearances of the past fortnight have not been numerous, though by no means deficient in interest. Mr. Consul Burton's *Mission to Gelele, King of Dahomey*, takes us to a part of the world which late incidents have brought once more into the foreground, and we find in it ample confirmation of a tale often

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told, and as often discredited, that his African Majesty really does possess an Amazonian army. As Captain Burton was made by courtesy the colonel of one of the corps, he devotes considerable space to a detail of everything he learnt concerning this singular institution, which boasts of some antiquity. It appears the total number of these Amazons is now 2,500, of whom the fighting women number 1,700. A very full account is also given of those horrible Customs of Dahomey, a recital of the slaughter and barbarities attending which thrilled through Christendom a few years back. It seems that their horror was greatly magnified, and Captain Burton tenders many grounds of explanation, which, if but palliatives, at least relieve the darkest features of the picture.—Mr. J. E. Gorst's *Maori King; or, the Story of our Quarrel with the Natives of New Zealand*, is a narrative of the difficulties besetting the land question, in which the Maori side of the case is done full justice to. It is clear that we should be able to get along smoothly enough, if it could be discovered to whom the soil really belongs. One tribe has ousted another, turn after turn, till the whole country is one disputed title. *Apropos* to New Zealand, we may notice the *Selection from the Writings and Speeches of John Robert Godley*, who, it will be recollected was the originator of the Canterbury Settlement, and, after returning home, died in 1862 Assistant Under-Secretary of War. The collection bears the impress of the truthfulness, sagacity, and moderation that marked the mind of the author.—Our ancient times have been illustrated by the publication of three most acceptable additions to the public store in Mr Hart's *History and Cartulary of the Monastery St. Peter, Gloucester;* Mr. Cecil Monro's *Letters of Queen Margaret of Anjou and Bishop Beckington;* and Sir Andrew Agnew's contribution to family annals, illustrative of old Scottish Life, entitled *The Agnews of Lochnaw, a History of the Hereditary Sheriffs of Galloway*. The excitement caused in the antiquarian world by the discovery of the Letters of Margaret of Anjou will be divined when we are reminded that a law was passed in the reign of Edward the Fourth which decreed death against persons who might be found in possession of letters, or even of copies of letters, written by the Lancastrian Queen.

In fiction, the fortnight can boast of a work from the pen of one of our most popular novelists, Mrs. Henry Wood. The authoress has expended more than ordinary care on *Lord Oakburn's Daughters*, and has exhibited to advantage her faculty for constructing a strange and painful plot. In her present tale she opens in the old way with her usual dexterity. Ere the reader has got over a fourth of the first volume, the mind is tortured by at least a dozen exciting questions, anyone of which would cause a sleepless night to a sensitive brain.—Mr. C. H. Burton's *Abbots Thorpe; or, the Two Wills*, is ingenious in structure, finished in detail, and amusing, if not extraordinary, in its sketches of life and character, while many of the incidents are very striking. We have two more volumes of the "Select Library of Fiction"—Mrs. Trollope's *Mrs. Mathews*, and Miss Jewsbury's *Marian Withers*. Everything that the former published is worth reading, and though the fiction before us is not one of her best, yet there are so many traits of human weakness and strength developed in the volume under notice, that no one will regret its purchase at the amazingly moderate price of Messrs. Smith and Son's series. The second book named is, on the other hand, perhaps the most enchanting of all Miss Jewsbury's productions. The pages teem with characters, each interesting the reader by some different temperament, and each possessing its own marked individuality. We are treated in one page to a flash of bright genius that reveals the inmost recesses of the heart, and in the next to some epigrammatic reflection on everyday life and occurrences that would set a philosopher thinking, and pique the most careless reader into a moment's pause.

The *Chinese and Japanese Repository* for September opens with "Notes on Corea," by the Rev. Joseph Edkins, recapitulating what is known of a country entirely out of the track of travellers or merchants. "Historical Documents Relative to the Turks" is a Chinese account of all the transactions between the Turks and the Chinese, whether of war or diplomacy, and is but the commencement of an article which promises well. The history of "Takoo, a Chinese Lady of the Second Century," is the biography of a female of remarkable ability, learning, and virtue. The other most important piece in the present number is the conclusion of "The Science of the Chinese—Arithmetic." It seems that even at the present day some of the Chinese are applying themselves with great zeal to the subject of Logarithms, ignorant of the advances that have been made in the West since the days of Napier.—The *British Army and Navy Review* for October is not quite equal to the former numbers. Captain Chesney's "Second Year of Campaigns in Defence of Richmond," however, redeems the shortcomings of the rest of the contents. The "New French Cruisers" is brief but *apropos*. Contributions like "The Re, deemed" should be shut out. The one so designated is beneath the standard of any existing penny perpetrator of weekly balderdash.—*Macmillan's Magazine* for this month has a continuation of its two serials, "The Hillyars and the Burtons," and "A Son of the Soil," and the other papers are fully up to the high standard of this excellent periodical.

Among the announcements of works to be expected within the month is one specially referring to an important centre of commerce and political interest in the Far East. Messrs. Smith, Elder, and Co. will soon issue a descriptive account of Singapore, Penang, and Province Wellesley, from the pen of Mr. John Cameron, F.R.G.S., under the title of *Our Tropical Possessions in Malayan India*.

Mr. A. W. Bennett's series of works, illustrated by photography, will shortly be increased by an edition of Professor Longfellow's *Hyperion*, embellished by twenty-four photographs of the scenery of the Rhine, Switzerland, and the Tyrol, by Mr. F. Frith; and by a work on the Cathedrals and Ancient Structures of Normandy, by Mr. F. G. Stephens, with twenty-five photographic illustrations by Messrs. Cundall and Downes.

Foreign Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, Oct. 6th.

The political discussions in the first Chambers of the States-General, about the projects of the addresses in answer to the Speech from the Throne, were very unimportant, while the Ministers, though they were present, abstained from the debate. The topic of the discussions (when there was one) was the colonial question. In the second Chamber both the parties repeated all that was said during the last Session, not one new idea was brought forward, and, after tiresome debates, the majority (36 against 35 votes) approved the liberal conduct of our Cabinet, and recommended our Minister of the Colonial Department to proceed with his just reforms. The victory was, undoubtedly, not very glorious. The annual speech of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on introducing his Budget to the members of the Legislature, proved to be very satisfactory. According to his statements, perhaps in no other country are there so many evidences of financial and commercial prosperity, and nevertheless the budget inspired the oracle of the opposition, *het Dagblad*, with indignation, that only showed how disagreeable to it are the liberal measures and reforms, which Mr. Betz has introduced into his budget. In the meanwhile I hope that he will fulfil what he promised to introduce, which certainly he did not during the former sessions. Among other important measures Mr. Betz proposes again to abolish the newspaper stamp duty, and the system of *octrois*, that gives every municipality the right to levy taxes on all sorts of consumable produces; the latter provided for by an indemnity of the State, amounting to 10,000,000f., which is to bedistributed proportionally amongst the municipalities.

Mr. Betz calculates the total income for the year at 104,543,004f., against an expenditure of 104,138,719f. In the latter estimate the railways of the State are down for 14,500,000f., while 5,525,000f. will be added to the sinking fund of the national debt, which since 1850 has diminished by 243,743,557f. 36c. The Civil List is down, as usual, for 900,000f.; the Department for Foreign Affairs for 525,250f.; that of Justice for 2,951,045f. 28c.; the Home Department for 23,505,145f. 17c.; that of Marine for 8,886,309f. 30c.; the national debt (interest 28,486,637f. 39c., redemption 11,011,000) for 39,497,637f. 39c.; finance for 6,996,647f.; war for 12,675,000f.; the department of the colonies 5,150,528f. 72½c.; the Roman Catholic Church for 672,472f. 44½c.; and the Dutch Reformed Church for 1,747,972f. 58½c.

The Minister stated that a treaty of commerce is in course of negotiation with France, but that it is suspended until the Chambers shall have accepted the repeal of the municipal excise duties and the reduction of the tariff in the Netherlands Indies. This project of law is already laid before the members. The proposed modification is just as I told you in a preceding letter.

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At the conclusion of his speech the Minister stated that an agreement had just been concluded between the Post-office authorities of England and Holland, by which a reduction was made from the 1st of October in the charge of post-paid letters between both countries from 8d. to 3d. Letters not pre-paid will be charged 3d. extra. The charges for letters from or for the Far East (*via* England) are reduced to 80c. for the East Indian Possessions; to 70c. for Banka, Palembang, and Riouw; to 70c. for Australia, Japan, and Singapore; to British India to 40c. In general, the letters must be post-paid.

The International Association for the Advancement of Social Science opened its third annual session on Monday the 26th, in the Royal Palace at Amsterdam, which our King had graciously placed at the disposal of the Association. The opening sittings were held in the beautiful ballroom, which was crowded in every part. Mr. St. E. J. Berg van Dussen Muilkerk, eschevin of the metropolis, in the absence through illness of the Mayor, welcomed the Association, thereupon Mr. Vervoort, the president, delivered the opening address in the French language, which was very short and full of oratorical generalities.

The Secretary-General then read a long report of the Society's proceedings, and on the labours of the different committees, of the council, &c. Reference was made to the sister association in England, and to the efforts that were being made in connection with the important subject of general averages and international maritime law. A warm encomium was passed upon Lord Brougham, when describing his long and useful life, on whom was conferred the title of honorary member. This title was conferred by the council on our eminent philanthropist, Mr. Swingar. After the reading of the report, a motion was made by the President, and carried unanimously, to name a committee to draw up and present an address of thanks to the King for his kindness in lending the palace for the use of the association. Thereafter the meeting broke up.

The five sections proceeded to business on the following day, and debated several important questions, concerning comparative legislation, education, art, and literature, public health and benevolence, and political economy; viz: Is it right to subject foreigners to special and exceptional laws; the education of the two sexes; the relative advantages of public and private education; the law of quarantine; the moral effect of charitable institutions; the relative advantages of private and Government saving banks; the amount of control to which the sale of alcoholic drinks should be subjected, &c. In the fifth section a passionate debate took place about the government and the position of colonial possessions. Messrs. Bake and Rochussen defended the system of our Government, that from 1852 to 1862 has given a profit to our exchequer of 329,000,000f., against the ultra-liberal systems of Messrs. van Soest, Charles Potvin, Paul Blanc, &c. Mr. Douwes Dekker (the well-known Multatuli) spoke, as he is accustomed to do, much about himself, and attacked both the Liberals and Conservatives in such vehement expressions, that they missed their aim. Mr. Potvin recommended for the emancipation of the Indians, that the Europeans should only marry black women. This proposal was met with hilarity, while one of the members proposed to the orator to himself give the first example.

The Rev. Mayboom proposed to create a sixth section for religion and philosophy, which proposal met with much disapprobation.

The congress ended with a monster banquet in the Crystal Palace. About 500 members with their ladies were present, amongst them was the Prince of Orange and several Ministers. The next meeting will be held either at Turin or at Liege.

H. M. the Queen will return within a few days from her trip to Switzerland. H. M. the King will start to-morrow to Het Loo.

The commission engaged at Paris considering a treaty for the approximation of the sugar duties existing in Holland, England, Belgium and France, has come to an understanding in the matter. The draft convention is drawn up and signed by the representatives of these four Powers.

After twenty years of labour, the dictionary for the Dutch-English and Japanese languages, compiled by Professor Hoffman, is now ready for being printed.

The chartered East India troop-ship Neptunus, Captain G. H. Lodewyks, embarked at Rotterdam 96 soldiers and the following officers: —Captain F. A. Stevert, Lieuts. W. Q. E. Vetter, W. A. Post.

The N.T.C. has chartered the Joan Melchior Kemper to convey engines to Japan; the Dionisia Catherina to convey coals from Birkenhead to Sourabaya, and the S. van Heel to transport 400,000 kilo coke to Sourabaya at f.20.90 per 1,000 kilo.

His Excellency the Chancellor of the Exchequer has received from the Sultan of Turkey the insignia of the order of Medjidiê.

H. M. has superseded, on his own request, the Resident of Samarang, Mr. C. D. A. Count van Hogendorp.

ROTTERDAM, OCT. 13.

The Members of Parliament are actively examining the Budget and the other Bills in the sections. Several reports are ready, which the Government will have to answer. The discussions, I expect, will begin within a few days. Rumour says that one of the leaders of the Opposition will bring forward a motion in the first sitting about the situation of our Indian possessions, which, according to the statement of Mr. Fransen van de Putte, should be regarded as satisfactory, but which (according to the news brought by the last mail) is very deplorable, in consequence of the war in Borneo, the cholera at Java, and the general feeling there.

One hundred and sixty members of the International Association for the Advancement of Social Science, at their late meeting at Amsterdam, signed, and forwarded by the American Consul, an address to President Lincoln, of the following tenor:—

From the beginning of the war between the energetic Federal citizens and the Confederate slaveholders, we have followed events with the greatest interest. Though we regret the human blood that has been shed, and the disasters that have been caused by the war, we congratulate you on the constancy and firmness with which you, and the great people that elected you, have defended justice and humanity. We are convinced that the people of the United States will be more powerful than ever after this trial, and we expect that when in future slavery shall no more exist, the holy cause of liberty will triumph. We are assured that the destination of the great republic will never be neglected by you.

The rumour that the Queen would remain during the winter at Venice is contradicted.

The provincial States of North Brabant have elected Mr. H. E. Verschoor, as member of the First Chamber of the States General.

Mr. S. Cool, member of Parliament for Amsterdam, died yesterday.

The Dutch Society of Fine Arts and Sciences has proffered a gold medal worth 300f. for the best original comedy. The pieces, written in the Dutch, German, French, or English languages, are to be delivered in before the 1st Jan. 1866, and addressed to Mr. L. G. Greeve, at Rotterdam.

The King has created corporals of the E. I. Army Th. Van Syngel and C. Casteels Knights of the Milit. William order 4th class.

His Majesty has at his own request superseded Jhr. H. C. van der Wyck, member of the council in the Netherlands Indies, and appointed in his place Mr. W. E. Kroesen, Colonel of the Infantry, Governor of Celebes.

The Government trade returns for the month of August were issued to-day. Our principal exports to Java consisted in:—China and earthenware, 27,000f. (and 7,000f. to Japan); vinegar, 12,000 litres; beer 171,000 litres; butter, 99,000 lb.; chemicals, 1,000f. (to Japan, 6,000f.); opium, 67,000f.; steam engines, 30,000f.; cotton yarn (spun), 41,000f.; spirits, 363,000 litres (British Indies, 72,000 litres); liquors, 3,000 litres; perfumery, 10,000 litres; window glasses, 5,000f. (Japan, 4,000f.); bottles, 5,000f.; glass works, 27,000f. (Japan 1,000f.); silverwork, 2,000f.; flour and meal, 24,000 lb.; leather, 7,000f.; iron, 56,000f.; iron-work, 33,000f.; nails, 37,000 lb. (British Indies, 31,000 lb.); coals, 2.820 lb.; copper (manufactured), 10,000f.; mercery, 37,000f.; lead, 76.000f.; white lead, 8,000f.; silk (manufactured), 43,000f.; cotton (manufactured), 591,000f.; do. coloured, 548,000f. (to Japan, 189,000f., to Brit. Ind., 61,000f.); wool, 70,000f. (to Japan, 17,000f.); made articles, 2,000f.; oil, 76,000f.; petroleum, 7,000f.; paper, 42,000f.; spelter, 5,000f.; steel, 1,000 lb.; marble, 10,000f.; segars, 4,000f.; carpets, 1,000f.; tar, 86,000 lb.; meat, 38,000 lb.; wine, 590,000 litres, do. in bottles, 18.000 litres; salt, 63,000 lb.

The principal imports from Java consisted of:—Drugs, 18,000f.; arak, 40,000 litres; hides, 25,000f.; indigo, 19,000 lb.; coffee, 3,293,000 lb.; pepper, 63,000 lb.; rice, 393,000 lb. (British Indies, 1,306,000 lb.); rattans, 147,000 lb. (British Indies, 8,000 lb.); cassia lignea, 1,000f.; cinnamon, 2,000f.; mace, 88,000f.; sugar, raw, 6,638,000 lb.; tobacco, 610,000 lb.; tea, 71,000 lb.; tin, 367,000 lb.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Market unaltered; without transactions, except 1,000 b. Java ex Friesland, at prices that did not transpire.

TEA.—Business is confined to the execution of a few small orders for consumption.

SPICES.—The market has closed very heavily, and prices compared with those at the last auction show a considerable decline. At this reduction there is only a slight inquiry for cloves.

COTTON.—Very dull, in consequence of the Liverpool market.

HEMP.—Some parcels Manila were sold at auction at 62f., the rest retired at 60f.

RATTANS.—1,335 b. ex Australia only were sold.

TIN.—Before the Bank raised the discount to 6½ per cent. there was some speculative inquiry at the price of 61f.; this price, however, can no longer be obtained.

GUTTA PERCHA.—The 13,000 lb. offered at auction were partly sold at 54 to 115 c.

SUGAR.—Prices are quoted: Java, white, 37f. to 41f.; grey, 35f. to

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36f.; light brown, 32f. to 34f.; brown, 27f. to 31f.; Manila, grey, 31f. to 36f.; brown, 26f. to 30f.

Hides.—Only 510 p. ex Johannes were sold.

Cochineal.—The 167 b. offered at auction by the N. T. C. were sold at 175 to 230 c.

Indigo.—The quantities offered at public sales were sold as follows:—172 ch. Bengal at 490c. to 605c.; 635 ch. Java at 310 to 760c.; 54 cer. Guatimala at 300c. to 420c. Market firm. The prices are, compared with those obtained in May, from 20c. to 40c. higher.

Money firm. Bank discount, 6½ per cent. for bills; 7 per cent. for acceptances; open market, 6½ per cent.; N.W.S., 2½, 59 1/16, 3 per cent., 71½; 4 per cent., 95 1/16; Handelmaalschappy, 135½. Change: London, 3 mo., f. 11.60; 2 mo., f. 11.69; short, f. 11.86. Paris, 3 mo., f. 45.95; 2 mo., f. 46.10; short, f. 46.75; Hambro, 3 mo., f. 34.50; 2 mo., f. 34.70; short, f. 35.10.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Batavia, at Rotterdam, per Marie, Capt. Bieshorst: Mr. Scheltema and family, Mrs. Junghuhn and family, Mr. Barker, Mr. Dunlop, jun., Mr. Beecher, sergeants of the E.I. Army Bruderlin and Bouhuys, and nineteen soldiers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

From Amsterdam, to Batavia, per Henrietta Maria, Capt. Tjebbes: Messrs. O. J. de Haart and C. J. Speet, Mrs. Lochman von Konigsfeld and two children. Per Holland, Capt. Auffmorth: Mr. J. H. Joosten and family, Mr. P. Auffmorth, Mrs. Steur.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

Arrivals.—Oct. 7, at Brouwershaven, Watergeus, from Singapore; Marie, from Batavia.

Departures.—From Texel: Oct. 7, Henrietta Maria, Zeenimph and Holland, for Batavia; Celebes, for Sourabaya; 8, Koerier, for Sourabaya, *via* Birkenhead; 11, Dionysia Catherina, for Sourabaya, *via* Birkenhead.

Freights.—Unaltered.

Oct. 15.

The Bank has raised the discount to 7 per cent. This measure is only precautionary; the balance, compared with those of four weeks ago, shows only a trifling difference. Mr. Mees, the director of the Bank, has been in London some days. In the yesterday sitting of the States General Mr. van Lynden asked the Minister of the Colonies for some information about the late distressing news from Java. Mr. Fransen van de Putte stated, although he regretted that the small steamer *Kapoeas* was burned, that he had no fears that Sintang would be taken by the revolutionists. H.M. has superseded, on his own request, the Second Lieut. of the E. I. Army, C. C. U. T. de Man.

Commercial.—Vanille: 130 kilo Java were sold at auction at 2f. to 9½f.; 250 kilo Bourbon at 6½f. to 12f.

Shipping.—Arrivals: 14 Oct. at Hellevoet, Fop Smit, from Batavia; at Brouwershaven, St. Jan., Batavia. Ready to sail: At Brouwershaven, Jacob, for Batavia.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Hamburg, October 8.

It has been currently reported that the Duke of Saxe Coburg's principal Minister and Privy Councillor, Herr Francke, whose services had been lent by the Duke to the Prince of Augustenburg, now residing at Kiel, had been recalled, as his leave of absence expired on the 1st of October, and he was seen in Altona the day before. Such, however, is not the case. The diplomatist in question was certainly in Altona on the 30th ult., but it was to take leave of his son, who, having served his time in the counting-house of Messrs. Christenson and Co. of that town, has just proceeded to China, having accepted an engagement in the mercantile establishment of Messrs. Pustau and Co. at Hong Kong.

COMMERCIAL.

Coffee.—Notwithstanding the pressure of the money market and the high rate of discount, the prices for all descriptions of coffee are well supported, and though the demand is not very active a sufficiency of orders arrive every day, which are all executed at full rates.

Sugar.—The raw article has continued to fall ever since last report, and is in a very depressed state. The only sale of East India descriptions to notice was one of 6,000 bags of unclayed brown Manila, at 17½ marks Banco. Refined goods are somewhat lower, but the decline is not to be compared with that of raw.

Rice.—A fair amount of business has been done in cleaned grain, both for local consumption and for conveyance to the interior. Of rough paddy there have been also several sales by private contract, among which may be noticed 8,650 bags of Akyab ex Veritas, 3,000 bags of Arracan in warehouse, and 5,500 bags of Bassein per Alexandra for delivery on arrival. The prices obtained for all descriptions were generally high, and the market closes in a satisfactory condition. A cargo of 7,500 bags has just arrived per Johannes from Moulmein.

Spices.—But little has been done worth recording in any article, with the exception of a few transactions in pepper, cloves, and cassia lignea, and there is no alteration in the values. Fine Ceylon cinnamon is worth 26 sch. bco., and cassia lignea 9½.

Spelter.—This article has also felt the pressure of the money market, and prices have somewhat receded, though not to any extent. Silesian in slabs both in loco and for delivery are worth 16 marks Banco buyers, but at this figure no large parcel could be sold.

SHIPPING.

Sailed.—From Cuxhaven, Sept. 16, Ino, Bannan, for Hong Kong and Macao; 30, Miranda, Woller, to Hong Kong; Oct. 3, Turandot, Meinert, to Singapore; 4, Che-foo, Bohl, to Macassar.

Loading at Hamburg.—For Singapore and China, Laura; for Manilla, Arizona; for Hong Kong, Dioscuren; for Calcutta, P. C. Kinch; Singapore, Nordstern.

October 13.

The Department for Commercial Statistics of the Board of Trade in this city have just published their usual annual tables for last year, which as far as they go are drawn up with elaborate care, perspicuity and comprehensiveness of detail. Those relating to the navigation of this port are quite perfect, giving as they do a return of the shipping inwards and outwards, with the particulars of tonnage, flag, number of crew, and loaded or in ballast. But to the statistics of trade the same amount of praise cannot with justice be given, because a great vacuum is unpleasantly felt; for though all that has reference to the import trade is given in the most satisfactory manner in these tables, not a single word is said about the exports. It is not to be supposed that this missing part of the general view of Hamburg commerce has escaped the attention of the public, but much as it is deplored by statisticians and even many of the merchants, yet the far greater part of the latter, who carry on a snug export business to a very considerable extent, object for the sake of what they are pleased to term idle curiosity to let other people look into their cards, and perhaps profit by their acquired experience. Only a few months ago a motion was made by a mercantile member of the Burgerschaft or legislative body to make it incumbent on exporters to give particulars of the goods they shipped, but after a sharp debate it was negatived by a large majority. As there is no export duty here, it is impossible to gain an insight into the value, description, and quantity of the goods exported, even by an examination of the ships' manifests; but merchants send off their casks and bales to the vessel without being bound to make any declaration. It is no doubt a great facility and saving of time and trouble in the way of business, but it is nevertheless to be deplored. Opponents pretend that it would be quite impossible to make up any reliable tables unless a duty was levied, but this is quite a mistaken idea, because at Trieste—which is a *Porto-franco* or free port in the fullest extent of the word, which Hamburg is not, there being here a trifling duty on imports—the tables of the exports are quite as perfect and comprehensive as those of the imports, both being official and published by the Government. But in the absence of the particulars of the exports, one can form a shrewd guess at their amount and value, for with the exception of the comparatively small quantity of raw goods used here for the local consumption of the 150,000 inhabitants, the whole quantity of commodities imported is re-exported to some other country. But as within the last few years a large number of manufactories have sprung into existence here, a vast quantity of raw materials are subjected to various mechanical processes, which of course greatly enhances their value when exported as they are in a manufactured state. For this reason it may fairly be assumed that, even after deducting the quantity of raw goods consumed here as such and in a manufactured state, the value of the exports exceeds that of the imports by at least 20 or 25 per cent.

The trade of Hamburg, then, for 1863 shows a greater amount of imports both in weight and value than in any previous year, the former being upwards of two millions of tons, whilst the latter are given at 738,665,510 marks Banco, or about £58,250,000, being an increase of 100 millions of marks, or £8,000,000 on the imports of 1862, equal to about 16 per cent.

The number of vessels that arrived from foreign ports oversea was 5,543 of 1,443,648 tons, and 55,125 men, crew, whilst the number that sailed was 5,548 vessels of 1,449,088 tons, and 55,086 men.

From the Far East came 37 vessels of 20,367 tons, of which 11 were from China, 4 from the Philippine Islands, 3 from Netherlands India, 18 from British East India, and 1 from the Sandwich Islands. On the other hand, the number of vessels that cleared out and sailed was 84, with an aggregate burthen of 41,682 tons, of which 47 were to China, 2 to Japan, 2 to the Philippine Islands, 5 to Netherlands India, 6 to British East India, 1 to Russia in Asia, 1 to the Navigator's Islands, and 16 to Australia. In my next letter I shall give your

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readers some particulars of the special trade of this port with the Far East.

Overland accounts received at St. Petersburg from Siberia state that the coal found on the Island of Sachalin at the mouth of the Amoor is being worked with great energy and success, the quality being admirably adapted for the consumption of steamers. Already these coal mines not only supply sufficient fuel for the requirements of the Russian ships of war in the Pacific Ocean, but shipments have been made to Shanghai, from which port supplies of this article of fuel were hitherto derived for the use of the Muscovite squadron and the steamers on the Amoor and its tributaries.

Among the latest arrivals in this city from the Far East are the following:—Mr. and Miss Hesse, from Hong Kong; Mr. A. Koch, from Batavia; Mr. G. A. Remé, from Singapore; Mr. L. Lichtenberg, from Batavia; and Mr. Schreiber, from Singapore.

COMMERCIAL.

Coffee.—More activity prevails in this market, and prices of all descriptions, are well supported. The announcement of the company's sale in Holland and official advices of the unusually small crop in Java this year have tended to strengthen the good opinion entertained for the article here. Sales since last mail 12,000 bags.

Sugar.—Raw continues its downward tendency, and the sales reported, which were of no great extent, could only be effected by submitting to a further reduction of 4 to 8 sch. bco. Although Refiners were willing enough to sell, even at a trifle lower than last week, purchasers were shy, and the business done was of no great importance, not more than 10,000 loaves being sold.

Rice.—Some considerable transactions are reported in cleaned descriptions, for export at full prices, and as by them the stocks are reduced the maket is firm and looking up. Of rough there have been no sales, but prices remain steady.

Tea.—The business done has been tolerably lively, and considerable parcels of Congo, Souchong, and Pecco, have been taken both for export to the north of Europe and for local consumption. Among green teas country sorts are in most favour. Some few lots of Conton, Hyson, Imperial, and Gunpowder have also changed hands. On the whole, the market is firm. During the month of September the following were imported: 611 chests of Congo, 260 do. Souchong, 771 do. Pecco, 15 Hysonchin, 87 do. Tonkay, 172 do. Hyson, 289 do. Imperial, and 248 do. Gunpowder.

Spices.—No alteration to report in any description, and business confined to the execution of small orders for the trade. Singapore Pepper fetches 3⅛ to 4 sch. bco., Sumatra do. 3¼ to 3⅜.

Spelter.—The continual unfavourable advices from other markets have caused a depression in the prices here without creating much demand. Silesian in slabs may be bought at 15⅞ marks bco in loco. and 15⅜ for delivery. Arrived from the interior in September, 44,000 centners. Arrived from January 1 to September 30. 417,000 centners, against 149,000 in the same period last year; 230,000 in 1862, and 179,000 in 1861. Present stock, 24,000 centners, against 30,000 last year, 137,000 in 1862, and 54,000 in 1861.

SIR HERCULES ROBINSON.

(MONEY MARKET REVIEW.)

The next outward China mail will probably convey to Sir Hercules Robinson, the present Governor of Hong Kong, intelligence of his appointment to the Governorship of Ceylon, and to Mr. W. T. Mercer, Colonial Secretary at Hong Kong, his elevation to the post of Governor of that settlement. The pecuniary advantage gained from the exchange by Sir Hercules Robinson from Hong Kong to Ceylon will be an addition to his salary of £2,000 per annum, and a saving of £4,000 in yearly expenses. Unquestionably the reward is well merited, but foreign residents in China will view the transfer with regret, as Sir Hercules thus leaves to another the carrying out of the plans his Excellency had so fully matured and elaborated in connection with the establishment of a mint at Hong Kong. Whilst Sir John Bowring has the merit of suggesting that establishment, to Sir Hercules Robinson was left its practical application, and the devising of those arrangements which led the British Government to concede all that was required. The intimate acquaintance of Sir Hercules Robinson with the China trade will prove of essential service to Ceylon, which carries on an extensive and enlarging trade with the islands in the China seas. The exports of Ceylon in 1863 amounted in value to £4,000,000. This trade, we may remark, has been materially stimulated by the operations of the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China, and the Oriental Bank Corporation.

A FLOATING DOCK AT KANAGAWA.

It is stated that a company is about to be formed for the construction of a floating dock at the port of Kanagawa, in Japan, the directors to be composed of foreign residents there, and several London merchants connected with the Japan trade. The anchorage of Kanagawa is on the lee-side of an extensive bay, and, therefore, does not at present afford the same facilities for the repair of shipping as Nagasaki for a great part of the year. The following were the arrivals of vessels at Kanagawa in 1863:—British, 100; American, 40; Dutch, 13; Prussian, 8; French, 7; Russian, 2.—*Ibid.*

TIMBER FROM JAPAN.

According to information furnished by the British Consul at Hakodadi, and lately in a Blue Book, a capital opportunity presents itself for the formation of a limited liability company in London for the importation into this country of timber from Japan. The Yedo oak is allowed to be equal in strength and durability to British oak; it might be obtained cheaply and in abundance, and would realise here from £12 to £14, or only £1 to £1. 10s. per load less than teak. This matter is worth attention, as good English and Dantzig oak is getting scarce, and teak costs now in India £6 to £6. 10s.—*Ibid.*

[It would not form the province of a company, but merchants should see to this.]

THE CONFUCIUS SKULL SCANDAL.

The following appeared in *The Times*:—

Sir,—My attention has been drawn to a notice by your Shanghai correspondent of the absurd story that a skull which was disposed of at a recent sale of Chinese curiosities was none other than that of the revered moralist Confucius. Your correspondent very properly points out the preposterous nature of such an assertion; and I believe I am in a position to explain the actual history of this relic.

In the early part of the late Emperor Tao-Kwang's reign a rebellion of a serious character broke out in the Turkman regions, which were added to the Chinese colonial dominions by his illustrious grandfather, Kien-lung, but this rising was suppressed after an obstinate struggle. The leader, Jehanghir, known to the Chinese as Chang-ko-urh, was captured and carried a prisoner to Peking, where he was adjudged to death as an arch rebel, and condemned to suffer the extreme penalty of "slow mangling," the most terrible form of execution it is possible to conceive. He was executed, I believe, in 1829, and I was informed some years ago by a Chinese of position who was near the Court at the time that his skull had been presented to the Emperor and preserved in the Palace. This, doubtless, may have occurred in the case of other noted victims; but there is at least a strong probability that the skull in question was that of Jehanghir. If any lesion can be traced upon the forehead I should say the proof of identity would be complete.—I have, &c.,

Barnes, Sept. 30. W. M.

Monetary and Commercial.

At a meeting of the Oriental Bank Corporation held on the 13th, an interim dividend of 8 per cent. for the half-year, or at the rate of 16 per cent. per annum, was declared payable on and after the 1st November. The profits of the bank during the half-year ending 30th June had been £126,000, against £115,000 in the corresponding half of the previous year, and after the payment of the dividend, £25,271 was carried over to the next half-year's account. The chairman, H. G. Gordon, Esq., stated that no loss had been incurred by the bank, and the amount of deposits had increased without an advance in the rate of interest allowed.

At the meeting of the Bank of India, Australia, and China, the profits for the half-year were stated to be equal to 18¾ per cent. on capital. A dividend for the half-year at 7½ per cent. was declared. The increase of banks in the Far East was noticed.

The bar silver by the last Mexican packet was sold, partly for the East and partly for the Continent, at 5s. 1d. per ounce, being ⅜d. fall.

The Messageries Imperiales Company, in consequence of the resolution of the shareholders in the general meeting of the 4th June last to do away with the difference previously maintained between the old shares and those of the Indo-China lines, calls on the holders of the latter shares to exchange them forthwith for new shares, and it declares that the provisional dividend of 1864, falling due in December next, cannot be paid until this is done.

COTTON EXPORTS TO INDIA AND CHINA.

The following is from Sam Mendel's table of exports from London, Liverpool, and Clyde, from Jan. 1 to Oct. 8, 1864:—

	Cottons. Yds.	Twist. lbs.
Calcutta.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	15,878,539 ..	375,019
Previously this year	119,001,253 ..	6,177,528
For nine months, 1864	134,879,792 ..	6,552,547
For nine months, 1863	151,494,885 ..	8,134,032
Bombay.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	13,270,376 ..	714,086
Previously this year	84,484,951 ..	3,432,917
For nine months, 1864	97,755,327 ..	4,147,003
For nine months, 1863	130,399,671 ..	3,751,545
Madras.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	858,455 ..	248,859
Previously this year	5,618,463 ..	1,502,149
For nine months, 1864	6,476,918 ..	1,751,008
For nine months, 1863	5,334,535 ..	2,065,429
Ceylon.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	412,477 ..	11,721
Previously this year	5,899,129 ..	151,800
For nine months, 1864	6,311,606 ..	163,521
For nine months, 1863	8,325,809 ..	393,300

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Hong Kong.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	1,409,216 ..	89,080
Previously this year	17,122,738 ..	1,333,530
For nine months, 1864	18,531,954 ..	1,422,610
For nine months, 1863	10,982,927 ..	2,142,728
Shanghai.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	1,376,025 ..	20,000
Previously this year	24,496,539 ..	85,129
For nine months, 1864	25,872,564 ..	105,249
For nine months, 1863	18,948,783 ..	758
Singapore.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	553,576 ..	75,000
Previously this year	15,466,594 ..	761,092
For nine months, 1864	16,020,170 ..	836,092
For nine months, 1863	15,788,586 ..	1,4710
Batavia.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	191,679 ..	—
Previously this year	6,219,201 ..	237,305
For nine months, 1864	6,410,880 ..	237,305
For nine months, 1863	4,447,375 ..	441,110
Manila.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	— ..	—
Previously this year	6,970,550 ..	35,750
For nine months, 1864	6,970,550 ..	35,750
For nine months, 1863	4,062,152 ..	12,250

The Board of Trade returns for the month of August again present extraordinary totals. The declared value of our exports was £16,274,269, showing an increase of 15½ per cent. on those of August 1863, and of 27 per cent. on those of 1862. Of this increase nearly one-half was derived from cotton manufactures, which exceeded those of the corresponding month of last year to the extent of 23 per cent. in value, although only to the extent of 4 per cent. in quantity. Hence a very large part of the augmentation in the sterling amount of our trade is seen to be attributable to the extraordinary point to which the price of cotton was recently carried. In other branches of manufacture, however, a large improvement is also shown, and in these instances the increase is only in a moderate degree due to an advance in the price of the various staples. The Exports from the ports and countries eastward of India present the following results, as regards the articles separately enumerated :—

CHINA AND HONG KONG.

	1862.	1863	1864.
For the Month ended 31st August.			
Cotton yarn	147,600 ..	178.898 ..	155.911 lbs.
Cotton manufactures ..	6,069,235 ..	3,589.936 ..	8,110.857 yds.
Worsted stuffs	1,083,507 ..	991.356 ..	2,140.598 ,,
Woollen and worsted cloths	219,896 ..	162,556 ..	140.927 ,,
Lead	863 ..	875 ..	821 tons
Value for the Eight Months ended 31st August			
Cotton yarn	£174,625 ..	£90,555 ..	£172,021
Cotton manufactures ..	1,125.006 ..	689.886 ..	1,409,104
Worsted stuffs	257,101 ..	400.951 ..	644,165
Woollen and worsted cloths ..	189,779 ..	226.571 ..	199,322
Lead	132,815 .	229,287 ..	111,770

The Cotton Manufactures (yarn is not included under this title) exported to the other great centres of commerce in the Far East, are represented by the figures following :—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
For the Month ended 31st August.			
Java	2,184,775 ..	1,805,223 ..	512,815 yds.
Philippine Islands ..	2,544,974 ..	3,851,507 ..	4,323,889 ,,
Singapore	841,455 ..	5,134,637 ..	619,534 ,,
Value for the Eight Months ended 31st August.			
Java	£428.944 ..	£218,711 ..	£433.991
Philippine Islands ..	218,475 ..	252,515 ..	457,517
Singapore	483,450 ..	383,596 ..	522,914

Of Cotton Yarn, 87,810 lbs. were exported to Singapore in the month of August last, against 290,660 lbs. in August, 1863, and 30,400 lbs. in the same month of 1862; the value for the first eight months of the present year being £82,157, and for the similar period of 1863, £119,338, and for 1862, £85,170.

IMPORTS.

The quantity of Raw Cotton imported from China does not exhibit the same prodigious rate of increase during the month as was manifested in the preceding sections of the year. The following are the returns :—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
For the Month ended 31st August.			
Quantity	1,988 ..	49,183 ..	54,637 cwts.
For the Seven Months ended 31st July.			
Value	£8,302 ..	£994,425 ..	£4,216,584

Of Unrefined Sugar, the quantity imported from Java and the Philippine Islands during the month of August was—2nd quality (not equal to White, but equal to Brown clayed) 434 cwt. ; 3rd quality (not equal to Brown clayed, but equal to Brown Muscovado), 38,099 cwt. ; 4th quality (not equal to Brown Muscovado), 6,718 cwt. The effect of the new duties, which came into force on the 16th April last, will be seen from the return of the value of sugar from Java and the Philippine Islands imported during the seven months ended the 31st July, in the years named :—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
2nd quality (equal to Brown clayed)	£49,357 ..	£1,581 ..	£2
3rd (not equal to Brown clayed)..	264,651 ..	557,458 ..	41,205
3rd (equal to Brown Muscovado)..	— ..	— ..	26,006
4th (not equal to Br. Muscovado).	— ..	— ..	66,078

The quantity of Hemp imported from the Philippine Islands during the eighth month of the present year was 12,120 cwt. ; against 21,605 cwt. in 1863, and 14.590 cwts. in 1862. The value of the import for the seven months ended the 31st July is set down at £176,932 ; while that for the similar periods of 1863 and 1862 was, respectively, £249,293 and £118,617.

The Declared Value of British and Irish Produce and Manufactures exported from the United Kingdom to the ports and countries named below, for the seven months ended the 31st July, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two preceding years, is presented by the figures following :—

To	1862.	1863.	1864.
Singapore and Eastern Straits ..	£791,620 ..	£650,202 ..	£840,926
Hong Kong	739,095 ..	689,326 ..	1,021,284
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	1,359,819 ..	1,357,953 ..	1,693,039
Netherlands India (Java, &c.)..	561,181 ..	302,777 ..	567,248
Philippine Islands	259,227 ..	233,116 ..	441,854
Siam	3,968 ..	10,586 ..	11,513
Cochin China, Camboja, and Tonquin	— ..	35,000 ..	—
Japan	— ..	49,320 ..	214,316

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Baroda*, from Southampton on the 4th inst., was—in gold : To Alexandria, £200 ; to Galle, £1,027 ; to Madras, £1,876. In silver : To Alexandria, £200 ; to Galle, £1,750 ; to Madras, £20,001 ; to Calcutta, £34,100 ; to Singapore, £16,750 ; to Hong Kong, £10,885 ; to Shanghai, £20,694. Total—in gold, £6,903 ; in silver, £103,130.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices August 26.
100	Agra and Masterman's	50	124 to 125	138 to 142xd.
50	Do. New	25	—	...
50	Do. ,,	15	—	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	33 to 35 xd.	36 to 38
20	Do. New	All	—	15 to 17 pm.
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	57 to 59	64 to 66
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	—	...
25	Do New, issued at 10 pm. (7½ pd.)	15	3 to 5 pm.	5 to 7 pm.
20	Eastern Exchange	3	¼ dis. to ¼ pm.	1 to 2 pm.
50	London Joint Stock	10	44 to 46	47 to 49
100	London and Westminster	20	93 to 95	96 to 98
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	54 to 56 xd.	57 to 59
50	Union of London	15	50 to 52	51 to 53
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	2 to 3 pm.	8 to 9pm. xd
100	Do. New	18	1 to 2 pm.	8 to 9 pm.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	1 to 1½ pm.	2¼ to 2¾ pm.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	26½ to 27½	27 to 29 xd.
100	Bank of London	50	155 to 160	163 to 168
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	¼ to ½ pm.	1¼ to 1¾ pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 4	3 to 3¼ xd.
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	79 to 81	79 to 81
50	Do. New	30	18 to 20 pm.	18 to 20 pm.
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	—	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	—	...
5	Bombay Gas	All	4¼ to 5	4¾ to 5¼
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	8	3½ to 2½ dis.	3¼ to 2¼ dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	par to ¼ pm.	¼ to ½ pm.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	19 to 20	19 to 20
1	Oriental Gas	All	1¼ to 1⅜	1¼ to 1⅜
1	Do. New	All	¼ to ½ pm.	¼ to ½pm.
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2½ to 3	3 to 3½ pm.
100	West India Steam Company	60	95 to 97	91 to 93
20	Ceylon Company	7	2 to 4 pm.	3 to 4 pm.
20	International Finance Society	5	1¼ to 1⅜ pm	4⅜ to 4⅝ pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2¼ to 2½ pm.	2¼ to 3 pm.
50	London Financial Association	15	6¾ to 7 pm.	9¼ to 9½ pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	2	⅜ to ½ pm. xd.	1¼ to 1½ pm.
20	Société Financiére d'Egypte	6	2 to 1⅛ dis.	1 to ¾ dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	15 to 15½	16½ to 17
20	British Indian Tea	11	¾ to ½ dis.	½ dis. to par.
10	Upper Assam Tea	2½	2⅜ to 3¼ pm.	2 to 3 pm.
10	Do.	All	14 to 17	14 to 17

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

SUGAR.—In the early part of the week, undiminished heaviness prevailed in the market, and only limited sales were practicable at a further reduction of 6d. to 1s. per cwt., since when, however, an improving inquiry has been experienced, and buyers having operated more freely towards the close, a slight reaction in prices has been established. Indeed, on Friday the decline at the opening was fully recovered, and in some instances an advance on last week's rates established. Privately sales have been effected of 15,000 bags, two lots of each, Clayed Manila at 30s. 6d. to 31s.

COTTON.—Sales in London from the 7th to the 13th. 90 bales China, 12⅝d. to 13d., for fair, and 14¼d. for fine; 50 bales Japan, 15½d. for fine. The public sales on Thursday went off at very irregular prices, the greater part being withdrawn. 240 bales water-packed China, on account of whom it may concern, sold at 8⅞d. to 9⅞d. ; also 110 bales China pickings, at 7d. to 8d. Stock of China and Japan in London, on the 14th, 25,677 bales, against 3,022 last year. From Liverpool the report of the week is that East India has continued to be much pressed for sale, and has been very irregular in price, in many instances 1½d. to 2d. decline, having been submitted to. The reduction attracted the notice of buyers, and more business was done on Thursday

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at the extreme decline. China is irregular, and generally ½d. to 1d. per lb. lower.

Coffee.—Somewhat firmer rates have been obtained for Plantation Ceylon. At public sale, 265 casks, 200 bags plantation, consisted chiefly of grey sorts, the bulk of which was bought in, while the colory qualities were sold at former rates; a trifling quantity good ordinary Native went at 65s: 1340 cases Neilgherry and Tellicherry were greater part withdrawn; 454 bags good ordinary Mysore were realized at 64s. 6d., and 243 bags common Singapore at 51s. to 52s. 6d.

Rice.—The demand is still very limited, and the sales reported amount to only 12,000 bags at about previous prices, low red cargo Bengal 8s. 3d. good middling white 11s. 3d., Larong 8s., and Nakrenzie 8s. 9d. 7,915 bags of the latter, at public sale, were chiefly withdrawn, only the damaged (1,500 bags) selling at 7s. to 8s. 3d. On Friday 4,132 bags Bengal, offered by auction, were mostly sold, middling Ballam 9s. 6d. to 10s., good 11s., and middling to good middling white 10s. 3d. to 11s.; 9,365 bags Arracan, nearly all damaged, which were taken at 7s. 3d. to 8s. 3d., a small part sound weevily 8s. 3d.

Cassia Lignea.—378 cases (broken bundles), from Singapore, at public sale, were sold at fair prices, common quality 82s. to 86s. 40 boxes Cassia Buds were held firmly, and withdrawn.

Tapioca.—In public sale, 638 bags Penang were principally withdrawn, the small part sold being good white at 3d.; 150 barrels fine Rio were taken in at 5d. per lb.

Spices.—At public sale 299 bags Zanzibar Cloves, from New York, sold at 3⅝d. to 3¾d. Six cases brown Nutmegs realised full rates, selling at 10d. to 1s. 9d.; one lot superior, 3s. 3d.

Shellac.—40 chests sold at £6 to £6. 2s. 6d. for second orange.

Pepper.—The bulk of 2,116 bags Black Singapore, in auction, was damaged, and was mostly withdrawn, only part of the sound portion being sold, common to good, 3⅞d. to 3⅞d., but 2nd class, 3½d. to 3⅝d. Sales was afterwards dispo ed also been made by private contract, Singapore, 3¾d. to 3½d., and Penang, 3⅝d. to 3½d. On Friday, 819 bags Singapore Black were bought in at 3½d.; but 266 bags Penang realised 3⅝d. to 3¼d.; and 129 bags middling Penang white, 5d. to 5¼d.

Sapanwood.—8 tons sold at £8 to £8. 2s. 6d.; inferior, £6.

Terra Japonica.—Gambier has been dull, and quoted 24s. to 24s. 6d. Some first-class sea-damaged realised 23s. Cutch quiet.

Manila Hemp.—670 bales by auction were bought in at £28 per ton.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Oct. 6	Plymouth	Batavia	St. Jan	Lommerse.
— 12	Portsmouth	China	H.M.S. Vulcan	
Sep. 23	New York	Manila	Argonaut	Norton.
— 23	Boston	Singapore	Magnet	King.
— 23	Do.	Batavia	Rapidan	Gardner.
Oct. 7	Off Penzance	Canton	Seawfell	Thomson.
— 7	Do.	Japan	Marmora	Cullum.
— 7	Clyde	Maulmain	Viola	
— 8	Queenstown	Rangoon	Constance	Mattson.
— 6	Off Scilly	Hong Kong	Glencoe	
— 7	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Marie	Bresthorst.
— 8	Scilly	Maulmain	Margaret	Anderson.
— 11	Off the Start	Hankow	Falcon	Keay.
— 12	Falmouth	Rangoon	Southern Rights	Norton.
— 12	Crookhaven	Foo-chow-Foo	Netherby*	
— 12	Do.	Amoy	Queen Hortense†	
— 12	London	Akyab	Delphin	
— 13	Off Liverpool	Foo-chow-Foo	Zida	Jones.
— 13	Deal	Do.	Min	Smith.
— 12	Off Mounts Bay	Singapore	Athelstan	Russell.
—	Off Falmouth	Rangoon	Dettmarr Heinrich	Meyer.
— 12	Off Scilly	Penang	Akba	Pizzey.
— 14	London	Nagasaki	Malmo	M'Callem.

* Short of provisions. † Master and crew sick, and short of provisions.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Oct. 5	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Typhoon	Jensen.
— 6	Do.	Singapore	Jason	Thulen.
Sep. 24	New York	Hong Kong	Douglas	
Oct. 11	London	Singapore	Ecna	Bosuston.
— 9	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Lydia Hilton	Cawse.
— 12	London	Manila	Tetuan	Ansoleaga.
— 13	Liverpool	Monte Video & Shnghi	Ivanhoe	Bixby.
— —	Hamburg	Singapore	Farandus	Memerts.
— 13	Shields	Shanghai	Minnie	
Sep. 4	Callao	Macao	Clotilde	Bollo.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At London.—For Kanagawa: Eleanor, Dora. For Shanghai: Garrawalt, Serica, Min, Falcon. For Hong Kong and Canton: Bengal, Fiery Cross, Belted Will, Robin Hood, Young Lochinvar, Benvoirlich. For Singapore: West. For Penang: Devonvale.

At Liverpool.—For Shanghai: Fort George, Neville, Madge Wildfire. For Hong Kong: Monsoon. For Singapore: Advance, Hurry Puddemsey, Mandarin, Oleander. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Helvetia, Hercules. For Manila: Iberica, Maria y Vicenta.

At Glasgow.—For Singapore: Douglas Castle. For Manila and Iloilo and Zebu: Nodales. For Hong Kong and Canton: Spanker.

SPOKEN.

Edward (Pruss. barq.), New York to Hong Kong, July 24, 8 N., 26 W.
Henrietta, Amsterdam to Japan, August 3, 22 S., 30 W.
Twilight, Liverpool to Shanghai, 36 days out, 14 S., 33 W.
Californie, Amsterdam to Sourabaya, September 7, 10 N., 26 W.
Java Packet, Amsterdam to Batavia, October 2.
Maria Magdalena, Tjilatjab to Rotterdam, 43 N., 26 W.
A Dutch Barque, Batavia to Amsterdam, September 4, 3 S., 21 W.
Albuera, Manila to London, September 18, 29 N., 37 W.
Fop Smit, Batavia to Amsterdam, September 24, 46 N., 19 W.
6 Gezusters, Amsterdam to Batavia, May 31, 24 N., 22 W.
Bristolian, Penang to London, July 26, 9 S., 86 E.
Fair Rosamond, Shields to Singapore, 16 days out, 26 N., 22 W.
St. Oswell (St. Oswin?) Shields to Singapore, 92 d.o., 39 S., 38 E.
French Ship, 9,032, 3rd d.p., Marseilles to Japan, July 24, 28 S., 23 W.
Robins (Frence sh.) Antwerp to Singapore, 57 d.o., July 28, 37 S., 8 W.
Norrester (Nor' Wester?), Bat. to N. York, Aug. 17, in Straits of Sunda.
Analyst, London to Shanghai, August 21, 37 S., 16 E.
Twilight, London to Singapore, August 22, 38 S., 21 E.
Henriette, Amsterdam to Japan, Aug. 3, 22 S., 30 W.
Robt. Lowe (s. str.), from China, Oct. 12. 48 N., 9 W., out of coals.
Decima, Batavia to Amsterdam, Aug. 10, 28 S., 46 E.
Chandernagore, Hong Kong to London, July 3, 9 S., 123 E.
Canton, Nagasaki to Liverpool, July 3, 9 S., 123 E.
Unrivalled, Shanghai to Liverpool, Aug. 31, 27 S., 7 E.
John Wood, Batavia to Rotterdam, Sept. 13, 37 N., 36 W.
Stad Assen, London to Batavia, 49 N., 12 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

From Japan.—At London: Natal, Yokohama, Canton, Marmora, Witness, Twe Cornelissen, Patricia, Merse, Harwocd, W. W. Smith, Red Deer, and Ann Adamson. At Liverpool: Marion, and Vampyre. At Falmouth: Auld Reekie. At New York: Osborne.

From China.—At London: Ethel, Monarch, Belle, Philomela, Zodiac, Essex, Shakespeare, Castle Howard, Bride of the Sea, Willie, Silver Eagle, White Adder, Highflower, Fychow, Childers, Knight Templar, Star of China, Dartmouth, Chanticleer, Thos. Blyth, Eliza Shaw, Guinevere, Chattenger, Kelso, Coulnakyle, Taiping, Red Riding Hood, Banian, City of Aberdeen, Yang-tsze, P. J. F. Burchardt, Keepsake, Echo, Chandanagore, Volunteer, Aunt Lizzie, Holmesdale, Rifleman, Isabella Robinson, Zelia, Vimeira, Zarah, Lady Wharncliffe, Gloucester, Lorton Vale, Iceni, Sarah Ralston, Wm. Thompson, Marlborough, Ellen Rodger, Dora, Whinfell, Glenaros, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Magnus, Josephine, Glaramara, Sappho, Charles Davenport, Bahia, and Osborne House. At Liverpool: Geologist, Cyclone, Fanny, Joshua Bates, Wm. Dawson, Affghan, Jessie Beazley, De Jex, Warwick Castle, Peerless, Reigate, Esk, Surry, Pegasus, Hugomont, Lord Dalhousie, Cornelia, Inamhore, Mayflower, Regina, Edward Percy, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Unrivalled, Helvellyn, Australia, and Ann Forster, Brockham, General Windham. At Falmouth: Divina, and Linda. At Bordeaux: Leon. At Hamburg: Mecklenburg, and Gravina. At New York: Dorchester, Regnago, St. Paul, Luson, Anita, Gleam Mandarin, Cornelia, and Mary.

From Manila.—At London. Alavesa and Cambodia, Seaforth, Labrador, and Jupiter. At Liverpool: Indiaman, Trafalgar, Patriot King, Alicia Annie and Barinaga. At Falmouth: Der West and Albuera. At Cowes: John Banfield. At Queenstown: Victoria Cross. At Havre: Nouvelle Antoinette. At New York: Tropic, George Peabody, Bengal, and Continent.

From Singapore.—At London: Oscar, Confidence, Pet, Polly, Invincible, Daniel Rankin, Bonanza, Miss Nightingale, Volunteer, Najade, Rangoon, Prince Alfred, Dewa Gungadhur, Dunkeld, Tartar, and Princess of Wales. At Liverpool: C. C. Chisholm, Victory, Agra, Beloochee, Ferris, and Bombay. At Falmouth: Sarah Jane. At Bordeaux: Salares. At Nantes: Suez. At New York: Ocean Home, Gertrude, Caroline, and Rudolf. At Boston: Ceylon, Aristides, and Magnet.

From Penang.—At London: Empress, Marengo, and Sunium. At Falmouth: Schlosser. At Cork: Ceylon. At Bordeaux: Sophia.

From Bangkok.—At New York: Eastward Ho.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Outward freights still continue low, as but little goods are offering, in coal freights we have likewise no improvement to report. Homeward charters are difficult to procure, as business in this direction also is very quiet, but small vessels can be fixed from Ceylon and Singapore.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £38 and £1. 17s. 6d. For Shanghai: £48 to £50, and £2. 5s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £1. 5s. For Penang: £27. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of about 600 tons naval stores, including 104 tons porter and a few combustibles, from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Balder Sjoberg, from Batavia, for Rotterdam, which put into Mauritius, August 23, leaky, having experienced very heavy weather three days after leaving the Straits of Sunda, was taken into dry dock.

At Mauritius.—August 23, from Batavia, for Rotterdam, Balder Sjoberg, leaky; 31, Compeer Black, from Singapore; Sept. 1, Independent Laborg, from Singapore; 5, Casilda Oakes and Juverna Harley, both from Singapore; 8, Jeannie Douglas, Donaldson, for Shanghai.

At Reunion.—August 19, Otavie, Warnick, sailed for Batavia.

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PIANO-FORTES, HARMONIUMS, &c., FOR EXTREME CLIMATES.

WHOLESALE DEPOT FOR

ALEXANDRE'S HARMONIUMS.

PRIZE MEDAL.

Important award of the Jury:—"Novelty of construction of Harmonium, cheapness combined with excellence of manufacture, and fine quality of tone."

EXTRACT FROM PRICE LIST:—

No.				Guineas.
1.	In Oak Case,	4 Octaves,	(Large Model)	1 Row of Vibrators 6
2.	Mahogany Case	ditto		ditto 7
3.	Oak Case,	5 Octaves,	1 Stop	do. (Wind Indicator) 10
4.	Mahogany Case,	ditto	ditto	do. (do.) 12
5.	Oak Case,	ditto	3 Stops	do. (do.) 13
6	ditto,	ditto	5 Stops	1½ Rows of Vibrators 17
7.	ditto,	ditto	6 Stops	2 do. 22
8.	ditto,	ditto	9 Stops	2 Rows of Vibrators 25
9.	ditto	ditto	13 Stops	4 Rows of Vibrators 35
10.	Rosewo Case,	ditto	3 Stops	1 Row of Vibrators(Wind Indicator) 15
11.	ditto,	ditto	5 Stops	1½ do. (Wind Indicator) 19
12	ditto,	ditto	6 Stops	2 Rows of Vibrators 24
13	ditto, or Walnut	ditto	10 Stops (Tremolo)	do. 27
	ditto, ditto	ditto	14 Stops (Tremolo)	4 Rows of Vibrators 37

NEW CHEAP MODELS.

No. 1A. Oak Case. Four Octaves ... ... 5 Guineas.
„ 3A. „ Five „ Double Pedals ... 6 „

Superior to any other Instruments at the same price, both in tone and durability.

THE EXHIBITION MODEL,

No. 1.—In Oak Case, 13 Stops (with Tremolo) 4 rows of Vibrators, and Venetian Swell. ... Guineas. Particularly adapted for Churches, &c.

No. 2.—In Handsome Rosewood Case, 14 Stops, Percussion Action, and Venetian Swell. This Instrument is of superior finish both in the case and the internal mechanism to any other Harmonium of this size, and also possesses a very sweet quality of tone, which may be increased in power by means of the swell, rendering it the most perfect Instrument yet made for the Drawing-room. Price 60 Guineas.

N.B.—This Model is particularly adapted for shipment, as the superior finish of the case and interior mechanism preserves it from the action of damp or heat

FULL LISTS, ETC., ON APPLICATION.

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Important award of the Jury:—"Excellence in every kind of Piano, power and equality of tone, precision of mechanism and solidity."

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No. 6, Rosewood Oblique, 7 Oct., 3 Strings, Carved Truss Legs, &c. ... ... **70** Guineas.
„ 7, Pianino, 7 Oct., 3 Strings ... ... **55** „

In handsome Walnut, at 5 and 7 Guineas extra.

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Shanghai—Messrs. Johnson and Co.

JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

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Subscribed Capital, 2,000,000 taels, in 400 Shares of 5,000 taels each.
Paid up Capital, 200,000 taels.

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H. D. Stewart, Esq. (Messrs. Turner and Co.).
. Porter, Esq. (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston, and Co.).
. Thorne, Esq. Messrs. Thorne Brothers and Co.).
David Reid, Esq.

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L. JOSEPHS, Secretary.

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Amoy, 1st January, 1864

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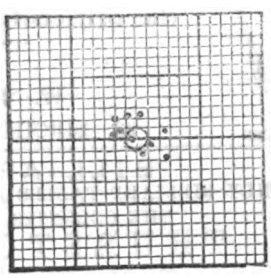

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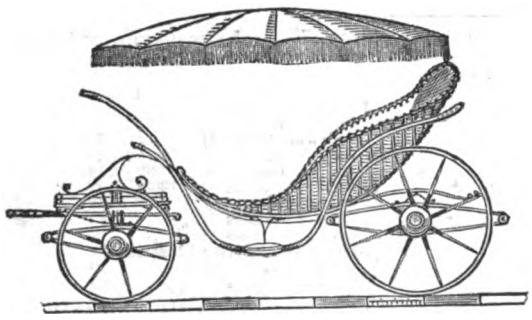

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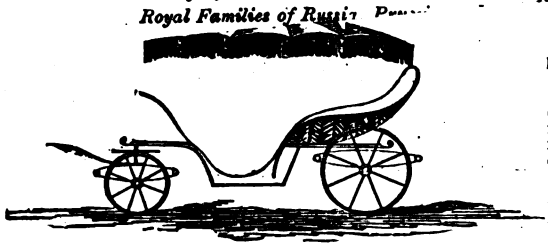

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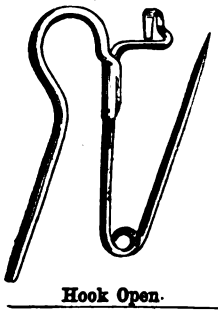

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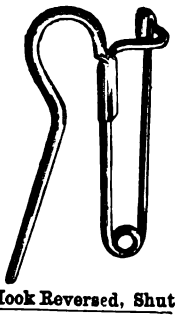

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This Company has been formed for the purpose of purchasing a site in the colony of Hong Kong for Docks, and constructing docks and erecting suitable premises thereon for carrying on the business of building or docking and repairing steamers and sailing vessels, and for the purchase of the Docks now owned and carried on at Whampoa by Messrs. T. Hunt and Co., with the appurtenances, plant, and goodwill of the docking business of that firm.

It is proposed to register the Company as one of Limited Liability, either under the Imperial Act or under any Ordinance which the local legislature may pass enabling local companies to do so, the property of the Company in the meantime being vested in the trustees; and the deed of settlement of the Company, now in course of preparation, is being framed in accordance with this intention.

The very considerable increase in the number of vessels employed in what may be termed local trade, or in voyages that either originate or terminate, at Hong Kong, in addition to the great quantity of tonnage visiting the port from all quarters of the world, afford ample scope for the [illegible] operations of dock companies in addition to those which are already in existence.

Application has been made to Her Majesty's Government with reference to obtaining a site for the proposed docks in the colony, and the project has been favourably entertained, steps being in progress to facilitate this object, the necessary preliminary investigations as to the suitable character of the proposed site having been conducted and satisfactorily reported upon by Mr. S. B. Rawling.

Liberal support has been promised to the undertaking, which, it is contemplated, must necessarily prove a very remunerative one.

Further applications for shares can, till further notice, be addressed to the undersigned, from whom forms of application and all particulars can be obtained.

EDWARD H. POLLARD, Counsel for the Company.
Hong Kong, August 24, 1864.

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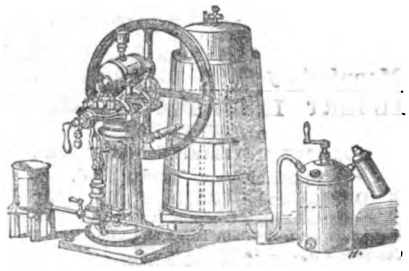

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PRIZE MEDALS LONDON, PARIS, AND DUBLIN.

Description	Dozens Daily.	Weight About	Measurement About	Price
Double No. 1	600	20 Cwt.	130 cubic feet	£125
Single ,, 1	300	12 ,,	90 ,,	65
,, 2	200	10 ,,	70 ,,	55
,, 4	150	8 ,,	55 ,,	45
Bottling Machine add	2 ,,	10 to 15 ,,		£8 8 0

No. 5 Machine, 60 dozen daily, to supply counter fountains, weight about 4½ cwt., measurement about 40 cubic feet, £35 Recipes for aerated waters are sent. Wire bottles, corks, acid, soda, whiting, essences, &c. Illustrated Catalogues free. Orders executedby any merchant, or on receipt of cash, including shipping charges, by the manufacturers.

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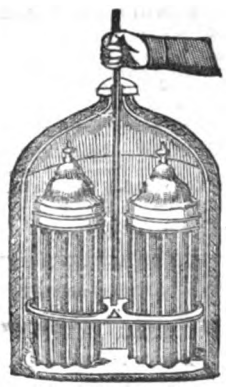

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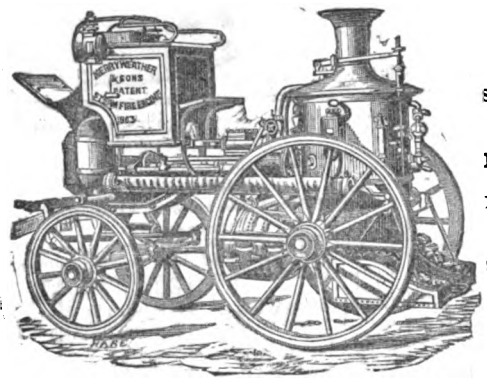

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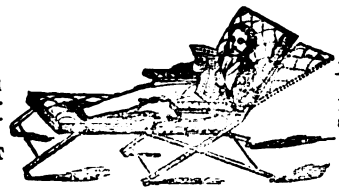

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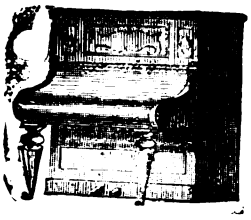

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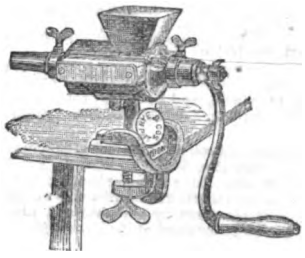

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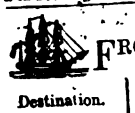

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VOL. VI.—No. 153.] LONDON, WEDNESDAY, OCT. 26, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Yokohama	June 27	Aug. 19	Aug. 26
	Nagasaki			„ 23
	Hakodadi			„ 18
CHINA—				
	Peking			„ 20
	Tien-tsin			„ 24
	Chefoo			„ 19
	New-chwang			„ 21
	Hankow			„ 27
	Kiu-kiang			„ 29
	Shanghai	July 17	Sept. 2	Sept. 4
	Ningpo			
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 3
	Amoy			„ 5
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	„ 26	„ 3	„ 11
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	„ 10	Aug. 24	„ 3
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Saigon			„ 7
SIAM—				
	Bangkok			„ 7
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			
	Sarawak			„ 4
JAVA—				
	Batavia			„ 15
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	Aug. 17	Sept. 19	„ 19
	Penang	„ 10	„ 8	„ 21

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per Baroda, arrived Oct. 24.—From Shanghai: Messrs. John Bains, H. Evans, A. S. Whalley, and F. Blatchley. From Hong Kong: Capt. Rowe, Admiral Steen Bille, Mr. H. L. Faso, and European man servant, Messrs. E. S. Zajas, F. Roca, H. Rode, E. Aquarre, A. Quarrall, J. Jabat, Mare Keroo, and F. Bloor, Capt. Engell. From Penang: Mr. Brook.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, from Southampton on the 20th inst.—To Shanghai Mary Packman. To Hong Kong: Capt. Durnford, W. Forsyth, and F. Dalrymple. To Singapore: C. S. Torrock, Mrs. Watson's ayah. To Penang: Mr. Scott's two native male servants. To Calcutta: Mrs. Sandeman, Major and Mrs. Ryan, Mrs. Shekleton, Lieut. J. G. Campbell, Capt. and Mrs. Birch and European female servant, Mrs. G. G. Balfour, Miss Woodcock, Mrs. Elgie, Miss Dennyss, Mrs. Godfrey and infant, Mrs. J. M. Graham, Mrs. Goren, Mr. M. M'Iver, Mrs. Stafford and native female servant, Miss Cowie, Mr. C. M. Rivaz, Miss Reilly, Mr. and Mrs. C. Gordon, Mr. C. R. Jennings, Mr. Hodge, Mrs. Ogilvie, infant, and native female servant, Mr. Duff's ayah, Lieut. O. M. and Mrs. Graham, Mr. J. M. Pears, Mr. Quick, Miss Beamish, Messrs. W. F. Meres, G. J. Nicholls, and R. F. Rampini, Miss J. Thomson, Mrs. Jerdan, Mr. and Mrs. L. Toulmin, Mrs. C. Horne, Col. and Mrs. Mackenzie, Mrs. Temple and ayah, Charlotte Steele, Col. Marsh's European female servant, Mr. W. Wilkinson, Alex. Love, Mr. G. Whitehead, Mr. Denham, Mr. Caird, A. Hay, Mr. V. Tremenheere, Mrs. Daniell, Mrs. Wemyss and two infants, Alex. Lindsay. To Madras: Miss Denison, Mrs. Stanley, and female servant, Mrs. Godfrey's ayah, Major and Mrs. Shakespear, Mr. W. A. Happel, Mr. L. F. Clogstown, Dr. Aitken's ayah, R. B. Ward and wife, Major and Mrs. Peyton, child, and native female servant, T. Akurst, Miss M'Kenzie. To Ceylon: Mr. Harrison, G. Watt, J. Mantell. To Alexandria: Miss Ellis, Mrs. Braes, infant, and sister, Mrs. Purvis, Mr. D. Forrest, Mr. G. Smith, Mr. Westfield, Mr. Kay's groom, Mr. Hartley's servant, E. Spackman. From Suez.—To Calcutta: Mr. A. Ralli.

From Marseilles, per Baroda, to leave Oct. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. Tait and friend. To Singapore: Messrs. W. and C. Degener, Mr. and Mrs. Vanderzweep, child, lady friend, and native female servant. To Calcutta. Major and Mrs. Malleson, Rev. R. and Mrs. Norman, Messrs. S. P. Griffiths, and Thurburn, Mr. and Mrs. Hewett, Mrs. C. M. Young, Mrs. Bell, Miss Hadden, and European female servant, Mrs. Beynon, infant, and two children, Miss Bailey, and two servants, Lady Lawrence, infant, two daughters, nurse, and European female servant, Miss Martin, Miss McPherson, Major R. and Mrs. Adams, Mr. Leresche, Mr. and Mrs S. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. D. Halkett, and European female servant, Mr. W. Eames, Miss Thurburn, Miss Dunnet, Mrs. Burr and two children, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Kennedy, Major F. Grant, Mr. R. W. Trafford, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Bradford, Capt. C. R. and Mrs. Shaw and infant, Mr. A. Rogers, Miss M. Fleetwood, Capt. Probart, Messrs. Fryer, R. Thomas, Robinson, and Freeman, Capts. Clay, and F. Cunliffe, Messrs. J. D. Gordon and Riddell, Rev. C. W. Calmsac, Major and Mrs. Freer, Capt. Shaw's native female servant, Sarah Mason, Mr. C. Tawney. To Madras: Capt. and Mrs. Haggard, Messrs. McGrigor, Overbury Fastnedge, and Gibson, Capt. Peyton, John Atkinson. To Ceylon: Mrs. Tatham To Alexandria: Messrs. J. Hartley, T. A. Walker, W. B. Bray, Dickson, and Elliott, G H. Betts Bey.

Per steamer P. and O. Massilia, Oct. 27, from Southampton.—To Singapore, via Bombay: Mr. Dunlop, Mr. Fenwick, Mr. M. Fenwick. To Shanghai, via Bombay: Mr. Clark, Mr. H. and Mrs. Wilkinson, Mr. C. F. Jackson. To Hong Kong, via Bombay: Mr. J. G. Glover. From Marseilles, Nov. 4.—To Singapore, via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. Weideihold, Mr. M'Clelland. To Shanghai, via Bombay: Mr. A. G. Henry.

Per P. and O. steamer, Nov. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mrs. Swinhoe, Lieut. Stokes, R.N., Commander G. H. Forster, R.N. To Shanghai: Miss Thompson. From Marseilles, Nov. 13.—To Shanghai: Messrs. W. Watson and W. E. King. To Hong Kong: Mr. Wheely. From Alexandria.—To Singapore: Miss Cook.

Per P. and O. steamer, Nov. 12, from Southampton.—To Singapore, via Bombay: Mr. C. H. Harrison. To Shanghai, via Bombay: Mr. Holdsworth. From Marseilles, Nov. 20.—To Hong Kong, via Bombay, Mr. M'Clure, Mr. T. Jackson. To Shanghai, via Bombay: Mr. McCalman.

Per P. and O. steamer, Nov. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Miss B. E. Collett, Miss Lee. To Shanghai: Messrs. E. Crace, and M. Hawtrey. To Singapore: Mrs. W. W. Willans and infant. From Marseilles, Nov. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. T. F. Ballance, Mr. B. Mackintosh, Mr. P. G. Lawrie. To Shanghai: Mr. Hyslop. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Caw.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Marseilles, Dec. 12.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Wood and lady friend.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Marseilles, Jan. 13, 1865.—To Hong Hong: Mr. M'Donald.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Our dates are to the 26th August. The P. and O. steamer *Ganges*, with the London mail of the 27th June, reached Yokohama on the 19th August.

It will be recollected that at the moment of the departure of the preceding mail there was some reason to expect that the English fleet, accompanied by the war ships of other European Powers, would leave for the Inland Sea to force, if needful, the passage of the Straits of Simonoseki. Her Majesty's ships *Barossa* and *Cormorant*, sent to land two Japanese retainers of the Prince of Nangato, who had recently come back from England, and, possibly, also to reconnoitre the coast—returned to Yokohama on the 10th August, shot and shell having been fired across the bows of the *Cormorant* to warn her from proceeding further. It was at first reported that the two Japanese had expressed an opinion that the Prince of Nangato would probably open the Straits in a little time. Our present advices, however, affirm, on the contrary, that "they stated verbally, but distinctly in reply, that Choshiu (Prince of Nangato) had been instructed, both by the Mikado and Tycoon, to keep the Straits of Simonoseki closed." It is added that "the connection of the name of the Tycoon with that of the Mikado created no little surprise, and gave rise to serious suspicions of duplicity and complicity, which will have hereafter to be cleared up."

The Shanghai *Record* says that it was decided at a Council of War, held on board the *Euryalus*, that the combined fleets should sail for Simonoseki on the 24th August. This was agreed to. Orders were sent over to Shanghai for more troops; vessels were chartered to convey coal for the use of the squadron, and everything was prepared. On its side the *Japan Herald* of the 25th August informs us that "as the 20th instant drew nigh considerable bustle and activity were observable in all matters connected with the fleets. The stores were besieged with the mess-stewards preparing for the creature comforts of the officers and men on their projected cruize; the order had been given to prepare for sea; the marines were all in readiness for embarkation; and we believe all was actually prepared for the departure of all the British squadron but one corvette, one despatch-boat and two gun-boats; all the French and Dutch men-of-war; and an arrangement made that the United States sloop *Jamestown* (the commander of which had offered to send a landing party of marines per *Ta*

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Kiang to take part in the proceedings), should remain here to assist in the protection of the settlement and ships in harbour; when, on Friday, the 19th, the P. & O. S. *Ganges* arrived with, to the great surprise of all, the returned Japanese Embassy to France, in consequence of a recall by their Government, and with the intelligence that before leaving they had made a convention with the Emperor of the French, by which the Tycoon had engaged to open the Straits of Simonoseki within three months of their return. It was at once surmised that this important event would have the effect of checking, at least for the moment, any operation of the combined forces; and so it proved. It soon became known that orders for immediate departure to sea had been countermanded, and believed that time would be afforded to see if the Tycoon's Government would ratify the agreement made by his ambassadors. At the same time it was evident that the unexpected return of the Embassy, without so much as a visit to the other European Courts, taken in connection with the peremptory refusal of all the Treaty Powers to enter upon negotiations for the cession of any of the important rights of the treaties, would, in all probability hurry forward events; and therefore, so far from the present delay of warlike proceedings against Choshiu having calmed the excitement, it has probably tended rather to increase it upon the question, 'What will be the next move upon this chequered board?' At present we have no knowledge of this—and probably shall not have until almost the last moment of time mentioned."

We will now take up the story from the Shanghai *Record*. That journal acquaints us that:—"At an interview with the French Minister, the Ambassadors laid before him a treaty arranged with France, in which it is stipulated to open the Inland Sea in three months. On the receipt of this intelligence the respective admirals were communicated with, and all orders previously issued for going to sea countermanded. The *Cormorant* was despatched to Shanghai, to meet, if possible, the *Perseus*, and stop the coal ships. The latter were stopped, but the former was at sea. This news came upon everyone with surprise, and that the French had outwitted us, seemed at the first blush of things to be the case. The mail steamer was due however so soon, that a reservation was made on any remarks. Yesterday, the 31st ulto., the *Ganges* arrived, with dates up to the 26th, and private advices a day later. The whole tide of affairs had turned. The Tycoon repudiated the acts of his Ambassadors, and said in consequence of their having exceeded their instructions, they must perform the *Hari-kari*. On this the French Minister interfered, and said if such were carried out, it would be considered as a declaration of war. Meanwhile, it soon became apparent that there was no intention on the part of the Gorojio to differ from the Tycoon, and the end is, that once more orders were made to prepare to go to sea. The marines were to embark on the afternoon of Thursday the 26th, and on the following Sunday the combined fleet were to proceed to their destination. The English squadron comprises the following vessels:—*Euryalus, Conqueror, Barossa, Tartar, Coquette, Cormorant* and *Bouncer*. The French:—*Semiramis, Dupleix*, and *Tancrede*. The Dutch:—*Medusa, Metulen, Kruis, Djambi*, and *Amsterdam*. In all, fifteen men-of-war. This imposing squadron, all in high order, ought to inflict most summary chastisement on this august Prince, and if the Tycoon is in league with him, then a general war with Japan will ensue. This must come sooner or later, and now when the irons are in the fire they ought to be kept in, for once taken out, nothing cools so soon."

It will be observed that our Shanghai contemporary contradicts himself in the above. If he had private advices to the 27th August, he would have known whether the marines did embark on the 26th or not. The "irons" are not so "hot" as all that, and we can state positively that no fleet had sailed from Yokohama, or was, perhaps, likely to sail under any circumstances, before the arrival there of the next English mail.

The *Japan Commercial News*, of the 24th August, makes the following important statement on, as it says "information from an authentic source":—

"The Dutch Consul-General left yesterday for Yedo in advance of the Legation. Sir Rutherford Alcock, Monsieur Roches, and General Pruyn leave to-day, having agreed upon a programme which is likely to bring matters to an early issue with the Japanese Government. We are not at liberty to give publicity to more than merely to announce the immediate departure of the Ministers to Yedo."

The men-of-war in harbour were the following:—British: *Euryalus, Tartar, Argus, Kestrel, Bouncer, Coromandel, Havock, Pelorus, Conqueror, Coquette, Racehorse, Leopard, Hesper* (was to leave for Hong Kong on the 25th) *Barossa*. French: *Semiramis, Dupleix, Tancrede*. Dutch: *Medusa, Djambi, Metulen, Kruis, Amsterdam*. United States: *Jamestown*.

On the 24th August General Brown reviewed the 20th Regiment upon the open space near the German Cub. The regiment formed in line and received him with a general salute; after the usual evolutions—marching past in slow and quick time, and the manual platoon and bayonet exercise,—square was formed inwards, and the General, accompanied by the Colonel and staff, rode into its centre, when, visibly affected by the occasion, he addressed Colonel Brown and the battalion. The General, in a few brief sentences, recalled to mind the long period with which, as general, he had been associated with the Twentieth; he very highly eulogised them for their consistent good behaviour at home and abroad, and assured them of the great pleasure he should have when meeting H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, to tell him that, whether in China or Japan, his "favourites" were ever the same, and if dropped at Aldershott would be found "*Nulli secundus*." He then stated that his entire service was drawing to a close, but that should he ever be able to aid a Twentieth man he had known, he had only to apply and feel sure of sympathy and assistance from an old soldier, whom they would ever find a true friend. The Commandant having suitably thanked the General, the battalion gave him three hearty British cheers, showing their love and respect for their old General, under whom, with a short interval, they have served since 1861. Having formed column and line the battalion advanced in review order, halted, and gave a general salute, after which they returned to barracks. General Brown had taken a berth on board the *Ganges*, which brought the present mail to Shanghai.

The *Commercial News* of the 24th remarks:—"The weather at Yokohama has undergone a great change for the better. A few days since the weather was hot and sultry, the thermometer standing at 90 deg. in the shade. Copious showers of rain have recently fallen and reduced the temperature to 78 deg. We hope our hot sultry season is now past. The health of the settlement continues good, of that of the troops we have not heard any complaints. We hope their wants will be attended to, as there appears no likelihood of their services being required for some time at least, unless the Tycoon repudiates the acts of the late Embassy to France, in which case an early movement of the fleet may be expected. As the services of the Marines are not likely to be wanted for three months, we hope they will be provided with more suitable accommodation than they have at present in those uncomfortably small tents."

The death of the Rev. R. Hamilton recorded in the "Obituary" in our last issue is thus adverted to in the journal last quoted:—"It is our melancholy duty to have to report by the present mail the death of the Rev. R. Hamilton, late Chaplain to H.M.'s forces, Shanghai, sincerely regretted by a numerous circle of all classes for his urbanity and invariable kindness of disposition. He came over here from Shanghai on sick leave, and his health was greatly improved. He seems to have been seized with a fit whilst bathing, from the effects of which he never rallied, although every medical assistance was rendered. The funeral took place with military honours on the 16th August, attended by a large concourse of naval officers and civilians."

The *fête* day of the Emperor of the French, the 15th of Aug., was kept as a great festival by all the French residents. *Te Deum* was celebrated in the Catholic Chapel, and in the evening his Excellency the French Minister gave a state dinner party, at which were present Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B.; General Pruyn, American Minister Resident; D. de Graeff von Polesbroek, Consul-General of the Netherlands; the English and French Admirals, General Brown, Lieut. Col. Browne, and a large company of officials. Madame Van der Voo represented Madame Leon Roches. The toast of the evening—the health of the Emperor of the French—was given by Sir Rutherford Alcock, and the French Minister gracefully gave "The Sovereigns or chief rulers of the other Powers." The two several bands of the Twentieth Regiment, and H.I.M.S. *Semiramis*

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were stationed in the grounds and played throughout the evening. At night there was a grand illumination.

A formal regulation has been issued by which the British Consul will be enabled to levy a monthly tax on each slaughtering establishment kept by a British subject, to cover the expense of removing refuse, &c.

The *Japan Herald* contradicts the statement it made in a previous number, and which was reproduced in our last issue, that a *fracas* had occurred in the streets of Yedo between the Marines of the United States man-of-war *Jamestown* and the attendants of one of the great Daimios.

Mercantile Notices.—The interest and responsibility of Mr. V. Blanc in the firm of Remi, Schmidt, and Co. ceased on the 1st of August. The interest and responsibility of Mr. P. J. Batteke in the firm of Textor and Co. ceased on the 1st of July, and Mr. W. H. Aretz wss admitted a partner on the 1st of August. Mr. V. Blanc was admitted a partner in the firm of Constensoux, Ledermann, and Co., on the 1st of August. Mr. Frederick O. Wellmann is authorised to sign for the firm of Walsh, Hall, and Co., per procuration, from the 1st of August.

NAGASAKI.

The *Hong Kong Daily Press* has received the following from a correspondent at Nagasaki, dated the 31st of August:—It is a long time since I wrote you last; but there has been hardly anything worth while for me to write about. We are now on the alert looking for the Ronins. The Japanese say that as soon as Simonoseki is bombarded by the fleet, they will come here and make trouble. The Prince of Fizem, who or many years has always been a friend to foreigners, is reported to have joined Choishu. Fizem and "Ische Corzem" have the command of all the ports and barracks here, and have commenced destroying all the barracks and villages near the forts, for fear that they should be set on fire by the English shells, and have mounted guns where the barracks were. Their ideas are that the English fleet will get the worst of it at Simonoseki, and will be obliged to come here for repairs, so Fizem will fire upon them, and finish the fleet altogether. The Japanese are unmistakably proud, and a licking will do them a great deal of good. My opinion is that there will be no fighting whatever at Simonoseki, as Choshiu will give in immediately he sees the fleet near him; he is a great humbug, he dares not fight foreigners, as he knows it will only be his ruination. It is reported by the Japanese authorities that there has been hard fighting at Kioto (Osaca) with Choshiu, and that the latter got the worst of it.

The Japanese here are now fencing in all the hills rounds and about the foreign settlement; they say it is to prevent any assault of the Ronins, but my idea is that they are politely bringing old Decima ideas. It is a shame that the foreign Consuls here should allow it; we should be ashamed of ourselves, as we are only showing the Japanese that we are afraid of them. If the Ronins choose to come, let them come, and we are strong enough to defend ourselves until we can safely get on board ship. The Japanese Government have made a treaty, so they must abide by it, and be responsible for our lives and property. We have the *Scylla* here for our protection, and we have enough. We have also started a volunteer corps, which is called the "Nagasaki Armed Fire Brigade;" you will see particulars of it in the *North China Herald*. The "Imperial," "London," and "Northern" Insurance offices of London have sent out as a present to the corps a very handsome fire engine, by Shand and Mason, which is very acceptable, and we all thank them very much for their kindness. We have at present forty-eight members enrolled, and no doubt we shall have sixty in a few days, as more people are coming in every day; we require a good military man to put us in working order.

CHINA.

Peking.

A correspondent informs us that Sang-ko-lin-sin has been elevated to hereditary rank in consequence of the successes which have lately attended the Imperial arms. He has also received a despatch from the Emperor extolling his devotion, and commiserating the discomforts to which he subjected himself by prolonging a campaign into the middle of summer. His Imperial Majesty accordingly sends the Prince several packages of tea, and some cooling medicine. E-Ching Wang (the prince of Kung) has also been raised to hereditary rank, while his pay and allowances as a prince have been doubled. This latter mark of the Imperial favour he has, however, declined.

Shanghai.

The English mail of 17th July arrived out on the 2nd September. The dates are down to 4th.

The *North China Herald* notices the general dulness prevailing.

The weather has undergone a considerable change during the past fortnight; the long dry season which we have experienced having come to an end, and the September rains set in vigorously. The atmosphere has, in consequence, become cooled.

There is little local news of interest to record, even th Consular Courts having been unusually quiet. At the Ameri can Consulate General, on the 17th ult., in a cause in which the master and owners of the tug *Martin White* were plaintiffs, and the master and owners of the barque *Catalpa* defendants—claim for salvage—judgment was given for the plaintiffs to the amount of 22 per cent. on the vessel and cargo. A second shipping case was tried in the same court, on the 25th, arising out of a collision in which the schooner *Moosmie* was sunk by the steamer *Fire Dart* in the Yang-tze, on the morning of the 24th July. The owners claimed damages from the latter vessel to the amount of 10,000 tls., at which they rated the value of the schooner. Judgment was, however, given against them, as it was held the *Moosmie* rather than the *Fire Dart* was in fault.

Great dissatisfaction has been caused by the promulgation of an order by the Postmaster at Hong Kong, directing that no letters are in future to be received in the Shanghai Post-office unless pre-stamped. It is felt that Shanghai is not a colony, and that it is not fair that every rule held applicable to post-offices in Her Majesty's dominions should be imposed on residents here—especially as, in the present instance, no possible advantage is derivable from the innovation. The packe agent will find it more troublesome to weigh every lette posted, and sell the poster the requisite stamps, than was pre viously found in receiving a batch of letters at the window weighing and noting the amounts of postage at leisure, and placing them to the debit of the firm which sent the letters.

Hoochow.

This city fell into the hands of the Imperialists on the 28th August. We had previously learned from native reports that the rebels were rapidly sinking into the state of misery which heralded the approach of the fall of Nanking. Rice was scarce, but actual starvation had not as yet set in. The most serious want was that of firewood, of which there was not a particle to be found. Deserted houses had been pulled down and co[illegible] burned, and a general impression prevailed that the city could not hold out much longer, as supplies of every kind were cut off. At length, on the day mentioned, the garrison retired without beat of drum through a pass in the Thé Deu hills into the prov[illegible] Kiang-si. The disposition of the Imperial forces ordered in the *Peking Gazette* of August 1st would seem to have proved of no avail in stopping the retreat of the Hoo-chow garrison. What the course may be which they will now adopt—whether they will subside quietly into the ranks of the peaceful inhabitants, or whether they retain sufficient organization to attempt fresh conquests, may well become matter for speculation.

H.M.'s *Rattler* has arrived from Nagasaki with dates to 20th Aug. The natives state that, as soon as hostilities commence in the Inland Sea, Nagasaki will be inundated by Ronins—a by no means pleasant lookout for foreigners. The *Scylla* has been sent down to relieve the *Rattler*, which in turn has replaced the *Perseus*, which has left Shanghai to join the fleet at Yokohama. It seems rather hard on the officers and men of the *Rattler* to keep them a second time out of the chance of distinguishing themselves. Last year when the fighting at Kagosima was going on, the *Rattler* was stationed at Nagasaki, and she is now again sent out of harm's way. From the 14th to the 17th the annual ancestral festival was kept up by the natives. On the 14th the dead were supposed to revesit their former dwellings, where they remained until the night of the 16th. On that night a vast number of straw boats brilliantly illuminated were thrown into the bay for the purpose of re-conveying the spirits to their different localities. The following evening was spent in dissipation of every description. Freight was at a stand still. The three masted iron schooner *Cleopatra*, after having waited for six weeks for cargo, was obliged to leave in ballast for Kong Kong. Twenty-two merchant ships were in harbour.

The troops whose approaching departure for Yokohama we announced in our last, left in the *Chusan* on the 24th August, under the command of Captain Drummond, of the *Belooches*.

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The excellent arrangements made by the captain and officers of the *Chusan* to secure the comfort of the troops deserve mention, and the well-known kindness and courtesy of the same gentlemen will, should the weather and fates be propitious, secure a pleasant passage for all on board. H.M.S. *Perseus* has left for the same destination, the *Rattler* having arrived from Nagasaki to relieve her. The latter vessel has been replaced at Nagasaki by the *Scylla*.

The *North China Herald*, in noticing the railway budget of Sir Macdonald Stephenson, says:—

"That the monetary support which Sir Macdonald Stephenson anticipates from the wealthy natives will be accorded, we have no doubt. The precedent afforded by the readiness with which they invest their money in steamers, amply justifies the presumption. And the singular facilities offered by the country for the construction of railways, especially in its richest provinces, leave little room for fear that his anticipations of their cheapness will be falsified when tested by the event. Proposals have, we are led to infer, been already laid before the Chinese Government, according to which the latter are to guarantee twelve per cent. on the capital employed, securing its due payment upon the customs revenues; and these proposals Sir Macdonald Stephenson has, he says, reason to believe will be eventually adopted. Whether or not this belief is well founded, we do not profess to offer an opinion; but confine ourselves to expressing a hearty hope that the event may justify it."

HANKOW.

A correspondent says that the news of the fall of Nanking has excited in the native residents great hopes of an increase in trade at the former port. A rise has, in consequence, already taken place in the price of oil-paper, and other commodities of the same class. The neighbourhood of Hankow is perfectly tranquil, and it is hoped that it may now continue so, as the fall of Nanking will probably place large bodies of troops at the disposal of the Hoopeh authorities, who will thus be enabled to hold the Nien-fei in that province in check. The death of H. E. Kuan Wen, Governor-General of the two Hu, is announced. It is said that Li Futai will fill the vacancy.

KIU-KIANG.

The Times correspondent at Shanghai writes on this port:—

One of the most flourishing and improving ports in China, and one of the best situated for trade, is that of Kiu-kiang. Its situation, near the point were the waters of the Poyang Lake join those of the Yang-tze, renders it the natural emporium of trade for the province of Kiangsi, as all the canals and rivers which intersect the northern portion of the province converge into that lake, and furnish excellent means of communication, by which the produce of the green tea districts can reach the foreign market. Thus it is from Kiu-kiang that nearly all the green tea which we import from China is brought. Fifteen and a half million pounds, valued at 4,250,000 taels, were exported during 1863. The export of black also was very considerable, having reached nearly 10,000,000 lbs., valued at 2,133,000 taels. Thus the total export of tea from Kiukiang during 1863 amounted to 25,500,000 lb., against only 21,000,000 lb. which were imported at Shanghai from the whole Yangtze river during the preceding year. Tea, of course, is the great staple of the Kiukiang trade, and all other exports sink into insignificance compared with it. Indeed, it represents six out of the seven millions of taels at which the total value of the export trade of the port is estimated. Towards the remaining 1,000,000 taels paper contributes 400.000 taels, and China ware 106,000 taels. Tobacco figures for 68,000 taels, rice for 53,000 taels, and "dried ducks" for 168 taels. Among the imports, opium, of course, takes the highest place, the estimated value of the 269,480 lbs. which entered the port being 1,075,000 taels, but of this 21,000 taels' worth was afterwards re-imported. The total value of absolutely foreign goods imported was 1,776,700 taels; in this amount are included shirtings, flannels, cloths, long ells, and every description of cotton goods. The value of shirtings alone was 400,000 taels, of long ells 78,000 taels, of Spanish stripes 49,000 taels, and of T-cloths 49,000 taels. The remaining half of the 3,200,000 taels, at which the total import trade of the port is estimated, is made up of very various items, principally contributed by other Chinese ports. Seaweed, for example, figures for 100,000 taels, and sugar for 160,000 taels. Nankeens contributed 66,000 taels, and silk piecegoods 96,379 taels. The Corea contributed 14,000 taels' worth of ginseng, which is highly esteemed in China as a medicine. The other imports are hardly of sufficient importance to be worth noticing; but, as a specimen of the kind of trade carried on among the natives, it may interest your readers to know that the value of bird's-nests imported into Kiu-kiang last year was 49,000 taels; that of sharks' fins 1,649 taels, and that of sheep-skins (to line clothes), 2,682 taels.

HONG KONG.

The English mail of 26th July arrived out on the 3rd Sept. The dates are down to Sunday morning 11th.

It appears that it is contemplated to enforce on the landholders the erection of a new Praya. The following notice is from the *Evening Mail*:—"We learn, incidentally, that a deputation of merchants have recently waited upon the Governor with regard to the Praya question. We have not heard what the result of the interview has been, and we do not think there is any great necessity for inquiring. Marine lot-holders will have to suffer for the inefficient work of the Government. Any, the commonest, workman could have laid down the Praya in a manner that would have been creditable to the masonic craft, but the Government of Hong Kong chose to retain in their employ a man who was either ignorant of the first principles of masonry or grossly careless of how he executed Government work. Our own opinion is that, to extreme ignorance the Surveyor-General added gross carelessness; and the result of such an unhappy combination is now to be seen in the present tottering bund, which the Governor of this colony has the *naivete* to suggest should be put to rights at the expense of those who have already paid handsomely for its misconstruction. We forbear to inquire into the results that have arisen from the deputation to the Governor. It would, in our opinion, be utterly idle to expect anything that transpired at a public meeting, or that was advanced by a deputation, to have the smallest effect upon such a Government as that now administered by Sir Hercules Robinson. We believe that a public meeting is called, or about to be called, with a view of expressing some opinions about the Praya question. Very few people will attend except the foreign marine lot-holders, and not even many of those.

The following is a report of the meeting of the Legislative Council on the subject of the military taxation:—

The Legislative Council met at noon, and there were present: His Excellency the Governor, the Hons. Colonial Secretary, Acting Chief Justice, Attorney-General, Auditor-General, Treasurer, Messrs. Murray, Whittall, and Chomley.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and comfirmed,

The Governor moved the second reading of an "An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding $613,000 to the Public Service of the year 1865."—and the Council went into committee to consider it clause by clause. The Governor stated that the estimated cost of the mint was $238,711, the new gaol at Stone Cutter's Island $99,648, new Post-office $20,843, Police Barracks $61,759, new boat-house for Water Police $2,100 and head-quarters for the volunteers $2,500. It appeared that the military authorities could not let the volunteers have the room they had hitherto occupied in Murray barracks, and it being necessary that they should have an armoury, a shed for their guns and an orderly room, the above sum was necessary to be granted for the purpose of finding shelter for the public property.

On arriving at the item $92,000 military contribution,

Mr. Murray rose and opposed it. He said it was unnecessary for him to occupy the time of the Council with remarks, as the arguments against this military contribution were well known by all there, and had received the unanimous approval of the greater portion of the foreign community of the colony, and the despatches on the subject were in the hands of every member of the Council. He therefore moved that the item of $92,000 for military contribution be struck out.

Mr. Whittall seconded Mr. Murray's resolution.

The Colonial Treasurer voted for the obnoxious item being struck out of the estimate as he considered the demand both unjust and arbitrary.

The Auditor-General said he felt himself bound to vote for the contribution as being ordered by the Secretary of State.

The question was then put to the vote, when there appeared.

For Mr. Murray's resolution.....4.
Against " " .....4.

The Governor gave the casting vote against, and the item for military contribution was, therefore, ordered to remain in the estimates, which accordingly passed, and were numbered 8 of 1864.

The Colonial Secretary said that in order that the Secretary of State should not be misled by the vote of the Council, and to show him that its members had not voted according to their opinions, which were, in fact, in accordance with the general feeling of the public on the matter, he begged to propose the following resolution:—

Resolved, "That this Council is of opinion that the maintenance of troops in Hong Kong is not necessary purely for the protection of Colonial interests, or the security of the inhabitants, and that the Colonial Revenues cannot fairly be charged with any contribution towards the Imperial Military Expenditure in China and Japan."

The Acting Chief Justice had the gravest doubts whether the colony could be satisfactorily governed without the presence of troops, and thought that it was not for us to decide whether we could do without them or not.

The Attorney General said he should oppose the Colonial Secretary's resolution because he did not feel himself competent to decide whether we wanted soldiers or not.

The Governor considered the resolution of the Colonial Secretary a proper one. It rested with the Crown to decide whether we shall be taxed or not, but if the members voted for the tax in silence it would lead the Home Government to suppose that they voted according to their own wishes and those of the public. He thought it quite right to let the Secretary of State know that though the sum had been voted, the Council was opposed to it.

The Auditor-General seconded the resolution of the Colonial Secretary, which was ultimately carried by a majority of eight to one, the dissentient being the Attorney General.

His Excellency said it would become necessary then to consider how the sum for the military contribution should be raised, whether by loan or additional taxation. He thought the fairest way would be to have stamps for bills of exchange, cheques, bills of lading, &c., as in Singapore.

Messrs. Whittall and Rennie advocated raising debentures for the first year. It was resolved to defer the consideration of the subject to a future meeting.

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The Governor then read some correspondence on the subject of a pension of £300 per annum to the Bishop of Victoria, application for which had been made by his lordship to the Secretary of State by whom it had been referred for the consideration of the Council.

Mr. Murray and Mr. Chomley both said a few words in favour of the grant, which will be discussed at the next meeting of the Council.

"An Ordinance for Compiling a New Edition of the Ordinances of this Colony" was read a second time, and passed, being numbered 9 of 1864.

"An Ordinance for Preventing Frauds upon Creditors, by Secret Bills of Sale of Personal Chattels," was also read a second time and passed, numbered 10 of 1864.

"An Ordinance for Incorporating and Winding-up Companies under the Limited Liability Act," was read a first time.

The Council then adjourned to Tuesday, the 13th September.

The Hong Kong Volunteer Artillery competition for the Challenge Cup, presented by his Excellency the Governor came off at Kowloong. The firing took place under an awning wisely provided by the forethought of the acting Adjutant. Thirty-one volunteers entered as competitors for the much-coveted privilege of being the first name inscribed on the cup, which remains the property of the corps. The winner, at the same time, gets a cup of inferior value, the palladium remaining in his custody for a year, or for so many successive years as he may continue to win it—an excellent arrangement, as the lapse of years will continue to prove; for a record of the champion gunners will be handed down to future generations of volunteer artillerymen, in a pleasing and durable form. The day was unusually hot, but this did not deter numerous spectators from attending the match. The band was present, and played several delightful airs, "General Jackson" being evidently the favourite. We question if any former volunteer turnout has ever been so thoroughly enjoyable as this. The firing was not much, if at all, inferior to that of the Royal Artillery.

The British ship *Langdale*, from England, reports that she experienced heavy south-west gales off the Cape, and light winds and calms up the China Sea. The British ship *Eastern Light*, bound to Shanghai, went upon the reef to the north end of Pulo Leat, in the Gaspar Channel, on August 15th. Her crew, with the assistance of the *Langdale* and *Henry Darling*, succeeded in getting her off the next day; but she was making water so rapidly that she had to be abandoned, and sank soon after. Part of the crew have come on in the *Langdale*, the rest, including the captain, stopping with the Resident of Billington Island, who was on board shortly after the catastrophe, rendering every assistance in his power. The *Langdale* signalled the British barque *Heroes of Alma*, from London bound to Shanghai, on August 17th, off Gaspar Island; and on August 28th, in lat. 12.47 N., long. 112.8 E., she spoke the British ship *Lord Dalhousie*, from Hong Kong bound to Liverpool.

H.M.'s transport *Adventure*, in entering the harbour, ran into the American ship *Mary Whitridge*, carrying away her own fore and main yards, and the American's fore top-gallant mast. She then crossed the Spanish brig *Gravina's* bow, carrying away her jibboom, next the British barque *Arrow's*, and finally was brought up by the British steamer *Arratoon Apcar*, whose bowsprit was taken off, with all the head gear. The *Adventure* has sustained considerable damage, having stove in her bulwarks and lost several of her boats.

JAVA AND NETHERLANDS INDIA.

The *K. der Nederlanden* arrived at Singapore from Batavia on the 18th September.

Since the publication of our last summary (says the *Java Times*), affairs at Singtang (Borneo) have taken a more favourable turn. Our "little war" has, if we may believe the statements of the official *Gazette*, come to an end. The fort at Sintang had been attacked by the rebels, but the assailants were beaten off with but trifling loss to the troops engaged, whilst the insurgent chief, Nata Widjaija, was gradually losing the influence he possessed on the minds of his followers, who, by the late repulse, have been taught to disbelieve his professions and assurances. The state of affairs was, therefore, much more satisfactory, and such being the case, the proclamation, by which the neighbouring country was declared to be in a state of war, has been revoked. The reinforcements sent arrived too late, and the honour of having vanquished the enemy is the unshared portion of Colonel de Neve's gallant little band. The steamer *Celebes*, it would appear, greatly aided in the defence of the fort, her projectiles carrying upwards of 3,000 ells. From this the wisdom of having river boats will be seen: a squadron of these kept continually on the broad rivers of the interior of Borneo, would be the best means of coercion.

The northern ports of Sumatra have been visited by several shocks of earthquake, which, however, happily did no damage. The incessant rains on the west coast had been very unfavourable for the paddy harvest. We are told that the Pulo Bay, the entrance to Bencoolen, is becoming rapidly so shallow that prows of the lightest draft experience difficulty in proceeding to the town. Trade and navigation, therefore, are fast declining, and Bencoolen, one a flourishing seaport, is now rarely visited by ships. The steamers which ply between Batavia and Padang, touching at Bencoolen, have to land their passengers and cargo at a great distance from the town.

On the 10th September, the first Government Sugar and Coffee sale of the season took place here. The prices realised were satisfactory. This sale brings to the treasury no less than some two millions three hundred thousand guilders.

Since the imprisonment, a few years ago, of Mr. Lion, the Editor of the *Handelsblad*, the press of Netherlands India had remained pretty free from Government persecution. Latterly, however, the Government have found it necessary to banish two gentlemen of the press for publishing seditious articles. Mr. Nosse, the Editor and publisher of the *Nieuwsbode*, will be obliged to leave Netherlands India, and Mr. Roorda van Eijsinga is ordered off to Banda (this gentleman being born in Batavia, the Government has no power to expel him from the colony). Both parties are Dutchmen.

The cholera is gradually disappearing. One of its last victims was Francisco Borghese Caiado, Esq., one of the commissioners deputed by the Portuguese Government of Timor to purchase *materiel* for the troops stationed at that place. The deceased was head of the Finance Department of the Timor Government, and an able and much respected personage.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are to the 19th September. The London mail of the 10th August arrived out on the 10th September.

The *Straits Times* expresses its satisfaction at being informed that the Bill for the Transfer of the Settlement from the administration of the Indian-office to the Imperial Government has been already drafted, and that it will pass through Parliament early next session as a matter of course.

A circumstance which has lately transpired brings the small independency of Johore into prominent notice. This native principality occupies the heel of the Malay peninsula, and is divided from the Island of Singapore only by a narrow strait some three miles to five miles in breadth; in Johore, large supplies of gambier, rattans, and other native products are produced, and they have hiterto been sold to Singapore buyers, and have formed a considerable item among our exports to Europe. The Rajah or Tumongong of Johore now, however, with the view probably to the development of his country, is making an effort to establish a market on his own soil, where the producers will receive a larger or at least a more competitive price for their products. The Singapore Chamber of Commerce asserts that pressure is to be laid upon the producers to prevent their sending their products to Singapore, and to compel them to dispose of them in Johore; and it has therefore petitioned the Governor to interfere. We do not know, but we scarcely think the Tumongong would care to jeopardise his best interest by the use of undue pressure; but whether he is about to do so or not, the *Straits Times* thinks the Chamber of Commerce will find it difficult in the absence of any treaty obligation, to dictate commercial regulations to a potentate not long ago declared in our court of justice, on the evidence of the representative of Government, to be the free ruler of a free State.

Singapore appears to be in want of amusement at present. The two amateur theatrical corps have apparently collapsed, and the old theatre in the Town Hall has been dismantled to make way for new fittings, which the Municipal Commissioners are very justly determined to provide for the public, independent of any particular corps or party. There are to be no Autumn Races; the horses at present there are too few in number, and it is expected that there will be all the better sport next spring, by allowing this autumn to pass.

A warrant of apprehension was issued on the 5th September at the instance of Captain Brown, of the British barque *Axelia* against five of the crew of that vessel for mutiny. The *Axelia* left for Hong Kong on the 3rd, and when at the entrance of Rhio Straits the men refused to work, and the captain apprehending a mutiny put back to Singapore. On

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coming into harbour assistance was rendered by H.M.S. *Severn*, the Commodore ordering a boat's crew to take the men into custody. We are informed the men were under the influence of drink, a case of gin having been discoverd in their possession, minus eight flasks. The Marine Magistrate sentenced two men to twelve weeks' imprisonment in the House of Correction with hard labour, one to eight weeks' imprisonment, and two others to ten weeks' in the same quarter.

Two European gunners, respectively named Thomas Berry and James Forrest, belonging to the Royal Artillery, have absconded, and are understood to have got on board a vessel bound to Shanghai.

Captain G. Kunst, master of the Dutch barque *Louise Kron Prinses of Sweden*, reports having seen a new shoal not marked on his chart, bearing, Poelo Varalla or Brahalla W.N.W. per compass, three miles dis., with only twelve feet water on it.

A French gunboat has got the worst of it in an encounter with pirates. His Imperial Majesty's gunboat *Entrecasteaux*, says the *Siam Times*, was attacked by three piratical junks on July 10th. After two hours' hard fighting she was obliged to take shelter near Cape Verella. The junks were lashed together lengthways, and were heavily armed; but they suffered much damage from the gunboat's firing. During the fight the pirates manœuvered their boats with oars." After the gun-boat had been driven away, the *China Merchant* being in sight they made away after her, but a breeze springing up she escaped.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BRUCE—On the 18th Oct., at Duffryn, Aberdare, the wife of the Right Hon. R. A. Bruce, M.P., of a son.

DICKSON—On the 22nd Oct., at No. 27, Albany-street, Edinburgh, the Hon. Mrs. D. S. Dickson, of a son.

ELLES—On 19th Oct., at Wimbledon-common, the wife of Jamieson Elles, Esq., of a daughter.

GIBBS—On the 20th Oct., at Southampton Villa, Highgate, the wife of Richard Gibbs, Esq., of a daughter.

JONES—On the 30th Aug., at Shanghai, the wife of C. Treasure Jones, H.B.M.'s Consular Service, of a son.

LOGAN—On the 20th Oct., at Lingfield Cottage, Angell-road, Brixton, Mrs. William G. Logan, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BRYANS—ANTROBUS.—On the 18th Oct., at Astbury, by the Rev. Francis Bryans, vicar of Backford, father of the bridegroom, the Rev. Francis R. Bryans, to Anna Maria, youngest daughter of the late Gibbs Crawfurd Antrobus, Esq., of Eaton-hall, Congleton.

GULICK—COUR.—On the 3rd Sept., at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, D.D., the Rev. John T. Gulick, of the Sandwich Islands, Missionary to North China, to Emily de la Cour, of Rochester, England.

KITSON—COFFIN.—On the 6th Oct., at Uffculme, Devon, by the Rev. F. Kitson, uncle of the bride, assisted by the vicar, the Rev. G. Marker, Edward Kitson, Lieutenant H.M.'s Indian army, son of the late Rev. Cartwright Kitson, to Henrietta Isabella, youngest daughter of the late Rev. J. T. Pine Coffin, of Portledge, Devon.

MARSH—SCOTT.—On the 20th Oct., at Lucan Church, by the Rev. J. George Scott, A.M., rector of Bray, assisted by the Rev. C. Ensell, incumbent, Major A. L. Marsh, late of the 55th Regt., son of the Rev. George Augustus Elliot Marsh, rector of Bangor, Flintshire, to Susan Agnes, daughter of the late General Sir Hopton Stratford Scott, K.C.B., and Lady Scott, of Woodville, Lucan.

PATMORE—ALLEN.—On the 7th Sept., at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, D.D., Colonial Chaplain, James Harry Patmore, commission agent, to Carolina Allen, of North Shields.

THURLOW—BRUCE.—On the 18th Oct., at Forres, in the St. John's Episcopal Church, by the Right Rev. the Bishop of Brechin, assisted by the incumbent, the Rev. Edward Owen, the Hon. Thomas John Hovell Thurlow, to the Lady Elma Bruce, eldest daughter of the late Earl of Elgin and Kincardine.

TOWSE—SILVERLOCK.—GRUGEON—SILVERLOCK.—On the 22nd Oct., at St. John's Church, Upper Lewisham-road, Deptford, by the Rev. C. F. S. Money, M.A., incumbent, assisted by the Rev. A. J. Myers, B.A., curate, William Beckwith Towse, Esq., of Fishmonger's Hall, to Rosetta, second daughter of Henry Silverlock, Esq., of Wicklam-road, New Cross; and at the same time, James Grugeon, Esq., of the London and County Bank, Sheerness, son of James Grugeon, Esq., of Woolwich, to Lauretta, third daughter of Henry Silverlock, Esq. No cards.

THOMAS—GROVES.—On the 26th Aug., at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, D.D., Colonial Chaplain, John Thomas, seaman of the British barque Euphrates, to Sarah Groves, of London.

DEATHS.

ASHTON—On the 31st Aug., at Fuhchau, Herbert Ashton, eldest son of J. K. Ashton, aged 1 year and 10 months.

BRANTWAITHE—On the 30th Aug., at the Seamen's Hospital, Hong Kong, Wm. Brantwaithe, seaman British ship Sir Isaac Newton.

BROWN—On the 21st Aug., at Honsque, Robert Brown, boat builder, aged 53 years.

BURT—At Shanghai, the infant daughter of W. Burt.

CROFT—On the 5th Sept., at Shanghai, on board the steamer Mercury, Francis Croft, aged 28, late of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co.'s employ.

DE CERCAL ANTONIO—On the 28th Aug., at Macao, of inflammation in the throat, Camila de Mello, daughter of the Baron de Cercal Antonio, aged 4 years and 11 months.

DODGE—On the 28th Aug., at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, J. Dodge, seaman.

FARREN—On the 23rd Aug., at Manila, John William Ferry Farren, H.B.M.'s Consul for the Philippines.

HIGGINS—On the 28th Aug., drowned in Hong Kong harbour, William Higgins, seaman British steamer Fusi-yama.

MACLEAN—On the 14th Oct., at his residence, Haremere Hall, Hurst-green, Sussex, Alexander Campbell Maclean, Esq. (late of Messrs Jardine, Matheson, and Co., China), in the 67th year of his age.

MOUL—On the 21st Oct., at St. George's-terrace, Dalston, John Moul, Esq., of 106, Fenchurch-street, aged 19.

MURRAY—On the 20th Oct., at The Whetmore, Onibury, Shropshire, Jane Isabella Erskine, eldest daughter of the late Hon. James Erskine-Murray, of Aberdour, Fifeshire, Grandaughter received from burns on Sept. 20.

MORRISON—On the 12th Aug., at Hankow, Allan Morrison, of the firm of Morrison and Watt, boat builders and proprietors of the Hanyang Marine Hotel.

MATHER—On the 15th Aug., accidentally drowned, Capt. N. W. Mather, late of the barque Ellen.

ROHL—On the 7th Sept., at Hong Kong, Adolphus Rohl, master of the ship Medora.

SOMERVILLE—On the 19th Oct., at Newbold Comyn, Leamington, Vice-Admiral Lord Charles Somerville, in the 77th year of his age.

SMITH—On the 30th Aug., on board the British ship Sea Nymph, Edward Smith, seaman.

WEBSTER—On the 12th Aug., George Harley Webster, aged 29 years.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1863-64.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to July 31, 1864	69408	14319742	17499000	21987	3306768	35208265	4619
Corresponding period last season	898205	14470435	16530200	426680	3163596	35479116	6324

SHIPMENTS IN AUGUST.

Ship	From		Silk.
Cumberland	Foo-chow	1,215,000	—
Canute	Do.	1,782,400	—
Assyrian	Shanghai	679,680	—
City of Quebec	Do.	866,350	—
Essex	Do.	1,598,434	—
Amoy	Japan	204,007	—
Brockham	Shanghai	37,800	—
Mail steamer Singapore	Do. &c.	—	1,674
Zodiac	Do.	510,193	—
Philomela	Foo-chow	878,900	—
Thos. Bell	Shanghai	1,288	—
Carausius	Foo-chow	617,700	—
Caractacus	Shanghai	1,256,542	—
Gresham	Do.	1,256,542	—

TO UNITED STATES.

		Piculs.
From June 1 to July 31, 1864	210945	16
Corresponding period last season	1637134	85

SHIPMENTS IN AUGUST.

Ship	From	
Roslin Castle	Canton	—
Mary	Shanghai	41,169

TO THE CONTINENT.

		Bales.
From June 1 to July 31, 1864	...	...
Corresponding period last season	3335656	6532

SHIPMENTS IN AUGUST.

Ship	From	
Leon	Canton	—

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

		Tl. pkgs.
From June 1 to July 31, 1864	8322	...
Corresponding period last season	74157	...

SHIPMENTS IN AUGUST.

Ship	From	
Cornelia	Hong Kong	800

TO AUSTRALIA.

From 1st June to 31st July, 1864	1,762,195
Corresponding period last year	1,829,820

SHIPMENTS IN AUGUST.

Ship	From	
Speedy	Foo-chow	278,300

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	51,092,600	...
" 1845 to 1846	57,334,200	18,604
" 1850 to 1851	63,972,000	22,143
" 1853 to 1854	77,827,800	61,280
" 1855 to 1856	92,240,300	50,489
" 1857 to 1858	76,990,255	68,311
" 1858 to 1859	65,789,792	83,136
" 1859 to 1860	35,560,452	64,163
" 1860 to 1861	90,066,160	70,644
" 1861 to 1862	109,854,040	79,199
" 1862 to 1863	121,273,580	72,818
" 1863 to 1864	117,463,586	46,605

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to July 31, 1864	50653		150	650		

SHIPMENTS IN AUGUST.

Ship.	From	Cotton, pcls.
General Windham	Hong Kong	9,010
Chia-sze	Do.	6,522
Brockham	Shanghai	9,607
Jane and Isabella	Japan	1,813
Sea Snake	Shanghai	3,392
Thos. Bell	Do.	7,241

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to July 31, 1864						

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to July 31, 1864	500	2500		1100		

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TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to July 31, 1864...	290	945	4089	540	2500	43800

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to July 31, 1864...		645	3888	725	9600	

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

CANTON.—For Congous the market is firm. Three more chops have arrived from the country. The total supplies are not expected to exceed thirty chops this season. A fair business has been done in Tayshans at a reduction of 1 to 2 taels. In Scented Orange Pekoes the transactions have been small on previous terms. Scented Capers, extra fine, scarce and wanted; other kinds one tael cheaper. In Green Teas nothing has been done.

AMOY.—Transactions continued on a fair scale during the first three weeks of the past month, but since the departure of the Maggie Leslie, Bedford, and Samuel Russell, buyers have evinced a disposition to retire from the market, which consequently tends down.

FOOCHOW.—The extent of business transacted during the fortnight has been but moderate, low flavory and medium sorts have declined one tael. The teamen are rather anxious sellers of all kinds, except the few remaining chops of second class Kaisow, for which in consequence of scarcity they are asking slightly higher rates. Souchong, Oolong, Pekoe, and Scented Teas, are without alteration in quotations.

SHANGHAI.—Black: There is little business to report during the past fortnight. The news by the 10th July mail, which was generally considered unsatisfactory, counteracted the effect of the rapid fall in exchange, and a few settlements were made at previous quotations. Prices are now decidedly easier, in consequence of the recent advance in the value of sterling; and four chops were settled, which establish a decline of about one tael on last mail's rates. The stock, which consists of 66 chops, is almost entirely in foreign hands. The settlements of the fortnight are reported at 5,000 chests on the market, besides 13,700 chests re-shipped on owners' account—making the transactions for the fortnight 18,700 chests, and for the season to date 211,500 chests. The stock unsold and unshipped is 66 chops. Quotations are—first and second crop Oopacks, tls. 28 to 33; Ningchows, tls. 28 to 33; Oonahms, tls. 20 to 28; Hohows, tls. 20 to 22. Green: Little has been doing in this class during the past fortnight, and buyers for the American market are holding off for the arrival of the new Moyunes and Fychows, which are expected in about another week. Settlements have been 4 chops Pingsuey, at tls. 39 to 41, and one chop of Fychow, Ningpo packed, at tls. 38, which establish a decline of about one tael on previous quotations.

HANKOW.—Business during the past fortnight has again been limited, the teamen still remaining firm in their prices, and with the exception of a few chops sold under pressure, no alteration in prices can be quoted. About 20 chops 3rd crop have come to market, which are considered much superior to last year's growth, possessing both a good leaf and strength, and compare very favourably with the season's 2nd crop. Settlements since the 13th inst. are 44 chops, making the total settlements for the season 502 chops, and leaving a stock on the market of about 35 chops.

YOKOHAMA.—In consequence of large receipts and an accumulating stock, together with the unfavourable advices received from Europe, we note a decline upon former quotations of $3.50 per picul. Regardless of the firm rates still demanded by dealers for the finer sorts, a disposition to operate on American account has manifested itself the past fortnight, and settlements for the month may be estimated at 3,150 piculs.

NAGASAKI.—Considerable excitement has continued since the receipt of news of the intended opening of the Inland Sea, and our merchants have evinced great anxiety to quit their teas at a reduction of $1 to $1½ per picul on previous rates; prices still range however from $1½ to $2 over last year's. Intending purchasers are holding off for a further reduction, which is looked for so soon as the fleet commences active operations.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—The transactions of the fortnight are stated at 2,500 bales, against 2,150 bales corresponding fortnight of last season, and 5,900 do. the corresponding fortnight of the previous season. The unsold stock is estimated at 7,000 bales, against 15,000 last season and 11,000 the season before at the corresponding periods. The following are the current quotations. Tsatlees: No. 1 chops, tls. 480 to 490 per picul.

CANTON.—The advices from the country have not been encouraging, and the quantity of fine silk which has reached this being very small, prices have advanced $10 to $15 per picul. For London 8 bales tsatlee reel go forward on European account, which is the first shipment this season. Quotations are thus given, viz.:—Loon-Kong, No. 1, $460 to 465—18s. 5½d. to 18s. 8¼d., laid down in London; Loon-Kong, No. 2, $445 to 450—18s. 9½d. to 19s., laid down in London; Kow-Kong, $425 to 430—17s. 11¾d. to 18s. 2¼d, laid down in London; Canton tsatlee, $480 to 485—8 bales for Europe; Re-reeled Cumchuck (nett) $515 to 520, none for this steamer; waste silk, No. 1, $54 to 56; waste silk, No. 2, $41 to 44, about 150 bales settled.

YOKOHAMA.—We are unable to report any favourable change in this staple's market, nor indeed do we see any indication from which to judge of when such change may be expected. We hear that there are very considerable quantities continuing to come into Yeddo—the arrival of which to our market is most eagerly looked for.

NAGASAKI.—A muster representing a very small parcel of medium Tazima has been brought in, but the price asked by the holder is fully 50 per cent. over extreme valuations.

DRUGS—CANTON CASSIA LIGNEA.—1,800 piculs have been taken for shipment to the Continent at $15.10 to $15.50, showing an advance of 35 to 40 cents on previous rates. The stock, which is now reduced to 600 piculs is held at $15.40 to $15.60. The quality now sent to the Canton market is not better than that usually sent to Macao. Cassia Buds: 15 piculs have been taken for shipment to New York at the last quotation, say $52.50—a small supply of 20 piculs has increased the stock to 50 piculs again. China Galls: 100 piculs have been taken for shipment to the Continent at $12.75 being an advance of 50 cents. The present stock of 100 piculs is held at $13. Vermilion has declined $1.50 per box, being now offered at $41 per box of 50 catties. Rhubarb: The stock of 130 piculs is still held far above its value. Musk: No fresh supplies: the old stock of 50 catties mixed quality is still unsold. Galangal: No buyers; 200 piculs have been shipped to Macao for sale Essential Oils: None on the market.

CAMPHOR.—HONG KONG.—The stock on hand, amounting to about 900 piculs, noticed in our last has not yet been disposed of, holders not being willing to accept a lower price than $19 per picul, while purchasers only offer $18½. It seems, according to last advices, that the article is again becoming scarce and dear in Formosa, and the shortly expected supplies will not appear before some time.

RAW COTTON.

HONG KONG.—The French mail steamer arrived on the day of the departure of the last mail, bringing favourable advices (under date of 17th July) of the Liverpool market. These produced a corresponding effect here, and sales were effected of, medium Shanghai at $35, of do. Ningpo at $36, and Japan, which is very scarce, at $37 to $38. The London mail of 26th July arrived on the 3rd, bringing advices of cotton having fallen one penny. This intelligence did not affect the market, there being still buyers, and the stock being much reduced. During the last fortnight about 8,000 bags have been received from Chefoo. This description, though clean and white, is not adapted to the Liverpool market, being dull, coarse and defective in staple. The closing quotations are—Shanghai $35, Ningpo $36, Japan $38, Chefoo $32½ to $33½. The sales of the fortnight amount to about 10,000 bags. The stock unsold is computed at 13,000 bags.

AMOY.—Supplies having been full, the market is heavy. Sales are reported of 75 bags Chefoo at $33, quotations for that description having receded to $31¼ to $32½, Shanghai being quoted $32½ to 33½. The stock in foreign hands is stated at 700 bales, there being about 4,000 bales in the hands of Native merchants.

NINGPO.—Contracts have been effected in the interior at $28.70 per bale of 118 to 120 catties, to the extent of 3,000 bales; expense of transit to be borne by purchaser.

YOKOHAMA.—During the month this staple has received more attentions and the purchase, made have fully maintained previous rates, with steady arrivals. Settlements for the month amount to 6.150 piculs. Unsold stock 2,000 piculs. Rates may be quoted at $27.00 to $28.00 per picul.

	Exports from 1st July to date	Against season 1863-64	Against season 1862-63
England	... 4,759	41,714	1,269
America	... ——	574	——
Shanghai	.. ——	461	1,557
Hongkong ..	... 2,875	30,135	8,107
Total ...	bales 7,634	bales 72,884	bales 10,933

SHANGHAI.—A fair amount of business has been done, at an advance of one tael. The old crop is now nearly exhausted, and the new staple cannot arrive in any quantity under a month from this date. We quote No. 1 Shanghai, tls. 19.50 to 20.00 Hankow, 18.50, Tientsin, tls. 2.00 to 2.50 per picul.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—This article remains at the nominal quotations given in last report, but there have not been any transactions in it during the fortnight, if we except a small sale of 51 bales of sea-damaged yarn moved off by public auction. Grey Shirtings show an advance in value of fully 10 cents per piece, when compared with the rates ruling at the end of last month, and there has been a considerable amount of business (consisting principally of 8-4 to 8-6 lb. goods) transacted. The Chinese dealers, however, continue to exhibit much caution in making purchases, and both the rise in value and the amount of settlements reported must be attributed to the presence of foreign buyers in the market, whose purchases make up a large proportion of the business done. Sales are estimated at 15,000 pieces to the native dealers, and 30,000 pieces to foreigners. The business done in these goods at Foochow amounts to 8,250 pieces, which have found buyers at $5.50 per piece, for lbs. 8-2 to lbs. 8-4 goods. There has not been any business doing in Canton. White Shirtings: The demand for these fabrics runs principally upon the lower qualities, and the sales of the fortnight are put at 5,150 pieces, taken at about former quotations. T-Cloths: Continue to remain comparatively neglected, and although a moderate amount of business has to be reported, the settlements are principally on foreign account, and prices remain unchanged. Sales are estimated at 8,000 pieces, exclusive of 6,500 pieces damaged cloths sold by auction. American Drills: There are not any sales of these goods to notice. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: Continue without any inquiry, quotations remaining in a great measure as before given. Chintzes: 800 pieces of these goods have found buyers. Handkerchiefs: 1,000 dozen have been sold.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Clothes, Ladies' and Habit

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Cloths: These goods have continued extremely dull of sale since the date of last report, and the only transactions reported consist of 120 pieces of Spanish Stripes, and about a similar quantity of medium cloths. Long Ells have met with a fair amount of inquiry, but prices are still extremely low; the sales reported for the fortnight amount to 1,200 pieces, exclusive of 80 pieces damaged goods moved off by public auction. Camlets: Continue in moderate demand, and the market for those fabrics is tolerably firm; the sales of the fortnight amount to 1,100 pieces. Lastings: A similar amount of lastings has found buyers, and prices remain without material change to notice. Blankets: The sales of the fortnight amount to 1,000 pairs.

Metals.—Iron, Flats, &c.: The market in this colony for all descriptions of iron has been extremely dull throughout the fortnight, and the only sale reported is the settlement of 900 piculs of nail rod. In Canton 300 piculs of the same description have found buyers. Lead: The price of lead has declined in this market during the past fortnight, and there are not any sales to advise. In Canton the settlements are put at 800 piculs. Tin: 450 slabs sold. Tin Plates: Are extremely low in price, the sales amount to 700 boxes. Steel: 100 tubs reported as settled.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.		6s. 6¼d. to 6s. 8d.	6s. 7d. to 6s. 9d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 10d.	4s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 10¼d.	4s. 10¼d. to 5s 0d.
At Manila	6	ditto	4s. 6d.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 315 to 320 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 227 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 9 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 75 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 27 to 28 discount.

The circular of Mr. Sharp quotes:—

Gold.—The arrivals of gold during the fortnight amount to one hundred and ninety thousand dollars' worth; the shipments outward, including those by the last mail, and excluding those to leave by this, have amounted to the large total of four hundred and seventy thousand dollars, value. Owing to the inquiry both for India and for Manila, the market has been pretty well clean swept.

Silver.—About two lakhs and a quarter dollars' worth have been received; and the same amount exported. The only considerable transaction has been the Government sale of Sycee last week by tender. One million and ninety thousand dollars have come in, and one million and seventy thousand have gone out. Clean dollars stand very much as by last account.

Discounts and Mortgages.—Some heavy sums have been done at eight per cent. for a month, and at six per cent. for shorter time. For mortgages of house property and Chinese securities higher rates are demanded.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At Japan.—From London: Aug. 3, Alice.

At Shanghai.—From London: Aug. 20, Canadian, and, 21, Spirit of the Deep. From Cardiff: Sept. 1, Anna Welch.

At Hong Kong.—From England: Sept. 5, H.M.S. Adventure. From Liverpool: 6, Star of the North. From Cardiff: Aug. 31, Lord Macaulay. From Hamburg: Sept. 5, Albert Justice.

At Manila.—None.

At Singapore.—From London: Sept. 1, King of Trumps; 5, Maggie. From Liverpool: 2, Oceanica; 8, Simoon. From Glasgow: 5, Osprey. From Cardiff: 2, Mary Ann. From Shields: 15, Lancashire. From Birkenhead: 4, Hannover. From Swansea: 15, Northumberland. From Bordeaux: 2, David. From Rotterdam: 9, Louise Kron Prinses van Zweden. From Hamburg: 9, Helena.

At Penang.—From Liverpool: Sept. 15, Fairy Belle.

At Batavia.—From Liverpool, Cherokee. From Glasgow: Thomas Mitchell.

DEPARTURES.

From Japan.—For London, August 17, Anna Maria. For Liverpool, Jane Isabella, and 24, Vigil.

From Shanghai.—For London, August 22, Solent; 24, Wild Deer and September 1, Marquis of Londonderry.

From Foo-chow.—For London, August 18, Carausius; 27, John Temperley, and 29, Racehorse. For New York, 29, Cassiterides, and 30, Queensland.

From Amoy.—For New York, August 22, Maggie Leslie.

From Hong Kong and Canton.—None.

From Macao.—For London, Sept. 4, Aboyne.

From Manila.—For London, August 23, Constance; 30, Staffordshire. For Liverpool (via Zebu), 27, Royal Mint. For Falmouth, 21 Voladora; 24, Ocean Empress. For New York, 26, Julia Ambridge.

From Singapore.—For Liverpool, September 15, Tigris. For Falmouth, 1, Queen Bee.

From Penang.—For London, Sept. 4, Spitfire.

LOADING.

At Japan.—For London: Lucknow, Fleda, Little Edith. For Liverpool: Gyrn Castle. For New York: Brilliant.

At Hankow.—For London: Dovercourt, Camila, str. Far East.

At Shanghai.—For London: Avondhue, John Banks, Napoleon III., Queen of Nations, Sarah Newman, Maravi, Waverley, Yaratilda, Claramont, Toftscomb, Southern Cross. For Liverpool: David McIvor, Finzil, Southern Empire, Patna, Providence. For New York: Prince of Wales.

At Foo-chow.—For London: Horsa, Lord Raglan, Gauntlet, Rajah of Cochin, West Derby, Ellenborough, Verbena, Harkaway. For New York: Endeavour, Bedford, Samuel Russell, Ravensworth.

At Hong Kong and Canton.—For London: Cathaya, Ben Lomond, England. For Liverpool: Everest, Delhi, Samarang, Mount Stuart, Elphinstone.

At Singapore.—For London: Wm. Simpson, Warren Hastings, Northumberland. For Liverpool: Moneta, Simoon.

At Penang.—Golconda, Isabella.

At Batavia.—For England: Maria, Sawely Cludow.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Japan.—To London: Cotton and tea, £3 to £4; silk, £5 per ton of 50 feet nominal.

Shanghai.—Little is offering, and the vessels on the berth are filling up but slowly at £3. 10s. to £4 for London, and £3 to £3. 10s. cotton to Liverpool.

Foo-chow.—To London, £3. 10s.; to New York, £3.

Hong Kong.—The following, from George Holmes's circular, will show the transactions of the fortnight:—Lord Raglan (753 tons), to Foo-chow for London, at £3. 5s.; Gauntlet (793), to Foo chow, on the berth for London, at current rates; Gitana (1,335), to Shanghai for London or Liverpool at £3. To Bangkok and back the rates are 40 to 45 cents per picul.

Manila.—To Liverpool: Wet sugar, £3 to £4. 2s. 6d. per ton; hemp, £4. 10s. per ton. To New York: Hemp, $15.

Singapore.—Tonnage in the harbour plentiful, with little freight offering. The rates for home are with difficulty maintained at £2. 15s. to £3 for dead weight, and £3. 15s. light cargo.

Batavia.—To Continent, for dead weight, £3. 17s. per ton. Shipping in harbour in excess of present requirements.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From England and Continent to China, &c.—Aug. 26, Conchita, London to Manila, Eleanore, Hamburg to Hong Kong, Chrysees, Liverpool to Hong Kong; 27, Cesaria, Cardiff to Shanghai. Sept. 1, Brouwershaven, Rotterdam to Samarang; 2, Vanban, Bourbon to Batavia, Landbauw, Rotterdam to Batavia, Willemina and Clara, Amsterdam to Batavia, Stad Middleburg, Middleburg to Batavia, Kinderdyk, Rotterdam to Batavia; 3, Isles of the South, London to Shanghai, Oriental Queen, Sunderland to Shanghai, Weymouth, London to Shanghai; 3, Juthib, Bordeaux to Singapore, Graafstroom, Rotterdam to Batavia; 5, Kosmopolist, Rotterdam to Batavia, Hector of Bremen, Nantes to Singapore; 7, Ystroom, Amsterdam to Batavia, North Sunderland, Swansea, to Singapore, Scottorse, Liverpool to Shanghai, Minerva, Newcastle to Shanghai; 9, Venezuela, Cardiff to Hong Kong; 28, Conchita, London to Manila, Peveril of the Peak, Phillip I., Swansea to Hong Kong, Hanover, Liverpool to Singapore; 29, Zingra, Cardiff to Shanghai, Rubicon, London to Amoy, Meggie, London to Singapore.

From United States to China, &c.—August 30, Anna, New York to Shanghai; September 5, Apollo, New York to Shanghai; 7, Carolus, New York to Hong Kong; Princess of Wales, New York to Shanghai; and 8, Maribelle, New York to Hong Kong.

From China, &c., to England and Continent.—August 28, Ajax, Sourabaya to Rotterdam; 30, Peeress, Batavia to Falmouth.

From China, &c., to United States.—September 3, Westward, Bangkok to New York; 7, Veltore, Batavia to Boston.

CASUALTIES.

NEWCHWANG.

The Bremen brig *Rio Plata* has been totally lost, on the Kae-chu Bank, Newchwang (during August).

The American barque *Phillipe de la Noye* has sustained material damage by striking on the bar at Newchwang, and will most probably be condemned.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

The engagements of Mr. T. W. Bradley, have been returned. He has, it appears, been engaged in some transactions with Messrs. Duckworth and Co., which involve disputed accounts.

The failure of Messrs. De Wolff, Shuck, and Co., general merchants, has been announced. The debts and liabilities will reach about £35,000 to £40,000.

Cotton.—The market yesterday in Liverpool was better, and prices have advanced about 1d. The sales comprised—300 American 20½d. to 23d.; 240 Pernam, &c., 20½d.; 10 Maranham, 26d.; 350 Maceio and Bahia, 19½d. to 20d.; 300 Egyptian, 12d. to 24d.; 30 Smyrna, 13d.; 13,770 Surat, 8d. to 16¼d.; Madras, 15d. to 16d.; Bengal, Scinde, &c., 6d. to 9¼d.; China, 11d. to 12½d.

Sugar.—Sales of Siam at 33s. 6d. to 36s. for yellow, and 38s. 6d. white.

Silk.—The market during the fortnight has been exceedingly quiet; the high prices, together with the unsettled state of monetary matters, having caused consumers to hesitate before increasing their stocks. No transactions of importance have taken place, and we make no change in our quotations, though there are a few parcels in second hands which might probably be bought at prices a trifle lower. Deliveries from 1st to 24th inclusive:—China, 2,441 bales; Japan, 1,081. Total, 3,522 bales.

Tea at New York.—An offering at auction was mostly withdrawn; prices bid for the first lot not being satisfactory.

Arrivals not Included in the Tables.—Oct. 21. at Havre, from Rangoon, Minerve; 25, at Deal, from Hong Kong, Aunt Lizzie; 25, off the Goodwin, from Batavia, Hollands Trouw; 24, at Portsmouth, from Hong Kong, &c., H.M.S. Ringdove, —; 25, at Falmouth, from Rangoon, Oxford.

Laid on at London.—For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya, Emilie, for Shanghai, Challenger; for Hong Kong, City of Aberdeen.

The Saginaw, reported as having arrived at Deal from Akyab, should have been reported as having sailed for that port.

The Scotland, Manley, from the Clyde, for Batavia, put into Falmouth, 23rd Oct., leaky.

Spoken.—Gebroeders, Amsterdam to Batavia, Sept. 12, 8 N., 22 W.;

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Koning Willem II., Sourabaya to Amsterdam, Aug. 13, 29 S., 42 E.; Sjofroken, Batavia to Amsterdam, Sept. 9, 35 S., 26 E.; Zeephire (?), Rotterdam to Batavia, July 11, 24 S., 30 W.; Christian, Batavia to Rotterdam, July 19, 10 N.; Fifeshire, Canton to London, Aug 13, 35 S., 27 E.; Osborne House, Shanghai to London, 150 days out, Sept. 21, 1 N., 21 W., and was supplied; Boni, Shields to Sourabaya, Aug. 30, 5 N.; Stad Leyden, Batavia to Amsterdam, 26 S., 50 E.; Shanghai to London, 10 S., 123 E.; Cornelis Smit, Batavia to Schiedam, Sept. 2, 26 S., 56 E.; Empress, Penang to London, Sept. 19, 33 S., 15 E.; Bothwell Castle (ship), Penang to London, Sept. 1, 28 S., 11 E.; Pilgrim (supposed) (Dut. barq.) Batavia to Amsterdam, 50 days out, Aug. 28, 35 S., 22 E.; Hendrina, Amsterdam to Batavia, Sept. 1, 16 N., 29 W.; Johore (str.) Newcastle to Singapore, Aug. 20, 26 S., 27 W.

Off Ascension.—Sept. 15, from Batavia, Konig Willem for Amsterdam; 21, from Shanghai, Rugat (?), for Liverpool; 30, from Hong Kong, Gundela, for London.

At St. Helena.—Sept. 11, from Batavia, Nereus, Planten, and sailed on the 13th for Rotterdam; 12, Sperwer, Opperman, and sailed 13th for Amsterdam; from Penang, Sea Wave, Warden, and sailed 13th for London; from Batavia, Nederland, and sailed 13th for Rotterdam.

At Algoa Bay.—Sept. 16, from Batavia for Liverpool, Alicia Annie.

Report of the Ship "Childers," A. Enright Com ander, from Foo-chow:—

1864.			
July	10th, sailed from Sharp Peak.		
Aug.	8th, passed through the Straits of Sunda	29	days out.
Sept.	3rd, rounded the Cape of Good Hope	55	do.
„	19th, passed St. Helena	65	do.
„	20th, crossed the Equator.....	72	do.
Oct.	8th, passed the Island of Flores	90	do.
„	19th, at 6 P.M., abreast of the Lizard.		
„	20th, passed through the Downs.		
„	21st, at 5 A.M., anchored in Gravesend, and docked on the 103rd day out.		

REMARKS ON THE OUTWARD PASSAGE.

Left Gravesend on the 24th December, 1863, and took the departure of the Lizard 29th, 1864:—

January 15.—Crossed the Equator, 17 days.

February 5.—Lat. 41½ S., and on the meridian of the Cape of Good Hope, 38 days.

February 18.—Passed the Island of St. Paul, 51 days.

March 6.—Entered the Straits of Sunda, 68 days.

March 30.—Arrived in Hong Kong, 92 days from the Lizard, and 97 from Gravesend.

SILK CULTIVATION IN JAVA.

(From the *Javasche Courant.*)

In the district of Buitenzorg, the culture of silk is proceeding tolerably well, especially on the estate Tjikema, where under supervision of the Cochin-Chinaman, André Loeas, about 25 Neth pounds of raw silk, and the same weight of flax will soon be had, enough to hold a sale of.

The experiments made by Mr. Weber on the estate Tjogrek, in the above-mentioned district, have been successful. The results induce him to proceed with the cultivation of silk; he is also busy extending his premises as far as his means permit. Some time ago Mr. Weber sold the silk he had thus obtained, at Batavia, for 13 f.—a Neth pound, raw, and for 252 f. per pound flax.

At the establishment for agriculture at Tjimoendoel, district Krawang, the planting of ten bouws with mulberry trees was almost completed. About five bouws had already reached the height of five or six feet, and the shrubs were in excellent condition. A commencement had been made with the building of the sheds and workshops, and the work would soon follow.

Mr. ter Meer, at Samarang, has not been successful in his undertaking. He must have suffered greatly by the inundations there, and does not appear to have succeeded in planting the mulberries properly either, on account of the unfitness of the ground he had chosen. As far as is known he has not yet brought any to market.

Mr. C. le Roy, at Sourabaya, is at present engaged planting mulberries in eight bouws of ground near the passar Keopang. The *magnanerie* Marcus at Malang, the property of Messrs. Marcus and van Isselmuden, is progressing slowly. The quantity of the produce obtained was none of the best, principally on account of the inexperience of the workmen. This induced Mr. Marcus to repair to Buitenzorg, accompanied by some of his men, in order to obtain instruction for himself and them from André Loeas, in the treatment of the worms and the spinning off of the cocoons or balls. He has since returned to Malang with his workmen.

At the establishment for agriculture at Banjoewangie not more than two bouws had been planted with mulberries, which may be ascribed to the difficulty they have there of obtaining seed. The overseer, Ponder, repaired with some workmen to Buitenzorg, accompanied by a few workmen to be instructed in the culture of silk at Tjibema, and was to have regulated the work on his return, according to the experience he had acquired. Unfortunately that official was attacked with cholera on the route to Sourabaya, so that it will be necessary to send another to take his place. This delay is to be deplored as, there being no one at Banjoewangie who can give the necessary directions, the work at the buildings and workshops that will be required must of a necessity be postponed.

Several persons at Samarang, Sourabaya, and Banjoemas have declared their intention to cultivate silk worms.

New colours for the 31st Regiment have arrived at Aldershott, and will shortly be presented. The regiment has seen much service in India, the Crimea, and in China. In 1860 it left India for China over 1,100 strong, and received during its stay in that country a draught of 102 men. It embarked from the latter place for England only 642 strong, having experienced a total loss of 588 of all ranks, or nearly one-half its strength, in the space of three years and a-half. It is not yet decided who will perform the pleasing ceremony of presenting the colours to the regiment, but is it thought probable that the wife of Major-Gen. Sir F. Lugard, K.C.B., will accept the office, the gallant major-genera lbeing the colonel of this distinguished corps. The colours at present borne by the regiment were presented at Dublin in May, 1848, by the then Major-Gen. Prince George of Cambridge.

OUR FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH JAPAN.

(Money Market Review.)

We are not disposed to regard another display of febrile violence on the part of the rulers in Japan, directed against foreign settlers, as unfavourable to our financial and commercial interests in that quarter, provided the occasion be taken advantage of to define more clearly our national relations, and widen the basis of our trading transactions in accordance with the spirit and letter of Lord Elgin's treaty, the provisions of which have been continuously and systematically violated by the Tycoon's Government. This violation has come in the shape of official intervention to free intercourse, the placing of a wholly factitious value on Japanese goods, the withdrawal of merchandise brought to market, the turning back of produce on its way to consular ports, unreasonable exactions and duties, the encouragement given to the non-fulfilment of contracts on which money advances have been made, and the extreme and arbitrary variations in the rate of exchange of Mexican dollars for Japanese currency. Every disturbance affecting the power of the Tycoon shakes also those internal engagements by which that potentate endeavours to secure, as far as possible, the profits of our trade to himself—profits for which the Daimios are equally ravenous. The power of the Tycoon is confessedly on the wane, but it allows just that amount of cohesion between the native princes which will allow any arrangements with him on our part to obtain, in name at least, the force of general law. Now is the golden time for the revision of our commercial relations before the composite political structure falls to pieces. Our first object is, of course, the extension of our trade. There is nothing in the treaty to prevent our holding direct communication with the native Princes at ports in their own territories, instead of confining ourselves altogether to Government towns.* Although it is true that the Daimios would rob the native merchants quite as readily as the Tycoon, the way would be thus prepared for closer contact with the people; markets for our camlets and woollens would be multiplied, and Japanese exports would be increased both as to quantity and variety. The Prince of Shendai could supply us with timber that would compete successfully with India teak; the Prince of Matsmai could furnish us with manufactured copper to any amount; and Satsuma's agents would most probably fulfil the offers of trade they made subsequent to the bombardment of Kagosima. It is time that we should demand, too, as a portion of redress for any additional insult to our flag, an extension of commercial privileges. No concession would be more serviceable than the immediate opening of the remaining treaty ports, including Osacca, that great central market of the Empire, with its neighbouring entrepot of Hiogo. We may fairly assume that had we compelled the Japanese even to act up to the terms of the existing treaty, the value of the trade in goods at the consular ports in the present year would have reached £25,000,000, whereas it cannot exceed £4,500,000, involving, besides, a large balance in favour of Japan, which must be settled in silver specie and bullion. It is not to be expected that a country able to supply us with tea, silk, tobacco, oils, and increasing quantities of cotton and copper, with a variety of minor articles, including porcelain, lacquered ware and medicinal drugs, will absorb for some years our manufactured goods to the same value; but both imports and exports admit of immense development, and, were no artificial obstructions created, it is obvious that as suppliers of manufactures we should ultimately be the greatest gainers. Each succeeding season our trade appears to receive a new impulse; new firms spring up at the different settlements; the tone of the foreign community is improved; land increases in value; and tonnage, both for China and Europe, is enlarged. The establishment from time to time of new branch banks constitutes an additional sign of promise. What is now demanded is prompt action on the part of the Foreign-office in favour of the interests of our merchants and bankers, and, amongst other things, a settlement of the long-pending question of the Japanese currency. The key of access to the empire may be pronounced to be in Article X. of Lord Elgin's treaty, which provided for the exchange of foreign for Japanese coin, of the same sort, weight for weight, and for the general circulation of the foreign coin at a fixed rate or valuation.

We trust Sir Rutherford Alcock will be instructed to urge, among other things, on the Tycoon's Government the propriety of establishing the practice, now disallowed, of Japanese merchants submitting to a lien on their goods as security for advances. At present, the money advances of our merchants are made to irresponsible petty brokers, whose business it is to shield their principles when the fulfilment of the contract proves inconvenient. Merchants are ready and willing to give these liens, but they must not come to the knowledge of the Japanese officials. Here is a branch of business in which our banks will be enabled to perform most effectual service. Add to this the removal of existing obstructions, arising solely from the desire to limit trade by the Tycoon and to secure the main profits to himself; and it is easy to see that the face of the empire will be quickly changed, its available wealth be doubled, its resources utilised, and a new condition of things brought about in which the present conflicting political and national elements will disappear, or assume more favourable phases. We are in Japan simply as a trading nation, and it is the bounden duty of the Foreign-office to pursue henceforth an uncompromising course in the interest of commerce. By these means we shall soon secure in our dealings such a hold on the material interests of the country as will prove the best guarantee for a lasting and prosperous peace.

* The writer is in error, we think, in this respect. Unfortunately the treaty *does* prevent (as it now stands) our holding direct communication with the natives at ports belonging to independent princes; for in that treaty we acknowledge the Tycoon to be Sovereign Ruler of the whole Empire, and have agreed with him in that capacity, that we will trade at certain ports named by him *and no others*; he has taken care to name only such ports as are in Imperial territory.—Ed.

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CHINESE PIRATES.

(MARITIME GAZETTE.)

The protest made by Captain Human and the first and second officers of the *Netherby*, as regards the very gallant and successful resistance offered by the Master, officers and crew of the ship against a horde of Chinese pirates in the Formosa Channel on her passage home from China confirms in every particular the reports formerly received, both as regards the position in which the ship was placed when attacked, the number of assailants, and the gallant manner in which they were repulsed. It was on the fourth day after leaving the Port of Foochoo, that the *Netherby* took the ground at the entrance of the Formosa Channel, and a short distance from the Pescador Islands. In the efforts made to get the ship clear all hands were busily employed, and it was not until a fleet of 100 sampans had collected, containing some 1,500 men, armed with large knives, hatchets, and other formidable weapons, that it became apparent to all on board that they were surrounded by a horde of Chinese pirates. The discovery was hardly made when night came on, and it became necessary for the safety of the ship to lighten her, and with that object to throw a portion of the cargo overboard. As this was done the jettisoned cargo was instantly picked up by the boats alongside, who had availed themselves of the darkness of the night to strip off the ship's copper wherever they could get at it, and to cut away the warp and kedge anchor, which had been carried out in the hope of working the ship off the reef. As the morning approached, the pirates, to the number of 1,000, emboldened, probably, by the impunity which had so far attended their operations, rushed on deck, and commenced simultaneously to plunder the ship and threaten the crew. Against this host ot assailants Captain Hulman could only bring to bear the efforts of himself, his officers, and the crew of twenty-six men, armed with bayonets, handspikes, and any other weapons which were at hand. With these—for it would seem no fire-arms were available—they contrived to kill or disable some fifteen of the pirates, and to keep the others at bay until, unhappily, the ship was got clear and sailed away from her pursuers. Had the *Netherby* remained a few hours longer on the reef, there can be no doubt that the pirates have returned to the attack in such numbers as to have utterly overwhelmed the ship's company. They had already cut every warp put out from the ship save one. Had they succeeded in severing that from the kedge, the last hope of the deliverance would have been lost, and the ship would have lain at the mercy of her savage assaliants, who would have plundered her to her last plank, and then have cruelly butchered every soul on board. From this fate the *Netherby*, her crew, and passengers were rescued, it would seem, mainly by the courage and self-possession of her commander and his officers, who, undismayed by such appalling odds against them, succeeded in resisting the efforts of a horde of sanguinary barbarians, and in saving the property of their employers and the lives of all on board from imminent destruction.

We are credibly informed that when the *Netherby* left Foochoo, only three days before she was boarded by these pirates, there was a force of British gunboats lying at their anchors in that port sufficient, if properly employed, to give an account of all the pirates in the waters of Formosa. The admiral on the China station should be apprised, if he does not already know it, that to make the Chinese waters safe for British merchantmen is of more consequence, under existing circumstances, than the giving safe conduct to trading junks up and down the rivers of the interior. A united effort on the part of the British and French men-of-war on the station, and would in a very short time clear the seas of these miscreants who are more feared by vessels in the coasting trade of China—and with very good reason—than they are by foreigners. An expedition such as that which, conducted by the Rajah Brooke and Captain Hall, of the *Nemesis*, cleared the waters of Borneo of the pirates which so long infested them, has become indispensable to rid the Chinese seas of a similar pest. The means of extermination are at hand; and why should they not be be employed? But, however Her Majesty's Government may be disposed to regard this matter, it has become the bounden duty of our ship owners engaged in the China trade, to see that their ships are adequately furnished with the means of resistance in the event of a surprise such as that which overtook the *Netherby*. It has already been suggested that our ships in the China trade should carry guns, and a certain number of naval reserve men, who could practice the gunnery drill at sea, and particularly, if the occasion offered, in the China Sea. Each ship should also be supplied with a sufficient stand of arms, and with good and reliable ammunition. Had the *Netherby* been thus prepared, she would have saved a good deal of property which unavoidably passed into the hands of her numerous assailants. We may add here, though we are quite sure, in most cases, the reminder is unnecessary, that by a well-known Act of the reign of Charles II., the "Mariners or inferior officers of any English ship laden with goods and merchandise" are compelled under pain of imprisonment with hard labour and the forfeiture of all wages due, to "fight and defend the ship when they shall be thereunto commanded by the master or commander thereof.', A Merchant ship, therefore, when there is occasion to be prepared, need never be left defenceless, but the duty of keeping the highways of Commerce clear of theives and pirates, is the plain duty of those Governments who have the disposal and distribution of the police of the seas—functions in the assumption of which the Government of this country has at all times, and with very satisfactory results to Commerce, taken the lead.

THE CHINA AND AUSTRALIA TELEGRAPH.

A correspondence has appeared in *The Times* on the subject of Sir Charles Bright's proposal that China and Australia could be connected in a period of three years. This communication appeared in our last issue. As the objections connected with the scheme are noticed in the following, we omit (for the sake of our space) the previous letters :—

(To the Editor of *The Times*.)

SIR,—Sir Charles Bright has made a show of replying to my letter, ut he has not answered it. He begins by saying that for the 1,000 miles which lie between Rangoon and Singapore his submarine cable is to lie in soft ooze, except at the landing-places. How can that possibly be when from the very necessities of the locality it must run through many places for half its course abounding in the coral reefs which are of the nature of these latitudes? The Indian Government had a cable made to connect the two places in question, but, discovering their mistake, abandoned the project. That very cable now connects Malta and Alexandria, and, although lying in soft ooze, has been repeatedly broken.

As to the route between Singapore and Hong Kong, your correspondent says that the utmost depth of the China Seas is not above fifty fathoms—a depth at which a cable "may be picked up and laid down again at pleasure." What! No difficulty in doing this, when for a great part of the year half a gale of wind blows persistently from one quarter with the occasional interlude of a typhoon? Sir Charles Bright's cable is, I now find, to have a resting station at Saigon. This will take it full 200 miles out of the straight course, and consequently the total length of this branch will be not 1,500 miles, as I stated, but 1,700. For the first 350 miles it must pass through or along islands with the same coral reefs which so often broke the Dutch cable to the west of the Malay Peninsula.

As to the cable between Singapore and Batavia, all that Sir Charles Bright says about it is that it is "to be laid on an even bottom," a quality of bottom which he alone has discovered, but how or where he says not. Sir Charles's submarine cable is, according to his statement, to be reduced by a land wire to pass through Banca. Now, the length of this island is 120 miles, and so the submarine line will be no more than 530 miles. Of the repeated rupture of the Dutch cable and its ultimate abandonment the engineer maintains a prudent silence.

We come next to the cable to be laid from Batavia, and which, passing through the Straits of Sunda, I made to land at Cape York, the whole distance being about 2,500 miles. From this distance Sir Charles Bright very properly deducts the land wire passing through Java, so that the distance which I gave for a submarine cable in this direction would be reduced to 1,900 miles; Sir Charles, however, seems now to give a preference to a new route, which is to begin with Java or the adjacent island of Madura, and proceed by Macassar, in the island of Celebes and the Portugese settlement of Dilli, in the island of Timur, and at the head of the Gulf of Carpentaria. The object of this route is to avoid a sea of impracticable depth. From Java or Madura to Macassar the distance is about 600 miles, and from Macassar to Timur it is not less than 780. In the first stage of this route the sea is not shallow enough for an electric cable, but in the last it is sometimes shallow enough; in others, towards Timur, of great depth, and always unequal, with abundance of the coral formation which is inseparable from these latitudes. From Timur to the head of the gulf of Carpentaria, making Port Essington and Wessel Islands intermediate stations, the distance seems to be about 1,260 miles, making the the total submarine cable 2,640 miles, or 140 miles longer than I made it from Batavia to Cape York. It might, indeed, be shortened by a wire across Timur, but this would reduce its length by no more than 50 miles, and the attempt might not be worth making, since most of the country to be passed through is in the possession of wild and mischievous tribes, who owe no allegiance to the Portuguese.

Sir Charles Bright tells us that there are but 70 miles of very deep waters, but from whom he has obtained this consolatory information he does not say. The distance from Timur to Port Essington is from 700 to 800 miles, and I understand almost every foot of it is water so deep that it has never been fathomed, and which, for what any one knows to the contrary, may be unfathomable: This broad and deep sea, distinguished from the comparatively shallow one to the north of it, forms the line of demarcation which separates two great geographical provinces of the earth's surface from each other, remarkable for the discordance of their vegetable and animal productions, man himself included.

Sir Charles Bright says that a telegraphic land communication is already established from Adelaide to Brisbane. By all means, therefore, let them be struck off the work to be done. Still there will remain the land wire from Brisbane to the head of the Gulf of Carpentaria, a distance of not less than 1,000 miles over a desert inhabited by roving savages, with nothing to eat beyond a chance kangaroo. As to the submarine line, the extent of cable which Sir Charles Bright proposes to lay down in three short years' time amounts to 3,878 miles, or about 130 miles short of the breadth of the Atlantic thrice told!

Sir Charles Bright reminds me that the scheme for connecting England and France by telegraph was thirteen years ago considered as chimerical as I now consider a connection of the same kind between England and Australia. On my part I must beg him to consider the difference as to facility of accomplishment of a cable 21 miles long and one which, passing by India cannot be less than 10,000 long. He admits that the cables which cross the narrow seas of Europe are "sometimes injured, but speedily restored to working order." No doubt they are easily repaired, but only because they are very short; and all the means and appliances, the material, and the skill close at hand. What can there be in common between such a case and an electric wire which extends to the Antipodes, and passes along the shores of barbarians and over wide seas which are seldom visited by the canoe of a savage? C.

SIR,—The key to the difference of opinion between your correspondent "C." and myself as to the feasibility of extending a line of telegraph from India to Australia and China may be found in the following paragraph in his last letter, referring to the depth of water between Timor and Port Essington :—

"Sir Charles Bright tells us that there are but 70 miles of very deep waters, but from whom he has obtained this consolatory information he does not say. The distance from Timor to Port Essington is from 700 to 800 miles, and I understand almost every foot of it is water so deep that it has never been fathomed, and which, for what anyone knows, may be unfathomable."

Upon this foundation a theory is built up that this "broad and deep sea" indicates the point of separation between two great portions of the earth and its inhabitants.

Your correspondent will find the information he seeks in the Admiralty chart of the northern portion of Australia and the adjacent islands published in March, 1862. He will there perceive that the whole of the sea between the Australian coast and Timor, with the exception of a portion

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varying from 40 to 90 miles from the island, is under 80 fathoms in depth, the greater part varying from 30 to 50 fathoms. The proposed cable between Timor and Port Essington would, as I stated before, be laid in this comparatively shallow depth, with the exception of about 70 miles of its length, as to which we have no information; but there is no reason to anticipate very deep water, nor did I express any such belief. The same chart will acquaint your correspondent that the distance between Port Essington and the furthest point of Timor is 500 miles, the nearest point being 330 miles.

It is scarcely fair that "C." should occupy your space and my time in correcting these mistakes when the information can be so readily acquired from the most obvious sources.

In his former letter your correspondent asserted that the water between Hong Kong and Singapore was of "very considerable depth." In his letter published to-day he does not dispute the accuracy of my counter statement, that the depth is not more than 50 fathoms. He states, however, in reference to the section between Madura and Macassar, to which I referred as forming part of an alternative route between Java and Timor, that the depth is not shallow enough for an electric cable, and he gives the distance as 600 miles. I can only refer him to the English and Dutch charts, from which he will see that the depths in this section average 40 fathoms, which I consider a very suitable depth for a cable. The exact distance in a direct line is 330 miles, but this would probably be increased in laying the cable to 360 miles, in order to take the best course. Your corrrespondent again states that the Rangoon and Singapore line must be partly laid on coral. I repeat that although coral does exist in the sea proposed to be traversed, yet that the cable can be laid altogether clear of it, and that in the actual track laid out, the whole of the route is over a favourable bottom.

The destination of the present Malta and Alexandria cable was abandoned, not on account of any supposed difficulties between Rangoon and Singapore, but in consequence of one of the cable ships running ashore at Plymouth on her way out to Singapore; this caused the loss of the favourable season for laying, and rendered it necessary to change the destination of the cable, as it was unadvisable to incur the risk and expense of keeping it on board the vessels for another season.

Your correspondent refers again to the cable laid by the Dutch Government in 1859 between Singapore and Batavia. This was one of the earliest long submarine lines laid, and was altogether too slight. The outer iron covering was soon destroyed by the chymical action of the salt water, and the naked core was so frequently broken by anchors and currents that it was not worth repairing. It was laid, contrary to the advice of the contractor, between Sumatra and Banca, where the water is very shallow and where strong currents prevail.

The cables which are now proposed to be laid will be very much stronger, and different in many respects from those originally designed for long submarine lines.

In reference to the Australian land line between Brisbane and the head of the Gulf of Carpentaria, which "C." supposes will cross a desert, I may state that the intervening country is now settled to within 100 miles of the head of the gulf. The Government of Queensland has undertaken to construct this portion of the telegraph, and it may be assumed they have good reason to be satisfied as to its practicability.

Your correspondent, referring to the commencement of submarine telegraphy, begs me to consider the difference between laying a short cable in the English Channel and a long one in Eastern seas, and remarks upon the difference between repairing a cable crossing the narrow seas of Europe and the same operation in the parts under discussion. I look upon the connection of England with France by submarine telegraph, considering the state of our knowledge at the time, to have been a more difficult achievement then than the carrying out of the contemplated lines now, and so far as length is concerned, the longest proposed section will be shorter than one of the sections of the Malta and Alexandria line, while most of them are not longer than the cable connecting this country with Denmark.

With two steamers fitted with the necessary appliances for repairing cables (such as the steamer stationed on the Persian Gulf line), and a store of spare cable at the various stations, there would be no difficulty in maintaining the whole of the proposed lines in efficient and permanent working order.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

CHARLES T. BRIGHT.

1, Victoria-street, Westminster, Oct. 18.

SIR,—I observe that in "C.'s" letter, which appears in *The Times* of this morning, he states, with reference to the Rangoon-Singapore cable, that the Indian Government had a cable made to "connect the two places in question, but discovering their mistake abandoned the project. That very cable now connects Malta and Alexandria, and although lying in soft ooze has been repeatedly broken."

Now, Sir, as I was engineer to the Government for the cable in question, I am in a position to state that "C." is altogether wrong in the reason he assigns for the change in the destination of the cable.

The steamship *Victoria* sailed for Singapore with a portion of the cable on board in December, 1860, but was met by a violent storm in the Channel and had to put into Plymouth. This vessel was wrecked in entering the inner harbour. The delay thus occasioned caused the loss of the favourable season for laying a cable between Rangoon and Singapore, and Her Majesty's Government decided to change its destination, and to lay it between Malta and Alexandria rather than incur the expense and the risk of keeping it for several months on board the vessels. The termination of the China war about that time no doubt caused the change in the destination to be less regretted.

In my opinion, the depth and nature of the sea bottom between Rangoon and Singapore are more favourable for laying and maintaining a cable than between Malta and Alexandria.

It will throw light on the discussion with reference to the India, Australia, and China telegraph if I take this opportunity of shortly stating the results of over three years' experience of the working of the Malta and Alexandria telegraph, which is the first long submarine line which has proved permanently successful. The total length of cable laid between Malta and Alexandria is 1,330 knots, equal to about 1,550 statute miles. This cable was completed on the 23rd of September, 1861, and has therefore, been submerged more than three years. The first two sections—viz., Malta to Tripoli, and Tripoli to Benghazi, a total length of 860 statute miles, which have been laid three years and five months, have never for one moment ceased to work, or given the slightest cause for anxiety, but test at present as well as when first laid. The Malta-Tropoli section has a *maximum*, *minimum*, and mean depth of 420, 50, and 133, fathoms respectively. That of the Tripoli-Benghazi section 150, 25, and 71 fathoms respectively.

I regret I cannot speak so favourably of the last section—viz., that from Benghazi to Alexandria, representing a length of cable of 692 statute miles. The sea bottom over this section is much the most unfavourable of the three sections for a submarine cable, having, as the charts will show, a most irregular and uneven bottom, in places very rocky and exposed.

At the time this cable was laid it was moreover very imperfectly surveyed, although Captain Spratt did his utmost during the short time allowed him to give us proper surveys.

As engineer to the Government, I desired to have the cable laid over a uniform bottom of about 50 fathoms, but principally owing to the unavoidable absence of sufficiently detailed soundings this result was not attained on the section between Benghazi and Alexandria. This portion of the cable lies in the following depths—viz., *maximum* 115 fathoms, *minimum* 13 fathoms, mean 47 fathoms. This section has been subjected to three casualties, all occuring in very shallow water, where the cable lies, not as is described by "C." in "soft ooze," but on a hard, rough, and rocky bottom. These casualties occurred as follows:—June 16, 1863, repaired August 10, 1863—55 days out of working order; January 16, 1864, repaired March 19, 1864—62 days out of working order; Sept. 6, 1864, repaired Sept. 26, 1864—20 days out of working order; total, 137 days out of working in over three years.

Had a steamer been at hand ready and available for repairs, there is no reason why the total duration of the above interruptions should not have been reduced to about 30 days.

In conclusion, I may remark that the Malta and Alexandria cable is much lighter than the cable proposed to be laid in the India and China Seas, and has no external protection to protect the outside wires from corrosion.

I leave Sir C. Bright to deal with the other portion of "C.'s" letters, in which I feel he will have no difficulty, as "C." is evidently writing without having examined the very detailed charts of the seas in question.

Apologising for the length of this letter,

I remain your obedient servant,

6, Duke-street, Adelphi, Oct. 18. HENRY C. FORDE.

SIR,—The points at issue between your correspondent "C." and myself are now reduced to a very small compass.

The sea between Timor and Port Essington, "almost every foot" of which he asserted before to be "so deep that it has never been fathomed," is now admitted to be shallow, except for the distance of 70 miles, which, he says, is "so deep that even the skill of Captain Denham could not fathom it." This triumph over the powers of the marine surveyor is altogether imaginary, inasmuch as he did not attempt to take any soundings within 70 miles to the south of Timor. Should it prove that the depth of water in any part of this short space is greater than will admit of the cable being raised for repairs, the loss, in the event of a portion needing to be replaced, would be trifling; but, as I said before, there is no reason to expect any very great depth in this locality.

As regards the land line in Australia, the difficulties anticipated by your correspondent are now narrowed to the country between the head of the Gulf of Carpentaria and Brisbane; two-thirds of the length, between the latter place and Port Denison, are now under construction by the Queensland Government. The whole country in question is well known to be the best watered district in Australia, and cattle stations now exist throughout its length to within a short distance of the head of the Gulf.

In respect to the line between Singapore and Hong Kong, "C." has abandoned his assertion as to the great depths to be encountered, but states that, for the first half of the section between Singapore and Saigon, the cable must be laid "among islands, rocks, and coral reefs, for there is no possibility of avoiding them." This I dispute altogether, and an examination of the charts will be conclusive that the cable can be laid quite clear of any such imaginary dangers. Nor is the existence of coral any serious objection, except in very small depths and where very strong currents prevail.

Your correspondent appears to be determined not to consult the charts of the seas between Rangoon and Singapore, although he has derived so much information by taking my advice to do so in the case of the Australian section; if he would be prevailed upon to do this, he would find that the cable can be laid in a depth of about 40 fathoms over an even bottom of sand, shells, and ooze, as I stated before.

I am now described by "C." as an ardent admirer of some poet who is said to have annihilated space and time to meet his mistress. This is because I have corrected some extraordinary exaggerations on his part as to the depth and distance. My measurements have been scrupulously exact, as well as all my other statements in reference to this important subject.

The possibility of constructing the lines within three years is taken great exception to by "C." I can only tell him that the telegraph cable lately laid by the Indian Government between Kurrachee and the head of the Persian Gulf was manufactured at the rate of 50 miles a week, and at this rate the whole of the proposed cables could be completed, even if the contracts could not be divided among several manufacturers, within two years.

The laying of the different sections would proceed upon the completion of the several lengths, so that the last section could undoubtedly be finished within the time named.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

CHARLES T. BRIGHT.

No. 1. Victoria-street, Westminster, S.W., Oct. 22.

*** This discussion must now end.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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LONDON, WEDNESDAY, OCT. 26, 1864.

THE SITUATION IN JAPAN.

The thunderbolts of war appear to be still suspended in the cloud of doubt that hangs over our relations with Japan. Our London contemporaries would, indeed, lead us to believe that the deadly order had been issued, and that the crash must have been heard long ere this. We are told that "the troops "were under orders to leave for Simonoseki on the 29th "August; the gentlemen of the Consular service appointed to "act as interpreters had been named; and that the design is "to enter the Straits, silence the Prince of Nangato's bat-"teries, and then land men to take the guns." It is curious that all this active military service is determined on at the very moment that Major-General Brown takes leave of the 20th Regiment at Yokohama in terms that make no mention of an approaching opportunity for displaying the good qualities he commends in them; and then he himself quietly takes his berth in the steamer that was to leave for Shanghai on the 26th, and turns his back on the fighting to commence on the 29th. We need not say, therefore, that we place very little confidence in these forebodings of immediate hostilities. The Treaty concluded at Paris with the Emperor of the French by the Japanese Ambassadors stipulated, we are told, that the Straits shall be opened within three months from the date of the return of the Mission to Japan. The Japanese Government, then, are clearly entitled to so much delay; and they will be pursuing a course utterly in contradiction to all we have ever heard or experienced of the policy of the Easterns if they do not avail themselves of the space for procrastination which may be said to be solemnly guaranteed to them. Our own private advices actually caution us against giving credence to the reports current at Yokohama on the departure of the mail, which are described to be as various as they were unreliable. We believe we are justified in saying that it was more than conjectured the Tycoon's Government were not inclined to ratify the convention made by the Ambassadors, which, it was alleged, went beyond their powers. If such be the decision come to, it must at least be formally signified before any counter policy can be determined on by the representatives of the European Powers. We can hardly therefore place faith in the statement of our informant that the "the departure of "the allied squadron would be again immediately prepared "for, and might take place within ten days." The question, indeed, is now altogether in a different position. The opening of the Straits has by the Treaty concluded at Paris been made a European question—and more especially a French question; and we suspect the Emperor Napoleon will not be disposed to leave to England the task of its vindication and the honours of the contest in the preponderating degree that must result from the largely superior force Britain now has on the spot. We shall expect to find that much has yet to be done diplomatically before the last argument of Monarchs and States is resorted to. It must be borne in mind that the mail, which had just reached Japan, was the one that brought intelligence from England to the 27th June. At that juncture certain resolutions of Earl Grey were on the order-book of the House of Lords for debate on the 1st of July. The discussion did come off on the date fixed, and we can gather nothing from the speech of Earl Russell on that occasion which would induce us to suppose that any hasty measures of violence on the part of the British authorities in Japan would meet with encouragement and support from the Foreign-office. On the contrary, while firmly protesting against "needless and unworthy concessions;" his Lordship seemed bent on maintaining friendly relations with Japan. Admiral Kuper, for his part, will, we are convinced, be in no hurry to embroil himself in another Kagosima affair. Diplomacy must be stimulated to its utmost to preserve peace on terms satisfactory to the Japanese, and becoming to the dignity of England and France. It should be understood from the first that hostilities on the question of the Straits must be levelled against the Tycoon and not against his vassal of Nangato. And such a contest the English force now at Japan is utterly unequal to elevate from mere butchery and destruction into "the pomp and circumstance of glorious war."

FRENCH PROGRESS IN CHINA.

The *Moniteur de l'Armee* of Paris, in its last issue, published a letter purporting to come from "our own correspondent" at Shanghai, and dated August 25th, containing some remarkable statements relating to certain acts of the Chinese Government, of which we have no intelligence through the usual channels. While inserting a translation of this communication in our issue of the 17th inst., we introduced it by observing:—"Perhaps the whole thing is in advance of the facts, "as it states that the Court of Peking has appointed the Man-"darin Konan, Governor of Nanking. It is said that he is "well disposed to Europeans, and well versed in all matters "relating to commerce and navigation. The Taipings expe-"rienced a serious loss by the capture of their capital, but "they are not entirely destroyed. They are endeavouring to "collect their forces in the provinces of Nyang-wei (Ngan-whei) "and of Kiang-si. One of their armies, commanded by the "lieutenant of Chan-Omang (Chung Wang), defeated a numer-"ous division of the Imperial army in a pitched battle on the "3rd of August. The Peking Government has consequently "seen that it cannot disband its army, and it has requested "that the Franco-Chinese corps shall continue to serve. An "arrangement has nearly been concluded for that purpose, "and Lieutenant Aiguebelle, of the French Navy, who com-"mands that corps, had arrived at Shanghai to engage a "number of European officers and non-commissioned officers, "and to procure supplies, &c."

Such is the purport of this extraordinary communication, which is four days in advance of our latest dates from Shanghai, brought by the mail to the 21st August only. Our advices from thence make no mention of a Governor having been appointed by the Court of Peking, to rule over Nanking, simply because there was not sufficient time to receive an answer to the report of Lee Futai on the capture of that city, and requesting orders as to the disposal of the Chung Wang held as a prisoner. Without doubting the authenticity of this special correspondence, it is just possible that the French Government may have received a telegraphic despatch *via* Russia, containing the news given in the official organ from the legation at Peking, and, by way of hiding the source of intelligence, it has been fathered rather clumsily, in point of date, upon an imaginary correspondent at Shanghai. Be this as it may, the paragraph appearing in an official journal, and showing the necessity of retaining the Franco-Chinese contingent, after the disbandment of the Anglo force, is significant of the progress of French influence at the Court of Peking. Apparently the French minister is improving the occasion for his imperial master, during the absence of his formidable rival Sir Frederick Bruce. It is the old policy of the French revived, where they reap unexpected advantages from the carelessness of their allies. Here have the British for the last four years borne the brunt and odium of this Taiping campaign and finally abandon it at the point of victory, when the French step in and secure the substantial rewards dispensed by the Chinese Government.

Our advices from Ningpo recently informed us that the French had established extensive ship-building yards at that port, where three gunboats had been launched, and several other vessels of war were on the stocks, all on account of the Chinese Government, and to be manned by French officers. We now learn through this communication that not only is the Franco-Chinese force under Aiguebelle to be retained and

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increased, but under French auspices, "flying corps are to be "formed in the Imperial army, which will scour the provinces "traversed by the Yang-tsze-Kiang, to prevent any rebel bands "being organised there." Thus, it would appear, that the French are to have the direction of war affairs in the Chinese Empire both by sea and land, where the disciplined forces are to be engaged. They have readily accepted all the conditions imposed upon these commands by the native authorities, which the English rejected. On these points our gallant allies are not very scrupulous, as they well know how to ride rough-shod over the most stringent Chinese law when they have the upper hand. Ostensibly they will agree to be guided in their actions by the local mandarins, but they will pay no heed to the orders of a Viceroy, if they think a different disposition of the troops will accrue to their advantage. As to undertaking the conduct of these affairs for *La Gloire* alone, we would as soon expect a pure feeling of that nature to influence a corrupt mandarin who engages in war for the sake of *loot*.

As far as it concerns the Chinese this new arrangement of securing the aid of a western nation in the conduct of their army and navy after European models is of very little concern, as their French friends are a pretty good match for Asiatic cunning; and have few delicate scruples in cutting the Gordian knot of wily diplomacy. But it is just possible that ere long British relations in China may be seriously affected thereby. Our mercantile interests extend through every open port into the ramifications of trade in the interior, and in extent amount to the aggregate of all other foreign nations engaged in it, while France stands at the bottom of the list. Acting as a military and marine police in the provinces and on the great river where our commerce lies, it is not improbable that ere long the French cruisers and flying corps may come into collision with the agents and ships of British merchants, that may lead to serious complications. Looking at the progress of the French in China from this point of view, it is desirable that every precaution should be taken by our representatives at the Court of Peking, and the Consuls at all the open ports, to see that the officers of the Franco-Chinese forces by sea and land keep within the proper sphere of their duties in suppressing any rebellious movements, and checking piracy along the coasts and up the rivers and harbours open to foreign trade.

JAPAN AND COCHIN-CHINA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, OCTOBER 22.

It will not surprise anyone that the last news from Japan informs us that France does not intend to stand with folded arms, as supposed here, while England made herself mistress of Japan—to quote the language of certain official or semi-official writers. In speaking of the mad act of the Prince of Nagato in firing on two English vessels in the Straits of Simonosaki, a ministerial journalist says:—"Last year, a similar act of aggression was committed against the French flag, and Admiral Jaures, commanding the naval forces of France, gave the Japanese a severe lesson in destroying the forts which had done the mischief. Since then, the inland seas have been opened by treaty to the ships of the Western Powers, and the Japanese Government has evinced a determination to carry out its engagements. But the Prince of Nagato, a rebellious subject who resists his own Government, refuses to adhere to the treaties, and fires upon European flags. Under these circumstances the French Admiral, who is looked upon as the determined representative of peace and conciliation, but who cannot withdraw himself from the bond which unites the Western interests, has come to an understanding with the British Admiral to take up arms with the view to enforce respect for treaties infringed, and to inflict exemplary chastisement on a Prince who has the insolence to act in opposition to the engagements entered into by his own Government. The two Admirals therefore departed in company for Simonosaki, and it is pretty certain that by this time the forts whence the insult came have been destroyed, and that the inland sea is open to the commerce of the West; and, moreover, that a severe lesson has been read to the people of the extreme East, who will have learned that France, in spite her pacific disposition, will not put up with breaches of faith or allow injuries to her sons to pass unpunished."

This is the kind of language that one might look for under the circumstances, and while it is well that the Japanese should see England and France, and it is hoped, Holland, acting in concert, it is excellent policy for the Imperial Government to participate in an expected triumph of arms with so small a stake in the game as the force under the command of Admiral Jaures. The course adopted is not only just but politic, and its not being costly is a further recommendation. It is not a very noble undertaking for England and France, but vermin must be crushed as well as wild beasts.*

The official *Bulletin des Lois* has published a decree containing the organisation for the judiciary service in the French possessions in Cochin-China. There are to be at Saigon three tribunal courts, a superior and inferior for ordinary matters, and a Tribunal of Commerce. The first will try criminal cases, and will be the court of appeal for all the decisions of the other two. The native tribunals are not to be interfered with, the Annamite law remaining in force as between not only the natives of the country but also all other Asiatics. A second decree regulates the salaries of the judges and officers; the Procureur Imperial is to receive 20,000 francs per annum (£400); the judge of the first court 15,000 francs (£600); the judge of the lower court, 12,000 francs (£480); a judge substitute or assistant, 10,000 francs, and the greffiers 5,000 francs, and 3,000 francs (£120).

THE SECRETARYSHIP FOR THE COLONIES.

THE decease of a statesman who held the reins of the colonial dependencies of England for so long a period as they remained in the hands of the Duke of NEWCASTLE cannot fail to suggest some considerations on the system by which the Crown exercises its prerogative over them. The Secretary for the Colonies must be regarded rather as an institution than a person. The signature and superscription of the holder of the office may be changed without the persons whose affairs he has to administer being sensible of any greater alteration. He forms a wonderful example of that curiously built up and strongly consolidated mass of customs and usages which, under our English practice, in so many instances wield the power of the most positive laws or ordinances. Any of the other Secretaries of State can hardly help importing into his régime some infusion of his own likings and idiosyncrasies. The affairs, too, of the Home and Foreign Departments are brought continually under the notice of Parliament; and reforms and amendments are so everlastingly required in the one, and events themselves are so sure to demand constant action in the other, that it is impossible for the responsible chief in either not to leave behind him some marks of a distinctive policy on the Statute Book, or in the columns of contemporary newspapers, if not on the pages of history. But the very vastness of the extent of his sway—the uncountable variety of nations and tribes, of laws and religions, of customs and manners that he would have to call to mind before he ventured on originating a profound change—inevitably reduce the Secretary for the Colonies to the position of a chief clerk, whose main business it is to record and acknowledge despatches. To exhibit "a masterly inactivity" is his highest praise. For the most part he is the only man of the Cabinet who has never had any personal acquaintance with the matters [or territories with which he is concerned. Every member of Parliament must needs be tolerably versed with the way in which the internal and provincial business of the country is carried on. Every English gentleman may be supposed to have obtained some insight, in the course of his travels, into the principles that direct the policy of Continental States. But the present Lord STANLEY, we believe, was the first hereditary statesman—and be it remembered that the eldest son of an old ,estated, though untitled, Parliamentary family may as properly be so designated as the heir to an earldom—was the first of his class who thought it incumbent on him to see with his own eyes those distant regions in the West and East for which he would afterwards have to enact laws. His good example has not been without followers—with no better effect, perhaps, than by their speeches to make the general ignorance of the House of Commons on all colonial matters the more conspicuous and deplorable. One great result of the innovation has been that each visitor has come back with the conviction that, whether for the benefit of the colonies or the quiet of the mother-

* The *Moniteur de l'Armee* says of the works that they consist of three forts and three batteries situated on the two sides of the straits, in the narrowest part, and so placed as to cross their fires. The guns are on pivots, and were purchased some time since of the Americans. Behind the forts is an intrenched camp in which is the body-guard of the Prince, amounting to 5,000 or 6,000 men, to act as a reserve. The writer adds that the allied forces are more than sufficient for the reduction of the place.

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country, the only recommendable plan is to allow their inhabitants to be the principal agents in their own affairs. Do what we may, we are at the last inclined to give full credit to the story that the North American Plantations, as they were called, never prospered so well, nor were so much at their ease, as in those days of George II. when the then Colonial Minister never opened his despatches during the whole of his continuance in office.

The utmost indeed that a Secretary for the Colonies now does to mark his tenure of the seals is probably to give his name to some newly founded town or harbour newly discovered, that may be destined hereafter to become the capital of a province, or the resort of every flag that floats. And even in this kind of fame he will be often cast into the shade or utterly extinguished by a busy Governor, ambitious of perpetuating the honours of his race. Thus Lord Charles Somerset has so abundantly engraved the various appellations of his family on the map of the Cape of Good Hope, that one might suppose the whole country to have been first settled under the auspices of some magnate of the ducal House of Badminton. We almost regret to express our fear that the late Duke of Newcastle did not signalise his five years' rule by any such harmless entries for the pages of future Gazetteers. Intelligent, industrious, and possessing to the full that higher honesty which is deservedly dignified with the epithet of "honour," he, too, has gone to his rest without having left any traces of individuality on the system of colonial rule. He deserves praise for having followed up the practice introduced before his time, of reappointing the Governors to new centres of authority; so that England has now a body of such functionaries at her command who have been trained by experience to bear the honours of the situation without haughtiness, and to encounter its difficulties with temper. But a short time since and there were those who loved to dwell on the notion that the day would come when the whole immense viceroyalty of the colonies might be directed by the experienced hands of a nobleman like the Earl of Elgin, whose authority on all points of doubt or dissention would have stilled a captious Parliament and awed a discontented colony. The long apprenticeship now gone through by the Governors will tend to invest their Excellencies with a dignity and credit that will be wanting to their chief at Whitehall; and thence the juncture may possibly come when it will be necessary that the Secretary for the Colonies shall be chosen out of the band of well-tried administrators, who have learnt the capabilities of each colony, and know the predilections and prejudices of their several populations.

Literature.

The October number of the *Quarterly Review* (Murray, Albemarle-street) opens with an article of a class that English periodical literature is lamentably deficient in. If one were to judge by the titles of the essays in our Quarterlies and Monthlies, as compared with those that grace the Table of Contents of their French and German contemporaries, we should be of opinion that England had, of all European nations, the least concern with matters and things beyond sea, whenever "beyond sea" means elsewhere than just across the Channel. The *Quarterly* has always formed a praiseworthy exception to this peculiarity, and the article on "Cochin China" in the present number nobly maintains the distinguishing feature. It is evidently written by one who has not only studied all the facts on record in reference to his subject, but who, in addition, to judge by internal evidence, has actually seen with his own eyes the country he treats of. Hence, the general reader will get from past history and present realities such a notion of the existing state of things in Cochin China as he has hitherto had no chance of obtaining. The style is clear and easy; and the writer has judged well in leaving to others to speculate on the future success of the French embryo colony, of which Saigon is the capital. He has simply, as he himself says, done sufficient for the reader "to know why and how the French invaded and conquered Lower Cochin China, and what are their designs on Cambodia." The article will be read with special interest throughout the East, and well deserves the place of honour it has received as standing first in the new number of this long-renowned Review. We need only add that, among the other contents of the number, there is a deeply interesting notice of Lockhart—Sir Walter Scott's son-in-law, and a former editor of the *Quarterly*—abounding in literary and political anecdote; and a disquisition on Newman's "Apologia," which will be perused with delight by all who view with curiosity the relative position of the Churches of England and Rome in regard to the theories and feelings of the day.

The prognostication put forward in our last number as to the promise of an active autumn in the publishing world is fully borne out by the announcements that have appeared. It becomes the more necessary, therefore, to notice new works as fast as they appear so as to keep our readers *au courant* of the literature of the day. Two books on the subject of Italy are likely to form a leading topic of conversation for some time to come, as the Franco-Italian Convention has again made everything connected with that country and its people a subject of foremost interest. *The Autobiography of Henrietta Carraciolo* is a revelation of the "Mysteries of Neapolitan Cloister Life,' which bears the seal of truth, because there is no secrecy as to the individuality and position of the authoress. Her family, that of the Princes of Forino, is one of the noblest and most ancient in Southern Italy, her antecedents and those of her parents are well known to a great part of her readers, for the book was first published at Florence; and no shadow of doubt exists as to the reality of the main facts of her sorrowful history. Her convent life lasted for nine miserable years—a period surely long enough to enable her to present a picture in detail of all the evil influences of conventual reclusion upon the hearts and minds of those submitted to it. Confession she considers to be at the root of nine-tenths of its evils, which are none other than malice, personal profligacy, jealously, cruelty, and even dishonesty and petty theft, for a good lock and key are absolutely necessary to convent chests and wardrobes. The second of the books we refer to is Miss Cobbe's *Italics: Brief Notices on Politics, People, and Places in Italy in* 1864. It is curious to notice the complete corroboration afforded by the Englishwoman to the statements of her foreign contemporary. Miss Cobbe asserts that "nine-tenths of the women of Italy are the tools of the priests. The Italian gentleman (she says) is to be pitied who devotes his life to the redemption of his country, and who returns from his home to the camp or the senate to know that every word he says will probably be carried by his wife to her confessor, and that his mother's counsels have probably been dictated to her by the bitterest enemy of his cause."

The religious world have been pleasantly catered for in the issue from the press of the *Memoirs of the Rev. Dr. Raffles*, of Liverpool, written by his son. The deceased filled a position so prominent during a long life that the bare record of the title of the book is enough to secure for it the attention of our readers. The anxious aspect of political affairs has given a renewed zest to the lucubrations of those persons who are irreverently called "prophecy-mongers." Those who take an interest in such speculations will welcome *Two Years After and Onwards*, which professes to unfold the "approaching war amongst the Powers of Europe, and other future events as foretold in Scripture Prophecy." The author achieved a reputation in this line by his former work, "The Coming Struggle." *Tabor's Teachings, or The Veil Lifted*, is the designation of a new work by the writer of "Heaven our Home," of which last the extraordinary number of 73,000 is said to have been sold. A new edition is just issued of the Bishop of Oxford's *Agathos and other Sunday Stories*, with illustrations by Pasquier, Skill, Skelton, and others.

In fiction we have to note another novel by Miss Brandon, *The Doctor's Wife*, which, seeing that it makes the sixth from her pen within two years, has caused some admiration at the lady's rapidity of writing, if not of invention, for the book undoubtedly bears a resemblance in its tone and plot to her previous novels. The chief actors are vicious, and at the close of the story the moral teacher assigns impunity to one sinner and wealth to another, just to encourage the others.—*Abbots Cleve; or Can it be Proved?* is, to judge from the title-page, the performance of an as yet untried writer, who certainly gives very high promise; and if he does not fall into the mistake of issuing a new novel every three or four months, a brilliant career is probably before him. The plot is exceedingly well managed; the mind is kept in constant surprise and expectation, but the links in the chain are so neatly fitted together, that it would be difficult to find a flaw or hitch. The minor characters, too, are well suited to their subordinate places, and some of them show a good deal of dry humour.—Miss Thomas sends forth two volumes, containing *A Dangerous Secret; the House in Piccadilly;* and *Philip Morton*—the first and longest of the tales, hardly supporting the reputation won by "Dennes

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Donne" and "Sir Victor's Choice." When will our novelists get back so far within the confines of real life as to present us with characters not chosen with reference to the broad line of demarcation now in vague—people who ought to be in the dock at the Old Bailey, and people who ought not. Surely human weakness and frailty is productive of sufficient variety and piquancy without this everlasting appeal to incidents that savour of the *Newgate Calendar*.

Continental Intelligence

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, Oct. 24.

The pressure which has so long prevailed in the London money market has at last re-acted on ours. The Netherlands Bank was obliged to raise the discount to 7 per cent., while at the same time large advances on foreign bills were refused. These however are willingly discounted in the open market, where money at the rate of 7 to 8 per cent. is easily obtained. It is a matter for congratulation that the very few commercial failures that have been announced comprise only small firms. Nothing hitherto has transpired to show an unsoundness in trade.

The Government has ordered an iron-clad ship to be built in England.

The N.T.C. has chartered the following ships:—From Batavia to Amsterdam: Cornelia Geertruida, and Henrietta Elizabeth Suzanna.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The market is very active. The 121,592 bags offered on the 19th by the N.T.C. at auction were willingly bought at higher rates for the good tasting sorts. After the sale there was much demand, but there are no sellers without an advance.

TEA.—Dull, business being confined to the execution of a few small orders for consumption.

SUGAR (Raw).—The market remains very inactive; prices nominal.

RICE.—A large parcel of 4,500 b. Bassein, ex Henrietta Elizabeth Suzanna was all disposed of at 5¼f. to ¼. Since the market has been inactive. The stock of Java sorts is very small.

INDIGO.—Steady, but without transactions.

SPICES.—The market is largely influenced by the unsatisfactory state of the money market. Sellers, however, decline to operate at lower prices. Nothing can be bought under the last auction rates. Cinnamon was offered at 83 c.; pepper in much demand.

TOBACCO (Java).—The market remains unaltered. 521 b. C. H. d. B. were sold at 8 to 25 b.; the 505 b. Nicot, offered by inscription, were retired. Stock 8,400 b. Java.

COTTON.—The market has closed heavily, and prices compared with those ruling last week show a considerable decline; but even at this reduction there are no buyers.

BANCO TIN.—There was no speculative inquiry since our last report, and scarcely any demand for export at 60f., and 59¼f is offered.

DRUGS.—At auction were sold 1,500 kilo. Oleum Ricini at 28 cents; 3,000 kilo. Gum Damar at 23 cents; 560 kilo. Gum Benzoe (Sumatra) at 20 to 60 cents; 270 kilo. Cortex China at 80 to 90 cents; 180 China Rhubarb at f.3 to f.3.03; 600 kilo. Cassia Fistula (E.I.) per matt. f.6 to f.7.

OIL.—Cochin Cocos, ordinary and white f.23¾; pa. white f.25.

RATTANS.—The 47,170 bundl. offered at public sale by the N.T.C. were disposed of at rather lower rates. Banjermassing was paid with f.13.10 to f.17.30.

CURCUMA.—f.12. No stock.

TORTOISE.—The 12 chests imported from Macassar, per *Maassluis*, were sold at prices that did not transpire. The yearly auction of Japan and China mercery will be held by the N.T.C. on the 3rd of November.

AMBOYNA WOOD.—The N.T.C. offered by auction 1,403 bales, of which 1,350 bales were retired at 32¾f.

MONEY.—Unaltered. Bank discount, 7 per cent.; open market, 7 to 8 per cent.; N.W.S. 2½ per cent., 59 15-16ths; 3 per cent., 71½; 4 per cent., 95⅛; Handelmaatschappy, 135⅜; Maatsch. Handel en Nyverheid, 86 per cent.; change on London, 3 mo., f.11.57; 2 mo., f.11.65; short, f.11.84; Paris, 3 mo., f.45.80; 2 mo., f.46.10; short, f.46.75; Hambro, 3 mo., f.34.50; 2 mo., f.34.70; short, f.35.10.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.—October 16, at Texel, from Batavia: Jhr. Mr. van de Wall van Puttershoek; 18, Clio, Anna Sophia; 20, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Pantalon; 22, from Tjilatjap, Maria Magdalena.

DEPARTURES.—October 15, from Flushing, for Batavia: H.M.'s frigate Adolp Hertog van Nassau.

READY TO SAIL.—At Brouwershaven: Nieuwe Waterweg, Batavia, Henrietta Elizabeth Suzanna, Sourabaya.

FREIGHTS.—Quotations of Messrs. Fauchey and de Vletter, shipbrokers Rotterdam. For Batavia: J. C. Schotel (632 tons) 15f. to 20f.; for Batavia and Sourabaya, Patriarch, Samhiri (730 tons); Fop Smit (549 tons); Dordrecht, (754 tons); Koophandel, (531 tons); Graaf Dirk III. (598 tons); 18f. to 20f. for Batavia; 25f. to 30f. for Sourabaya. For Samarang, Dorothea Henriette (419 tons) 25f. to 30f. For Macassar: Koning Willem III (422 tons), 45f. All per last of 2,000 kilos., or 120 cub. Amsterdam feet and 15 per cent. For Decima and Kanagawa: Japan Packet (266 tons), 60f. at 15 per cent. per last of 80 cub. English feet. For Melbourne: Maria Diederika (720 tons), 30s. to 50s. and 15 per cent. per ton of 40 English cub. feet.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

OCTOBER 23.

In my last letter I sent you some statistics of the general trade of this port during the year 1863, and now proceed to lay before your readers some particulars of our special commerce with the Far East:—

The goods imported direct from China were of the declared value of 2,363,710 marks banco, of which more than one-half was tea (16,264 chests), for 1,466,780 M.B. The most important of the other items were 16,648 chests and 400 bundles of cassia lignea, for 602,540 M.B.; 211 chests of oil of star anniseed, for 50,470 M.B.; 141 chests of rhubarb, 28,980 M.B.; camphor, for 27,660 M.B.; oil of cassia, 19,820 M.B.; star anniseed, 17,030 M.B.; porcelain, 15,010 M.B.; and silk 8,070 M.B.

From the Philippine Islands were imported 62,655 bags of sugar, of the value of 513,750 M.B.; 410 bales of hemp for 17,810 M.B.; coffee for 3,290 M.B.; redwood and other articles for 3,320 M.B.; altogether 538,170 M.B.

From British India: 96,290 bags of rice for 989,320 M.B.; 1,826 casks of cocoa-nut oil for 470,570 M.B.; 65,761 hides for 206,370 M.B.; 773 bags of coffee for 67,940 M.B.; indigo for 50,700 M.B.; 700 chests of castor oil for 33,170 M.B.; together with lesser quantities of cocoa-nut yarn, indiarubber, buffola horns, jute, silk, rattans, coculus indicus and other drugs; total value 1,908,040 marks banco.

From Singapore: 6,106 bags of pepper, for 147,030 M.B.; 7,903 centners of terra japonica, 111,930 M.B.; 2,000 chests of cassia lignea, 68,590 M.B.; 3,232 chests of sago, 59,040 M.B.; 12,738 bundles of rattans, 10,460 M.B.; 50 chests of raw camphor, 5,110 M.B.; making altogether, with minor quantities of other goods, 414,110 M.B.

From Netherlands India: 856 bags of rice, for 161,530 M.B.; 2,333 kranjangs of sugar, 139,740 M.B.; 239 pipes of arrac, 40,590 M.B.; 4,151 buffalo hides, 19,370 M.B.; 5,954 bundles of rattans, 14,450 M.B.; 159 tubs of raw camphor, 11,380 M.B.; 1,135 centners of redwood, 6,740 M.B.; 200 chests of gum damar, 5,500 M.B.; other articles, 4,070 M.B.; total, 403,370 Marks Banco.

But the above figures give but a faint view of the total quantity of East Indian and China produce imported here last year, as the indirect importations *via* England and Holland are of considerable extent. The following table gives a general view of the quantity and value of China and East India produce imported both directly and indirectly:—

Article.	Quantity.	Value in Marks Banco.
Coffee	784,428 centners	36,888,360
Tea	36,007 „	4,203,900
Raw Sugar	498,699 „	7,322,660
Rice	331,162 „	2,532,500
Sago	14,164 „	203,530
Arrowroot	425 „	14,110
Pepper	17,787 „	426,170
Cassia Lignea	13,443 „	809,870
„ Flores	202 „	39,730
Cinnamon	902 „	81,280
Cardamums	368 „	151,380
Cloves	2,980 „	71,460
Mace	623 „	43,510
Nutmegs	510 „	29,070
Vanille	65 „	110,370
Ginger	6,101 „	272,460
Vermilion	578 „	94,080
Musk	109 lbs.	28,310
Rhubarb	321 centners	69,940
Galanga Root	424 „	7,560
Cassia Vera	927 „	25,740
Star Annis.	442 „	32,970
Cubebs	407 „	29,150
Camphor, Raw	3,152 „	275,490
„ Refined	71 „	9,380
Gutta Percha	316 „	38,270
India Rubber	9,614 „	1,080,130
Castor Oil	2,057 „	72,740
Oil of Annis.	11 „	8,950
„ Cassia	71 „	42,390
„ Cloves	108 „	16,820
„ Star Annis.	334 „	145,950
Mother-o'-Pearl Shells	4,762 „	65,760
Tortoiseshell	33 „	31,430
Palm Oil	31,617 „	677,650
Cocoanut Oil	48,478 „	1,580,180
Rattans	25,119 „	445,870
Canes	14,492 „	38,320
Cocoanut Yarn	2,257 „	35,930

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Monetary and Commercial.

There are evidences of the return of mercantile confidence. The sudden fall in all the new bank shares has done more than anything to bring about the present state of things, as their customers naturally take alarm and withdraw their deposits. It is rumoured that the old banks initiated the movement in order to crush some of them. Be this as it may, there are, of course, a number of moneyed people interested in crying "wolf." Consols have held their ground at a small advance, 88½ to 89¼.

Subjoined is a list of the rates of discount now current on the Continent, viz.:—Paris, 7½ per cent.; Vienna, Brussels, and St. Petersburg, 6; Hamburg, 5½; Turin, 8½; Frankfort, 5; Amsterdam, 8; and Berlin, 6½ per cent. The English money market is the dearest of all.

The Comptoir d'Escompte Paris, are, it is said, heavy losers by the failures in Brazil.

The return from the Bank of England for the week ending Oct. 19 gives the following results when compared with the previous week:—

Rest	£3,249,485	Increase		£54,846
Public deposits	3,273,589	Decrease		3,749,645
Other deposits	14,098,454	Increase		892,141

On the other side of the account:—

Government securities	£9,570,212	Decrease	£602,131
Other securities	19,780,748	Decrease	2,142,136
Notes unemployed	5,647,090	Decrease	51,835

The amount of notes in circulation is £21,232,935, being an increase of £15,615, and the stock of bullion in both departments is £13,002,488, showing a decrease of £3,805 when compared with the preceding return.

The following comments are from the *Daily News*:—

"The comparative ease with which the advances lately made by the Bank of England are being repaid to it is a favourable feature, as it indicates that, while the Bank is being placed in a position to pay the dividends without sustaining any further serious draught upon its reserve, the general supply of money in commercial channels is still equal to all requirements. The hope is now becoming stronger that, should no unforeseen catastrophe occur in the mercantile world, the Bank will be able to tide over the crisis without raising the rate of discount beyond the present point. The steady contraction of trade, the heavy fall in the prices of cotton and other commodities, the favourable appearance of the exchanges, and the influx of gold to the Bank—entailing, as it does, the creation of a corresponding amount of fresh currency—all tend to encourage a belief that we shall soon emerge from our present state of suspense and financial difficulty. The least reassuring feature at the moment is perhaps the quasi hoarding which is going on. This is promoted by the doubt which is felt with regard to the possible upshot of the present endeavours of the Bank of England executive to carry out the act of 1844 stringently, and thus, as they hope, to obviate all chance of having it suspended for the third time. It is universally recognised that the weeding out of really insolvent houses constitutes a positive advantage to commerce, which will hereafter pursue its course with all the more confidence on account of the purification which it is now undergoing. But a fear lingers among commercial men lest the vague distrust which has become disseminated should affect the position, not of rotten firms, but of such as are unquestionably solvent, though they may possibly at the moment have pushed their transactions beyond the limits warranted by their immediately available means. It has not escaped notice that several of the firms which have lately stopped payment—as, for example, Messrs. Brown, Buckley, and Co., the East India brokers, whose suspension was announced in our impression of this morning—are, or believe themselves to be, not merely solvent, but possessed of a 'considerable surplus;' and when the pressure of the times produces such results as these, it can hardly be wondered at if the mercantile community carry their measures of precaution beyond what is actually necessary. It is satisfactory to believe that the directors of the Bank of England think that a pressure of this sort ought to be treated with indulgence instead of being met by the severe measures which would be necessary if the strain came from abroad, or in consequence of imprudent foreign commitments."

The following are the principal failures during the past week:—

Messrs. Hall and Geere, Russia brokers, with liabilities to the amount of about £30,000, of which, however, it is thought that only a small portion will rank against the estate.

Messrs. Paul, Joske, and Co., in the Australian trade, with liabilities for about £45,000, of which it is thought, perhaps, only £30,000 will rank on the estate. The difficulty is reported to be owing to speculations in shares which will compromise the London house alone, and not the Melbourne firm.

Messrs. B. de Cuadra and Co., Spanish merchants, of St. Swithin's-lane, with liabilities to the amount of about £50,000.

Messrs. Monninger and Denninghoff, commission merchants, of Mark-lane. Their transactions were chiefly in the oil trade.

Messrs. Galbraith, Bigland, and Co., East India and China merchants, owing to the failure of their correspondents at Shanghai, together with other heavy losses. The liabilities are computed at about £150,000, the greater part of which is stated to be secured, so that the amount expected to rank against the estate is comparatively small. The assets will to a great extent depend upon the realisation of consignments to the East.

Messrs. Manning and Collyer, hemp and jute brokers. Their liabilities reach about £100,000, but they are mostly covered by securities.

John Piddington, of Gracechurch-street, tea and foreign patent agent, with liabilities for about £30,000, and assets at present unascertained.

Messrs. Duckworth and Co., wine merchants, who did a large business with India and China.

The accounts from Liverpool describe a better feeling on 'Change. Several failures occurred last week, but although one of them was for £200,000 they were apparently not of a character to create surprise or alarm, and the predictions which, for speculative purposes, had been circulated of more important disasters, were all falsified.

The Stock-Exchange Committee have adopted a measure that will place an effectual check against any repetition of the course lately adopted by one of the finance companies, in making advances on Spanish account to mitigate difficulties consequent solely on the ban under which the credit of Spain is placed from her treatment of her foreign creditors. Already in relation to defaulting States there was a rule of the Stock-Exchange to the following effect:—

"The Committee will not sanction nor take cognizance of bargains made in new bonds, stock, or other securities issued by any foreign Government that has not duly paid the dividend on former loans raised in this country, unless such Government shall have effected and carried out a satisfactory arrangement with the holders of such stock, bonds, or other securities on which the dividends have been left in arrear."

To this is now added:—

"And any public company which shall directly or indirectly contravene the spirit of this law shall be liable to have its name struck off the official list of the Stock-Exchange."

Notwithstanding the present pressure and general distrust, promoters of companies are nothing daunted. Certainly it speaks well of the strength of any such undertaking. To obtain subscriptions from the general public for any scheme now is totally out of the question. The shares therefore must be subscribed by those who are well acquainted with the proposed operations.

The following new companies have been announced:—

The Northern Assam Tea Company, with a capital of £200,000, in 20,000 shares of £10 each. The first issue is to be 15,000 shares. It will, of course, be surmised that the undertaking is started to develope tea cultivation, but it is not brought forward at a very auspicious period. The arrangements with regard to the transfer of the estates appear to be in every sense satisfactory.

Hancock's Foundry and Engineering Company, with a capital of £100,000 in shares of £10 to take over the works of William Hancock and Son, at Fenton, in North Staffordshire. A prospectus has also been issued of the Ouvah Coffee Company, with a capital of £100,000, in shares of £10, to purchase certain coffee estates in Ceylon.

The Colonial Trading Company (Limited), which proposes to "afford to manufacturers and traders in Great Britain and the colonies direct facilities not presented by any existing banking or other institution." The company's programme is explained as follows:—"The company will undertake agencies for colonial governments, merchants, manufacturers, insurance, colonial railways, mail, and other companies. Traders, either in Great Britain or the colonies, can supply their wants through the company, paying for same either on arrival or at such time afterwards as may be arranged. The company will provide at moderate rates convenient depots for storage, including bonded stores, sampling, show, and sale rooms. In England and abroad the company will make temporary and other loans on merchandise, produce, and ships, and will leave the borrower the option of sale, of repayment of advances by approved bills, or of exchange of merchandise." Branches and agencies are to be opened with various colonies and foreign countries, and an agreement is stated to have been made with an "old established and eminently successful firm" for the transfer of its business and connections. The vendors are to receive one-third of the purchase money in shares, but neither the amount of the purchase money nor the name of the firm in question is stated in the prospectus. The capital is fixed at £500,000, in 20,000 shares of £25 each, one half of which are to be issued in the first instance.

In the present state of commercial affairs several suicides have been perpetrated, the most notable being that of the manager of the Mercantile and Exchange Bank, R. H. Williams. The following notice has been issued:—

Sir,—Referring to the sudden death of our manager, Mr. Williams, I am instructed by the directors to state that after an investigation of the accounts and the securities of the bank, they have every reason to believe that the affairs of the bank are not thereby in any way compromised.—I am, &c., Nathaniel Cork, Int. Manager.

The Mercantile and Exchange Bank (Limited),
4, Lombard-street, London, Oct. 18.

The Prospectus of the Eastern Assam Company (Limited) is issued. The object is to purchase twelve extensive tea estates, described as already in profitable cultivation, and situated in the province of Assam. Of the 12,000 acres, 1,836 are planted in tea gardens, varying in growth from one to five years. The purchase-money for the estates and the plant and stock is fixed at £150,000, payable by annual instalments, with interest at 5 per cent., extending over a period of three years. The capital is fixed at £250,000, in 25,000 shares of £10 each, with a first issue of 18,000 shares. 6,000 of the shares are to be allotted to the vendors, and 9,000 of the remaining shares have been already subscribed for; leaving 3,000 shares for the public.

The National Bank of India (Limited), established last year in Calcutta, with an influential and wealthy proprietary, has opened branches in Bombay and London. The latter will be under the management of Mr. A. F. Hewett, late manager of

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the Calcutta branch of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China.

The present mail takes out 200,000 ten cent pieces to Hong Kong. No definite arrangement has been arrived at as to the dollar shipments.

The biddings for £300,000 in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were to Calcutta, £162,800; to Bombay, £30,000; and to Madras, £5,000. The *minimum* price was fixed at 1s. 11¼d. per rupee on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11⅛d. on Bombay. These terms are 1 per cent. below those obtained on the last and previous occasions. The total tenders did not reach up to the amount offered by about £100,000, while in former instances the tenders have been three times the amount to be allotted.

The bar silver and Mexican dollars by the last packet from the West Indies could not command purchasers for the East. The bar silver was bought for Holland at 60⅝d.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Ceylon*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was—in gold: To Galle, £4,350; to Madras, £1,725. In silver: To Galle, £900; to Madras, £20,226; to Hong Kong. £47,783; to Shanghai, £2,000; to Singapore, £2,950. Total: In gold, £6,075; in silver, 73,859.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices August 26.
100	Agra and Masterman's	50	115 to 120	138 to 142xd.
50	Do. New	25	—	...
50	Do. „	15	—	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	33 to 35 xd	36 to 38
20	Do. New	All	—	15 to 17 pm.
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	53 to 55	64 to 66
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	—	...
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (7½ pd.)	15	27½ to 27	5 to 7 pm.
20	Eastern Exchange	3	⅛ dis. to ¼pm.	1 to 2 pm.
50	London Joint Stock	10	43 to 45	47 to 49
100	London and Westminster	20	93 to 95	96 to 98
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	52 to 54 xd.	57 to 59
50	Union of London	15	49 to 51	51 to 53
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	½ to 1⅝ pm.	8 to 9 pm xd
100	Do. New	18	par to ¼ pm.	8 to 9 pm.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	¼ to 1¼ pm.	2½ to 2¾ pm.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	26½ to 27½	27 to 29 xd.
100	Bank of London	50	150 to 160	163 to 168
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	¼ to ½ pm.	1½ to 1⅝ pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 4	3 to 3¼ xd.
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	81 to 83	79 to 81
50	Do. New	30	19 to 21 pm.	18 to 20 pm.
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	—	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	—	...
5	Bombay Gas	All	4⅛ to 5	4⅛ to 5⅛
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	8	3½ to 2½ dis.	3⅝ to 2½ d's.
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	par to ¼ pm.	¼ to ⅜ pm.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	19 to 20	19 to 20
1	Oriental Gas	All	1⅛ to 1⅛	1⅛ to 1¼
1	Do. New	All	¼ to ⅜ pm.	¼ to ⅜pm.
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2½ to 3	3 to ⅛ pm.
100	West India Steam Company	60	93 to 96	91 to 93
20	Ceylon Company	7	2 to 4 pm.	3 to 4 pm.
20	International Finance Society	5	⅛ to 1¼ pm	4⅜ to 4 pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2¼ to 2½ pm.	2½ to 3pm.
50	London Financial Association	15	6 to 6¼ pm.	9¼ to 9¾ pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	½ to ½ pm xd.	1⅜ to 1⅝ pm.
20	Societé Financiére d'Egypte	6	2 to 1⅜ dis.	1 to ⅜ dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	15 to 15½	16½ to 17
20	British Indian Tea	11	— dis.	⅛ dis. to par.
10	Upper Assam Tea	2½	2⅜ to 3⅛ pm.	2 to 3 pm.
10	Do.	All	16 to 18	14 to 17

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—The increasing stringency of the money market has continued to influence all tea not wanted for immediate use, and in that offered at the public sales without reserve during the past fortnight, a further decline has taken place of 1d. to 1½d. per lb.; new teas, however, have been taken to a considerable extent, and on the whole at good, though in many instances very irregular rates. The arrivals from China make the exports for the first three months of the season, say to 31st August, the enormous quantity of 50,000,000 lbs. Most of the business in red leaf kinds up to 1s. 4d. has been ex public sale, coarse burnt and good flavoury fetching 11d. to 1s., and Kaisow kinds, strong and brisk burnt, and Souchong flavoured, 1s. to 1s. 5d. per lb. The new of this latter grade has sold from 1s. 5d. to 1s. 9d. per lb.; but as last arrivals have brought full supplies prices are giving way. Medium to fine Kaisow has been taken in quantity at 1s. 11d. to 2s. 3d., finest and extra fine at 2s. 4d. to 2s. 9d. per lb., and for which there is still a good demand, the general impression being that the supply will not be equal to requirements. In black leaf, common has fetched 10d. to 11d., but there has not been much done in old kinds, the new seasons are meeting with little attention, a few chops with strong Pekoe flavour have sold at 1s. 10d. to 2s. 1d. per lb., quite 3d. per lb. decline on sales ex *Sea King*, and even at this reduction it has not led to an extended business. One or two parcels of new Souchong have been sold at 2s. and 2s. 6d. per lb. Oolong has fetched from 1s. 7d. to 1s. 9d. for medium, fine 1s. 10d. to 1s. 11d, finest 2s. to 2s. 2d. per lb. Scented Orange Pekoe of Canton does not sell readily, but capers have been fetching full prices. In Foochow make we hear of no further sales. Green: There is a great scarcity of medium and fine country descriptions of Young Hyson and Gunpowder, but common and finest qualities are in full supply and not inquired for. For export, a few Twankays and Young Hysons have been taken for Canada. At the public sales 19,600 packages were offered, of which 18,600 were without reserve.

SILK.—See "Latest."

COTTON.—The general result of trade at the of close of last week was unabated heaviness; the business being extremely limited at a further material reduction in prices of 1d. to 2d. per lb. below those of the week preceding. In the London market we note sales of 350 bales China, 12d. for fair to good fair for cash, and 9d. to 10d. for all faults; with 10 bales Japan at 14d. for good fair. The Liverpool report is, that in China and Japan the better qualities may be quoted fully 1d. lower, while the common kinds have given way about ½d. per lb. In transactions "to arrive," China, October delivery, is cited at 12½d.

SUGAR.—The market generally had a quieter tone at the close of the week, and the improvement that existed earlier was hardly maintained, so that quotations, on the average, are about the same as per last. 8,479 bags Mauritius, at public sale, were nearly all taken off, about half, grocery sorts, selling pretty freely at steady prices, but the remainder, common brown, sold at cheap rates, viz., low to good brown, 25s. 6d. to 28s. 6d.; low to good middling yellow, 32s. to 35s.; good and fine yellow crystallised, 36s. 6d. to 38s. 6d.; white (duty 11s. 8d.), 41s. 6d. to 43s. Privately, 2,200 bags Mauritius have been sold, chiefly at 35s. 6d., a few 38s. 6d. Privately, also, we note a contract for 22,000 bags clayed Manila at 29s. 6d. to 30s.

COFFEE.—60 casks 39 bags Plantation Ceylon, offered by auction, sold without change from previous rates; also 168 packages Mocha, common clean garbled, 84s. 6d. to 86s. 6d.; 218 cases 236 bags Neilgherry and Tellicherry, small to rather bold well made, 73s. to 82s. 6d.; and the chief part of 1,428 bags Malabar and Mysore, good and fine ordinary, 63s. 6d. to 66s.

RICE.—The market has continued without activity, and barely 15,000 bags have changed hands at about previous rates,—ordinary cargo Bengal, 8s. 4½d., low middling to good middling white, 9s. 9d. to 11s., siftings, 9s. 3d., middling Rangoon, 8s. 1½d., and Nakrenzie, 8s. 3d.

CAMPHOR.—Firm, with some inquiry. Of 59 cases China at auction, 10 cases sold at 82s. 6d. per cwt. for good, 83s. 9d. obtained privately in small sales.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Very quiet, and nothing of any importance doing. 130 cases at auction all retired. Buds: Flat. 27 cases at auction all retired: private business limited.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Very flat; of 70 bags at auction, one-third sold at 90s. per cwt. for fair but stalky. Dragon's blood and Galangal Root: Both remain inactive, and without business. Rhubarb: Good quality scarce, and in consequence firm; low increasing in supply, and cheaper. 90 cases brought to auction, and one-third sold at 4s. 5d. to 5s. 9d. per lb. for middling to very good flat, and 1s. to 1s. 8d. low and mouldy flat and round.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Steady, and of 33 cases Sumatra at auction, half sold at £11. 7s. 6d. to £11. 10s. per cwt. for second quality, false packed; and £6. 5s. to £6. 7s. 6d., middling 3rd. Damer: Nothing of any consequence doing. Some inquiry for good. Gamboge: Very scarce, and considerably dearer: 4 cases sold at auction at £13 to £14 per cwt. for fair to good pipe.

GUTTA PERCHA.—No business of any consequence doing. 48 tons at auction, all retired; fine quality wanted. India Rubber: No auctions held. The private sales have been mainly in Penang, at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 2½d. per lb.; and there is still inquiry for good qualities.

HIDES.—At sale on the 20th, 785 Singapore cow hides offered and sold, heavy 5½d. to 6d. per lb.; extra heavy, 5½d. per lb.; 355 Java buffalo hides offered, none sold.

JAPAN WAX.—Continues very flat; of 60 boxes at auction, only one-third sold at 6Cs. per cwt. for fair block.

OILS.—Anniseed: Limited business has been done at 6s. 2d. to 6s. 3d. per lb. Cassia: Has given way 3d. per lb. Sales to some extent made privately at 8s. per lb., and 8 cases sold at auction at 8s. to 8s. 1d. Mace and Nutmegs: Firm. 3 cases at auction retired at 3d. per oz.

HEMP.—Manila: Market very flat, at a decline of 10s. to 20s. per ton; limited private sales being effected at £27 10s. to £28. 670 bales at auction retired.

SAGO.—Very quiet; and of 291 boxes at auction, a few lots only were placed, at 23s. per cwt. for very good large. Flour: Nothing of any consequence doing. Tapioca: In Penang nothing of consequence has been done. 116 cases Pearl at public sale were withdrawn at 25s.

SPICES.—Cloves: Nothing doing in Penang or Amboyna. Zanzibar again rather easier: 300 bags sold at auction at 3¾d. to 3¾d. per lb. for fair but rather dark. Mace: Steady; only 4 cases Penang at auction sold at 1s. 9d. to 1s. 10d. per lb. for fair palish. Nutmegs: Very quiet, and without any noticeable alteration. Pepper (Black): Steady; and 2,411 bags Singapore, and 1,019 bags Penang at auction were mostly sold at and after the sale, the former at 3¼d. per lb., and the latter 3⅛d. to 3¼d. White: Not any business of interest doing.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch: Is again rather cheaper; and of 539 bags Pegue at auction, half sold at 21s. to 21s. 6d. per cwt. for good in cases. Gambier: Quiet: 378 bales at auction retired: private business very limited, at 24s. to 25s. per cwt. for middling to good block.

TORTOISESHELL.—Little doing: of 9 cases Manila at auction one-third sold at 13s. to 15s. per lb. for middling to fair in sorts; 3 cases Sydney sold at 19s. 6d. to 20s. good bold shell; 13s. 6d. small and thin; and 9s. pickings: being steady rates. 1 case Singapore retired.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Blacklead: Rather dearer, and of 705 barrels at auction three-fourths sold at 12s. to 17s. 6d. per cwt. for fair to fine lump, and 7s. 6d. to 8s. 3d. dust. Galls: China has somewhat improved upon the recent great reduction, and 185 cases sold at auction at 55s. to 59s. 6d. per cwt. for good. Arrivals of Japan. Musk: Very flat, with scarcely any demand, and no business in Tonquin. Only 3 tins Cabardine at auction, which, however, realised good prices—12s. 9d. to 13s. per oz. Of 16 tins Grain, half sold at 34s. to 34s. 6d. for ordinary. Rattans: Rather dearer; sales at auction of Singapore and Borneo at 3s. 6d. to 6s. per 1,000 canes. Sapan Wood remains flat; and 6 tons Siam at auction sold at £10 15s. per ton. Star Anniseeds: Some little inquiry. Sticklac, Siam: Very flat; 344 cases at auction all retired. Turmeric: Generally much lower; no China offering, and no business doing in Japan.

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ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

Iron.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 15s. to £8; nail rod, £9. 10s.; hoops, £10. 10s.; sheets, single £11. 10s.; Staffordshire bars, £9. 10s.; rails, £7 to £7. 5s.

Steel.—Swedish keg, £16.

Copper.—Sheet and Sheathing, £100 to £101 per ton; yellow metal, 8½d. per lb.

Tin.—101s. for block; 102s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 29s. per box.

Lead, &c.—English pig, £20. 5s. to £20. 10s.; W.B., £22. 10s.; shot, patent, £23. 15s.; sheet, £21. 10s.; spelter, £22; zinc, English sheet, £28; quicksilver, £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—This market suffers from the continued depression in monetary affairs, and nearly all metals are very dull. Sales can only be effected at prices below quotations. Pig Iron has fallen from 3s. to 4s. per ton since our last price current. Copper is very dull. Tin also is very flat. Spelter has fallen about £2 per ton.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£216,599
Foo-chow-Foo	—	7,920
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	£17,000	428,507
Singapore	£720	241,105
Penang	—	57,370

FROM MARSEILLES.

(By the P. and O. Company's Steamers.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	88,940
Penang	—	87,532
Hong Kong	£31,568	157,295
Foo-chow-Foo	—	1,500
Shanghai	—	£205,124

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	—	£205,124
To Saigon	£120	86,680
To Batavia	£3,063	6,778
To Hong Kong	—	375,053
To Shanghai	—	176,195

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0	to 3 17 0
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4	
Silver in Bars	0 5 0½	
Mexican Dollars	0 4 11½	

LOADING.

At London.—For Kanagawa: Eleanor, Eliza Shaw. For Shanghai: Garrawalt, Min, Falcon, Guinevere, Ellen Rodger. For Hong Kong and Canton: Fiery Cross, Belted Will, Robin Hood, Young Lochinvar, Benvoirlich. For Penang: Devonvale.

At Liverpool.—For Shanghai: Fort George, Neville, Dunkeld, Invincible, Unrivalled. For Hong Kong: Monsoon. For Hong Kong and Canton: Victory, Canton. For Singapore: Advance, Hurry Puddemsey, Mandarin, Bosphorus. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Helvetia. For Sourabaya: Dionysia and Catharina. For Cheribon: Moreno. For Manila: Iberica. For Onrust: Koereir.

At Glasgow.—For Singapore: Douglas Castle. For Hong Kong and Canton: Spanker.

SPOKEN.

Lord Dalhousie, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Aug 20, of Cape Varela.
Jane Leech, Liverpool to Shanghai, August 4, 38 S., 62 E.
Osborne House, Shanghai to London, July 31, 25 S., 55 E.
3rd d.p., No. 7.261 Luzon, Glasgow to Manila, Aug. 30, 7 N. 25 W.
Henriette (Dut. brig), Amstm. to Japan, August 3, 18 S. 30 W.
Maria, Amsterdam to Japan, October 8, 49 N.
Taffaretje (ship), Havre to Foo-chow-foo, June 28, 32 N., 20 W.
Bulgersteyn (ship), Rotterdam to Batavia, July 1, 1 N., 26 W.
Laughing Water (?), China to Lon., 75 days out, Aug. 20, 24 S., 35 E.
Jacob & Christina, Amstm. to Batavia, Sept. 7, 9 N., 25 W.
Dependent, bound to Macao, July 4, 4 S., 30 W.
Empress Eugenie, S'ndland to Shanghai, Aug. 10. 33 N., 16 W.
Baoni (?), Newcastle to Sourabaya, August 30, 5 N.
Gebroeders, Amsterdam to Batavia, Sept. 12, 8 N., 23 W.
Bloodhound (s.), L'pool to Singapore, June 22, lat. 39, lon. 3 E.
Lodore, for China, 35 S., 32 W.
Andrina, Rottm. to Batavia, Sept. 1, 16 N., 29 W.
Adrianna Johanna, Amsterdam to Japan, Sept. 12, 14 N., 27 W.
Suez, Penang to Belle Isle, 12 N., 27 W.
Antelope (schr.), Hamburg to Hong Kong, Sept. 10, 11 N., 25 W.
Expearance (?) (barq.), Shields to Shanghai, Aug. 5, 17 S., 99 E.
Glaramara, Batavia to London, Sept. 6, 34 S., 4 E.
Zeemanshoop, Rotterdam to Samarang, Aug. 14, 18 S., 37 W.
Antoinette, Shanghai to Havre, Sept. 2, 4 S., 20 W.
Hollands Trouw, Batavia to Amsterdam, Sept. 8, 3 N.
Hoek van Holland, Rottm. to Batavia, Sept. 9, 9 N., 24 W.
Isaac (Dut. barq.), Rotterdam to Padang.
Mayfield, Amsterdam to Batavia, Sept. 12, 8 N., 93 (?) W.
Montrose, Sydney to Hong Kong, July 19, 34 S., 154 E.
Luconia, Rotterdam to Batavia, Sept. 10, 10 N., 25 W.
Neptunus, Rotterdam. to Batavia, Oct. 6. 46 N., 10 W.
Cymbeline, London to Japan, Sept. 18, 10 N., 24 W.
Cornelis Gips, Nieuw Diep to Batavia, 12 N., 27 W.
Fanny, from Shanghai, 24th Sept.
City of Benares (?), Macao to London, Oct. 6, 37 N. 33 W.
Lindsay, Singapore to New York, 17th Aug., 35 S. 21 E.
Ellen Vannin, Singapore to London, 9th Sept., 6 S. 17 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED,

From Japan.—At London: Natal, Yokohama, Amoy, Marmora, Witness, Merse, Harwood, Red Deer, and Ann Adamson. At Liverpool: Jane and Isabella, Marion, and Vampyre. At New York: Osborne.

From China.—At London: Ethel, Monarch, Belle, Philomela, Zodiac, Essex, Shakespeare, Castle Howard, Bride of the Sea, Willie, Silver Eagle, White Adder, Highflower, Fychow, Caractacus, Gresham, Assyrian, City of Quebec, Knight Templar, Star of China, Dartmouth, Chanticleer, Thomas Blyth, Essex, Zodiac, Bride of the Seas, Cumberland, Coulnakyle, Taiping, Red Riding Hood, Banian, Canute, Philomela, Adriatic, P. J. F. Burchart, Keepsake, Chandanagore, Volunteer, Aunt Lizzie, Holmesdale, Rifleman, Isabella Robinson, Zelia, Vimeira, Zarah, L. Wharncliffe, Gloucester, Lorton Vale, Iceni, Sh. Ralston, Wm. Thompson, Marlborough, Dora, Whinfell, Glenaros, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Magnus, Josephine, Glaramara, Sappho, Charles Davenport, and Osborne House. At Liverpool: Geologist, Fanny, Joshua Bates, Wm. Dawson, Affghan, Jessie Beazley, De Jex, Warwick Castle, Peerless, Sea Snake, Thomas Bell, Reigate, Esk, Surry, Pegasus, Hugomont, Lord Dalhousie, Cornelia, Inamhore, Mayflower, Regina, Edward Percy, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Helvellyn, Australia, and Ann Forster, Brockham, General Windham. At Falmouth: Divina, and Linda. At Bordeaux: Leon. At Hamburg: Mecklenburg, and Gravina. At New York: Dorchester, Regnago, St. Paul, Luson, Anita, Gleam Mandarin, Cornelia, Mary, and Roslin Castle.

From Manila.—At London: Cambodia, Seaforth, Labrador, and Jupiter. At Liverpool: Indiaman, Trafalgar, Patriot King, Alicia Anne, Barinaga, Kathay, Gondola, and Frederick. At Falmouth: Der West, St. Paul, and Albuera. At Cowes: John Banfield. At New York: Tropic, George Peabody, Bengal, Continent, and Franklin.

From Singapore.—At London: Oscar, Confidence, Pet, Polly, Bonanza, Miss Nightingale, Volunteer, Tweed, Eddystone, Najade, Rangoon, Prince Alfred, Dewa Gungadhur, Dunkeld, and Tartar. At Liverpool: C. H. Soule, Victory, Agra, Beloochee, and Ferris. At Falmouth: Sarah Jane and Queen Bee. At Bordeaux: Salares. At Nantes: Suez. At New York: Ocean Home, Gertrude, Caroline, Rudolf, and Panic. At Boston: Ceylon, Aristides, and Magnet.

From Penang.—At London: Empress, Marengo, Sunium, and Spitfire. At Falmouth: Schlossr. At Cork: Ceylon. At Bordeaux: Sophis.

From Bangkok.—At New York: Eastward Ho!

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Although there have been some arrivals from the Eastward lately, the amount of tonnage on the different berths has somewhat decreased. No improvement has, however, taken place either in berth freights or for coals, the export trade continuing very inactive. Homeward charters are scarce, but some few vessels have been placed from the rice ports and Maulmain, the ships for the former going out in ballast.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £38 and £1. 17s. 6d. For Shanghai: £48 to £50, and £2. 5s. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £1. 5s. For Penang: £27. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 18 tons (light) naval stores from Woolwich to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Independant, of Bordeaux, Labory, from Singapore, which arrived at Mauritius on the 1st of September, had been ashore in the Straits of Malacca, and part of her cargo had been thrown overboard. She did not appear to have sustained any damage, but had gone into dock to examine her keel, and careen.

Rio Janeiro, September 24. The Arab, from Liverpool to Singapore, which put in here leaky, July 22, has transferred her cargo to the Mary Spencer, which will proceed with the same.

The Adolph Herzog von Nassau, Uhlenvick, for Batavia, put back to the Downs Oct. 17, and will proceed to Sheerness for repairs.

The Zeemeeuw, Kayser, sailed from Pasaroaeng Feb. 5, for Holland, and has not since been heard of.

The Dora, Millbank, of and from London, for Kanagawa, lost an anchor and part of chain Oct. 20 during a sudden squall in the Princes Channel, but having been supplied from Ramsgate, proceeded on the 21st inst.

St. Helena, Sept. 27, the Eliza Jane (schr.) is now loading cargo from the Kiandra, van Kuffeler, from Batavia to Amsterdam, condemned here.

At St. Helena.—Sept. 4, from Penang, Ferozepore, Rankin, and sailed 6th for London; 6, from Hong Kong, Chandernagore, Lynas; 9, from Batavia, Rotterdam, Adriaans, and sailed 10 for Amsterdam; 10, from Canton, Rifleman, Jean, and sailed 13 for London; from Batavia, Petronella, Strootman, and sailed for Rotterdam; 11, from Batavia, Robert Dickson, Hjarne, and sailed 12 for Rotterdam; 13, from Pedang, Ceylon, Sampson, and sailed for Queenstown; from Shanghai, Robert and Alexander Moore, and sailed 14 for New York; from Batavia, Cornelia, Croese, and sailed 15 for Amsterdam; 14, from Kanagawa, Red Deer, Whyte; 15, from Singapore, Esperanza, Lopez, and sailed 17 for Havana; from Shanghai, Reigate, Deas; 16, from Batavia, Bosphorus, Kruisinga, and sailed for Amsterdam; from Shanghai, Bessie Stanton, Scobey, and sailed for New York; from Sarawak, Chanaral, Smith, and sailed for London; 20, from Kanagawa, Merse, Moore; 27, from

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Shanghai, Warwick Castle, and sailed for Liverpool; 28, Silver Eagle, Longman.

OFF ST. HELENA.—Sept. 25, Banian, from Hong Kong.

AT TABLE BAY.—Aug. 26, from New York, Fire Queen, steamer, Johnson, and left 29, for China, Sept. 8, from New York, &c., Foong Suey (steamer), Gray, and left, 13, for Hong Kong, Aug 27, Dunelm, Robertson, sailed for Singapore, Sept. 13, Marion, Thomas, sailed for Singapore.

AT SIMON'S BAY.—Sept. 5, Palmerston, Maillard, after repairing, sailed for Shanghai, Aug. 28, Glengyle (steamer), Sullivan, sailed for Hong Kong, Sept. 2, Sophie, Colburg, and Senior, Bakker, both sailed for Batavia. Falcon, Sullivan, sailed for Hong Kong; 14, Gazelle, from Anjer.

NEW VESSELS FOR THE STRAITS AND CHINA TRADE.—Messrs. Chas. Connel and Co. have launched from their east shipbuilding yard at Overnewton one of their composite sailing ships of 700 tons. Dimensions:—Length of keel and forerake, 175 feet; breadth of beam extreme, 30 feet; depth of hold, 18 feet 9 inches. She was named the Douglas Castle by Miss Arrol of Glasgow, and was built for Thomas Skinner, Esq., for the Glasgow and Asiatic Shipping Company, and is intended for the Straits trade. This is the third vessel built by Messrs. Connel and Co. for this line.

From the yard of Messrs. Holderness and Chilton, Liverpool, the Keu Kee, the length of keel of which is 135 feet, the breadth of beam 28 feet, and depth of hold 12 feet 3 inches, and of 500 tons burthen builder's measurement. She is built for Messrs. Grant, Murdoch, and Co., of Liverpool, and is intended for the China coasting trade.

THE STEAMER "SEA KING."—It is rumoured that the China clipper steamer, *Sea King*, has been purchased for the Confederate Government, and that she will be commanded by Captain Semmes. Whatever the ultimate destination of this steamer may be, we can state positively that Captain Semmes was not on board when she sailed from London. The *Sea King* is one of the finest steamers of her class afloat; she is 1,018 tons burden, 200 horse-power, was built in Glasgow in 1863, and cleared from London on the 7th inst. for Bombay in ballast. The fact of a high price being paid for her, and of her clearing without cargo, has given rise to the report.

Shipping Intelligence.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Oct. 12	Sunderland	Shanghai	Ethel	Wylie.
— 15	London	Singapore	West	Hawkins.
— 15	Do.	Kanagawa	Dora	Millbank.
— 15	Portsmouth	Cape G. Hope & China	H.M.S. Tamar	
— 17	London	Hong Kong	Bengal	Brumell.
— 18	Do.	Shanghai	Serica	Innes.
— 16	Sunderland	Singapore	Caroline Agnes	Croft.
Sep. 8	Buenos Ayres	Do.	Falke	Kassebohm
— 21	Rio Janeiro	Do.	Adler	Schweichel.
Oct. 20	Liverpool	Do.	Oleander	Tierman.
— 24	Do.	Batavia & Sourabaya	Hercules	Deterding.
— 24	Do.	Shanghai via Cardiff	Madge Wildfire	Murray.
— 21	Cardiff	Shanghai	Eidsvold	Hansen.
— 25	Liverpool	Manila	Maria y Vicenta	Harmaechia.

See Commercial Postscript.)

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Oct. 14	Liverpool	Shanghai	Cyclone	Hossack.
— 14	Do.	Hong Kong	Glencoe	Hutton.
— 14	Do.	Rangoon	Alfred Lamont	Phease.
— 15	Do.	Shanghai	Unrivalled	
— 17	London	Do.	Robt. Lowe, str.	
— 14	Falmouth	Rangoon	Assyria	Delano.
— 16	London	Manila	Albuera	
— 14	Off Falmouth	Akyab	Constantia	Harde.
— 15	Liverpool	Singapore	Bombay	McLeod.
— 17	Off Falmouth	Akyab	Jouteur	Phillipot.
— 15	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Jon. Mr. V. de Wall	Lammerts.
— 17	Liverpool	Japan	W. W. Smith	Humphrey.
— 14	Helvoet	Batavia	Fop Smit	Leverstein.
— 1	New York	Shanghai	Anita	Williams.
— 18	Deal	Manila	Alaveza	Doberan.
— 18	Falmouth	Bassein	New Hampshire	Lord.
— 18	Do.	Rangoon	Bremerlehe	Coombs.
— 18	Liverpool	Nagasaki	Canton	
— 18	Do.	Singapore	Caroline Chisholm	Briggs.
— 17	Queenstown	Akyab	Staffa	
—	Off Queenstown	Manila	Victoria Cross	Mills.
— 18	Deal	Macao	Glenaros	Buckham.
— 18	Liverpool	Japan	Harwood	
— 18	Do.	Singapore	Ferris	Messenger.
— 19	Deal	Shanghai	Guinevere	
— 18	Liverpool	Manila	Trafalgar	
— 18	Do.	Singapore	Invincible	Locke.
— 19	Deal	Do.	Princess of Wales	McMurrich.
— 20	Do.	Shanghai	Eliza Shaw	
— 19	Falmouth	Rangoon	Viking	Chisholm.
— 19	Liverpool	Manila	Sales	
—	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Ellen Rodger	McKinnon.
— 20	Deal	Do.	Yang-taze	Billings.
— 20	Falmouth	Rangoon	Maria Amalia	Hunteman.
— 20	Do.	Akyab	Joseph Clarke	Littlefield.
— 5	New York	Padang	Stockholm	Lindberg.
— 5	Boston	Do.	Aristides	Bockman.
— 21	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Childers	Enright.
— 20	Deal	Penang	Salvador Packet	Stabb.
— 20	Liverpool	Akyab	Rathfern	Watson.
— 20	Do.	Do.	Staffa	McAllister.
— 22	London	Do.	Saginaw	
— 21	Deal	Foo-chow-Foo	City of Aberdeen	
— 18	Off Plymouth	Batavia	Maria Magdalena	
— 18	Texel	Do.	Clio	Wynmalen.
— 18	Do.	Do.	Anne and Sophie	Hoekstra.
— 20	Havre	Manila	Nouvelle Antoinette	Morin.
— 20	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Pantalon	Geyt.
— 18	Falmouth	Akyab	Napoleon	
— 18	Do.	Bassein	Azuline	
— 22	Do.	Maulmain	Ormelie	Wylie.
— 23	Do.	Kanagawa	Twee Cornelissen	Kreye.
— 23	Do.	Bassein	Martha Bowker	Goodburn.
— 23	Liverpool	Rangoon	Roamer	Williams.
— 24	London	Hong Kong	Kelso	Coulson.
— 24	Do.	Canton	Echo	Stapleton.
— 17	Do.	Penang	Akbar	
— 23	Deal	Yokohama	Patrician	Parsons.
— 22	Falmouth	Singapore	Daniel Rankin	Miller.
— 23	Do.	Kanagawa	Auld Reekie	Campbell.
— 17	Off Scilly	China	Glenvar (?)	
— 24	London	Hankow	Challenger	Macey.
— 24	Off Margate	Hong Kong	Bahia	Lefanu.
— 24	Falmouth	Bassein	General Havelock	Smart.
— 24	Do.	Do.	China	Schwarz.
— 24	Do.	Rangoon	Brabo	

(See Commercial Postscript.)

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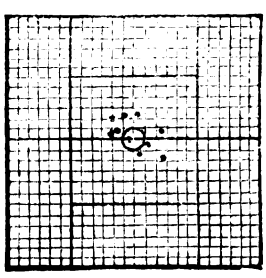
AMMUNITION.



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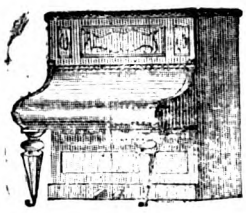

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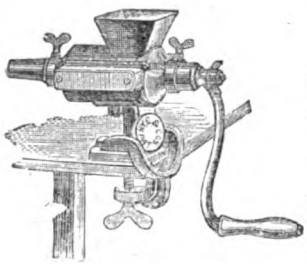

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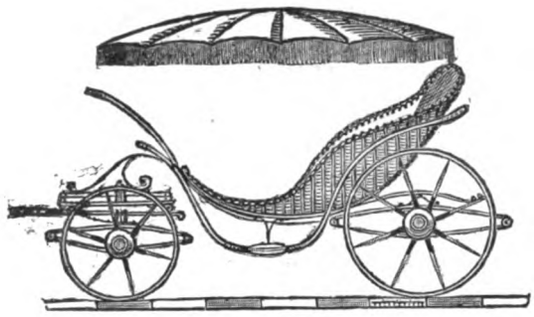

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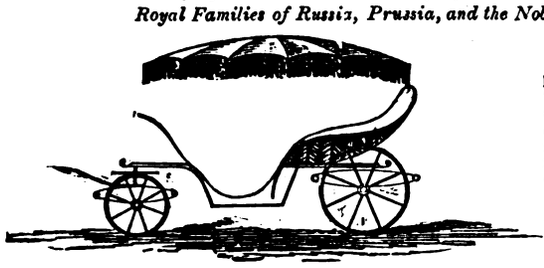

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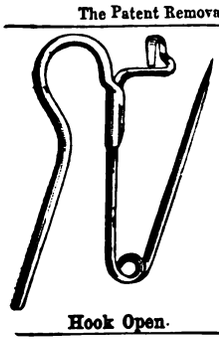

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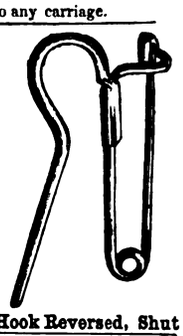

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EDWARD H. POLLARD, Counsel for the Company.
Hong Kong, August 24, 1864.

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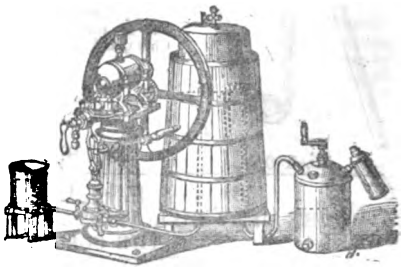

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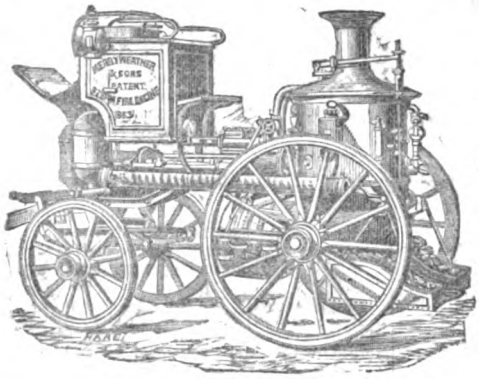

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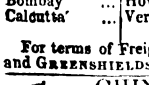

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Do.	Challenger ...	A 1 12 yr.	E.L.D	To follow.
Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	Young Lochinvar ...	A 1 13 yr.	E.L.D.	With des.
Amoy & Foo-Chow-Foo ...	Merse ...	A 1 18 yr.	W.I.D.	With des.
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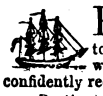

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Shanghai	Solent ...	W.I.D	With des.
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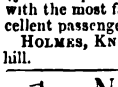

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS TO HONG KONG and WHAMPOA.—The well-known clipper FIERY CROSS, A 1 thirteen years, 689 tons register, R. ROBINSON, Commander, will receive goods in the West India Docks until 12 o'clock on Friday next, and positively sail the following day.

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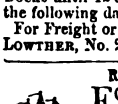

FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the well-known clipper ship RANIAN, A 1 fourteen years, 76... tons register, J. MASTERS, Commander; will load in the London Docks. Has excellent accommodation for passengers.

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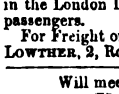
Will meet with the usual Quick Despatch.



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FOR COLOMBO (CEYLON) direct, having the greater portion of her cargo engaged, the nearly new ship ISABELLA ATKINSON, A 1 for 10 years, register 339 tons, STEPHEN ATKINSON, Commander, loading in the West India Docks. This splendid ship has good accommodation for passengers.

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FOR COLOMBO Direct, the fine new barque COLOMBO, A 1 nine years, 382 tons per register, WILLIAM LAWRENCE, Commander; now loading in the West India Docks. This ship, built for the trade, has only made one voyage, and delivered her cargo, from Ceylon, in fine order.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE FIFTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 28th December, 1863. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 154.] LONDON, WEDNESDAY, NOV. 9, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Yokohama	July 10	Aug. 31	Sept. 12
	Nagasaki			„ 9
	Hakodadi			
CHINA—				
	Peking			Aug. 28
	Tien-tsin			Sept. 5
	Chefoo			
	New-chwang			
	Hankow			„ 10
	Kiu-kiang			
	Shanghai	„ 26	Sept. 9	„ 21
	Ningpo			
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 23
	Amoy			„ 23
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	Aug. 10	„ 17	„ 27
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	July 10		„ 21
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Saigon			„ 28
SIAM—				
	Bangkok			„ 8
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			„ 10
	Sarawak			„ 15
JAVA—				
	Batavia			„ 30
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	Aug. 26	Sept. 27	Oct. 6
	Penang	„ „	„ 25	„ 8

The mails delivered to-day, per French mail steamer, include those by the P. and O. steamer due here on the 14th, which arrived at Galle in time to transfer to the French steamer at that port.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, Nov. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. W. B. Andrews, Surgeon Woolfreys, Miss Thompson, Mrs. Swinhoe, Asst. Commy. Gen. Long, Lieut. Stokes, R.N., Commander G. H. Forster, R.N. From Marseilles, Nov. 12—To Shanghai: Messrs. W. Watson and W. E. King. To Hong Kong: Mr. Wheely, Mr. Arnould. From Alexandria.—To Singapore: Miss Cook and Eur. servant. From Gibraltar.—To Hong Kong: Actg. Depy. Asst. Commy. Gen. Hughes.

Per P. and O. steamer, Nov. 12, from Southampton.—To Singapore, via Bombay: Mr. C. H. Harrison, Mr. R. Smith. To Shanghai, via Bombay: Mr. Holdsworth. From Marseilles, Nov. 20.—To Hong Kong, via Bombay, Mr. M'Clure, Mr. T. Jackson. To Shanghai, via Bombay: Mr. McCalman.

Per P. and O. steamer, Nov. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Miss B. E. Collett, Miss Lee, Lieut. B. Lilliebook, Mr. Howard. To Shanghai: Messrs. E. Crace, and M. Hawtrey. To Singapore: Mrs. W. W. Willans and infant. From Marseilles, Nov. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. T. F. Ballance, Mr. B. Mackintosh, Mr. P. G. Lawrie, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Wheelock. To Shanghai: Mr. Hyslop. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Caw.

Per P. and O. steamer, Nov. 27, from Southampton.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mr. Bayne.

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YOKOHAMA.

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3¾ in. „ better ivory	13 0	10 0	4 6
3¾ in. „ white	15 0	12 6	6 0
4 in. strong „	20 0	15 0	7 0
4 in. „ „	25 0	18 0	9 0
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12 Table Spoons	1 7 0	2 14 0	2 16 0	2 14 0
12 Dessert Forks	1 1 0	2 2 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
12 Dessert Spoons... ...	1 1 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
12 Tea Spoons...	0 10 6	1 4 0	1 4 0	1 8 0

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Calcutta ...	Vernon ...	1315	A a 1	„

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Ports.	Ships.	Class.	Docks	Last Shipping Day.
Shanghai ...	Min	A1 13 yr.	E.I.D.	Nov. 5.
Do.	Guinevere ...	A1 10 yr.	E.I.D.	Nov. 20.
Do.	Challenger ...	A1 12 yr.	E.I.D	To follow.
Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	Young Lochinvar ...	A1 13 yr.	E.I.D.	With des.
Amoy & Foo-Chow-Foo ...	...	A1 18 yr.	W.I.D.	With des.
Kanagawa ...	Merse	A1 13 yr.	W.I.D	Oct. 29.
Do.	Eleanor ...	15 yr.	E.I.D.	Nov. 25.
	Eliza Shaw...	A1.		

For Freight or Passage apply to KILLICK, MARTIN and Co., 28, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, E.C.

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ROBERTSON and CO. will despatch the following first-class VESSELS to their respective destinations. They are well adapted for their several trades, and are confidently recommended to their friends :—

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Shanghai	Star of China	W.I.D	With des.
Shanghai	Solent ...	W.I.D	With des.
H. Kong & Whampoa	Robin Hood .	E.I.D.	With des.
H. Kong & Whampoa	Devanha ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Nagasaki	Ziba... ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Manila	A Ship ...	W.I.D.	With des.
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Apply at 5, Newman's-court, Cornhill, London; or York-Chambers, 55, King-street, Manchester.

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Destination.	Ships.	Tons.	Class.	Docks.
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Colombo... ...	Ardencraig...	595	A1 13 yr.	Vict.
Colombo... ...	Eunice ...	321	A1 11 yr.	St. Kat.
Colombo... ...	Royal Bride .	421	A1 ...	Lond.D.
Rangoon... ...	Rapide ...	498	3-3d&A1	St. Kat.
Kurrachee ...	Morning Star	480	3-3ds ...	Lond.D.
Whampoa & Hong Kong	Benvoirlich .	600	A1 9 yr.	Ditto.
Cochin, Beypore, &c.	Night Watch	328	A1 9 yr.	St. Kat.

31, Great St. Helen's, E.C.

FOR SHANGHAI (with immediate despatch), the well-known clipper ship GARRAWALT, A 1 fourteen years, 627 tons register, WILLIAM SHEPHERD, Commander; lying in the East India Docks. Has excellent accommodation for passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to PHILLIPPS, SHAW, and LOWTHER, 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, E.C.

FOR SHANGHAI (to follow the Garr awalt), the well-known clipper FALCON, A 1 13 years, 794 tons register, JOHN KEAY, Commander; lying in the East India Docks. Has excellent accommodation for passengers.

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HONG KONG and WHAMPOA (last shipping day 1st November).—The splendid new clipper BELTED WILL, A 1 fourteen years, 812 tons register, G. GRAHAM (late of the Bunian), Commander; lying in the London Docks. This ship for speed and strength is unsurpassed by any afloat, and has on her first voyage (just completed) with new teas successfully competed with the most famous ships in the China trade. Has excellent passenger accommodation.

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For Freight or Passage apply to PHILLIPPS, SHAW, and LOWTHER, No. 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, E.C.

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FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the well-known clipper ship BANIAN, A 1 fourteen years, 760 tons register, J. MASTERS, Commander; will load in the London Docks. Has excellent accommodation for passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to PHILLIPS, SHAW, and LOWTHER, 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, E.C.

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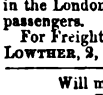

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Will have Immediate Despatch.

DIRECT for COCHIN, BEYPOOR, CALICUT, CANNONORE, and MANGALORE, the beautiful clipper ship NIGHT WATCH, A 1 nine years; 327 tons register; R. ATKINSON, Commander; lying in the St. Katharine Docks. This fine little vessel, having just returned from the above ports, and having a large portion of her cargo engaged, is confidently recommended to shippers desirous of quick despatch.

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FOR COLOMBO (CEYLON) direct, having the greater portion of her cargo engaged, the nearly new ship ISABELLA ATKINSON, A 1 for 10 years, register 339 tons, STEPHEN ATKINSON, Commander, loading in the West India Docks. This splendid ship has good accommodation for passengers.

For freight or passage apply to W. A. WINCKLEY, 23, Birchin-lane, Cornhill, E.C.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE FIFTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 28th December, 1863. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 154.] LONDON, WEDNESDAY, NOV. 9, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Yokohama	July 10	Aug. 31	Sept. 12
	Nagasaki			„ 9
	Hakodadi			
CHINA—				
	Peking			Aug. 28
	Tien-tsin			Sept. 5
	Chefoo			
	New-chwang			
	Hankow			„ 10
	Kiu-kiang			
	Shanghai	„ 26	Sept. 9	„ 21
	Ningpo			
	Foo-Chow-Foo			„ 22
	Amoy			„ 23
	Swatow			
	Hong Kong	Aug. 10	„ 17	„ 27
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	July 10		„ 21
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Saigon			„ 28
SIAM—				
	Bangkok			„ 8
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			„ 10
	Sarawak			„ 15
JAVA—				
	Batavia			„ 30
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	Aug. 26	Sept. 27	Oct. 6
	Penang	„ „	„ 25	„ 8

The mails delivered to-day, per French mail steamer, include those by the P. and O. steamer due here on the 14th, which arrived at Galle in time to transfer to the French steamer at that port.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, Nov. 4, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. W. B. Andrews, Surgeon Woolfreys, Miss Thompson, Mrs. Swinhoe, Asst. Commy. Gen. Long, Lieut. Stokes, R.N., Commander G. H. Forster, R.N. From Marseilles, Nov. 12—To Shanghai: Messrs. W. Watson and W. E. King. To Hong Kong: Mr. Wheely, Mr. Arnould. From Alexandria.—To Singapore: Miss Cook and Eur. servant. From Gibraltar.—To Hong Kong: Actg. Depy. Asst. Commy. Gen. Hughes.

Per P. and O. steamer, Nov. 12, from Southampton.—To Singapore, via Bombay: Mr. C. H. Harrison, Mr. R. Smith. To Shanghai, via Bombay: Mr. Holdsworth. From Marseilles, Nov. 20.—To Hong Kong, via Bombay, Mr. M'Clure, Mr. T. Jackson. To Shanghai, via Bombay: Mr. McCalman.

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of the Straits, in possession of the Prince of Kokura, did not fire, so that the fleet had only one side (the Northern) to engage. A deputation from Kokura and other Princes from the Southern or friendly side waited upon the Admiral before the fighting began, asking him not to commence operations, as the Japanese were themselves going to punish Choshiu. The Admiral, however, replied that the fleet had waited long enough, and preferred doing its own work. Next morning at daylight, the bombardment was re-commenced, and in the course of two hours the forts were silenced. The troops then landed to spike the guns, and fought until dark. On the morning of the 7th the troops were again engaged on shore, spiking the guns and blowing up the forts, but in the afternoon Choshiu sent officials on board the fleet to arrange for peace, and to beg the allies to cease firing, promising that he would submit to any conditions the Admirals might impose on him. Orders were immediately given to cease firing, but the English demanded that the Prince of Choshiu should write a guarantee, binding himself to pay any indemnity, and submit to any conditions that foreigners might impose. This was done on the morning of the 10th inst."

The English loss is said to be about twelve killed, and twenty wounded; amongst the latter we are sorry to say is Captain Alexander, of the *Euryalus*, who was wounded in the foot, and it is feared that amputation will prove necessary. The French lost about five killed and wounded and the Dutch about ten, almost all the casualties occurring on shore, where also Captain Alexander was wounded. While Choshiu was sending on board the fleet to obtain peace, he dispatched fowls and provisions to every ship. Sixty-two guns of large calibre and a great number of light guns were destroyed. Seven (large) forts and several small batteries were destroyed, as well as all the barracks and powder magazines. There is now therefore not a fort standing or a gun mounted at Simonoseki. All the guns that seemed useful were taken on board the allied fleet. It is impossible to ascertain the loss of the Japanese, as they carried away their dead, but it must have been heavy. It is reported that Choshiu confesses that he is sorry for having fired on the ships which passed the Straits, but that he was acting at the request of the Tycoon and Mikado, and that all the guns he had were supplied by the Tycoon. If this be proved, the Tycoon will of course be held responsible for the outrage on foreign flags. The fleet has sustained no injury; the *Perseus* was aground for about twenty hours, but nevertheless made good use of her guns, and had not a single man killed or wounded on board.

The following is a translation of the French Admiral's official report, dated "Simonoseki, Sept. 11":—

"The combined squadrons, presenting an imposing force of sixteen vessels of war, have, after three days' fighting, forced the Straits of Simonoseki, destroyed munitions of war that have been accumulating for more than a year, and struck such terror into the enemy that he has implored for peace. Sixty bronze cannon of large calibre have been embarked on board the vessels of the fleet. The town of Simonoseki has been spared. The resistance of the Japanese batteries was warm and obstinate on the first day, and, it may be said, would have done honour to a European enemy. The vessels that took part in the attack were:—The Semiramis, Dupleix, and Tancrède, French; the Euryalus, Conqueror, Tartar, Barrossa, Perseus, Argus, Coquette, and Bouncer, English; Metalin Kruis, Djambi, Medusa, and Amsterdam, Dutch; Ta-Kiang, American. The Perseus, Medusa, Tancrède, Coquette, and Bouncer fought under steam on the 5th; the other vessels were at anchor. This complete success of the combined forces was, moreover, effected at the relatively insignificant cost of seventeen killed and some sixty wounded. The good understanding of the Admirals was perfect, and reflects special honour on each of them."

We learn from Yokohama that meanwhile no anxiety was felt there for the security of the settlement. A few days after the departure of the fleet a notification was circulated, by order of the British Minister (and it is believed that similar notifications were issued by the other heads of nationalities), containing satisfactory assurance upon the subject of there being ample security for the protection of the settlement in the event of any disturbance (the likelihood of which, however, it did not suggest), but making the very reasonable recommendation that, in the existing state of affairs, discretion should be exercised as to the extent and neighbourhood of excursions made by Europeans. By the steamer *Chusan*, which arrived from Shanghai on the 25th August, the garrison was further reinforced by 163 rank and file of the Beloochees, 86 more men of the 67th, and 22 men of the Royal Artillery. With respect to the Beloochees, the *Japan Herald* points to probable danger from their presence. We take the following from that journal of the 10th September:—

Last evening a *fracas* of a serious character occurred in the Settlement, close to the Old Hatoba. The Beloochees were yesterday transferred from their tents upon the hill to the old Custom-house Godown facing the Hatoba, which it is intended, we believe, shall continue to be occupied as their barracks for some time. It seems that one of the Sepoys was struck by a stone thrown by a Japanese, when a general melée ensued, ending in three Japanese being made prisoners and dragged into the barracks by the soldiers, though not before two of the Japanese were wounded or severely beaten. An officer with a picket arrived shortly afterwards, but returned without being required to render any service, as before their arrival matters had been so far settled as that the Japanese were handed over to the Custom-house authorities. We know nothing further of the particulars of this affair; and so far it appears that the Beloochees probably thought it necessary to act with vigour in self-defence; but though generally desirous to avoid remarks upon matters of military arrangements, we cannot but observe upon what seems to be a step fraught with great danger to the peace of the Settlement—the stationing the Beloochees close to the native town with no European officer in charge on the spot; we trust that it is intended to make this provision forthwith.

In the meantime intelligence arriving from various parts of the interior of the country, at Yokohama, indicates a most disturbed state of political affairs. Towards the end of August there was received news of the destruction of a great part of the city of Kioto by fire, at the hands of a large body of Choshiu's men. This city—better known as Miako—is perhaps one of the finest cities of the world, and the regret at its even partial destruction will be shared by all who have ever read the interesting accounts of its grandeur and elegance in Thunberg or Kaempfer. Choshiu's three palaces in Yedo have been invested by the Tycoon's forces. Mito, the great city of the Prince of that name, has been the scene of a series of violent conflicts between the Ronins of the district and the Prince's retainers. The Ronins were dispersed and many taken prisoners.

The following are native accounts of the fighting within Kioto:—

FIRST INTELLIGENCE OF THE BATTLE AT KIOTO BY AN OVERLAND COURIER.

"Kioto, 20th August.

"This morning at day-break a battle has taken place between Aisoo and Choshiu with artillery; all the streets from Jebisugawa, Tosai, Karasoomaroo, to Tyamatsi have been destroyed by fire; the inhabitants have left the town."

FROM OSAKA.

"Kikawa Keumots a Karo (minister), of Choshiu has arrived here with 5,000 men to advance upon Kioto; reinforcements are following; they are advancing towards Tusimi; great panic prevailing in Kioto.—In haste."

EXTRACT FROM A PRIVATE LETTER FROM A MERCHANT IN KIOTO.

"This morning at daybreak from the other side of Katsulagawa (a river) bands of people of a suspicious appearance were seen advancing, collecting together in a large mob; they attacked the west end of Kioto and committed violence, and advanced towards the palace of the Mikado, with the supposed intention of seizing or capturing the person of the Mikado. The guards got ready, and made preparations for the defence of the gates. Now a band of soldiers, supposed to belong to Choshiu, opened fire with small and large guns, advancing at the same time to the number of five hundred or more. A large fire was raging at the same time and destroyed the houses from the west end of the town, advancing rapidly towards the Mikado's palace. The troops guarding Kioto belonging to Matzdaira Higo no Kami (Aisoo), (Aisoo is also called the Shigoshok, Commander-in-Chief of Kioto), and Yodo (Inaba Tango no Kami, the present representative of the Tycoon in Kioto), as also the troops sent from Yedo, guarded one side of the palace, which position was attacked by the soldiers of Choshiu, and a serious engagement took place on that spot, as the great number wounded and killed on both sides shows. I have not arrived at the particulars of the fight, but shall send them afterwards. The Mikado is well protected. But as the fire is still raging the panic is great amongst the merchants and citizens."

REPORT OF A MESSENGER OF A VILLAGE NEAR KIOTO, ON THE TOKAIDO.

"Before daybreak of the 20th instant the troops of Choshiu assembled on the hill Tenno-san (near Kioto), on the temple of Tin-lin-sin, and advanced suddenly towards the town of Kioto. A fight began with the guards of the Mikado's palace; on both sides big guns were continually firing. At three o'clock in the morning a column of smoke and fire was seen rising from the Choshiu Tastikas (residences of Choshiu), in the Kawalamatso, and in Tusima, apparently set fire to inside. The fight near the Mikado's palace was, in the meantime, increasing; at midday the wounded and killed were lying about in heaps. The houses of the Mikado's officers, named Takatsukasa and Kusio, were burned. The streets were set on fire on the west side. Teramatsi, on the east side Karasoomaroo, all burning at the same time. In the night of the 20th nearly the whole town was laid in ashes. On the 21st the temples of Kiomisa and Kodaisi and Awada-Sisigatani were fired upon with large guns and set on fire, which burned up to the castle called Nijio. The Mikado has been obliged to fly to the temple of Hijesan (5 ri from Kioto). The battle is still raging, whilst the empty plains of Kioto are filled with soldiers dressed in armour. The citizens have all left the ruins.

"This letter left on the 21st August at 8 o'clock in the morning. Received in Yedo at 8 o'clock on the 25th August.

"P.S.—From Yedo.

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"Troops are going up daily to Kioto, and passing the Tokaido. Several hundreds of Choshiu's men were turned back on the Tokaido by Satsuma's men, sent from their Yedo Yasiki."

A curious document is in our possession purporting to be an exculpatory statement of Choshiu's policy, which is too long for insertion in our present issue, but shall appear in our next number. It is fragmentary, and its authenticity is, of course, more or less open to question. The internal evidence that it is really a statement prepared by the Prince of Nangato himself or by his order is, however, very strong; and in this view it is likely to throw great light, not only upon his own motives of action and his designs, but of those of many others engaged in political affairs, who have been actively plotting for the expulsion of foreigners ever since the signature of the first treaty.

The case of De Forest and Co. *v.* J. Rumebe was before the United States Consular Court on the 24th August, being an action to recover on an overdue bill of exchange of $1,000 (one of four). It appeared that Rumebe, who has been carrying on business at Yokohama as an import merchant and storekeeper, under the name of Rumebe and Co., was in partnership with De Forest and Co. of Shanghai, the latter buying at that port and sharing with Rumebe the profits on goods sold at Yokohama. On a dissolution of partnership Rumebe received information which led him to believe that his invoices were not genuine—that large additions had been made to the prices. He then gave public notice against the negotiation of the bills. The plaintiffs pleaded that the bills had been negotiated to third parties before the notice. The defendant replied that the bills had not been really negotiated at the time of the notice—if since—and asked for a commission to take testimony at Shanghai. This was acceded to, on condition of security being lodged in the event of judgment passing against him. The case, therefore, stands over for the present.

A notice has been issued by Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Murray, calling for tenders for the supply of meat and other necessaries for six months from the 1st October.

A report having reached this of the loss of a foreign vessel, H.M.'s gunboat *Havoc* was despatched to her relief, and on her return reported the wreck of the *Fleda*, from Yokohama to London, in a gale off Volcano Island. She struck in a bay named Kosiama. At the last advices Captain Hughes had not abandoned the vessel. The chief mate and five of the crew arrived at Yokohama in the *Havoc*. This vessel belonged to Messrs. George Duncan and Co., of London. She was despatched by Messrs. Macpherson and Marshall, with a general cargo, consisting of 38 bales silk, 2,819 lbs. tea, 180 bales cotton, and other sundries.

NAGASAKI.

The ruling powers at Nagasaki profess great friendship for the English, and express themselves highly delighted at the fleet having gone to Simonoseki. It is best to believe them sincere, although the measures and precautions taken nominally against Choshiu—such as collecting a large force, overhauling and strengthening forts, &c.—might easily be turned against us. Trade continues extremely dull. The Chinese nevertheless still export largely to Chefoo.

HAKODADI.

Our correspondent sends us the following, under date of the 28th August:—

Departures.—Am. bq. J. W. Seaver, leaving this day for Shanghai. British brigantine Alert, left on 25th August for Tien-tsin.

Vessels in Harbour.—French bq. Marie, British str. Iron Prince, British schr. Petrel, British schr. Khankai.

Nothing to interest the outer world has occurred for some time. In a local way, however, there is a novelty, as the West Pacific Co.'s Saw Mills are now a working reality. The mills, which are of European make, are driven by steam, and have been working for more than three weeks. The Japanese take great delight in visiting the works, which are infested with visitors of all classes daily.

CHINA.

TIEN-TSIN.

A correspondent of the *North China Herald* sends the subjoined notice of the opening of the foreign chapel lately erected at this port. Many handsome residences have already sprung up at Tsze Chu-lin, and this Gothic church will add considerably to the architectural beauties of the Northern River.

In the spring of this year, the Revds. Messrs. Innocent and Hall submitted a project to the community for erecting a church on a portion of the land belonging to their mission. Their plan was generally approved and the appeal for help in its execution was most generously responded to. As the result, a neat and graceful edifice has been raised, affording comfortable accommodation for religious exercises, and constituting an ornament to the locality in which it stands. It occupies a very commanding position, being the most conspicuous object for some distance in the approach to this settlement from Taku, whether by road or river. On Sunday, August 14th, this sanctuary was solemnly opened for divine service, and it was gratifying to observe the interest excited by the occasion. For some time past we have rarely averaged more than fifteen or twenty persons at our service; but nearly one hundred Europeans gathered together in the setting apart of this church. We trust this interesting fact augurs well for the future. Of course a great proportion of the parties thus assembling were officers and men from ships lying at this port; but after allowing for these, we had a good number of the foreign residents present. The service of the Church of England was performed, and an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. J. Williamson, of the London Mission. It was a source of much satisfaction and thankfulness to those chiefly concerned in the erection of this building, to find that it commands the approval of all who have subscribed to it. The church is in the Gothic style of architecture, with square tower. It will probably cost £800, and towards this amount nearly £500 has already been contributed. We have been interested in learning that, without any previous knowledge of the arrangement, the new chapel at Shanghai was opened on the same day as we were engaged in our dedicatory services.

SHANGHAI.

The English mail of the 26th July arrived out on the 9th Sept. The dates are down to the 21st. The cholera had disappeared, and the northerly airs of September had done good service in restoring vigour to the residents.

Amusements promise to be varied and good this autumn. The races had been fixed for the 9th, 10th, and 11th November. The Christy Minstrels and a theatrical company from the colonies were expected. The Shanghai Burlesque Company also promised attractions of a superior kind.

The Cricket Club has recommenced. The match now on hand between the military and civilians will be very close. It was to be resumed on the departure of the mail. On the departure of the mail the score was—Civilians, first innings, 70; Military, first innings, 55; Civilians, second innings (with six wickets down), 30. The ground is in capital order.

A paper was read at the Asiatic Society on "*The Seaboard* of Manchuria," by Mr. Canny, a gentleman who had served in the Russian fleet.

Little doubt is now entertained as to the elevation of Li Futai to the viceroyalty of the two Hu provinces. The present governor will return to Peking, having doubtless accumulated a very respectable fortune. Liu, the present Fantai of Kiang-su, and Shên, Futai of Kiang-si, have each been mentioned as likely to obtain the post rendered vacant by Li Futai's accession of dignity. Should Liu be appointed, Ting Taotai is, we understand, likely to take the Acting Fantai-ship—an appointment certain to produce no inconsiderable jealousy, as Ting, however gifted with business capabilities, has risen with such rapidity as to excite the envy of many local officials.

The *Friend of China* thus speaks of the late evacuation of Hoo-chow:—

"On the capture of the stockades near the east gate, Hoo-chow-foo was evacuated by the rebels, though leisurely, each man well laden with his share of the plunder. The marauders, as they have now become, have taken to the mountains not far from Hoo-chow-foo, and intend carrying on a guerilla warfare. They are no match, they say, for foreign cannon; so they will get out of their reach—cowed, but not conquered!

"Another of the parties despatched by us, a short time ago, to learn the real state of affairs about Hoo-chow-foo, has just returned, and reports as follows:—

"The Chung Wang was in command up to the last—the force in arms, in and about Hoo-chow-foo numbering 300,000—with plenty of ammunition and ordnance, and provisions in quantity—rice and salt-fish enough for seven years. If the Chekiang provincials, and their French assistants, had been all they had to contend against, they would have still held out; but, quite unexpectedly, they found Le Futai, of Kiangnan, crossing the borders of a province in which he has no legitimate control, bringing with him some of the artillery, under European officers, which had helped to recover to Imperial arms the cities of Suchow and Changchowfoo; the steamer *Hyson*, and another, under foreign management being there too. This produced a determination in the Chung-Wang to evacuate Hoo-chow-foo; and evacuated Hoo-chow-foo was accordingly.

"Three days after—we repeat, three days afterwards, Le Futai gallantly marched into the city with a thundering noise, and then, what did he?—Why, shut the gates even upon the Fantai of Chekiang! Well, the gates were closed, and then

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commenced a general sack, and the usual massacre of innocent individuals—women only being spared.

"Two companies of D'Aguibelle's forces entered the city from the north-east, as the Futai went in from the opposite direction, and when our reporter, whose narrative, in Chinese, we have some difficulty in comprehending, left the city, matters were proceeding peaceably, although the Fantai's people, at no great distance off, were exceedingly disgusted at being kept out of the pay which they have not had for the last seven months, and which they had fully expected on gaining their prize.

"A laughable story is told of the second capture of the Chung Wang here, at Hoo-chow-foo,—his head—the veritable caput—with loud clamour of gongs, being sent round to all the villages, that people might behold the head of the arch traitor! Our reporter, wicked sceptic, loudly declares that the head said to be the Chung Wang's truly sat on the shoulders, a week or two ago, of a man whose highest grade in life was that of a coolie."

HANKOW.

The steamer *Far East* had not completed her loading. The *Camilla* and *Dovercourt* were expected to clear shortly.

CHIN KIANG.

An important move in the way of facilitating business operations was made on the 5th of September. Consul Adkins, with his assistant, and Mr. Lord, the Commissioner of Customs, left Silver Island, in spite of what our informant emphatically styles "wretched weather," and took possession of their quarters in Chin Kiang. H.M.'s gunboat *Slaney* followed the next day, and is now anchored a little above the Concession. This arrangement was much and long wished for on the part of the residents, and has been gladly hailed by them as decidedly a move in the right direction. They will now be able to get through their business with something like system; and it is likewise confidently expected that, when building and settling is once commenced in earnest by the European residents, the influential native merchants will soon gather round the concession. A few have made flying visits already, and have satisfied themselves that the foreigner means to do business. It is also hoped that the resuscitation of the city of Nanking may have a beneficial influence on the growing trade of Chin Kiang. As people are flocking into the former city, carrying with them the necessity for a partial revival of its former commercial importance, it is believed that the benefits must react, if only indirectly, on the latter port. At all events, present appearances are decidedly in favour of the ultimate establishment of a very respectable business, and and that too at no very distant date.

NINGPO.

The news from Ningpo states that the pirates who abound there are becoming very audacious, and do not hesitate to attack lorchas belonging to Europeans. H.M.'s gunboats *Hardy* and *Flamer* are hard to work with them; their efforts have been very successful, without loss to themselves. Before the gunboats went down to the scene of their atrocities they had attacked a European lorcha, and murdered a man named Johnston. The punishment inflicted on these pests has been as follows: the gunboats captured two piratical junks, one wood-laden junk, and sank two others. The pirates ran the vessels ashore, and then took to the hills. A good many were killed during the engagement.

HONG KONG.

The English mail of 10th August arrived out on the 17th Sept. The dates are now down to the 27th. The following items are from the *Evening Mail*:—

We hear that the handsome sum of $450 has been raised in Hong Kong for the "China Cup" to be sent home for competition by the London Scottish Volunteers. A subscription list will be sent to Shanghai, in order to give the different corps there an opportunity of joining in the movement, and thereby justifying the general name proposed to be given to the prize.

A pension of £300 a-year has been voted to the Bishop of Victoria, subject to a deduction of any sum he may derive from an appointment in England. The vote was considered special, and a note was appended to it suggesting that, as the Bishop's services had been rendered as much to the Imperial as to the local Government, the former be requested to pay one half of the sum voted.—The Governor intimated that a Limited Liability Ordinance was being prepared by the Attorney-General.

The annual public meeting of the Sailors' Home was very numerously attended, evincing the deep interest felt in the institution. Dr. Irwin was called to the chair. Mr. Thomas Sutherland, in laying before the meeting a statement of the financial position of the undertaking, stated that even after deviating in some minor details from the original plan of the building, they would still be in debt to the amount of something like $13,000 before the Home could be opened. He then read a letter from Mr. Whittall, in which the liberal proposal of Mr. Robert Jardine was made to the committee of management. This proposition consists in the institution being placed on trial, by a grant in aid, for a period of probably three years, that gentleman binding himself to pay any excess of expenditure over revenue during that period. The only condition put forward was that one of the partners of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co., should be appointed a member of the committee of management, in order to have a voice in the direction of its affairs.

The Hon. Mr. Whittall explained that, as Mr. Jardine was of opinion that an institution such as the Sailors' Home ought to be supported by the whole community, he had collected part of the sum from old residents at home, and he hoped subscriptions would be forthcoming from residents in the colony. Mr. Owen remarked that he had received offers of subscriptions, which he believed would amount to nearly $10,000. It was moved by Mr. Thos. Sutherland that the proposal made by Mr. Whittall be accepted; which was unanimously agreed to.

It was then moved by Mr. Owen that the present committee of management be re-elected for another year, and that the Hon. Mr. Whittall be added to their number, which was likewise agreed to unanimously.

The Hon. Mr. Chomley proposed a vote of thanks to the promoters of the scheme, which motion was received with applause; and a vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

The british brigantine *Jeanie* reports that she was in company, off Anjer, with the ship *Sir W. F. Williams*, from London for Shanghai, 100 days out, having two steam-yachts on board. On the 7th, off the Ladrones, the *Jeanie* encountered a severe gale, which drifted her in a strong west current as far as Fau She Ack; it took her seven days to regain her former position, the gale being very severe with a very bad sea. The *Jeanie* brings as cargo three yachts, with coal, lumber, and provisions. Two of the yachts are standing on deck, with engines, &c., complete and in readiness for immediate use. The passage was performed without the least harm to the steamers, which, it is said, has never before been accomplished in so small a vessel.

The following is from the *China Mail*:—

Having learnt that reports have got abroad reflecting upon the character of the Hong Kong Club, we feel it necessary to vindicate the reputation of that institution. So far as we know, the facts are these. On Wednesday evening last both companies of the Volunteers turned out, in compliance with an order from his Excellency Sir Hercules Robinson. The unfortunate ill-feeling which has lately arisen between the military and the police in this colony had led, it seems, to Her Majesty's 99th Regiment being ordered over to Kowlong. In these circumstances, and probably as a trial measure, the Volunteers were ordered to patrol the disturbed localities, in order to impart a sense of security to the Chinese, who had—and not without cause—begun to get alarmed at the riotous proceedings of the two previous evenings. About eighty-five men turned out, in obedience to the Governor's order. None of those men could tell which of them might get hurt while on this duty. There was not much to fear, it is true; for the irritated parties had no animosity towards the Volunteers. But the prompt muster of the corps, both officers and privates, at the command of H.E. the Governor, was creditable to a degree, and augurs well for future cases of emergency. At 9 P.M., after having, for four hours, patrolled the disturbed district, and reassured the Chinese residents thereby, the corps were marched up to the Court-house, and allowed to "fall out."

The next step taken was a bad one, and we do not know who was to blame for it. But it seems that some injudicious individual went into the Hong Kong Club, and began to procure sandwiches with which to refresh the men who had turned out to assist in securing the safety of life and property in a quarter where there was actual danger to be feared. The case as regards the Club, though a peculiarly exceptional one, could not, of course, be entertained. Two officers of the gallant corps—we need scarcely say they were not members of the Club—were disallowed a glass of beer, in compliance with rule 3,788, and, as those gentlemen withdrew unrefreshed, they were very properly hooted by a number of members who happened to be standing on the Club steps.

We are authorised to state that the rule referred to cannot be infringed under any circumstances. Its inviolability has been repeatedly asserted, and we understand that a very intelligent member of the Colonial Government has undertaken the duty of seeing to its strict enforcement.

The Club, we would again insist, must not be made a pot-house of. Had the Volunteers felt "peckish," which doubtless they did after a four hours' spell of work, we have no doubt that Messrs. Dent and Co. or Messrs. Lindsay and Co. would have let them have the scraps that were left from their tables after dinner; but to ask a sandwich and a glass of beer from the Hong Kong Club was too much. Who would not hoo

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Volunteer officer who had been four hours on duty by command of the Governor and his colonel, and for the safety of the settlement, who dared to assume that the Hong Kong Club would let him have a biscuit and a glass of porter? A piece of grosser impertinence was never perpetrated than for two men, in Volunteer uniform, to violate the sanctity of the Hong Kong Club bar by attempting to take refreshment thereat. The man who introduced the excluded, famished, and hooted victims of such daring presumption upon club hospitality ought to be seriously spoken to. We must really keep the Club from being made a pot-house of, except—of course—by its own members.

SIAM.

BANGKOK.

The *Siam Times* has the following notice of a marriage, which will be found in our list of marriages:—

"The newly married couple are the grand-children of His Majesty the Supreme King of Siam. The father of the bride-groom, and the father of the bride, were the two sons born to His Majesty while he was a young prince, and before he entered the priesthood. It must be borne in mind that His Majesty was a priest twenty-seven years previous to his coronation. On the death of his late Majesty Somdetch Phra Nang Klau, the two late Somdetchs, Ong Yai and Ong Noi, prevailed upon the prince priest to relinquish the priesthood and ascend the vacant throne. The Phra Klang, and Phaya Sripipat, the then prominent men of the kingdom, so controlled the affairs of state, that their present Majesties, the first and second king, became the recognised heads of the nation. After having effected the coronation of the two kings, these two powerful ministers of state, who had judiciously conducted the succession to the throne without an interregnum, and its consequent bloodshed, received from their present Majesties the dignified and honorary titles of Somdetch Ong Yai, and Somdetch Ong Noi. Each of these distinguished noblemen have left a large family of sons. The alliances of these families and their influence extends through every ramification of the Government. They are respected in the palace, in the provinces, in the territories, and everywhere throughout the kingdom. The political talent of the prominent members of these families would do honour to any country, and their extensive power reminds one much of the past history of the English nobility. His Majesty the King appreciates the talents and the powers of the members of these families, and keeps them in the most responsible positions of trust."

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are to the 6th October. The London mail of the 26th August arrived out by the P. and O. steamer *Benares* on the morning of the 27th September.

The Overland Summary of the *Straits Times* has the following:—

"We have had a very dull fortnight—nothing of local importance having transpired. It has eked out from political circles, that the transfer of the settlement to the Crown was only assented to by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the understanding that the revenue was to be supplemented by an Income-tax to be levied as soon as the change took place. We think it is very doubtful if the report be true; but in any case, it is not of a nature to alarm the residents here. The community of Singapore have long ago been reconciled to the demand that they should pay the entire expenses of their Government, and they are confident that it is not the intention of the Imperial Government to do more than this—or, in other words, to make a profit out of them."

Mr. Peter Benson Maxwell has been appointed to officiate as Registrar of the Penang division of the Supreme Court, during the absence of Mr. Alexander Rodyk, on leave, on Medical Certificate. Mr. Maxwell assumed charge of the duties of the Registrar's Office on the 2nd May, 1864. Her Majesty's Exequatur having been received, Don M. M. Caballero de Rodas is recognised as Consul for Spain. Mr. R. Bain has been appointed by the Consul for the United States, to be Vice-Consul for that Government at Penang.

The *Straits Times* of the 24th September says:—

"It is reported that a fine large iron ship from Liverpool to China, called the *Sea Horse*, is wrecked in Gaspar Straits, but we have no particulars."

Mr. Willans, the Police Magistrate, and Mr. Kirby, the officiating Master-Attendant, having inquired into the abandonment of the barque *Isle o' May*, of London, have suspended the certificate of James Gray, the master, for twelve months.

The prospectus has been issued of the "Johore Sugar Company," the object being to bring under sugar cultivation an extensive tract of the richest soil in the territories of Johore, measuring about 5,000 acres, which has been granted to the company in perpetuity by the Rajah of Johore free of cost; and to erect thereon milling machinery of the first order, so as to reduce the produce of the plantation to the highest class of sugar yet exported from any part of the Straits Settlement. The district in which the land granted to the company by the Rajah lies, is one of the richest, but the particular site will not be definitely fixed upon until a survey of a very large area of ground has been completed, so as to ensure the utmost advantages which it is possible to obtain in combination.

The *Singapore Free Press* takes exception to our article on the Governorship of Singapore, which we will notice in our next issue.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

DATO—On the 8th Sept., at Shanghai, the wife of Benjamin Dato, of a son, stillborn.
GIBBON—On the 3rd Nov., at 10, Edith Villas, Fulham, the wife of Capt. R. Gibbon, of a daughter.
LANE—On the 7th Nov., at Grove-end House, St. John's-wood, the wife of T. A. Lane, Esq., of a son.
KUP—On the 16th Sept., at Hong Kong, the wife of A. W. P. Kup, of a son.
LOUIS—On the 20th Sept., at Hong Kong, the wife of the Rev. W. Louis, of a son.
M'MURDO—On the 16th Sept., at Hong Kong, the wife of R. M'Murdo, of a son.
PADDAY—On the 5th Nov., at Angmering Rectory, the residence of her father, the wife of Reginald Padday, Esq., of Singapore, of a daughter.
TORREY—On the 16th Sept., at Victoria, Hong Kong, the wife of J. W. Torrey, of a son

MARRIAGES.

GLYN—COLLIER.—On the 20th Oct., at the parish church, Wickham, Hants, by the Rev. Carr John Glyn, rector of Witchampton and Stanbridge, Dorset, and father of the bridegroom, Carr Stuart Glyn, Esq., Captain of the Royal Dragoons, to Selina Catherine, youngest daughter of the late Rear-Admiral Sir Francis Augustus Collier, C.B., K.G.H., &c., of Wickham, Hants.
HANCOCK—BUDD.—On the 3rd Nov., at Barnstaple, North Devon, by the Rev. J. Wallas, Alfred Hancock, Esq., of Amoy, China, to Harriot Elizabeth Ryder, second daughter of Dr. Richard Budd, F.R.C.P., of Barnstaple. No cards.
LEIGHTON—LYSTER.—On the 2nd Nov., at St. George's Church, Hanover-square, by the Rev. G. B. Macilwain, Henry Leighton, Esq., of the firm of Leighton and Co., Mark-lane, to Gertrude, daughter of Robert Lyster, Esq., of Milton House, Brighton.
PANKOJ—CHANDRA.—At the Palace, on the 22d August, Prince Pankoj, son of his Royal Highness Prince Nothawongse Krom Mu'n Mahesuer Sivavilas, was married to Princess Chandra, the daughter of his late Royal Highness Prince Supratith Krom Mu'n Visnunarth.
STAVELEY—MINET.—On the 31st Oct., at St. Mary's Church, Dover, by the Rev. John Puckle, vicar and rural dean, assisted by the Rev. John Dyke, cousin of the bride, Colonel Charles W. D. Staveley, C.B., 44th Regt., eldest son of the late Lieut.-General W. Staveley, C.B., Commander-in-Chief at Madras, to Susan Millicent, second daughter of Charles Minet, Esq., of Pier House, Dover, and granddaughter of Mrs. Minet, of Baldwyns, Kent.

DEATHS.

BURKEY—On the 16th Sept., at Kowloong, Thomas Burkey, Private H.M.'s 99th Regiment.
CROFT—On the 1st Sept., at Shanghai, on board the S.S. Mercury, Francis Croft, master, aged 28.
DOOLITTLE—On the 6th May, on board the American ship Helios, bound from Hong Kong to San Francisco, in lat. 30.18 N., lon. 132.31 E., Calvin Mills, son of the Rev. Justus and Mrs. Lucy Doolittle, late of Fuhchau, China, aged 9 months and 25 days, of dysentery, after 10 days' illness.
DATO—On the 10th Sept., at Shanghai, Anna, the beloved wife of Benjamin Dato, aged 29.
DEW—On the 13th Oct., at Madeira, on his return from China, Ensign Charles Dew, of the 99th Regt., in his 21st year.
ENDICOTT—On the 19th Aug., on board the ship Mandarin, off Anjer (three hours before the loss of said vessel, Henry C. Endicott, aged 43, of the firm of Messrs. Thos. Hunt and Co., Hong Kong.
HONGILL—On the 12th Sept., at Hong Kong, George Hongill, Private H.M.'s 99th Regt., from wounds received in Taipingshan.
IRWIN—On the 4th Sept., at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, George Irwin, destitut seaman.
KRAWSE—On the 10th Sept., at Pootung, Shanghai, Herman Krawse, formerly of Antwerpen, aged 45.
KETTLE—On the 16th Sept., at Shanghai, of congestion of the brain, Edwin R. Kettle, of the Ningpo Consulate.
LAMB—On the 30th August, at Bangkok, of dysentery, at Dr. Campbell's Hospital, James Lamb, of Bristol, ship carpenter, aged 29 years.
MARTIN—MARTIN.—On the 6th Sept., at Fuhchau, Lucius Allen, younger son of the Rev. C. R. Martin, aged 1 year and 9 months. At the same place, and at 2.30 P.M. of the same day, the Rev. Carlos R. Martin, of the American Methodist Episcopal Mission, aged 30.
M'SWAIN—On the 13th Sept., at Hong Kong, John M'Swain, seaman, from wound received in Taipingshan.
NORONHA—On the 23rd Sept., at Victoria, Hong Kong, Jose Noronha, assistant at the Oriental Bank. Much regretted by all his countrymen.
ROBB—On the 2nd Sept., at Yokohama, Mr. George Robb, formerly chief engineer P. and O. S. N. Co., aged 31.
RAMSDEN—On the 12th Sept., at Hong Kong, Charles Ramsden, seaman, from wound received in Taipingsham.
STARCK—On the 10th Sept., at Hong Kong, Capt. P. A. Starck, late capt. of the Swedish barque Theodore Dill.
WALSH—On the 2nd Sept., at Hanyang, — Walsh, second master of H.M.'s gunboat Hardy.
WULF—On the 10th Sept., at Hong Kong, Johanna, wife of Capt. Wulf, Siamese barque Orestes, aged 24.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—CANTON.—The holders of Congous are firm, and buyers have conceded to their demands to some extent. Two more chops of Oonahms have come forward during the fortnight. A small business only has been done in Canton Congous. Scented Orange Pekoes have remained in tolerable request, the finest having advanced. Scented Capers are in fair request, and have advanced a little. In Canton Greens the business has been small. The transactions of the fortnight are reported as under:—Congous, 5 chops fair to fine Oonahms and Oopacks at tls. 24¾ to 31¼; 3,000 boxes and 1,000 half-chests Canton Congous at 19 to 25 tls. for common to medium. Scented Orange Pekoes, 4,000 boxes at 19 to 36½ taels for common to very fine. Scented Caper, 7,000

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boxes at 18 to 27 taels for good common to pretty fine. Canton Greens, 1,000 boxes at 20 taels for fine. The stock on the market is thus given:—Congous, 3 chops country and 200 half-chests. Canton: Soochong, 500 half-chests; Oolong, 2,000 half-chests; Scented Teas, 20,000 boxes; Canton Greens, 15,000 boxes Gunpowder, and 1,500 half-chests Young Hyson.

FOOCHOW.—A large business has been done in Congou during the last fortnight. The price of common has been maintained, owing to a demand for Australia; the better sorts have fallen one tael, owing to unfavourable advices from London. Other descriptions remain as last quoted. The settlements of the fortnight are reported as under. Congous: 22,869 chests 2,662 half-chests, and 410 boxes, at 6¼ to 14¼ tls. for dust and broken leaf.; 13 to 17 for common to good common; 17 to 22¼ for flav'ry to good flav'ry, and 24½ to 25½ for second-class Kaisow. Souchong: 1,960 chests at 20⅛ to 29 tls. for common to good. Pekoe: 485 chests at 21½ to 28½ tls. for common to fair, and 44 for extra fine. Scented Teas: 2,809 boxes at 24½ to 31 tls. for medium kinds.

SHANGHAI.—Black: Immediately after the departure of last mail holders showed more anxiety to realise, and a decline from two to three taels on previous rates had to be submitted to before buyers would come forward, at these prices a large business has been transacted, and 43 chops are reported as settled during the fortnight. The principal portion of these are second and third crop Oopacks at from 25½ taels to 29 taels, which show three taels decline on last mail's quotations; for Oonahams the prices paid have been irregular. Some settlements showing a reduction of two taels, whilst others have been made at previous rates. Our stock is now considerably reduced, and holders, notwithstanding the advance in exchange, are firmer in their demands. Settlements on the market: 43 chops, or 18,194 chests Oopacks, Oonahms, Ningchows, Hohows, and Flowery Pekoe. Reshipped on owners' account: 37 chops, or 18,308 chests, do., do.; together, 80 chops, or 30,502 chests; making total for the season to date, 247,857 chests. Stock waiting shipment and for resale: 46 chops, or 20,010 chests. We quote second and third crop Oopacks, 25½ to 29 tls.; Ningchows, 25 to 32 tls.; Oonahms, 20 to 26 tls.; Hohows, 18 to 22 tls. Green: Little has been doing during the past fortnight, one chop of Fychow at 37 tls., four chops of Pingsuey at from 37¾ to 40 tls., and two chops of Shanghai-packed at 36 to 40 tls. making up the whole settlements reported. No buyers have at present come forward for the American market. Teamen are very anxious to realise, and Shanghai-packed teas could be bought at a considerable reduction. No country teas have at present come forward from Kiukiang.

KIUKIANG.—Green Teas: About 6,000 half-chests had arrived and a large quantity was known to be close at hand, but owing to the excessive demands of teamen no settlements had been made. Two chops of fine Moyune, however, were reported to have been contracted for at 38 tls. (equivalent to 45 tls. here), and two small parcels of local packed tea had been taken at 32 and 33 tls. At these prices there was likely to be only few buyers, and as money is unusually scarce much lower rates would probably be accepted. Black Teas: Six chops of Ningchow had been settled at previous rates. Stock: 9 chops of Ningchow, and 4 of Hohow.

HANKOW.—The accounts received of the home markets and the continual fluctuations of exchange in Shanghai have restricted business here during the past fortnight. The teamen, though firm, show more readiness to meet the exporters' prices, and rates may be called rather lower. Settlements, only 38 chops (including 8 contracts and 11 sent to Shanghai) making the total for the season 500 chops; leaving a stock on the market of about 55 chops mainly 3rd crops.

YOKOHAMA.—Settlements continue to be made to a moderate extent, but on the whole we do not think the business has been quite up to that previously reported, and receipts having been pretty fair the stocks have slightly increased. The demand seems to be still principally for the higher sorts, and some extreme prices have been admitted for this grade, while the Medium coming forward more than usually mixed in leaf, the teamen for these must submit to reduction.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—Early in the fortnight the dealers continuing firm at last mail's quotations, transactions were materially limited, but with the very considerable rise in the rate of exchange, they have lately become more willing sellers. The bulk of the settlements, estimated at 2,000 bales, have been made during the past few days at prices showing a decline of tls. 20 to 30 per picul, and the market closes very weak. The arrivals from the interior have been on a par with the sales, so that the stock is without alteration. The latest advices from Japan announcing a successful attack on the Forts at the entrance to the Inland Sea, report the non-arrival of supplies of Silk at Yokohama, and estimate the stock at Yedo to be about 1,500 piculs. Next advices are waited for with considerable anxiety, and much interest is felt as to whether the late success to the expedition will ultimately cause the officials to allow the Silk to be forwarded to the Export market. The settlements of the fortnight amount to 2,000 bales against 3,670 corresponding fortnight last year and 2,700 the year before. The total settlements of the season to date amount to 12,500 bales, against 13,460 same period last season and 31,700 the season before. The present unsold stock is 7,000 bales, against 13,500 same time last season and 10,000 the season before. The following are the latest quotations:—Tsatlees, No. 1 chops, taels 465 to 475 per picul.

DRUGS, &c.—Cassia Lignea: Sales 1,300 piculs at $15¼, stock 150 piculs. Cassia Buds: No sales, quotations $54, stock 40 piculs. Cassia Oil: Sales 2 piculs at $206, stock 60 piculs. Star Anniseed: Sales 100 piculs at $18.20, stock 300 piculs. Anise Oil: Sales 17 piculs at $150, stock 30 piculs. Galangal: No sales, quotations, $2.10, stock 500 piculs. Rhubarb: Stock 30 piculs; inferior, no sales. Vermilion: $35 per 50 catty box. Camphor: Stock on hand about 900 piculs, still held for $19 per picul packed, which purchasers are not willing to pay. No further supplies have arrived.

RAW COTTON.

HONG KONG.—The excitement has much abated, owing to the unfavourable report on the Liverpool cotton market received by the London mail of 10th August. Exporters have, in consequence, become cautious buyers, and are somewhat influenced in their calculations by the rising exchange and the anticipation of large and early supplies of the new crop. The sales of the fortnight are reported at 3,000 bales only, at $32 to $33 for old Shanghai; $33½ for old Ningpo; and $37 for old Japan, which rates exhibit a decline of $1 to $1½. The stock is estimated at 10,000 bales.

NINGPO.—Holders are asking $35 for best new Yo-Yau quality No. 2 (per bale of 118 to 120 catties). There are no buyers at such an extreme figure. About 2,000 bales are now ready for shipment.

SHANGHAI.—The demand continues active and prices tend up. The supply of old is finished. The new crop arrives in driblets, and is eagerly picked up. In this manner nearly 4,000 bales have been settled during the fortnight at tls. 20.5.0 to 21 per picul, at which rates contracts have also been made to the extent of 35,000 bales, holders being firm.

YOKOHAMA.—The more favourable advices brought forward by that opportunity induced more purchasers to offer, and prices stiffened on a scant market, which may at this moment be reported as with an upward tendency, but with stocks completely exhausted. The new Season's may be expected shortly to arrive, say in about 5 or 6 weeks. The quotation is 28.25 to 29.50 dols.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—There has not been any native demand for this article during the past fortnight, and the only sales effected to the dealers consist of 51 bales of damaged Twist, which have been placed by public auction. A speculative foreign demand which sprung up during the early part of the fortnight has led, however, to considerable settlements of Nos. 16 to 24, the price of which must be quoted somewhat easier than under the date of last report. The sales effected amount to 690 bales. Grey Shirtings: Prices of these goods remain tolerably firm at the quotations given under date of last Circular, and the business of the fortnight is estimated at 10,800 pieces taken by the Chinese, and 7,500 purchased on foreign account. White Shirtings: Have also been in moderate request at previous rates, and settlements are put at 4,500 pieces. T-Cloths: There is not any improvement noticeable in the value of this quality of goods, which meet with but little attention, and the transactions of the fortnight are confined to sales of 2,850 pieces, and 3,100 pieces sea-damaged Cloths sold by public auction. American Drills: There are not any sales of these goods to report. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: A small sale, amounting to 250 pieces of White Spotted Shirtings, is reported, and this, with the settlement of 500 pieces of Coloured Brocades, constitutes the business transacted in these goods during the fortnight. Chintzes: 700 pieces have been purchased by the Chinese dealers, and 1,500 pieces have been taken by foreign buyers during the fortnight. Handkerchiefs: 2,000 dozens have been sold since the date of last report.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: A fair demand has existed in this market for these fabrics since the date of last circular, and the settlements effected of Spanish Stripes have been upon a larger scale than for some months past, amounting to about 2,200 pieces. Prices, however, continue extremely low, and no immediate improvement in this respect is anticipated; of other kinds about 400 pieces have found buyers. Long Ells continue to meet with good inquiry, and have been purchased to a large extent during the fortnight at about the quotations previously current; the sales effected are estimated at 2,400 pieces taken by the dealers, and 1,000 pieces purchased by a foreign firm. Camlets continue in moderate demand, and the settlements effected since the date of last circular amount to 1,500 pieces. Lastings: Some 700 pieces of these goods are reported as sold during the fortnight. Blankets: The sales of blankets amount to 250 pairs, in addition to which 450 pairs of damaged goods have been sold by public auction.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: The value of nail rod has improved about 5 to 10 cents per picul; other kinds remain without change, and the total sales are estimated at 2,200 piculs. Lead shows no improvement in value; the sales in this market amount to 1,800 piculs, and in Canton 500 piculs have changed hands. Tin: 1,080 slabs sold. Tin Plates have found purchasers to the extent of 500 boxes, in addition to which 250 boxes (damaged) have been moved off by auction.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6	months sight.	6s. 11½d. to 7s. 0d.	7s. 0d. to 7s. 1d.
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 10½d.	4s. 11d. to 5s. 0d.
At Singapore	6	ditto		
At Manila	6	ditto	4s. 6½d.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 322 to 323 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 225 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 11 to 12 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 75 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 30 to 31 discount.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At JAPAN.—None.

At SHANGHAI.—From Liverpool: Sept. 3, Diligentia. From Sunderland: 19, Esperanza. From Cardiff: 19, Hampton Court.

At FOOCHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From London: Sept. 11, Cambalu. From Liverpool: 12, Golden West, Gemini; 14, Esmeralda; 17, Chryseis. From Newcastle: 17, Melita. From Swansea: 20, Phillip. From Queenstown: 13, Clara. From New York: 12, Cassiterides. From Boston: 15, Jeannie.

At MANILA.—From London: 13, Conchita.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: Sept. 24, Xanthippe; 29, Coromandel. From Liverpool: Oct. 2, Prince Waldemar. From Glasgow

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Sept. 24, Stad Epschende; 30, Glengyle (str.). From Shields 24, Maid of the Tyne, and Lieutenant Oswin. From Sunderland: 26, Impulse. From Bordeaux: 23, Juthia. From Marseilles: Oct. 2, La Bourdonnais (Fr. str.). From New York: Oct. 2, Fire Queen (str.).

At PENANG.—From Liverpool: Sept. 14, Fairy Belle.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—For London: Aug. 27, Anna Maria. For Liverpool: 30, Gyrn Castle. For New York: 28, Brilliant.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Sept. 5, Claramont; 9, Finzel and Southern Cross; 10, John Banks; 17, Waverley; 14, Napoleon II.

From FOOCHOW.—For London: Sept. 12, Horsa. For New York: 9, Bedford; 13, Samuel Russell.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For Liverpool: Sept. 14, Delhi; For London: 26, Ben Lomond.

From MANILA.—For Liverpool: Sept. 12, Beatrice. For New York: 14, Peruvian.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Sept. 19, Queen of India: 21, William Simpson. For Bordeaux: 27, Leon.

From PENANG.—For London: Sept. 20, Golconda.

LOADING.

At JAPAN.—For London: Little Edith, Lucknow. For Liverpool: Jane Isabella.

At HANKOW.—For London: Dovercourt, Camilla, Far East (str.).

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Avondhue, Queen of Nations, Rifle, Sarah Newman, Agincourt, Beemah, Leichardt, Yaratilda, Toftscomb. For Liverpool: David McIvor, Southern Empire, Patna, Providence, Sailor's Home, Savior Faire, Aerolite, Ariadne, Constance, Coringa, Countess Russell, Denis Horton, Her Majesty, Naval Creame, Rodee. For New York: Prince of Wales.

At FOO-CHOW.—For London: Cœur de Lion, Lord Raglan, Gauntlet, Rajah of Cochin, West Derby, Ellenborough, Harkaway For Liverpool: Verbena. For New York: Endeavour, Ravensworth.

At AMOY.—For New York (expected from Hong Kong): Salacia.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Prince Alfred, England. For Liverpool: Melbrek, Samarang, Mount Stuart, Elphinstone. For New York: N. B. Palmer.

At MANILA.—For Liverpool: Olano. For New York: Rattler.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: St. Oswin, Warren Hastings. For Liverpool: Moneta, Simoon. For Falmouth: Deutschland, Juno.

At PENANG.—For London: Isabella, Wellington.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

JAPAN.—To London: Cotton and tea, £4, and silk, £5 per ton.

SHANGHAI.—The vessels on the berth for London and Liverpool are numerous. The rates at which they are loading vary from £3 to £3. 10s. per ton.

FOOCHOW.—To London: £3 to £3. 10s.

HONG KONG.—The following are the principal charters from Geo. Holmes' circular, which will show the rates business has been done at:—Prince Alfred (503), on berth for London, at £3. 10s.; Melbreck (870), on berth for Liverpool, at £3; Sydney Eggers, Foochow to London, at £3; Corea (581), Foochow to New York, £3—7s. 6d. extra if to Quebec or London; Silvia (1,400), Shanghai to London or Liverpool, £3. N. B. Palmer on for New York at £2. 10s., gold. To Bangkok and back the rates are 40 to 45 cents.

MANILA.—The Olano has been fixed for Liverpool at £4. 10s. for unclayed sugar and £4. 15s. for hemp. The C. S. Lemon loads for above port at £3. 5s. for clayed, £3. 10s. unclayed sugar, and £4. 10s. per ton for hemp.

SINGAPORE.—Coast and homeward freights are declining in consequence of numerous arrivals seeking employment. The Deutschland (1,000 tons) takes the Champion's cargo of rice to United Kingdom or Continent at £3. 10s. per ton, and the St. Oswin (347 tons), for London, £2. 15s. to £3. 15s.

PENANG.—For London: Rates of freight continue at £3 per ton for dead weight, £3. 10s. light freight, £4 measurement, and 3¾d. per gallon rum.

CASUALTIES.

FOOCHOW.

The British barque Cassiterides left Foochow, bound to New York, on the 29th Aug.; but encountering a very severe typhoon off the Macclesfield Bank on the 7th Sept., in which she sustained considerable damage, she has been compelled to put into Hong Kong for repairs.

AMOY.

On 7th Sept. the Danish brig Poul, Capt. Jessen, from Hong Kong to Shanghai, was totally lost on some rocks two or three miles to the south of Amoy. Crew saved, who arrived at Amoy overland in a very destitute condition, having been stripped of every particle of clothing and subjected to ill-usage by the natives, who then suffered them to depart. The merchants, with their usual liberality, have subscribed a good sum on behalf of the sufferers.

HONG KONG.

The following refers to the loss of the British barque Gharra, Capt. Olsen, bound from Bangkok to Hong Kong. On the 6th Sept. the vessel met with a severe typhoon, and the captain was obliged to cut away the masts for the safety of the ship. At the same time, however, she sprung a leak, and after working the pumps for nearly four days and nights she began to sink, having 7½ feet of water in the hold. The captain and crew were obliged to abandon her on the 10th, and were picked up by Captain Jewett, of the British ship Golden West, at a distance of about 200 miles from Hong Kong, and brought on to Hong Kong.

THE EXPEDITION TO BHOOTAN.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

An expedition is about to start for Bhootan, on the North-Eastern Frontier, near Nepaul, with the view of annexing the portion of it which is between the British Frontier and the Himalayas, in consequence of the continued incursions into British territory that the inhabitants of this portion of Bhootan have been from year to year making, and also with the view of punishing them for their treatment of the Honourable Ashley Eden last year, when he went in the capacity of a British envoy. The expedition will be composed entirely of native troops; owing to the difficulty of moving and feeding Europeans in the country which will be the scene of operations. The following is an authentic detail of the force about to be despatched to annex the Bhootan *dooars*, as the mountain land in question is called. It will consist of two brigades, the one operating on the right under Brigadier-General Mulcaster, the other one on the left under Brigadier-General Dunsford. The brigades will consist of two columns, according to the following distribution:—

Right column, forming at Gowhatty.
- Three mountain guns of the Eurasian (half caste) company of artillery.
- Three squadrons of the 7th Bengal Cavalry.
- The 43rd Bengal Native Infantry.
- One company of Sebundy Sappers and Miners.
- Three companies of the 20th Native Infantry to occupy Gowhatty in support.

Right Centre Column at Goalpara:—
- Three mountain train guns of the Eurasian Company of Artillery.
- One squadron of the 7th Bengal Cavalry.
- Two squadrons of 14th Bengal Cavalry.
- One company of Sebundy Sappers and Miners.
- A wing of the 44th Bengal Native Infantry.
- A wing of the 12th ditto, ditto.
- Two Companies of 12th Native Infantry to remain in support at Goalpara.

The above is General Mulcaster's Brigade.

The following is General Dunsford's:—
- Left Centre Column at Cooch Behar.
- Three Armstrong mountain train guns of the Punjaub Regular Force.
- Two eight-inch mortars.
- One Company of Sappers and Miners, with three pontoon rafts for crossing rivers.
- The 2nd Regiment of Ghoorkas.

Left Column at Julpigoree:—
- Two Armstrong mountain train guns.
- Two eight-inch mortars.
- One wing of Sappers and Miners.
- A wing of the 11th Regiment Native Infantry.
- A wing of the 18th Regiment, ditto.
- The 5th Regiment of Bengal Cavalry.

Darjeeling is the present frontier military station nearest the seat of operations. Three companies of Her Majesty's 48th Regiment are now there, and they are ordered to be reinforcep by three companies of the 80th Foot from Jhansi, which will give six companies of Europeans within a moderate distance of the operations. There is a strong opinion, however, current here that it is a dangerous experiment sending a force composed only of natives to contend with the Hill tribes; as should they meet with any check they are not so likely readily to recover it as if they were supported by Europeans. The expedition was to have started at once, but it has been delayed until the middle of November.

Sir John Lawrence returns to Calcutta on the 30th of the present month (October). There are doubts that he is likely to be so highly appreciated as a Governor-General as was first anticipated, and there seems to be a growing opinion that the "Lord Sahib," as the Viceroy of India is called, should be a real lord—in other words, one of the hereditary aristocracy, on whom vice-regal honours would sit naturally. Sir John, whatever his administrative capacities may be (and they are said to be a good deal exaggerated), is not intended by nature to represent the Empress of India and Queen of England. Amongst other defects for the office, extreme parsimony is one that has brought him under the censorship of the press and the lash of private tongues. He has been unfortunate, also, in his choice of a private secretary—his brother-in-law, Dr. Hathaway, giving anything but satisfaction in that capacity, and apparently, least of all, to the members of his own profession, who are somewhat clamorous in their denunciation of him.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A REGISTER is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the FAR EAST and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, *and other parts of the* FAR EAST, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

Subscription 54s. per annum, including Postage. Export Supplement 12s. extra.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, WEDNESDAY, NOV. 9, 1864.

THE OPENING OF THE INLAND SEA.

THE journals and letters received this morning fully confirm the information communicated by electric telegraph some days ago, that the combined fleets of the European Powers had bombarded the castles and batteries by which CHOSHIU, Prince of Nangato, fancied he could bar the passage of the Straits of Simonoseki, and had landed and removed all his cannon, so that his long-vaunted power is at once and for ever disposed of. But the detailed accounts are of a much more gratifying nature than the telegrams gave us reason to hope for. The task of humbling this obstinate Daimio is thoroughly finished. He has signed a convention binding himself to pay any indemnity, and to submit to any conditions the so lately despised "foreigners" may choose to impose. But that which is the most satisfactory feature of the various accounts is that it is clear CHOSHIU stands alone. The batteries opposite his were silent, and thus the Allied fleets had only those on the Northern side to contend with. The Prince of KOKARA, who rules on the Southern coast, refused to have anything to do with the mad schemes of his neighbour on the other sde of the channel. The French have a proverb of deep meaning, to the effect that nothing is so irresistible as success. We might have been inclined to express doubts as to the prudence of the policy that has been adopted, and to ask whether our intercourse with Japan is to be annually marked by one of those "little wars" which our highest military authority declared to be equally harassing to and unworthy of England. In the present instance, it is clear that what has occurred has been done by the concert of all the European Powers, and also—no slight point, perhaps—with the co-operation of the United States. That fact alone might well disarm censure. But the events we are likewise enabled to lay before the reader in our present number create a suspicion that this combined action of the Powers was based on motives and considerations of which we can but guess the urgency and value. CHOSHIU is revealed to us as actually—almost at the very moment of the affair in the Straits—engaged in a most murderous rebellion against his Sovereigns—for so we must rank both the TYCOON and the MIKADO. We find him sending a large army, reckoned by thousands, accompanied by artillery, to seize on the person of the most venerated of the two, the MIKADO, or Spiritual Sovereign. Under such circumstances the Allies would be entitled to consider the TYCOON absolved from any blame that he could do nothing to carry into execution the convention so recently agreed on in Paris. The quicker way, and the way altogether most palatable to everybody but CHOSHIU himself, was for the Allies to take this arch-rebel and general disturber of the peace into their own hands. This has been done with the success that might have been expected, with a cordial good understanding not only between the Allies, but, as we trust, with the TYCOON. We shall look to find the matter settled amidst general rejoicing; the person not least jubilant being Admiral KUPER, who has, by his services in Japan, well deserved to gain laurels that will pass unchallenged either by the politician r the humanitarian.

RAJAH OF JOHORE.

BY the last mail from Singapore intelligence reached us of the extraordinary proceedings of a Malay potentate, who has but recently appeared among the native princes of the Eastern Archipelago as "the free ruler of a free state,"—as he is styled by our contemporary the *Straits Times*. This is the personage well known to all residents in Singapore as the TUMONGONG of Johore, whose father lived in bankrupt obscurity on that island for many years, an humble dependent of the British authorities. He suddenly leaped into wealth and importance when gutta percha became a valuable article of export, as the trees from whence it is extracted grew abundantly on his territory, and thereby reclaimed it from an unproductive wilderness to a profitable domain. With the acquisition of wealth through this source he has assumed a power and position that does not belong to him, and which threatens seriously to interfere with the legitimate trade of Singapore, if it does not undermine British authority among the Chinese and Malay population of that settlement. The present Tumongong has been brought prominently before the public on more than one occasion since his residence at Johore. He was one of the belligerent parties at Pahang; his gunboats blockaded the ports of that state, without previous notification; it was his exchequer that stood the brunt of the war, and it was his army which was finally expelled from that territory. The late BANDAHERAH of Pahang was a mere puppet in his hands; and as he had, with the connivance of the Straits Settlements' authorities and the Bengal Government, rid himself of his allegiance to the SULTAN of JOHORE, he has now assumed the title of RAJAH of JOHORE, declined the allowance which he was but too glad to accept at the hands of the British in less prosperous times, and styles himself an independent potentate.

Whether the Straits authorities have pursued a wise policy in allowing this ambitious and cunning Malay chief to usurp such a position will be best shown by the following statement of facts derived from the most authentic sources:—In February of the present year a boat manned by Chinese was plundered off Tanjong Surat by some Malays, and the crew, with the exception of one man, were murdered. About a month afterwards four natives of Singapore, British subjects, named MASIM, AHMED, KAHA, and POLOH, were arrested by the police, and charged with having committed this crime of piracy and murder. When they were arraigned before the Police Magistrate at Singapore MASIM turned "Queen's evidence," and acknowledged himself an accomplice, charging his fellow-prisoners with being the principals in the crime. As the deed was committed off the territory of Johore, all four were sent to be tried there before the native authorities, the Commissioner of Police at Singapore attending the trial to see that British justice was satisfied. From the evidence that transpired, it appears that MASIM recanted all he had previously stated, and acknowledged that he had been bribed by two men named SAMAN and LAILANG to prefer the charge against the other three; also, that he and these two men made the accusation through spite and malice. Notwithstanding this recantation, and that no further evidence, or even a shadow of evidence, was brought against these innocent men to implicate them in the murderous deed, they were placed in close confinement, heavily ironed, and were in prison at Johore when the last accounts left Singapore, on the 19th Sept.—an imprisonment of *seven months*. In June last their relatives petitioned the Recorder of Singapore to obtain their release from the merciless clutches of the TUMONGONG and his myrmidons, who doubtless are squeezing all the money they can out of the unfortunate men and their friends. That functionary referred the petitioners to the Governor, Colonel CAVENAGH. In reply to the petition, his Excellency was pleased to declare that he "was satisfied that "due inquiry would be made into the charge, and therefore "declined interfering on their behalf." Thus four British subjects, against whom no evidence of criminality exists, are imprisoned for an indefinite period, in a prison within hail of the authorities of Singapore—as anyone will find on consulting a map of that island, that it is separated from Johore only by a narrow strait—in fact, a kind of river—from *one* to *two* miles in width, and not "three to five," as represented in the *Straits Times*.

Another flagrant wrong perpetrated by this purse-proud petty despot and his corrupt underlings touches our commercial relations with Johore. We have before us the translation of a petition forwarded to us from thence by the Chinese planters there, who conduct the export of gambier, pepper, and other

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articles subject to duty. In this petition these industrious people complain that the TUMONGONG, *alias* the RAJAH, through his agent, TAN HIOH NIE, is using coercive measures in order to force them to sell their produce to certain monopolisers of native trade in that territory. It is well known that these gambier and pepper plantations are maintained chiefly by advances obtained from the Chinese merchants at Singapore—whose cause, we are glad to learn, has been espoused by the Chamber of Commerce there, which has requested the Governor to interfere. Surely in this case his Excellency will step forward and protect that free trade principle which the eminent and sagacious founder of the Settlement, Sir STAMFORD RAFFLES, introduced at its birth, long before COBDEN and BRIGHT had agitated the question, and but for which Singapore, instead of being the leading and most vigorous settlement of the Straits, would have been dragging on a feeble existence under the nightmare of protection. If, however, we are to judge of Colonel CAVENAGH'S neglect of the case already mentioned, as an indication of his high appreciation of justice in Johore, we should doubt the success of any application on this matter, since surely the "independent potentate," who may imprison British subjects without evidence, may monopolise, or cause to be monolised, the products of his territory.

These are important questions affecting the administration of justice and the *prestige* of British authority over native subjects in the Straits settlements. They demand the attention of the home Government, as it is just possible that some serious complication may arise ere long from the acts and increasing power of this self-styled Rajah. We are informed that an armed steamer named the *Johore* was shortly expected at Singapore, the property of this ambitious chief. This vessel is a screw ram, ostensibly intended for the suppression of piracy. There are strong reasons, however, for concluding that she is to be employed in the furtherance of his designs towards intimidating his neighbours. To have permitted such an increase of power, and to have acknowledged his usurped position shows a laxity of British relations, and a questionable policy on the part of the Straits authorities that we cannot understand, fraught as it is with danger, not only to the trade of Singapore, but to the lives and liberties of the natives who have so long lived in security under the protection of the British flag. We trust that the Chamber of Commerce at that port will not allow this important subject to drop until satisfactory results are obtained, and the late pensioner of English bounty is taught that he is not quite so independent or so puissant a potentate as he imagines himself, or fain would be.

OUR DIFFICULTIES IN JAPAN.

(COMMUNICATED.)

"When doctors differ, who shall decide?" The question is a knotty one, more especially if the patient be intractable, as patients of the class we are about to allude to are wont to be. No sooner does one of our Eastern friends show signs of unwillingness (to fulfil his treaty obligations) than a host of advisers spring up—each convinced that his own mode of treatment can alone work a cure. As a general rule, however, they may be divided into two principal classes; first, those who without troubling themselves to inquire very deeply into the symptoms, unhesitatingly pronounce the patient to be in a plethoric condition, and to require bleeding; and who are ready forthwith to despatch a few thousand men duly provided with that most effective of surgical instruments, the bayonet, to perform the depletive operation. The other class of advisers are equally prompt in their decision. But they take quite a different view of the case, and persistently ignoring symptoms of an unpleasant and even troublesome degree of vigour, frequently evinced by such patients, declare them to be in the last stage of exhaustion, and require us to pet and pamper them, to put up with all their ill-temper and perversity, and will not hear of administering even the most homœopathic dose (of lead)—no, not a single globule! Such are the differences of opinion that arise whenever intelligence reaches us of one of the ever-recurring misunderstandings between our representatives in China and Japan and the Governments to which they are accredited. Of three courses, the middle one—though often the most desirable, is generally the most difficult to steer. Few more arduous tasks could be imposed upon a diplomatic agent than that of preserving friendly—or at all events pacific—relations with an Oriental Government, without either assuming an attitude which would imply a standing threat of coercion, on the one hand, or exhibiting too great a degree of forbearance, which would certainly be construed into submission, and expose him to insult and humiliation, on the other.

Our policy in Japan has so long fluctuated between these two extremes that we have no clue to indicate what course of events may be expected to follow the late successful operations at Simonoseki. As far as the trucculent Prince of Nagato is concerned, we may reasonably suppose that the justly-merited retribution wrought upon him by the allied forces will place it out of his power to be troublesome again—at all events for the present. But how do we stand with the Tycoon's Government? Shall we remain on our old insecure footing in Japan, and pursue the very *uneven* tenor of our way, as heretofore? Or will our representative make the present crisis an opportunity for demanding a thorough fulfilment of the provisions of the treaty or a complete revision of it? We have yet to learn how the intelligence of our victory at Simonoseki will be received at Yedo. The Gorogio deny that they have any control or influence over the Prince. *He* affirms that in blockading the Straits he acted under orders from the Tycoon. Yet we know that a few months ago he fired on and sunk the *Sir Charles Forbes*, a steamer well known to be the property of the Government.

On looking over the treaty in its present form, it is quite startling even to the initiated—to those who have had practical experience of its working—to find how many of the most important provisions are virtually nullified by ingenious evasions, and by the passive resistance of the Japansse Government and its myrmidons. We will instance a few:—Article V. stipulates that natives guilty of offences against British subjects shall be punished by their own authorities, and *vice versa*. Art. VI. settles, in a most satisfactory manner (on paper), the mode of adjusting disputes between British subjects and natives. And Art. VII. provides for recovery of debts due either by British subjects to Japanese, or *vice versa*. Now, when a British subject commits an offence against a native, and is charged with it before his Consul, he has no escape; the legal punishment is duly inflicted, in some cases with even unjustifiable rigour—as witness the oft-quoted case of Moss, at Yokohama. Again, when a Japanese brings a complaint against a British subject, the Consul fairly investigates it, and gives an equitable decision, to the best of his ability and judgment; and should a Japanese sue a British subject for debt, the debtor is compelled to pay; if without means, his property may be taken to satisfy it, and even his person imprisoned. But not so on the other side. The native criminal so often escapes unpunished that for small offences, though of constant occurrence, foreigners seldom take the trouble to prosecute; any complaint made by a foreigner against a Japanese is invariably decided by the native authorities in favour of their own subject; and a debtor, when his creditor is a foreigner, is allowed to go scot free; neither his goods nor his person being liable, he may defy his victim without even going through a form of white-washing.

Art. VIII. says "The Japanese Government will place no restriction on the lawful employment of Japanese by British subjects." And yet, at Nagasaki, every servant in the employ of a foreigner has to be registered at a Government-office, and pay a tax on the amount of wages earned by him.

Art. X. provides that foreign coin shall be current in Japan, the value being determined by weight. On this point it is useless to enlarge in the present article; volumes would hardly suffice to record the losses and vexations entailed on foreign merchants by "currency" difficulties—which have at times amounted almost to a temporary suspension of trade. We have only space at present to advert to one more instance of habitual disregard on the part of the Japanese to one of the most important provisions of the treaty—viz., Art. XIV., which stipulates that "at each of the open ports British merchants may import and export, directly or indirectly, any lawful merchandise, paying the duties prescribed by treaty. And, with the exception of munitions of war, which shall be sold to the Japanese Government alone, *they may freely buy from, and sell to Japanese, any article they may have for sale; and Japanese may buy and use the same.*" Nothing can be more satisfactory than this, or more clearly and explicitly framed; and yet, in the present state of affairs, it is virtually null and void. For whenever it suits the caprice or interest of the native authorities at either port to put a stop to the importation of any particular article of merchandise, they do not for a moment scruple to impose a heavy duty on it, over and above the duty already paid, according to treaty, by the importer; and this extra tax

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is extorted from the native purchaser of the goods by the well-known process of "squeezing," in a manner over which the foreign Consuls can, of course, have no control. And, in like manner, when the whim seizes them to put a stop to the exportation of any article of native produce, they issue a notification prohibiting Japanese from selling the same to foreigners; punishing any who offend against this arbitrary law with the utmost rigour. When foreign merchants complain of the injustice of these restrictions, they say: "We are not interfering with *you*. You are quite at liberty to buy this article of produce, or sell that description of manufacture—do so, *if you can*." Thus opposing to all remonstrances a system of passive resistance which the utmost energy of our Consular officers, of whom we have some very able ones in Japan, fails to overcome.

These instances will convey some idea of the difficulties that present themselves when such an important question as the revision of the treaty comes to be considered, and these, it will be observed, concern only our commercial status in the country, and are quite apart from the intricacies and dilemmas that may be expected to arise out of the disorganised state of the internal politics of the empire.

(*To be continued.*)

THE NEWS FROM CHINA AND JAPAN.

(THE TIMES.)

BEFORE ARRIVAL OF THE TELEGRAMS PER FRENCH MAIL.

The disappearance of the Taiping power seems to have been so sudden and unexpected as to have startled even the Chinese themselves. The last intelligence which reached us was that the Taiping force was nominally besieged in Hoochow, but that they had succeeded in defeating the Franco-Chinese besiegers, who found themselves in a position of no little peril. The rebel force was large, Hoochow was strongly fortified, and M. D'Aiguebelle, who commanded the auxiliaries, was fully occupied in keeping his own. Later events appeared to strengthen rather than impair the force of the insurgents. Fugitives from Nanking joined them, and they became powerful enough to detatch and capture an Imperialist fleet of gunboats; when suddenly they evacuated the city they had proved themselves well able to defend. The besiegers were astonished as the people of Samaria when they found the Syrians had fled; but the good news proved true. The rebel army had gone all abroad, and only a small remnant were believed to be making their way south to the province of Kiang-si to join the lawless marauders who infest that region. Meanwhile the Brother of the Moon had with rare prescience published an edict in which he declared that after the taking of Nanking the rebels were like "broken tiles," and scattering them would be as easy as "splitting canes." He went on to order that two of the chiefs taken at Nanking, Chung-Wang and Kan-Wang, the latter a brother of the rebel Prince of Peace, should be sent to Peking, where it is understood they will meet with a fate which ought to disabuse us of some of our notions of the Chinese. We were wrong in thinking that this ingenious people had discovered everything and perfected nothing; they have at least carried the art of torture to a pitch undreamt of by the ruder Western intellects. Chung-Wang and Kan-Wang will be brushed with wire brushes till their flesh is gradually torn from their bodies and they die under the operation. We may hope that this is the last we shall hear of a war which has been chiefly remarkable for the barbarities practised by both armies. In wanton destruction of life and property the Imperialists have attempted to outvie the rebels, and if on the latter rests the responsibility of having commenced the insurrection, the corruption and misgovernment of the former were enough to justify any outbreak.

(JAPAN.)

But the news from Japan is even more important to Englishmen than the news from China. The extinction of the Taiping movement may be the first step to a restoration of order in the silk districts; but we shall have to wait for the mulberry-trees to grow again to realize the full benefit of the fact, while the hostilities which are about to commence or by this time have commenced in Japan may produce an effect on Mr. Gladstone's next Budget. It seems that the Prince of Nagato objects to the passage of foreign ships through the Straits of Simonoseki into the inland sea, and even fired a shot across the bows of the *Cormorant* when she proposed to enter. To punish the too daring Prince was a matter of course, and as far back as last July a fleet was about to sail for the Straits, when the Japanese Ambassadors who were here two years ago arrived home and reported the treaty they had made with the Emperor of the French, guaranteeing the opening of the sea within three months. On the news of this peaceful solution of the difficulty the expedition was stopped, but it was soon seen that the Japanese treatment of their Ambassadors was very different from the European. European Governments make it a rule to back up their representatives. Spain is going to war with Peru because an officious commander has seized the Chincha Islands, and we have been involved in a score of little affairs through the caprice of some conceited Governor or pedantic Ambassador. But the Japanese order things differently. The Gorogio and the Tycoon at once repudiated their Ambassadors; they had no authority to execute such a treaty, and the Government could not guarantee its fulfilment. To crown all, and by way of encouraging the others, the pleasant old gentleman whose urbane manners we all remember, as they went in and out among us two years ago, received permission to perform the *Hari-Kari*, and no doubt accepted the permission to despatch themselves with that wonderful resignation which is not the least of the Japanese marvels. Such a summary nullification of the last French treaty made it necessary to resume the expedition against Simonoseki, and the Christian Ambassadors, who, to do them justice, always hang together in Japan, soon provided a composite force which ought to be sufficient to reduce all opposition to silence. English, French, and Dutch ships of war are banded together, and, as the American ships are unluckily all engaged in the Atlantic waters, the American Minister, zealous for his country, chartered the merchant steamer *Takiang* to carry the United States' flag into action. Seventeen ships, manned with European and American seamen—the British contingent of eight ships consisting of the *Conqueror*, a line-of-battle ship of 78 guns, the *Euryalus*, 35, three frigates, and three corvettes armed with Armstrong guns—must, one would think, speedily blow the batteries of the Prince of Nagato to pieces, and the next mail from Japan will probably bring the news of a glorious victory won in the Straits of Simonoseki.

The issue of the expedition against the Prince of Nagato cannot be doubtful; but we may ask whether there is to be no limit to these disagreeable surprises. Are we to be always liable to the contingency of discovering that we have been at war two months without being aware of it? It is possible that this particular difficulty has been foreseen, by official people, but it is undeniable that the nation at large has not suspected during the holiday months of the vacation that an English fleet was busy in destroying the batteries of a Japanese Prince. There is very little glory to be obtained by such an expedition. It is understood that, according to the plan of attack, the Armstrong guns will first silence the batteries of the Prince of Nagato, and the Marines will afterwards land and finish the easy victory. And if there is little glory to be gained, it is quite certain that the commercial advantages we can possibly acquire are infinitely less than the mere cost of the expedition. We have got a footing at Kanagawa, and if we bide our time we shall soon show the Conservative feudatories of the Empire—what the democracy are already aware of—the benefits of foreign commerce. But whatever opinions may be held as to the glory of profit of fighting one after another the turbulent Princes of Japan, it cannot be denied that our manner of setting about the enterprise is unsatisfactory. Our policy is not directly determined by the responsible Ministers of the Crown, but by an obscure agent whose acts are always adopted even if they are very faintly approved. What has been done in Japan may deserve unbounded praise, but it cannot be doubted that our policy there ought to be the result of deliberate judgment, and that we should not suffer the possibility of our being betrayed by zealous diplomatists into positions from which we can neither advance nor recede with honour.

OPENING THE STRAITS OF SIMONOSEKI.

(ECONOMIST.)

The new expedition announced from the Far East is very provoking, but its character and objects seem a little misunderstood. Sir Rutherford Alcock, the very able and exceedingly prolix officer who represents Great Britain in Japan, has laid it down as a principle that unless the great vassals of the Empire are tamed, Europeans must quit Japan. The central authority has not sufficient power either to protect their lives or to maintain the freedom of trade stipulated in the European treaties. The only mode of taming them is to destroy the batteries erected by one or two of the most powerful, and he has accordingly recommended the punishment of those most contemptuous of treaty rights. This view has obviously been accepted by Her Majesty's Government and all the European Powers with interest in the East except the Russians, but including the Dutch, who alone thoroughly understand Japanese tactics. Among the offending Daimios no one is more obnoxious than the Prince of Nagato, and no one can make his dislike to foreigners felt in a more annoying way. Japan possesses among other geographical advantages what it suits foreigners to call the "Inland Sea," and geographers the Sea of Swoinrada. It is not really a lake, but simply the ocean channel which separates the vast island of Niphon from Sikoke and Kiusiu, and which is the nearest route between China and Eastern Japan. Owing, however, to the narrowing of the western entrance, the only entrance from China without a circuit of many hundreds of miles, the channel may be considered landlocked, and forms a vast natural lake, at least 350 miles long by about 40 broad, well sheltered, very deep, and in fact constituting a dock without parallel in in the world, Free entrance to this lake is entrance into the heart of the islands; and, moreover, a few miles beyond the head of the sea stands Miaco, capital of the religious Emperor, which, were ingress once free, would be almost as completely within our reach as Yedo now is. It is believed that were the inland sea once opened many of the difficulties which now harass Japanese policy would be removed, while the European trade would be indefinitely increased. The opening was therefore provided for by treaty, but the Prince of Nagato objects, and he has heavy batteries at Simonoseki commanding the narrow channel. These batteries recently fired on the *Cormorant*, and punishment would have been immediate but that the last batch of Japanese Ambassadors sent to Europe made concessions which seemed to remove the difficulty. On their return, however, they were directed to commit suicide, and Sir Rutherford Alcock resolved to wait no longer. Accordingly, a great combined fleet of seventeen war vessels, English, French, Dutch, and American, has been despatched to Simonoseki with orders to destroy the batteries, to land the 1,500 soldiers on board, and, we suspect, but do not know, to occupy the point for a time. If they succeed the inland sea will be open, as there is no other point narrow enough to make batteries efficient.

The expedition appears, therefore, to be a wiser one than is usual in these regions, the work being definite, the means very ample, and the object worthy of considerable expense. It is difficult to believe that the Prince of Nagato can defeat such a force, and not easy to see how, with free access to the inland sea, Japan can longer resist European influence. If it be ever just to establish that influence by arms, it is just when the Central Government has conceded our demands of its own will, and is secretly instigating its own vassals to resist its own decrees. The one objection to be raised is the old one, by whose consent are these very expensive, possibly beneficial, but certainly costly and bloody, expeditions being carried out? They are certainly not ordered by the nation, for the nation knew nothing about them until letters from China announced that fleet and troops were in motion. They were certainly not ordered by Parliament, for not a word was said on the subject during the session, though orders must have gone out in May at the very latest; or if Sir Rutherford Alcock is acting on his own responsibility, news of his intention mus

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have been received before September. The whole design has been as secret as a conspiracy from everybody, except the offending Prince, who has been menaced for months, and the precedent seems to us a most dangerous one. Considerable latitude must, we are aware, be allowed to an officer in Sir R. Alcock's position, but if he is to arrange conjoint expeditions, implicating half the maritime Powers, to summon troops from China and India, to declare war on powerful nobles, and to carry out with the Imperial strength a policy of his own, unchecked save by unknown despatches from the Foreign-office, often sent too late to be of use, self-governme nt becomes a mere phrase. Suppose he thinks it advisable to conquer Kusiu. English Governors have resolved upon greater schemes than that before now, and we believe it was owing to the firmness of Lord Canning that a much greater scheme was not carried out in Southern China. Even as it is, no one knows the precise effect of the terrible blows we are delivering in Japan, the danger of exciting national retaliation, or the precise designs of the other European Powers who, divided at home, are in Asia acting with cordial unanimity. Earl Russell may justify the expedition completely to the country, but English money and lives ought not to be expended until the nation has signified its approval, at least, of the object of such expenditure.

THE REBELLION IN CHINA.

(MORNING POST.)

The Chinese rebellion is thought, in China at least, to be extinguished. This is perhaps the most satisfactory part of the chequered intelligence that the mail has brought us from Eastern Asia. The Emperor of China has distributed his rewards and punishments to friends and foes on a principle which reminds us of the saying that the gratitude of Royalty is repaid by a smile and its enmity by the gallows. His Imperial Majesty has rewarded his successful General Sangkolinsin with a present of several packages of tea and some cooling medicine. He has at the same time ordered the two principal leaders of the rebellion to be brought to Peking, where they are expected to undergo the penalty of being "brushed to death." It requires some periphrasis to properly describe the refinement of this torture; but it may be briefly stated as consisting in the application of wire brushes to the persons of the victims until the flesh is torn away, and nothing but the bones remain. The revolution, under this ordeal, is supposed to be punished, and the cause of Celestial legitimacy vindicated. Let it be hoped that this is really the end of the slaughter and massacre that have filled the pages of Chinese correspondence for many years past.

The apparently final discomfiture of the Taipings has come upon the Imperialists themselves, and upon our own mercantile colonies on the Chinese coast, with considerable surprise. It is not very long since there was some apprehension entertained whether the Taipings would not overthrow the Tartar dynasty and drive the Imperialists out of successive cities, until they at length reached Peking. The great city of Nanking was in their hands; and Shanghai was trembling at their approach. However, the Imperialists, with the aid they derived from European military skill, and especially at the hands of the French, captured Nanking; and there they revenged themselves with a fabulous massacre said to have involved one hundred thousand Taiping victims. The present mail brings us the further intelligence of the rebels having been driven out of Hoochow, which is looked upon in China as their last military standing-point. Nor does this place appear to have been surrendered until after they had endured hardships with a heroism commensurate only with their barbarity. They had pulled down houses for firewood; they had even raked up the coffins of the dead, and burned them for the same purpose; rice had come to an end; supplies were failing them; and their communications were at length completely cut off. Part, at any rate, of the garrison contrived to effect a retreat without beat of drum; and this consideration serves to import some doubt into the complete extinction of the rebellion. But, having encountered so many disasters; having been cowed by the nearly equal barbarity of the Imperialists themselves; and, having lost their principal leaders, it is hardly likely that what remains of this once formidable body will be able to regain its former organisation. In that case the rebels may probably be by degrees dispersed. That is certainly the most favourable anticipation; but it is one that appears to be so generally entertained by the European public and press in the Chinese cities open to our trade, that it is probably based upon clearer premises than we have at present adequate means of arriving at in this country.

The peculiarity of this extraordinary movement in the Chinese empire consisted in its combination of a religious with a political character. The Taipings set themselves up for religious reformers. Their object was entirely to upset the established religion of China, as well as the reigning dynasty. The religion they professed was an extraordinary compound. It was based apparently on certain doctrines of Christianity, which they contrived to mingle with the most debasing superstitions and grovelling obscenities, which they deduced either from other systems of theism they had met with in the east of Asia, or from their own imagination. Part, probably, came from the one source and part from the other. The fragments of the Christian religion which they contrived to pick up and distort are best explained, as a part of their creed, on the supposition that they represented the traces of former Christian missions sent by the different Churches into the interior of China at different periods. However, instead of loving their enemies, or even their neighbours, they learnt only the principle of exterminating both the one and the other. Why they ever derived support from any part of the Chinese population may perhaps be understood, even though their tyranny was incomparably worse than that of the Imperial Government. The Chinese administration was so corrupt and oppressive that there were many who instinctively caught up any alternative that offered to it, before they had had any opportunity of comparing the one tyranny with the other. In the meantime the corruption of all parties—both Taipings and Imperialists—was such that at last the original cause of the war grew forgotten. The Imperialist Generals and the Taiping Generals appeared to have arrived at an understanding with one another. Each was to be permitted to ravage certain provinces and districts; and, so long as neither interfered with the other, each army acted as a swarm of locusts upon the country. Both desolated the civil population, while neither did any injury to the other.

This state of things continued for a long time, and possibly it would have been so even to this day had it not been for the Anglo-French military expedition to Peking, which Lord Ellenborough somewhat hastily criticised as likely to subvert the throne of the Emperor of China, and to render the Taipings everywhere supreme. The Celestial Government, it is quite clear, learnt from that expedition a respect for European arms, and, to a certain extent, for European principles. They listened to European advice, and even accepted military and political assistance from us. From that date the military opposition of the Imperialists to the Taipings appears, for the first time, to have taken place in earnest. Had such a change occurred at an earlier period it is probable that the Chinese civil war would not have continued for so long a time. The last European campaign in China clearly produced a great effect upon the Government at Peking, and one which is already being felt in the farther provinces of the empire. We have since supported the Chinese dynasty, and we have endeavoured, not without considerable result, to reform its system. With that policy the suppression of the rebellion, if it has really happened, is to a great extent connected; and we hope that the confidence this event cannot fail to create will give a fresh impetus to European commerce.

THE ATTACK ON SIMONOSEKI.

(MANCHESTER EXAMINER.)

The object of our present war with Japan requires a few words of explanation. Our treaty with Japan gave us the right to navigate its inland waters, or the straits which are so described between the larger islands. Geographically, Japan may be regarded as the Great Britain of the Eastern Seas. It lies just off the great continent of the East, as the British Islands lie just off the great continent of the West. To the east of Japan stretches the unbroken expanse of the Pacific Ocean, corresponding to the Atlantic which washes our shores. Japan consists of four larger islands and an almost countless number of smaller ones. Of the former, by far the largest is the island of Niphon, some seven hundred miles in length, which lies long and straggling, right over the northern coast of China. Yesso, another of these larger islands, known to us chiefly from its seaport Hakodadi, lies to the north of Niphon, from which it is separated by the narrow straits of Sangar. The scene of the recent action lies at the other end of the island of Niphon, nearly seven hundred miles southward, where the other two islands—of the four just named—are so placed as almost to inclose between them and Niphon a strait varying in breadth from two to forty miles. These straits are the "inland sea" referred to in the despatches. They are no more an inland sea than St. George's Channel, save that they are narrower, and almost blocked up at both ends. The western entrance is only two miles wide, and as it lies nearest to Shanghai the free passage of this narrow strait is essential to our navigation of the interior waters. The Japanese Government conceded the right, but the Prince of Nagato, whose province forms one side of the strait, saw fit to refuse his permission. His batteries commanded the passage, and as he refused to give way we took the liberty of knocking them down.

Measured by European rules, this must be admitted to be an extraordinary proceeding. Treaties are made with the supreme authority of a State, with whom alone rests the duty of giving them effect. In Japan, however, the central authority is so weak, that it is of little use to enter into negotiations with it. The political structure of the islands bears a close resemblance to the feudal system. The territory is divided into great military holdings, each under the rule of an hereditary chief, who, while nominally subject to the Siogun, who resides at Yedo, does pretty much as he likes. In England when the great barons of the north were in the plentitude of their power, it would have been of little use for the king to have bestowed upon a foreign nation treaty rights beyond the Humber. The feudal barons would have been likely enough to clap the interlopers into a dungeon or stretch them upon a gallows, and appeal to their swords when the King appealed to the treaty. This is very much the case with Japan. The feudal chieftains resolve to have a voice in the matter, and the Prince of Nagato may, no doubt, be taken as a sample of the rest. It is alleged that the Japanese Government is secretly backing up the malcontent nobles. This is likely enough—for whatever engagements such a Government may have been forced to contract with a foreign Power, it must, in the long run, fall in with the views of its own people. It is said that the Ambassadors who recently visited this country were disavowed on their return, and received permission to commit suicide—a delightful privilege, of which they at once availed themselves. It would seem from these facts that the resistance with which we are threatened is national in its character, and that the Prince of Nagato is only one of a host of antagonists with whom we may have to deal successively. When it is said that, as the result of the recent victory, the Japanese sued for peace, we are clearly to understand merely the people of the province of Nagato; but there are fifty other provinces, and if they should all require a defeat to render them accessible, our advantages will be dearly earned. Who is responsible for the policy we are pursuing in Japan? Apparently, Sir Rutherford Alcock; certainly not the British Parliament. Why are we engaged in fighting the Japanese? The answer is re-echoed from every corner of the Eastern seas—the interests of trade. How tenderly our trade and traders are fostered at the Foreign-office! If a gentleman gets up in the House of Commons, and on the strength of his commercial knowledge ventures to offer an opinion on our foreign policy, Lord Palmerston snubs him for his presumption. Yet the politicians of the Foreign-office know precisely what is for the advantage of our trade, and tend its interests like wet nurses. The truth is that the Foreign-office and its agents abroad know the use of a first-rate pretext. To say that they fought for the good of the united service—this is, for mere pay and promise—would rouse a storm of indignation. No—say it is for trade. That will go down. Of course we must submit. Trade must bear the odium and find the cash. The spoil and the laurels go elsewhere.

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Naval and Military.

Col. Knox, C.B., who has for some time commanded the 9th Depôt Battalion at the camp at Colchester, is above to leave England for an important command in Japan. The testimonial to the gallant colonel from the officers of the 9th Depôt Battalion, has been presented.

The ordinary period allotted to admirals for service abroad will, in the case of Sir Augustus L. Kuper, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief in China, expire early in February next, and among others Rear-Admiral the Hon. George Fowler Hastings, C.B., has been named as likely to be despatched by the First Lord of the Admiralty to replace Sir Augustus.

The Dutch 50-gun screw frigate *Adolph Hertogvan Nossau*, Capt. O. A. Ulmberg, which met with the casualty after leaving the Texel, for Batavia, has been taken into the great basin at Sheerness, where she is to undergo a thorough repair at the hands of the dockyard workmen. The whole of her powder and shells have been unshipped and received into store at the Upnor powder magazines, Chatham. Since the frigate has been in the basin she has undergone a careful survey at the hands of the dockyard officials, the result of which is the discovery of several other injuries in addition to those previously seen. Her cutwater is very much damaged, and her machinery has been put considerably out of order. Her repairs will occupy some time. The captain and the whole of the officers of the frigate were entertained at dinner and a ball on the 29th Oct., at the Admiralty house, by Vice-Admiral Sir C. Talbot, K.C.B., commander-in-Chief at the Nore, the ward-room officers at the Naval-barracks having previously entertained them.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Oct. 21	Havre	Rangoon	Minerve	Exmelin.
— 25	Deal	Hong Kong	Aunt Lizzie	Crighton.
— 25	Off the Goodwin	Batavia	Hollands Trouw	Brauer.
— 25	Falmouth	Rangoon	Oxford	Holbrook.
— 23	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Stad Leyden	
— 23	Do.	Do.	D. T. Visser	v.d. Linden.
— 23	Do.	Rangoon	Diana	Teengs.
— 24	Bordeaux	Singapore	Spahis	Garrigon.
— 25	Off Dungeness	Java	Nicot	Amesr.
— 26	Liverpool	Rangoon	Myrtle	Pugh.
— 25	Altona	Do.	Margaret	Anderson.
— 27	Deal	Singapore	Dewa Gungadhur	
— 11	Boston	Rangoon	Midnight	Brock.
— 27	Deal	Penang	Bristolian	Keats.
— 27	Liverpool	Shanghai	Helvellyn	Dalison.
— 27	Do.	Do.	Peerless	Major.
Sep. 17	Callao	Macao	Napoleon Canevaro	Demoro.
— 21	Do.	Do.	Lima	Castagnola.
—	Off Falmouth	Akyab	Crescent City	
— 6	Valparaiso	Hong Kong	Spirit of the Age	Aitchison.
Oct. 30	Falmouth	Bassein	Maria J. Smith	Smith.
— 31	Do.	Rangoon	Clara	
— 31	Do.	Bassein	Charlotte of Derby	Langmead.
— 29	Off Mount's Bay	Batavia	Adriana Petronella	
— 30	Liverpool	Yokohama	Red Deer	
— 29	Queenstown	Rangoon	Senator Iken	Dannemann.
— 31	Off Falmouth	Hong Kong	Chandanagore	Lynas.
— 30	Off Mount's Bay	Singapore	Phœbus	Wood.
— 31	Liverpool	Shanghai	Reigate	Deas.
— 31	Do.	Do.	Esk	Irving.
— 11	Boston	Singapore	War Hawk	Scudder.
— 31	Falmouth	Bassein	James F. Patten	Percey.
— 31	Scilly	Shanghai	Osborne House	
—	Liverpool	Do.	May Flower	Kerr.
Nov. 2	Plymouth	Manila	Cambodia	Paigl.
Oct. 29	Off Mount's Bay	Singapore	Sea Wave	Warden.
Nov. 1	Liverpool	Rangoon	Alarm	Mears.
Oct. 28	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Jacqueline and Elise	Krukkenberg.
Nov. 2	Falmouth	Java	Hendrik Ido Ambacht	Byl.
— 3	Do.	Rangoon	Augusta Norwood	Higgins.
Oct. 31	Off Scilly	Batavia	Wilhelmina	Koster.
Nov. 1	Off Plymouth	Do.	Koning Willem II	
— 3	Liverpool	Akyab	Gibson Craig	Smith.
— 1	Texel	Batavia	Billiton	v. Straten.
— 2	Bordeaux	Akyab	Nouvelle Helvetie	Verdois.
— 5	Off Falmouth	Hong Kong	Rifleman	
— 5	Off Mount's Bay	Batavia	Petronella	Strootman.
— 6	Liverpool	Manila	Baringa	Lazarte.
— 5	Queenstown	Sarawak	Favorite	Thorp.
—	Off Queenstown	Bassein	Laurel	M'Lean.
Oct. —	New York	Shanghai	Gleam	
Nov. 6	Scilly	Penang	Ferozepore	Rankin.
— 5	Off the Wight	Batavia	Adriana Petronella	
— 6	Plymouth	Do.	Rotterdam	Adriaan.
—	Off Falmouth	Penang	Bothwell Castle	Smith.
— 5	Off Scilly	Batavia	Nereus	Plantew.
—	Off Falmouth	China	Silver Eagle	Longman.
— 8	Liverpool	Shanghai	Fanny	Wilson.
— 7	Queenstown	Bassein	Commodore Dupont	Clifford.
—	Do.	Rangoon	Albatross	
— 7	Cork	Sarawak	Favorite	
—	Off Scilly	Penang	Ferozepore	Rankin.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Oct. 21	Cardiff	Shanghai	Abbotsford	Venus.
— 27	London	Do.	Garrawalt	Philips.
— 27	Portsmouth	Do.	Minnie	Black.
— 25	Bremen	Batavia	Jacob	Drenth.
— 27	Liverpool	Manila	Maria y Vicenta	Hormachea.
— 24	Amsterdam	Batavia	Billiton	v. d. Straten.
— 27	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Admiral Piet Hein	Priebe.
— 29	London	Do., and Canton	Fiery Cross	Robinson.
— 29	Do.	Penang	Devonvale	Brown.
— 29	Do.	Canton & Hong Kong	Benvonlich	Jenkins.
— 24	Newcastle	Cheribon	Willem and Carel	Steenveld.
— 28	Cardiff	Singapore	Sirocco	Angelo.

DEPARTURES—*continued.*

Date.	From	For	Shiy.	Captain.
Oct. 29	Swansea	Hong Kong	Anna Holzberg	M'Guire.
— 28	Clyde	Manila	Nodales	Arias.
— 26	Rotterdam	Batavia	Nieuwe Waterweg	Lindern.
— 30	Dartmouth	Hong Kong	Lydia Hilton	Cawse.
— 29	Falmouth	Shanghai	Laila Rookh	Bird
— 27	Off Southwold	Batavia	Prins Carl	Hartzell.
— 30	Cardiff	Singapore	Pioneer	Kidd.
— 28	Rotterdam	Japan	Nefhan	Corso.
— 30	Swansea	Singapore	Hasty	
— 30	Liverpool	Shanghai	Dunkeld	M'Gregor.
Nov. 2	Do.	Singapore	Mandarin	Mutter.
— 3	London	Kanagawa	Eleanor	Silk.
— 3	Deal	Chinchas Is'es & Snan	Falcon	Keay.
— 1	Texel	Batavia	Drie Gezusters	Fischer.
— 2	Cardiff	Bangkok	Bessie	Jones.
— 4	Swansea	Singapore	Earl of Shaftesbury	Kronmann.
Oct. 25	Torbay	Shanghai	Serica	Innes.
Nov. 5	Liverpool	Shanghai	Fort George	Smith.
— 8	London	Do.	Min	Smith.

LOADING.

At London.—For Kanagawa: Eliza Shaw. For Shanghai: Guinevere, Ellen Rodger, Challenger. For Hong Kong and Canton: Belted Will, Robin Hood, Young Lochinvar. For Hong Kong and Foo-chow-Foo: City of Aberdeen. For Singapore: Norfolk, Dewa Gungadhur. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Skimmer of the Seas.

At Liverpool.—For Yokohama: Jane Aden. For Shanghai: Neville, Invincible, Simoda. For Hong Kong: Monsoon. For Hong Kong and Canton: Canton. For Singapore: Wm. Chandler, Advance, Hurry Puddemsey, Bosphorus, Glenlee, Agenoria. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Helvetia. For Sourabaya: Dionysia and Catharina. For Cheribon: Moreno. For Manila: Iberica. For Onrust: Koereir.

At Glasgow.—For Singapore: Douglas Castle. For Shanghai: Glencoe.

SPOKEN.

Esperance, Bordeaux to Saigon, 40 N., 13 W.
Antrim, Sunderland to Singapore, Sept. 5, lat. 13, long. 25.
Theodore Machtilda, Amstm. to Bat., Sept. 6, lat. 14, long. 25 W.
Dut. Barq, No. 9,072, 3rd d.p., Amstm. to Bat., Aug. 4, 6 N., 15 W.
Blackwood (brig), Cardiff to Shanghai, Aug. 12, 15 S., 23 W.
Ocean (Dutch ship), Liverpool to Java, 37 days out, 8 N., 32 W.
No 1 (iron four-masted schr.), Cowes to Japan, Aug. 10, 19 N., 114 E.
Isaac da Costa, Rotterdam to Padang, 9 N., 25 W.
Ver dan Palm, Rotterdam to Samarang, 7 N., 26 W.
Cambalu, London to Hong Kong, Aug. 21, 5 S., 107 E.
Diligentia, London to Shanghai, Aug. 23, 23 N., 118 E.
Glenclune, Clyde to Shanghai, Aug. 24, 2 N., 107 E.
Robert Thomas, Calcutta to Hong Kong, 10 N., 110 E.
Princess Dagmar, L'pool to Singapore, 25 days out, 10 N., 25 W.
Luzon, of Sunderland, Shanghai to New York, Sept. 19, 3 S., 19 W.
Cornelis Gips, Amsterdam to Batavia, Sept. 11, 7 N., 21 W.
Hellevoetsluis, Amsterdam to Batavia, Sept. 14, 8 N., 24 W.
Zuid Voorland, Rotterdam to Batavia, Sept. 11, 7 N., 21 W.
H.M.S. Herring (?), from China, bound North, Sept. 4, 14 S., 8 W.
Guinea, Hamburg to Hong Kong, Sept. 13, 3 N., 23 W.
Waterloo, Boston to Hong Kong, Oct. 16, 21 N., 29 W.
Thusnelda (Swed. barq.), Bat. to Bremen, Aug. 20, 25 S., 53 E.
Zuid Holland, Holland to Java, Sept. 11, 7 N., 21 W.
Twilight, Liverpool to Shanghai, 14 S., 33 W.
Nummer I. (str.) Rotterdam to Japan, Aug. 10, 19 N., 114 E.
Constance, Newcastle to Sourabaya, Aug. 27, 6 N., 21 W.
Gertrude, Japan to Havre, 69 days out, Aug. 28, 33 S., 35 E.
Jesse Stanton, Shanghai to New York, Sept. 3, 36 S., 19 E.
Van Williminia (?) (Dut. ship), for Batavia, Sept. 22, 5 S., 18 W.
Annie Archbell, London to Hong Kong, Sept. 10, 9 N., 27 W.
Haamstede, Rotterdam to Batavia, Sept. 10, 9 N., 26 W.
Ida Wilhelmina, Dordt to Batavia, Sept. 11, 9 N., 23 W.
Sperwer, Batavia to Amsterdam, Sept. 30, 11 N., 25 W.
Gemini, Shanghai to London, July 24, in the Manepa Straits.
Matilda, Macao to London, Sept. 10, 23 S., 3 E.
City of Mobile, New York to Shanghai, Sept. 29, 10 N., 29 W.
Bothwell Castle, Penang to London, Oct. 4, 15 N., 25 W.
Rochester Castle (?) (Swed. barq.), Bat., Aug. 3, 21 (?) S., 58 (?) E.
Perdita, Liverpool to Shanghai, Sept. 11, 9 N., 23 W.
Greenwich (?), Shanghai to Liverpool, July 15, 14 S., 79 E.
Nouveau Cantabre, Hong Kong to London, Sept. 6, 28 S., 13 E.
Isaac, Rotterdam to Padang, Sept. 11, 9 N., 25 W.
Luzon (barque), Shanghai to New York, Sept. 20, 2 S., 20 W.
Nor' Wester, Manila and Batavia to N. York, Aug. 17, in Str. of Sunda.
Trieste, Cardiff to Shanghai, 33 S., 2 E.
Sovereign of India, London to Hong Kong, July 13, 7 N., 20 W.
John Bartlett, for Shanghai, July 23, 20 (?) S., 30 W.
Van der Palm, Rotterdam to Samarang, Sept 21, 1 S., 22 W.
Annie Archbell, London to Hong Kong, 35 days out, 4 N., 19 W.
Gebroeders, Amsterdam to Batavia, Sept. 15, 6 N., 21 W.
Tricolour, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Sept. 18, 4 N., 22 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

(Exclusive of this day's advices.)

From Japan.—At London: Natal, Yokohama, Amoy, Marmora, Witness, Merse, Anna Maria, Red Deer, and Ann Adamson. At Liverpool: Jane and Isabella, Marion, Vigil, and Vampyre. At New York: Osborne.

From China.—At London: Ethel, Monarch, Belle, Philomela, Zodiac, Shakespeare, Castle Howard, Willie, Silver Eagle, White Adder, Solent, Wild Deer, Marquis of Londonderry, Caransius, John Temperley, Racehorse, Aboyne, Highflyer, Fychow, Caractacus, Gresham, Assyrian, City of Quebec, Knight Templar, Star of China, Dartmouth, Chanticleer, Thomas Blyth, Essex, Bride of the Seas, Cumber-

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land, Coulnakyle, Taiping, Red Riding Hood, Banian, Canute, Philomela, Adriatic, P. J. F. Burchart, Keepsake, Chandanagore, Volunteer, Aunt Lizzie, Holmesdale, Rifleman, Isabella Robinson, Zelia, Vimeira, Zarah, L. Wharncliffe, Gloucester, Lorton Vale, Iceni, S. Ralston, Wm. Thompson, Marlborough, Dora, Whinfell, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Magnus, Josephine, Glaramara, Sappho, Charles Davenport, and Osborne House. At LIVERPOOL: Geologist, Fanny, Joshua Bates, Wm. Dawson, Affghan, Jessie Beazley, De Jex, Warwick Castle, Peerless, Sea Snake, Thomas Bell, Reigate, Esk, Surry, Pegasus, Hugomont, Lord Dalhousie, Cornelia, Inamhore, Mayflower, Regina, Edward Percy, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Helvellyn, Australia, Ann Forster, Brockham, and General Windham. At FALMOUTH: Divina, and Linda. At BORDEAUX: Leon. At HAMBURG: Mecklenburg, and Gravina. At NEW YORK: Dorchester, Regnago, St. Paul, Luson, Gleam, Cornelia, Mary, Roslin Castle, Cassiterides, Queensland, and Maggie Leslie.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Cambodia, Seaforth, Labrador, Jupiter, Constance, and Staffordshire. At LIVERPOOL: Indiaman, Patriot King, Alicia Anne, Barinaga, Kathay, Gondola, Frederick, and Royal Mint. At FALMOUTH: Der West, St. Paul, Voladora, and Ocean Empress. At COWES: John Banfield. At NEW YORK: Tropic, George Peabody, Bengal, Continent, Franklin, and Julia Ambridge.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Oscar, Confidence, Pet, Polly, Bonanza, Miss Nightingale, Volunteer, Tweed, Eddystone, Najade, Rangoon, Prince Alfred, Dewa Gungadhur, Dunkeld, and Tartar. At LIVERPOOL: C. H. Soule, Victory, Agra, Beloochee, and Tigris. At FALMOUTH: Sarah Jane and Queen Bee. At BORDEAUX: Salares. At NANTES: Suez. At NEW YORK: Ocean Home, Gertrude, Caroline, Rudolf, and Panic. At BOSTON: Ceylon, Aristides, and Magnet.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Empress, Marengo, Sunium, and Spitfire. At FALMOUTH: Schlossr. At CORK: Ceylon. At BORDEAUX: Sophis.

From BANGKOK.—At NEW YORK: Eastward Ho!

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The arrivals from the Eastward lately having been more numerous, the different loading berths are fully supplied. Ships are also offering freely for coals, and outward rates are altogether very low. In homeward charters there has been nothing doing.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £38 and £1. 17s. 6d. For Shanghai: £46 and £2. 6s. 6d. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £25 and 21s. to 22s. For Penang: £27. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 39 tons naval boilers from the River Thames to Hong Kong; also for 32 tons combustibles, &c., to Shanghai.

The clipper Falcon, Captain Keay, which passed the Downs 3rd inst., conveys stores for the Spanish Government to the Chinchas Islands, from whence she will proceed to China; and the Glenaros, Captain Buckham, has been taken up for the same purpose.

CASUALTIES.

TEXEL.—October 26, the Willem en Carel, Steenveld, from Newcastle to Cheribon, which put in here to-day, is leaky

The Cambodia, Paige, from Manila for London, which put into Plymouth Nov. 2, had a portion of her bulwarks and stanchions carried away, and was making a little water, having been struck by a sea on the 22nd October.

PERNAMBUCO.—14th October, the A. O. Anderson (Swed. brig), from Newcastle to Singapore, was totally lost at Cabo Branco, near the mouth of the Paraiba River, 11th Oct. Crew saved.

OFF ST. HELENA.—Sept., from Shanghai, Glaramara, Watson.

The Eucharis and Paul, Dugast, from Sumatra for Nantes, put into Mauritius Sept 19, with foremast sprung.

The Norman, Orfeur, which arrived at Mauritius, Oct. 4, from Melbourne and Timor, brought intelligence that the Keepsake, of Shields, Swan, from Shanghai to Europe, with tea, silk, &c., was totally wrecked on the N.E. Point of Island Sara, Timor Sea, in the early part of July. The crew left Coupang Aug. 28, in the Dutch steamer for Java. The wreck was seen on Aug. 30, hopelessly bilged, and the cargo was distributed all over the island. Some silk and tea, which were shown to the master of the Norman, were in good condition, but there was not much of it.

ANOTHER "SEA KING."—We have already noticed the sale of the *Sea King* to the Confederates, and no doubt we shall soon hear of Captain Semmes' exploits in her. That vessel having proved so successful in her voyage to China (*via* New Zealand) and back, we understand that Messrs. Robertson and Co., the ship brokers, and others interested, have ordered a similar vessel to be built by Messrs. Stephens on Clyde.

DISCOVERY OF A NEW ISLAND.—Captain Moore, of the ship *Merse*, reports that while on his passage from Yokohama to London he discovered two islands in the North Pacific not laid down in the charts. One island was in lat. 31·23 N. and 140 E.; and the other, about four miles distant, is given at 30·19 and 139·51. From the first of these islands a reef extends about two miles in a N.W. direction; and Captain Moore had a narrow escape from touching on this reef.

LAUNCH OF THE "DEVANA."—On the 1st inst. there was launched from the building-yard of Messrs. Hall and Sons, Aberdeen, a fine ship, of 795 tons register, named the *Devana*, classed thirteen years at Lloyd's. The vessel is the property of John Jamieson, Esq., and is intended for the China trade.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

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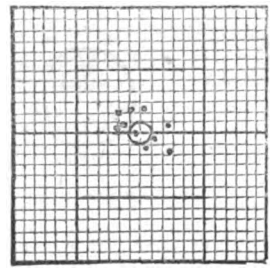

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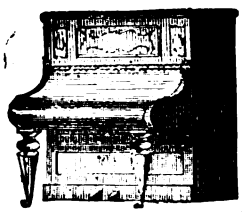

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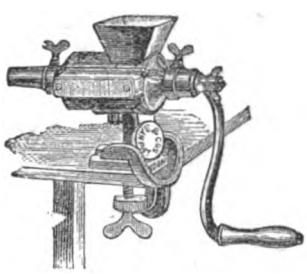

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Amoy & Foo-Chow-Foo ...	Merse ...	A1 13 yr.	W.I.D.	With des.
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Shanghai	Solent ...	W.I.D.	With des.
H. Kong & Whampoa	Robin Hood .	E.I.D.	Nov. 12.
H. Kong & Whampoa	Devanha ...	E.I.D.	With des.
Nagasaki	Ziba... ...	W.I.D.	With des.
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Colombo ...	Percy Doguelas ...	781	A1 10 yr.	Lond.D.	Dec. 1
Rangoon ...	Rapide ...	498	3-3d&A1	St. Kat.	Nov15
Kurrachee ...	Morning Star	480	3-3ds ...	Lond.D.	Nov20
Mangalore, Cannamore Calicut, Beypore, & Cochin.	Night Watch	328	A1 9 yr.	St. Kat.	Dec. 1

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Calcutta ...	Robinson Crusoe ...	A 1 12yrs	E.I.D	Dec. 20.
Calcutta ...	Cornwallis...	A 1 12yrs	E.I.D	Jan. 20.
Bombay ...	Albuera ...	A 1 13yrs	E.I.D.	Nov. 20.
Hong Kong and Foo-chow ...	City of Aberdeen ...	A 1 14yrs	E.I.D.	Nov. 25.
Shanghai ...	Fychow ...	A 1 14yrs	E.I.D.	Dec. —.

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COLOMBO.—Notice to Passengers.—To sail 1st December, the fast-sailing ship PERCY DOUGLAS, A 1, 781 tons, J. P. HAMON, Commander. Has large, airy, full poop and capacious state cabins, and splendid accommodation for passengers. Parties desirous of avoiding the winter and visiting the interesting Island of Ceylon and coast of India, and return in the ship, may do so, calling at St. Helena on the way home. Steamers constantly running from Ceylon to all parts of India. Passage out to Ceylon, 45 guineas; ditto out and return, 75 guineas.

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For Freight apply to W. A. WINCKLEY, 23, Birchin-lane, Cornhill, E.C.

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To sail Dec. 1.

DIRECT for COCHIN, BEYPOOR, CALICUT, CANNONORE, and MANGALORE, the beautiful clipper ship NIGHT WATCH, A 1 nine years; 327 tons register; R. ATKINSON, Commander; lying in the St. Katharine Docks. This fine little vessel, having just returned from the above ports, and having a large portion of her cargo engaged, is confidently recommended to shippers desirous of quick despatch.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 155.] LONDON, FRIDAY, NOV. 18, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

THE INCOMING MAILS.

The mails due here on the 27th arrived at Suez on the 17th at 7 A.M.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London 9th Nov.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	July 10	Aug. 31	Sept. 12
Nagasaki			„ 9
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			Aug. 28
Chefoo			Sept. 5
New-chwang			
Hankow			„ 10
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	„ 26	Sept. 9	„ 21
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			
Formosa—Tamsuy			„ 22
Amoy			„ 23
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Aug. 10	„ 17	„ 27
Canton			
Macao			
HILIPPINES—			
Manila	July 26		„ 21
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			„ 28
SIAM— Bangkok			„ 16
BORNKO—			
Labuan			„ 10
Sarawak			„ 15
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 30
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Aug. 26	Sept. 27	Oct. 6
Penang	„ „	„ 25	„ 8

The above mails, due on the 14th inst., arrived on the 9th per French mail. We complete, in the present number, the news of the two mails.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

To Marseilles, per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, arrived Nov. 14.—From Singapore, Mr. Launspack. From Ceylon: Mr. H. Williams.

To Southampton, per P. and O. steamer Baroda, expected to arrive Nov. 20.—From Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Cruikshank, Mr. Fawcett. From Hong Kong: Mr. Gibson, Mrs. Linstead, infant, and European servant, Mr. Lock. From Shanghai: The Rev. Mr. Ritchings. From Galle: Mr. Skinner, Miss Embank, Mr. Gillson, Mr. H. Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Veevers and two children, Capt. Brooke, C.R.R., Mr. Chas. Wait.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per French steamer Peluse, from Marseilles Nov. 19.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. A. Meyer, H. Locock, and J. E. Stewart, and two steerage passengers. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Wignall, Dr G. Thin, Mr. R. Scheibler. To Galle: Messrs. Geo. Lawson, F. T. Rolls, E. Hoare, John Harding, and J. Theobald, Miss Woodriff, and three steerage passengers. From Suez to Galle: Mr. D. Forrest.

Per P. and O. steamer, Nov. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Miss B. E. Collett, Miss Lee, Lieut. B. Lilliebook, Mr. Howard. To Shanghai: Messrs. E. Crace, and M. Hawtrey. To Singapore: Mrs. W. W. Willans and infant. To Ceylon: Mr. G. Crosbie. From Marseilles, Nov. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. T. F. Ballance, Mr. B. Mackintosh, Mr. P. G. Lawrie, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Wheelock. To Shanghai: Mr. Hyslop. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Caw.

Per P. and O. steamer, Nov. 27, from Southampton.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mr. Bayne. To Ceylon, via Bombay: Mr. Cummins.

Per P. and O. steamer, Dec. 4, from Southampton.—To Penang: Capt. and Mrs. White. To Shanghai: Mr. Herbert Elias, Mr. G. Stanford. To Hong Kong: Mrs. Smith and two infants, Mr. Dent. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. J. Walker, three children, and servant, the Rev. J. Allcock, Mr. H. Bois, Capt. Rutherford, Mr. H. C. Park. From Marseilles, Dec. 12.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Wood and lady friend, Mr. Geo. Crichton, Mr. J. Crum, Mr. A. J. Gunn. To Shanghai: Mr. J. W. Broadbent. To Hong Kong: Mr. T. Caw, Mr. H. H. Nelson, Mr. J. Sloane. To Ceylon, Messrs. T. G. Davis, R. E. Hope, J. T. Green, and John Fraser, Mr. and Mrs. Schweitzer.

Per P. and O. steamer, Dec. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. Jas. Henderson, A. Leigh and J. Maitland, Mrs. Wilkinson and infant. To Ceylon: Mr. J. Bannatine, Mr W. Mayon. To Shanghai: Mr. Carritt. From Marseilles, Dec. 26.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Ryrie, Mr. Pastorius. To China: Mr. W. A. Foster. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Tyers. To Ceylon: Messrs. F. Pater and Fraser.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Marseilles, Jan. 12, 1865.—To Hong Hong: Mr. M'Donald.

CHINA.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

Chen Ting-ching, a censor, draws the Emperor's attention to the fact that some of the Imperial family live outside the walls of the palace, and amuse themselves by every description of debauchery, assuming false names. The Emperor, in reference to the charge, says, "It is recorded."

Aug. 13. Expressing the Emperor's regret that the grave of Tai-tsu, the first Emperor of the Ming Dynasty (1368 to 1398), has been desecrated by the rebels, and ordering Tsêng Kuo-fan to see to its being restored, and to salute the deceased prince.

Yen Ching-ming, Futai of Shan-tung, reports that a ruffian named Tsao Wen-ping, having murdered his father with an axe, has been cut to pieces, and his head hung up.

Tang Tiutang, Futai of Hupeh, reports that his predecessor, Yen Shu-seng (who was some months ago degraded to the rank of Taotai at the instance of Kuan Wen, Governor-General of the two Hu) requests leave of absence for three months to visit the graves of his father and mother. "It is granted."

Aug. 14, 15, and 16. The report by Kuan Wen and Tseng-kuo-fan as to the capture of Nanking is given at length, and the Emperor makes the following note: "It is recorded."

Aug. 16. Deciding that Chung-wang and Hung Jen-ta be not conducted to Peking, but their sentence of being cut to pieces be carried out at Nanking, and their heads be sent round the districts formerly in possession of the rebels.

Aug. 18. Kuan Wen, Governor-General of the two Hu, indulges in a general diatribe against military officers, and recommends the disgrace and dismissal of several whom he mentions by name.

Aug. 19. Wu Ting-tung, a censor, recommends the Emperor not to be too ready to pat himself on the back on account of the capture of Nanking, as he will be sure to come to grief.

SHANGHAI.

A gentleman who has just returned from Nanking has favoured us *(North China Herald)* with the following sketch of the appearance of the city:—

"We entered the Yi-feng-men or Northgate, and rode for a distance of about eight miles, for the most part amongst cultivated fields. The city from the North side has simply the appearance of a large tract of land walled in. The first thing of any interest that struck us on the way was a square pagoda about fifty feet high with three large arches. On the top of this is the celebrated turtle mentioned in Forrester's account of Nanking, constructed of one block of marble. The next thing was the Tien-wang's palace, which must have been most gorgeous. The entrance or reception hall is panelled in carved wood, and the pillars and ceiling are splendidly carved, painted red, and gilded gold seems to have been spread on that place like mortar on an ordinary building; and, although to a European taste too gaudy, to the Chinese eye it must have seemed truly magnificent. Having passed through the reception hall, we entered a long and wide stone path, on one side of which are little houses, or offices, lying in ruins, and on the other is a garden full of trees. Thence we passed into what must have been the *bona fide* residence of the Tien-wang, and this, although now a mere heap of ruins, must have been of enormous extent and full of valuable stone work. In the garden are two granite basins, each of which is a rough model of a boat, but these I am sorry to say have been nearly demolished by the Imperialists. Almost every nook and corner has been

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dug up, and all the flooring torn to pieces. I was told that ten millions of taels in sycee had been found in the Tien-wang's palace, but half that amount is probably nearer the truth. The reception hall is still preserved, as the fire did not reach it, and it is indeed well worth looking at. I fear, however, that this also will soon be ruined, as every soldier who passes through it tests the sharpness of his sword on the carving, and crowds of beggars are industriously occupied in scraping the gold off the pillars. I should mention that the palace is surrounded by a wall of about thirty feet in height. From the Tien-wang's palace we went to the "breach" near the Taiping gate, and I am really astonished that the rebels gave the Imperialists a chance of making that breach. The Imperial trenches run right under the wall at a distance of about one hundred feet from it, and any good shooting ought to have sent the Imperialists flying out of their positions. My idea is that the rebels felt perfectly secure in the belief of the strength and height of their wall, and, having had the Imperialist camps all round them for the last ten years, got gradually accustomed to them and were consequently taken by surprise. The rebel artillery was in general very poor, with the exception of a few guns mounted on foreign carriages. On the whole, I think but little credit is due to the Imperialists for taking Nanking. They might have done the same eight or nine years ago. All the dead bodies have been removed. I saw only three still lying unburied near the breach. The business part of the city is in a state of constant bustle and confusion, and building is going on right and left. The new houses are not, however, very substantial. At the Shui-si-men (West water-gate) and Nanmen the number of people entering and leaving the city was most remarkable. A good deal of local trade seems to be going on at Nanking, but as a port for foreigners I think it will prove a miserable place, and from the swampy ground which surrounds the city, it must be most unhealthy, As to curiosities, nothing can be bought, as the soldiers that assisted at the looting have for the most part been removed, and a lot of dirty, gaudy dresses is all that remains for sale. Up to now the taking of Nanking has had no effect upon Chinkiang. I am afraid it will take some years before the right bank of the river thoroughly recovers from the ravages of the rebels."

The following notification of the Taotai has been issued. Old residents in China will, indeed, marvel at such signs of compassion in a Chinese Mandarin :—

NOTIFICATION.

Ting, Taotai of Soochow, Sung-kong, and Tai-tsang, issues a notification for general information.

Whereas, on the sea coast (of this province) both native and foreign craft are frequently wrecked during tempests, it is necessary to take precautions to ensure the safety (of life and property), that every man may act conscientiously, that the unprincipled may be punished, and the good rewarded according to the statutes. Every one, indeed, should know the penalties attached to wrong-doing in this matter.

Now, on careful examination, I have discovered that whenever a ship is wrecked in a storm, it does not enter into the heads of the people who live on the coast to defend and assist the sufferers, but, on the contrary, they treacherously endeavour to rob them of all they possess. When the rudder is broken and the sails are torn to ribbons, and while the wrecked crew are looking anxiously and sorrowfully for succour, these robbers rush violently on board, ransack every chest and carry off whatever property they may covet. The hard won earnings of some scores of years are suddenly snatched from the hands of those who had, cash by cash, painfully accumulated a little store. Those who had travelled over many thousands of miles of dismal ocean, and passed through numberless terrors of the deep, are obliged at last to heap reproaches on the injustice of their fate. Even although a ship be wrecked, yet still all hope of (future) success is not necessarily lost, but these pirates, not satisfied with seeing a fellow creature fall into a pit, must needs fling a stone after him. Such poor fellows are much to be pitied, but it is difficult to assist them, for they have not only lost their sheep, but the fold has also disappeared. Thus the trial sent by Heaven is rendered heavier by man. These unprincipled wretches are, moreover, not content with robbery, but they also emulate the fame of murderers. The eye cannot bear to rest on such doings, and the mind is grieved by the very report of such atrocity.

Wherefore, seeing that I, the Taotai, am fully acquainted with the misery inflicted on these people, how can I sit quietly by? For the future the following regulations will be enforced in the districts over which I exercise supervision. Wherever there are villages on the coast, every ten li shall constitute a parish, which must provide a police officer and assistant, who, no matter whether a ship which may be stranded on our shores be native or foreign, shall instantly set measures on foot to render her whatever assistance she may require, and shall request the local officials to come in person, examine into the matter, take the cargo under their charge, and hand it over to the proper owner. They must also decide on the reward to be given to those who shall have exerted themselves (to save life and property). If the cargo be completely lost, and there only remain a few poor penniless wretches, these are at once to be conducted to my official residence, where they will be supplied with money sufficient to carry them home, that they may not be left wandering about, without a chance of getting away.

The officials are requested to consult one with another, and make any suggestions which may appear advisable to them for the better carrying out of the above design, informing me minutely of their opinions. A communication has been addressed to the Tsung-ping of the island of Tsung-ming, directing him to assist in carrying out the views just enunciated.

This notification is accordingly issued for the information of the public. Henceforward if any ship be wrecked in a tempest, the regulations laid down above must be carefully complied with. If any offenders be found, let them be seized and most severely punished.

The following is the official copy of the judgment delivered by the British Consular Court, in the case of Messrs. Birley, Worthington and Co. *v.* the master of the *Finzel* :—

The Court consider that there has been a want of care in the manner of describing the iron in England, and in the way in which delivery of it has been taken in Shanghai. In the bill of lading and in the shipping order, the entries are "OO. 2,400 bundles nail rod iron," and it appears to the Court that that description was not sufficient to lead the master or mate of the *Finzel*, when receiving the iron on board, to look for two hands or rings of white paint encircling each bundle. Had it been distinctly specified in the shipping order and bill of lading that the iron was marked with white rings, the absence of that mark might have attracted the attention of the master or mate. Again, in Shanghai, neither the plaintiffs nor Messrs. Dow and Co., agents for the defendant, appear to have accurately informed themselves as to the marks on all the bundles of iron ex *Finzel* now stored in their respective godowns, and it seems not impossible that a further examination may prove that the two original shipments (to Messrs. Birley, Worthington and Co. and Hooper and Co.) have become mixed. However that may be, the Court, having strict regard to the wording and marks of the bill of lading on which the action is brought, can only hold that the master of the *Finzel* is bound to deliver to Messrs. Birley, Worthington and Co. 2,400 bundles of nail rod iron marked with two cyphers.

Costs to be divided.

(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES, Consul.

We assent to the above judgment,

(Signed) JAMES WHITLOW, R. R. WESTALL, } Assessors.

HONG KONG.

IMPORTANT FREIGHT CASE.—SUPREME COURT, MONDAY, SEPT. 12.

BUTLER AND OTHERS V. DUTHIE.

Before the Acting Chief Justice and Special Jury. Jurymen.—C. H. M. Bosman, F. Parry, H. B. Gibb, J. M. Vickers, F. D. Williams, R. Rowett, A. W. P. Kup. Counsel for the plaintiffs Mr. Kingsmill and Mr. Pollard. Counsel for the defendant, the Attorney-General and Mr. Pauncefote. This was an action in trover brought by the plaintiffs, Butler and others, trading in London under the name of H. and J. Johnston and Co., against Mr. W. Duthie, also of London, the registered owner of the British ship *Indiaman*.

The *Indiaman* was chartered from the defendant by Mr. W. N. de Mattos, of London, to load a cargo of coals at Birkenhead, and to proceed therewith to Hong Kong. As regarded the payment of freight the charter party stipulated as follows :—

"The freight to be paid in London on unloading, and right delivery of the cargo at and after the rate of thirty-nine shillings sterling per ton of 20 cwt. on the quantity delivered in full of all port charges. Bute-dock wharfage, harbour dues on cargo and Dover and Ramsgate line as customary, and such freight is to be paid say one half by charterer's acceptance at four months from the final sailing of the ship from her last port in Great Britain, the same to be returned if the cargo be not delivered at the port of destination ; the freighter to insure the amount, and deduct the cost for so doing from the first payment of the freight, and the remainder by like bill at three months from date of delivery at charterer's office in London of the certificate of the right delivery of the cargo agreeably to bills of lading, less cost of coal or fuel short delivered, or in cash under discount at five per cent. per annum, at freighter's option."

The *Indiaman* accordingly proceeded to Birkenhead, and

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there took on board 1,200 tons of Large Welsh Hartley steam coals, for which bills of lading were signed by the Master (J. F. Webb) on the 7th October, 1863, containing the following clause, "The freight for the said goods to be paid by the freighter as per charter party with average accustomed."

Mr. Borradaile, a member of the firm of Walker, Borradaile, and Co., being in London about the time the ship had completed her loading, arranged between Mr. W. N. de Mattos and Messrs. H. and J. Johnston and Co. for an advance of £2,100 (being 35s. per ton on 1,200 tons), to be made by the latter to the former.

This advance having been agreed upon and made, the documents relating to the cargo and advance were forwarded by Messrs. H. and J. Johnston and Co., to Messrs. Walker, Borradaile, and Co., of this port, with orders, when realised, to remit proceeds to Messrs. H. and J. Johnston and Co. direct, their letter containing the following sentence :—"Please note that we have advanced £2,100, due 22nd April, 1864, against this cargo, under your guarantee as before."

It may here be mentioned that on the 8th December, and, therefore, during the *Indiaman's* voyage, Mr. W. N. de Mattos, the charterer, stopped payment.

The *Indiaman* having arrived in Hong Kong on the 14th February, Mr. Walker proceeded on board the following day to present the bill of lading, and to demand delivery of the cargo, but as Captain Webb was not on board, the demand was made of the captain on the following morning at Messrs. Walker, Borradaile, and Co.'s office, which demand the captain refused to comply with unless the freight was paid or security given for the same. Mr. Walker not having consented to enter into any such arrangement, Captain Webb, on the 16th of March, through an auctioneer, advertised the cargo for sale on board by public auction, and on the 22nd March the entire cargo was knocked down at $8.50 per ton.

This action was then brought to recover damages for the wrong sustained by the plaintiffs at the hands of the defendant's servant.

Mr. Pollard having opened the pleadings, Mr. Kingsmill addressed the Court on the part of the plaintiffs, and called Mr. T. S. Borradaile, who proved the fact of the advance having been made by the plaintiffs to Mr. De Mattos and of the defendant being aware of such advance having been granted. The Attorney-General submitted the witness to a severe cross examination, but elicited nothing of consequence.

Mr. R. S. Walker was then called to prove the demand having been made for the coals on the ship's arrival, and Captain Webb's refusal to comply with the demand, except upon conditions mentioned above.

Mr. Schmidt, the resident partner of the firm of Fletcher and Co., was called to prove that part of the proceeds of the coals were paid by Captain Webb to this firm, out of which they disbursed the ship, remitting the balance to the defendant.

Mr. F. T. Smith, broker, was then called to prove the sale on board the ship, he having bought the cargo for account of a firm at $8.50 per ton.

Mr. Adamson, manager of the Borneo Company, Limited, and Mr. A. Booth, of the firm of Bourjan, Aubener and Co., were called to prove the market price of coals at the date of the conversion, viz., the 16th and 17th February, the day on which the demand for the coals was made by the consignee and refused by the master. Market price at that time was proved to be about $10\frac{3}{4}$ per ton from alongside.

This closed the case for the plaintiffs, and, as the defendant's counsel decided not to call any witnesses, Mr. Pollard was proceeding to address the jury in reply, when the foreman stated that the jury would not trouble him. Mr. Pollard, however, begged to be allowed to draw their attention to the question of interest, which the law left entirely in their hands, to be dealt with as they might think fit.

The Attorney-General then addressed the Court for the defence and in mitigation of damages.

The Acting Chief Justice summed up the evidence.

The jury, after a few minutes' deliberation, returned a verdict for the plaintiff.

Damages being	$3,231.63
1,195 tons of coals at $10\frac{3}{4}$ per ton	$12,846.25
Interest at 6 per cent. per annum	386.38
	$13,231.63

One or two legal points were reserved.

The *Evening Mail* says :—"It is scarcely necessary to call attention to the Public Gardens lately opened here on the large slope between the Government House and the Old Albany, The ground was formerly a most unsightly waste, and could not well be built upon, as that would have destroyed the amenities of Government House. To convert it into a public garden seemed an undertaking of doubtful possibility ; but this was at last determined upon, and a landscape gardener was got from Australia to lay off the grounds. With what success this has been done we can all judge for ourselves. Indeed, it is not easy to suggest any, even the slightest, improvement in that respect. Every point of advantage has been availed of for its most suitable use ; and there has been nothing wasted or misemployed. The extent of the walks is very considerable, and the regulations for the admission of visitors is wisely framed."

The following on the New Docks is from the *Daily Press*:—

"We hear that the new Dock Company have come to advantageous terms with the Government relative to the site at Kowloon. The ground will have to be put up at auction, in accordance with the rules and regulations made and provided, but as a prime condition of the sale will be the construction of docks within a limited period, it is hardly likely that any competition will be excited. We rejoice to find that the Government is at last sufficiently awake to the construction of docks in the colony as to induce them to meet the enterprising parties concerned in the undertaking in a proper spirit. We are given to understand that most of the shares of the New Dock Company have been taken up, and that the undertaking is viewed as *une affair accompli*. The steps adopted in the business appear to us to be dictated by sound sense, strict economy, and practical knowledge. We hope the result will be that the repairs of vessels in Hong Kong may be effected at one third less than heretofore, and with twice the despatch. Such a result will undoubtedly multiply the business, affording vast employment to artisans and labourers.

BORNEO.

LABUAN.

The *Hong Kong Daily Press* has the following :—

The steamer *Sterling*, Capt. Henderson, which has been employed for the past few months in carrying coal from Labuan to this, arrived from that colony with rather important intelligence. Owing to a quarrel which occurred between the Malay and the Chinese coolies at the coal mines, a serious riot took place, which led to loss of life and to some bloodshed in addition. The Malays fought with krisses, the Chinese with bamboos ; the former were getting the best of it, when two Englishmen connected with the mines, who are popular with the Malays, separated the combatants, and by persuasions kept them apart.

It seems that there is a garrison on the island of 300 sepoys, commanded by four English officers. At one time matters looked very serious, and indeed after the combatants were separated, there appeared a strong probability of their renewing the combat. The *Sterling*, which was lying off the mines, landed twelve Europeans armed, and fired several alarm guns, which, although they brought no assistance, intimidated the rioters. The Europeans at the mines sent a messenger to the Governor, Mr. Callaghan (who was chief magistrate here) for a sepoy guard. His Excellency naturally could not be so easily induced to comply with such a request without calling a council. After calling a council of war, he decided on sending the sepoys a roundabout way by water.

This disturbance has stopped mining operations for the present at Labuan. The *Sterling* was despatched with only part of a cargo, the manager desiring that she would seek other employment, and not come down again. He had a stock on hand, but he preferred to keep it for passing steamers. The ship *Goshen* was despatched from Labuan for Hong Kong with 1,200 tons coals on the 23rd Aug., and may be hourly looked for.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

From private advices from Singapore we learn that 110 gambier and pepper shops have petitioned against the Tumongong of Johore, and forwarded their petition to the Governor through the Chamber of Commerce, but that his Honour ha not favoured them with a reply up to the 6th October.

We also hear that the said chieftain has lately arrested five Dutch subjects on the charge of the same murder for which

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the British subjects are incarcerated. They, the Dutch subjects, formed the crew of a pilot boat. Two of these men are dead, two are still in confinement, and one has been released on payment of $10.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1863-64.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to Aug 31, 1864	320655	23345759	24390470	212087	3606468	51875409	8820
Corresponding period last season	898205	20976314	2459800	989576	4713140	30037035	12363

SHIPMENTS IN SEPTEMBER.

Ship	From		Silk.
Claremont	Shanghai	765,858	—
Finzel	Do.	693,020	—
John Banks	Do.	680,781	—
Mail steamer Orissa	Do.	—	1,834
Napoleon III.	Do.	972,341	—
Horsa	Foo-chow	1,321,500	—
Waverley	Shanghai	1,318,924	—
Moravi	Do.	165,589	—
Everest	Canton	776,462	—
Cathaya	Do.	453,126	—
French Mail str. Cambodge	Shanghai, &c.	—	183

TO UNITED STATES.

	Piculs.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1864	1963723 16
Corresponding period last season	1987953 85

SHIPMENTS IN SEPTEMBER.

Ship	From	
Brilliant	Kanagawa	249,774
Bedford	Foo-chow	691,029
S. Russell	Do.	690,081

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Tea pkgs	
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1864	9253	...
Corresponding period last season	76410	...

TO AUSTRALIA.

From 1st June to 31st Aug., 1864 ... ... 2,261,995 lbs.
Corresponding period last year ... ... 4,557,182 „

SHIPMENTS IN SEPTEMBER.

Ship	From	
Phillip	Foo-chow	171,670
Cathay	Do.	268,200
Nicholas Cezard	Do.	292,900
Carl	Macoa	184,445

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	51,022,600	...
„ 1845 to 1846	57,334,200	186
„ 1850 to 1851	63,972,000	2213
„ 1853 to 1854	77,327,800	61,480
„ 1855 to 1856	92,240,300	50,480
„ 1857 to 1858	76,990,255	68,311
„ 1858 to 1859	65,789,792	83,136
„ 1859 to 1860	35,560,452	64,163
„ 1860 to 1861	90,066,160	70,644
„ 1861 to 1862	109,854,040	79 199
„ 1862 to 1863	121,273,580	72,818
„ 1863 to 1864	117,463,586	46,605

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to Aug 31, 1864	90425	—	150	650	—	—

SHIPMENTS IN SEPTEMBER.

Ship.	From	Cotton, pcls.
Yeavering Belle	Canton	4,110
Gyrn Castle	Kanagawa	2,048
Delhi	Hong Kong	5,101

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to Aug. 31, 1864	500	2500	—	—	—	—

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to Aug. 31, 1864	375	1803	11983	540	3050	89080

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Aug. 31, 1864		615	3888	725	9600	

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

TEA AT NEW YORK, OCT. 29TH.—The market has assumed more activity of late, and we notice sales of 5,000 hlf-chest Oolong from first hands, 3,500 ditto from second hands, 500 to 600 Japan in lots, and 1,500 Green, mostly from first hands, at full prices, closing strong, with a tendency to improved figures.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Nov. 12, off the Wight from Batavia, Whampoa; 14, at Clyde, from Bassein, Laurel; 13, at Texel from Rangoon, Estafette; from Bassein, Piscataqua; 14, from Batavia, Sperwer, the Allegonda Jacoba; at Brouwershaven, from Bassein, Margaretha Smith; 16, at Deal, from Batavia, Martin; at Falmouth, from Maulmain, Jessie Munn; 14, off Eddystone, from Rangoon, Odessa.

DEPARTURES.—Nov. 16, from Deal, for Chincha Islands and China, Glenaros; 17, from Liverpool, for Mauritius and Galle, Nydia; for Singapore, Wm. Chandler.

SPOKEN.—Borealis, London to Hong Kong, Oct. 11, 8 N., 23 W.

LAID ON.—At London, for Hong Kong and Canton, Banian, White Adder; at Liverpool, for Manila, Sales.

CASUALTIES.—The Orange Nassau, van Hees, from Batavia, put into Mauritius, October 12, with loss of 2 topmasts and 3 topgallant masts, &c., having encountered a whirlwind Sept. 7, in 26 S., 56 E. The Seringapatam (British barque), Wyeth, from London to Yokohama, put into Mauritius, Oct. 15, having experienced a hurricane, Sept. 22, in lat. 40 S., 20 E., which lasted thirty-six hours, during which she sprung a leak, and was obliged to keep the pumps constantly going. She was discharging.

The Joseph Willem (Dutch ship), Bik, from Batavia to Rotterdam, put into Mauritius Oct. 15, having experienced on the 10th and 11th, in lat. 25 S., lon. 27 E., a heavy cross sea, in which she sprang a leak, and was obliged to keep the pumps constantly at work.

At MAURITIUS.—Oct. 12, from Batavia, Oranje Nassau, van Hees (with damage); 15, from London, for Yokohama, Seringapatam (British barque), Wyeth (with damage); from Batavia, for Rotterdam, Joseph Willem (Dutch ship), Bik (with damage); 6, Foong Suey (str.), Gray, sailed for Singapore; 8, Matchless, Nicolin, sailed for Galle.

MR. CANNY ON MANCHURIA.

The following account, to which we alluded in our last, is from the *North China Herald*:—

Mr. Canny, in opening his lecture, sketched the progress of Russian colonisation in Manchuria from the year 1849 to the present day. In the year 1849 the most southerly ports in the possession of the Russians were Aian on the sea of Okhotsk, and Petropaulovsk, in the peninsula of Kamschatka. Soon, however, Petrovsk, on the Northern entrance of the Straits of Saghalien, was seized, and in 1851 Nicholaefesk, now the centre of Government for the entire of maritime Siberia, was founded. In 1853 Castries Bay, Port Imperial and Aniva Bay were quietly annexed. These acquisitions were all on the sea coast, but the outbreak of the Crimean war gave Russia her long wished for opportunity of colonising the valley of the Amoor and Usuri. Accordingly a body of Russian troops was ordered to march from Irkutsk to the head waters of the Amoor. Although the snow was upon the ground, and the Chinese and Manchu officials at the different posts were very far from friendly, the expedition was successful, and some 1,500 miles of water communication between the sea and the interior of Siberia was thrown open. The entire valley of the Amoor was quickly occupied by Russian posts, and the country was virtually made part and parcel of the Russian possessions in the East. In 1858 a treaty was obtained from the Emperor of China, granting the territory on the left bank of the Amoor and the right bank of the Usuri to the Russians. The successive humiliations which had been heaped on the Chinese in the south may be assumed to have caused this concession. In 1860, this treaty was amplified and ratified, and thence forward the Russian occupation has remained undisputed.

Passing on from the history of Russian annexation, Mr. Canny next gave a geographical description of that portion of the seaboard now claimed as Russian territory. The typography—even the scenery—of Victoria Bay, Passiet and Vladivostock, was graphically sketched, and the inner life o. the garrison stationed at the latter place minutely described. It would appear that the officers, at least, lead a somewhat "jolly" life, if we leave out of consideration the fact that they are occasionally four or five months at a time utterly destitute of European news. They hunt, shoot, smoke, drink, read, and play cards, and thus contrive to pass their time away. But on the whole, taking every advantage and disadvantage into consideration, the garrison at Vladivostock is hardly to be envied. An intention on the part of the authorities to fortify Vladivostock was displayed at the time of Mr. Canny's visit, by the arrival of seventy-four smooth bore broadside guns. Since, then, however, these guns have been removed to Nicholaefesk, on the Amoor. As to the native inhabitants of the country round Vladivostock, Mr. Canny stated that the prevailing race is the Manchu, but that a slight intermixture of Chinese and Goldi, from the head waters of Usuri, may be noticed. These interlopers are for the most part escaped criminals, and, in consequence, very few women are to be found amongst them. The Tazas or Oroches (Tartars) occupy the districts to the north, and with these the Manchus occasionally intermarry. The means of subsistence are simply hunting, fishing, and the cultivation of the ginseng. A small quantity of gold has also been discovered in some of the rivers. The repulsive appearance of the Tazas was then described,

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and their dirty habits and miserable dwellings in turn dilated upon. At the same time, M. Lindau's description of the horrible filth and ugliness of the inhabitants of that part of the country was stated to be overdrawn, and a fair meed of cleanliness and good looks awarded to them. By exercising strict justice, the Russians have gained a very considerable moral influence over the aborigines, and the latter are not slow to acknowledge the advantages they derive from the Russian rule. The Eugenie Archipelago was next described, and the picturesque beauty of the islands graphically portrayed.

As to the commercial prospects of Southern Manchuria, Mr. Canny informs us that nothing can be done in the way of an import trade. The native inhabitants are too few in numbers and too poor to admit of a lucrative trade ever being set on foot. Lead, cottons and Russian whisky are in demand, but these are obtained readily from the Russians. Timber is the only export, and this trade is freely permitted on the most reasonable terms by the Russian Government. Mr. Canny then dwelt on the degraded character of the colonists sent to the settlements on the coast of Manchuria, the hardships they undergo, and the position they hold; and finally wound up by a collection of extracts from a diary kept at Olga during the summer of 1863. These extracts served to give a lively idea of the life a Euroapean may lead in such a place, and the shifts to which he is occasionally put.

THE ATTACK ON SIMONOSEKI.

(SPECTATOR.)

Sir Rutherford Alcock has at least one qualification for an English pro-consul—he is lucky. He has evidently determined to bring Japan for all political purposes under his own rule, and to effect this object if necessary by an unsparing use of force. If he cannot succeed by milder means he will conquer each Prince one by one, batter the Secular Emperor's capital about his ears, and carry the Spiritual Emperor prisoner to Yokohama, where already an English guard invests the English Embassy with something of the character of an Indian residency, an *imperium in imperio*, a little State within which the writ of the great one does not run. Already he has broken the power of the Prince of Satsuma, destroyed his batteries, fired his capital, and reduced him into a humble but efficient ally of the central Government; has compelled the Prince of Nagato, the Duke of Burgundy of the Japanese monarchy, to sue for peace, and was when the last mail left contemplating an expedition to Yedo to bring the Tycoon himself finally to terms.

There is nothing to be said against the expedition, which had a justification, was wisely planned, and most ably carried out; but we should like to know, nevertheless, where it is all to end. Is Sir Rutherford Alcock to conquer Japan or not? That he can do it, and rule the country when he has conquered it, we have not the shadow of doubt, nor are we prepared to affirm that such a proceeding would be opposed to the permament interests either of Japan or Great Britain. Looking to the character of the people, we suspect that efficient "captains of labour" would manage them as easily as, and much more justly than, their own Daimios, and an island possession is, of all others, the easiest for Great Britain to keep. But just at the moment the acquisition of a tropical New Zealand with some thirty millions of Maories might not be popular, and if we do not intend to acquire it Sir Rutherford is doing an amount of mischief which requires further justification. He is breaking up an old civilisation without offering anything in its stead. At the very moment that the Armstrongs were destroying the influence of the Prince of Nagato, the Spiritual Emperor was flying before the arms of that very noble, and the Tycoon was inventing lies by the ream to avoid breaking either with his great feudatory or his great feudatory's foes. The organisation which has kept these chiefs within bounds is visibly breaking up, and the old Empire resolving itself into a knot of principalities, always at war with each other, always hankering to re-cement union at any cost of blood. Have we any right whatever to bring all this misery on Japan unless we intend to replace the ancient *régime* by one more full of possibilities than any which the country has yet enjoyed? We doubt it greatly, and doubting it, feel but half a heart to congratulate Her Majesty's Ministers on their triumph at Simonoseki.

THE FRENCH ACCOUNT OF THE ATTACK ON THE STRAITS OF SIMONOSEKI.

The *Moniteur* contains the following report from Rear-Admiral Jaurèz, commanding the French naval division in the Chinese waters:—

"The Minister of Marine and the Colonies has received despatc es from Rear-Admiral Jaurèz, commandant-in-chief of the naval division in the Chinese waters, containing an account of the expedition sent against the batteries which defend the entry of the Straits of Simonoseki, by the combined naval forces of France, England, Holland, and the United States.

"On the 3rd of September the *Semiramis* frigate, the *Dupleix* corvette, and the advice boat *Tancrede*, went to the anchorage in the front of the island of Himésima, the place of rendezvous of the allied forces. On the 4th, in the evening, the admirals, after making a reconnaissance on board of Her Britannic Majesty's corvette *Coquette*, made the following dispositions for attacking the batteries, which was to be effected on the following day.

"The corvettes formed a line the length of the south coast of the Strait; the weakest vessels drawing the least water remaining under steam, took *en echarpe* all the batteries by enfilading the length of the north coast from Cape Kunsaki. In fine, the two admirals' frigates, the *Euryalus* and the *Semiramis*, advancing between the two lines, directed their fire against the batteries which appeared the most likely to offer the strongest resistance. On the 5th, at four o'clock in the afternoon, each of the vessels was at its post, and the small light squadron under steam, when the admirals made the signal to commence firing. For twenty minutes the fire of the Japanese was very brisk; but when the light squadron came to take part in the attack, presenting their broadsides, and opened fire with their largest artillery, the enemy was compelled to evacuate the batteries. At half-past five all resistance had ceased. On the 6th, at daybreak, the battery situated facing Cape Mose Saki again opened fire on the corvettes *Dupleix* and *Tartare*. The first shot, well directed, taking the *Dupleix en enfilade*, the commandant, De Franclieu, hastened to take a more advantageous fighting position; this manœuvre having been rapidly executed, while the *Tartare* maintained a well-sustained fire, the battery was promptly reduced to silence by the two corvettes. At eight o'clock a corps was landed, composed of 1,200 English, 350 French, and 250 Dutchmen, which took possession of the beach at the same place where, during the previous year, the landing company of the *Semiramis* and three companies of African light infantry, executed a brilliant and daring *coup de main*. The Japanese then retired precipitately before the allied troops, who carried off 22 pieces of bronze cannon of large calibre and two mortars, and advanced to the faubourgs of Simonoseki. At four o'clock in the afternoon the order to embark having been given, our landing companies went to their boats, when the English came upon an entrenched camp, defended by numerous troops and five pieces of cannon. Received with a very brisk fire of musketry, our allies threw themselves into the camp and forced the enemy to evacuate it; but this engagement cost them 10 men killed and about 30 wounded, among whom were the flag captain of Vice-Admiral Kuper and two officers. The 7th, 8th, and 9th were employed in destroying the store-houses and powder magazines, and completing the embarkation of the cannon. In the meantime, four corvettes, doubling Cape Mose Saki, compelled the evacuation of the batteries and the Isle of Hikesima. The admirals, doubling Point Kibune and entering the China Sea on board the *Coquette*, found that the Strait of Simonoseki had been forced at all points. The total loss of the allies amounted to 13 men killed and 60 wounded; the French division lost 2 men killed and 9 wounded. There were 60 bronze cannon and 3 mortars altogether embarked on board the various vessels. Rear-Admiral Jaurèz, in giving an account to the Minister of Marine of this brilliant feat of arms, pays the highest compliment to the officers placed under his orders, as well as to the seamen. Every one rivalled another in ardour and courage, and the gunners gave proofs of the greatest ability.

"On the 10th the allied divisions cast anchor before the town of Simonoseki, and a minister from Nagato, furnished with full powers, went to the admirals to ask for the cessation of hostilities, and to agree with them on the basis of a convention, of which the following are the principal dispositions:—The opening of the Straits of Simonoseki to the ships of all nations; the batteries are neither to be armed nor repaired; the allied powers are to receive an indemnity, of which the amount shall be eventually fixed by their representatives at Yedo. On the 16th of September, at the moment of the departure of the courier, the admirals expected the ratifications, and prepared for their return to Yokohama."

VIEWS OF SIMONOSEKI.

The correspondent and artist of the *Illustrated London News* has forwarded a series of sketches from the inland sea which appear in the journal of the 12th inst., accompanied by the following remarks:—

"A small map or plan of the Strait of Simonoseki, from a drawing furnished by Captain F. Brine, appeared in this journal about a twelvemonth ago. It must first be understood that the so-called 'Inland Sea,' which is about 240 miles long and from 20 to 60 miles broad, is enclosed between the three islands of Niphon, Kiu-Siu, and Sikok, which constitute the main provinces of the Japanese empire. The position of this sea may therefore be compared to that of St. George's Channel and the neighbouring waters, having England, Ireland, and Scotland upon its shores. There are three entrances to the Sea of Suwonada—one by the Bungo Channel, from the south-east; one by the Kino Channel from the north-east; and one from the south-west, by the Strait of Simonoseki, which divides Kiu-Siu from the larger island of Niphon. Many great cities, including Osaca, the centre of aristocratic fashion, and Miako, the residence of the Japanese Pontiff or ecclesiastical Emperor (the political Emperor, or Tycoon, being a distinct person) are situated either upon the shores of the Inland Sea or in such a position that it affords the readiest approach to them. It is, consequently, the main channel of internal traffic, and is navigated by thousands of small vessels which do not encounter the risks of the outer ocean.

"The western entrance, by the Channel of Simonoseki, is at the narrowest part only a quarter of a mile broad. The scenery of its shores is varied and picturesque—the luxuriant vegetation reaching the water's edge around the base of the hills. To the right is observed a very dangerous rock, situated in mid-channel; it is, however, well marked by a stone pillar. There is a tradition about this rock that in the early days of Japanese history, one of the Emperors having been murdered and his throne seized by the usurper, the infant heir of the rightful Sovereign was saved by a nurse; and she, in making her escape across the strait, was wrecked, but fortunately succeed in reaching this rock, whence they were eventually rescued by some fishermen, and in due course the son recovered his father's throne. How far this tradition is really correct is, we believe, very doubtful. It may be remarked that the current runs very swiftly through this channel, and is of great assistance to the numberless junks which pass that way.

"Our second illustration is a veiw of the town and harbour of Simonoseki. A large number of junks of all sizes stop at this town to obtain water and other necessaries, on their way through the Inland Sea. It is situated in a very commanding position for the purposes of trade, and might become a flourishing seaport if opened to foreign commerce. Junks of the largest size and of the most grotesque build are here to be met with. They are all more or less ornamented with copper devices on their stems; but they have, in general, a very clumsy appearance, and their sailing qualities, as may be imagined, are not very good. Our third view is taken from the narrowest part of the pass, and is the first glimpse obtained of the Inland Sea itself, the deep blue water of which, contrasted with the dazzling white sails of the numberless vessels continually passing over it, affords a lively and pleasing scene.

"As an accompaniment to these views of Simonoseki, we give a view of the Night Guard of the Tycoon's Palace at Yedo, in their quaint military costume, with a lantern in every man's hand. Below this is a view of the famous volcanic mountain Fusiyama, as seen from the summit of a bluff near the British quarters at Yokohama. This mountain, 11,000 ft. or

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12,000 ft. high, and always crowned with snow, resembles the Peak of Teneriffe in its shape and position. It is the subject of many wonderful legends believed among the Japanese people, who regard it with superstitious veneretion. Both these engravings are made after the photographs taken by Signor Beato, of Yokohama."

Naval and Military.

In addition to the name of Rear-Admiral the Hon. George Hastings, C.B., as likely to succeeded Admiral Kuper on the China Station, it is rumoured that Rear-Admiral Nicholas, who commanded the Pique in the Pacific during the time of the Russian war, is more likely to succeed him.

The Ringdove, 4, crew gunvessel, 674 tons and 200-horse power of engines, Commander Ralph A. O. Brown, was paid out of commission, at Portsmouth, after a foreign service of nearly five years, having been commissioned in October, 1859. During this period she has been employed off the coasts of China and Japan, and has gone over upwards of 250,000 miles under steam and canvas. George Bettesworth, leading stoker on board, received the medal and gratuity awarded by the Admiralty for long service. Commander Brown's service in the Ringdove completed a ten years' continuous service in Chinese and Japanese waters. He joined the navy in 1849, and, after having served in the Penelope and her tender, the Teazer, on the West Coast of Africa, went out as midshipman in the Hornet, screw sloop, and served for the first nine months under the command of Commodore Elliott against the Russians in the North of China. He was present and in charge of the Hornet's pinnace at the capture of the seventeen junks at St. John's Deep Bay and in the operation against pirates in Escape Creek, Fatshan. He commanded the Hornet's small-arm company at the assault of Canton and the Bogue forts, and was promoted to lieut. in May, 1859, paid off the Hornet as her first lieut., under the command of Capt. Viscount Gilford. In September of the same year he fitted out the Sphinx, six, paddle, as first lieut., under Capt. Day, and again went out to China, where he commanded a rocket boat at Taku and Tien-tsin. He was several times afterwards engaged with Chinese rebels and pirates, and was afterwards sent in acting command of the Sphinx to the North Pacific in search of the shipwrecked crew of the English ship Norna, whom, after a four months' search, he succeeded in finding and rescuing. He was made commander in September, 1862, by Admiral Sir James Hope, and appointed afterwards by that officer to the Ringdove. Since the arrival of the Ringdove at Portsmouth, Commander Brown, his officers and crew, have been formally tried by court-martial for having grounded that vessel on the Bombay shoal while on her passage from Hong Kong to Labuan. Commander Brown was reprimanded, the master admonished, and the remainder of the officers and crew were acquitted.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* has the following notices:—

"We mentioned last week that Major-General J. Rowland Smyth, C.B., was to have one of the vacant divisional commands in India, either in Bengal or Madras. We believe the gallant general is likely to be posted to that in the Madras Presidency, which Major-General M'Cleverty now holds. No arrangement has yet been made for filling the divisional command in Bengal, about to be vacated by Lord George Paget, on his appointment as Inspector-General of Cavalry.

"The command of the troops in Ceylon may be considered vacant, as, we regret to learn, Major-General O'Brien's state of health makes him anxious to return home before the expiration of his five years' term of service in November, 1865.

"Colonel M'Murdo will be succeeded as Inspector-General of Volunteers by Colonel Erskine, who has for some time very efficiently discharged the duties of deputy inspector.

"Colonel W. O'Grady Haly, C.B., of the 38th Regiment, will succeed to the divisional command in the Madras Presidency, which will be vacated by Major-General the Hon. A. Spencer, in March next."

The 2nd battalion of the 9th Regiment embarked on board Her Majesty's troop ship Tamar, for China, on the 3rd of November.

The report of the officials connected with the Steam Reserve who were directed some time since to make an inspection of the various vessels comprising the Chatham Steam Reserve, prior to a number of the steamers which are no longer fit for actual service being either broken up or sold out of the service, having been under the consideration of the Admiralty, their lordships have decided on the immediate breaking up of a number of the paddlewheel and screw steamers now encumbering the channel of the Medway between Chatham harbour and Sheerness. The steamers, the orders for the breaking up of which have already been received, are the paddlewheel steamer Dragon, 6, 1,270 tons, 560 horse power; the Hermes, 6, 830 tons, 220-horse power, paddlewheel steamer; the Alacrity, 4, 675 tons, 200-horse power, screw sloop; the Renard, 4, 680 tons, 200-horse power, screw gunvessel; and the Wrangler, 4, 477 tons, 80-horse power, screw gunvessel. The whole of the vessels to be broken up will be removed round to the Thames, at Charlton, where extensive docks and premises have been taken by the Admiralty to be used as a breaking-up yard for ships of war. The contract to supply the labour for breaking up the vessels has been taken by the firms of Messrs. Castle and Sons and Mr. Beech. The boilers, engines, and machinery of each of the ships to be taken to pieces will be retained by the Admiralty, together with the whole of the copper bolts and metal, which latter will be returned by the contractors. The Dragon will be towed round from Chatham to Charlton in the course of a few days, and the other vessels named will afterwards follow.

ADMIRAL SIR MONTAGU STOPFORD, K.C.B.—The Hon. Sir Montagu Stopford, K.C.B., died on the 10th inst. at South-East Circus-place, Edinburgh. Admiral Stopford was the fourth son of the Earl of Courtown, by a daughter of the third Duke of Buccleuch, and was born in 1798. He entered the navy in 1810, and assisted at the conquest of Java in 1811; accompanied Lord Amherst's embassy to China, and was wrecked in 1817 on his passage home; commanded Her Majesty's ship *Pique* from 1842 to 1846, on the North American and West India stations; was appointed a rear-admiral in 1853; served in the Black Sea in 1854 and 1855, and was made a K.C.B. for his services before Sebastopol in the latter year. In 1857 he received from the Emperor of the French the order of Commander of the Legion of Honour, and was made a Knight, second class, of the Medjidie by the Sultan in 1858, in which year also he was appointed superintendent of the dockyard at Malta. In 1861 he was made a vice-admiral, and in 1863 became admiral.

THE ANGLO-INDIAN TELEGRAPH.—A convention has been concluded at Constantinople between the British Government and the Porte for the working of the Anglo-Indian telegraph. A Turkish office will be established in Fars, where the land and submarine lines meet. One wire from Constantinople will be exclusively used for Indian messages. The Brussels convention is to apply to the general service. The tariff for a single message from Constantinople to Fars will be 22f. 50c.

THE sum of £4,000 has been presented to the Devon and Exeter Hospital, by Mr. J. C. Bowring, of Larkbear, Exeter, eldest son of Sir John Bowring, in furtherance of the wishes of the late Lady Bowring.

Continental Intelligence

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, Nov. 15.

Nearly all the Ministers have replied to the observations and remarks that have emanated in the sections, and have met all objections to the extent possible. The most important reply was that of the Minister of Marine. He endeavoured to prove that his system was not more undecided and expectant than was rendered necessary by the general situation. Of course he will defend himself by the same reasoning against the Opposition in the Chamber, but I doubt whether he will convince the majority, which is inimical to his system. I the more believe that this prognostication will prove correct, as Mr. Thorbecke seems ready to accept his resignation.

Mr. Betz, the Minister of Finance, has positively announced that the Bill for abolishing the stamps on newspapers cannot come into operation before the 1st of July 1866, even if it should be voted by the First and Second Chamber; he has, therefore, another six months before him, which is a further reason for believing that the tax upon knowledge will not be abolished at all. The Minister has also shown that it was desirable to continue selling the Government coffee at monthly auctions, and that the amount produced by the sale of colonial produce would not be much inferior to that of former years, because prices would rise in proportion to the diminution in the quantity produced. Moreover, he holds that the expenses in Java will not be so considerable as in former years.

The sittings of the States-General were resumed on Saturday last, with the debate on the Agatha Bill. The Government proposal referred to the private sale of the extensive property of the monastery of St. Agatha to four priests, on very favourable terms. There was so much opposition against this sale, as well in the Chamber as in the Press, that the Bill was rejected yesterday by 34 against 30 votes. This is a very serious check for the Cabinet.

The reports of Captain J. E. de Man, commander of the squadron in the waters of Japan, caused but little enthusiasm here. His narrative of the affair has called forth some sharp criticism from the independent portion of the Press.

The measures of the Governor-General of the East Indies in reference to offences of the Press have been since the last mail the topic of the day. The *Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant* was their principal defender. The general feeling is in favour of a law placing the press in India on a footing with that at home; and there are reasons for believing that Mr. Fransen van de Putte will lay such a Bill before the Chamber.

His Majesty is at his seat "het Loo." The Prince of Orange is again on a visit to Paris and Compiègne.

Mr. D. Baddingh, ex-Professor of the University of Delft, has addressed himself to the States-General, begging that his salary may be paid to him for the future, or that otherwise he will not be able to pay his taxes. This is an excellent occasion for his friends in India to do him a good turn.

The position of our money market is tending somewhat to improvement, and there are some indications that the Bank rate, still 7 per cent., will be reduced. For the present, however, it can only be said that matters are rather easier in commercial circles; for failures, though not heavy ones, continue to be announced. The statement in the *Shipping and Mercantile Gazette* that Messrs. Koch and Vlierboom were amongst the latter is entirely untrue, and those gentlemen intend to prosecute that paper for the false report.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—With much demand, but the sellers ask such considerable advances, that only a few transactions took place. Good ord. Java can

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scarcely be bought at 43½ cents. On the 23rd the N.T.C. will sell at auction 85,000b.

TEA.—The demand is very languid. On the 18th will be offered at private auction 172½ and 218½chs. ord. Congou, and 200½ very ord. Pouchon.

SUGAR (Raw).—The market is somewhat firmer, but very few parcels are offered. 301 kr. Sourabaya, No. 14, ex S. van Heel, and 147 kr. Samarang, No. 16½, ex Australie, were sold at f.1 under the September prices.

RICE.—Without transactions.

SPICES.—According to the unfavourable information from London there was scarcely any demand for export. Nutmegs: No. 1, 86c., No. 2, 76c. Cloves: No. 2, 33c. Cinnamon: No. 3, 1864, with much demand at the rate of 86 to 87c. Pepper: The importers seeing the quantity afloat now reduced to some hundreds of bales, show great firmness.

TOBACCO.—Java: Without transactions. Considerable auctions are waited for in the first days of December. Stock, 11,033b.

COTTON.—The market was very active at higher prices.

BANCA TIN.—Dull, f.59½.

COCOA OIL (COCHIN).—f.24.

HEMP.—Riga, f.70; Bombay, f.50; Manila, f.59 to f.60.

INDIGO.—In more request at former rates. 350 chests have arrived per Adriana Petronella, but are not yet in the market.

RATTANS.—603 bdls. ex Jhr. Mr. van de Wall van Puttershoek, and 1,408 bdls. ex Stad Leyden, were sold at firmer prices.

MONEY MARKET.—Bank discount, 7 per cent., open market; Prolong. 7½ per cent; discount, 7 per cent.; N.W.S., 2½ per cent., 61½; 3 per cent., 72½; 4 per cent., 95 9-16. Handel Maatschappy, 134½; Maatsch. van Handel and Nyverheid, 70 per cent.; Change, London, 3 m., f.11.50; 2 m., f.11.58; short, f.11.75; Paris, 3 m., f.45.75; 2 m., f.46; short, f.46.55; Hambro', 3 m., f.34.50; 2 m., f.34.70; short, f.35.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Yokohama, per Twee Cornelissen, Captain Kreije: Mr. A. van den Brock.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

To Samarang, per Peking, Captain Deinum: Mr. J. Stoové.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.—Nov. 10, at Brouwershaven, Adriana, Petronella, from Batavia; 11, at Texel, Twee Cornelissen, from Yohohama; 13, at Brouwershaven, Hendrik-Ido-Ambracht, from Tjilatjap; 14, Whampoa, from Batavia; 12, at Texel, Koning Willem II., from Batavia; 14, Petronella, from Bantam; Allegonda Jacoba, Sperwer, from Batavia; at Zierikzee, Nederland, from Batavia.

DEPARTURES.—Nov. 6, from Brouwershaven, Emilie, for Batavia; 10, from Hellevoet, Waalstroom, for Decima; from Flushing, Miranda, for Hong Kong.

FREIGHTS.—Quotations of Messrs. Fauchez and de Vletter, shipbrokers, Rotterdam:—For Batavia: J. C. Schotel (632 tons); Fop Smit (549 tons), 18f. to 20f. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Koophandel (531 tons), Graaf Dirk III. (598 tons), 18f. to 20f. for Batavia, 25f. to 30f. for Sourabaya. For Batavia and Samarang: Baron van Heemstra (752 tons), 18f. to 20f. for Batavia, 25f. to 30f. for Sourabaya. For Samarang: Maria Magdalena (403 tons), 25f. For Macassar: Koning Willem III. (422 tons), 45f. For Padang: Whampoa (462 tons), 30f. for heavy, 45f. for light goods. All per last of 2,000 kilos., or 120 cubic feet Amsterdam, and 15 per cent. For Melbourne (HB): Susanna (959 tons), 30f. to 50f., and 15 per cent. per 1,000 kilos., or 40 cubic feet English. For Decima and Kanagawa: Japan Packet (256 tons), 60f., and 15 per cent. per last of 80 cubic feet English. For Singapore and Hong Kong: Gouveneur van Swieten (352 tons), 30f. to 35f. for Sourabaya, 40f. to 45f. for Hong Kong, both per ton of 40 cubic feet English, or 1,000 kilos., and 15 per cent.

LOADING.—At AMSTERDAM.—For Kanagawa and Decima: Libra, Joan Melchior, Kemper, Ferdinand and Louis. For Padang: Maria Agnes. For Macassar: Quatre Bras. For Batavia: Friesland, Pollux, Doesborgh, Anna and Sophia. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Willem Hendrik. For Samarang: Machtilda and Simonetta, Madura, Johanna, Christina, Nicot. For Sourabaya: Sourabaya Packet, Willem Daniel, Capella, Baltimore.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NOVEMBER 14.

From St. Petersburg we learn that Mr. Collins has arrived in that city from America, for the purpose of negotiating with the Russian Government on the subject of the extension of the telegraph destined to connect the two hemispheres. According to the despatch addressed by Mr. Secretary Seward to Mr. Perry McDonough Collins, and the project laid before the Congress of the United States, a line of telegraphs is to be constructed from some point in the North-Western States of the Union, or their territory on the Pacific, through British Columbia, the Russian-American possessions, thence by a short submarine cable of only thirty miles under Behring's Straits, from Cape Prince of Wales to Cape East, the extreme point of the Asiatic continent. From this spot it is to be continued by a submarine line under the Gulf of Anadir, thence by land across the neck of the Peninsula of Kamtschatka, and round the shores of the Sea of Ochotsk to the mouth of the Amoor, to join the great Russian line of communication with St. Petersburg, and thence with the whole of Europe. Partly to correct some mistakes in Mr. Seward's despatch, and partly to rectify some false impressions that have got abroad and been incorrectly stated in the newspapers, the Russian Telegraph Department has just published an official account of the present state of the works. From this it appears that the line from St. Petersburg is completed and open for public traffic as far as Irkutzk, the seat of Government in Siberia, from whence wires have just been put up, and are opened to Kiachta, the last Russian town, and situated close to the frontiers of China. From this point the telegraph will be eventually carried on to the town of Ourga, and thence through Mongolia and the Great Desert of Gobi to Peking, terminating at Tien-tsin, on the Gulf of Petchili. "But," says the report, "when this extension of the line will be carried into execution is not yet officially decided." On the other hand, a line of telegraph hitherto intended for the exclusive use of the Naval Department is being constructed along the right bank of the Amoor, from Charabofka to Nicolayefsk, to be continued by-and-bye up the Ussouri, and thence to the Gulf of Possiet, in the Sea of Japan. In the concession applied for by Mr. Collins, but not yet granted, the Russian Government is required to construct the line from Wershne-Udinsk to a point on the Amoor, to meet the American line. This comprises a distance of 3,000 versts, or 2,000 English miles, and its execution on the part of Russia is made dependent on the funds being subscribed in America, so as to ensure the performance of their part of the contract within a given period of time, to be fixed by mutual consent. Mr. Seward's statement that this line has been commenced, and is going on with activity, appears, therefore, to be a fiction, whilst the other telegraphic lines mentioned by the American Minister as being about to be executed by Russia, viz:—1, from the mouth of the Amoor to Jedo, the capital of Japan; 2, from the Onisk in Siberia through Mongolia, China, Turkestan, Bokhara, to Cabool, and thence to form a junction with the Indian lines; and 3, from Kasan along the west coast of the Caspian Sea, through Caucasus and Grusia to Teheran, and thence to Bagdad, and down the Euphrates to the Persian Gulf, to join the lines in British India—all these are purely emanations of a strong imagination, but have never as yet been taken into serious consideration by the Russian Government, though it is far from being improbable that they may be eventually executed, at some distant period. On the other hand, it may here be remarked that there is now in existence telegraphic communication from St. Petersburg and the rest of Europe, by way of Kasan, Saratoff, Stavropol, and Vladi-Caucasus to Tiflis; and thence by Erivan to the Persian frontier, where it joins the line constructed by that Government of Persia through Tauris to Teheran, from which city it is being continued in two directions. One of these goes through Ispahan and Shiraz, to Bender—Bushire, on the Persian Gulf—to join the line to Kurrachee and the other parts of British India; whilst the other is to be laid by way of Hamadan and Kirmanshah to Chanegin on the frontiers of Turkey in Asia, in connection with the English telegraph from Constantinople. Thus it appears that a long time will probably intervene before the projected telegraphic communication between the Old World and America be completed by way of Behring's Straits; and if the new Atlantic telegraph cable be successfully laid in the spring, Mr. Collins's plan will be superfluous, and probably fall to the ground.

The navigation at St. Petersburg closed on the 22nd of October, and on the 24th the Neva was passed by sledges on the ice.

From the year 1706 down to 1864 the Neva was closed by ice twenty-five times in October, one hundred and twenty-one times in November, and only thirteen times in December.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—A lively demand has again sprung up, prices are in consequence remarkably firm, and the market is in a satisfactory condition. Sales of the week, 12,000 bags.

SUGAR.—For the raw article there has been but small inquiry, and prices remain without alteration. Refined, calm, and values fully supported.

RICE.—Though the dealings have not been unusually large, all descriptions are creeping up. A cargo of 9,000 bags of East India has arrived per *Bengalen* from Calcutta, and been warehoused, as the importers anticipate shortly a further advance.

SPICES.—Business confined to the execution of orders for the requirements of the trade, and in quotations no alteration to report. Cassia Lignea continues to realise 9½ to 9¼ sch. bco. Sumatra Pepper fetches 3⅜.

SPELTER.—A further improvement has taken place in the value of this metal, and a greater degree of animation is visible in the market. About 10,000 centners have changed hands since last mail at successively rising prices, the latest sale being made at 14¼ marks banco, and in the present firm state of the market no sellers are to be found willing to take less than 14½.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, FRIDAY, NOV. 18, 1864.

THE COMMERCIAL PROGRESS OF CEYLON.

A PAPER which was read on Tuesday evening at the opening of the session of the Statistical Society of London led to an interesting discussion. The subject was "The Commercial Progress of the Colonies in the five years between 1858 and 1863," by Mr. E. T. BLAKELEY, of the Board of Trade. The field of discussion is too wide to be taken up *in extenso* in our columns. The consideration of one of the most important—Ceylon—will, however, suffice to illustrate the great advance which has been made. Without entirely following Mr. BLAKELEY's figures, which were confined entirely to the colonial estimate of the aggregate external trade and revenue, we prefer to look at the colony from the British aspect, taking in the first instance the trade with the mother-country, as regards imports and exports, estimated at the British computed value, which, taking into consideration freight, importer's profit, &c., shows a widely different value from that assumed in the colony where the articles are shipped. Coffee, it is true, forms the chief export, but there are a few other articles of growing importance, as cocoanut oil, coir, cinnamon, plumbago, &c. The value of our imports from Ceylon have risen from £1,304,000 in 1856 to £3,701,000 last year, and the exports of British produce and manufactures to the island from £411,000 to between £570,000 and £670,000. Here are the trade figures for five years:—

	Value of Imports.	Of Exports.
1858	£1,679,852	£541,131
1859	1,654,391	667,387
1860	2,274,648	671,219
1861	2,251,019	486,655
1862	2,488,262	573,998

Last year the value of the produce imported from Ceylon was £3,700,806, and it is the coffee production which has thus served to swell the value. Our direct imports from Ceylon having risen from 43¾ million pounds in 1858, to nearly 80 million pounds in 1863; whilst there is also an enhanced value in price. In 1858 there were 556,391 cwt. of coffee shipped from Ceylon, and in 1862 600,546 cwt., from 120,000 acres under culture. Thé increase is chiefly in plantation, which shows an advance of about 100,000 cwt., for the native-grown has declined some 70,000 cwt. With increased labour, improved roads, more machinery, high cultivation, and a judicious system of pruning and handling the trees, we see no reason why the coffee export, which has increased tenfold since 1840, should not before another ten years reach 1,000,000 cwt. Passing from the commercial progress to the fiscal position of the colony, it is satisfactory to find that while the revenue raised is being gradually reduced, the amount, about £711,000, must fall very lightly in taxation upon a population of 2,000,000, and even most of this sum is expended on improvements and public works, roads, streets, and bridges, lighthouses, electric telegraphs, &c. There are already 307 miles of telegraph wires maintained, a railway from Kandy to Colombo in course of formation, about 1,900 miles of road maintained, and 130 miles of canals. Technically speaking, the colony has no debts except a very small sum incurred on account of the late Ceylon Railway Company.

There is one matter which is just now occupying a large share of public attention in the island, and which certainly is at variance with the sentiments advanced by some of the speakers at the meeting of the Statistical Society. When Mr. NEWMARCH spoke so energetically and enthusiastically of the freedom accorded to all our colonies of legislative action and the appropriation of their colonial resources, he certainly must have been unaware of the sum which is attached by the Colonial-office for military expenditure, the payment of which many of them neither ask for nor require. There appears to be 3,000 military in Ceylon, and we are not quite sure whether even this number does not include the Ceylon Rifle Corps. A great outcry is made as to the military and naval expenditure for the colonies, and this complaint found exponents among the Statists; and yet the colonies are not allowed to relieve themselves from this stigma. In 1862 we perceive £24,000 on the Ceylon estimates for contribution towards military expenditure; and again, in 1863, they are saddled with an increased charge for what they do not require, and the sum of £30,000, besides several items of house rent and travelling allowances, was claimed by the Home Government from the colony for the military. Although the Legislative Council refused to vote the supply, the Secretary for the Colonies has insisted on its payment, thus setting the Legislature at defiance. We cannot wonder at the indignation of the Legislature and the commercial community generally at this infringement on its rights and privileges. Sir HERCULES ROBINSON, the new Governor, will find, on his arrival, he has a delicate matter of question of privilege to arrange, but one with which he will be thoroughly conversant, seeing that the Legislative Council of Hong Kong have taken the same view as their brethren in Ceylon, and thrown out the Bill requiring a vote for military expenditure not sanctioned by the colony.

THE FRENCH IN COCHIN-CHINA.

(FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.)

M. Aubaret's treaty with the Annamite Government has given rise, we understand, to much discussion and wide differences of opinion amongst members of the Imperial Cabinet. The matter was expected to be settled and instructions sent by the present out-going mail. Possibly there is an object in this, and the public will not be told what has been done until after the departure of the mail. In the meantime, some few facts have been brought to light respecting M. Aubaret's change of opinion which may be worthy of notice. This gentleman, it will be remembered, was captain of a frigate in the Imperial navy, and became aide-de-camp to Vice-Admiral Bonard, Governor and Commandant in Cochin-China; when he came to France last time he found a party in the Government very favourable to the restitution to the Emperor of Annam of the provinces of lower Cochin-China which had been ceded to France. The project of this party was that France should retain the town of Saigon, and there form a vast commercial settlement which, in the words of its reporters, "should rival those which the English possessed at Shanghai, Hong Kong, and other places in China." M. Aubaret combated this idea with all his power, and wrote an official note which was lithographed and sent to each member of the Government. This was in the month of August, 1863, and the main points of the document were as follow:—The restitution of the territory in question in consideration of an indemnity which the Annamite Government so much desire (and which it was the special duty of the ambassadors sent to Europe to obtain) would be equivalent to a total abdication on the part of France of her power in that part of the world where European influences are extending daily, and the French would thereby immediately fall in the eyes of the Annamites "far below a power of the third class." As to the establishment of a great commercial centre at Saigon, M. Aubaret then thought that it was a chimera; the Kingdom of Cochin-China, he said, "without question, was the best administered and the most hierarchical in the East; authority was acknowledged without constrain and obeyed in the most minute particulars" (a kind of Eastern Utopia realised). As to the chances of commerce at Saigon, M. Aubaret was then of opinion that the Annamites would easily find means of cutting off the supplies. He declared that it was idle to quote the case of Shanghai, as the condition of China was totally different from that of Cochin-China; that in the former authority was so weakened that the governors could not arrest the mercantile spirit which was especially a characteristic of the Chinese, whereas in the latter the people where purely agricultual, and the power centralised

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at the capital would be obeyed to the very frontiers, and the French would find themselves in the same condition as in Japan. His conclusions were explicit enough, and we quote them *literatim*:—"There remains now nothing to be done but to consummate our conquest, and to draw from it the best possible results in fairly considering the laws of humanity, our political interests, and pecuniary sacrifices." . . . "In short, we cannot without loss of prestige abandon our provinces in Cochin-China. To exchange them for a commercial settlement only would be a useless sacrifice and equivalent to evacuation. There remains nothing then but the substitution of our authority for that of the Annamites; and this substitution is perfectly possible."

Since the issue of that note M. Aubaret has quitted the naval for the diplomatic service, and, as is well known, has been appointed Consul and Charge d'Affaires at Bangkok, and was entrusted with the negotiation of the questions between the Courts of Paris and Hué. It is quite natural that a party, from patriotic feelings, should strongly object to the cession of the provinces in question, as placing France in the position of retracting the steps she has taken; and, of course, this party does not take into account the fact that the expedition was undertaken on the clearly expressed condition—nay, promise, to the Legislature and the French nation—that not an inch of territory should be acquired. It may be said that such professions are constantly made and as constantly violated; but, in this instance, France was dead against the enterprise except for the punishment of those who had murdered the missionaries, and, therefore, the promise was a sacred one; but, nevertheless, like some others, was grossly violated.

Nor is it at all surprising that those who thought with M. Aubaret in 1863 should be angry with him for his apparent inconsistency, but they forget that while they have stayed at home nursing their old opinions, he has seen much more of the Annamites and the Siamese, and is, perhaps, a wiser man than when he penned the note quoted from above. Those who know anything of what has been the course of commerce at Saigon since the French occupation will fully corroborate M. Aubaret's opinions respecting the power of the Annamite authorities over the trade of the country, and it is not likely that those opinions have undergone any change since his return to the East; but he may, from his more extended experience, have arrived at this conclusion, that the Annamites will never rest under the loss of the provinces in question, and that France, to secure her authority, would have to embark in a long, tiresome, and unpopular war, in a climate terribly fatal to Europeans; and that during its continuance, if not even after its termination, the stream of trade to Saigon would be damed at the source, and that, therefore, it would be far wiser to please the Annamites by giving them back their provinces, and thus open up the only possible chance of Saigon becoming the "first entrepot in the East," as it has already been called a hundred times by the patriotic French party, or even of its trade recovering the terrible diminution which has been the result of the French occupation. The French have something more yet to do besides diplomatic and administrative work before Saigon rivals Hong Kong, Shanghai, or Singapore.

THE LEGEND OF TIE-OUANG.

UNDER this title the evening *Moniteur* of Paris has a very queer story, which it declares to be derived from a Chinese source, and of which the following is an epitome:—Three or four hundred years ago, we are told, entire equality reigned in China between men and women; both could reign, both dressed in the same manner, and *golden lilies* were then unknown. Women could make war, and did it, and a list of Amazons is given, of whom MOU-KOUI-IN, "Empress of Chen-Tou," was one of the most remarkable. JEN-IE-TSIEN, Governor of Tan-Tcho, met the famous EMPRESS in battle, and did not get the best of it, for he found himself lying on mother earth with the lady's foot upon his body, and her lance just about to transfix him; but he managed to slip away, and got back home very crestfallen, but very angry. He told his misadventure to King TON-TAI-TSUN, who recommended him to send his son, JEN-TSON-PO, to revenge his defeat, which the young man very properly undertook to do. A day was appointed for the affair to come off, but young JEN-TSON-PO had a suspicion of himself, and asked his conscience quietly whether it was really the battle he longed for so much, or whether it was a secret yearning to see the beautiful Amazon, who likewise, on her part, we are told, had anything but fire-eating towards the handsome young soldier. The day came, and so did the two opponents; but they neither fought nor conquered. Dan Cupid was victor. The lady fair and the brave young knight no sooner set eyes on each other than they both turned very pale, and their emotion was visible to all; their eyes met, but instead of flashing with rage and fury, sparkled with love and tenderness. For a long time they looked at one another without uttering a word, when suddenly the EMPRESS, using her lance as a leaping pole, vaulted lightly from her horse and advanced towards JEN-TSON-PO, who, not to be behind-hand in gallantry, followed the lady's example, and in an instant was at her feet, as his father had been before him, but in a different manner, and at the very moment that the soldiers expected the signal for the combat to commence, the lady and gentleman were in each other's arms!

Not long after this the young gentleman's papa heard that his scapegrace was married to the EMPRESS and swore that he would cut him off, not with a shilling, but with the sword of the executioner. A year later the son begged his father to forgive and receive him, the GOVERNOR traitorously consented, and when the young man was in his power, had him arrested and condemned him to death. JEN-TSON-PO's uncle interceded for him, but got snubbed for his pains, and went and told Mrs. J.—that is to say, the EMPRESS—of the plight her young husband was in. The lady arrived in the twinkling of a bedpost, and when she appeared the GOVERNOR was seized with such terror that it took two men to hold his nerves quiet. Her Majesty MON-KOU-IN knelt at her father-in-law's feet, turning her head over her shoulder, as is the custom in such cases. "What do you want?" shouted the GOVERNOR, rudely. "I want three things," said the lady; "I offer you peace." "Done," said the GOVERNOR. "What next?" "I lay my sceptre at your feet," and, accordingly, she placed it in his hand. "And I "want you to detach my husband from your door where you "have tied him." At this the GOVERNOR turned the colour of a red cabbage or of bullock's liver, and swore that his son's head should fall within an hour! At this the EMPRESS lost all patience, drew both her swords, and gave the GOVERNOR such a terrible fright that he consented to all she asked. The traditions of this famous EMPRESS are known all over China.

But there was another lady also an EMPRESS, be it observed, who governed Nanking a few years ago, only her name was LIEON-TCHAN-TCHIN. She was reported to be a sorceress, cut out men in paper, and transmogrified them with a few words into armed warriors—an admirable method of recruiting an army! This EMPRESS had a number of agents whose duty it was to go about the country collecting men of intellect and muscle for her service. One day three of these gentlemen met a youth at Canton who went into a temple in company with his uncle, the agents following at their heels. The young man looked wistfully at the necklace of the god Fo, and said, "I would give a great deal to have one of those superb pearls," whereupon one of them fell at his feet! His uncle, however, prevented his picking it up, saying that what was supernatural was also mischievous. "If that is the case," said the young man, "the pearl may go back as it came," and so it did, immediately! The three agents were struck by this scene, and said that the young man was evidently an extraordinary being, and destined to greatness; and, finally, having got him to take a walk with them, pounced upon him, carried him on board ship, and soon had him in the presence of the EMPRESS. "An Emperor has fallen from Heaven, your Majesty," they said, "and we have picked him up and brought him here." The uncle went home, and related what had happened to the young man's parents, and they went and complained to the Mandarin of the city, who said, "You want to bring me into "communication with the Taipings," said the Mandarin, "but "that is not my business; however, I will write to Nanking "for you." He wrote to the Prime Minister, who answered in the young EMPEROR'S name—"I have neither father, nor mother, nor uncle; I am the son of Heaven." The EMPRESS abdicated in favour of her young kidnapped husband, who reigned as TIE-OUANG, and died the other day at Nanking.

"The account," says the narrator, "does not agree with "that given of TIE-OUANG by travellers and missionaries—"which will be at once admitted; but, at any rate, it has the "merit of having been gathered directly from the mouth of a "native of the Celestial Empire," which is certainly something to say. Moreover, its very novelty ought to be a recommendation.

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NEW JAPANESE EMBASSY.

BERNE, Nov. 17.

The Japanese Government has announced to the Federal Council the proximate arrival of a fresh embassy from that country, who will visit Switzerland in the course of their travels.

Literature.

The coming winter is evidently to be a season of extraordinary activity in the publishing world. Every class of literature is amply represented in the lists of forthcoming works. With reference to those more particularly connected with China and the East, we are promised a personal narrative of a visit to parts of Asia of some of which we have had no account from a European wanderer since the days of Marco Polo. Mr. Murray, of Albemarle-street, will issue almost immediately *Travels in Central Asia;* being the adventures of Arminius Vambéry, member of the Hungarian Academy of Pesth, by whom he was despatched on a scientific mission, in the course of which, disguised as a dervish, he succeeded last year in penetrating across the Turkoman desert on the eastern shore of the Caspian, to Khiva, Bokhara, and Samarcand. Two other works of deep interest, to issue from the same publisher, are *The Siberian Overland Route from Peking to St. Petersburg*, and *The British Army in North China and Japan*. The first-named is the journal of Mr. Alexander Michie, during his traverse of the new route from the Far East, across the deserts and steppes of Mongolia, Tartary, Siberia, &c. The other is from the pen of Dr. D. F. Rennie, than whom it would be difficult to find a man more competent to inform us on the subject named in his title-page. Dr. Rennie, from being on the medical staff of the British army in China, was selected to be attached in his professional capacity to the Embassy at Peking. He had so gained the confidence of the late Earl of Elgin that his lordship applied for his favourite medical adviser to be allowed to follow him to Calcutta. The application, however, was not early enough, for Dr. Rennie found when he arrived in India that his distinguished friend had already succumbed under the double exhaustion of the climate and the exactions of office.

Of Serials we are glad to record the issue of Part I. of the first volume of the new series of the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*. The set recommences with two translations from the Chinese by the Rev. S. Beal, Chaplain R.N., of works belonging to the Buddhist ritual. There is a valuable paper by Mr. E. R. Power on "the Commercial, Financial, and Agricultural Statistics of Ceylon."—The October number of the *Chinese and Japanese Repository*, is in interest far in excess of the average of this periodical. We are first presented with most amusing "Reminiscences of the Opening of Shanghai to Foreign Trade," by W. H. M.,—initials that will scarcely serve to include the writer among anonymous authors. The "Story of Han-wan and the White Serpent" is concluded, and we are delighted to find that the finale is so far in unison with European notions that all ends happily. Japan is well cared for by papers on "Japanese Weights and Measures;" "Notes on Japan—No. I., the Royal Families," by Mr. Wal. Dickson; and the "Manufacture of Porcelain in Japan," translated from Japanese writings by Dr. J. Hoffman. We extract a note to Mr. Dickson's paper, bearing the initials of the Editor, the Rev. James Summers:—

The word "Tycoon" is from the Chinese "Ta-tsiang-kiun," literally "great leader of the army." The Japanese pronounce this word "Daisyó-goon," and they call this general by that name, or by two of the syllables of which it is composed. Thus "Daigoon" (*i.e.* Tycoon) or "Syó-goon," often printed "Siogun" and Siogoun."

SOCIAL SCIENCE MEETING.

PAPER ON THE CELEBES, BY MR. A. R. WALLACE.

The northern peninsular of Celebes is the only part of that island which is of volcanic structure. A considerable portion of it is elevated 2,500 feet above the sea, forming the beautiful plateau of Tondano, in the centre of which is a lake about twenty miles in circumference. Scattered about this plateau are volcanic peaks and ridges 6,000 or 7,000 feet high. A fertile soil clothes even the mountain slopes of all this region, and, assisted by the abundant equatorial rains and a mild and uniform temperature, supports a vegetation of great luxuriance and beauty. The Dutch have now had possession of this country for nearly two hundred years, having taken it from the Portuguese in 1677. The inhabitants, more particularly in the central plateau, differ from those of the rest of Celebes. They often approach to the fair complexion of the European, while they retain the straight black hair and general physiognomy of the Malay races. In character they are gentle and submissive, industrious, and easily educated. Up to a very recent period they were complete savages, and were almost always at war with each other. They built their huts upon lofty posts to guard against attacks, and decorated them with the heads of their slain enemies. Their clothing was strips of bark, and their religion was a degrading demon-worship. From this state of barbarism they have been raised to comparative civilisation in a short time by the Dutch Government. The country is now becoming a garden worthy of its sweet native name, "Minahassa." The villages are almost all like model villages, and the cottages like those one sees upon the stage. The streets are bordered with trimmed turf, and fenced with hedges of roses in perpetual bloom. Near every village are the most beautifully-cultivated and productive coffee plantations, while rice fields and fruit and vegetable grounds supply abundance of food to the inhabitants. In every village there is a schoolhouse, and in the larger ones a church also. The people are neatly dressed, and the native chiefs and schoolmasters would pass muster among respectable people in England. On arriving at one of these chiefs' houses, in a principal village, the writer was received by a gentleman in a suit of black; boys nicely dressed and with smooth-combed hair brought water and napkins for him to wash, and he was furnished with a dinner comprising every European comfort, finger-glasses, clean napkins, claret and beer, along with a variety of well-cooked native dishes. The house was handsome and lofty, the chairs and tables were of fine native woods, and though made by self-taught natives were of superior workmanship to any but the very best we get at home; and as he sat in the verandah taking coffee his eye was gratified by the sight of beautiful flowers, which, in this delightful climate, are perpetually renewed. This great change is the result of the introduction of the coffee-plant under Government superintendence, and of the labours of Dutch Protestant missionaries. The native chiefs were induced to further the views of the Government by the promise of a per-centage on the coffee produce of their district, and the whole system is carried out by them, under the advice and support of the inspectors and Dutch residents. Each family in a village works in the plantations; an account is kept of the number of days' labour each gives, and when the produce is sent to the Government warehouses, and paid for at the fixed price agreed upon on the formation of the plantations, the amount is divided proportionately among the inhabitants. The system of the Dutch, as carried out here and in Java, he considers as most excellent, and especially valuable as a step in the education of an uncivilized race; and he cannot but contrast it with the deplorable results of the free competition of antagonistic races in New Zealand, which can only end in the extermination of a people which it seems probable would, under more favourable conditions, have been capable of improvement and civilisation.

THE STEAM SERVICE FOR JAVA.

The Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company (Limited) are actively engaged with the construction of their fleet of new steamers for the service of the Archipelago, and its connection with the European mail lines on one side, and with Australia on the other, the first of which will be launched next month from the ship-yard of Messrs. Randolph, Elder, and Co., on the Clyde. The company have, we think, very wisely resolved that these steamers shall be built mostly upon the "Composite" principle; that is, with an iron skeleton and teak exterior coppered, by which the evils and drawbacks of rapid fouling, which invariably attend iron bottoms in those inter-tropical waters, will be entirely escaped. The steamer *Sea King*, for the China trade, was built on this principle.

GLEDSTANES AND OTHERS V. THE CORPORATION OF THE ROYAL EXCHANGE.—This was a special case, which lasted the greater part of the day, and raised a question of some importance to marine insurance companies. The plaintiffs were the London agents of the Hong Kong Insurance Company, who were in the habit of insuring cargoes which were to be shipped from India to England, before the amount of the cargo was really known, or even the name of the ship; but they never effected policies of that kind above the amount of £5,000. Between them and the defendants there was an agreement that the latter would undertake the risk of any excess should the former effect any policies for larger amounts. In the present instance the plaintiffs had effected a policy upon certain goods, which were to be shipped from Calcutta to England, and the defendants undertook the risk of the excess, the policy being for the sum of £7,000, and dated the 13th of March, 1859. Previous to that date, viz. —the 15th of March, 1859—the only message that ever passed through the Red Sea Cable arrived in London to the effect that the Red Gauntlet had been burnt and scuttled; and that part of her cargo would perish. It was admitted on all sides that both parties knew of the loss of the vessel previous to the making of the policy; but neither of them knew that the insured cargo was in her. The defendants, however, refused to pay the risk above the sum of £5,000, viz., £2,000, on the ground that the plaintiffs knew of the loss of the vessel previous to the policy being effected on the cargo. Mr. Lush, on the part of the plaintiffs, contended that the defendants were liable to be charged with the excess. It was true that the plaintiffs knew of the loss of the vessel upon the 16th of March, 1859, which was previous to the date of the policy; but their practice was to insure goods before it was known what vessel they were to be consigned in, and that the defendants knew perfectly well. At the time of the making of the policy the plaintiffs had not the slightest knowledge of the contents of the *Red Gauntlet*, and, therefore, the insurance was a perfectly good one, and one by which the defendants ought to be bound. Mr. Bovill, on the part of the defendants, contended that inasmuch as the policy was made after the knowledge of the loss of the vessel it was a bad one, and one upon which the assured could not recover. The Court were of opinion that the policy was a good one, and gave judgment for the plaintiffs, which we consider quite warranted.

NANKING BLUE CHINA.—Among the most interesting collections of works of art on loan at the South Kensington Museum is one of great interest and importance to designers of ceramic decorations. This is the fine selection of specimens of old Nanking blue china, the property of Louis Huth, Esq., now placed in the Oriental Court of the Museum. We commend these specimens to students as exemplifying, in a characteristic Oriental manner, the true principles of decoration for such works, whether as regards colour or form. Most of the articles are large and splendid.

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Monetary and Commercial.

A call of £5 is to be paid on the shares in the Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East by the 8th December. The directors, having complied with the provisions of the charter, have obtained the official sanction of the Treasury to proceed with business under the new title.

The Singapore Gas Company are advertising for loans on debentures at 6 per cent. interest.

The Bank of Hindustan has arranged with the National Bank that the drafts of their various branches in India and China should be drawn on that bank, in addition to their present arrangement with the Alliance. The National is an old-established and first-class institution, with unlimited liability, with a large capital and a reserve fund of £700,000. The current quotation for the £30 share is £75 to £80.

The failure has also been announced of Messrs. Elliot and Co., Austin Friars, engaged in the China trade, chiefly in running vessels on the coast. They have been established about four years. The amount of the liabilities and assets has not been stated.

We have before alluded to the difficulties of the firm of Halliday, Fox and Co., in the Rangoon and general East India trade. The formal announcement was made on the 12th. The liabilities are stated at £1,900,000, and the assets will, it is believed, yield 15s. in the pound. The cause of the failure is over trading and too great eagerness to become in three years equal to the old-standing East India houses. They despatched a private agent to Burmah to negotiate for special privileges in the opening of the trade with Western China, a project which has been pursued, as our readers are aware, by Capt. Sprye. They had some transactions with China through Messrs. Ellissen and Co.

A meeting of the shareholders of the British India Steam Navigation Company (Limited) was held in London on the 2nd inst. The accounts relating to the operations of the steamers for the first-half of this year were produced. After making a liberal allowance for repairs, depreciation, &c., an available balance remained sufficient to pay the usual dividend of 4 per cent. for the half-year, with a bonus of £1 per fully paid share, both free of Income-tax, and to carry forward a balance of nearly £6,000 to next half-year. The *Persia*, which was totally lost, and the other vessels of the company, which suffered in the late cyclone at Calcutta, are fully covered by insurance.

COTTON EXPORTS TO INDIA AND CHINA.

The following is from Sam Mendel's table of exports from London, Liverpool, and Clyde, from Jan. 1 to Oct. 25, 1864 :—

	Cottons. Yds.	Twist. lbs.
Calcutta.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	16,023,539	375,019
Previously this year	119,001,523	6,177,528
	135,024,791	6,552,547
From Oct. 1 to date	12,243,854	407,129
Total to date	147,268,646	6,959,676
Bombay.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	13,277,876	714,086
Previously this year	84,484,951	3,432,917
	97,762,827	4,147,003
From Oct. 1 to date	8,400,204	342,886
Total to date	106,163,031	4,489,889
Madras.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	858,455	248,859
Previously this year	5,618,463	1,502,149
	6,476,918	1,751,008
From Oct. 1 to date	12,400	14,500
Total to date	6,489,318	1,765,508
Ceylon.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	412,477	11,721
Previously this year	5,899,129	151,800
	6,311,606	163,521
From Oct. 1 to date	298,343	10,518
Total to date	6,609,949	174,039
Hong Kong.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	1,436,216	89,880
Previously this year	17,122,738	1,333,530
	18,558,954	1,422,610
From Oct. 1 to date	170,931	40,000
Total to date	18,729,885	1,462,610
Shanghai.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	1,376,025	20,000
Previously this year	24,496,539	85,249
	25,872,564	105,249
From Oct. 1 to date	31,200	—
Total to date	25,903,764	105,249
Singapore.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	552,576	75,000
Previously this year	15,466,594	761,092
	16,019,170	836,092
From Oct. 1 to date	106,072	20,000
Total to date	16,125,242	856,092
Batavia.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	191,679	—
Previously this year	6,219,201	237,305
	6,410,880	237,305
From Oct. 1 to date	366,288	11,600
Total to date	6,777,168	248,905
Manila.		
Month ending Sept. 30, 1864	—	—
Previously this year	6,970,550	41,150
	6,970,550	41,150
From Oct. 1 to date	189,738	20,400
Total to date	7,160,288	61,550

The Board of Trade Returns for the month and nine months ended the 30th September have been isssued, but, although they may on the whole be looked upon as favourable, they do not show that ratio of increase which has characterised the returns for some months past, and the chief decline has been in the export of cotton yarn and cotton manufactures. The total declared value of the exports for the month of September is £14,687,942, against £14,542,862 in 1863, and £11,396,327 in 1862, which is an increase over the former period of £145,080, and over the latter of £3,291,615. For the nine months of the present year the total is £123,404,161, against £104,294,713 in 1863, and £93,672,434 in 1862, which is an increase of £19,109,448 as compared with 1863, and of £29,731,727 as contrasted with 1862.

The returns for the month and nine months present the following results in reference to the exchange of commodities between the United Kingdom and the ports and countries of the Far East :—

EXPORTS TO CHINA AND HONG KONG.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	For the Month ended 30th September.		
Cotton yarn	160,336	511,320	295,400 lbs.
Cotton manufactures	1,522,713	6,328,453	4,926,052 yds.
Worsted stuffs	485,122	842,546	1,308,835 ,,
Woollen and worsted cloths	10,649	25,211	33,712 ,,
Lead	566	663	1,174 tons
	Value for the Nine Months ended 30th September.		
Cotton yarn	£183,645	£144,815	£213,753
Cotton manufactures	1,158,187	830,589	1,557,435
Worsted stuffs	281,113	461,925	739,126
Woollen and worsted cloths	200,428	251,782	233,034
Lead	144,896	243,128	136,933

The Cotton Manufactures exported to the other great centres of traffic eastward of British India exhibit the following quantities and values :—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	For the Month ended 30th September.		
Singapore	1,262,986	4,038,325	819,497 yds.
Java	118,800	1,318,502	747,158 ,,
Philippine Islands	1,438,033	957,829	— ,,
	Value for the Nine Months ended 31st August.		
Singapore	£512,121	£476,092	£546,284
Java	431,766	251,774	457,086
Philippine Islands	252,329	273,010	457,517

Of Cotton Yarn, 75,000 lbs. were exported to Singapore in the month of Sept., against 390,390 lbs. in the same month of 1863, and 100,600 lbs. in 1862; the value for the first nine months of the present year being £90,742, against £158,193, and £89,649 in the same period of the years 1863 and 1862.

IMPORTS.

Raw Cotton still presents a wonderful increase, and to show to what extent the trade in this important staple has been developed in the Eastern Hemisphere, we shall give the return from British India as well as from China :—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	Quantity for the Month ended 30th September.		
British India	292,867	359,634	466,876 cwts.
China	89	21,490	33,367 ,,
	Value for the Eight Months ended 30th September		
British India	£6,673,502	£14,058,913	£21,161,406
China	20,429	1,350,182	4,688,283

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Of Sugar, the quantity imported from Java and the Philippine Islands in the month of September was all of the 3rd and 4th quality—20,062 cwt. of the former, and 22,428 cwt. of the latter. The quantities and values given in the present returns will serve to show the effect of the altered duties enacted last session :—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	Quantity for the Nine Months ended 30th September		
2nd quality (equal to Brown clayed)	35,999	1,232	436 cwts.
3rd (not equal to Brown clayed)	294,973	669,545	29,328 ,,
3rd (equal to Brown Muscovado)	—	—	79,588 ,,
4th (not equal to Br. Muscovado)	—	—	76,915 ,,
	Value for the Eight Months ended 31st August.		
2nd quality	£49,357	£1,581	£632
3rd (previous to April 16, 1864)	277,743	577,800	41,205
3rd (entered subsequent to do.)	—	—	75,535
4th quality	—	—	74,839

Of Hemp the import from the Philippine Islands during September in the present year was 9,616 cwt.; against 22,091 cwt. in the same period of 1863, and 6,823 cwt. in 1862. The quantity for the nine months of the present year was 119,812 cwt., against 239,613 cwt. in the preceding year, and 114,897 cwt. in 1862. The value for the eight months ended the 30th August was £202.460, against 280,478 in the similar period of 1863, and £138,314 in 1862.

The Declared Value of British and Irish Produce and Manufactures exported from the United Kingdom to the undermentioned ports and countries of the Far East, for the eight months ended the 31st August, is represented by the figures following :—

To	1862.	1863.	1864.
Singapore and Eastern Straits	£828,398	£860,834	£903,568
Hong Kong	842,425	788,918	1,167,736
Netherlands India	642,733	359,814	594,043
Philippine Islands	329,353	384,373	607,759
Siam	16,831	11,956	11,513
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	1,537,185	1,608,550	2,068,531
Japan	—	73,526	340,403

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Delta*, from Southampton on the 4th inst. was—in gold, to Alexandria, £1,000; to Madras, £1,546. In silver, to Hong Kong, £39,783 (including £24,896 on Government account); to Shanghai, £51,290. Total—in gold, £2,546; in silver, £91,073.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices August 26.
100	Agra and Masterman's	50	123 to 126	138 to 142xd.
50	Do. New	25	63	...
50	Do.	15	—	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	34 to 36	36 to 38
20	Do. New	All	—	15 to 17 pm.
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	61 to 63	64 to 66
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	—	...
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (7½ pd.)	15	—	5 to 7 pm.
20	Eastern Exchange	3	¼ dis. to ¼pm.	1 to 2 pm.
50	London Joint Stock	10	47 to 49	47 to 49
100	London and Westminster	20	98 to 100	96 to 98
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	58 to 60	57 to 59
50	Union of London	15	55 to 57	51 to 53
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	5 to 6 pm.	8 to 9pm. xd
100	Do. New	18	4 to 5 pm.	8 to 9 pm.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	1½ to 1¾ pm.	2½ to 2¾ pm.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	29½ to 30½	27 to 29 xd.
100	Bank of London	50	154 to 157	163 to 168
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	¼ to ½ pm.	1¼ to 1½ pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	2 to 4	3 to 3½ xd.
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	84 to 86	79 to 81
50	Do. New	30	20 to 22 pm.	18 to 20 pm.
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	—	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	—	...
5	Bombay Gas	All	4½ to 5	4¾ to 5¼
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	8	3 to 2 dis.	3½ to 2½ dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	¼ to ½ pm.	¼ to ½ pm.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	19 to 20	19 to 20
1	Oriental Gas	All	1¼ to 1½	1¼ to 1½
1	Do. New	All	¼ to ½ pm.	¼ to ½pm.
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2½ to 3	3 to 3¼ pm.
100	West India Steam Company	60	90 to 92	91 to 93
20	Ceylon Company	7	3 to 4 pm.	3 to 4 pm.
20	International Finance Society	5	2½ to 3 pm.	4¾ to 4 pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2½ to 3 pm.	2½ to 3pm.
50	London Financial Association	15	8¾ to 9¼ pm.	9¼ to 9¾ pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	1¾ to 1¼ pm.	1¼ to 1¼ pm.
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	6	2¼ to 1¾ dis.	1 to ¾ dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	17¼ to 17¾	16¾ to 17
20	British Indian Tea	11	— dis.	¼ dis. to par.
10	Upper Assam Tea	2½	2½ to 3¼ pm.	2 to 3 pm.
10	Do.	All	16 to 18	14 to 17

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Since our last we have had a moderate business doing out of the new arrivals, with a few more speculative purchases of Congous of old import from 11d. to 1s. 1d. per lb. The public sales, however, now in progress tend to restrict business privately. In broken leaf and dusty Congous little has been done; good common to inferior flavoury have been taken to a moderate extent on speculation. The medium to second-class Kaisows, of new import, have gone off slowly, at prices, if anything, in favour of buyers; fine and finest are well maintained. Common to fair blackish leaf Congous have been taken on speculation at rather stiffer prices; but the better kinds, of old import, remain as last advised. There has been a little more doing in the new Monings, from 1s. 10d. to 2s. 2s. per lb.; but above this price we do not hear of any transactions. In Scented teas there is nothing new. Canton Gunpowders, of medium grades, have sold cheaper. In true Greens we have no change to notice. The public auctions of China teas commenced on the 15th; out of 29,934 packages, 17,376 are printed "Without Reserve." Prices have been irregular, in some instances a slight advance was realised on common black leaf Congou, whilst brown leaf sold at rather lower rates. Common Greens have also sold easier, whilst fine maintain late prices. The United Kingdom Stock was on the 31st ultimo, 88,500,000 lbs., against 80,000,000 lbs. on the 31st October, 1863.

SILK.—Market flat, but quotations nominally the same as last. According to a circular of Messrs. Arlès-Dufour and Co., of Lyons, a considerable decrease in the silk transactions of that city took place during the past month, and manufacturers are generally much disheartened by the long-continued absence of any rally such as would be necessary to cover the cost of goods calculated on the present rates of the staple. Meanwhile, however, quotations have been maintained with a firmness which can only be accounted for by the bad results of the European crop, causing the stock of raw material to remain exceptionally low for this time of the year, and by the uncertainty prevalent with regard to the question as to what will be the extent of the export from China and Japan.

COTTON.—A large business has been done in the London market a advancing prices, and there was more competition at the public sales on the 10th, 220 bales of China going, with all faults, at 12d. to 12¼d. per lb. During the week we note sales as follows—1,845 bales China, 12d. to 13d. for fair, and 13d. to 13½d. for fully fair; 390 bales Japan 15d. for fully fair, and 15½d. for good. At Liverpool, also, China and Japan partook of the general improvement, and are quoted at about 1d. per lb. dearer. The following statistics of the Liverpool trade are of interest :—

IMPORTS AND ESTIMATED STOCKS.

Imports. This week.	Imports. This year.	Imports. To same date 1863.	Description.	Stocks. Nov. 11.	Stocks. Same date last year.
1264	164635	112835	America	11170	37910
1325	179930	124516	Brazil	24250	14250
1064	270211	203649	Egyptian, &c. ...	26150	15410
120	48056	18925	West India, &c. ...	9610	5140
11719	980882	804064	East India	224820	109120
1435	291080	134444	China and Japan ...	61030	
16927	1939794	1398433	Total	357030	181830

DELIVERIES AND CONSUMPTION.

Description.	Average weekly deliveries from this port to the trade. To 11th November. 1864.	1863.	1862.	Average of 1863.	Average weekly consumption of the United Kingdom in the years 1863.	1862.
American	3430	2300	3900	2240	230	3820
Brazil	2680	2150	2130	2150	2140	1980
Egyptian, &c. ...	5400	3810	2140	3840	4490	2110
West India, &c. ...	740	870	370	930	370	460
East India, &c. ...	14210	17150	11710	14050	17200	13660
China and Japan ...	4250	—	—	1820	—	—
Total	30710	26280	20250	25030	26500	22030

SUMMARY.

Increase of imports, compared with last year ...	541,360
Increase of quantity taken for consumption ...	199,420
Increase of stock, compared with last year ...	175,200
Increase of quantity taken for export	64,315
Cotton at sea—for the United Kingdom ...	470,000

SUGAR.—A large amount of Raw Sugar was offered at public sale during last week, and the greater part disposed of at an advance of 6d. per cwt. on refining kinds. This present week prices have been barely sustained. By private treaty up to the 12th we note sales of new and old clayed Manila, at 31s.; and 700 bags good and fine white Siam, at 39s. to 40s. On Tuesday, the 15th, 2,900 bags of Mauritius were offered by auction and chiefly sold—yellow, 33s. to 34s. 6d.; grainy, 34s. to 35s. 6d.; crystalised, 36s. to 38s. 6d.; 1,700 bags of Bengal were also mostly sold, low Banares, 35s. to 36s.; Gurpattah date, 32s. 6d. to 34s. 6d.; 600 bags of Penang brown, 30s. 6d. to 32s.; good middling to good yellow, 35s. to 35s. 6d.; the chief portion of 600 bags of Madras date, brown, 26s., native, 27s.

COFFEE.—There was a good deal of inquiry last week, and prices recovered 1s. per cwt. At auction Singapore went at 52s. to 65s. per cwt. The parcels offered on the 15th met a good demand, and were all disposed of at firm prices—420 casks 70 barrels and 170 bags of plantation Ceylon, triage, 51s. to 69s.; fine fine ordinary to good middling, 75s. 6d. to 85s. 6d.; peaberry, 81s. to 84s. 6d. 100 packages of Mocha, long berry, 92s. to 94s.

RICE.—The demand continues active. On the 15th 17,000 bags sold, white Bengal at 11s. 6d.; Rangoon, 9s.; Bassein and Necranzie Arracan, 8s. 7½d. to 8s. 9d. 8,000 bags of Bassein were offered in public sale, and bought in at 9s. 1,600 bags of Rangoon sold, first-class, damaged, 8s. 6d.

SPICES.—More inquiry prevailed last week for Black Pepper. Nutmegs have nearly supported their former value in the face of increased supplies. 770 bags Singapore Black Pepper, imported from New York, sold at 3¼d. 2,911 bags Penang realised 3⅛d., a few lots 3¼d. Of 121

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cases brown Nutmegs, a considerable portion sold at 11d. to 1s. 9d. for low to middling, with good to fine bold at 2s. to 3s. 9d. 16 cases Mace, 11d. to 1s. 6d. for low to middling bright. 18 cases Penang Cloves sold at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d. for middling to fine. 780 cases Cassia Lignea partly sold: pile 1, 90s. to 93s.; the remainder withdrawn at 85s. to 90s.

INDIA RUBBER.—200 packages of West India sold on the 15th at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 2½d., and 80 cases Assam, 9d. to 9½d.; 100 baskets Singapore bought in at 1s. 4d.

ISINGLASS.—30 cases Penang sold at 3s. 10d. to 3s. 11d.

SAGO.—296 boxes 381 bags partly sold on the 11th, small grain 19s. 6d.; bold, 22s. to 22s. 6d. per cwt.

SHELLAC.—100 chests sold on the 15th at £5 to £5. 2s. 6d. for native liver, and at £6. 10s. to £6. 12s. 6d. for reddish orange.

TURMERIC.—A small parcel of Bengal, old import, sold at 20s. 6d.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch: During last week 420 cases 250 bags sold at 22s. to 22s. 6d. per cwt. Gambier: In moderate demand, and 500 bags at public sale, on the 15th, were only in part disposed of at 24s. per cwt.

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

Messrs. John Slagg and Co.'s report of the 15th inst. says:—"Since last Tuesday we have had an active demand, and large orders have been placed at gradually improved rates. The advanced prices of cotton and yarns have to-day compelled manufacturers to raise their quotations to a point not followed by buyers, and our market closes with a rather limited business."

Sam' Mendel's Circular quotes:—"In the week just ended sales were more active at advancing prices: the quotations to-day show a marked improvement, but there is little doing, as buyers hesitate to continue with the upward movement to any extent."

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Nov. 7	Off Newhaven	Batavia	Nederland	v.d. Eb.
— 9	Off Falmouth	Bassein	Mobile	Lahnsen.
— 9	Liverpool	Rangoon	Kingston	Reed.
— 9	Do.	Akyab	Nymph	Bergen.
— 3	Copenhagen	Rangoon	Bremerlehe	Coombs.
—	Off Plymouth	Batavia	Robt. Dickson	
—	New York	Manila	Geo. Peabody	
—	Queenstown	Bassein	Samson	Wood.
—	Dartmouth	Batavia	Krimpenerwaard	v. Heyningen.
— 12	London	Foo-chow-F. & Bata.	Glaramara	Watson.
— 9	Off Dungeness	Bassein	Goodburn (? Amer. s.)	
—	Off Falmouth	Foo-chow-Foo	Red Riding Hood	Nicholson.
— 10	Scilly	Colombo	Helen's Bank	Lawson.
— 8	Off Scilly	Batavia	Drusus	Hansford.
— 12	Liverpool	Rangoon	Annie Sise	Shield.
— 8	Trieste	Colombo	Harrington	Myles.
— 13	London	Shanghai	Pegasus	Penrice.
— 14	Deal	Do.	Osborne House	Lowe.
— 14	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Whimfell	Whereat.
— 14	Do.	Akyab	Caroline Elizabeth	Woollan.
— 13	Cowes	Bassein	Julie	Haverbeck.
— 14	London	Penang	Sea Wave	Warden.
— 12	Falmouth	Akyab	Schiller	Abilgard.
— 12	Do.	Akyab & Mauritius	Gotheborg	Bjorck.
— 13	Do.	Maulmain	St. Pierre	Horvene.
— 12	Liverpool	Manila	Patriot King	Craig.
— 14	Deal	Singapore	Bonanza	Gilchrist.
— 15	London	Yokohama	Merse	Moore.
— 15	Do.	Singapore	Tartar	Vincent.
— 15	Do.	Canton & Macao	Banian	Masters.
— 14	Liverpool	Shanghai & Batavia	De Jex	Guide.
—	Queenstown	Rangoon	John O'Gaunt	Thompson.
— 15	Deal	Shanghai	White Adder	Bell.
— 15	Do.	Penang	Zingra	Poland.
—	Off Folkestone	Shanghai	Highflyer	Smith.
— 14	Falmouth	Batavia	Cruiser	Kirby.
—	Schelde	Akyab	Napoleon	Sahlquist.
— 16	Deal	Shanghai	Fychow	Mathers.
— 16	Off Holyhead	Do.	Surrey	
— 16	Falmouth	Maulmain	Jessie Munn	
— 14	Off Eddystone	Rangoon	Odessa	
— 15	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Dartmouth	
— 15	London	Yokohama	Maria	

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Nov. 7	Deal	Sourabaya	Glenforth	Mills.
— 6	Sunderland	Shanghai	Forerunner	Merritt.
— 8	Liverpool	Onrust	Kœreir	Carst.
— 8	Sunderland	Singapore	Asia	Benmore.
— 7	Shields	Shanghai	Quickstep	
— 11	London	Hong Kong	Belted Will	Graham.
— 12	Do.	Colombo	Colombo	Laurence.
— 11	Liverpool	Shanghai	Neville	Robinson.
— 14	London	Swansea & Colombo	Champion	Osmond.
— 15	Do.	Hong Kong & Canton	Robin Hood	Darlington.
— 15	Do.	Shanghai	Ellen Rodger	M'Kinn n.
— 9	Newcastle	Batavia	Jacoba	Schaap.
— 12	Shields	Hong Kong	Diamond	
— 13	Do.	Shanghai	Fanny	
— 16	Liverpool	Do.	Simoda	Drysdale.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Kanagawa: Eliza Shaw. For Shanghai: Guinevere, Challenger, Pegasus. For Hong Kong and Canton: Young Lochinvar. For Hong Kong and Foo-chow-Foo: City of Aberdeen, For Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: Merse. For Singapore: Norfolk, Dewa Gungadhur. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Skimmer of the Seas. For Colombo: Eunice, Ardencraig, Echo, Isabella Atkinson, Percy Douglas.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Jane, Aden. For Shanghai: Alarm, Invincible. For Hong Kong: Monsoon. For Hong Kong and Canton: Canton. For Singapore: Advance, Wm. Chandler, Hurry Puddemsey, Bosphorus, Agenoria. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Helvetia. For Sourabaya: Dionysia Catharina. For Cheribon: Moreno. For Manila: Iberica. For Colombo: Lizzie Scott. For Mauritius and Galle: Nydia.

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore: Douglas Castle. For Shanghai: Glencoe. For Ceylon: Princess of Wales.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Outward freights, both for general cargoes and coals are extremely scarce and low. With the exception of a small cargo or two from Ceylon and Manila, there are scarcely any charters offering homewards:—

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £36 and £1. 17s. 6d. For Shanghai: £46 and £2. 2s. 6d. For the Philippine Islands, Penay, or Zebu: £2 (nominal). For Singapore: £25. 10s. to £26 and 22s. For Penang: £27. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have again invited tenders for the conveyance of 39 tons light meast. (naval boilers) to Hong Kong, and 53 tons powder and combustibles, &c., to Shanghai, both from the River Thames.

SPOKEN.

RANEE, of Liverpool for Singapore, Sept. 2, 26 S., 33 W.
ANNA, New York to Shanghai, 20 N., 117 E.
BEAUFORT, Sunderland to Hong Kong, Sept. 6.
YEAVERING BELLE, Hong Kong to London, Sept. 9, 13 N., 113 E.
JANE LEECH, London to Shanghai, Sept. 17, off Brothers Island.
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, Toulon to Saigon, Sept. 12, 37 S., 65 E.
SUSANNA AND ELIZABETH, N'castle to Batavia, Sept. 21, 21 N., 22 W.
BARQUE, 3rd. d.p. No. 3,927, Bat. to Amsterdam, Sept. 25, 7 N., 24 W.
PRINCESS, Colombo to London, Oct. 21, 26 N., 30 W.
NOR'WESTER (ship), Manila to Boston, Aug. 27, 21 S., 70 E.
SURREY, Shanghai to London, Aug. 13, 10 S., 123 E.
CELERITAS (Swed. barq.), Batavia to Falmouth, Aug. 25, 18 S., 177 E.
EMPRESS, Penang to London, Sept. 19, 33 S., 14 E.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Natal, Yokohama, Amoy, Marmora, and Witness. At LIVERPOOL: Jane and Isabella, Marion, Vigil, Vampyre, and Gyrn Castle. At NEW YORK: Osborne, and Brilliant.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Ethel, Monarch, Belle, Zodiac, Stirlingshire, Valdivia, Shakespeare, Catherine Howard, Willie, Claremont, Finzel, Southern Cross, John Banks, Waverley, Napoleon II., Horsa, Ben Lomond, Solent, Wild Deer, Marquis of Londonderry, Carausius, John Temperley, Racehorse, Aboyne, Caractacus, Gresham, Assyrian, City of Quebec, Knight Templar, Star of China, Chanticleer, Thomas Blyth, Essex, Bride of the Seas, Cumberland, Coulnakyle, Taeping, Canute, Philomela, Adriatic, P. J. F. Burchart, Volunteer, Holmesdale, Isabella Robinson, Zelia, Vimeira, Zarah, L. Wharncliffe, Gloucester, Lorton Vale, Iceni, S. Ralston, Wm. Thompson, Marlborough, Dora, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Magnus, Josephine, Sappho, and Charles Davenport. At LIVERPOOL: Geologist, Chaa Sze, Buckham, Everest, Delhi, Wm. Dawson, Affghan, Jessie Beazley, Warwick Castle, Sea Snake, Thomas Bell, Hugomont, Lord Dalhousie, Cornelia, Inamhore, Regina, Edward Percy, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Australia, Ann Forster, Brockham, and General Windham. At FALMOUTH: Divina, and Linda. At NEW YORK: Dorchester, Regnago, St. Paul, Cornelia, Mary, Roslin Castle, Cassiterides, Queensland, Maggie Leslie, Samuel Russell, and Bedford.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Beatrice, Seaforth, Labrador, Jupiter, Admiral de Winter, Constance, and Staffordshire. At LIVERPOOL: Indiaman, Alicia Anne, Kathay, Gondola, Frederick, Royal Mint, Peveril of the Peak, and Earl of Mar and Kellie. At FALMOUTH: Der West, St. Paul, Voladora, Chance, Achilles, Fagel, and Ocean Empress. At COWES: John Banfield. At NEW YORK: Tropic, Bengal, Continent, Franklin, Julia Ambridge and Peruvian.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Oscar, Confidence, Pet, Polly, Queen of India, William Simpson, Miss Nightingale, Volunteer, Tweed, Eddystone, Najade, Rangoon, Prince Alfred, and Dunkeld. At LIVERPOOL: C. H. Soule, Victory, Agra, Beloochee, and Tigris. At FALMOUTH: Sarah Jane and Queen Bee. At BORDEAUX: Leon. At NEW YORK: Ocean Home, Gertrude, Caroline, Rudolf, and Panic. At BOSTON: Ceylon, Aristides, and Magnet.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Empress, Marengo, Sunium, Golconda, Black Eagle, Bothwell Castle, and Spitfire. At CORK: Ceylon. At BORDEAUX: Sophie.

From BANGKOK.—At NEW YORK: Eastward Ho!

CASUALTIES.

CARDIFF.—Nov. 8: The Madge Wildfire, of Liverpool, for Shanghai, remains in the Roads, a foreign ship having been in contact with her during a thick fog; she is being repaired.

At ST. HELENA.—Oct. 1, from Penang, Empress, Markham, and sailed. 3rd for London; 2. from Philippine Islands, Chance, Doswell, and 3, from Manila, Achilles, Makin, and both sailed 4th for Falmouth; 3, Admiral de Winter, Bunnemeyer, and sailed 4th for London; 4, from Singapore, Miss Nightingale, Cochrane, and sailed for London; from Foo-chow-Foo, Dora, Penrice, and sailed 5th for London.

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TO MUSICAL RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND THE CAPE.

PIANO-FORTES, HARMONIUMS, &c., FOR EXTREME CLIMATES.

WHOLESALE DEPOT FOR

ALEXANDRE'S HARMONIUMS.

PRIZE MEDAL.

Important award of the Jury:—"Novelty of construction of Harmonium, cheapness combined with excellence of manufacture, and fine quality of tone."

EXTRACT FROM PRICE LIST:—

No.				Guineas.
1.	In Oak Case,	4 Octaves, (Large Model)	1 Row of Vibrators	6
2.	Mahogany Case	ditto	ditto	7
3.	Oak Case,	5 Octaves, 1 Stop	do. (Wind Indicator)	10
4.	Mahogany Case,	ditto ditto	do. (do.)	12
5.	Oak Case,	ditto 3 Stops	do. (do.)	13
6	ditto,	ditto 5 Stops	1½ Rows of Vibrators	17
7.	ditto,	ditto 6 Stops	2 do.	22
8.	ditto,	ditto 9 Stops	2 Rows of Vibrators	25
9.	ditto	ditto 13 Stops	4 Rows of Vibrators	35
10.	Rosewo Case,	ditto 3 Stops	1 Row of Vibrators (Wind Indicator)	15
11.	ditto,	ditto 5 Stops	1½ do. (Wind Indicator)	19
12	ditto,	ditto 6 Stops	2 Rows of Vibrators	24
13	ditto, or Walnu	ditto 10 Stops (Tremolo)	do.	27
	ditto, ditto	ditto 14 Stops (Tremolo)	4 Rows of Vibrators	37

NEW CHEAP MODELS.

No. 1A. Oak Case. Four Octaves ... ... 5 Guineas.
,, 3A. ,, Five ,, Double Pedals ... 6 ,,
Superior to any other Instruments at the same price, both in tone and durability.

THE EXHIBITION MODEL,

No. 1.—In Oak Case, 13 Stops (with Tremolo) 4 rows of Vibrators, and Venetian Swell—Price **32** Guineas. Particularly adapted for Churches, &c.

No. 2.—In Handsome Rosewood Case, 14 Stops, Percussion Action, and Venetian Swell. This Instrument is of superior finish both as regards the case and the internal mechanism to any other Harmonium of this size, and also possesses a very sweet quality of tone, which may be increased in power by means of the swell, rendering it the most perfect Instrument yet made for the Drawing-room. Price **60** Guineas.

N.B.—This Model is particularly adapted for shipment, as the superior finish of the case and interior mechanism preserves it from the action of damp or heat

FULL LISTS, ETC., ON APPLICATION.

PLEYEL'S PIANO-FORTES.

mportant award of the Jury:—"Excellence in every kind of Piano, power and equality of tone, precision of mechanism and solidity."

EXTRACT FROM PRICE LIST:—

No. 6, Rosewood Oblique, 7 Oct., 3 Strings, Carved Truss Legs, &c. ... ... **70** GUINEAS.
„ 7, Pianino, 7 Oct., 3 Strings ... ... **55** „

In handsome Walnut, at 5 and 7 Guineas extra.

N.B.—These Instruments are particularly suited for Exportation.

FULL LISTS ON APPLICATION.

METZLER AND CO.,

37, 38, 35, & 16, GREAT MARLBOROUGH STREET LONDON, W.

N.B.—Orders may be forwarded direct, or through any of the Agents of this Paper.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

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SECRETARY—R. Swire Tomlin, Esq.

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The Alliance Bank (Limited).
The National Bank.

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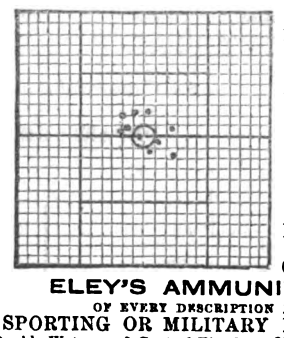

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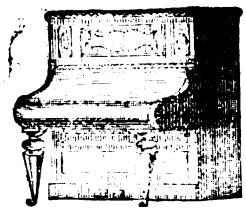

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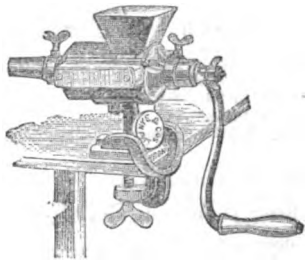

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 156.] LONDON, MONDAY, NOV. 28, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	July 26	Sept. 17	Sept. 30
Nagasaki			„ 28
Hakodadi			„ 21
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			„ 22
Chefoo			„ 24
New-chwang			„ 25
Hankow			Oct. 4
Kiu-kiang			„ 4
Chin-kiang			„ 6
Shanghai	Aug. 17	Oct. 4	„ 9
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 6
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 7
Swatow			
Hong Kong	„ 26	„ 4	„ 15
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	„ 10		„ 7
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			„ 8
SIAM— Bangkok	„ 26		„ 11
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			„ 17
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 16
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Sept. 17	„ 21	„ 23
Penang	„ 10	„ 17	„ 25

The French mail, with dates from Hong Kong to Oct. 26, arrived at Suez on the 24th inst.—Mails expected on Dec. 3.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, to Marseilles, per Delta, arrived Nov. 26.—From Shanghai: Mr. J. Dow, Dr. Jones. From Hong Kong: Messrs. W. Lemann, T. A. Macnair, and J. Sweeney. From Singapore: Mr. F. and Mrs. Vilgars, child, and European servant.

To Southampton, per Ellora, expected to arrive Dec. 3.—From Hong Kong: Mrs. J. Bernard, Capt. and Mrs. J. B. Caldbeck, Commander Aling, R.N., Messrs. R. Wing, R. Johnson, Gibson, J. Donatine, O. Williams, J. Sweeney. From Singapore: Messrs. Thos. Maclean, A. Murphy, Captain Carter, and Mr. J. A. Boyden. To Alexandria, for Trieste.—From Hong Kong: Mr. H. J. Tarrant. To Suez.—From Hong Kong: Messrs. H. P. Malsen, J. J. Lavorei, F. Knuppel, and J. M. Schmidt. To Alexandria.—From Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Delhi, Nov. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Miss R. E. Collett, Miss Lee, Lieut. B. Lillichook, Mrs. Howard, Mr. T. Olive, Mrs. Brown, Mr. Nicholson's European servant, Messrs. J. W. P. Stuttaford and Jos. Wellington. To Shanghai: Messrs. E. Grace, M. Hawkey, E. Hall, and G. Edwards, Mr. Johnson's native servant. To Singapore: Mrs. W. W. Williams and infant, Messrs. Jas. Mutton and Wm. Byers. To Ceylon: Mr. G. Crosbie and three 2nd class passengers. To Calcutta: Mr. and Mrs. Pittar, infant, and native servant, Messrs. John Hill, R. Hill, W. Cornell, E. Taylor, J. J. Atkinson, T. Sheridan, D. O'Connor, Tucket, W. Copinger, C. Wagentrieber, J. Hunter, E. Wiff, Williamson, A. Price, Warren, Fletcher, B. Turner, Scale and Tait, Mr. and Mrs. W. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Heard and two infants, Mr. and Mrs. Reid and two infants, Miss Nelson and European servant, Mrs. H. Johnson, Mrs. R. Ranken, Paymaster Moore, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Hamilton and European servant, Hon. C. Parker, Miss Adam, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Latimer, Mrs. Trotter, two infants, child, and native servant, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Higgs, Lieut. F. G. Boughey, Mrs H. B. Henderson, Miss Voyle, Miss L. Harward, Revs. J. Stevenson and W. Wallett Major B. Mauleverer, Rev. J. W. Young, Ensigns J. F. Bailey and Boileau, Miss Janes, Mrs. Palboys, Mr. and Mrs. Langlois, Assist. Surgeons Atkinson, Bolster, Cogan, Flemming, Turner, and J. V. Malcolm, Mr. Egerton's European servant, Capt. and Mrs. L. Hall, Miss F. East, Capt. Trevor, and six 2nd class passengers. From Marseilles, November 28.—To Hong Kong. Mr. and Mrs. J. Wheelock, infant, and female servant, Mr. P. G. Lawrie. To Calcutta: Mr. and Mrs. P. Egerton, Mr. and Mrs. J. Allan, Capt. and Mrs. Basseir and European servant, Col. McDonnell, Miss Tucker, Mr. and Mrs. Adams, Mr. Donegan, Mr. E. McBride, Lieut.-Col. Hutchinson, Dr. Veitch, Mrs. Eddis, Capt. Carew, Mr. Benwell, Mr. E. C. Dealtry, Capt. Smith, Mr. A. B. Rose, Mr. Hurst, Mr. E. A. Campbell. To Madras: Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Brockman, Mr. I. Young, Lieut.-Col. Rich, Surgeon A. O. Renton, Mr. W. Gillilan, Mr. Cockerell. To Ceylon: Mr. J. Findlay. To Alexandria: Messrs. J. Laing, Wilson, and W. Wilson, Earl of March, Mr. Ralph Vivian, Rev. E. Hill, Mr. J. W. Patterson, and one second-class passenger. From Malta.—To Calcutta: Capt. Ogilvie. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Caw. To Calcutta: Capt. and Mrs. Squirb and European servant.

Per P. and O. steamer Ripon, Nov. 27, from Southampton.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mr. Bayne. To Ceylon, via Bombay: Mr. Cummins.

Per P. and O. steamer Baroda, Dec. 4, from Southampton.—To Penang: Capt. and Mrs. White. To Shanghai: Mr. Herbert Elias, Mr. G. Stanford, Mr. Carritt. To Hong Kong: Mrs. Smith and two infants, Mr. Dent. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. J. Walker, three children, and servant, the Rev. J. Allcock, Mr. H. Bois, Capt. Rutherford, Mr. H. C. Park. From Marseilles, Dec. 12.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Wood and lady friend, Mr. Geo. Crichton, Mr. J. Crum, Mr. A. J. Gunn. To Shanghai: Mr. J. W. Broadbent. To Hong Kong: Mr. T. Caw, Mr. H. H. Nelson, Mr. J. Sloane, Mr. R. Calderson. To Ceylon, Messrs. T. G. Davis, R. E. Hope, J. T. Green, and John Fraser, Mr. and Mrs. Schweitzer.

Per P. and O. steamer, Dec. 20, from Marseilles.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. Ottman. From Suez.—To Ceylon: Mr. Coomarac Swamy and servant.

Per P. and O. steamer, Dec. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. Jas. Henderson, A. Leigh, and J. Maitland, Mrs. Wilkinson and infant, Miss M. Wedgewood, To Ceylon: Mr. J. Bannatine, Mr W. Mayon, Mr. E. H. Jones. To Shanghai: Mr. Carritt. From Marseilles, Dec. 26.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Ryrie, Mr. Pastorius. To China: Mr. W. A. Foster. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Ryrie, to Ceylon. Messrs. F. Pater and Fraser.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Marseilles, Jan. 12, 1865.—To Hong Hong: Mr. M'Donald.

From Gibraltar to Bombay.—For Goa: Governor Jose Ferreira Pentana and wife, Capt. V. F. Scarnicher, wife, and infant, Capt. D. J. A. de Mells, wife, and two children, Major J. M. de Mello Mendonca, wife, and two children.

Per Min.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. Hockings, Mr. Flowerjoy, Mrs. Parker and child, Dr. Frieland.

Per Garawalt.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. Flym, Rev. Mr. Hill, Mr. Scarborough.

Per Fiery Cross.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Smith.

Per Young Lockinvar.—To Hong Hong: Mr. and Mrs. John White, Mr. Charles Fielding, Mr. and Mrs. Fairbanks and four children.

Per Guinevere.—To Shanghai: Mr. G. F. Smart.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

The dates from this port are to the 30th September. The London mails of the 26th July arrived out on the 17th September.

The Yokohama journals are, as might be expected, filled with details of the gallant affair in the Straits of Simonoseki. As regards the actual fighting, they add nothing to the intelligence contained in Admiral Sir A. Kuper's despatches, and in the other accounts that have already been published. It would appear that the difference between the feeling entertained by the people and the Daimios towards foreigners was never so strikingly evinced as on this occasion. "We read various accounts (says the *Japan Herald*) of the assistance rendered by the Japanese in this work of dismantling the forts, from some of which we gather that their offer of aid was quite freely and spontaneously given, by others, that it was on the gentle hint that they had better 'lend a hand.' We incline from the whole to the opinion that the former statement is correct, for we have undoubted authority for the fact, that whilst the crews of the *Amsterdam* and *Medusa* were preparing to embark the guns of the Chofu and Ravine batteries, nearly a thousand of the soldiers of Nangato, unarmed, came to their assistance, saying, 'you must feel very tired after your work of to-day, allow us to embark these guns;' which they accordingly did, and the boats left shore with their heavy freight, the soldiery wishing them good-bye—*Sayrnara Matta mionittzie;* seeming, indeed, to be still more glad to get rid of their old companions than their late enemy." The *Commercial News* more than corroborates the above by the following:—"An episode is related that, when all the Daimios and *yakonins*, with their valiant *samri*, had retired, the natives—merchants, farmers, and country people—came down in numbers and assisted the foreigners in carrying the captured guns to their respective boats. Some of the guns were very heavy, about seven to eight tons. From all we can see and learn of the lower classes of Japanese, they on all occasions seem well inclined towards foreigners, and in no instance that we are aware of has any animosity been displayed by them.

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The only enemies the foreigners have in Japan are those Daimios' retainers, *yakonins*, who dislike foreigners because they do not acknowledge their respective rank."

The loss sustained by the landing party, while engaged in removing the guns, is explained by the circumstance that the Japanese, who commenced an annoying fire, were protected by a forest, and, in the middle, by a paddy field. "The enemy was *hardly ever seen*; men fell wounded, and no enemy to fire at. Foreigners have not caught one Japanese. A Dutch boat got loose and drifted down a seven-knot current with a Dutchman on board: Japanese set out and caught him, killing him instantly."

With reference to the firing, a civilian, writing from on board the *Ta-Kiang*—possibly, therefore, an American, and writing impartially—says: "The rifled guns of the *Semiramis* and *Dupleix* were doing excellent execution, and the little] 30lb. Parrot-gun on board the *Ta-Kiang* threw several shells right into the fort. The Armstrong guns did certainly refute all that had been said against them after the battle of Kagosima." Another little note, by a different hand, is that the *Medusa* (Dutch ?ship) had chain, armour all round her boilers, and fought well. When Choshiu showed a flag of truce one of his emissaries was sent on board Sir. A. Kuper's flagship, and he was at once recognised as one of the two of the Prince's retainers lately returned from Europe, who were taken down in the preliminary trip of the *Barossa*. He had been but a short time with the Admiral when the result of his visit appeared in a general signal to "hoist flag of truce;" obeyed, as one gentleman writes, under the circumstance—"a white-flag not appearing to form an item in the category of paraphernalia of H.B.M's navy—with a variety of substitutes, which conspicuously displayed the diversity of ways in which invention is inspired by her maternal relative, for one ship flies a table-cloth —another a shirt—a third a towel—a fourth a handkerchief—a fifth a pillow case, and two others are two sheets in the wind."

On the opposite coast of Buzen there were enormous crowds of spectators of the fight, who were laughing and shouting, appearing to enjoy the proceedings enormously, and who were in perfect raptures when they saw the foreign Jacks planting their flags upon the batteries. The Prince of Buzen, we are told, is awfully opposed to Choshiu because he did not warn him that he was going to fight, so as to give him a chance to remove his people to a place of safety."

The letter sent by Choshiu, asserting that he was acting by orders of the Tycoon, was, it seems, addressed to the "United States' Admiral." As the Americans were the first to establish diplomatic relations with Japan, the native authorities often affect to give the United States a sort of seniority, and, there is reason to believe, have been brought to consider that country as being specially well disposed towards them. It will be observed that in this letter, Choshiu admits his rebellion against the Tycoon:—

"A humble presentation to the United States' Admiral:—

"The instruction of the Emperor of Japan and those of the Tycoon are different. Because, in obedience to the Emperor's command, I, at Simonoseki, fired upon foreign vessels, I have received the name of Rebel. When I appeared to be acting in opposition to the Imperial orders, a messenger came from the foreign nations to make it known to me and demand its discontinuance. This being the case, Nangato no-Kami, [supposed to mean the young Prince] went on horseback to Kioto to learn the Emperor's will. Before arriving there, an insurrection having arisen in Kioto, there was no alternative but to return without having accomplished the mission. Three days [ago, or following] I heard your illustrious country's ships had come to Hime-shima. I sent a messenger to you by boat, saying that I did not care whether you passed through the Straits or not. Whilst on his way you left the Island and the boat returned, thinking to reach you from Simonoseki. Much time having elapsed in the interval, war broke out. For this inability to prevent its breaking out, I am exceedingly sorry. I have not from the first hated foreigners. I consider this was a great affliction to thousands of people; I desire nothing but amity. Please consider this subject well. Further particulars Moori-Izumo, my Minister, and his associates will make known to you.

"1st year of Genji, 8th month, 9th day (September 9th).

"MATSDAIRA DAIZEN NO-DABU."

The envoys who brought this note stated that according to Japanese law a Prince was not allowed to communicate personally with the Admiral until he had received the permission of the Mikado to do so. When an opportunity was afforded him of a personal intercours, he would then lay before the Admiral his letter of instruction, given him by the Tycoon, to fire upon all vessels attempting to pass through the Straits.

That the Tycoon is in earnest against him is plain enough from the following, understood to have been issued by the former's authority:—

"Because the servants of Mats'daira Daizen no Dabu have threatened the Emperor with arms, thus committing high treason, they are speedily to be punished by the Tycoon. Wherefore now, all Daimios with revenue above 10,000 kokus are commanded to utterly destroy them. Owari Zen Dai-na-ngon is to command in chief, Mats'daira Echizen no-Kami is to be second in command. Be ready against the time when the Tycoon goes forth to inflict punishment. To all the Hatta Mottos it is commanded according to their several abilities to be prepared to sacrifice their lives for their Master. Take this Royal Command cordially to heart. Though the foregoing command is to the military class, yet those who are not of the military class who wish to join the army are requested speedily to make it known."

To the above is appended a list of 21 Daimios who are to take the field against Choshiu. They will be seen to be those of Kiushiu, Shikoku, and Chiu-ngoku (the Provinces immediately around Nangato).

An eye-witness gives an account of the utter destruction of Choshiu's palace at Yedo:—The palace called 'Com-mi-yoshki,' the principal palace of the Prince of Nangato, was totally destroyed on the 12th day of September. The fire-bells were rung and a large number of firemen collected. The men were led to the work of destruction by the yakonins, and urged on by them. At last the palace was razed to the ground. It took several days to complete the work of destruction, and so effectually was that accomplished that not a single vestige was left standing. On each successive day the fire-bells were rung to collect as large a number of people as possible; and the palace was also completely gutted of its contents, of which some were thrown into the pond and some into the streets. The Prince has some six other palaces, which it is said are to share the same fate."

The first fruit of the punishment inflicted on Choshiu was the following circular despatch from Sir Rutherford Alcock to Mr. Consul Winchester:—

"H.B.M.'s LEGATION, YOKOHAMA,
24th September, 1864.

"I have to request you will notify to British subjects under your jurisdiction that merchant vessels are at liberty to pass through the Straits of the Inland Sea, the free passage of which the Prince of Choshiu has formally engaged to secure.—I have, &c.—RUTHERFORD ALCOCK."

A public meeting was convened on the 26th Sept., at the office of the Central Bank of Western India, relative to the establishment of a Chamber of Commerce at Yokohama, when a committee was appointed to ascertain the views of the mercantile community on the subject; also to correspond with the chambers of Hong Kong and Shanghai relative to their rules and regulations, and any other information of importance that might be obtained. The proceedings of the committee were to be communicated at another meeting to be held on the 25th Nov. With regard to the restrictions on trade, it was stated that an able letter had been drawn up on the subject, which, having met with general approval, was circulated to the various mercantile firms for signature. The meeting then separated with a vote of thanks to the chairman, Mr. Kingdon. We append the letter, which was forwarded to Sir Rutherford Alcock through Mr. Consul Winchester, by whose hands also was received the reply:—

"YOKOHAMA, 26th September, 1864.

"Sir,—We, the undersigned British merchants resident at Yokohama, beg respectfully to address you on the present position of trade at this port, more particularly with regard to the restrictions known to exist in respect of the staple article of produce—silk—apparently emanating from the Japanese Government. In making this communication, we are fully possessed with the conviction that our authorities are and have been doing their utmost to meet and improve the present unsatisfactory position we occupy in our commercial relations with this country.

"Hitherto we have felt that political complications might render an address on this subject inopportune; but recent events have impressed us with the idea that the present time is one in which the subject may be brought forward judiciously and advantageously, with a view of placing before you officially facts which our daily intercourse with the natives enables us, as far as is possible in such cases, to verify.

"Our available sources of information are not of such a nature as to permit of bringing forward positive proof of the direct interference of the native Government, but are still sufficient to satisfy us that the present restricted supply of raw silk is wholly and entirely owing to the action of the Japanese authorities. Native dealers assert that the supply of the article in Yedo and the vicinity is large; and were it not for the impossibility of passing it through the Customs at Yedo and Kanagawa, would immediately be brought in large quantity to this market. The prices current in the country, when compared with those ruling here, show such a margin of profit to the native dealers as to leave no doubt whatever on our minds that it must be their interest as well as their wish to immediately bring their available stock for sale to this market; and, indeed, such a desire is openly and universally expressed.

"We have little doubt, from what we have been able to ascertain, that the yield of the present is at least fully equal to that of the preceding season, and that the native demand is not in excess of that of the same period; whilst the export clearly points out the existence of restrictions in some quarter, which we think it is evident, from what we have already stated, cannot arise from the ordinary course of trade.

"In the season 1861-62 the export to corresponding date was 2,592 bales;

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1862-63, 5,283 bales; 1863-64, 5,436 bales; 1864-65 to the present date is but 706 bales. And we have every reason to believe that the above small quantity of 706 bales, representing this season so far as it has gone, has been brought to market with the greatest difficulty and in direct opposition to the wishes or desires of the Japanese authorities.

"The restriction of which we so justly complain not only deprives us of our most valuable article of export, but militates to a very great extent indirectly, through the absorption of such a large amount of native capital, against the sale of imports—a branch of trade which it is absolutely necessary to encourage and, as much as possible, extend. Facts, as above stated, will, we have no doubt, continue to enlist your most earnest endeavours to remedy evils that must ultimately reduce the trade of this port to a mere nonenity. And begging further to recommend the subject to your consideration, with the request that you will be pleased to bring the matter under the notice of H.M.'s Minister,—We are, Sir, your obedient, humble servants." (Signed by nineteen British firms.)

"YOKOHAMA, 28th September, 1864.

"Sir,—In reply to your despatch of the 17th instant, giving cover to a letter addressed to you by the principal British traders at this port, in reference to the existing stoppage of the commerce in silk, I have to instruct you to inform the memorialists that, perfectly cognisant of the fact to which they would draw my attention, I entirely sympathise with them. You may also state that I agree with them in the conclusion that the stoppage of which they justly complain is due to the intervention of the Tycoon's Government, in direct violation of treaties. In this conviction many and urgent remonstrances were made from Her Majesty's Consulate, and when these failed representations of the unjustifiable nature of the obstructions experienced followed from this Legation, equally without effect.

"Under these circumstances it was evident to my colleagues, the representatives of France, the United States of America, and the Netherlands, as to myself, that the Government of Yedo—under pressure from the hostile party at Kioto (apparently sanctioned by the Mikado)—had virtually stopped the trade of the port, as a concession to their imperious demands, backed by the Mikado's decree for the permanent closing of Yokohama, if not the rupture of all relations of amity and commerce.

"The blow recently struck at one of the chiefs of this 'Sako' party, combining for the expulsion of the foreigner, offered the only chance of redress. Its entire success, and the signal defeat of the Prince of Choshiu's forces, there is reason to believe will do more to remove the obstructions to trade here, as at Nagasaki, than any amount or kind of remonstrance and diplomacy, which, as that event proved, were both ineffective.

"I am informed, indeed, since the news of Choshiu's defeat arrived, that these restrictions have already been removed by authority. And as my information comes from the same authority that imposed them, probably the assurance that silk in large quantity is now on its way to the port, and may be expected daily, is entitled to credit. I am glad to be able to give this the only satisfactory reply to the merchants, and beg you will communicate it without loss of time.—I have, &c.

"RUTHERFORD ALCOCK."

On the 8th September the settlement was visited with a cyclone, the centre of which seems to have passed over Yokohama. The gale commenced about midnight of the 8th from South-east with squalls and rain. As the morning advanced the wind increased in violence, and continued to blow in severe gusts accompanied with heavy rain until 11 a.m. of the 9th, when it suddenly abated to calm, and rain ceased for the space of one hour, when it again as suddenly freshened up in the opposite direction, North-west, blowing fresh; which continued for some hours without any rain, when it gradually died away towards the evening. No accident occurred to the shipping that we have heard of (says the *Commercial News*). Between the hours of 9 to 10 a.m., when the gale was at its height, vibrations of an Earthquake were perceptibly felt by several persons, but of short duration.

It was in this gale that the *Fleda* was lost, the wreck of which vessel, as she lay in Algiro Bay, was sold at auction by Mr. Hansard for 620 dollars. The steamer *City of Nantes*, Capt. Gibson, left the harbour on the 7th September bound for Hakodadi. On the 9th she encountered the gale while off Simoda head. The engines broke, when steaming under reduced sail; at 3 P.M., gale at its height, the sea driving up as far as the mast head, and carried away the quarter boats, breaking the davits, and ship receiving much damage. The boiler shifted during the gale; barometer stood 28.4; was forced to put back for repairs. A bark was seen after the gale, supposed to be the *Glendoveer*.

A Mr. Marquis Chisholm has won the hearts of the Japanese by playing a fantasia on their own melodies as a pianoforte solo. A native artist has portrayed the performer enthusiastically playing to excited Japanese audiences, whilst a few drowsy foreigners are depicted as falling asleep. The inscriptions on each division of the picture declare the air played to be some favourite of their own, and it would seem to be the Japanese method of expressing their idea that the Europeans do not appreciate their minstrelsy. The following is a free translation of the writing on the margin of the picture:—

"We Japanese are very fond of Sing-song; we like it more than we can express; we cannot have enough of it; all the year round our daughters play and sing. All the people in the world we are told are fond of it, and speak largely of its charms; how then can we speak too much? The piano is an instrument most wonderful: all our good people in this part talk of it, yet their talk is too small. The best ladies in our land go to see it, and to hear this Marquis Chisholm play upon it. He plays our own music. His fingers are like as many butterflies, fluttering from flower to flower, the flowers our own native melodies. He is indeed very great, and we are very small. I had heard much talk of this great man before I went to see him: the talk I did not understand, until I heard him play. His playing is as the singing of many birds. All men must like him; he is from the Western country—English. I make this picture of him in the month of August, year eighteen hundred and sixty-four. Otto-matchi, one mile from the house of Marquis Chisholm, Yokohama, Japan."

NAGASAKI.

We learn that the Japanese are very quiet regarding the action at Simonoseki; but business shows much greater animation, both among natives and foreigners. Cotton had commenced to arrive in the market, and was being bought by Chinese. A very large business had been done in tea; the ships Castleton and Alice loading with that article for London. Freights too were looking better, and the supply of vessels appeared likely soon to run short. The Pembroke brought over a full cargo from Shanghai, and a hope is expressed that this success may encourage the agents to continue to run her to Nagasaki, as the residents highly appreciate the regularity with which they receive their mails by her. The barque Kate Cleather was on the berth for Shanghai; the Diana loading for Tien-tsin; the Alice and Mary and the Dutch barque Alita Augusta for Hong Kong; the Castleton and Alice for London. Besides these vessels there were in port, H.M S Scylla, the Avalanche, Dom Pedro II., Cosmopolite, Berlin, and the French brig Paralyta.

HAKODADI.

The British schooner *Khantai* arrived at Yokohama on the 17th September, having left the above port on the 11th. She experienced thick hazy weather and northerly winds. The typhoon at Yokohama did not extend so far north as Hakodadi.

CHINA.

PEKING AND TIEN-TSIN.

Dates from the latter place are up to the 22nd Sept. The only items published being a notice of the intended races, and extracts from the *Peking Gazettes*.

SHANGHAI.

The English Mail of 10th August arrived out on the 24th Sept., and the French Mail of 17th on the 4th Oct. The dates are now down to the morning of the 9th. The health of the community is *once* more satisfactory.

General Brown had left for Hong Kong, calling at Ningpo *en route*, and on the arrival of General Guy will leave for England. Previous to leaving Shanghai the 2nd Beloochees were paraded and inspected. A number of evolutions were gone through, the men marching past, and making a most imposing show, which was by no means lost on the crowds of Chinese collected to assist in the inspection. The General expressed himself highly pleased at the efficiency displayed by the men, and complimented the colonel and officers on the excellent appearance of the entire regiment.

The Consular Court has been occupied in the investigation of a charge of murder and robbery brought against a man named O'Brien, for some time known as a member of that rowdy class which infests the creeks and rivers in and around the Keang-su and Chi-keang provinces. He now lies in the English gaol, charged with the murder of a Chinaman, under circumstances of almost incredible atrocity, and there is but too much reason to fear that this is only the last of a long continued course of murderous outrages committed on the unoffending native population.

The *Aerolite* case, to which we alluded in our last, has been decided. The ship was held to be in fault, but the junk owners were not altogether guiltless of a want of care and attention. The damages to the junk were therefore awarded as follows: towage taels 125; repairs, taels 1,052; owners of cargo, taels 212—total taels 1,389; costs to be borne by defendants.

In amusements we find the following programme:—The Rowing Club have arranged that a regatta be held during the last week of this month. A gymnasium will shortly be opened in connection with the Volunteer corps, to which, however, non-volunteers will be admitted on the payment of a small entrance fee. A debating society has also been started, and the theatrical season has been most successfully opened by an Amateur Burlesque Company. A professional company has also announced performances for every night during the ensuing eight weeks. The approaching races are also engaging attention.

The settlement has latterly suffered severely from fires. On the morning of the 25th Sept. six shops in the Pên-tang-

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lung were burned, and but for the exertions of the police a much more serious loss of property must have occurred. The entire block of buildings was insured in the "Royal," the agents for which—Messrs. Bower, Hanbury and Co.—have presented the police with the sum of one hundred dollars, as a mark of their appreciation of the exertions of the latter. A few days later an alarming conflagration broke out on the Hongque side; and again on the 6th Oct. the Maloo was the scene of a second fire, more disastrous in its results than was that above mentioned. That a very large amount of property was not sacrificed is due entirely to the fearless and indefatigable exertions of four or five policemen, and of a sailor of the *Coquette* named Boynand, who were on the spot fit an early period. The latter especially deserves the highest credit for the pluck, activity, and intelligence he showed; and we hope that a suitable acknowledgment of his services will be made by the owners of the property and by the Council.

The Chamber of Commerce held a meeting on the 23rd Sept. The only points decided were as to a scale of commissions to be allowed upon mercantile transactions. This scale has called forth much comment. A commission of ½ per cent. is to be allowed on bills and bullion, but the brokerage on produce has been reduced from 1 to ½ per cent.

From Soochow the *North China Herald* gives an account that the country in the vicinity of this city is perfectly quiet, and the villagers are returning in great numbers. An outrage was committed on three Germans and one Englishman who lately made a trip into the country round Soochow. It seems that these men were on their way to join one of the disciplined forces, and had nearly arrived at their destination. At a village where they stopped they were very kindly treated, and even fed and lodged without charge. Having left the hospitable shelter of this village, the travellers were encouraged to pass on to the next halting place on their route. Here the people refused either to give or to sell provisions of any kind. Being unable to obtain supplies by fair means the men proceeded to take what they wanted, and no doubt conducted themselves as rowdies usually do when away from all the restraints of civilised life. The villagers rose and gave the culprits a beating, which the latter certainly very richly deserved. They were then allowed to escape, and they continued their way to the next village on the creek, where they were met by a mob determined to prevent aggression. To this end the villagers seized the boat, arrested the three foreigners, and brought them before the local magistrate, for the violence of whose conduct no excuse can be offered. Instead of taking charge of them and forwarding them to Shanghai, they were given up to be dealt with according to the will of the mob. They were beaten, tied up by the wrists, put up to their necks in water, and otherwise badly treated. One German and the Englishman have since died in consequence of the injuries which they sustained. They eventually escaped, got to Soochow, and there obtained money sufficient to bring them back to Shanghai. The punishment inflicted was outrageously severe, but we can only regret that their own misconduct seems to have, in the first instance, brought it on them. Such is a summary of what occurred. Baron Radowitz, Mr. Probst, and Mr. Interpreter Alabaster proceeded to Soochow to investigate the case, but the result of their inquiries has not yet been published. The depositions of the two Germans who survived have been taken, and coincide in all points with the sketch given above.

The same journal publishes the following from Paoshun :— This usually tranquil spot, which has hardly been heard of since the rebel campaign in the north-east of this province, was, on Sunday evening last, the scene of a brutal outrage. The steamer *Sycee*, owned by the well-known native merchant Yang Fang or Takee, was on her way to the island of Tsung-ming, and had dropped anchor, when she was boarded by a few Cantonese, who were immediately joined by the Cantonese portion of the crew and the firemen. Having seized the captain, they, after a sharp struggle, forced the remainder of the crew and the passengers into the hold, which was battened down. They then took the captain, a poor fellow named Wilson, and leading him down the companion way, chopped his head off with an ordinary meat knife and threw the body overboard. Having accomplished this, they transferred miscellaneous property and sycee to the amount of about thirty thousand taels, to the boats and finally scuttled the steamer, leaving the poor wretches in the hold to their fate. These latter, finding the water rapidly rising, and rendered desperate by their situation, succeeded in forcing the hold open, and at length emerged from their prison before the steamer sunk. Some of their number as soon as possible reported the matter to the superintendent of police, who made every effort to secure the criminals. One Cantonman was caught in a sampan on the river, and was pointed out, and, of course, arrested. He was brought up at the Mixed Court and sent into the city to be examined. Two women, the wife and sister-in-law respectively of the engineer of the boat, who was principally concerned in the murder, have since been arrested on suspicion of knowing something as to the whereabouts of the culprits. They denied being able to give any information on the subject, and were, accordingly, remanded to await the Hien's examination.

The Times' correspondent sends the following under date October 8 :—

Her Majesty's gunboats *Hardy* and *Staunch* have just returned from a successful cruise after pirates among the islands of the Chusan group. On leaving Ningpo the two vessels proceeded in different directions towards the spot where it was anticipated that a piratical nest would be found, in order to intercept any junks that might attempt to escape. The latter, however, appeared to have gained scent of the expedition, and had all disappeared when the two gunboats arrived off Ketsu Island, one of their favourite resorts. As, however, the whole Chusan archipelago abounds in cover to which it is well known that pirates habitually resort, it was determined to prosecute the search. On the 9th information was obtained that two piratical lorchas had just put to sea from Sheipoo harbour, but they were lost sight of, and during the three following days no suspicious craft could be discovered. On the morning of the 12th the gunboats again arrived off Sheipoo on their way back to Ningpo, and this time were more fortunate in their visit. The pirates had evidently flattered themselves that the search was over in this direction, and had doubled back to Sheipoo as soon as the gunboats had left it. The latter were still further favoured by the darkness, which had already fallen when they arrived. Armed boats were sent off from each, which surprised and captured two junks and 25 of the crews after little resistance, the whole affair being over within two hours. On the following morning the *Staunch* steamed to the bottom of the harbour and brought out another pirate junk, which had been deserted by her crew. Having landed the prisoners to be dealt with by the native authorities, the two gunboats steamed out of the bay at daylight on the 14th, but had not gone far when they perceived the mast of a junk peering over a point of land at a considerable distance. Casting off the junks and anchoring them outside, they steamed as close to the spot as the shallowness of the water would allow, and then sent away their boats fully manned and armed in pursuit. The latter, after a pull of about four miles among the islands, came in sight of two vessels beached on the mud in a beautifully secret cove, where they no doubt conceived themselves quite safe from discovery. The moment the boats appeared at the entrance, the junks opened a sharp fire with grape and gingall balls from the four guns which each carried in her broadside. The shots, however, were badly directed, and the attacking party were able to land without loss, and take up a position on some high land from which they poured so hot a fire of musketry that the pirates soon abandoned their vessels and scudded along the mud flats at their best speed, several being knocked over in their flight. On descending to the beach the victors found eight men lying with their throats cut, and on boarding the junks three others in the same condition. Another man, who was lying bound, but alive, was released, and informed the captors that he and the murdered men belonging to the crew of a large Foochow junk had been taken by the pirates a few days previously, and that twenty others of his comrades were lying bound below. The latter were at once released, and were taken by the *Hardy* to the spot where they said their junk had been left at anchor. It is needless to say that she was restored to them. Later in the afternoon the two junks were blown up, and the gunboats set out on their return to Ningpo, the *Hardy* having in tow the *Foochow* trader, and the *Staunch* the two junks that had been captured at Sheipoo. Very bad weather was experienced during the voyage, and some danger incurred through the heavy loads they had astern; but at length, on the evening of the 16th, all five vessels were safely anchored in the Yung. This must be considered a highly successful cruise, five piratical junks having been destroyed, and a large trading vessel and her crew released.

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The steamer *Far East* arrived from Hankow and Kiu-Kiang on the 8th Oct., and would sail for London about the 15th. Her cargo from Hankow is reported as 718,445 lb. tea, and 336 piculs gall nuts.

SWATOW.

The *Daily Press* has the following:—The foreign community of Swatow were put into a state of alarm a few nights ago by the sound of heavy firing at midnight, close to the settlement. This proved to be two piratical junks covering a landing party detached from their crews, who had been discovered by the Kakchio men looting Messrs. Bradley and Co.'s godowns, and were making off with their plunder.

Directly the rascals got on board their junks they stood up the river, having secured about one thousand bags of beancake. Messrs. Richardson and Goodrich (of Messrs. Bradley and Co.'s firm), Mr. Preston (of the Customs), and Mr. Sage (the Consular Constable), snatching up what arms they could, gave chase in three boats.

The pursuit continued for twelve miles, a running fight being kept up the entire distance. The pirates fired from large guns, but the gigs, by keeping well on the junk's quarters, escaped injury, and by sustaining a well-directed and an incessant fire from the gigs at about thirty yards' distance, the pirates were so cut up, that finally they were compelled to run their boats ashore and desert them. This they did close to two large villages, and it was not thought safe to follow the fugitives, particularly as such could only have been done by wading in the mud.

The boats towed the junks off and brought them down to Kakchio in triumph, arriving about eight A.M. The junks' decks were covered with blood, and bullet holes prevailed to an alarming extent. Mr. Preston gave one pirate the contents of two barrels with No. 4 shot at only twenty yards' distance. Sage confined his practice to the helmsmen, and committed sad havoc with a Sharp's rifle. It is hoped that the mandarins will hunt down the perpetrators of this robbery, and make a severe example of them.

HONG KONG.

The English Mail, with dates to 26th August, arrived out on the 4th Oct., in 39 days. The dates are now down to the 15th. The steamer *Glengyle*, Capt. O'Sullivan, arrived out on the 11th Oct., having left the Clyde on 8th July.

The following marine reports are from the *Evening Mail*:—

The Hamburg brig *Bruno* reports having encountered severe weather on the 7th Sept., in which she lost her foremast-head and several sails. On the 17th, she rescued a man from part of the wreck of a vessel supposed to be the Hamburg ship *Goshen*. Some doubt, however, exists as to this, for the man, being a native of Cape Palwa, is not very easily understood. From his statement it would appear she was bound from Borneo to China, when her cargo shifting in a heavy gale, she foundered with all on board. The mate and himself managed to keep afloat on a part of the ship's house, but the former died before assistance came. He also says a large full-rigged ship passed by three days before the *Bruno*, and inquired the name of the vessel, but would not take him off because he was a black fellow.

The British ship *Pak Wan* arrived on 1st Oct. after a passage of 90 days from London, which is the fastest this year. She reports having encountered strong easterly gales from Tristan d'Acunha to lat. 40 S., and strong gales off the Cape of Good Hope; and after entering the China Seas, she had a southerly wind up to lat. 10 N., and north-east and northerly the remainder of the passage. Passing through the Gaspar Straits, she saw three vessels ashore, one of which, a large iron ship, appeared to have been only recently abandoned.

A narrative of the rescue of the passengers and crew of the Hamburg schooner *Athlet*, which was wrecked on the Pratas on the morning of the 29th Sept., has been published. The account was kindly given us by the Rev. Mr. Gulick, who, with his wife, was on his way to the scene of his mission work, in the north of China. The present position of the Chinese junkmen, who behaved so honourably in saving from the wreck and safely landing the party, who saw nothing but death before them, is not a very safe one for the honour and probity of foreigners, or for the encouragement of humane acts on the part of native junkmen. The journal of the rev. gentleman gives a very fair and impartial statement of events which have occurred up to the present moment; and for the present we only express the hope that the Chinamen will get their well-merited due.

The steamer *Union* reports that a very severe gale was felt at Formosa on the 24th Sept., and much damage done to ships in the harbour of Keelung. The Hanoverian brig *Mathilde* was driven on to Tamsui bar, and was almost a total wreck when the *Union* left. On her passage to Hong Kong the *Union* called at the Pescadores, and was there informed by the Chinese that a two masted iron steamer had been lost on the north rocks on the 27th of Sept. Her cargo, they stated, consisted of cotton and beancake.

H.B.M.'s gunboat *Opossum* went out for a cruise, returning with three junks and twenty prisoners. They were taken without resistance in Sow-ke-wan Bay, having full cargoes, with English marks upon them.

The Hamburg brig *Carl Johanna*, which left Hong Kong bound to Chefoo on 13th September, has been obliged to put back, having encountered the typhoon on the 27th, in which she stove in the water-casks she had on deck.

The Hamburg barque *Venezuela* reports having had moderate weather during the latter part of her passage. Off Anjer, on the 8th September, she saw the British ship *Maribelle*, 127 days from New York towards Hong Kong; some of the crew ashore sick. On the 12th September, in the Macclesfield Straits, she saw a large British clipper ship take the ground, and in about an hour after part amidships and sink entirely, the crew reaching the shore in boats.

The British ship *Maiden Queen*, from London, reports having encountered a heavy gale on the 25th August, in lat. 46 S., long. 39 E. Up the China Sea she had light south-west and southerly winds as high as 13 N., and since then a strong north-east monsoon. On 19th August, in lat. 46.30 S., long. 10 E., about noon, the second mate, Mr. Isaac Nicholson, was unfortunately washed overboard. A boat was instantly lowered, though a high sea was running, but all efforts to rescue him were futile. On 19th September, off Java Head, the cook, a Chinaman, named Aching, either jumped or fell overboard.

The *Daily Press* pours out a heap of abuse on Sir Hercules Robinson for the appointment of Captain Kinder as Mint Master, and the latter gentleman also comes in for a share.

The steamer *Fusi-yama*, on her passage from Hong Kong to Yokohama, when off the north end of Formosa, with the wind blowing strongly from the northward, broke her crank shaft. This was followed by the bursting of one of the cylinders. After laying to for twelve hours the broken engine was successfully disconnected, and the steamer made Nagasaki for repairs on the 23rd of September. They were accomplished, and she was obliged to leave for Yokohama on the 5th of October.

The following notification has appeared:—A godown of from three to five hundred tons capacity is required by the Colonial Government for the storage of materials expected from England for the Mint. The godown will be taken for six months certain, and a power of renewal by Government for a further period of six months will be retained. Tenders for the above, stating situation, price per month, and capacity, will be received at the Surveyor-General's office.

The *China Mail* on the late riots between the military and police says:—The details of this affair have been very spare in the Hong Kong papers. The result of the inquests on the bodies of several persons killed in a riot in Hollywood-road has been inconclusive, no verdict having been brought against persons known to the jury. The inquest on the body of an Indian constable has been somewhat more decisive, being a verdict of wilful murder against eleven soldiers of the 99th Regt., who will, of course, be tried at the Supreme Court; but it is difficult to say whether, among so many, the real murderers will be pointed out to the satisfaction of the jury. In the meantime, that hitherto well-behaved and respectable class of men have been rusticating at Kowloong, and we hear that they are under orders for the Cape for two years previous to returning home.

CANTON.

The circular of Messrs. Nye and Co., Canton, has the following on the proposed railways in China:—Reverting to the subject of the proposed railway from Canton to Hankow, as the measure of all others available most fraught with blessings, both moral and material, to the Chinese people, as reaching in this double sense, and most directly, the heart of the empire, we cannot but allude again to the compensation due to them as passive sufferers in the destructive collisions of the two civilisations, out of which the obvious gain has been chiefly to our own, to point out that in taking the initiative of

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forcible inculcation we committed ourselves to the correlative obligation to contribute the beneficent results of Western civilisation as embodied in railway and other "means of intercommunication and hence of moral and social culture prelusive" of those of a spiritual nature. But we have no need to appeal to a sense of duty for incentive to this undertaking, since the volume of trade alone and irrespective of the passenger traffic of this populous country will suffice for its ample productiveness to the shareholders. And since its utility to the Government as a means of preserving order is susceptible of clear demonstration to the Court of Peking, we may hope that the present cordial accord of the four great Powers in presence there by their able representatives,—England, France, Russia and America,—may be effective in obtaining not only the permissive sanction of the Imperial Government but its assurance of pecuniary support of this undertaking.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates hence are to the 23rd October. The London Mail of the 10th September arrived out on the 18th October, and the French Mail of the 17th September on the night of the 21st. Since we last wrote (says the *Strait Times*), instructions have come down from India to the Government here, to proceed with the construction of works for the supply of the town with water. These will entail an expenditure of at least £10,000 in the first year, leaving about double that amount to be afterwards spent by the municipal authorities for the purposes of distributing the water. Of course, this work will in course of time pay itself, and afterwards be a source of considerable municipal revenue; but it is an outlay in the first place which we scarcely expected the Government of India, under the present circumstances of probable transfer, to sanction; for it is understood that India makes no claim to reimbursement for what she has expended on public works, and it is just possible that the sum to be expended on these works—which may reach nearer £20,000 than £10,000—may not be covered by the year's revenue, and may have to be set down among the previous sums spent upon public works, and lost to the India Government. Another way of looking upon it is, that the Indian Government have really had intelligence that we are not to be transferred to the Colonial office.

The following "losses" are recorded:—

Captain Nordenholz, of the Bremen brig *Johanna*, from Buenos Ayres, reports having seen, on the 7th October, the wreck of a large ship, apparently American built, off Rattan Island, between Rhio and Singapore Straits. Her masts were gone, and the ship water-logged; figure head gilded, no name to be seen, passed within 25 fathoms; wreck drifting.

By the *Oenarang*, Dutch mail steamer, we hear of the total loss of the British ship *Knight Templar*, Captain Sparke, of Liverpool, bound from Shanghai to London, in Allass Straits, on the 17th Sept. The captain, passengers, and some of his crew arrived at Singapore on the 19th Oct. Captain Swan, of the British barque *Keepsake*, also from Shanghai for London, had arrived, reporting the loss of his vessel on the Island of Savu in June last.

The British steamer *Foong-Suey*, from New York on the 28th July, arrived at Singapore on the 19th October.

The British steamer *Glengyle*, Captain Sulivan, from Glasgow the 8th July last, arrived on the evening of the 30th September, and sailed for Hong Kong on the 2nd October.

The British steamer *Fire Queen*, Captain Thompson, from New York the 7th July last, arrived on the morning of the 2nd October.

Captain Cartz, the officers and crew of the iron ship *Sea Horse* (the wreck of which vessel in Gaspar Straits was noticed in the *London and China Telegraph* of the 9th November), arrived on the 22nd October from Billiton in a native craft. They describe the vessel as a total wreck—nothing but some of the stores and rigging being saved. During the time the shipwrecked crew were on Billiton, they received every kindness and attention from the Dutch authorities.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

HARPER—On the 5th Oct., at Shanghai, the wife of Capt. W. Harper, of a daughter.
HUFFUM—On the 27th Sept., at Hong Kong, the wife of F. S. Huffum, of a son.
HENDERSON—On the 9th Sept, at Shanghai, the wife of James Henderson, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.S.E., of a daughter.
NORIE—On the 30th July, at Valetta, Double Bay, Sydney, the wife of Capt. W. F. Norie, of a daughter.
VACHER—On the 9th Nov., at 33, Avenue-road, N.W., the wife of Major Vacher, 22nd Regt., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

ALT—EARL.—On the 15th Sept., at Adelaide, South Australia, William John Alt, Esq., of Nagasaki, Japan, to Elizabeth Christiana Fernhill, daughter of George Windsor Earl, Esq., of Province Wellesley, Straits of Malacca.
STIBOLT—MORRIS.—On the 24th Sept., at Shanghai, at the Trinity Church, by the Rev. W. Mitchell, N. Stibolt, of Shanghai, native of Denmark, to Mrs. J. Morris, of Shanghai, native of Norwich.

DEATHS.

ADAMS—On the 20th Nov., at 55, Torrington-square, Harriet Anne, wife of Borlase Hill Adams, Esq., barrister-at-law, and daughter of the late John Cobbold, Esq., of Hol, Wells, Ipswich.
ANTROBUS—On the 24th Aug., at Auckland, New Zealand, aged 29, Major Antrobus, 2nd Waikato Militia, second son of the late G. C. Antrobus, Esq., Eaton Hall, Congleton.
ALLAN—On the 12th Oct., at Penang, John, the infant son of John Allen, Esq., aged 5 months and 5 days.
BAITH—On the 9th Oct., at the Seaman's Hospital, Hong Kong, Geo. Baith, seaman of the ship Energie.
FREEMAN—On the 19th Sept., at the Washington Restaurant, Hong-que, Shanghai, Wm. Freeman, aged 30 years.
FRASER—On the 12th Oct., at the Seaman's Hospital, Hong Kong, A. Fraser, seaman of the ship Fahkee.
HAKANSSAN—On the 14th Oct, at the Seaman's Hospital, Hong Kong, J. F. Hakanssan, seaman of the ship Falco.
HINDS—On the 4th Oct., at Hong Kong, Charles Hinds, master of the British barque Xulla, aged 52 years.
HALL—On the 20th Sept., suddenly, at the Methodist New Connexion Mission, Tientsin, North China, Emma Eliza, the beloved wife of the Rev. William Nelthorpe Hall, in her 35th year.
KETTLE—On the 28th Sept., at Shanghai, of dysentery, Mary Anne, relict of the late Edwin K. Kettle, of the British Consulate, Ningpo, aged 20 years.
MOLLER—On the 29th Sept., at Shanghai, of dysentery, at the age of 6 months and 18 days, Eric Arthur, the beloved and infant son of Nils Moller.
M'DONALD—On the 13th Oct., at Hong Kong, Mary Ann, youngest child of A. M'Donald, shipwright, aged 11 months.
NEILSON—On the 14th Oct., at Hong Kong, Capt. Neilson, of the ship Hope.
OFFY—On the 5th Oct., at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, John Offy, destitute seaman.
PHILLIPS—On the 9th Oct., at the Seaman's Hospital, Hong Kong, George Phillips, seaman of the ship Montrose.
ROWE—On the 29th Sept., at Ningpo, George Henry Rowe, late master of the steamship Tun-sin.
SIMPSON—On the 30th Sept., at Hong Kong, West Point, Henry Simpson, superintendent of Buildings for the Hong Kong and China Gas Company, in the 59th year of his age.
WITTY—On the 30th Sept., at Hong Kong, West Point, Ellen, the beloved wife of R. C. Witty, manager of the Gas Works.
WAYETT—On board the Berwick Walls, floating hospital ship, Shanghai, aged 40, of dysentery, James Wayett, late proprietor of the Pacific Restaurant, Hong-que.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 10½d. to 6s. 11d.	6s. 11d. to 7s. 0d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 10d.	4s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.
At Singapore	6 ditto		
At Manila	6 ditto	4s. 10d. to 4s. 10½d.	4s. 10½d. to 4s. 11d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 320 to 321 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 225 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 10 to 11 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 73 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 29 to 30 discount.

[The telegram per French mail, with ten days later news, reports Exchange at Shanghai 6s. 8½d.; at Hong Kong, 4s. 9½d.]

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—CANTON.—In Country Congous little has been done; in Canton Congous an average amount of business has been transacted; Scented Teas are in fair request, fine being wanted, and common being neglected. Canton Greens are neglected and tend down. The following are the settlements of the fortnight:—Congou: 1 chop fair Oonahm at 24 taels, 1,250 half-chests and 750 boxes Canton at 18 taels to 37 for common to finest. Scented Orange Pekoe: 5,000 boxes at 19 taels to 37 for common to very fine. Scented Caper: 7,000 boxes at 19 taels to 31 for common to finest. Canton Greens: 1,600 boxes Imperial at 14 taels to 22 for common to fair. The stock on the market consists of 4 chops Country Congous, 3,500 half-chests Canton do., 600 half-chests Souchong, 3,000 half-chests Oolong and Powchong, 22,000 boxes Scented Teas, 15,000 boxes Canton Gunpowder, and 2,000 half-chests Canton Young Hyson.

AMOY.—Oolongs: Settlements have been confined to 710 half-chests at $23 to $26 for fair to superior cargo, but the teamen are now willing to accept much lower rates. In the absence of late transactions, no true quotation can be given. In Ankois no settlements have been made. The total supplies of these two kinds for the present season to date amount to 91,350 half-chests and 1,750 boxes, against 63,600 half-chests and 1,750 boxes same period last season. The settlements this season to date amount to 54,800 half-chests and 1,100 boxes, the stock on the market being reported at 36,500 half-chests and 650 boxes. Congous: A decline of $3 was at one time established, but latterly an improved demand having set in, prices have become a little firmer. The settlements of the month are reported at 1,400 half-chests at $15½ a $22½, for common to flavory. The total supplies of the season to date amount to 38,000 half-chests and 2,400 boxes, against 48,000 half-chests and 550 boxes same period last season. The settlements this season to date amount to 31,000 half-chests and 250 boxes, leaving an unsold stock of 7,000 half chests and 2,000 boxes. Plain Orange Pekoes: No transactions; supplies this season 1,000 half-chests and 500 boxes against 4,000 half-chests and 1,750 boxes same period last season. The whole of the present season's supply has been placed. Plain Capers: No supplies this season.

FOOCHOW.—A large business has been transacted during the fortnight, notwithstanding the unfavourable news from London per 10th August mail. Dust and shipping kinds have been largely dealt in for the Colonies at previous rates; extensive settlements have also been made in flavory to good flavory kinds at very irregular prices; these descriptions are fully 1½ tael higher. The market for all grades closes firm, good common Congou being 16 taels.

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SHANGHAI.—Black: A fair business has been transacted during the fortnight at rates which show no material change; the prices, however, have been very irregular, some settlements being fully one tael over last mail's quotations. In spite of the continued bad advices received by the French mail, holders remain firm. The stock is now almost entirely composed of third crop teas. Settlements on the market 25 chops, or 11,119 chests Oopacks, Oonahms, Ninchows, Hohows, and Flowery Pekoe. Re-shipped on owners' account, 25 chops, or 12,719 chests, together 50 chops, or 23,838 chests, making total for season to date 271,695 chests. Stock, waiting shipment and for re-sale, 53 chops or 23,289 chests. Second and third crop Oopacks are quoted 25½ tls. to 29 tls.; Ningchows, 25 tls. to 32 tls.; Oonahms, 20 tls. to 26 tls.; Hohows, 18 tls. to 22 tls. Green: Very little has been doing during the fortnight, and only two settlements of Shanghai-packed are reported, which show no change on previous rates. Buyers are generally holding off, and settlements could be made at a considerable decline, as the stock is now daily increasing. Several chops of Teen-Kai and Fychow have arrived from Ningpo, but at present holders are not pressing sales. The stock is, it is generally thought, considerably over what is reported by the natives. Re-shipments and settlements, 10,548 half-chests Pingsuey, and 1,925 half-chests Japan and Shanghai packed—together, 11,873 half-chests, making total to date, 69,713 half-chests. Stock of Green Tea is estimated at 15,396 half-chests Fychows, &c.; 2,762 half-chests Shanghai-packed Japan; 5,758 half-chests Pingsuey: total, 29,916 half-chests.

HANKOW.—The market continued quiet until about a week after the departure of last mail, when a very active business took place for a few days, which was suddenly checked on receipt of the news of advance in exchange, and the market has now relapsed into its former quiet state. The teamen still remain very firm, and transactions are likely to be limited until they submit to a reduction. Settlements since the 14th ult. amount to 60 chops (including two contracts and four sent to Shanghai) making the total settlements for the season 600 chops, and leaving a stock on the market of about 50 chops. Quotations are:—Oopacks mediums, taels 20 to 22; Oonahms, common, taels 16 to 17.

KEWKIANG.—Green: On the 21st ulto. a chop of medium Fychow was settled at 36 taels, which was deemed the opening of the market. The next day a chop of fine Tea was settled on private terms. Nothing further was done until the 26th, when another chop of medium Fychow was taken at 36¼ taels—these, with the purchase of 400 half-chests. Kewkiang packed at 32 taels, comprise the settlements of the fortnight. Shippers appear to be unwilling to go on at these rates, and arrivals having been full the market looks quiet and dull. The stock amounts to 15,000 half-chests Country and 2,000 Kewkiang packed, and more is known to be close at hand. Black Teas: The settlements of the fortnight comprise 6,000 chests. Congou at taels 20 to 24 for fair medium Ningchow, and taels 14¾ to 16 for common to fair Hohow. Stock 13 chops.

YOKOHAMA.—Although a decline of about $2 per picul has taken place, still rates are too high for investment. Stocks are increasing, and must continue to accumulate until the dealers moderate their demands. The settlements for the month of September are estimated at 3,500 pl., the unsold stock being 8,000 pls. The quotations are—fine, $27 to $28 per picul; medium, $24 to $27; common, $15 to $23. The export from 1st July to date amounts to 1,311,903 lb. against 1,404,223 lb. same period last season, 5,811,901 lb. for season 1862-63, and 5,847,133 lb. for season 1861-62.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—For a short time after the departure of last mail the dealers continued firm, notwithstanding the high rate of exchange. Latterly, however, they became more anxious to realise, and submitted to a decline of 10 to 15 taels per picul, which enabled them to sell about 1,500 bales. The receipts from the country are estimated at 800 bales, and the Chinamen report they find difficulty in obtaining supplies, and that prices are, consequently, very high. From Japan only 83 bales have come forward, and although at Yokohama they are sanguine that the stock at Yedo will shortly be brought down, there is still much uncertainty about it, so little dependence can be placed in the promises made by the Japanese officials. The transactions of the fortnight are stated at 1,500 bales, against 1,700 do. the corresponding fortnight of last season, and 1,200 of the season before. The present stock is stated at 6,000 bales. The following are the latest quotations:—Tsatlees, No. 1 chops, 460 to 470 tls. per picul; 2, 440 to 450; 3, 420 to 430. Taysaams, No. 1, 380 to 390; 2, 360 to 370; 3, 345 to 355; 4 and 5 inferior, 300 to 335. Sewings, 300 to 350.

YOKOHAMA.—The state into which the market has for so long a period been thrown still prevails, owing to a continuance of the restrictions for some time past imposed on this article by the Japanese authorities. Several parcels have been smuggled down, but as they passed direct into the hands of the respective firms who were interested in them, they were not placed on the market, and prices therefore cannot be quoted. The native silk dealers give strong assurances that the silk now detained at Yedo will shortly be set free, but beyond this there is no ground to base a hope when this desideratum will take place. The exports this season have been 698 bales, against 5,810 bales same period last season.

DRUGS, &C.—Cassia Lignea: Settlements are reported to the extent of 500 piculs at $5.60, and notwithstanding the augmentation of the stock to 800 piculs the article is firmly held at $15.70, being fully 20 cents advance on last quotations. Cassia Buds: Nominal at $53, no stock. China Galls: The old stock of 100 piculs is now offered at $12.50 showing a decline of 50 cents. Vermilion: Has further receded in value, being now quoted $40.50 per box of 50 catties. Rhubarb: On reinspection the old stock of 130 piculs shows a serious depreciation in quality, occasioned by careless drying of the roots, and as the holders do not moderate their demands, no doubt this stock will soon become unfit for shipment to Europe or New York, as has often been the case before. Musk: Nothing doing, no fresh supplies. Galangal: No buyers for export; nominal price $2 to 3 per picul. Essential Oils: None on the market.

CAMPHOR.—HONG KONG.—Of the 900 piculs stock on hand but 150 piculs have found buyers, at 19 dols. per picul packed, and the balance is still held at the same price without finding buyers. No supplies have arrived during the fortnight.

COTTON.

SHANGHAI (From John R. Fraser and Co.'s Circular).—The animation which existed in this market at the departure of the last mail continued during the greater portion of the past fortnight, but the high rates at which the market opened are declining. The news brought by the English mail of the 10th August and the French mail of the 16th August, with telegrams, and the state of our money market here, have all had the effect of causing buyers to wait for lower rates or advices of improvement at home. The cotton is now coming on the market pretty freely, but it is to be regretted that the Chinese still persist in wetting or otherwise falsely packing the cotton, and though the resistance made to receiving wet cotton is well understood by them, the desire to purchase when rates were so high has encouraged the Chinese to wet the cotton to make up in weight for the decline in price. It is quite certain that as the price has declined the supply has become of an inferior description, the cotton in the hands of the weavers being much superior to that brought on the Shanghai market. The rates given at present are so much in favour of the planters or farmers that the greater portion of the dealers or cotton shopkeepers have been obliged to stop buying, even with the market price at Tls. 20. Parcels on the spot have been sold this week in lots of 200 to 1,000 bales each, at Tls. 19.50 to Tls. 20 for Shanghai denomination. Tls. 19 for Kongpo. Tientsin, Tls. 19.50. Contracts for delivery this month, Tls. 19.25 and Tls. 19.50; for November, Tls. 19 Shanghai cotton.

NINGPO.—Supplies have been pretty free; rates have fallen about $3 per bale, and seem disposed to decline still further. The quotations are—You You, $33 (per bale of 118 to 120 catties) for the best. Eu chong, $31,50. The steamer *Tynemouth* took 4,000 bales to Hong Kong, and the stock on the market is 5,000 bales.

YOKOHAMA.—The season is drawing to a close, and the new crop is expected by the end of October. Prices are firm at $30 to $31 per picul, the settlements for September being reported at 6,000 piculs, the quality of which has proved very inferior. The unsold stock is reduced to 500 piculs.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—The value of cotton yarn in this market remains much the same as previously quoted, although small parcels of the lower numbers have been quitted at slightly easier prices. The transactions of the fortnight are estimated at 425 bales, and about 70 bales of damaged twist have likewise been moved off at auction. Grey Shirtings: The demand has been entirely confined to the Chinese dealers, who have purchased more freely since the departure of last mail than for some time past. Prices are, however, slightly weaker, although there is scarcely any change to be made in current quotations. Settlements are estimated at 13,500 pieces, exclusive of 5,500 pieces damaged cloths sold by public auction. In Canton 1,000 pieces have been taken at about previous rates, and sales of about 8,000 pieces are reported from Foochow, at $4.90 to $5.70 for 7¼ lbs. to 8½ lbs. goods. White Shirtings: Without change to notice in value, have also met with a fair amount of inquiry, and the settlements reported during the past fortnight are put at 10,000 pieces. 1,000 pieces have found buyers in Foochow, at $4.50 to $5.40 for 56 to 62 reed. T-Cloths: During the last week there has been more inquiry for these goods, and the value of the lighter grades had advanced fully 10 cents per picul. To-day however, there is less demand, and the market closes rather dull. Settlements amount to 22,400 pieces, and 12,800 pieces sold by public auction. Sales of 1,800 pieces are reported from Foochow, at $3.40 to 3.65 for 6lbs. to 7¼lbs. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: Have been in moderate request, and the sales effected during the past three weeks amount to 1,950 pieces Dyed Shirtings, and about a similar quantity of Coloured Brocades, exclusive of 500 pieces of the latter sold by auction. 600 pieces of Brocades have also been disposed of in the Foochow market. Damasks: 220 pieces disposed of at about previous rates. Chintzes: No sales. Handkerchiefs: The sales effected of these goods are estimated at 4,500 dozens, in addition to which about 1,020 dozens of damaged handkerchiefs have found buyers at public auction.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: These goods have met with good demand during the last three weeks, and prices of the first-mentioned are slightly firmer. Sales are estimated at about 1,800 pieces of all descriptions. Long Ells: There is some little improvement noticeable in the value of Long Ells, and the amount of business which has been transacted since the date of last Circular has reached a fair amount. Settlements are put at 2,200 pieces. The sales reported from Foochow are put at 300 pieces, H H Scarlet at $8.80, and 500 pieces Assorted Colours at $9.75 per piece. Camlets have also advanced about 50 cents in value since the beginning of the month, and the settlements effected amount to 1,580 pieces. Lastings: These goods are very scarce, and transactions have been limited to the placing of 20 pieces. Blankets: A moderate inquiry has existed for these goods, and sales of 850 pairs are reported.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: There is not any change noticeable in the value of the principal descriptions of iron imported, but prices continue firm, and a moderate amount of inquiry exists; the settlements of all kinds in this Colony amount to 4,700 piculs, the bulk being Nail Rod; while from Canton the sales are put at 3,750 piculs of Nail Rod and 115 piculs of iron wire. Lead: Stocks continue to increase, and there is not at present the slightest demand for the article in this Colony. In Canton the sales are put are at 1,200 piculs at lower rates. Tin: The settlements amount to 650 slabs. Tin-plates: Have found buyers to the extent of 550 boxes.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

AT KANAGAWA.—None.

AT SHANGHAI.—From London: Sept. 23, Laurel; 24, Sir W. F. Williams; and 30, Anglo Saxon. From Liverpool: Oct. 1, Elizabeth Murrow. From Sunderland: Sept. 21, Beatrice and Bosworth. From Glasgow: 21, Glenclune. From Cardiff: Oct. 5, Cesarea. From New York: Sept. 21, Lancaster.

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At Foochow, Amoy, &c.—None.

At Hong Kong.—From London: Oct. 1, Pak-wan, and Sovereign of India; 2, Havelock; 12, Maiden Queen. From Liverpool: 2, Amazone. From Cardiff: 1, Venezuela, and Wartburg; 3, Antagonist; 5, Orion. From Shields: 2, Sepia; and 3, Daisy. From Sunderland: 4, Cambridge. From Newcastle: 8, Telegraphe. From Clyde (*via* Singapore): Glengyle (steamer). From Newport: 2, Atlantic. From New York; 2, Caroline; 6, Maribelle.

At Manila.—None.

At Singapore.—From Liverpool: Oct. 11, Conheath. From Cardiff: 5, Florentine; 19, Euxine. From Bristol: 6, Equinox. From Newcastle: 8, Warrior. From Swansea: 10, Der Sud. From Hamburgh: 10, Ophelia; 18, Aline. From Bordeaux: Jeane d'Arc. From New York: 20, Foong Suey (str.); 8, Fire Queen (str.)

At Batavia.—From London: H. Lidnina, and from Glasgow: County of Lanark.

DEPARTURES.

From Kanagawa.—None.

From Shanghai.—From London: Sept. 24, Sarah Newman, and Yaratilda; Oct. 2, Leichardt; 6, Queen of Nations. For Liverpool: Sept. 23, Providence; 30, Patna. For New York: Sept. 24, Prince of Wales.

From Foochow.—For London: Sept. 19, Rajah of Cochin; 23, Harkaway, and Lord Raglan. For Liverpool: 28, Veronica.

From Amoy.—For London: Oct. 7, Taeping. For New York: 5, Salacia.

From Hong Kong and Canton and Macao.—For London: Sept. 28, Coulnakyle; 29, Cathaya; 3, (via Macao) Peterborough; and 7, England. For Liverpool: Oct. 1, Samarang. For Queenstown: Sept. 26, Alida. For Hamburg: Sept. 30, Minerva and Guillaume.

From Manila.—For Liverpool: Oct. 1 (via Cebu), North; 5, Olano. For New York: Sept. 20, Rattler.

From Singapore.—For London: Oct. 20, Warren Hastings. For Liverpool: 18, Simoon.

From Kui-Kiang.—For Woosung and London: Oct. 4, Far East (tr.).

From Penang.—For London: Oct. 13, Isabella.

LOADING.

At Kanagawa.—For London: Mountain Ash, Amelia, Little Edith, Comus, Lucknow.

At Shanghai.—For London: Avonhue, Agincourt, Beemah, Rifle, Canadian, Cleveland, Countess Russell, David McIvor, Glenclune, John Staunton, jun., Palawan, Queen of the Ocean. For Liverpool: Gwalior, Isabella, Queen of the East, Southern Empire, Sailor's Home, Savior Faire, Ærolite, Ariadne, Constance, Coringa, Denis Horton, Her Majesty, Norah Creina, Roodee. For New York: Clara, Babuijun.

At Foochow.—For London: West Derby, Cœur de Lion, Lord Raglan, Gauntlet, Ellenborough (expected), Lord Clyde, Prince Alfred, Carisbrook, Langdale, Verbena. For New York: Ravensworth.

At Hong Kong and Canton.—For London: Cambalu, Peterborough (full). For Liverpool: Melbreck, Jas. Vinnicombe, Mary Nicholson. For New York: N. B. Palmer.

At Manila.—For London: President Harbitz. For Falmouth: Malvina Vidal. For Liverpool; C. S. Lemon.

At Singapore.—For London: Maid of the Tyne, Northumberland, St. Oswin. For Liverpool: Moneta. For Falmouth: Susanne. For Cork: Kirkconnell. For Marseilles: Ocean. For New York: Demetris. For Boston: Borneo.

At Batavia.—For Channel (for orders): Ocean, Oscar I., Cecilia, President v Ryckevorsel, Wilhelmina.

At Penang.—For London: Wellington. For Bordeaux: Concorde.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Kanagawa.—To London: Silk, £5 tea and cotton; £4 per ton of 50 cubic feet.

Shanghai.—To London and Liverpool: Tea and cotton, £3. 7s. 6d. to £3. 17s. 6d. per ton.

Foochow.—To London: £3. 15s. to £4.

Hong Kong a. d Canton.—Geo Holmes's Circular gives the following settlements for home:—James Vinnicombe (679), on the berth for Liverpool, at £3; Blancathra (466), Foochow to London, at £3. 5s.; Star of the North, do., £3. 5s.; Prince Alfred, do., £3. 15s. to £4; Freya (486), Foochow to Europe, £3. 10s.; Catharina (225), Macao to Hamburg, £3; Montrose (778), Whampoa to Demerara with coolies, at £15 per head. To Rangoon and back the rates vary from 60 to 80 cents per picul; Bangkok and back, 45 cents—20 to 25 cents extra if ordered north.

Manila.—The President Harlitz has been laid on for London, at £3 for clayed sugar, £4. 10s. for hemp, and £4 per 18 cwt. for coffee. The North has been taken up for Liverpool, to load here and at Cebu, her rates being £3. 5s. from this, and £3. 10s. from Cebu, for unclayed sugar, and £4. 5s. for hemp shipped at Cebu.

Singapore.—Notwithstanding a good number of arrivals seeking employment, rates have slightly advanced.

Batavia.—Numerous charters have taken place, and as the arrivals of seeking vessels have been less numerous, an advance in freights has been established, vessels having been lately taken up at 85f. per last for sugar to Holland, equal to £4. 2s. E.I. Company's conditions.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From England and Continent to China, &c.—Sept. 27, Equinox, from Bristol, to order; 24, Florentia, Cardiff to Singapore; 27, Ophelia, Hamburg to Singapore; Frans and Elise, Amsterdam; 30, Lelia Rookle, Hendrika, Amsterdam, Batavia; Oct. 2, Clarendon, Newport to Shanghai; Ontares, Bordeaux to Saigon; 8, Aline, Hamburg to Singapore; 11, Europe, Rotterdam to Batavia.

From China, &c., to England and Continent.—Sept. 25, Wild Deer, Shanghai to London; 26, Joseph Wilson, Batavia to Rotterdam; 27, Queen Bee, Singapore to Falmouth; 30, Edward Percy, Hong Kong to Liverpool; Oct. 3, Yeavering Belle, Hong Kong to London; 6, Queen of India, Singapore to London; Hendrika, Batavia to Rotterdam.

From China, &c., to United States.—Sept. 27, Franklin and Julia Ambridge, and, Oct. 1, Continent, from Manila to New York.

CASUALTIES.

FORMOSA.

The steamer Union reports that a very severe gale was felt at Formosa on the 24th of September, and much damage done to the ships in the harbour of Keelung. The Hanoverian brig Mathilde was driven on to Tamsui bar, and was almost a total wreck when the Union left.

HONG KONG.

The Goshen, from Labuan to Hong Kong, has foundered, all hands lost; excepting one coloured man.

The Hamburg schooner Athlet, from Hong Kong, bound to Tien-Tsin, was totally lost on the Pratas Shoals on the 29th September. The Rev. Mr. Gulick and his wife were passengers. All hands saved.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

Arrivals not Included in the Tables.—Nov. 24, at London, from Manila, Admiraal de Winter; 24, at Falmouth, from Rangoon, Transit and Valentia; 23, at Queenstown, from Rangoon, Kallibokka, from Manila, Achilles; 22, at Texel, from Batavia, Sliedrecht; 22, a; Quiberon, from Rangoon, Alphonsine Irma; 22, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Burgermeister Hoffman; 26, at Liverpool, from Shanghai, "Hougoumont," Flamank; at Milford, from Maulmain, Madawaska; 28, at Ramsgate, from Ceylon, Choice; at Falmouth, from Manila, Chance; at Liverpool, from Singapore, Volunteer; at Plymouth, from Maulmain, Tony; at Deal, from Colombo, Balnaguith; at London, from Singapore, The Tweed.

Departures.—Nov. 25, from London, for Colombo, Isabella Atkinson; Nov. 28, from Liverpool, for Cheribon, Java, Moreno, for Hong Kong, Monsoon, for Batavia and Sourabaya, Dionysia Catherina, for Singapore, Agenoria, Hurry Puddemsey, for Shanghai, *via* Cardiff, W. W. Smith.

Spoken.—Asia (Eng. bark), for Singapore, 48 N., 8 W.; Zaanstroom (Dutch schr.), Amsterdam to Batavia, 21 Sept., 2 S., 20 W.; William Stairs (?), Penang to London, 23 Oct., 8 N., 23 W.; Barndre, Bordeaux to Batavia, Oct. 18, on the line, 25 W.; Waalstroom, Amsterdam to Japan, Nov. 17; Geologist, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Sept. 14, out 50 days, 14 S., 88 E.; Velore (Pr. ship), Batavia to Boston, Sept. 29, 24 days out, 31 S., 38 E.

Laid On.—At London, for Colombo, Princess, Empress.

Casualties.—The long boat of the Robin Hood was picked up on the 23rd November off the South Foreland, and on the following day in the stream off the North Sand Head, a few cases, supposed to be from the wreck of that vessel.

The mate of the Helen's Bank, from Colombo to London, which ran ashore at Scilly on the 18th Nov., reports that when she struck there were only three men and a boy on board, most of the crew having been discharged.

The Choice, Crozier, of Shields, from Colombo to London, went on shore in St. Margaret's Bay during the gale on the night of the 25th Nov. Crew saved; she has since been towed into Ramsgate Harbour, making water.

According to latest accounts, the Robin Hood lies in the same position where she sunk. All her sails have been unbent or cut away by boatmen, but in consequence of a heavy swell, nothing else could be done. Seven cases of her cargo have been washed ashore at Dungeness.

THE NAVAL ACTION IN JAPAN.

(From the *London Gazette* of Nov. 18.)

Despatches, of which the following are copies, have been received at the Admiralty from Vice-Admiral Sir Augustus L. Kuper, K.C.B., the Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's ships and vessels on the China station:—

"Operations in the Straits of Simonoseki.

"Euryalus, Straits of Simonoseki, Sept. 15.

"Sir,—I acquainted the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty briefly in my letter of the 10th inst., No. 342, with the successful result of the operations of the allied squadrons in the Straits of Simonoseki, and I have now the honour of reporting in detail, for their lordships' information, the progress of events subsequently to the 29th ult., the day of our departure from Yokohama.

"2. The Perseus having joined my flag in the entrance to the Boungo Channel, with a large collier in tow from Shanghai, and the Coquette arriving at the rendezvous on the 4th from Nagasaki, the force by which the operations were conducted consisted of the undermentioned ships, viz.:—

"British.—The Euryalus, Tartar, Conqueror, Barossa, Leopold, Argus, Perseus, Coquette, Bouncer, and the battalion of Royal Marines.

"French.—The Semiramis, screw, 35 guns, flag of Rear-Admiral Jaurès; Duplex, screw, 10 guns; Tancrède, screw, 4 guns, despatch vessel.

"Dutch.—The Metalen Kruis, screw, 16 guns, senior officer's ship; D'Jambi, screw, 16 guns; Amsterdam, paddle, 8 guns; Medusa, screw, 18 guns.

"And the United States' chartered steam vessel Takiang, with an officer, a party of men, and a gun of the United States' corvette Jamestown.

"3. The whole squadron having assembled at the island of Hime Sima, in the Inland Sea (the appointed rendezvous), left that anchorage at 9 A.M. on the 4th inst., and steered for the entrance to the Straits of Simonoseki, anchoring in the afternoon out of range of the batteries.

"4. The accompanying tracing of the chart of the straits will explain to their lordships the position and strength of the batteries as described thereon by Major Wray, Royal Engineers, the batteries being referred to in this despatch by numbers corresponding with those on the plan.

"5. Having, in company with Rear-Admiral Jaurès, reconnoitred the

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position of the batteries belonging to the Prince of Choshiu, it was arranged that the attack should be made on the 5th inst., as soon as the tide served, and at 2 P.M. the signal was made for the ships to take up their positions.

"As soon as this was accomplished the action was commenced from the bow gun of the Euryalus, and the fire was smartly returned and kept up with much spirit by the Japanese batteries. At about 4.30 P.M. the fire from Nos. 4 and 5 batteries evidently slackened, and shortly afterwards ceased altogether, and by 5.30 batteries Nos. 6, 7, and 8 were also silenced. The day was now too far advanced to admit of the landing parties being disembarked, but the Perseus and the Dutch corvette Medusa being very close to battery No. 5, and it being too dark to signalise for instructions, Commander A. J. Kingston, with Lieutenant F. J. Pitt and a party of men from the Perseus, followed by Captain de Casembroot and Lieutenant de Hart, of the Medusa, gallantly landed, spiked most of the guns in that battery, and returned to their ships without casualties of any sort, thus rendering very valuable service.

"6. The positions taken up by the allied squadrons in this afternoon's engagement were as follows:—The advanced squadron, under the command of Captain J. M. Hayes, consisting of the Tartar, Dupleix, Metalen Kruis, Barossa, D'Jambi, and Leopard, moved into the bay off the village of Tanoura, as shown on the plan, within easy range of batteries 3 to 9 inclusive, while the Euryalus and Semiramis opened fire upon the same works; the light squadron, under Commander Kingston, consisting of the Perseus, Medusa, Tancrède, Coquette, and Bouncer, were directed to take the batteries in flank; the Argus and Amsterdam, being at first kept in reserve to render assistance to any ship that might be disabled or grounded, were afterwards ordered to close and engage; and the Conqueror, having the battalion of Marines on board, was, in consquence of the difficult navigation, directed to approach only sufficiently near to admit of her Armstrong guns bearing on the nearest batteries. During this operation the Conqueror grounded twice on a knoll of sand, but came off again without assistance and without sustaining any damage. The Takiang also fired several shots from her one Parrot gun, doing good service. The Coquette towards the close of the engagement was withdrawn from her position with the flanking squadron, and sent to assist the foremost of the advanced corvette squadron, a service which Commander A. G. R. Roe performed with great promptness.

"7. At daylight on the 6th inst. No. 8 battery again opened fire upon the advanced squadron, doing some damage to the Tartar and Dupleix, but on the squadron returning the fire the battery was soon silenced, and only an occasional straggling shot was fired from it afterwards. The arrangements for the disembarkation having been completed, the allied forces, composed of the small-arm companies of the Euryalus and Conqueror, under the command of Captain J. H. J. Alexander, of the Euryalus, the battalion of Marines and Marines of the squadron under that of Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Suther, and detachmen's of 350 French and 200 Dutch seamen and Marines, the former under the command of Captain du Quilis and Lieutenant Layrle, Chef-d'Etat Major, and the latter under that of Lieutenant Binkis, were distributed in the boats of the squadron, and towed to the opposite shore by the Argus, Perseus, Coquette, Tancrède, Amsterdam, Medusa, and Takiang, the Bouncer assisting to cover the landing, which was effected without accident, under the able superintendence of Captain W. G. Luard, of the Conqueror, assisted by Commander E. T. Nott, of that ship, and the force proceeded, under my personal directions, to assault and take possession of the principal batteries, which was accomplished with only trifling opposition. All the guns having been dismounted and spiked, carriages and platforms burnt, and magazines blown up, and deeming it inexpedient, from the very rugged and almost impenetrable nature of the country, to retain possession of any post on shore during the night, I directed the whole force to re-embark at 4 P.M.

"8. The French and Dutch detachments were already in their boats, when the Naval Brigade, stationed at Battery No. 5, was suddenly attacked by a strong body of Japanese assembled in the valley in the rear of the battery. Colonel Suther's battalion of Marines coming up at this moment a joint attack was immediately organised, and the enemy driven back upon a strongly-placed stockaded barrack, from which they were dislodged after making a brief but sharp resistance, leaving seven small guns in our possession. I regret to say that Captain Alexander, while gallantly leading his men to the attack of the stockade, received a severe wound in the foot, and many other casualties also occurred in this attack. The whole force having then been ordered to embark reached their ships without accident, notwithstanding the violence of the currents, which presents serious obstacles to any operations in these straits.

"9. During this day's action I noticed with great pleasure the coolness and gallantry of the Naval Brigade, under Captain Alexander, the excellent discipline and steady bearing under fire of the battalion of Marines under Colonel Suther, ably supported by Lieutenant-Colonels P. C. Penrose and C. W. Adair; and I observed with satisfaction the readiness with which the French and Dutch brigades occupied their positions. It was, however, a source of regret to me that the embarcation of our allies prevented their taking part in the gallant affair at the enemy's stockade.

"10. The Perseus, while covering the landing on the morning of this day was driven on shore by a strong eddy of the current, and, resisting all efforts to get her off, she remained fast until midnight of the following day (7th), when, having been considerably lightened, she was towed off under the judicious management of Commander John Moresby, of the Argus, and apparently without damage.

"11. The batteries from Nos. 1 to 8 inclusive being now entirely in our possession, large working parties were landed early on the morning of the 7th, and commenced embarking the guns captured on the previous days; and during the afternoon the Tartar, Metalen Kruis, D'Jambi, and Dupleix moved round to the westward of Mozi Saki point, preparatory to an attack on Batteries Nos. 9 and 10.

"12. On the 8th inst. I shifted my flag to the Coquette (Admiral Jaurès accompanying me), and proceeded, in company with the four ships named in the last paragraph, then composing the advanced squadron, to open fire upon Batteries Nos. 9 and 10. The fire not being returned, parties were shortly afterwards landed from the squadron to destroy the batteries and embark the guns, the whole of which was effected b the evening of the 10th, and all the guns are now on board the ships of the allied squadrons; the embarkation of the guns, consisting of 62 pieces of ordnance, of various sizes, a work of much labour and difficulty, was very efficiently performed, under the directions of the captains of the allied squadrons. Captain W. M. Dowell, of the Barossa, who had charge of the embarkation at one of the principal batteries, has brought to my notice the zealous assistance rendered by Lieutenants W. H. Cuming of the Barossa, and R. E. Tracey, of the Euryalus, and by Lieutenant Costa, of the Semiramis, which contributed largely to the success of the undertaking.

"13. I forward for their Lordships' favourable notice copies of letters I have received from Captains Hayes and Alexander, Lieutenant-Colonel Suther, Commanders Moresby and Kingston, and the surgeon of my flagship, and would beg leave to draw attention to the testimony borne by them respectively to the conduct of various officers and men whose duty was performed under their immediate directions, and in which I desire to assure their Lordships that I fully concur.

"14. In addition to these reports, it is my pleasing duty to record the high sense I entertain of the skill and gallantly displayed by the entire force under my command during the operattons above described. Of the fire maintained by the Tartar in the conspicuous position I had assigned to Captain Hayes, as the senior captain, and of the gallant manner in which he was supported by Captain Franclieu, of the Dupleix; Captain de Man, of the Metalen Kruis; Captain W. M. Dowell, of the Barossa; Captain Van Rees, of the D'Jambi, and Captain C. T. Leckie, of the Leopard, I cannot speak too highly. I beg leave also to bring under their Lordships' notice the zeal and activity displayed by Captain W. G. Luard, of the Conqueror; Captain J. H. J. Alexander, of the Euryalus; Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Suther, commanding Royal Marine Battalion; Commander John Moresby, of the Argus; Commander Augustus J. Kingston, of the Perseus; Commander E. T. Nott, of the Conqueror; Commander J. E. Hunter, of the Euryalus; Commander A. G. R. Roe, of the Coquette; Lieutenant H. L. Holder, commanding the Bouncer; and Lieutenant Richard H. Harington, of the Euryalus, who succeeded to the command of the Naval Brigade on Captain Alexander being wounded; as well as Captain du Quilis, of the Semiramis; Captain Muller, of the Amsterdam; Captain de Casembroot, of the Medusa; and Lieutenant Pallu, commanding the Tancrede; and I have to thank Lieutenant Pearson, of the United States' Navy, for the efficient assistance rendered by him in the chartered steam vessel Takiang in towing boats and for subsequently consenting to receive on board the wounded men of the squadrons.

"15. To the hearty co-operation and the cordial goodwill displayed by Rear-Admiral Jaures, during the preparations for and the progress of these operations, I am deeply indebted. I have endeavoured to express to that officer the satisfaction I have felt in having been associated with him in the conduct of this affair, and my appreciation of the good service rendered by the able and efficient force under the Rear-Admiral's command. I have also conveyed to Captain de Man, the senior officer of His Netherlands Majesty's ships, my thanks for the efficient co-operation and assistance of the squadron under his command, as well as to Lieutenant Pearson, of the United States' Navy, for the readiness with which he has sought to carry out my wishes on all occasions. Without the cheerfully rendered and able support of these officers, and the perfectly good understanding which has prevailed throughout the allied squadron, the very rapid and brilliant successes that have attended our operations could scarcely have been secured without greater losses, and considerable delay; and I trust that the satisfactory result will receive the approbation of their lordships.

"16. Much credit is due to the masters of the squadron for the skilful manner in which the various ships were manœuvred among numerous difficulties, and particularly to Mr. George Williams, master of my flagship, and Mr. John C. Solfleet, of the Conqueror, whose zeal and intelligence have deserved my special notice; and the praiseworthy conduct of Mr. James G. Liddel, of the Bouncer, the senior Second-Master on the station, has been brought favourably before me by Lieutenant Holder, commanding that gunboat.

"17. Mr. D. L. Morgan, surgeon of my flagship, has called my attention to efficient service rendered by the Medical Staff employed on shore under his directions, and to their devotion to the wounded.

"18. I should wish also to bring under their lordships' favourable notice my Secretary, Mr. Hemsley H. Shanks, and Flag-Lieutenant Robert P. Dennistoun, who accompanied me on shore and afloat throughout the operations, and rendered me valuable assistance.

"19. To Major Wray, Royal Engineers, whose services have been placed at my disposal by the War-office, I am indebted for much useful information as to the nature and position of the batteries; and I have much pleasure in recording my sense of the energy and zeal displayed by this officer throughout the operations, and in the destruction of the batteries and magazines. Lieutenant Crowdy, Royal Engineers, who accompanied the expedition at my request, with the permission of Lieutenant-Colonel Browne, commanding Her Majesty's troops at Yokohama, also rendered valuable service with his men, both while attached to the Naval Brigade, and subsequently in the embarcation of the heavy guns.

"20. Mr. J. F. Lowder and Mr. Earnest Satow, interpreters, attached to the squadron by Sir Rutherford Alcock, have afforded me every assistance, and have been most zealous in the performance of their duties.

"21. Since the conclusion of these operations I have satisfied myself, by personal examination of the entire Straits, that no batteries remain in existence on the territory of the Prince of Choshiu, and thus the passage of the Straits may be considered cleared of all obstructions.

"22. On the 8th inst., while the demolition of the batteries and the embarcation of the guns were in progress, an Envoy of the Prince of Choshiu came on board my flag-ship, under a flag of truce, charged, as he informed me, with instructions from the Prince to negotiate for a termination of hostilities. He produced documents, said to have been written by command of the Prince of Coshiu, and stated that no opposition would henceforth be offered to the free passage of the Straits. The Envoy also exhibited copies of letters to substantiate the statement that in the various acts of hostility towards foreign flags recently carried into effect the Prince had acted under the direct authority of the Mikado and of the Tycoon.

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"23. Having conferred with Rear-Admiral Jaurés, who was present at the interview, it was determined that, to convince us of the sincerity of the Prince's desire for peace, it was indispensable that we should receive a written requisition, under his own hand, to that effect; and the Envoy having observed that an interval of two days would be required to obtain the desired communication, a suspension of hostilities for that time was agreed upon, and the squadrons were immediately directed to hoist flags of truce. It was, however, stipulated that the armistice should not interfere with the work of embarking the guns from the batteries then in progress, and it was accordingly proceeded with and completed, as previously described.

"24. True to the time named, at noon on the 10th inst., the Chief Councillor of the Prince of Choshiu (Mori Idzumo) came on board the Euryalus, and placed before me a despatch from the Prince, identical despatches being also brought for the senior officers of the allied squadrons.

"25. The very satisfactory character of the Prince's written communication and its humble tone afford, in the opinion of Rear-Admiral Jaurés and myself, reasonable grounds for the presumption that, apart from the brilliant success achieved in a military point of view, and the great extent of the injury inflicted upon the Prince of Choshiu, his power, and prestige, advantages of an important nature in a political sense may very possibly result from the presence of the allied squadrons in these Straits. I have duly informed Sir Rutherford Alcock of these events, and have placed at his disposal the means of communicating with me here should he desire to do so.

"26. A personal inspection of the Straits of Simonoseki has convinced me of the inexpediency, with the means at present available, of holding any position either on an island or on any portion of the mainland in the vicinity of the Straits. I do not, therefore, purpose carrying into effect that portion of the programme of the diplomatic representatives forwarded with my letter of the 28th ultimo, No. 328. It is, however, my intention to maintain possession of the Straits by leaving here an English, a French, and a Dutch vessel of war, until the relations between the Tycoon's Government and those of the Treaty Powers, with regard to this portion of the territory of the Prince of Choshiu, have been arranged on a satisfactory footing; the presence of the ships will, at the same time, afford a guarantee against the erection of batteries, which the Prince has engaged should not be again undertaken. I have subsequently had a further interview with the envoys of the Prince of Choshiu, who have agreed, on behalf of the Prince, to the terms proposed to them as the conditions of the cessation of hostilities, which will insure the Straits remaining open for the future, the ratification of the Prince being now all that is required to complete the object for which the allied forces came to these Straits.

"27. In conclusion, I have only to express my hope that the operations I have had the honour of describing, and the results obtained, may receive the approbation of their Lordships and of Her Majesty's Government.

"I have, &c.,

"AUGUSTUS L. KUPER.

"Vice-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

"The Secretary of the Admiralty, London."

"Her Majesty's ship Tartar, Simonoseki, Sept. 9.

"Sir,—You have been pleased to intrust a division of the squadron as per margin* to my command, during the late hostilities in the Straits of Simonoseki, and the operations have so far terminated with such satisfactory results, I beg to report, for your information, the proceedings of the advanced squadron since noon of the 4th inst.

"2. Having taken up the position directed by your General Order of the 3rd inst., the squadron under my orders was held in readiness for immediate action. On the first gun having been fired from your flagship the batteries immediately opened on us with shot and shell, the first discharge striking the Tartar in several places.

"3. The advanced squadron instantly replied to the fire of the batteries, but it would be needless for me to enter into a detailed account, as the whole engagement occurred under your immediate observation; still I cannot allow this opportunity to pass away without bringing to your notice the valuable support I received from the able management and precision of the rifled guns of his Imperial Majesty's ship Dupleix, which ship invariably replied to the guns which were striking the Tartar, and showed an energy which reflected the highest credit on her commander.

"4. The assistance rendered by his Netherlands Majesty's ships Metalen Kruis and D'Jambi, and the preparations made by them beforehand, showed that they spared no trouble in preparing their ships for any emergency, their rifled guns also telling on the nearest fort.

"5. I need hardly mention what pleasure I felt in finding that the Commander-in-Chief had given to the advanced squadron the services of so valuable and experienced an officer as Captain Dowell of Her Majesty's ship Barossa; the judicious and cool manner with which that ship was handled, and the precision of her fire, while replying to the enemy's guns, more particularly when directed on the Tartar, was fully appreciated by myself and all on board.

"6. At 5.25 A.M., on the morning of the 6th, the long battery again opened fire, and, I am sorry to say, with unfortunate effect, the first discharge killing two and wounding several on board the Dupleix, which vessel during the night had drifted between ourselves and the fort. She immediately slipped her cable and moved to her former position, when the Tartar again was instantly and repeatedly struck by the fire from the fort, dangerously wounding my first-lieutenant, Lieutenant W. A. De V. Brownlow, a valuable and steady officer, whose service I desire to bring under your favourable consideration. My second-lieutenant, Lieutenant C. B. Powell, immediately took his place, showing that cool aptitude for work which is so valuable in an officer.

"7. Having been directed to take up an advanced position on the afternoon of the 7th, I anchored the ship for the night in the position pointed out by yourself, advancing the next morning while shelling the two last forts on Point Kibune to a position within 3,000 yards, when we again anchored, and thence shelled the forts, which had the effect of making the enemy abandon them without firing a gun, probably in consequence of a barrack taking fire in the rear, near a magazine containing a large amount of powder and upwards of seven or eight hundred shell, which soon after exploded, also from feeling the impossibility of coping with guns of such superior power, and the moral effect produced by the fleet on the two previous days.

"8. Throughout the whole of these proceedings Mr. John E. Chapple, the master of the Tartar, showed the greatest coolness and judgment in the pilotage of the ship.

"9. The Prussian officer, M. von Blanc, lately appointed to this ship, proved his skill and worth in several ways, and I consider him an intelligent and valuable officer, certain to do credit to any position in which he may be placed.

"10. The remainder of the officers and ship's company conducted themselves throughout entirely to my satisfaction.

"I have, &c., "JNO. M. HAYES, Captain,

"Her Majesty's ship Tartar, commanding the Advanced Squadron.

"To Vice-Admiral Sir Augustus L. Kuper, K.C.B.,

"Commander-in-Chief."

"Her Majesty's ship Euryalus, off Simonoseki, Sept. 10, 1864.

"Sir,—I have the honour, in compliance with your directions, to report as to the proceedings of the Naval Brigade landed under my command from Her Majesty's ships Euryalus and Conqueror, in the Straits of Simonoseki, on the morning of the 6th inst:—

"That, having formed on the beach in the order prescribed by you with reference to the other landing forces, the Naval Brigade ascended the heights immediately above a succession of small terraces to capture a one-gun battery at their summit, and after reaching the crest of the boulder descended its western side to overlook the heavy battery at its foot, and cover, if necessary, the flank of the combined column then advancing along the beach to the westward.

"The one-gun battery was found to be deserted, the gun removed, the carriage only remaining, which was immediately destroyed.

"In crossing this battery the right flank became exposed to the enemy's riflemen, concealed in the dense bush on the opposite (east) side of the ravine.

"The leading company immediately deployed in skirmishing order and returned their fire, while the column pushed on and gained the cover of the upper bluff, though not before the force had suffered the loss of three wounded.

"On descending, with much labour, through the dense brushwood on the western side a detachment of French sailors was found in occupation of the upper battery on the right-hand side of the valley.

"The remainder of the force, excepting a company of Royal Marine Artillery (Lieutenant W. H. T. M. Dodgin, Royal Marine Artillery, in command), left to join my command, had continued its march westward.

"Not conceiving the assistance of the brigade required by the main force, and as immediately on arriving at the foot of the hill parties of the enemy had shown themselves at intervals between the trees on either side of the valley, and opened fire with field and mountain pieces and musketry, which they withdrew out of sight towards the head of the valley whenever my men advanced, I determined to hold the batteries on either side of the valley, and occupy the men in dismounting the guns, destroying the carriages, and exploding the magazines, &c., after which, if not required to join the remainder of the force, I intended attacking the enemy's stockade at the head of the valley, and capturing his guns.

"The former part of my intention was carried out, and the men had had half an hour for such dinner as they could get, when I received intelligence that the main body was returning, at the same time an order from yourself to embark, in accordance with which the Royal Marine Artillery Company had shoved off, when about half-past three I received your orders to retain possession of the batteries, the Perseus being aground beneath that to the eastward.

"I now considered it more than ever advisable to dislodge the enemy at the end of the valley, and the head of the Marine column appearing at this minute I sent a request to Lieutenant-Colonel Suther to co-operate for that object, to which he agreed, selecting the right side of the valley for his attack.

"The Naval Brigade, in order to take the left, instantly but with some difficulty, crossed by the ridges between the rice fields, and on reaching the narrow roadway on the left of the valley commenced ascending it at the double.

"The enemy had already commenced firing, but on observing from this and the approach of the Marines our intention was to attack, his fire became extremely hot. Our men continued at the double and returned it with steadiness and visible effect, and when distant about 200 yards, with a loud cheer from all, the leading company rushed on, the succeeding company, while still advancing, returning the enemy's fire, which he continued from the parapet of the moat and top of an eight foot wall, backing the front side of the palisade, till the leading men were within 50 yards, when he threw down his arms and ran in all directions.

"I regret to state that at this moment a musket-shot through the ankle-joint of the right foot totally incapacitated me from proceeding, and, on a stretcher arriving, I was carried to the rear, leaving the brigade under the orders of Lieutenant Harington.

"I have also to regret that this operation was not effected without a severe loss—viz., 7 killed and 26 wounded in the Naval Brigade; but I trust its successful termination, and the moral as well as physical effect of the reverse inflicted on the enemy, may justify in your opinion its undertaking.

"It gives me much pleasure to bring to your favourable notice the marked merit displayed in the following instances:—

"1. Mr. D. G. Boyes, midshipman of the Euryalus, who carried a colour with the leading company, kept it with headlong gallantry in advance of all, in face of the thickest fire, his colour-sergeants having fallen, one mortally, the other dangerously wounded, and was only detained from proceeding yet further by the orders of his superior officer. The colour he carried was six times pierced by musket balls.

"2. Lieutenant Frederick Edwards, commanding the third company,

* "Tartar, Dupleix, Metalen Kruis, Barossa, D'Jambi, Leopard."

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has called my attention to the intelligence and daring exhibited by William Seeley, ordinary seaman, in ascertaining the enemy's position, and afterwards, when wounded in the arm in the advance, continued to retain his position in the front.

"Lieutenant R. E. Tracey rendered me most valuable assistance throughout, and when disabled myself conducted the advance with great gallantry and ability.

"Lieutenant Edward's company, which was in advance, was most gallantly led by him.

"Lieutenant Harington's company efficiently supported him.

"Lieutenant Jephson's company, through my mistake only in] giving him the wrong route, did not arrive as soon as no doubt it otherwise would have done.

"The Conqueror's companies followed in support of Lieutenant Harington's, and officers and men showed zeal and alacrity, and far more steadiness than could be expected from men together for so short a time and under their circumstances.

"The medical officers, Messrs. E. A. Birch, Samuel M'Bean, and J. T. Comerford, assistant-surgeons, were exceedingly prompt and constant in their attention to the wounded.

"Mr. R. N. Haly, clerk, accompanied me throughout the day, and Messrs. Henry H. Dyke and John Arthur Horne, midshipmen, acted as my aides-de-camp.

"Lieutenant Crowdy, Royal Engineers, with four of the Royal Enginee Corps, and having also under his directions the pioneers of the Naval Brigade, afforded active and useful assistance in exploding magazines, destroying guncarriages, &c.; at the same time they were very ready with their rifles.

"Mr. Satow, of Her Majesty's Legation, Yokohama, accompaned me on all occasions and in the thickest fire to act as interpreter, if required.

"In conclusion, the whole force, combatants and non-combatants, during this long hot day, with exceedingly hard work, and under very trying circumstances, behaved in such a manner as to merit the highest praise, officers and men universally exhibiting gallantry, zeal, energy, and steadiness, their only fault being at times a too reckless exposure of themselves, unwarranted by necessity, and all that their conduct leaves for me to hope is that I may ever be fortunate enough to have the honour to command such on similar occasions.—"I have, &c.,

"J. H. J. ALEXANDER, Captain, Her Majesty's Ship Euryalus, commanding Naval Brigade.

"To Vice Admiral Sir Augustus L. Kuper, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief, &c."

"Her Majesty's ship Conqueror, Straits of Simonoseki, Japan, Sept. 7.

'Sir,—In compliance with your orders I was yesterday disembarked at 8 o'clock A.M., and, placed in command of the brigade, landed for the demolition of the enemy's batteries.

"As soon as the force had been formed the battalion of English sailors, under the command of Captain Alexander, mounted the heights for the purpose of destroying a three-gun battery situated about 100 feet above the beach; and with the rest of the brigade—viz., a battalion of French sailors, two battalions of Royal Marines (the first under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Penrose, and the second of Lieutenant-Colonel Adair), a detachment of Royal Engineers, under the command of Major Wray, and a battalion of Dutch soldiers and sailors—I marched along the line of batteries, and under your personal observation dismounted the guns, burnt the carriages, and blew up the magazines.

"On returning from this duty, and after the French and Dutch portion of the brigade had re-embarked, the enemy opened fire upon us from a three-gun stockaded barrack building, situate in a ravine not easily approachable, and very ill-suited to military manœuvring.

"I directed the two battalions of Royal Marines to storm the building upon its right approach, while the battalion of sailors stormed upon its left. After a sharp resistance the enemy fled from his position.

"Having spiked the guns and set fire to the buildings, I ordered the brigade to return to the place of embarkation.

"In the execution of this duty I very much regret that several casualties occurred.

"Captain Alexander, while gallantly leading his battalion, was severely wounded and carried to the rear, so also were Captain N. W. de Courcy and Lieut. J. W. Inglis, of the Royal Marines.

"Where all performed their duties well it is difficult to individualise, but I feel it incumbent on me to mention the high bearing of the commanding officers of battalions, Lieutenant-Colonel Penrose, Royal Marines; Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Adair, Royal Marines; and Capt. J. H. J. Alexander, Royal Navy; to those officers I am greatly indebted for their zeal and gallantry.

"The senior captain of Royal Marines, Captain N. W. de Courcy, who was severely wounded when at the head of his company, holding a difficult position near the stockade, Captain and Brevet-Major Ambrose Wolrige, acting Brigade-Major, and First Lieutenant J. C. Hore, my orderly officer, I am bound to bring particularly to notice for their zealand intelligence.

"The medical staff of Royal Marines, under Dr. C. K. Ord, were most active and prompt in their attendance to the wounded.

"I beg also to state that I received much assistance when in the stockaded barrack building from Lieutenant R. E. Tracey, Royal Navy, who carried out some orders it was necessary for me to give in a zealous and efficient manner.—"I have, &c.,

"W. G. SUTHER, Lieut.-Colonel Royal Marines, commanding Allied Forces disembarked on the 6th inst.

"To Vice-Admiral Sir Augustus L. Kuper, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief, &c."

ADMIRALTY, Nov. 18.

With reference to Vice-Admiral Sir Augustus L. Kuper's foregoing despatch of the 15th of September, reporting the successful result of the operations in the Straits of Simonoseki, the following promotions have been this day made:—

Commanders John Moreshy and Augustus John Kingston to be Captains.

Lieutenants Henry Lowe Holder, William Henry Cuming, William Arthur de Vesci Brownlow, Richard Hastings Harington, and Richard Edward Tracey, to be Commanders.

Mr. James Greenwood Liddell, Second Master, to be Master.

Mr. Richard Lovel Bluet Head, Assistant-Surgeon, to be Surgeon.

LIST OF KILLED AND WOUNDED.

The following has been received at the Admiralty from Vice-Admiral Sir A. L. Kuper:—

List of officers, seamen, and marines killed or wounded during operations of the 5th and 6th inst., at Simonoseki, Japan:—

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP EURYALUS.—J. H. J. Alexander, 32, captain; wound of right ankle-joint by musket-ball—dangerous. C. W. Atkinson, 19, midshipman; wound of finger by musket-ball—slightly. F. E. Edwards, 22, lieutenant; wound of left foot by musket-ball—slightly. B. Connor, 28, A.B.; wound of abdomen by musket-ball—killed. S. Baily, 28, captain of foretop; wound of groin by musket-ball—killed. J. Kidd, 29, ordinary; wound of heart by musket-ball—killed. G. Wells, 24, A.B.; wound of both lungs by musket-ball—mortally, since dead. John Sney, 27, private marine; wound of stomach by musket-ball—mortally, since dead. Thomas Riley, 28, A.B.; wound of throat, ball lodged—dangerously. Thomas Pride, 28, A.B.; wound of left side of chest by musket-ball—dangerously. Charles Lover, 26, A.B.; wound of right leg by musket-ball—severely. George Dumfoy, 20, ordinary; wound of left leg by musket-ball—severely. George Atteridge, 35, A.B.; wound of left side of chest by musket-ball—severely. William Seeley, 26, ordinary; wound of right arm by grape shot—severely. Joseph Marcham, 28, A.B.; wound of right shoulder by musket ball—severely. Thomas Harman, 20, ordinary; wound of left leg by musket ball—severely. John Winsby, 23, ordinary; wound of right hand by arrow—severely—Patrick Butler, 19, ordinary; wound of chest by spent ball—slightly. Thomas Williams, 29, A.B.; wound of right wrist by arrow—slightly. James Shylock, 28, A.B.; wound of right side of chest by arrow—slightly. George Chicks, 23, private R.M.; wound of scalp by a rock splinter caused by shell—slightly. James Robinson, 31, private R.M.; wound of neck by a rock splinter caused by shell—slightly. William Jones, 26, A.B.; wound of fore arm by arrow—slightly.

BATTALION OF ROYAL MARINES.—N. W. de Courcey, captain; gunshot wound of left wrist—severely. J. W. Inglis, 1st lieutenant; gunshot wound of left groin—severely. C. W. Adair, lieutenant-colonel; temporary concussion from fall of a tree produced by a shot—slightly. Daniel Moore, 22, private bullett wound of head—killed. Edwin Shaw, 22, private; bullet wound of left lung—dangerously. Samuel Howard, 23, private; shell wound of right knee—dangerously. Thomas Cooper, 28, private; bullet wound of right thigh—severely. William Lethbridge, 20, corporal; wound of knees—slightly. Thomas Blakemore, 27, private; shell wound of left leg, compound fracture—dangerously. William Gill, 22, private; wound of left wrist by explosion of magazine—slightly. John Burrows, 29, private; contusion of thigh from explosion of magazine—slightly. James Haydon, 16, drummer; contusion of left hip—slightly. William Allen, 22, private; burn of face and hands by explosion of magazine—severely.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP LEOPARD.—Edward Rowley, 26, private; bullet wound of left elbow—slightly. Thomas Yates, 24, private; bullet wound of left leg—dangerously.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP CONQUEROR.—George Greene, 22, ordinary; bullet wound of right lung—killed. Frederick Lufar, 22, private, marine; bullet wound of left lung—killed. David Riddles, 19, ordinary; bullet wound of back—ssverely. Henry Kitchener, 21, A.B.; bullet wound of left wrist—severely. Henry Martin, 22, A.B.; bullet wound of right leg—severely. Ralph Barnes, 22, private, marine; bullet wound of abdomen—severely.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP TARTAR.—A. de V. Brownlow, lieutenant; wound of left hip—dangerously. E. J. Wingfield, midshipman; wound of left leg—severely. Alfred Camplin, private; wound of right shoulder—dangerously. John Ford, A.B.; wound of back—severely. William Smith, ordinary; wound of arm and face—slightly. Henry Sercombe, A.B.; wound of face—slightly. John Murphy, boatswain's mate; wound of face—slightly. Robert Breeze, private Royal Marines; wound of face and head—slightly.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP PERSEUS.—John M'Carlan, 31, private, marine; bullet-wound of left thigh—severely. Charles Suitors, 27 seaman; contused wound of left foot—severely.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP BAROSSA.—George Fountain, private, marine; musket-ball wound of arm—slightly.

HER MAJESTY'S GUNBOAT BOUNCER.—Michael M'Donald, corporal; bullet wound of right thigh—severely.

Total killed, 8; total wounded 48.

D. L. MORGAN, F.R.C.S., Surgeon in Charge.

ABSTRACT OF THE ABOVE.—The Euryalus—Five men killed; three officers and fifteen men wounded. Royal Marine Battalion—One man killed; three officers and nine men wounded. The Conqueror—Two men killed and four wounded. The Tartar—Two officers and six men wounded. The Leopard—Two men wounded. The Perseus—Two men wounded. The Bouncer—One man wounded. The Barossa—One man wounded. Total killed and wounded, 56.

GENERAL TOTALS.—English squadron, 8 killed, 48 wounded; French squadron, 2 killed, 9 wounded; Dutch squadron, 2 killed, 3 wounded; total, 12 killed, 60 wounded.

RETURN OF KILLED AND WOUNDED IN THE ALLIED SQUADRONS.—Euryalus, 5 killed, 18 wounded (3 officers); Tartar, 8 wounded (2 officers); Conqueror, 2 killed, 4 wounded; Barossa, 1 wounded; Leopard, 2 wounded; Perseus, 2 wounded; Bouncer, 1 wounded; Battalion of Royal Marines, 1 killed, 12 wounded (3 officers); Semiramis, 1 wounded; Dupleix, 2 killed, 8 wounded; Metalen Kruis, 2 killed, 3 wounded: general total, 12 killed, 60 wounded.

HEMSLEY H. SHANKS,
Secretary to Vice-Admiral Sir A. Kuper.

Her Majesty's ship Euryalus, Simonoseki, Sept. 13.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, NOV. 28, 1864.

THE SINGAPORE GOVERNORSHIP.

IN our issue of the 17th August we published an article on the above topic, in which we commented freely, as an independent journal should do, upon the capacity of the Singapore Governors generally for the important office they hold as chief at the helm of affairs in the Straits Settlements; and specifically named Sir STAMFORD RAFFLES as a model Governor, whose liberal and vigorous policy it would be well if his successors carried out progressively. Our contemporary the *Singapore Free Press* chooses to designate that article as "written in an "unwarrantably depreciatory spirit of our past rulers, and is "mistaken in its several statements."

Touching the first assertion in this paragraph, we deny that we penned the article in such a spirit, as we have no desire to detract from the merits of those Governors who have exhibited capabilities of a high character in other branches of the public service. We merely wished to point out that they have not been selected from that class of public men whose education and training fitted them for developing the resources of the Settlements in past days, or adapting themselves to the present exigencies of that important colony, Singapore—the key to our possessions in the Far East. To put the case as we meant it: surely it is no detraction from the ability of a gallant military Governor to say that he is not qualified to rule over a commercial dependency, where questions of peace and not of war engage his attention. In this spirit we maintain the argument laid down in the article which seems to have been so unpalatable to the Straits journals, and repeat, without fear of contradiction, what we then stated, which was as follows:—"With the ex- "ception of Sir STAMFORD RAFFLES, scarcely one of the many "Governors who have held office in the Straits Settlements has "either shown the will or the way to raise them in the colonial "scale of self-dependence. We have no desire to cast reflections "upon the character of the several administrators of affairs at Sin- "gapore since the time of RAFFLES, but it is well-known that the "educational and other institutions founded by him for the "improvement of the intelligent natives have become effete "for want of gubernatorial patronage, and a helping hand "has rarely been put forth to develope the commercial re- "sources of the magnificent port." In proof of these remarks we have only to point to the neglected condition of the "Singa- "pore Institution," which should be the basis of British *prestige* among the educated native population; to the present state of the Malay Peninsula, distracted as it is by war and contention; to our disturbed relations with Siam; to the bombardment of Tringanu, and to the ambiguous policy pursued on the coast of Sumatra. It is unnecessary to refer to the past, the present unsatisfactory position of affairs would justify even more stringent remarks than we have indulged in regarding the administration of the Government at the Straits. We refrain from doing so because we are aware that benefits have been conferred by them upon the settlements which, in a measure, make up for their short-comings in other respects. For example, the interior administration of affairs has given satisfaction to the residents generally, an opinion in which we fully concur. This is not the point which has given rise to the remarks in the article referred to by our contemporary. Besides developing the commercial capabilities of the port, we alluded to the growing importance of its external diplomatic relations; hence we pointed out what we now reiterate:—"It is, therefore, "high time that a Governor should be installed there to hold "the reins of government with a firm hand, and to maintain "the *prestige* of England among these settlements, com- "mensurate with our position elsewhere. The day may be not "far distant when affairs of moment may transpire, involving "diplomatic decision of the highest order, in communicating "with the French Governor of Saigon; and it would be only "a matter of political prudence to have a competent Governor "at the helm of affairs in our fine colony of Singapore." To this we would further add: that it is essential the next Governor should be a man of decision in carrying out his external diplomacy with the neighbouring native States, so that there may be no paltry conventions entered into with cunning or ambitious chiefs, who flourish wrongfully under the *ægis* of British power. On the other hand, a conciliatory policy is required to open the Malay Peninsula and its undeveloped products to our commerce, so that Singapore should reap the full benefits of its maritime position with that region; for if the neglect of our interests there be continued, it is not improbable that the native trade may be diverted from its existing channel, to the detriment of the revenue, and the export shipping of the settlement. Moreover, from its proximity to the Kingdom of Siam, it is important that the amicable relations now existing be strengthened with its enlightened KING—who, of all potentates in Eastern Asia, maintains and cultivates our relationship in the highest degree. It is patent to all the world that in this quarter the French have ambitious designs, which may lead to future complications with our representatives at Bangkok and the Straits Settlements; therefore it is essential that the Governorship of Singapore be filled by a competent man, who should, if necessary, have an increased salary to fulfil its duties with credit to the country.

With regard to the article being mistaken in several of its statements, in reference to the antecedents of Singapore Governors, wherein we inadvertently stated that they "have "been almost exclusively military men, bred up in the stereo- "typed school of an Indian durbar;" our contemporary has made the most of this, the slightest accusation of inefficiency advanced. It appears that there have been two military Governors during the last twenty-eight years, the late General BUTTERWORTH, and Colonel CAVENAGH, the present Governor; and two civil Governors, the late Sir GEORGE BONHAM, and Mr. BLUNDELL. It should appear that none of these gentlemen had been bred up in the "stereotyped school of an "Indian durbar," as their predecessor, "Mr. FULLARTON, "who was a Madras civil servant." Now, we meant no disparagement in appending the doubtful political education we gave them credit for; as, however "stereotyped" and "red-tapist" it might have been, still it was a degree of diplomatic training which qualified these Indian durbar officials to carry on outward relations with foreign Powers according to the forms and usage of the diplomatic service. We must therefore conclude that this small modicum of education that initiates political acumen or foresight in the mind of an administrator of British diplomacy abroad was wanting in the case of these Governors; who rung the changes of a weak policy and *laissez faire* administration for upwards of a quarter of a century, which was pretty equally divided between civilian and military Governors. Of these Sir GEORGE BONHAM is mentioned as "by no means one of the ablest of our Governors, and yet so "valuable were his services considered by H.M.'s Government, "that, as an inducement to remain in Hong Kong, they bestowed "a baronetcy upon him." Without casting the slightest reflection upon the hospitable character of that Governor, we know from China experience that if there was any value in the late Sir GEORGE'S service to the Imperial Government it was almost entirely of a negative kind—based upon his remarkable capacity for doing nothing; and from all we can learn, the claims of his memory upon the gratitude of the inhabitants of the Straits Settlements are founded upon the same principle.

In alluding to the inefficient administrations that have appeared in the annals of the Straits, we have no desire to rake up the misgovernment and grievances of the past, except as illustrating the neglected garden, "which has grown to seed, in "things rank and gross," as another Governor under a new *régime* may appear upon the ground to weed it out and direct its future development. A new era is dawning upon this group of settlements in the Far East, especially upon that of Singapore, which is destined at no distant date to hold an important place in our Colonial Empire. It behoves, therefore, everyone who has the interests of these embryo States at

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heart, as the juncture of their transfer approaches, to aid Her MAJESTY'S Government by their local experience in establishing a vigorous administration, with a capable man at the helm of affairs, to guide the ship of the State through the shoals that at present bar its progress into a channel of vigorous commercial activity.

HONG KONG.

IT is a long time since our attention has been drawn to Hong Kong, its government, and the progress of the town of Victoria, by any circumstance calling for special remark. The departure of Sir HERCULES ROBINSON, as Governor of the colony, to his new appointment at Ceylon, is an occasion wherein the journalist of China is in duty bound to record the event. During his term of office Sir HERCULES has conducted the affairs of the settlement with respectable talent; and it is just possible he might have exhibited greater administrative energy if he had had a wider field to operate on—in metaphorical language, an Augean stable to cleanse, like his classic namesake. No great event has transpired either to call forth his diplomatic talent, in dealing with cunning and astute mandarins, as some of his predecessors have done. Consequently, he leaves Hong Kong in much the same condition of gradual improvement as when he found it. If to have made no gubernatorial blunder be a qualification for advancement, then Sir HERCULES leaves for "fresh fields and pastures new," in the Colonial domain at Ceylon, as a good and faithful shepherd who has entered into the joy of his mistress. Thus far we congratulate him on his change of post, and trust that we may be able to give a good account of his administration in the rapidly improving commercial dependency of Ceylon.

But who is to be his successor at Hong Kong? We learn that the Colonial Secretary, the Hon. W. T. MERCER, has been nominated as Governor. It is reasonable for the Imperial Government to promote an old servant of the Crown, with considerable local experience, from a subordinate office to that of supreme director, as a reward for past services. But is he qualified to guide the reins of Government to the satisfaction of the community? Is he the right man in the right place? These are the questions we would ask without fear or favour. The antecedents of Mr. MERCER in China date back as far as 1842, when he began his career in Hong Kong as private Secretary to Governor Sir JOHN DAVIS, the first Governor of the colony. In that capacity he acquitted himself to the satisfaction of his talented master; and his recommendation led to Mr. MERCER being subsequently appointed Colonial Secretary. Herein we regret to say that he has at times shown "a penny wise and pound foolish" policy towards developing the resources of the colony. Recently, as Acting-Governor during the absence of Sir HERCULES ROBINSON, his views have been cramped and narrowed regarding the improvements of the Port of Victoria, and the establishment of the Mint. Perhaps it is only fair that he should hold the appointment long enough to retire on an increased pension, but we hope, for the sake of the commercial advancement of Hong Kong, to record his retirement from the post at an early date, in order to make room for a more vigorous Governor, armed with extended powers for the better government of the colony.

In thus giving expression to a general feeling regarding the governing capabilities of the Hon. Mr. MERCER, we have no desire to detract from his usefulness in the capacity of Chief Secretary, wherein he has shown that he had the interests of the colony at heart. For example, in the recent discussion on the military vote of 92,000 dollars for the maintenance of troops, he boldly brought forward a resolution in the Legislative Council in opposition to that vote, which was placed on the estimates by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and which was carried against only one dissentient voice—that of the Attorney-General. In this act he expressed the opinion of the colonists as to the injustice of the measure, that the community should be taxed to maintain a large military contingent, avowedly for imperial purposes, while British subjects at the wealthy settlement of Shanghai, besides the other northern ports and in Japan, were not called upon to contribute their quota. We trust that this resolution has had its full weight with the Home Government, and that they will see fit to rescind the instructions to levy the obnoxious contribution. It must be remembered that the colony has raised an efficient corps of Volunteer infantry and artillery, at a considerable cost of time and trouble to the members, who can ill spare absence from their commercial occupations; and that, as far as the internal affairs of the colony are concerned, this contingent, together with the police, is amply sufficient to maintain law and order. It is clear, therefore, that if the mother-country intends to constitute this rocky isle, with its suburb on the Kowloong shore, into a Gibraltar of the Far East, the cost of maintaining its military strength should be furnished by the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER. Or if the colony must be saddled with the proposed contribution of £20,000 per annum, then it would be only fair that the present military site should be sold for the benefit of the local treasury, out of which this amount might be paid without robbing the colonists of any portion of their revenue which is required for improvements. It was unfortunate that the eye of Mr. GLADSTONE rested on the surplus of the colonial revenue over expenditure, and Sir HERCULES ROBINSON was off his guard when he allowed such a surplus to appear. He should have had any such sum at once appropriated for the many requirements of the colony.

There is another *questio vexata* on the rocky shore of the "Island of Sweet Waters" that demands our attention. We allude to the Praya question. It appears that this public work on the quays of the harbour, which was heralded as the *ne plus ultra* of engineering skill, turns out to be as great a piece of sham masonry as the famous wall in Chancery-lane, and which afforded the *Daily Press* of Hong Kong an inexhaustible theme for leading articles. It is high time that these Chinese contractors were put aside, and properly qualified men employed to construct this important work in a manner that will make it a permanent structure against all the forces of wind and water. Why not apply through the Agent for the Crown Colonies here to put the work into the hands of competent English contractors? If their estimates were double or treble that of the "pottering" local contractors it would be a saving in the end, where it is evident that the Chinaman's slopwork must be renewed from year to year. It is certainly very hard that any extra cost should fall upon the landowners; and, consequently, they should be permitted to secure the full term of 999 years' leases of the area to be created in front of, and added to, their marine lots, at *thirty years' purchase*, instead of an additional annual Crown-rent added to their present leases. These considerations ought to command the attention of the Executive Government in justice to the colonists, who have suffered by the incompetency of its officers; and if Governor MERCER is desirous of continuing the just popularity he has secured by his prompt resolution against the military vote, he will see that the public works of the colony, especially the Praya, be carried out with efficiency.

OUR FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH JAPAN.

Under this heading we gave an article from the *Money Market Review* in our issue of the 26th October, and in reference to the writer's statement "that there is nothing in the treaty to "prevent our holding direct communication with the native "princes at ports in their own territories," we stated this to be an error. In the number of the *Money Market Review* of the 12th inst. is the following:—

"Our able and zealous contemporary the *London and China Telegraph*, in republishing from the *Money Market Review* an article on 'Our Financial and Commercial Relations with Japan,' ventures to express a doubt as to the correctness of our statement that there is nothing in our treaty with the Tycoon's Government to prevent our entering into direct commercial relations with the Daimios, and trading at their ports, our contemporary conceiving that to do so would be in direct violation of Imperial rights. Our statement was made with the treaty before us, and is fortified by the authority of Colonel Neale; its correctness is further confirmed by the present offer of the Prince of Nagato to open certain of his ports to foreign trade, and this without any reference to the Tycoon."

In answer to this we produce the third article of the treaty, which runs thus:—

"The ports and towns of Hakodadi, Kanagawa, and Nagasaki to be opened to British subjects on July 1st, 1859. Nee-e-gata, or if that is unsuitable as a harbour, some other port on the west coast of Niphon, on Jan. 1st, 1860, Hioga, on Jan. 1st, 1863. In all those places British subjects may permanently reside, and may lease ground, and purchase and erect buildings, but shall not erect fortifications. They are not to be confined by any wall or gate, and their free ingress and egress not to be impeded. The limits within which British subjects may travel are defined. The general limit is ten ri (each ri being 4,275 yards,) in any directions After Jan. 1st, 1862, British subjects may reside at Yedo; and from Jan. 1st, 1863, in Osaca, for purposes of trade only. In each of those cities a suitable district for their residence, and the distance to which they may go, shall be arranged by the British diplomatic agent and the Japanese Government."

From this we think it will be perfectly clear that the privileges of trade were intended to be confined to the ports named. It was the same in China, and must necessarily be so

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n dealing with all Oriental and semi-civilised Powers. The words *open ports* we all know to mean the ports stipulated by treaty, and with those only are we allowed to trade. To assert that there is "nothing in the treaty to prevent, &c.," is a negative assertion, and will not hold water. Equally so is the reference to the offer of Prince NANGATO to trade with us without consulting the TYCOON. It is quite consistent for those princes who are in open rebellion to the TYCOON to propose, but not on our part to deal with them. In another column will be found an article communicated by a merchant lately from Japan which fully confirms our view.

CHINESE EMIGRATION TO THE WEST INDIES.

THE supply of coolies from India being likely to fall short, in consequence of the greatly increased demand for native labour, the attention of the planters has of late been principally directed to China. The Chinese are undoubtedly the best labourers, but they are at the same time the most expensive to obtain. They give great satisfaction by their conduct in the colonies. The advantage in their case is mutual. They not not only benefit the planter by supplying the labour he so urgently requires, but they largely benefit themselves. A number have returned to China—many of them at their own expense—and not a few have expressed an intention to revisit the West Indies. This is a very encouraging state of things, but, as already stated, the great drawback is the expense. Definite arrangements, however, have been made for a supply of 2,000 in each of the seasons 1864-5-6; thus spreading the expense of fixed establishments (which would be almost as great for a small as for a large emigration) over a space of three years. Of the 2,000 ordered in 1864, British Guiana takes 1,250, and Trinidad 750. The greater part, if not all, of the shipping necessary for their conveyance has been engaged in this country, and the first vessel was expected to be despatched on the 15th October with about 300 on board.

OUR DIFFICULTIES IN JAPAN.

(COMMUNICATED.)

From the very commencement of our relations with the Tycoon's Government, it has been their constant endeavour to prevent our representatives holding any intercourse whatever with the Daimios, the reason for this being a determination to monopolise whatever advantages might accrue from foreign trade, perhaps combined with an idea that they would obtain assistance from their new allies to hold in check such of their princely vassals as might prove unruly. The monopoly of almost all the benefits of foreign commerce they have managed with consummate skill. Although more than one of the Daimios were, from the first, quite willing to encourage intercourse with foreigners, the Government, on the plea that all of them were averse to trade, opened only such ports as were within Imperial territory, and have steadily discouraged the transit to those ports of the produce of the inland provinces, by vexatious restrictions of every imaginable description. It is a fact well known to those who have resided any length of time at Nagasaki—which is in close proximity to the province of Satsuma—that the Prince of that province has always been anxious to encourage and develop trade, that he has long been at variance with the Government, in consequence of their restrictive monopoly, and that whatever ill-feeling he may have towards foreigners, it has not proceeded from any disinclination to admit them, but from a sort of jealousy which naturally arose from being so unjustly treated. It is far from improbable that this jealous feeling has been purposely fostered by the Tycoon's Government, in order to bring him into collision with the British forces—an easy means of weakening and humiliating a haughty vassal whose growing power and large resources rendered him too formidable for themselves to deal with. In the late misunderstanding regarding the Straits of Simonoseki they seem to have adopted a similar line of policy. Choshiu having set his own Government—as well as every other—at defiance, the Gorogio waited patiently for a long while, in the hope that foreign Powers would take upon themselves to force the passage. But many months having passed without any such action being taken, they promised that the Straits should be opened within a specified time—well knowing that the engagement would not be fulfilled, but confident in their ability to turn on the unlucky Choshiu the wrath of the Allies, which this stratagem effectually provoked; and so well did it succeed that at the very time when this rebellious Daimio was engaged in a direct attack on the capital, his fortifications were being battered down by the allied fleets. Since it is evident that we can obtain no readers from the Tycoon's Government against such of the Daimios as are hostile towards us, surely we have a right to demand that others, who are disposed to receive us in a friendly manner should be permitted to do so without interference on the part of the Government? When a revision of the Treaty takes place, they should not only be required to open Osaca to foreign trade, at once, but also to acquiesce in the opening of all other ports, not in Imperial territory, at which the respective Daimios might feel disposed to admit us. If this were carried into effect, a spirit of competition would be aroused which would speedily sweep away most of the obstacles at present existing to the development of trade.

Literature.

The Siberian Overland Route from Peking to St. Petersburg, through the Deserts and Steppes of Mongolia, Tartary, &c.; by ALEXANDER MICHIE.—Mr. Murray, of Albemarle-street, so renowned for his Handbooks, the series of which has already stretched eastwards beyond Egypt and Syria to Bombay and Madras, may be said to have now carried it to the limits of the Far East, for the present volume conveys us from Shanghai right away to St. Petersburg. Not that Mr. Michie's book falls to the level of a mere road-directory: it is a most interesting record of a journey across half the globe, through districts long famous by name, but now for the first time described to us by an observant man of the world, who gives us a thorough idea of the people that inhabit the country, without troubling us with any of the "ologies" that pertain to its natural features. The route taken by our traveller was from Shanghai by steamer to Tien-tsin; up the Peiho to Tungchow, and thence to Peking. Here some time is spent in making preparations for the journey, arranging for horses, camels, carts, and guides, procuring passports, &c. And thus we get a picture of the life of an idler in that capital, which puts the inhabitants in an unexpected light; for we are told—"I never met a more robust-looking, or more jovial, hearty set of men than these our boon companions of Peking." Mr. Michie had determined to obtain introductions from the Lamas resident at this city to their influential brethren in Mongolia; and, eventually, the whole distance to Kiachta on the Russian frontier is made under the guardianship of one of these priests. This creed and its professors are, it appears, bountifully patronised by the Chinese Emperors. The great lamasery is outside Peking, but there is also an immense establishment within the city boundary. A notice of the latter induces a glimpse at the

POLICY OF CHINA TOWARDS THE MONGOLS.

Two thousand Mongol lamas are maintained here by the bounty of the Emperor. The other lamaseries are in the same manner literally endowed by the Government. The Chinese Emperors feel that they have but a slight hold on their Mongol subjects, scattered as they are over a vast desert, where no Chinese troops could penetrate, even were the Chinese a match for the Mongols in a military point of view, which they never were. The independence of the Mongols would be rather a gain than a loss to China in its immediate results, but it would establish a warlike race on the borders, which has been the terror of China from the earliest times. No doubt ages of peace have done much to subdue the warlike spirit of the Mongols, but they retain their ancient habits, and lead a life of privation and hardship from the cradle to the grave. They are susceptible of the greatest enthusiasm, and at a word from their chiefs they would be ready to follow them to death or glory. A few years of fighting would render the Mongol hordes as formidable to a non-military nation like the Chinese as they were in the days of the terrible Gengis-Khan. In the present enfeebled condition of China an irruption of the Mongols would be irresistible, and would sweep everything before it like a flood. The Chinese Government are quite alive to such a possible contingency, and hence the care they take to conciliate the Mongols. Their forty-eight kings (of whom San-go-lin-sin is one), nominally tributary to China, are really pensioned by the Emperor, and every inducement is held out to the Mongol lamas to settle in the monasteries in Peking. Here they live in comfort and luxury, unknown in their deserts. Their friends have every facility for visiting them, and carrying back to "the land of grass" their reports of the goodness of the Chinese Emperor. The lamas are taken from all parts of Mongolia—we conversed with several from Dolonor and Kuren (Urga), and many others from the north and south, the names of whose districts were not included in my geographical vocabulary. These large Mongol communities, under the eye and hand of the Emperor, answer the double purpose of conciliators on the one hand and of hostages for the loyalty of distant tribes on the other. The Mongols are as little a match for the Chinese in craft as they are superior to them in martial energy. It is supposed that the Chinese Government have a deep design in supporting and encouraging lamaism, an institution which makes nearly one-third of the Mongol race celibats—for there are female as well as male lamas—the object being to keep down the population of the tribes.

At Urga, some distance within the Chinese frontier, we meet with the first outpost of Russian diplomacy; the Czar's

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Vice-Consul receiving the travellers very hospitably, and treating them with a civilised breakfast on a clean white table-cloth—altogether a greater luxury than may be imagined, for no egg had been seen for twenty-seven days, there being no fowls in Mongolia. Here is a sketch that will serve as a pendant to the preceding, showing us the

POLICY OF RUSSIA TOWARDS MONGOLIA.

The Russian Government keeps up a considerable establishment at Urga, the Consul having a body-guard of twenty Cossacks, besides the twenty Russian carpenters who are at work on the new house, and other hangers-on. The object of such an expensive establishment at a place like Urga, where Russia has no interests whatever to protect, can only be divined by the light of its traditional policy of progress in Asia. It has long been considered that the Khinghan chain of mountains, running east and west past Urga to the head waters of the River Amoor, forms the "natural boundary" of Siberia, and consequently, advantage has been taken of disputes between the Mongol Khans of former times and some Russian merchants who had penetrated as far as Urga, to gain foothold there, which will certainly never be relinquished until the tract of country inclosed by these mountains and the River Kerulun, the head stream of the Amoor, to Lake Hurun or Dalainor, has been annexed to Siberia. After that the "natural boundary" will be discovered to lie still farther to the south. Russia is in no hurry to enter on the possession of this new territory, but in the meantime the country has been surveyed, and is included in the Russian maps of Eastern Siberia. The transfer will be made quietly and without bloodshed when the favourable moment comes, for none understand better than Russian diplomatists the *suaviter in modo*, when it suits their purpose. No one will be much a loser by the change. The Emperor of China will lose his nominal suzerainty over a country that even now probably costs him more than it is worth. The Mongol tribes, with their chiefs, would merely become subjects of one autocrat instead of another; but everything else would probably go on as at present until time brought gradual changes. The Chinese merchants don't care a straw about who is king as long as they are left to their peaceful occupations; and the Russian Government is too enlightened to throw any obstacles in the way of a trade which has done more than anything else to develop the resources of the Siberian deserts.

Arrived at Kiachta, the further route was by steamer across Lake Baikal, to Irkutsk, and then through Krasnoyarsk, Tomsk, Omsk, and Tumen to Ekaterineburg, at the foot of the Ural Mountains, or rather hills, for at this spot they are not more than a thousand feet in height above the elevated plain. From the last-named place the journey was continued through Kazan to Nijni-Novgorod, whence there is a line of railway to Moscow and St. Petersburg. The transit across Lake Baikal was by no means the least anxious part of the undertaking, and, altogether, seeing that in winter that inland sea is rendered unnavigable by the ice, there can be no wonder that the Russians are endeavouring to do away with the necessity of the voyage at any time, by making a road round its southern end. The country, however, presents almost insuperable difficulties. This only serves to call forth the persevering patient energy of a despotism "that can afford to wait." The road is scarped out of the rock, and only worked at in winter, when the peasants are frozen out of their ordinary labours. One of the means employed to split the rocks is to make enormous bonfires of trees when the temperature is very low; the action of heat on the stone causing huge masses to crack, and enabling the workmen to dislodge them. This is but a slow process, several years having already been spent on it, and many more will be required to complete it.

Mr. Michie's experience will be particularly useful to future travellers in one respect, by impressing on them what to avoid. He says: "We were too late and too early all the way through." How necessary it is to pitch on the right season for this really *overland* route will be seen when the reader learns that in Russian Siberia—

Between the autumn and the snow there are "no roads," and no Russian travels at that season under the most urgent circumstances. In the post regulations it is laid down that travellers can demand to be driven at the rate of ten versts per hour in summer, eight in autumn, and twelve in winter, December to March. These rates are, in practice, greatly increased in summer and winter, but in the month of October it is hard work to average even the Government speed.

Whatever inconveniences this unlucky choice as to time may have caused Mr. Michie, none of their effects are visible in the tone of the narrative. The traverse was accomplished without any dangerous mishaps, and it is no slight merit to say that we scarcely remember a book of travels neither characterised by startling incidents or the encounter with remarkable persons, which is yet so sustained in interest to the very close. The every-day events of this long journey—that need not, however, be destitute of comfort, as the writer shows by his own example, if proper precautions are taken—are told without exaggeration, and with just such a feeling of their importance in reference to the purpose of the book and not of the degree in which they for the moment annoyed or gratified the author, that an absence of anything like tediousness of detail is perfectly achieved. The volume is, in fact, so full of matter that it would require a much longer notice than our columns can afford to give a notion of the vast fund of information it contains as to both China and Russia. Among the multiplicity of the topics fairly introduced in the four hundred pages of which the book consists, we find an opinion deliberately asserted that will jar against the ideas generally prevalent in England as to the

TREATMENT OF POLISH EXILES IN SIBERIA.

The fate of the exiles is by no means such a hard one as is commonly supposed. I have taken pains to inquire into this, and the more I have heard about it from persons well able to judge, the more have I been convinced that the Poles in Siberia are very much better off than the average of those in Poland. The Russians to a man condemn them, and justify their Government in the measures that have been adopted to put down the insurrection; but their feelings of loyalty to the Emperor may possibly warp their judgment. The foreign residents, who have no such influence to sway their opinions, may be considered impartial in the matter, and they, on the whole, endorse the Russian views as regards the Poles. These English residents in Siberia with whom I have conversed, assert that the Polish exiles enjoy a degree of peace, comfort, and prosperity that they were altogether strangers to in their own country. Wealth, talent, industry, and education have the most ample scope in Siberia, and are set free from those distractions which sap healthy enterprise in a country torn with civil wars. I have already given some hints of the position occupied by Russian political exiles in Siberia, and I need not dwell on the subject now, further than to say that the Poles are treated with still greater leniency and consideration. That the exiles are on the whole dissatisfied, there can be no doubt. But the more sensible of them admit that their worldly circumstances are improved by going to Siberia. Many of them are pleased at the change, and would not willingly return home, if it were open to them to do so. So long as they remain in Poland, they say, they are at the mercy of every band of malcontents who have nothing of their own to lose. In revolutionary times they are constrained, in spite of themselves, to take part in the proceedings, and to sacrifice their time, property, and everything else to schemes of which they must strongly disapprove. They never feel secure from the consequences of the folly of their hotheaded countrymen. They have no heart to work, when they are liable at any moment to be involved in ruin by the rashness of some insurrectionary party. But Siberia offers an escape from all this strife and endless conspiracy, and some of them hail with delight the sentence that exiles them to a more congenial soil. No one, indeed, who has observed in an impartial manner the conditions of life in Siberia and Russia respectively, will be disposed to doubt that the former is really the more attractive residence, and although it is remarkable, it is not incredible, that many Poles should deliberately prefer it to their own country.

The reader will find himself enabled to follow the traveller with the greater ease and intelligence by the presence in the book of two excellent maps, and a dozen spirited wood engravings, that are in every sense of the word illustrations of the text.

Naval and Military.

The *Moniteur de la Flotte* contains the following details as to the effects of the French artillery in forcing the Straits of Simonoseki. The French guns, it will be perceived, are described as vastly superior to the Armstrong ordnance:—"Our vessels, the Semiramis, Dupleix, and Tancrede greatly distinguished themselves. The admiral's frigate crushed the enemy's batteries by the rapidity of her fire, not less than 350 shots having been discharged within an hour. The English are in admiration at our artillery, which proved of great assistance to the corvettes stationed at a short distance from the forts. The reputation of the Armstrong guns is decidedly on the wane; the officer who commanded the battery of the English ship Euryalus loudly complained of them. Whilst we were removing the cannon from the forts the Japanese sharpshooters approached, and the 4-pounder swivel gun of the Semiramis opened on them, Admiral Kuper, Major Soy, of the English Engineers, and the commander of the Conqueror were amazed at the precision of the fire from this piece, which placed its shells as correctly as with the hand at a distance of 3,000 metres."

It is reported (says the *Army and Navy Gazette*) that Lieut.-Colonel Suther, who is in command of the Royal Marine Light Infantry Battalion in Japan, will, in consequence of the victory recently gained by the allied forces over the Japanese, be recommended for the vacant aide-de-campship. We are not inclined to dispute the merits of this officer for the enviable distinction, but there is a strong opinion existing in the corps that the recollection of the services rendered by Lieutenant-Colonel Williams, and the painful wounds which he received in action, should not be obliterated by the success attendant upon a single fight against an enemy extensively armed with bows and arrows.

The Dutch frigate Adolph Hertog von Nassau, 50, 400-horse power, Capt. O. A. Ulmberg, having completed her repairs at Sheerness Dockyard, left the Medway on Saturday, the 19th inst., for Batavia.

A report of the health of the Navy has been published, from which we gather that there has been a great reduction in the rate of invaliding from the East Indies and China, but this is "in no degree to be referred to any marked improvement in the health of that station, but simply to the fact that a large number of the vessels of the squadron were under orders for England, and that cases which would otherwise have been invalided were retained on board their own ships for conveyance home." The invaliding on this station is, however, as high as 61.6 per 1,000, while the average for the whole force is but 38.2.

Lieut. George Frederic Harris, 20th Foot, to be instructor of musketry vice Lieut. Charles Kyrle Chatfield, appointed aide-de-camp to the Governor of Hong Kong.

THE Ariel, 6, screw sloop, Commander Chapman, arrived at Spithead from foreign service, having sailed from the Cape of Good Hope on the

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1st of September, from St. Helena on the 17th, Ascension, 28th, Sierra Leone on the 12th of October, and Rayal on the 6th inst. She brought home as passengers Lieut. Bush, R.N., Mr. Lew, paymaster, R.N., and a few naval invalids.

THE TRADE OF TIEN-TSIN.

The Consular Report for this place has only just been published. In a previous issue we noticed the delay in the transmission of these returns. The delay in this case is more extraordinary; Tien-tsin being the nearest port to our Minister at Peking, through whom, as already stated, they are transmitted to the Foreign-office. The returns are signed by W. B. Dennys for Mr. Consul Mongan, who is now in this country on leave, but returns to his post, we believe, in January next.

The returns under notice are most profuse, and we would recommend the compiler, should he again have the duty to perform, to give us the practical results with less verbosity. The comments on "Shipping and Navigation" particularly illustrate our remark. The whole of the report occupies 19 pages of the *London Gazette* of the 4th Nov.

SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION.

The shipping returns for the year 1863, as compared with the returns of 1862, exhibit an increase in the number of British vessels trading at the port of Tien-tsin equal to one-half. Indeed, the British vessels exceed all the other foreign flags, exclusive of the Americans, which visit this port by a little more than one-third. The subjoined table will fully illustrate the truth of this:—

	Shipping in 1863.		Shipping in 1862.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British ..	69	19,108	39	10,671
American ..	20	6,558	18	4,436
Sundry ..	45	10,610	54	11,454
Totals ..	134	36,276	111	26,561

The decrease which the returns exhibit in the number of "sundry" vessels is accounted for, first by the British merchants extensively employing small steamers in the Tien-tsin trade, and, secondly, by the British merchants having a quantity of light handy sailing vessels suitable for this trade.

First. I mentioned in my report in 1862, the decrease in "sundry" vessels as compared with 1861, and I employed the following remarks as being in my opinion explanatory of the fact:—"The increase of small steamers in 1862" (as now in 1863) "connected with the Tien-tsin trade is, however, the principal cause of the decrease of continental shipping. These small steamers, nearly all of which hoist English colours, are undoubtedly by far the most convenient class of vessels for the traffic at this port. The city of Tien-tsin stands about sixty-five miles from the village of Taku, upon a river which, owing to its insufficient depth of water and tortuous course, is extremely difficult of navigation. At the mouth of this river (Pei-ho) there is a bar, which renders it unsafe for vessels drawing more than 11 feet 6 inches of water to enter Taku anchorage; while outside in the gulf the weather is often so boisterous, and the swell so high, that vessels cannot discharge their cargoes for several days together. The convenience, therefore, of a class of steam vessels able not only to clear the bar, but to carry their cargoes right up this sixty-five miles of river navigation to the very gates of the merchants godowns, is very great."

The trouble of hiring native boats, the slowness and stupidity of the native sailors, their dishonesty, the inconvenience of transshipment, and the delay which it occasions, have induced merchants to employ light swift steamers. Three such vessels have run regularly in 1863 between Tien-tsin and Shanghai, and several others have made occasional trips at moderate intervals.

Secondly. The British merchants at Tien-tsin have a sufficient quantity of sailing-vessels of a light draught of water, which renders the chartering of continental vessels superfluous. This was not so in 1861. British vessels could not be obtained of a size small enough for the Tien-tsin trade. The British merchants had, therefore, to charter continental vessels. But the freight of German and Danish vessels has fallen in the market. The five or six British steamers, which trade between this and Shanghai, have engrossed the trade which belonged to continental vessels in 1861, and British merchants like British vessels better than those flying the flags of other Powers.

COASTING VESSELS.—FOREIGN AND NATIVE.

The foreign vessels that visit Tien-tsin are, in the vast majority of instances, engaged in a merely coast trade. The merchants, foreign and native, in Hong Kong, Canton, and the other southern ports, charter foreign ships to transport their merchandise to Tien-tsin; and the merchants, foreign and native, in Tien-tsin employ foreign vessels to export their merchandise to Shanghai, Hong Kong, Canton, and other southern ports; the foreign ships and steamers generally touch at Shanghai, or make Shanghai their destination. The coasting trade at Tien-tsin, the only trade of the port, in the great majority of cases, is done by native or foreign Shanghai houses.

Not only are foreign vessels employed in a coasting trade between this port and Southern China, but they import and export native produce. Foreign vessels bring up to Tien-tsin, not only foreign manufactures, but sugar, rice, tea, oil, medicine, paper, and other native produce for which there is an extensive market at this port; and foreign vessels carry away not merely re-exports, but beans, peas, cotton, wool, hides, fruit, medicine, and other produce of Northern China, as well as the native junks. For particulars of the coasting trade, I beg to refer to my report on the trade of Tien-tsin, in 1861-62.

The native junk is rapidly disappearing from the highways of commerce; the native merchants do not engage them; the principle of marine insurance annihilates the native craft: "Can you insure?" is a question which the Chinese merchants almost invariably put. Eighty southern junks came in 1863, one-third of their holds were empty; one hundred and twenty-seven came in 1862. The eighty junks which entered in 1863 contained rice, sugar, tea, oil, paper, medicine, fruit, preserves, silk pieces, native hardware, wood, prepared opium, birds' nests, fish, sharks' fins, &c., &c., &c.; and they took away peas, beans, salt, fruit, vegetables, fish, wheat, barley, millet, medicine, ginseng, &c., &c. The coasting trade done in this consular district by the native junk is very great.

FOREIGN TRADE IMPORTS.

The Import Return for 1863, given below, will sufficiently indicate the nature and extent of the trade transacted at Tien-tsin during 1863. Except cotton manufactures, the returns for 1863 compare very favourably with those for 1862.

These returns describe the total quantity of about 250 articles, imported in 69 British, 20 American, and 45 vessels of various flags; total, 134 vessels, of 36,276 tons; total value, 7,704,492 taels, less 341,992 re-exports. Of this total opium figures for 2,285,651 taels; shirtings, 516,215; English camlets, 15,210; Dutch, 80,000; sugar, 1,361,920. Next follows the market values of these articles, which might have been given by adding another column to the import tables. The following comments are also appended:—

MANUFACTURED COTTON.

The import of cotton manufactures has in 1863 steadily fallen off. The civil war in America, and the defective supply of cotton in England, fully accounts for this. Merchants' manufactures, when brought into competition with native cotton manufactures, owing to a rise in their price, ought, as a matter of course, to go to the wall. Foreign cotton manufactures in 1861 sold at Tien-tsin for about half the prices of native cottons. As a consequence, the people of the towns and villages scattered through Chi-li and the neighbouring provinces purchased foreign cottons as being cheaper than their own cottons; but the country population adhered to their native manufactures. The country people, who work a great deal at rough employments, when manufactured cottons sold at one-half the price of native cottons, bought the native rather than the foreign, because the native lasted much longer than our Manchester goods. Native cottons, though not so comely, are much better adapted for the rough work of the rural population.

The scarcity of cotton has raised the price of Manchester goods so near the price of native cotton manufactures that not only the country people, but the town and village population, purchase their home manufactures instead of merchants' goods. Till the normal state of the cotton market returns, and, as a consequence, till the prices drop very much lower than the prices current in 1863, the native cottons must rule the market.

WOOLLENS.

The import of woollens has been unfavourable. In the trade report for 1862 I explained the cause. At Tien-tsin, and throughout North China in general, the winter months are dry, but the cold is very severe; as a consequence the Chinese prefer cottons or silks lined with fur for winter dresses rather than foreign woollens. In upholstery a good deal of woollen cloth is used, but for the most part the woollens are Russian, not English. The English woollens imported into Tien-tsin are too dear, of the wrong colour, and too heavy for the natives. Upon the whole, then, the market for British woollens remains insignificant.

OPIUM.

This import maintains its high character; one hundred and eighty-two chests of Malwa have been imported in 1863 more than in 1862; and though the Shensi crop of native opium was fair, the Chinese favour the Indian, not the native drug. The native opium is, though very much cheaper, insipid, and very few of the Chinese smoke native opium, unless it is mixed with the Indian. If they can get the Indian of course so much the better, but a Chinaman reduced to a state of poverty, to which the habit of excessive opium smoking invariably leads, unable to purchase the Indian, mixes the native with the Indian, or even gathers up the cinders of Indian opium twice smoked, and smokes them a third time.

Malwa opium is sold for about six hundred taels, while native Shensi opium is sold for about four hundred taels. In 1862 native opium was offered in the market at six hundred and fifty taels; this rise in the price of native opium was caused by political disturbances in Shensi, ultimately calmed down by means of bribes and donations, which threatened with extinction the whole trade of that province. The quantity of Indian imported into this district depends entirely on the state of the Shensi crop. When the Shensi crop is deficient, the demand for Indian opium increases, and *vice versa*.

Of the opium imported into Tien-tsin, from 150 to 200 chests a month are purchased for consumption in the capital. What Peking consumes in the native drug I do not exactly know; it must, however, be large.

PRODUCE OF CHINA AND THE STRAITS.

The returns for 1863 show very favourably as compared with those of 1862. This trade is partly in native hands. The raw material is imported by foreign merchants while the prepared material falls to the lot of native merchants. I should judge that one-half, or, perhaps, a little more, of this trade, is carried on by Chinese. The native houses in Tien-tsin have agents in Hankow, Canton, Singapore, acute in business transactions. It is only in dealing with places in which Chinamen do not exist that the native merchant meets with a difficulty; but wherever Chinese reside, the native merchant can do business very much cheaper than the foreign houses in China; and, moreover, his knowledge of the tastes and habits of his countrymen guarantees him against any gross mistakes, especially with reference to prepared commodities.

FOREIGN TRADE EXPORTS.

The export returns of 1863 compare favourably with those of 1862.

These returns embrace the quantities of all goods exported in the same number of vessels as the imports.

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DUTIES PAID.

A tabular statement of the duties collected shows a total of 163,681 taels divided as follows:—On Imports, 25,346; Exports, 23,437; Coast trade, 48,849; Opium, 62,838; Prepared Opium, 293; Ships' tonnage dues, 2,918.

FROM "PUNCH."

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ECONOMICAL MUNIFICENCE.

With the sole addition of merited *italics*, we copy the following statement from the *London and China Telegraph*:—

"A pension of £300 a year has been voted to the Bishop of Victoria, *subject to a deduction of any sum he may derive from an appointment in England.*"—SHABBY!

CHINA GRASS.—We (*Galignani's Messenger*) stated a few days ago that highly satisfactory experiments had been made at Lille, on a small scale, with China grass and cotton mixed, an excellent stuff having been obtained from the loom, far more durable than calico, and equally capable of being dyed. A second report, presented to the Chamber of Commerce, goes into further details. Quantities of 100 kilogrammes each of China grass and India cotton having been mixed, the usual processes of spinning were gone through very easily, the only difficulty lying in the cording; but this, it appeared, would easily be obviated by habit. The weaving proceeded satisfactorily, and produced military shirting of the breadth of 76 centimetres, and weighing 17 kilogrammes per 100 metres; also calico for printing 93 centimetres broad, and weighing 16½ kilogrammes per 100 metres. The only inconvenience is that these stuffs are somewhat stiffer than those made with cotton alone; but, on the other hand, they last much longer. The earlier experiments in dyeing had been effected on small pieces; they have now been repeated on a much larger scale, and with the same success. India cotton is generally very difficult to dye, but mixed with China grass the results are equal to those obtained with the best long staple from Louisiana. China grass alone has an affinity for colours equal to that of the best cotton. After bleaching, the calico for printing, which was 93 centimetres broad, lost 13 centimetres in that sense, and gained in length 4½ metres on pieces measuring together 157 metres, a result nearly the same as that generally obtained in the best cotton stuffs. The weight after bleaching is about one-eleventh less than the original one; so that neither dyeing nor bleaching modifies the constituent nature of the stuff. With regard to strength, experiment shows that stuff made of China grass and cotton, when tried on the warp, is weaker than pure cotton in the proportion of 76 to 80, or thereabout, but that on the woof it is stronger in the proportion of 57 to 52. The report concludes with a recommendation to introduce China grass into the manufacture of stuffs hitherto made of cotton alone. Such stuffs, it may be surmised, will hold an intermediate rank between linen and pure cotton fabrics. China grass, in a raw state, consists of long herbaceous blades of a yellowish hue, but when prepared it has quite the appearance of common cotton, except that it has a sort of silky gloss which the latter has not. It is soft to the touch, supple, and free from all kinds of knots. The plant admits of being acclimatised in the south of France, and generally wherever cotton has been cultivated since the outbreak of the American war. It spreads with great rapidity, even when left to itself, and its cultivation gives little or no trouble. At Calcutta it yields three crops a-year, with stalks of the length of from six to nine feet. The Minister of Agriculture and Commerce has ordered over a quantity of China grass seed from its native country, in order to distribute it to all agriculturists who may apply for it. Regarding the cost, MM. Mallard and Bonneau, of Lille, state it as follows:—100 kilogrammes of China grass treated by their process yield 75 per cent. of cotton-like matter, 8 per cent. of refuse applicable to the manufacture of paper, and 17 per cent. of waste which is good for manure. The chemical treatment and the various manipulations requisite for obtaining the material fit for spinning cost together 1f. 57c. per kilogramme. As the cotton of Egypt nows costs 5f. 60c., the difference in favour of China grass is 4f. 3c. To this must be added 10 per cent. for the cleaning or picking and consequent waste of the said cotton, which raises the differences in favour of the new material to 4f. 59c. This is irrespective of the profit to be derived from the refuse to be sent to the paper mill. If all these calculations be correct, China grass will be a boon to mankind.

RESIGNATION OF THE BISHOP OF VICTORIA.—The Right Rev. George Smith, D.D., Lord Bishop of Victoria, Hong Kong, we hear, will formally resign the see at the end of the year. The bishop, who is a strong evangelical, and married to a daughter of a leading evangelical clergyman, the Rev. Andrew Brandram, of Beckenham, graduated at Magdalen Hall, Oxford, and was incumbent of Goole, Yorkshire, before proceeding to China. He has been voted a pension of £300 by the Hong Kong Government, and *Punch* has an amusing notice of this, which will be found in another column.

THE *Illustrated News* of the 19th November contains a series of views of the operations of the fleet in the Straits of Simonoseki, from their artist, Mr. Wirgman.

Continental Intelligence

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HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, Nov. 25.

The general discussion on the Budget was opened in yesterday's sitting of the Second Chamber of the States-General. The "struggle" between the two parties began with a speech of Mr. J. J. Rochussen, who attacked in particular Mr. Betz, the Minister of the Financial Department. He blamed that Minister because he had no system at all—that *par l'art de grouper les chiffres* he had succeeded in concealing a deficit. He also rongly accused the Minister of the Colonies, alleging that his system would lead to the ruin of our possessions. Mr. van Goltstein confirmed the opinions of Mr. Rochussen; while Mr. van Zuylen van Nyeveldt, in an extremely eloquent speech, vehemently attacked both the Ministers and the Ministerial party. He made a comparison between Mr. Thorbecke and his adorers of to-day, and that Minister and his party in the years 1849-53. We came thence to the conclusion that the party styling itself "Liberal" was not liberal at all. Centralisation was now the device of the Government at home; and as concerned the colonies, there was no rule at all: the plan there was to try everything to abolish the system that had proved good for thirty years. He was, therefore, obliged to vote against the Budgets. To this conclusion came also Mr. Van Foreest, after he had launched his annual philippic against the Cabinet. Mr. Van Bosse very warmly defended the Minister of Finance, while Mr. Dullert attempted to justify the whole Cabinet. The advantage of the day was undoubtedly on the side of the Opposition. In my next letter I will give you an impartial *résumé* of the whole debate.

Mr. Fransen van de Putte has laid before Parliament the documents referring to the measures against Messrs. Roorda van Eysinga and Nosse.

His Majesty has returned from his seat "het Loo" to the Hague. The Prince of Orange still remains at Compiegne.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Market firm, with a fair business doing at full prices. For good ordinary 43½c. is willingly paid. At this price 978 b. ex Maria Catherina were sold. The 85,092 b. offered to day at public sale by the Trading Company were all sold at firm prices.

TEA.—The market was very active during last week. At private auction were sold 196½-ch. finest New Season Kaisow Congou at 117 to 120 c.; 239 ½-ch. finest Congou at 85 to 88 c.; 444 ½-ch. extra fine New Season Congou at 84 to 85 c.; 126 ½-ch. finest Oopack Congou at 91c.; 398 ½-ch. finest Oopack Congou at 91 to 94 c.; 218 finest Kaisow Congou at 121 to 123 c.; 123 ½-ch. do. at 114 to 116 c.; 200 ½-ch. Pouchon at 53 to 73 c. The private sales consisted in 63 ½-ch. Souchon ex Highflyer and 64 ½-ch. finest Kaisow Congou at prices kept secret.

SUGAR.—The market is in a more favourable condition. A large business could have been done were holders willing sellers; they declined, however, the offers, waiting for the auction of to-day. The private sales of the week consisted in 4,500 kr. at 1f. to 1¼f. under September prices.

RICE.—Market firm, but little on offer; waiting for better prices.

SPICES.—Dull, for want of orders. Cinnamon is paid with 87c. Nutmegs, Mace, and Cloves without transactions. Prices nominal.

TOBACCO (Java).—The market is in the same condition as at our last report. Only 248 lb. Java ex Wedie were sold. Stock, 11,062 lb. Java. On the 30th of November and the 1st of December important public sales are announced.

COTTON.—Met a good sale, and again rather dearer for export.

BANCA TIN.—Dull, 60½f.

INDIGO.—Market quiet.

GUTTA PERCHA.—5,500 kils. ex Jhr. Mr. van de Wall van Puttershoek were sold at firm prices.

HIDES.—499 p. Java ox, part damaged, ex Nicot were sold by inscription.

ARRACK.—Only 60 casks Batavia were sold at prices that did not transpire.

MONEY.—Bank discount 7 per cent.; open market, 6½ to 7 per cent.; N.W.S., 2½ per cent., 61¼; 3 per cent, 72½; 4 per cent, 95 11-16ths; Handelmaatschappy, 136½ per cent.; Maatsch., Handel, and Nyverheid, 65 to 68 per cent.; Change on London 3m., f.11.50., short, f.11.72; Paris 3m., f.45.75; short, f.46.65; Hambro, f.34.50; short, f.34.70.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.—Nov. 16, at Brouwershaven, Robert Dickson, from Batavia; 15, at Texel, Wilhelmina, from do.; 16, Drusus, from do.; 17, at Brouwershaven, Nereus, Jason, Twee Gezusters, from do.; 17, at Texel, Bosphorus, Cornelia, Koophandel, Rotterdam, from do.; 19, at Brouwershaven, Balaklava, from do.; 20, Gvootmeester Nationaal, from do.; 21, Jacobus Martinus, Dageraad, from do; 19, at Texel, Sjofroken, from do; 20, Krimpenerwaard, from do.; 22, at Brouwershaven, Dageraad, Frederick Warren, from do.; 23, Burgemeester Hoffmann, from do.; 22, at Texel, Sliedrecht, from do.

DEPARTURES.—Nov. 16, from Brouwershaven, Maria Diederika, for Melbourne.

READY TO SAIL.—At Brouwershaven, Dorothea Henrietta, for Java; St. Jan, for Batavia; at Texel, Doesborgh, for Batavia; at Flushing, H.M.'s corvette, Prins Maurits der Nederlanden, for Java.

FREIGHTS.—Quotations of Messrs. Fauchez and de Vletter, shipbrokers, Rotterdam:—For Batavia: Fop Smit (549 tons); T. C. Schotel (632 tons), 18f. to 20f. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Koophandel (531 tons), Graaf Dirk III. (598 tons), Æolus (690 tons), 18f. to 20f. for Batavia, 25f. to 30f. for Sourabaya. For Batavia and Samarang: Baron van Heemstra (752 tons), 18f. to 20f. for Batavia, 25f. to 30f. for Sourabaya. For Samarang: Maria Magdalena (403 tons), Noord Braband (736 tons), 25f. For Macassar: Koning Willem III. (422 tons), 45f. For Padang: Whampoa (462 tons), 30f. for heavy, 45f. for light goods. All per last of 2,000 kilos., or 120 cubic feet Amsterdam. For Melbourne: Susanna E. Vonck (959 tons), 30f. to 50f., and 15 per cent. per 1,000 kilos., or

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40 cubic feet English. For Decima and Kanagawa: Japan Packet (266 tons), 60f., and 15 per cent. per last of 80 cubic feet English.

LOADING.—At Amsterdam.—For Kanagawa and Decima: Libra, Joan Melchior Kemper, Ferdinand and Louis, D. T. Visser. For Padang: Maria Agnes. For Macassar: Quatre Bras. For Batavia: Friesland, Pollux, Anna and Sophia. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Willem Hendrik. For Samarang: Mathelde and Simonetta, Johanna, Madura, Christina, Nicot, Stad Leyden. For Sourabaya: Sourabaya Packet, Willem Daniel, Capella.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From JAVA: [Per Twee Gezusters, Captain Bergman, Mr. C. J. M. Reh; per Nereus, Captain Planten, Mrs. Akker and family, Mrs. Schluter and children; per Cornelia, Captain Croese, Messrs. Haertlein and family, Ziedtes Desplantes and family, three children of Mr. Heyting: per Rotterdam, Captain Adriaans, Mr. Heykoop ten Ham with family, and 107 soldiers; per Grootmeester Nationaal, Captain Giesse, Mr. W. Willemse.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

To Batavia: Per St. Jan, Captain P. Lommerse, Mr. A. Koene Lieutenants C. van Vleuten and H. F. Scheggers, and 100 soldiers.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NOVEMBER 23.

Now that the ratifications of the Treaty of Peace between Denmark and the German great Powers have been exchanged and the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein formally ceded to Prussia and Austria, Herr von Bismark, the Prussian Minister for Foreign Affairs has issued a circular to the Prussian Consuls and Consular Agents abroad, directing them to take under their immediate protection the vessels with their crews and cargo belonging to the Duchies, and to treat them in every respect as if they were Prussian, and the Consular fees to be levied are to be not higher than those paid by Prussian ships and cargoes.

It is further ordained that as those Duchies have in the present temporary state of affairs no publicly recognised Sovereign, and as after their cession to Prussia and Austria it is clear that their vessels cannot sail under Danish colours, as they have hitherto done, whilst their own Schleswig-Holstein flag is not only unrecognised by other maritime States, but unknown beyond the frontiers of the Duchies, their vessels shall be admitted to the privilege of sailing under the Prussian flag. The practical importance of this concession will not appear perhaps to your readers as very great on first reading this, but they must consider that by now being legally permitted the use of the Prussian flag, the Schleswig-Holstein vessels, of which there are several employed in the carrying trade in the Far East, can now be chartered for the conveyance of goods between the ports of China and those of Japan, a privilege not enjoyed by the flag of Hamburg or Bremen, or, indeed, of any other German State. By this mail copies of the above-mentioned circular go out to the Consuls, Vice Consuls, and Consular Agents of Prussia in China, Siam, and Japan, where Austria has no such representatives. I may here observe that great discontent is manifested by the shipowners of Trieste and other ports in Austria at this absence of Consular representation in the Far East, where, of late, considerable attempts have been made by the Austrian flag to obtain a part of the lucrative carrying trade, but which threaten to become altogether abortive from the want of support and protection of recognised Consuls. Now that the Austrian Parliament has just been convoked, the Trieste Chamber of Commerce and the merchants and shipowners of that port are preparing a petition to that Assembly setting forth the grievance of their unprotected condition in the Far East, and praying for the appointment of Austrian Consuls in the principal commercial ports of China, Japan, and Siam. It is now more than two years ago that the head of one of the German firms in Shanghai offered his services in undertaking the duties of the Austrian Consulate at that port without any reward or remuneration, but his generous offer has been "under consideration" ever since, and no answer has yet been sent out to him.

Accounts received from the Amoor state that the steam navigation on that river had increased in a wonderful manner of late, there being no less than twenty-five steamers of different sizes in full activity every day. Trade, however, at Blagovessensk was remarkably dull, though the dulness was only of a temporary nature, being attributed to the fact that the Amoor Company is liquidating its affairs, it being resolved to wind up. The company's stores at Nicolayefsk and Charabofka are already closed, and measures are being taken to sell off the remainder of the goods on hand in Kamtschatka and at Sirjetensk. The company's river steamers have been purchased by the Russian Government.

By Imperial Ukase the fortifications of Omsk, in Siberia, are ordered to be razed, and the garrison removed. The town, which is one of the principal telegraph stations of the great Siberian line, is to be placed in future under the orders of the resident telegraph engineer of the district.

Mr. H. Ebell is appointed Consular Agent for Prussia at Macao, and Mr. J. Truelsen in the same capacity at Ningpo.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Since last mail the market has been in a very lively condition, and a further advance of fully ¼ sch. bco. per lb. has been established. Sales of the week, 32,000 bags.

SUGAR.—Raw continues in favour, though there is no alteration to notice in values. Some extensive sales are reported, chiefly in W.I. descriptions. In Refined a fair amount of business has been done at previous quotations.

RICE.—The dealings were this week not extensive, but prices of all descriptions are well supported, and the market closes firm.

SPICES.—Cassia Lignea is in good request, and higher prices are willingly paid. Flores, on the other hand, is dull, and might be had somewhat cheaper. Ginger commands an easy sale; 700 bags of Bengal ately arrived found immediate buyers at 4⅝ sch. bco. per lb. Mace, Nutmegs, and Cloves calm. In Pepper little doing, but with a firm market.

SPELTER.—On the whole the market has not been so lively as last week, but the prices paid are a shade higher. Sales about 5,000 centners, at from 14 mks. 7 sch. banco to 14.11. Market closes dull.

Discount, 3½ to 4¼ per cent.

Monetary and Commercial.

A circular forwarded to the shareholders of the Ceylon Coffee Estates Company (Limited) by the secretary states as follows:—"In handing you dividend warrant for the half-year just past I am instructed by the board to inform you that the reports from the estates continue to be so satisfactory that it is hoped that the profits of the first year's working will amount to a sum equivalent to double the guaranteed dividend of 10 per cent. on the paid-up capital." Of the profits 10 per cent. is divided amongst the proprietors, being the amount guaranteed to them by the Agra and Masterman's Bank, and the remaining 10 per cent. it is proposed to carry to the reserve fund.

In our advertising columns will be found a notice for the issue of debenture, on behalf of the Municipal Commissioners of Singapore.

At a meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Galbraith, Bigland, and Co., in the East India and China trade, who failed on the 20th of October, a statement was submitted by Messrs. Harding, Pullein, and Co., showing liabilities, secured and unsecured, for about £162,000, of which £55,957 is expected to rank against the estate, while the assets are estimated at only £17,806. After much discussion it was determined to wind up under a deed of assignment.

In the Bankruptcy Court the sanction of the Court was given for a reward to be offered for the apprehension of Thomas Hall Gladstone, of the firm of John Gladstone and Co., of London, and chairman of the Intercolonial Bank (Limited), who has absconded—it is believed to New York. The bankrupt is said to have taken with him a box containing 300,000 dols.

The report of the Hudson's Bay Company, to be presented on the 28th inst., recommends a payment of interest (on account of dividend) of 8s. per share, being 3s. more than at the corresponding period of last year. Active preparations have been commenced for the construction of the electric telegraph to British Columbia and the Pacific.

Formal notice is given that the Agra and Masterman's Bank (Limited) intends to apply in the next session of Parliament for an Act authorising the subdivision of the original shares of £100 into two shares of £50 each.

COTTON EXPORTS TO INDIA AND CHINA.

The following is from Sam Mendel's table of exports from London, Liverpool, and Clyde, for the month ending Nov. 16, 1864, and for eleven months ending Nov. 16, 1862, 1863, and 1864:—

	Plain Cottons. Yards.	Coloured Cottons. Yards.	Printed Cottons. Yards.	Twist. lbs.
HONG KONG AND WHAMPOA.				
Month ending Nov. 16, 1864	479,800	154,300	94,100	26,000
Prev. from Dec. 16, 1863	18,899,025	1,447,689	338,334	1,446,610
Eleven months, 1864	19,378,825	1,601,989	432,434	1,472,610
Eleven months, 1863	11,912,661	1,660,735	1,172,242	2,540,578
Eleven months, 1862	23,525,075	1,648,850	1,572,858	3,780,632
Decrease 1864, against 1863	—	58,746	739,808	1,067,968
Increase 1864, against 1863	7,466,164	—	—	—
SHANGHAI.				
Month ending Nov. 16, 1864	4,468,829	298,892	514,040	—
Prev. from Dec. 16, 1863	26,319,228	5,820,137	1,907,586	105,249
Eleven months, 1864	30,788,057	6,119,029	2,421,626	105,249
Eleven months, 1863	22,094,293	5,967,480	1,471,635	758
Eleven months, 1862	48,328,757	4,930,015	4,139,729	11,000
Increase 1864, against 1863	8,693,764	151,549	949,991	104,491

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SINGAPORE.							
Month ending Nov. 16, 1864	106,072	...	178,418	...	23,300	...	20,000
Prev. from Dec. 16, 1863 ...	17,737,945	...	2,504,965	...	1,922,238	...	809,992
Eleven months, 1864 ...	17,844,017	...	2,683,383	...	1,945,538	...	829,992
Eleven months, 1863 ...	18,787,773	...	3,918,657	...	1,817,681	...	1,808,910
Eleven months, 1862 ...	20,861,393	...	5,202,072	...	1,297,294	...	1,206,628
Decrease 1864, against 1863	943,756	...	1,235,274	...	—	...	978,918
Increase 1864, against 1863	—	...	—	...	697,857	...	—
BATAVIA.							
Month ending Nov. 16, 1864	316,678	...	83,533	...	248,063	...	6,600
Prev. from Dec. 16, 1863 ...	7,120,069	...	3,797,684	...	6,632,165	...	250,735
Eleven months, 1864 ...	7,436,739	...	3,881,217	...	6,880,228	...	256,735
Eleven months, 1863 ...	6,743,463	...	3,053,718	...	4,078,954	...	616,725
Eleven months, 1862 ...	14,183,601	...	6,930,871	...	7,235,076	...	577,162
Decrease 1864, against 1863	—	...	—	...	—	...	259,990
Increase 1864, against 1863	693,276	...	827,499	...	2,801,274	...	—
MANILA.							
Month ending Nov. 16, 1864	1,274,743	...	1,633,795	...	272,621	...	76,430
Prev. from Dec. 16, 1863 ...	6,970,550	...	8,776,709	...	742,461	...	41,150
Eleven months, 1864 ...	8,245,293	...	10,410,504	...	1,015,082	...	117,580
Eleven months, 1863 ...	6,005,306	...	6,512,300	..	301,346	...	22,250
Eleven months, 1862 ...	5,398,227	...	6,284,804	...	832,903	...	54,200
Increase 1864, against 1863.	2,239,986	...	3,898,204	...	713,736	...	95,330
CALCUTTA.							
Month ending Nov. 16, 1864.	18,048,359	...	1,205,269	...	2,019,989	...	617,408
Prev. from Dec. 16, 1863 ...	148,894,965	...	12,835,422	...	18,991,427	...	7,635,706
Eleven months, 1864 ...	166,943,324	...	14,040,631	...	21,011,416	...	8,253,114
Eleven months, 1863 ...	180,552,601	...	17,219,491	...	14,867,689	...	9,598,276
Eleven months, 1862 ...	237,209,715	...	20,043,196	...	27,228,888	...	8,956,256
Decrease 1864, against 1863.	13,609,277	...	3,178,860	...	—	...	1,345,162
Increase 1864, against 1863.	—	...	—	...	6,143,727	...	—
BOMBAY.							
Month ending Nov. 16, 1864.	22,039,207	...	2,358,443	...	1,663,061	...	571,727
Prev. from Dec. 16, 1863 ...	116,724,827	...	17,047,126	...	12,058,118	...	5,216,777
Eleven months, 1864 ...	138,764,034	...	19,405 569	...	13,721,199	...	5,781,504
Eleven months, 1863 ...	167 691,201	...	19,262,814	...	14,767,358	...	4,924,185
Eleven months, 1862 ...	148,198,848	...	20,219,016	...	6,822,009	...	4,661,034
Decrease 1864, against 1863.	28,927,167	...	—	...	1,046,159	...	—
Increase 1864, against 1863.	—	...	142,755	...	—	...	864,319
CEYLON.							
Month ending Nov. 16, 1864.	259,063	...	119,329	...	150,856	...	2,100
Prev. from Dec. 16, 1863 ...	8,458,677	...	1,505,687	...	3,196,864	...	251,872
Eleven months, 1864 ...	8,717,745	...	1.625,016	...	3,347,220	...	253,972
Eleven months, 1863 ...	12,771,028	...	1,228,285	...	3,853,366	...	597,700
Eleven months, 1862 ...	13,618,693	...	659,175	...	2,393,208	...	327,384
Decrease 1864, against 1863.	4,053,283	...	—	...	506,146	...	343,728
Increase 1864, against 1863.	—	...	396,731	...	—	...	—
MADRAS.							
Month ending Nov. 16, 1864.	538,355	...	373,884	...	396,450	...	217,885
Prev. from Dec. 16, 1863 ...	6,818,898	...	2,892,156	...	2,090,533	...	2,008,108
Eleven months, 1864 ...	7,357,253	...	3,265,540	...	2,486,983	...	2,225,993
Eleven months, 1863 ...	7,803,003	...	2,138,091	...	2,642,714	...	2,985,259
Eleven months, 1862 ...	3,861,121	...	835,111	...	4,767,992	...	1,627,734
Decrease 1864, against 1863.	445,750	...	—	...	155,731	...	759,266
Increase 1864, against 1863.	—	...	1,127,449	...	—	...	—

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Delhi*, from Southampton on the 20th inst. was—in gold, to Alexandria, £58,500; to Madras, £1,044. In silver, to enang, £13,050; to Singapore, £15,000; to Hong Kong, 24,711; to Shanghai, £41,913. Total—in gold, £59,544; n silver, £94,674

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices Nov. 17.
100	Agra and Masterman's	50	133 to 138	123 to 126
50	Do. New	25	...	62
50	Do. „	15	...	—
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	35 to 37	34 to 36
20	Do. New	All	...	—
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	61 to 63	61 to 63
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	...	—
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (7½ pd.)	15	...	—
20	Eastern Exchange	8	¼ dis. to ¼ pm.	¼ dis. to ¼pm.
50	London Joint Stock	10	49 to 50	47 to 49
100	London and Westminster	20	97 to 99	98 to 100
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	59 to 60	58 to 60
50	Union of London	15	56 to 57	55 to 57
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	6½ to 7½	5 to 6 pm
100	Do. New	18	5 to 6 pm.	4 to 5 pm.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	½ to 1 pm.	1½ to 1¾ pm
25	Bank of Egypt	All	30 to 31	29½ to 30½
100	Bank of London	50	154 to 157	154 to 157
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	¾ to 1¼ pm.	⅝ to ¾ pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 4	2 to 4
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	83 to 84	84 to 86
50	Do. New	30	20 to 22 pm.	20 to 22 pm.
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	...	—
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	...	—
5	Bombay Gas	All	4½ to 5	4½ to 5
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	8	2⅜ to 1½ dis.	3 to 2 dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	⅛ to ¼ pm.	⅛ to ¼ pm.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	20 to 21	19 to 20
1	Oriental Gas	All	1½ to 1⅝	1½ to 1⅝
1	Do. New	All	⅛ to ¼pm.	⅛ to ¼ pm.
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2½ to 3 pm.	2½ to 3
100	West India Steam Company	60	90 to 92	90 to 92
20	Ceylon Company	7	3⅛ to 4⅛ pm.	3 to 4 pm.
20	International Finance Society	5	2½ to 3 pm.	2½ to 3 pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2⅝ to 3½ pm.	2½ to 3 pm.
50	London Financial Association	15	9½ to 10 pm.	8⅝ to 9½ pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	1⅛ to 1⅜ pm.	1⅛ to 1⅛ pm.
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	6	2½ to 1½ dis.	2½ to 1½ dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	16⅝ to 16¾	17⅛ to 17⅜
10	Upper Assam Tea	2½	2½ to 3½ pm.	2½ to 3½ pm.
10	Do.	All	16 to 18	16 to 18

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—During the past fortnight heavy arrivals of new season's teas have come to hand, and have been freely offered by the importers, and the result has been a fair amount of business doing, but prices in most instances have ruled in favour of buyers, whilst, owing to the magnitude of the quantity offering, the trade have scarcely been able to taste all the samples. The Public Sales passed off without material change in prices for old teas, but a few of new season's, offered without reserve, went rather lower. Low and broken leaf and dusty kinds of Congou show little alteration. Good common is only in limited request to 11½d. to 1s. per lb. Flavory kinds of old import remain as before. The late advance in common to fair blackish leaf kinds has been fairly maintained. Fair to good Kaisows of new import have been freely offered, and the sales made show a decline of ½d. to 1d. per lb.; fine to finest maintain about former value. In second class Monings and Wopaks sales have been irregular, but the decline established since our last is fully 1d. per lb.; Fine to finest meet with but little attention. In new-make Canton kinds or Tayshans there has been no alteration. Common to good Oolongs have sold at a further decline of fully 1d. per lb.; fine to finest have been better supported. Souchongs of old import remain very difficult of sale. New season's have been only taken in small quantities, and prices are rather nominal. Flowery Pekoes show no change. The arrivals of Canton Scented Tea have been large, and being freely offered, prices for the fair to good qualities have given way fully 1d. per lb., both on Capers and Orange Pekoes; fine to finest have, however, realised former prices. Foo Chow kinds of Orange Pekoe are in active request, and sales continue to be made at extreme prices. Foo Chow Capers show no material alteration. Uncoloured Japans have met with only a moderate demand, and prices remain much as before. A small public sale of Assam Teas went off with spirit at an advance of 1d. to 2d. per lb. on the Pekoe kinds. In Green Teas there has been rather more doing, the late arrivals having given a better assortment than has been available for some time. Prices, on the whole, have been fairly maintained for all the good qualities; low descriptions have, however, sold at a decline of 1d. to 2d. per lb. Canton-made Gunpowders remain very difficult of sale, even at a decline of 1d. to 2d. per lb. for new season's, whilst those of old import rule very low.

TEA.—At New York there has been less activity and less buoyancy in the market. The business in lines for immediate use continues pretty large. Among the sales we notice 1,500 uncoloured Japan, 3,500 Oolong, 650 Green, &c. Current prices are about 5 cents higher than our quotations:—Hyson: Fychow kinds, common to fine, duty paid, $1.15 to 1.50. Young Hyson: Canton made, 75c. to 85c. Gunpowder: Taiping and Common Fycho, Congou, $1.15 to 1.25.

SILK.—We have had an unusually quiet fortnight in silk, the improved position of the Money Market having apparently no effect; importers, however, continue to be firm holders, there being nothing in the news from China to induce them to press sales. Japan Silk has been almost entirely neglected, and our quotations must be considered nominal. Deliveries from 1st to 24th inclusive. China, 2,740 bales; Japan, 835 do.; total, 3,575 bales. Tsatlee, No. 1, 26s. 6d.; Taysaam, No. 1, 24s. 6d.; Mibash, No. 1, 28s. to 28s. 6d.

COTTON.—The London market opened for the week with a good demand, and afterwards became even excited, prices advancing 1d. to 2d. per lb., but the rise was not fully maintained, and business is now flat. At Liverpool, also, prices of every description advanced on Monday, but on Tuesday and Wednesday was less extensive, the tendency being in favour of buyers. China and Japan were eagerly purchased early in the week at fully 2d. advance; but sellers have since supplied the market more freely, and about ¼d. of the advance was lost. To arrive and for future delivery increased purchases have been made, particularly in Egyptian, at an advance about corresponding to that of the general market, part of which has, however, been lost during the past two days. Yesterday (Friday) the market was dull, and prices were fully ½d. to ¾d. per lb. lower.

SUGAR.—At the close of last week there had been established a decline in prices of fully 6d. per cwt. The present opened with a sluggish demand; rates again declined 6d. per cwt. where sales were effected, and prices still continue weak. On the 22nd at auction 1,400 bags Siam partly sold at 36s. to 40s. 6d. Some parcels of Manila were sold on the 24th at 29s. 6d. to 30s.

COFFEE.—Business finished last week with an active demand, and sales of Plantation passed off with spirit at an advance of fully 1s. per cwt. Quotations are again higher this week. Altogether it may be stated that since the beginning of the month prices of Plantation are as much as 3s. to 4s. per cwt. higher, and of Native 1s. 6d. to 2s. Mocha has advanced 2s. per cwt.

RICE.—The rise established last week was 3d. to 6d. per cwt. This week the market is generally firmer. On the 22nd, at auction, 1,500 bags, cleaned, sold partly at 13s.

CAMPHOR.—Sales of China to a fair extent have been made at 82s. 6d. up to 85s. per cwt., and there is still demand at the higher figure, notwithstanding considerable increase of supply.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—1s. to 3s. per cwt. cheaper, and dull at the decline. Of 2,100 cases at auction, only one-fifth was placed at 88s. to 93s. per cwt. for 2nd to fine 1st pile. Buds: Quiet at the previous value, with very limited sales. 29 boxes at auction all retired.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Again cheaper; of 251 bags at auction, one-third sold at 88s. per cwt. for good but stalky. Galangal Root: Remains steady; 105 bags sold at auction at 15s. 6d. to 16s. per cwt. for good quality. Rhubarb: Middling to good quality very firm, but lower sorts flat and cheaper. Of 151 cases at auction, about half sold at 6s. 2d. per lb. for fine round; 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. middling flat; 4s. 1d. to 4s. 3d. round; and 1s. 2d. to 2s. 9d. mouldy.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Flat; and 68 cases Sumatra at auction were all retired. Damar: Some inquiry for good quality: only 10 cases at auction, and those retired. Gamboge: Scarce and firm: of 31 cases at auction, three-fourths sold at £12. 15s. to £14. 5s. per cwt. for middling to good pipe, and £9. 10s. to £11 ordinary to middling dark and broken.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Flat: and 55 baskets at auction, all retired.

INDIA RUBBER.—Really fine quality, especially Java and Batavia,

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wanted, and held above our present highest quotations of 1s. 4d. Penang worth 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. 103 baskets Singapore and 15 baskets Penang at auction all retired; but 78 cases Assam sold at 9d. to 9¼d. per lb. fair lump and ball.

HEMP.—Manila: This market has been steady; and of 2,277 bales at auction, about one-third sold at £27 10s. to £28 per ton good roping, and fair business done privately at £25 to £27 for ordinary to fully fair current quality.

HORNS (DEER).—Fine small are scarce and dearer: and of 17 tons Madras, 2 tons Bombay, and 2 tons Singapore, at auction, the bulk sold at 62s. 6d. per cwt. for 1 lb. average, 35s. to 48s. 6d. for 2½ to 1½ lb., and 30s. 6d. per cwt. for 3½ lb. average.

JAPAN WAX.—110 boxes middling block sold at 59s. to 60s., and one lot at 61s.

OILS.—Anniseed: Subsequently to our last notice sales continued to be made at 6s. per lb., but quite recently the reduced quotation of 5s. 10d. has been accepted for some small parcels. Cassia: Very dull, and offering in vain at the reduced price of 7s. 9d. per lb. Cinnamon: Steady; and of 6 cases at auction, one-third sold at 2s. 6d. per oz. for good heavy. Mace and Nutmegs: Firm; and of three cases at auction, one sold at 2¾d. per oz.

SAGO.—Is generally 6d. per cwt. cheaper, and of 3,188 packages at auction, one-third sold at 21s. to 22s. 6d. per cwt. for fair to good large, and 19s. to 19s. 6d. per cwt. for fair to good small. Flour: Quiet: very little doing: no change in value. Tapioca: 327 cases fine Singapore (flour in tins) sold freely at 3d. to 3¼d.; 146 bags Penang Tapioca were bought in.

SPICES.—Cinnamon: We quote, 1st sort, 1s. 10d. to 3s.; 2nd sort, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.; 3rd sort, 1s. 6d. to 2s.; 4th sort and jungle, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 7d. per lb. Cloves: Firm; and 30 cases Penang sold at auction at 1s. 2½d. to 1s. 4d. per lb. for good to fine; 343 bags Zanzibar retired at 4d. Mace: Steady; and of 23 cases Penang and 9 cases Singapore at auction, three-fourths sold at 11d. to 1s. 11d. per lb. for ordinary red to fair palish. Nutmegs: Are about 1d. per lb. lower, and of 193 cases Penang, and 114 cases Singapore at auction, two-thirds sold at 2s. 9d. to 3s. 9d. for fair to very good bold, and 11d. to 2s. 1d. inferior small to fine medium. Pepper (White): Is again rather easier, and of 1,750 bags Singapore at auction, half sold at 3¼d. per lb., and 7,786 bags Penang mostly sold at 3d. to 3¼d., with Trang at 3¼d. to 3½d. Black: Continues steady; 100 bags Singapore at auction retired, and 278 bags Penang sold at 5¼d to 5½d. per lb. for middling.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch Pegue: Continues to improve gradually; of 987 packages at auction half sold at 22s. to 23s. per cwt. for good. Gambier: Flat and cheaper; 889 bales at auction all retired; limited business done privately at 23s. to 24s. per cwt. middling to good; small sales for arrival also made at 23s.

SHELLAC.—Has experienced a somewhat improved demand, and is generally the turn better in value. Of 766 packages at auction, nearly two-thirds found buyers; Orange at £6. 10s. to £7 per cwt.; thin red Orange £5. 10s. to £5. 12s. 6d.; Liver £5. 2s. 6d.; Button £5. 2s. 6d. to £6. 2s. 6d.; Native £5 to £5. 2s. 6d.; similar rates have prevailed privately.

MISCELLANEOUS—Galls: China and Japan are better: 15 cases China sold at auction at 61s. per cwt. for good, and 301 cases Japan at 50s. to 52s. 6d. good. Musk: Very little doing in Tonquin; but 2 tins Cabardine at auction sold at 13s. to 14s. 3d. per oz., being 1s. to 2s. dearer: 8 tins Grain retired. Rattans: Steady; and 1,643 bundles damaged sold at auction at quite the previous value. Sapan Wood: Firm; 18 tons Siam at auction sold at £9. 7s. 6d. to £12. 10s. per ton. Soy: Generally held for more money, nothing of any consequence doing. Star Anniseeds: A small recent arrival, 50 cases, sold at auction at £5. 17s. 6d. to £6 per cwt. for good, and £5. 15s. to £5 17s. 6d. slightly mouldy. Sticklac (Siam): Continues very flat. 155 cases at auction all retired. Turmeric: No China offering, and very little doing in Java. Vermilion: Neglected at the recent reduction, and 24 cases at auction were all retired.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 15s. to £8; nail rod, £9. 10s.; hoops, £10. 10s.; sheets, single £11. 10s.; Staffordshire bars, £9. 10s.; rails, £7 to £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £16.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £98 to £100 per ton; yellow metal, 8¼d. to 8½d. per lb.

TIN.—100s. to 101s. for block; 101s. to 102s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 29s. to 29s. 6d. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £20. 5s.; W.B., £22. 10s.; shot, patent, £23. 15s.; sheet, £21. 10s.; spelter, £21. 5s.; zinc, English sheet, £28; quicksilver, £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—There has been very little alteration in the prices of metals since the date of our last circular. Copper and Tin are a shade firmer. Scotch Pig Iron is about 1s. per ton lower. For Spelter the quotation is £21. 15s., and Zinc, £26. In other metals no variation.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£309,712
Foo-chow-Foo	—	7,920
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	£17,000	491,001
Singapore	£720	256,105
Penang	—	70,420

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	88,940
Penang	—	88,172
Hong Kong	£31,568	157,295
Foo-chow-Foo	—	1,500
Shanghai	—	£213,912

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	—	£220,124
To Saigon	£120	90,080
To Batavia	£3,923	6,778
To Hong Kong	—	405,453
To Shanghai	—	329,903

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0	to 3 17 0
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4	
Silver in Bars	0 5 1½	
Mexican Dollars	0 5 1	

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

The Circular of Sam Mendel quotes the prices much higher, owing to the rise in cotton, but business was very restricted in consequence. Cotton Yarn, 16 24, at 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. Grey Shirtings, 7 lbs. 17s. to 17s. 6d; 8¼ lbs., 20s. 6d.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Nov. 12	Off the Wight	Batavia	Whampoa	Metz.
— 14	Clyde	Bassein	Laurel	McLean.
— 13	Texel	Rangoon	Estafette	Oepkes.
— 13	Do.	Bassein	Piscataqua	Thompson.
— 14	Do.	Batavia	Sperwer	Opperman.
— 14	Do.	Do.	Allegonda Jacoba	Swart.
— 17	Falmouth	Maulmain	Mandalay	Crowell.
— 15	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Germania	Franken.
—	St. Nazaire	Maulmain	Ville de Basle	Pitel.
— 16	Deal	Batavia	Martin	
— 15	Texel	Do.	Wilhelmina	Foster.
— 19	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Star of China	Lash.
— 18	Deal	Colombo	Springbok	Mouat.
— 15	Helvoet	Bassein	Maria J. Smith	Smith.
— 18	London	Colombo, &c.	Tartar	Guthrie.
— 19	Dartmouth	Akyab	George V.	Sprenger.
— 18	Plymouth	Batavia	Celeritas	Magnussen.
— 18	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Jessie Beazley	
— 18	Do.	Shanghai	Warwick Castle	
— 18	Do.	Rangoon	Cambridge	Walker.
— 16	Bremen	Do.	Clara	Probst.
— 17	Do.	Do.	Angusta Norwood	Higgins.
— 19	Deal	Singapore	Prince Alfred	Splatt.
— 18	Do.	Sarawak	Chanaral	Smith.
— 19	London	Penang	Empress	Markham.
— 19	Do.	Colombo	Princess	Huntley.
— 20	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Dora	Penrice.
— 20	Do.	Colombo	Franz de Paul Amersin	Jorns.
— 19	Portsmouth	Bassein	Teutonia	Christoffers.
— 19	Plymouth	Maulmain	Colonel Ledyard	Wills.
— 19	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Balaklava	Stewart.
— 19	Falmouth	Rangoon	John N. Cushing	Swap.
— 19	Do.	Bassein	Charlotte	Gatjen.
—	New York	Padang	Gertrude	
—	Do.	Shanghai	Bessy Stanton	
—	Do.	Singapore	Ocean Home	
— 21	Dartmouth	Rangoon	Sillery	
— 17	Texel	Batavia	Bosphorus	Kruzinga.
— 18	Do.	Do.	Cornelia	Croese.
— 18	Do.	Do.	Koophandel	Mooi.
— 17	Brouwershaven	Do.	Jason	van Bueren.
— 19	Bremen	Do.	Thusnelda	Huncken.
— 19	Do.	Bassein	Julie	Haverbeck.
— 20	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Grootmeester National	Giezen.
—	New York	Shanghai	Luzon	
— 11	Do.	Manila	Galatea	Cook.
—	Do.	Do.	Nor 'Wester	
Nov. 22	London	Colombo, &c.	Elizabeth Douthwaite	Humphrey.
— 22	Do.	Do.	Heather Bell	Thomas.
— 22	Deal	Do.	Mary E. Ray	Green.
— 22	Falmouth	Bassein	Alexandra	Cedergren.
— 22	Liverpool	Rangoon	Lahore	Green.
— 19	Texel	Batavia	Sjofroken	
— 21	Brouwershaven	Do.	Jacobus Martinus	Meppelder.
— 20	Havre	Maulmain	Hortense Dussantoy	Prevel.
— 23	Deal	Foo-chow-Foo	Holmsdale	Ferris.
— 23	Falmouth	Bassein	Josephus	Green.
—	Queenstown	Maulmain	Harvest Home	
—	Lisbon	Do.	South	Wilson.
— 24	Falmouth	Bassein	Pericles	Snow.
— 21	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Dageraad	Duinker.
— 21	Do.	Do.	Frederick Warren	Phinney.
— 10	New York	Manila	Tropic	Hamlin.
— 24	London	Do.	Admiraal de Winter	

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Nov. 16	Deal	Chincha Isles & China	Glenaros	
— 17	Liverpool	Mauritius & Galle	Nydia	
— 17	Do.	Singapore	Wm. Chandler	
— 18	Glasgow	Do.	Douglas Castle	
— 21	London	Colombo	Ardencraig	
Oct. 22	Rio Janeiro	Singapore	Mary Spencer	
Nov. 22	London	Colombo	Eunice	
Sep. 30	Monte Video	Batavia	Scharnhorst	
Nov. 23	London	Shanghai	Guinevere	
— 20	Shields	Batavia	Veritas	
— 23	Do.	Shanghai	Lord Collingwood	
— 24	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Young Lochinvar	

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Eliza Shaw, Belina. For Nagasaki: Rifleman. For Shanghai: Challenger, Pegasus, Fychow, Star of China. For Hong Kong and Canton: Banian, White Adder, Devana. For Hong Kong and Foo-chow-Foo: City of Aberdeen, For Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: Merse. For Singapore: Norfolk, Dewa Gungadhur.

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For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Skimmer of the Seas. For Colombo: Echo, Isabella Atkinson, Percy Douglas, Frances.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Jane, Aden. For Shanghai: Alarm, Invincible, W. W. Smith. For Hong Kong: Monsoon. For Hong Kong and Canton: Canton. For Singapore: Advance, Hurry Puddemsey, Bosphorus, Agenoria. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Helvetia. For Sourabaya: Dionysia Catharina. For Cheribon: Morreno. For Manila: Iberica, Sales. For Colombo: Lizzie Scott.

At GLASGOW.—For Shanghai: Glencoe. For Batavia and Singapore: Mary Hamilton. For Ceylon: Princess of Wales.

At GREENOCK.—For Galle: Belle Creole.

SPOKEN.

ANTELOPE (English brigantine), for Hong Kong, Sept. 17.
STAFFORD, Sunderland to Shanghai, July 10, 33 N., 19 W.
PALMERSTON, Cardiff to Shanghai, June (?) 30, 14 S., 30 E. (? W.).
METEOR, Amsterdam to Padang, July 17, 37 S., 6 (? 36) E.
TWEELINGEN, Batavia to Amsterdam, Sept. 15, 29 S., 37 E.
DOVER, Foo-Chow-Foo to London, Oct. 9, 9 S., 13 E.
PATRICIAN, for Galle, Oct. 18, 16 N. 27 W.
CAMOENS, of Macao, bound South, Oct. 1, 5 N., 26 W.
JOHANNA CHRISTINA (Dutch bq.), Rot. to Batavia, Sept. 16, 37 S., 18 E.
CITY OF SYDNEY (ship), for Shanghai, Sept. 19, 40 S., 9 E.
NICOLO BARABINO (Sard. bq.), Newport to Shanghai, Oct. 1, 38 S., 34 E.
AJAX, Batavia to Rotterdam, Sept. 28, 35 S., long. 22.
BEATRICE (ship), Sunderland to Shanghai, June 4, 19 S., 19 W.
REINA DE LOS ANGELOS, Cadiz to Manila, Aug. 27, 17 S., 30 W.
WM. STAIRS, Penang to London, Oct. 23, 8 N., 23 W.
QUEEN OF THE SOUTH, London to China, July 15.
INDIA, VAN BOSSE, TAGAL, and ROTA, Rottdm. to Batavia, Aug. 1.
AFFGHAN, Shanghai to Liverpool, Sept. 3, 2 S., 128 E.
GEOLOGIST, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Oct. 15, 35 S., 23 E.
WILHELMINA, Batavia to Rotterdam, Oct. 29, 13 S., 11 W.
ADRIATIC (of Dundee), H. Kong to London, Aug. 12, 18 N., 109 E.
MACASSAR, Liverpool to Singapore, Oct. 20, 13 N., 26 W.
PEVERIL OF THE PEAK, from the Philip. Isles, Sept. 18, 27 S., 46 E.
SLIEDRECHT, Batavia to Amsterdam, Oct 2, 24 S., 3 E.
ALGERNON, Colombo to London, Sept. 4, 25 S., 55 E.
THREE BELLS, Sourabaya to Rotterdam, Sept. 21, 35 S., 29 E.
STAATSRAAD VAN EWYCK, Batavia to Amsterdam, Sept. 25, 35 S., 25 E.
CORNELIA, Batavia to Amsterdam Nov. 6, 44 N., 21 W.
DECIMA, Batavia to Amsterdam, Oct. 21, 14 N., 27 W.
ACHILLES, Manila to Falmouth, Oct. 23, 12 N., 29 W.
GRAHAMSTOWN, Shanghai to London, Sept. 13, 32 S., 31 E.
LUCONIA, Rotterdam to Batavia, Sept. 12, 7 N., 22 W.
CONFUCIUS (Brem. bq.), Sunderland, to S'pore, Oct. 1, lat. 23, lon. 54.
LAIA I., Foo-chow-foo to London, Oct. 1, 24 S., 2 E.
LOUIS MEYER (Dut. barq.), Bat. to Rotterdam, Oct. 15, 5 S., 17 W.
HOFMAN (Dut. ship), Batavia to Prussia, Oct. 24, 10 N., 26 W.
EDWARD AND MARIE (Dut. barq.), for Batavia, Oct. 20, 13 N., 25 W.
TARQUIN (American ship), Marseilles to Sumatra, Oct. 7, 2 N., 26 W.
VANGUARD (Brit. ship), Shields to China, Oct. 2, 11 S., 32 W.
GOSSAMER, Liverpool to Shanghai, Oct. 22, 5 N., 25 W.
EVA JOHANNA (Dut.), R'dm. to Batavia, Oct. 24, 9 N., 24 W.
ASSAYE (?), Canton to Liverpool, Oct. 26, 11 N., 26 W.
2319 or 2309, 3rd d.p., bound to Batavia, Sept. 27, 11 S., 30 W.
SPANKER, Clyde to Hong Kong, Nov. 7, 49 N., 11 W.
ALLEGHANY (?) (Dut. barq.), Batavia, to Amst., Nov. 2, 28 N., 35 W.
WILHELMINA MARIA, Batavia to Amsterdam, Oct. 12, 7 N., 15 W.
REGINA MARIS, Amsterdam to Sourabaya, Oct. 25, 11 N., 27 W.
ADMIRAAL DE WINTER, Manila to London, Oct. 21, 8 N., 24 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

(*Exclusive of this day's advices.*)

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Natal, Yokohama, Amoy, Marmora, and Witness. At LIVERPOOL: Jane and Isabella, Marion, Vigil, Vampyre, and Gyrn Castle. At NEW YORK: Osborne, and Brilliant.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Ethel, Monarch, Belle, Zodiac, Stirlingshire, Valdivia, Shakespeare, Catherine Howard, Willie, Claremont, Finzel, Southern Cross, John Banks, Waverley, Napoleon II., Horsa, Ben Lomond, Solent, Wild Deer, Marquis of Londonderry, Carausius, John Temperley, Racehorse, Aboyne, Caractacus, Gresham, Assyrian, City of Quebec, Knight Templar, Chanticleer, Thomas Blyth, Essex, Pride of the Seas, Cumberland, Coulnakyle, Taeping, Canute, Philomela, Adriatic, P. J. F. Burchart, Volunteer, Isabella Robinson, Zelia, Vimeira, Zarah, L. Wharncliffe, Gloucester, Lorton Vale, Iceni, S. Ralston, Wm. Thompson, Marlborough, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Magnus, Josephine, Sappho, and Charles Davenport. At LIVERPOOL: Geologist, Chaa Sze, Buckham, Everest, Delhi, Wm. Dawson, Affghan, Sea Snake, Thomas Bell, Lord Dalhousie, Cornelia, Inamhore, Regina, Edward Percy, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Australia, Ann Forster, Breckham, and General Windham. At FALMOUTH: Divina, and Linda. At NEW YORK: Dorchester, Regnago, St. Paul, Cornelia, Mary, Roslin Castle, Cassiterides, Queensland, Maggie Leslie, Samuel Russell, and Bedford.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Beatrice, Seaforth, Labrador, Jupiter, Constance, and Staffordshire. At LIVERPOOL: Indiaman, Alicia Anne, Kathay, Gondola, Frederick, Royal Mint, Peveril of the Peak, and Earl of Mar and Kellie. At FALMOUTH: Der West, St. Paul, Voladora, Chance, Achilles, Fagel, and Ocean Empress. At COWES: John Banfield. At NEW YORK: Bengal, Continent, Franklin, Julia Ambridge and Peruvian.

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Oscar, Confidence, Pet, Polly, Queen of India, William Simpson, Miss Nightingale, Volunteer, Tweed, Eddystone, Najade, Rangoon, and Dunkeld. At LIVERPOOL: C. H. Soule, Victory, Agra, Beloochee, and Tigris. At FALMOUTH: Sarah Jane and Queen Bee. At BORDEAUX: Leon. At NEW YORK: Ocean Home, Gertrude, Caroline, Rudolf, and Panic. At BOSTON: Ceylon, Aristides, and Magnet.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Marengo, Sunium, Golconda, Black Eagle, Bothwell Castle, and Spitfire. At CORK: Ceylon. At BORDEAUX: Sophie.

From BANGKOK.—At NEW YORK: Eastward Ho!

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Since our last issue the arrivals from the Eastward have been very numerous, and, consequently, there will be some difficulty experienced in placing them all for the outward voyage. Berth freights have not improved, and coal freights are very scarce.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Kanagawa: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £34 to £35 and £1. 17s. 6d. For Shanghai: £45 and £2. 2s. 6d. For Manila: £1. 5s. For Ceylon: £24 and £1. 2s. For Batavia: £25 to £26. For Singapore: £25 and 22s. For Penang: £27. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 219 tons navy provisions, &c., from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Highflyer, Smith, from Shanghai, which arrived in the River Thames, 15th November, had thrown a large portion of her cargo overboard during the passage. Liverpool, 18th November.

The Hurry Puddemsey, for Singapore, in coming out of Queen's Basin during the gale this afternoon, struck against the wall, injured her stern post and rudder, and will return into dock.

The Aberdeen, from Swansea, for China, has put back to Penarth through stress of weather, leaky.

The Helen's Bank, Lawson, from Colombo to London, drove ashore at Scilly on the morning of Nov. 18, but got off with assistance, making very little water, and was towed within the pier. Her bottom is supposed to be much damaged, but it cannot be ascertained until the ensuing spring tides.

The Neville, Robinson, from Liverpool for Shanghai, bore up from 48 N. 9 W. to Plymouth on the 20th Nov., with the loss of bulwarks, stanchions, and boats.

Amsterdam, 18th Nov.—The Nereus, Planten, from Batavia to Rotterdam, which arrived at Brouwershaven, 17th Nov., in entering got aground off Hompelvoet, but was assisted off by a steam tug and brought into the roadstead.

The Robin Hood, Darlington, from London for Hong Kong and Canton, foundered three miles west of Dungeness, on the 22nd November, after having been in collision with the Spirit of the Ocean, ship, from Quebec, which vessel was running "up Channel." The master and crew of the Robin Hood took to the boats and were landed at Dover. The Robin Hood had on board a fine cargo, and about 600 tons Government stores.

Off ASCENSION.—Oct. 20, Tweed, from Singapore, for London; 25, Vellore Didier, from Batavia, for Boston; 28, Vriendschap, from Batavia, for Rotterdam.

AT ST. HELENA.—Oct. 6, Nor'-Wester, Smith, from Manila, and sailed, 7, for New York; 7, Jason, van Bueren, from Batavia, and sailed for Rotterdam; 11, Holmsdale, Ferris, from Foo-chow-Foo, for London; Straatsraad van Ewyck, Ham, from Batavia, and sailed for Amsterdam; 13, Algernon, Mowat, from Ceylon, and sailed, 14, for London; 13, Ajax, Ramsey, from Batavia, and sailed, 13, for Rotterdam; 13, Three Bells, Simpson, from Pasaroeang; 14, Eleanore, Brookman, from Padang, and sailed, 16, for New York; 15, Hougomont, Flamank, from Shanghai, and sailed for Liverpool; 15, Yokohama, Sin, from Yokohama, and sailed for London; 15, Peeress, Rowland, from Batavia, and sailed, 21, for Falmouth; Vyf Vrienden, Johan, from Batavia, and sailed, 16, for Rotterdam; 18, Niemen, Knight, from Hong Kong, and sailed, 20, for New York; 19, Edith, Sydney, from Padang, and sailed for New York; 22, Thos. Blythe, Hart, from Macao, and sailed, 24, for Falmouth; 23, Alicia Annie, Fraser, from Manila, &c., and sailed, 25, for Liverpool; 27, Cornelia, Burns, from Hong Kong, and sailed for New York; 28, Chaa Sze, Shewan, from Hong Kong, and sailed for Liverpool.

Off ST. HELENA.—Oct. 8, Volunteer, from Singapore for Liverpool; 27, Shakespere, from Shanghai for London.

At TABLE BAY.—Sept. 23, Lord Clarendon, Buratel, from New York, and sailed 28, for Shanghai; Oct. 1, Annie Comrie, Hall, sailed for Colombo; Hollinside, Ridland, sailed for Galle; 2, Cashmere, Maddison, from Clyde; and sailed 4th for Galle. Oct. 11, Salatiga, Kettler, from Batavia, and sailed 13 for Middleburg; 21, Mary Goddard, Pairle, from Batavia,

At ALGOA BAY.—Oct. 3, Argali, Winn, sailed for Colombo; 8, Dione Stephens, sailed for Colombo; 14, Dorothea; Anne, Norbye, sailed for Singapore.

AT MAURITIUS.—Oct. 12, from Batavia, Oranje Nassau, van Hees (with damage); 15, from London, for Yokohama, Seringapatam (British barque), Wyeth (with damage); from Batavia, for Rotterdam, Joseph Willem (Dutch ship), Bik (with damage); 6, Foong Suey (str.), Gray, sailed for Singapore; 8, Matchless, Nicolin, sailed for Galle.

SHIP LAUNCH.—On the 12th inst. the clipper barque Simon Hobley was launched from the building-yard of Messrs. Allen and Warlow, at Pembroke. This vessel has been built for S. Hobley, Esq., of Caernarvon, especially for the China trade. She is of the following dimensions: Length, 145 feet; breadth, 30 feet; depth, 17 feet 6 inches; 600 tons O.M. To be commanded by Captain Blake, and will be registered at the port of Liverpool.

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Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

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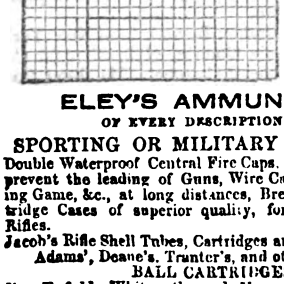

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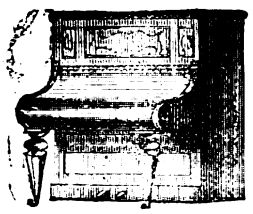

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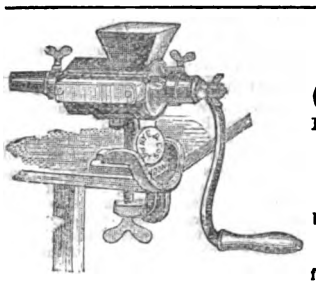

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Kurrachee ...	Morning Star...	3-3d ...	480	Kat. D.

31, Great St. Helen's, E.C.

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Ports.	Ships.	Class.	Docks	Date.
Calcutta ...	Robinson Crusoe ...	A 1 12yrs	E.I.D.	Dec. 20.
Calcutta ...	Cornwallis...	A 1 12yrs	E.I.D.	Jan. 20.
Bombay ...	Evelyn ...	A 1 12yrs	...	Dec. 20.
Hong Kong and Foo-chow ...	City of Aberdeen ...	A 1 14yrs	E.I.D.	Nov. 31.
Shanghai ...	Pychow ...	A 1 14yrs	E.I.D.	Dec. 20.

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Regular Line of Packet Ship.

FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the well-known clipper ship BANIAN, A 1 fourteen years, 760 tons register, J. MASTERS, Commander; will load in the London Docks. Has excellent accommodation for passengers.

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HONG KONG and FOO-CHOW.—Notice to Shippers.—The CITY OF ABERDEEN, A 1 fourteen years; 551 tons register; will receive goods in the East India Docks all day Friday, Dec. 2nd. Has room for light freight only.

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FOR SHANGHAI DIRECT.—The high-classed China clipper ship FYCHOW, A 1 14 years; 715 tons register; JOSEPH MATHERS, Commander, will leave the East India Docks on the 20th Dec. This beautiful vessel was built at Aberdeen last year by Messrs. Alex. Hall and Co., especially for this trade, and is strongly recommended to shippers. Has splendid cabin accommodation.

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To sail Dec. 1.

DIRECT for COCHIN, BEYPOOR, CALICUT, CANNONORE, and MANGALORE, the beautiful clipper ship NIGHT WATCH, A 1 nine years; 327 tons register; R. ATKINSON, Commander; lying in the St. Katharine Docks. This fine little vessel, having just returned from the above ports, and having a large portion of her cargo engaged, is confidently recommended to shippers desirous of quick despatch.

For Freight or Passage apply to TOULMIN, LIVINGSTON, and Co., 31, Great St. Helen's, Bishopsgate-street, E.C.

COLOMBO, CEYLON, Direct—having the greater portion of her cargo engaged and shipping, the magnificent clipper ship PRINCESS, A 1 for thirteen years, KINGSLY HUNLEY, Commander; loading in the West India Docks. This splendid vessel, having a full poop, has unrivalled accommodation for the comfort and convenience of passengers.

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To sail Dec. 5.

COLOMBO DIRECT.—The beautiful clipper ECHO, A 1 12 years, 369 tons register, is now loading in the West India Dock, and having a large portion of her cargo engaged, will be promptly despatched.

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Apply to the Captain, on board; or to TOULMIN, LIVINGSTON, and Co., 31, Great St. Helen's, E.C.

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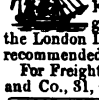
With Immediate Despatch.



DIRECT for BOMBAY, the nearly new clipper-built ship FRANCIS K. DUMAS, 1,209 tons register, J. LEMIEUX, Commander; East India Docks. This splendid vessel, built this year, will be found a first-rate opportunity to shippers requiring despatch.

For Freight or Passage apply to TOULMIN, LIVINGSTON, and Co., 31, Great St. Helen's, Bishopsgate-street, E.C.

THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 157.] LONDON, MONDAY, DEC. 5, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	July 26	Sept. 17	Oct. 12
Nagasaki			„ 12
Hakodadi			„ 16
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			„ 8
Chefoo			„ 9
New-chwang			
Hankow			„ 13
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	Aug. 26	Oct. 10	„ 20
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 14
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 16
Swatow			
Hong Kong	„ 26	„ 4	„ 26
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	„ 10		„ 7
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			„ 29
SIAM— Bangkok	„ 26		„ 11
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			„ 17
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 30
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Sept. 17	„ 21	Nov. 3
Penang	„ 10	„ 16	Oct. 25

The P. and O. mails due here on the 13th arrived at Suez on the 30th Nov., with dates from Hong Kong to 30th Oct. They will reach London on the 12th or 13th inst.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Massilia, Dec. 4, from Southampton.—To Penang: Capt. and Mrs. White. To Shanghai: Mr. Herbert Elias, Mr. G. Stanford. To Hong Kong: Mrs. Smith and two infants, Mr. Dent. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. J. Walker, three children, and servant, the Rev. J. Allcock, Mr. H. Bois, Capt. Rutherford, Mr. H. C. Park. From Marseilles, Dec. 12.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Wood and lady friend, Mr. Geo. Crichton, Mr. J. Crum, Mr. A. J. Gunn. To Shanghai: Mr. J. W. Brondbent. To Hong Kong: Mr. T. Caw, Mr. H. H. Nelson, Mr. J. Sloane, Mr. R. Calderdon. To Ceylon, Messrs. T. G. Davis, R. E. Hope, J. T. Green, and John Fraser, Mr. and Mrs. Schweitzer.

Per P. and O. steamer, Dec. 20, from Marseilles.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. Ottman. From Suez.—To Ceylon: Mr. Coomarad Swamy and servant.

Per P. and O. steamer, Dec. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. Jas. Henderson, A. Leigh, and J. Maitland, Mrs. Wilkinson and infant, Miss M. Wedgewood, Mr. G. Martin. To Ceylon: Mr. J. Bannatine, Mr W. Mayon, Miss E. H. Jones. To Shanghai: Mr. Carritt. From Marseilles, Dec. 26.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Ryrie, Mr. Pastorius. To China: Mr. W. A. Foster. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Tyers. To Ceylon: Messrs. F. Pater and Fraser.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Marseilles, Jan. 12, 1865.—To Hong Hong: Mr. M'Donald.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

The steamer *Chusan* arrived at Shanghai on the 18th from Yokohama, *via* the Inland Sea, calling at Nagasaki. Her dates being from the latter port to the 12th October, and the former the 4th. The *Chusan* left at Yokohama the following steam vessels, viz.:—*Wokee, London, Yeddo, Argus*, and *Island Queen*. At Nagasaki: The *Bahama* and *Carthage*. Passengers per *Chusan*, from Yokohama: Captains Briggs, Endicott, and Andrews, Messrs. Gibb, Daly, Gordon, Urquhart, Cooper, Elliott, and Kirby, and the officers and crew of the American steamer *Takiang*, sold to Japanese.

By Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co.'s steamer *Rona*, arrived at Shanghai on the 18th, the dates from Yokohama *via* Hakodadi are up to the 12th Oct. The fleet had paid the visit to Yedo and returned. No particulars published as to the official interviews which took place. We may judge, however, that the visit had produced a good effect, as 1,000 bales of silk were expected or had arrived at Yokohama; and there was an inquiry for foreign manufactured goods. The *Rona* brought over a quantity of silk.

On the position of the Prince of Nangato the *North China Herald* has the following:—

The question whether Choshiu did or did not act under instructions from the Tycoon in opposing the passage of foreign vessels through the Straits of Simonoseki is one of considerable interest, as its solution must affect our relations with the Government. If Choshiu's assertion that he was authorised to act as he did can be proved to be correct, explanation and apology must be demanded from those who gave him that authority. And if any hesitation to comply with our demand be shown, pressure will have to be exerted. It seems at first to have been taken almost for granted that Choshiu's statement was correct, and that, in conquering him at Simonoseki, we had conquered, not an obnoxious chieftain, but a representative of the Tycoon. But this impression was hastily formed, and must, we think, be dispelled by the consideration of facts which have subsequently come to light. It is difficult to understand how Choshiu can, at the same time, have been engaged in fighting foreigners at Simonoseki under instructions from the Tycoon, and in fighting against the troops of the Mikado at Kioto. If this were indeed the case, the existence of a secret understanding must be inferred between that Prince and the Tycoon as distinct from the Mikado. But this is highly improbable, and the improbability is increased by the frequent assurances given by the Government to the foreign ministers that measures were in progress for attacking Choshiu and reducing him to subjection. It will be remembered that the Prince of Kiushiu sent a message, conveying a similar assurance to Admiral Kuper when the allied fleet entered the Inland Sea; and a recent number of the *Japan Commercial News* contains translations of two documents which, if genuine, must dispel all doubt on the subject. One purports to be a memorial from Satsuma to the Tycoon, drawing attention to Choshiu's rebellious conduct, and to his persistence in fighting with foreigners, thereby incurring disgrace which caused all his countrymen to be shamed. It concludes by advising the destruction of his race as the only adequate punishment for his many crimes. Subsequently to the receipt of this despatch the Tycoon is said to have issued an order calling on twenty-one Daimios of the provinces of Kiushiu, Shikoku, and Chiungoku, which are adjacent to that of Nagato, to utterly destroy the servants of the rebellious Prince.—

"Because the servants of Mats'daira Daizen no Dabu have threatened the Emperor with arms, thus committing high treason, they are speedily to be punished by the Tycoon. Wherefore now, all Daimios with revenue above 10,000 kokus are commanded to utterly destroy them. Owari Zen Dai-nangon is to command in chief, Mats'daira Echizen no Kami is to be second in command. Be ready against the time when the Tycoon goes forth to inflict punishment."

It appears, further, that one of Choshiu's palaces at Yedo has been destroyed and given up to be sacked, and that others

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which he possesses there are to be similarly treated. A sovereign would hardly adopt this course towards a subject with whom he is on terms of good understanding, and who was so devoted to him as to have lately incurred heavy loss while endeavouring to carry out his behests. The suggestion which has been made that Choshiu's failure alone has drawn down upon him the wrath of the Tycoon does not seem probable. The rebellious acts against the Mikado were committed previous to the action at Simonoseki, and troops were at once sent up from Yedo to the assistance of the Mikado. It was imperative on the Tycoon to act with vigour in suppressing rebellion, and it is not likely that Choshiu would obey his order to fight the foreign fleet at Simonoseki while the Tycoon was taking measures by collecting troops and calling loyal Daimios into the field to crush his power. We think, therefore, that Choshiu's endeavour to direct the wrath of foreigners against the Tycoon will fail. With so strong circumstantial evidence tending to disprove the existence of any understanding between them, nothing save the production by Choshiu of the Tycoon's orders to fire on foreign vessels passing through the Straits will, we imagine, satisfy the foreign ministers of the truth of his allegations.

NAGASAKI.

A correspondent, writing under date the 5th Oct., informs us of the sale of Messrs. Dent and Co.'s steamer *Cosmopolite* to the Prince of Higo for the sum of 120,000 Mex. dols. The steamer *Fusi-Yama*, with forty-four men and a few officers of H.M.'s 20th Regt., had put into Nagasaki for repairs. One of her engines had broken down, but the Japanese workmen in the Nagasaki factory succeeded in setting it to rights.

The *Arracan* (Ham. barque) from Hong Kong to San Francisco, put into Nagasaki for water on the 2nd leaving on the 3rd. The *Carthage* arrived on the 2nd, and the *Australian* on the 5th. The *Water Lily* which left Shanghai on the 12th September had not made her appearance. Freights improving and there are at present no vessels lying disengaged in port.

CHINA.

TIEN-TSIN.

A correspondent, under date 8th Oct., gives the following account of the races :—

Three glorious days lent their assistance to a pleasant meeting. The horse races certainly were a failure, but those for ponies were very good; and as the result showed a fair division of the spoil, the meeting may be pronounced a satisfactory one to the public. As was the case last autumn, the rains rendered the old course unavailable, and a new one was chosen between the Treaty Joss House and Tien-tsin. This, thanks to the well-directed energy of the clerk of the course, was brought into very fair order.

FIRST DAY.
Thursday, 6th October.

1st Race.—The Town Plate.—Value 40 taels. For Chinese and Tartar ponies not otherwise entered, except for the "Lama Miau Stakes." Weight for inches. Once round (a little over a mile and a quarter).

Mr. Scammony's g. c. p. Greyfriar	1
Mr. Hagelstange's g. c. p. Challenger	2
Mr. Ainslie's c. c. p. Marlbrook	3
Mr. Pavillon's d. c. p. Amber	4
Mr. Grueler's g. c. p. Shindy	0

Marlbrook took the lead, which he maintained till about a quarter of a mile from home. Here he was passed by Greyfriar and Challenger, the two finishing an exciting race by a dead heat. Marlbrook well up. The deciding heat, after a good race, was won by Greyfriar by two lengths.

2nd Race.—The Tze-chu-lin Stakes.—Value 50 taels. For Chinese ponies. Weight for inches. Half a mile.

Mr. Florence's g. c. p. Birdlime	1
Mr. Wadman's s. c. p. Enamel	2
Mr. Waverley's s. c. p. Hippogriff	3
Mr. Martin's g. c. p. Query	0
Mr. Ainslie's b. c. p. Malay	0
Mr. Grueler's b. c. p. Doxology	0

Birdlime soon assumed the command, and came in an easy winner by some lengths. Time 1.05.

3rd Race.—The Hai-qwan-tze Cup.—Value 150 taels. For all horses. Arabs, 9.10; stud bred, 10; Colonials, 11; English, 12.7.

Mr. Grey's br. s. h. Basilisk	1
Mr. Corduff's b. s. g. Dangerous	2

Basilisk cantered round, winning by several lengths. Time 3.17.

4th Race.—The Maiden Plate.—Value 75 taels. For China ponies that have never run before. Weight for inches. One mile and a-half.

Mr. Jackson's g. c. p. Grand Stand	1
Mr. Florence's g. Quicklime	2
Mr. Martin's d. Banting	3
Mr. Waverley's g. Simpcox	4
Mr. Martin's y. Maskee	5
Mr. Harras' b. Panic	6
Mr. Grueler's b. Blackmail	7

Maskee and Bunting kept the lead for the first mile, when they were joined by the rest. At the straight, Grand Stand and Quicklime came away, and the former won a good race by half a length. The rest were outpaced. Time 3.49.

5th Race.—The Troopers' Plate.—Value 50 taels. Once round. For horses imported by the army. Arabs 10.7. Studbred and Colonial 11. Former winners of flat races 7lb. extra.

Mr. Pavillon's b. h. c. g. Spider	1
Mr. ——'s b. h. c. g. Venture	2

Spider cantered in an easy winner.

6th Race.—The Ta-lien-wan Cup.—Value 50 taels. For China ponies. Weight for inches. Winner of "Tze-chuhl-in Stakes" 5lb. extra. One mile.

Mr. Corduff's g. c. p. Sir Michael	1
Mr. Florence's g. c. p. Magic	2
Mr. Wadman's s. c. p. Enamel	3
Mr. Waverley's s. c. p. Hippogriff	0
Mr. Grueler's br. c. p. Doxology	0
The Confederate's g. c. p. Botheration	0

Sir Michael made the running at top speed, and kept the lead to the distance; Magic here joined him, and a good struggle ensued, resulting in favour of Sir Michael by a head. The rest beaten off. Time 2.21.

SECOND DAY.
Friday, 7th October.

1st Race.—The Lama Miau Stakes.—Value 50 taels. For China Ponies. Weight for inches. One and a-half mile across country.

Mr. Pavillon's d. c. p. Amber	1
Mr. Scammony's g. c. p. Grey Friar	2
Mr. Ainslie's c. c. p. Marlbrook	0

Marlbrook was left at the post. Amber led at a good pace, taking his jumps cleverly. Grey Friar followed well in hand to within a quarter of a mile from home, where he swerved outside the flag, losing the race, which was otherwise his. This was a well ridden race. The injudicious placing of this race on the same day as the Challenge made few entries and a poor field.

2nd Race.—The United German Cup.—Value presented. For all horses. Weights as in Hai-quan-tze Cup. Winner of that race 7lb. extra. Two miles.

Mr. Grey's b. s. g. Laughing Stock	1
Mr. Corduff's b. s. g. Dangerous	2

Laughing Stock was first all the way, and won by two lengths. Time 4.28

3rd Race.—The Challenge Cup.—Value 60 guineas. For China ponies. Weight for inches. To be won in two consecutive meetings by ponies the property of the same owner. Two miles.

Mr. Florence's g. c. p. Birdlime	1
Mr. Corduff's g. c. p. Sir Michael	2
Mr. Jackson's g. c. p. Grand Stand	3
Mr. Florence's g. c. p. Magic	4
Mr. Martin's g. c. p. Query	0
Mr. Corduff's g. c. p. Dismay	0

Sir Michael and Birdlime went away some lengths in front, Grand Stand, Magic, and Dismay keeping together, and this order was maintained for a mile, when Dismay was beaten. The race lay between the two leading ponies, who came up the stretch neck and neck. About a hundred yards from home Birdlime drew a-head, and won by two lengths; Grand Stand taking the third place from Magic by half a length. Time 5.11.

4th Race.—The Mantchow Stakes.—Value 50 taels. For China ponies. Weight for inches. Winners at this meeting 7 lb. extra. Three-quarters of a mile.

Mr. Florence's g. c. p. Quicklime	1
Mr. Grueler's br. c. p. Doxology	2
Mr. Wadman's s. c. p. Enamel	3
Mr. Martin's y. c. p. Maskee	0
Mr. Waverley's g. c. p. Simpcox	0
Mr. Scammony's g. c. p. Cui-bono	0

The first part of this race was between Enamel and Quicklime. Within the distance Doxology came up and passed Enamel, but could not reach Quicklime, who won by two or three lengths. Time 1.46.

5th Race.—The Kathay Cup.—Value 100 taels. For all horses. Weights as in "Hai-quan-tze Cup." Winner of St. Leger 7 lbs. extra. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Grey's b. s. g. v. "Laughing Stock"	w.o.

6th Race.—The Peking Cup.—Value 75 taels. For China ponies. Weight for inches. Winner of Challenge Cup or Maiden Plate 5 lbs. extra, or of both, 7 lbs. extra. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Corduff's g. c. p. Sir Michael	1
Mr. Florence's g. c. p. Birdlime	2
Mr. Florence's g. c. p. Magic	3
Mr. Waverley's s. c. p. Hippogriff	0
Mr. Martin's d. c. p. Banting	0
Mr. Martin's g. c. p. Query	0
Mr. Grueler's b. c. p. Blackmail	0

All went away on even terms, and kept together for half a mile, when Magic took a decided lead. In the straight he was joined by Sir Michael and Birdlime, and the three ran on together till within a few yards from home, when Sir Michael drew ahead and won cleverly by half a length.

7th Race.—The Tien-tsin St. Leger.—Value 100 taels. For all horses. Weights as in Hai-quan-tze Cup. Winner of that race 7 lbs. extra. One mile.

Mr. Grey's b. s. h. v. Basilisk	w.o.

THIRD DAY.
Saturday, 8th October.

1st Race.—The Amoor Cup.—Value 80 taels. For China ponies. Weight for inches. No penalties. Two miles and a half.

Mr. Florence's g. c. p. Magic	w.o.

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2nd Race.—The Great Australian Cup.—Value 200 taels. For all horses. Weights as before. Three miles.

Mr. Grey's b. s. g. Laughing Stock	1
Mr. Grey's b. s. h. Spartacus	2
Mr. Corduff's b. s. g. Dangerous	0

At the word Laughing Stock (who was ten lengths in front) went away. Dangerous—brought to the post to make a start—pulled up. Spartacus joined his stable companion, and the two cantered over the course.

3rd Race.—The Hard Lines Cup.—Value 50 taels. Presented. For China ponies. Winners at former meetings excluded. Weight for inches. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Corduff's g. c. p. Sir Michael	1
Mr. Florence's g. c. p. Quicklime	2
Mr. Martin's d. c. p. Maskee..	0
Mr. Martin's g. c. p. Query	0
Mr. Waverley's g. c. p. Simpcox	0

All well together to the straight, when Sir Michael and Quicklime left the rest—the former winning by three lengths.

4th Race.—The Consolation Stakes.—Value taels —. Weight for inches. For all beaten ponies. One mile.

Mr. Grueler's b. c. p. Doxology	1
Mr. Waverley's s. c. p. Hippogriff	2
Mr. Martin's d. c. p. Banting	3
Mr. Wadman's s. c. p. Enamel	0
Mr. Hagelstange's g. c. p. Challenger	0
Mr. Ainslie's c. c. p. Marlbrook	0

All got away (Challenger with a slight lead), and kept together till near the distance, when Doxology passed them, and won cleverly by two lengths. Marlbrook weighed for this race, and came on to the course, but the starter did not see him in time. This was unfortunate, as he was looked upon as a likely winner.

SHANGHAI.

The English Mail of the 26th August arrived out on the 10th October. The dates are down to the 20th. Business appears to be more active with the cool weather. In reference to the fires noticed in our last, the Municipal Council had authorised $100 to be distributed amongst the police, and $50 to the sailor of the *Coquette*. The secretary stated that Sergeant John Eagan had been selected by the superintendent to proceed to Kiukiang, for the purpose of being employed as sergeant of police under the orders of the Municipal Council at that port. The Engineer's report brought to notice several encroachments on the thoroughfare.

The new police cells at the Hong-que station were approaching completion, and one would be ready for occupation on the 17th.

It had been necessary to let the incomplete portion of the Honan road sewer to Zie-Kie, at double the former contract price, this increase being caused by the influence of the late contractor, who had circulated reports magnifying the difficulties of the work ; as, however, there was but a short length wanting, the excess on that portion would make but a slight difference in the total cost.

From the *Friend of China* we see that Messrs. Nicholson and Boyd's workmen are busily engaged at Pootung in putting together no less than three iron hulls, each for Chinese to move about in the cotton districts. We need not say that they are not large vessels, and for the matter of size might have been brought out whole, on a ship's deck, as was a very nice little boat by the *Anglo Saxon* the other day, built by Lewis and Stockwell, Blackwall, to the order of Mr. Henry Evans, of the firm of Evans and Co. the Bund, Honque, and christened after his domestic hearth, the *Donnington*. This compact little craft, with engines of nominally ten-horse power, but working up to fifty, made by the celebrated Bolton and Watt —the oldest machine factory firm in England — made her trial trip, to the intense satisfaction of some half-a-dozen experienced steamship travellers, invited for the occasion. A more comfortable little craft could not be manufactured, it being possible even to write at a table in the saloon, so little motion has she when under weigh. Her speed, against tide, was over twelve miles an hour, and with the current she flies. Her length over all is fifty-two feet; breadth of beam, nine feet; height of cabin, a room in which a comfortable bed may be made on the top of some thirty bales of silk, if she were so laden, nearly six feet. With a vessel like this it would be possible to do a run to Soochow and back in a day, and still have time to pay a visit to the manufactory of Macartney's pills.

The performances at the Lyceum Theatre keep up the reputation which was gained on the first night of the appearance of Mr. Lewis's company. *The Quiet Family* and *Our Nelly* were played to a well-filled house, and the artistes did ample justice to their respective parts.

Some time has now elapsed since we, *North China Herald*, have had occasion to direct attention to any eccentricity on the part of the French police; but we regret now again to be obliged to remark unfavourably on the conduct of one of their number. On Friday a Chinaman came down from Soochow to see some friends who were living at Shanghai; but being new to the place, wandered about all day without being able to discover their residence. Being poor and disinclined to incur the expense of a lodging, he went on searching till midnight, when his wanderings were stopped by the energetic action of an *agent de la sureté publique*, who valiantly stabbed him in the back as he was running away from the dreaded "foreign devil." The policeman, seeing a Chinaman abroad at a late hour, naturally made towards him, suspecting him to be after no good, and equally natural the Chinaman, unaccustomed to foreigners and to Shanghai Municipal regulations, ran off. The suspicions of the policeman were naturally increased by this conduct, and he would have been fully justified in arresting the man on suspicion. But what excuse he can allege for stabbing an unarmed man as he was running away, when he had no certainty of his guilt, it is difficult to conceive. His brutality, however, did not end here; indeed, the subsequent part of the story adds to the wantonness of the outrage. It would have seemed natural that, after having succeeded, by so very unnecessary a display of energy, in checking the flight of the object of his suspicion, he would at once have sought assistance, and caused him to be removed either to the hospital or the police-station. But such treatment would have been too good for a Chinaman. Having disabled his victim, he allowed him to remain bleeding on the ground until the morning, when some neighbours laid him on a little straw under a shed.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Municipal Coucinl contained the announcement that the Taotai has refused his assent to the imposition of a tax of 24 per cent. on brothels, and has thereby deprived the Council of at least 5,000 taels of the increased revenue which had been anticipated during the present year. The superior morality of celestial legislature ignores such institutions, and dares not afford countenance to vice by recognising the imposition of a check on its extension. But is the assent of the Chinese authorities absolutely necessary to the imposition of a tax on Chinese living in the foreign settlement? Sir Frederick Bruce has certainly laid down the principle that the Chinese have a right to tax their own subjects on their own territory. But he has not said, publicly at least, that the Municipal Council would be wrong in levying taxes which had not received the sanction of the local authorities.

The *North China Daily News*, of the 20th October, publishes the report of Mr. John Clark, engineer, on the shore line of the foreign settlements.

A meeting of the Asiatic Society was held on the 12th October. The following gentlemen were proposed by Sir Harry Parkes, and seconded by Doctor Henderson: G. F. Seward, Esq., U. S. Consul General; M. le Baron Von Radowitz, H. P. M. Consul General; Theodore Probst, Esq., H. P. M. Vice Consul; E. Schmidt, Esq., Chairman of the French Municipal Council; R. W. Little, Esq., of Kiukiang, and Theophilus Sampson, Esq., of Canton.

The routine business having been closed, the paper for the evening, entitled "First Impressions of Tien-Tsin," by E. C. Bowra, Esq., was read by Mr. C. T. Jones, in Mr. Bowra's absence. A lively sketch of the appearance of Tien-Tsin, and of the manners and customs of the natives, was given, and the writer's "Impressions," favourable and the reverse, were very fully dilated upon. At the close of the paper the thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Bowra for his interesting and amusing communication.

Some of the state dresses recently presented by the Emperor to Colonel Gordon, R. E., were exhibited to the Society, by Colonel Gordon's permission, as favourable specimens of national official costume. The famous yellow jacket, which is one of the most highly prized Chinese decorations, a set of official caps, and ornaments in jade stone and rich embroidery, attracted considerable interest.

The following case of interest to charterers had been decided in the Consular Court:—

Mr. Lawrence, for the plaintiffs, the captain and owners, stated that the action was brought to recover the sum of £250, payable under the charty-party of the ship *Esperanza*, for ship's ordinary disbursements at port of discharge, from the consignees, Messrs. Dow and Co.

The ship had been chartered by Messrs. Robertson and Co., of London, and re-chartered to a Mr. Wilks, by whom the ship had been consigned to the defendants, who were also endorsees

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of the bill of lading. Intelligence had been received of the failure of Mr. Wilks, and the master, of course, looked to Messrs. Dow and Co. for payment, as consignees of ship and cargo. The defendants disputed their liability, on the ground that the sum claimed was a portion of the freight mentioned in the charter-party, and was payable by the charterers, Messrs. Robertson and Co. He (Mr. L.) should contend that whatsoever decision the court might arrive at with respect to the balance of unpaid freight, which was the subject of another action, that the defendants were clearly liable for ship's disbursements which were payable in Shanghai, and that, as endorsees of the bill of lading, they must accept the responsibilities thereof, at all events so far as payments at the port of discharge were concerned.

F. Muscell, captain of the *Esperanza*, said :—I received 560 tons of coal on board my ship at Sunderland. I arrived at Shanghai on September 20th. I received notice of the failure of Mr. Wilks from my owners, and from Messrs. Robertson and Co. (Charter-party handed in. The question was whether under the charter-party Messrs. Dow and Co. were liable to pay the £250.) I was ordered by Messrs. Robertson and Co. not to deliver the coals. Consequently I refused to deliver them until an understanding as to the freight should be arrived at. I considered myself entitled to the £250, both from the terms of the bills of lading and of the charter-party.

Mr. Myburgh, on behalf of the defendants, called

T. S. Borradaile: I act for Messrs. Dow and Co. I received this bill of lading some time ago of a cargo of coal by the *Esperanza*. It was endorsed by Robertson and Co. We received it from Mr. Wilks. We have advanced money on it to the extent of 2,083.3. taels. We refuse to pay the £250 on disbursements on the ground that we are not liable by the charter-party. I don't think we are liable under the bill of lading or the charter-party to pay any freight at all.

JUDGMENT.

It appears that Messrs. Robertson and Co. re-chartered the ship and sold the coals to John Wilks, and that he consigned the ship and coals to the defendants under advances.

The defendants, on their part, prove that they hold the bill of lading in question for value to the amount of 2,083 taels, advanced by them to John Wilks on account of these coals, which amount is probably about half of their value; and the defendants contend that they cannot be held liable to pay disbursements on account of the ship, as said disbursements could only be paid as part of the freight, and the conditions of the bill of lading incorporate those of the charter-party, which expressly provide that all freight is to be paid in London by the charterers of the ship, according to the special agreement set forth in the charter-party.

The Court has to apply in this case the law as laid down in Abbott, that where there is a clear original contract under a charter-party, for the payment of freight, "and the endorsees of a bill of lading do not stipulate at the time of receiving the goods to pay the freight, as the law will not raise an implied promise from the mere receipt of the goods, where there is such an express agreement between the owner and charterer, an endorsee, under such circumstances, is not liable for freight." (10th Ed. p. 321). The Court also has the advantage of being guided by a recent decision given in the Supreme Court of Hong Kong, in a similar case to the present one (Mulliken *v.* the P. and O. Company), in which the Acting Chief Justice is reported to have declared the above doctrine to be undisputed, and his lordship further held that the first section of the Bills of Lading Act (10 and 19 Vic. c. 111), instead of transferring the liability to the payment of freight with the cargo, simply transfers the contract in the bill of lading, whatever that may be. In that case, as in the present one, the contract in the bill of lading exempts the holders from payment of freight, and makes it payable by the charterers. The Court, therefore, holds that the defendants are not liable to meet this claim for ship's disbursements, which is only another term for advances on account of freight, and the Court therefore gives judgment for the defendants, with costs.

We (*The North China Daily News*) have been favoured with a memorandum relative to the Kin-toan beacon, which, as our readers are aware, is situated about twenty miles below Wusung, on the right bank of the Yang-tsze. This beacon, solidly constructed of the most durable materials, was built in the year 1855, under the supervision of the late Inspector General of Customs, Mr. Lay. At the time of its erection it was on the edge of the river, and every tide surrounded it with water. It is now, however, about twelve hundred yards from low water mark, and its great distance in shore of course militates against its usefulness. No better proof of the quickness with which new land is formed in the muddy rivers of China could be afforded than by this extraordinary deposit of mud on the south bank of the Yang-tsze. The beacon, which has for some time been gradually falling out of repair, will within a few days be restored to its former state. The river face will be re-stained in alternate red and white squares, and will thus be rendered more conspicuous than it is at present. It is also in contemplation to place a light on its summit, which will transform the beacon by day into a lighthouse at night; and a second light in such a position on the river face that when opened by a ship coming up or going down it will serve as a danger signal. The rapid extension of the bank has rendered this latter precaution necessary. Some of our readers have doubtless visited the beacon, but to those who have not, a short description will not prove uninteresting. Situated, as we have said, about half-way between Wusung and the mouth of the Yang-tsze, it forms a very convenient shooting-box, and we can, from personal experience, vouch for the presence of pheasant and wild duck in respectable numbers in its vicinity. Built in six stories, and resembling in its outward formation the chimney of a glass manufactory, it would afford shelter to a large party of sportsmen out for a week's shooting. The upper stories are in excellent preservation, and only want a slight refitting in the matter of windows, &c., to render them as comfortable as they need be. Starting into the country, and walking for some five miles through what, but for the prevailing flatness, would be an extremely pretty landscape, we come on a succession of small snug farmsteads, and a few collections of houses, which we can hardly dignify with the name of villages, and whose only claim to the name lies in the presence in each of a tea-shop or two, a small joss-house, and a public well.

Here may be seen the Chinese as they are over the greater portion of the face of the country, and as they would universally be but for the mixed influence of foreigners. They are quiet and inoffensive, ready to enter into conversation, readier still to laugh good humouredly at the foreign dress, the foreign tongue, and especially at foreign Chinese. They are hospitable to the full extent of their means, and the small children tumble over one another in their anxiety to bring fire for the foreigners' cigars, while the old lady or old gentleman is pressing the red haired one to swallow a cup of execrable tea. There we see no foreign tools—the hammers and axes, the saws and chisels which for aught we know may have been in use before the flood, are there in all their pure and primitive simplicity. No foreign cloth forms either the substratum of the villagers' clothes, or the secondary or tertiary formation of patches. Native manufactures are, per force, exclusively patronised, and, as a rule, from the silk button on the top of the cap to the thick-soled shoes which adorn all alike, foreign looms have had nothing to do with supplying the materials for clothing. No long ells of T-cloths, no camlets or lastings, contribute to make up the outward man. Unaided by foreign science, uninstructed in foreign lore, the inhabitants of these little inland hamlets live almost as isolated from the external world as though they were plunged into the wilds of Siberia, or lost in the plains of Thibet.

Although within some thirty or forty miles of our settlements, they rarely see a foreigner, and, fortunately for them, their poverty preserves them from the raids of marauding rowdies. A trip to these villages will well repay the visitor. He will find himself surrounded by Chinese life in its simple and most unadulterated form, he will witness the traces of the oldest civilisation in the world, and he will learn more of the true Chinese character in one day than he could gain in the model settlement by years of intercourse with "romancing" compradores and the other semi-Europeanised natives who, for the most part, make up the circle of a foreigner's Chinese acquaintance.

Besides all this, a visit to the Beacon and its neighbourhood will furnish some valuable information as to the state of the river and the appearance of its rapidly increasing banks. It will also rub off the dust of Shanghai life, and will probably result in a respectably filled bag.

The recent outrage on four foreigners near Soochow has been fully inquired into by Baron de Radowitz and Messrs. Alabaster and Probst, who set out for that purpose shortly after its occurrence was made known in Shanghai. The result of the investigation has only confirmed the facts of the case as we have already stated them; and a semi-official account, which appears in the *North China Herald*, concludes with the following plain statements :—

From these facts, which were all elicited on the spot, it follows :—

1. That the foreigners gave the first cause for all that befel them, by their own misconduct in the village of Machuang; and their sufferings from the cruel treatment they underwent can, consequently, only be looked upon as a too severe, but not undeserved, punishment for their guilt.

2. That (and the responsibility for this guilt is in no way lessened by the measure of the guilt of the Europeans) a continued flat refusal of the duties of the Chinese authorities is proved, in the most direct contravention of all treaty stipulations bearing upon this point, and directly contradictory to the assurances recently given to European representatives of Treaty Powers by the highest Chinese authorities, for which refusal they will have to bear all the consequences.

It will remain for the British and Prussian representatives to settle this matter with the Chinese Government, but there is no doubt that this expedition will be looked upon by the authorities in our neighbourhood as a proof that the foreign authorities here will spare no trouble to arrive at the true facts of such cases, as this is the only way to form an unvarnished and just judgment on the same.

The steamer *Far East* was to leave for London on the 21st.

HANKOW.

A correspondent from this port gives an account of a fire on the 12th Oct. The fire-engines of two steamers are mentioned, but none of the settlement. Surely the residents of Hankow

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have not neglected to supply themselves with engines, while there are several lying at Shanghai for sale.

At about half-past three o'clock in the afternoon smoke was noticed breaking out from a Chinese house, and the conflagration spread so rapidly that at midnight an area of about three miles in circumference was in flames. The foreign settlement was not injured; but many houses owned by foreigners were totally destroyed. Messrs. Siemssen and Co.'s, Wilkinson and Co.'s, and Dr. Falconer's houses were burned to the ground. Messrs. Smith, Kennedy and Co.'s godowns and Messrs. Hagemeyer and Co.'s dwelling-house also suffered very severely. The loss of property must have been enormous, as it is estimated that at one moment there were no less than fifteen hundred houses in flames. The death of forty natives has been ascertained, and it is probable that many others fell victims. Most of the property owned by Europeans is supposed to have been insured. Our correspondent speaks highly of the services rendered by the fire-engines of the *Huquong* and *Sze-chuen*.

Another letter says:—"Hankow was the scene of a fire, such as one rarely sees in a lifetime. It commenced about a quarter of a mile from the water edge, and burnt steadily towards the river, extending, however, as it worked its way, on the right hand and the left. The houses occupied by Messrs. Wilkinson and Co., by Messrs. Siemssen and Co., and a host of others were entirely destroyed. The back portion of Smith, Kennedy and Co.'s premises was also burnt, but, fortunately for the insurance offices, all the valuable contents appear to have been saved. The crowd in the streets was perfectly awful, one could see men and women trampled under foot, and not a few lost their lives in this fire. I should say the area consumed by this fire was at least a quarter of a mile square. The destitution amongst the Chinese will, of course, be great. The fire commenced at half-past three in the afternoon, and had burnt itself out by midnight."

AMOY.

The news from this port is of an alarming kind, being to the effect that the rebels are within fifteen miles of the port. That the intelligence is so far to be relied upon we judge from the fact that the merchants have been placing their goods and treasure as fast as possible on board ship. The *Azoff* was detained for one day on her way down in order to make these shipments; and for the same purpose the *Pekin* was detained for two days on her way up. As our readers are aware, there is a large traffic in native boats for a considerable distance up the Amoy River, and this traffic has been entirely stopped in consequence of the rebels being so close at hand. The number of foreign vessels in port will, of course, be a sufficient security for the lives of foreigners on shore, should the worst come to the worst. In the meantime, those most interested in the truth or falsehood of the intelligence now conveyed show by their action that the news is quite reliable with regard to rebels or marauders being in strong force near the port.

These are most probably a force of fugitives from the north who have collected together in sufficient strength to resume the offensive, and the unprotected state of Amoy has perhaps attracted their attention. What will come of it we do not attempt to conjecture. In the meantime, the principle of protecting the treaty ports will quite justify any hostilities on our side, and when the news reaches Shanghai no time will be lost we may be sure. It will be war to the knife now, unless the rebels continue to speak softly, in hopes of getting supplies of arms and ammunition. There are some who think that the affair is a new insurrection altogether, not connected with the Taipings, but we fear this is not so. The reports are too crude for us to say anything further at present.

HONG KONG.

The Mail of the 10th of September had not arrived out up to the morning of the 26th of October, being then forty-five days out.

The steamer *Azoff*, from Foochow to the 16th, Amoy to the 18th, and Swatow to the 19th of October, had arrived at Hong Kong. During her passage down she had fine weather. Amoy was in a state of great consternation, and had been for some days when the *Azoff* left, as the rebels had come down, and were fighting within fifteen miles from the town. H.M.S. *Swallow* and *Dove* were lying, with steam up, ready for any emergency. No vessels were allowed to leave the harbour; and most of them had been chartered by native or foreign residents, and valuables placed on board of them. H.M.S. *Adventure*, which left for Shanghai, will, it is understood, call at Amoy to see how affairs are looking there, and render any additional assistance, if necessary, in conjunction with the other vessels stationed at that port. A further notice will be found under Amoy.

A short time ago we (*China Mail*) called attention in our columns to a proceeding undertaken by some of the old members of the London Scottish Volunteers, with the view of getting up a cup to be shot for by that distinguished corps. The name selected was "The China Cup." We expressed at the time our cordial approval of the measure, and predicted that the example would probably be followed by volunteers in England, thus leading to a very pleasant interchange of civilities. The example has already been followed, we understand, nearer our own doors. It has just come to our knowledge that the volunteer corps in Hong Kong and Shanghai contemplate getting up a prize, open to all the volunteers of Great Britain; and as this wears more the aspect of a national cup, the promoters of the London Scottish Cup have waived their claim to the title of "The China Cup," choosing in place of it, and more happily, we think, the name of "The Celestial Cup." The former name would almost imply the necessity of accompanying the gift with a saucer. On the above subject we have received the following letter:—

To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*

SIR,—I observe in a recent Hong Kong newspaper that $450 had been subscribed in that city towards the "China Cup" to be shot for at the next Wimbledon Meeting, by the members of the London Scottish Rifles.

Perhaps some of our Hong Kong friends can inform me, through your valuable journal, *why* the London Scottish are to have the exclusive right of competing for this prize—all the prizes presented here are open to all the rifle corps of Great Britain, and no distinction whatever is made.

I myself am a Scotchman, and have not a word to say against Lord Elcho's fine corps; but, in order to keep up the good feeling which ought to exist amongst Volunteers, I do not think the London Scottish should be alone privileged to shoot for the "China Cup" and all the remaining Volunteers of Great Britain to be excluded.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

London, Dec. 3, 1864. A VOLUNTEER OFFICER.

The following is from the *Daily Press*:—

"The Spanish laws in Cuba touching the coolie trade are partly strict and well framed, much to the chagrin of the slave dealers, who are continually at loggerheads with the various officials. The secret of this must be that these large folks squeeze as many bribes as they can, and quarrel when they are not satisfied. After the eight years' service specified in the agreement, all coolies landed here after 1860 are not allowed by the Spanish authorities to stay in Cuba without a master. Otherwise they must leave the island at once. Fancy how can a poor coolie find his way back to China, with only $4 a month, and this invariably expended in little comforts, of which there are none given to them whilst employed. There is no other alternative for him but to die a slave. The Government then see them hired for different periods at $9 per month, one-third of this money is kept in a special fund for hospital, &c., in case of need. I understand there are about 14,000 Chinamen thus under the protection of the Government, but I firmly believe it is nothing else but an official speculation. Some of the coolies they say are well off by mere chance or economy; but I doubt it, and if true, there are but few, very few indeed.

"When the six vessels which left Macao last season laid in the port of Havana, people were saying that many Chinese were willing to pay even $100 each to return to China. The *Luisita* and others immediately offered to take 300 coolies for $80 each, fed by the ship, but the report turned out to be false; and I am sure it was only a *canard* cleverly circulated by the coolie dealers for their own ends. On their arrival in Havana the coolies are all sent to good airy barracoons in the country, where they are fed, fattened, and sold at $350 to $600 each. That is to say, when a planter goes there, they are mustered out and chosen like pigs, and on payment of the money their contracts are transferred on the spot. I witnesssd this myself two or three times when I went on purpose to Ferran and Dupierrie's barracoon in the place called Cerro. Once sold they are made to work like horses. The planters used to beat them severely in former times, and no wonder that many of them ran away and committed suicide."

The crew of the British barque *Truro* (of London) arrived in Takow on 8th Oct. from a place called Lukong, to the northward of Tai-wan-foo. The vessel run ashore at midnight of 18th Sept., and would have got off at high water had not the natives come down and taken the ship. The crew arrived in a miserable plight, having been stripped of their clothes; they were wearing gunny bags, twenty in number, including the captain. The vessel nearly all belonged

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to the captain, and was not insured. She was from Shanghai, bound to Manila in ballast. Ten of the crew were to leave Takow for Amoy in the *Vindex*, and the rest for Swatow per *Racer*. The crew were taken on board the Customs' hulk at Takow; one was badly wounded in the hand by the bursting of a pistol.

NETHERLANDS INDIA.

JAVA.

The London mails of the 26th August arrived out on the 2nd October.

Mr. F. L. Anthing, President of the Court of Justice at Batavia, has been allowed two years' leave of absence, on account of ill-health. Mr. A. Volz has been admitted Consul for Baden-Baden at Batavia.

The *Javasche Courant* gives an elaborate report on the trade and navigation of Java and Madura during 1863. It states that the value of the goods imported during that year amounted to 64,273,247f., against 64,805,341f. during 1862; giving a difference of 532,094f. in favour of that year. That of the exports amounted to 109,162,388f., or 1,354,511f. less than in 1862.

The Government Sugar Sale, held on the 10th October, averaged f.17.11¼ per picul. 46,000 piculs were sold. The greatest portion was taken for Dutch account.

There has been a mutiny on board the Dutch ship *Anna Digna*. The men refused to work, and threatened the chief mate; but were arrested, and the case was before the Court.

SUMATRA.

News has been received that a meeting had been held at Padang Oelak Pandan, at which several Pasoemah pangerans and inferior chiefs and about a thousand men were present. A buffalo was killed on the occasion, and an offensive and defensive league solemnly entered into to remain opposed to the Dutch rule. Further advices state that the natives at Pasoemah were busily engaged in the manufacture of gunpowder, and that a strong fortification is being made a little above Kebon Djatti.

In the newly subdued district of Kesam an attempt had been made to repeat the ancient customs of revenge. Through the prompt intervention of the authorities two of the ringleaders were arrested and banished.

The people of Kikim, Redjang, and Lebong countries are busy with the roads and bridges. Cotton in the first-named country had suffered much by the late heavy rains. In the latter, trade with Bencoolen had been brisk. At Djambi, also, the trade with Singapore had been brisk and the people quiet. Owing to the increasing prosperity, land was rising in value.

A correspondent writes from Padang on the 27th of September:—The main feature in the month now drawing to its close is the establishment of a branch of the Java Bank at Padang, the president, Mr. Wiggers van Kerchem, having arrived by last month's steamer for that purpose, attended by Mr. Vesteegh, to whom the management is to be entrusted for the time being. The circle of its operations will be the same as in Java, as may be seen from the advertisements in the *Sumatra Courant*. The bank notes have been immediately issued and accepted by the Government offices. Discount has fallen to the Bank rate. A couple of months ago it was almost impossible to get an acceptance at the public sales department discounted even at 8 per cent.

BANDA.

The Governor of the Moluccas arrived on the 13th August and on the 16th held a meeting, which was attended by all the proprietors of spice gardens, when the Government resolution of 30th April, No. 41, abolishing the monopoly of the spices in this country, was read. The proprietors of only four estates declared themselves willing to agree to the conditions of abolition offered by the Government. After a speech made by the Governor, and some discussion on the subject, the meeting was adjourned to the 19th. On that day the greatest portion of the park proprietors handed the Governor a petition to the Governor-General praying—

1. For a free disposal of the half of the product of the spice estates of the petitioners during 1865, 1866, and 1867, under the condition to deliver the other half in the government stores without diminishing the rights and privileges on either side.

2. For an immediate execution of that part of the resolution in which a remission of the mortgages on the estates existing in favour of the Government is enacted.

The petitioners bound themselves after the expiration of the abovenamed years, namely on the 1st January, 1868, to agree unconditionally to the abolition of the monopoly. The governor promised to send in the petition to the Government, and the meeting was closed.

TERNATE.

On the 30th August, the Netherland Indian schooner *Tuino* arrived in the roads. The crew declared that they left Macassar ten months ago for Ceram-laut and Torres Straits; they had lost the greatest portion of their rigging and their anchors during the voyage, and had often been attacked by the natives on the south (?) coast of New Holland, and at last arrived at Tomboekoe, on the east coast of Celebes. The owner and master, G. J. Fabrituis, died three months ago, and the crew preserved his corpse in salt and tobacco, in order to prevent any suspicion of foul play. The whole crew, with the exception of four men, had died of *berri-berri*.

TIMOR.

On the 21st August the British surveying schooner *Beatrice*, Commander J. Hutchison, arrived in the roads of Koepang to recruit crew and take in fresh provisions. This schooner came from Adam's Bay, on the north coast of New Holland, south of Melvill Island. According to the officers of above ship a new English settlement, under the superintendence of Colonel Finniss, pensioned secretary to the Government of South Australia, was in contemplation, and the banks of the Adelaide River were considered to be the most suitable part of the country. The grounds and compounds have already been marked out, and would be disposed of by lottery.

On the same day thirteen persons arrived at Koepang who had belonged to the *Keepsake*, of North Shields, which vessel, bound from Melbourne to London, *via* Koepang, was lost off Timor (north coast of Savoe Island). Of the thirteen persons two were passengers. They were all, with the exception of one man, the carpenter, who wished to remain at Koepang, sent up to the British Consul at Batavia by the steamer *Menado*. The captain sold the wreck, inventory, and cargo by auction; they realised 2,560f.

SIAM.

The *Siam Times* of the 29th September has an exceedingly opportune article entitled "Railway to China," of which the following is the main portion:—

A correspondent whose letter appeared in our issue of the 15th instant seems to think the King of Siam is not very favourably disposed towards laying down a railway to connect his kingdom with that of China. The obstacles raised are several, as labour, expense, running it through wild independent states, &c. But these objections, when we consider the many advantages his Majesty must derive from the introduction of the railway, are of small moment, for the work once begun these difficulties will vanish.

We would, on reflection, propose the line to commence at Bangkok, and not Ayuddhia, as first suggested, and run to Sarapury, thence to Gorath (Korat), and Cambodian River, through MeKong Pass, in the Himalaya range, from whence it might join any line from Eastern to Western China, or end at some of the principal towns on the upper branches of the Yang-tsze River. This would at once bring an influx of trade into Siam, which, without a railway, can never be introduced. There is already a considerable trade from Gorath, and the towns and States north of it, to Bangkok, the mode of conveyance being by means of bullock, horse, and elephant trains, with carts on some parts of the route. In this way the raw silk is brought down from the Laos and Western Chinese territories, with copper, gums, cardamums, and other valuable products, and foreign and native goods are taken back in return. The transportation of goods on the Cambodia River, after passing up to about the latitude of Bangkok, is said to be difficult, from the strength of the rapids; and goods passing up that river to the northern regions have to be taken out of the boats, and conveyed by other means to the several places of trade. The natural route of trade for all those northern territories is from Bangkok, and this is clear from the fact that traders have for a long time adopted it.

Western China is not yet sufficiently known to say definitely what place it would be best to run it to; but, on examining the map, it will be seen that the Yangtsze River, on which such an immense foreign trade has grown up during the past few years, rises not far from the Me-Kong Pass, and as commerce is pushing itself in that direction, this road should be made to meet it. The general course of the road would be nearly due north, and would pass through some twelve or fifteen degrees of latitude. The fact that men of science, wealthy merchants, and rulers, have for several years had their attention drawn to this subject, shows that it will not be long before a railway will be constructed either from some part of Burmah or Siam to Western China.

The great forest mentioned by our correspondent, on the line of the railway, instead of being an obstacle, will doubtless be found a great advantage. Timber to a great amount must be had, and it would at once be converted into use for the rail. And besides, timber is an article in great demand, and those virgin forests, with a railway passing through them, would be a source of immense traffic and profit. This line of rail would run through large districts rich in mineral produce, iron, copper, antimony, tin, lead, and coal; and it is known that the iron and coal are of a superior quality. Here then we have materials for construction and traffic; but the iron for the rail and locomotives, with some other things, will have to come from England or America.

The expense of the rail would of course be great, and there must be a considerable loss of time in arranging preliminaries, before any work

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could be commenced, and professional men must arrive from foreign parts to survey the country. But, again, his Majesty seems disinclined to meet the expense, as the engineers who were sent for to superintend the Royal Mint have all suddenly died. The expense attendant on similar casualties could easily be provided against, by effecting an insurance on their lives before they left England, the premium being kept up by those who engage them. This plan is simple enough.

The difficulty of dealing with the independent tribes which belong neither to Siam nor Cochin China must be overcome in the same manner as greater difficulties of a similar nature have been removed in other countries. A well arranged diplomacy has removed far more, and greater obstacles than this. If these tribes were of a very savage hostile nature, we should doubtless have heard long since of ravages made on adjoining territories, and thereby lead to their subjugation; but as such is not the case, there is every reason to suppose they would be favourably inclined to treat with any great power.

It is impossible at this stage to make any estimate for native labour, &c., though we believe it would not be higher than in Bengal, and the expenses of procuring locomotives, &c., from England would be about the same.

Tribute bearers had arrived from Tringanu and Kalantan, and the Rajahs of those States solicited a continuation of the favour and protection they had so long enjoyed at the hands of his Siamese Majesty. The tribute from Tringanu consisted, besides 2 trees of gold and silver, of 2 sarongs, woven with gold thread, 4 catties of pemsem camphor, 4 pieces of white flowered cloth, 24 pieces of white cloth of 50 cubits each, 4 pieces of chepo cloth, 200 bundles of Pakhu rattan, instead of sago, 400 coils of stone rattan, 200 bundles of Pakhu rattan, as usual; 100 large T'oi leaf mats, 400 clubs, 400 pearl shells. The Rajah of Kalantan thus describes his gold and silver trees:—"The gold tree is six cubits high, having eight rows of branches, 638 flowers, 980 leaves, eight fixtures to sustain the branches, two pairs of snakes, four pairs of birds. At the summit of the tree is a large triple flower. The silver tree is, in height, branches, branch holders, flowers, snakes and birds, a duplicate of the gold tree." The extraordinary workmanship exhibited in these trees is stated to be well worthy of inspection.

Captain Baker, of the Hamburg barque *Warsuta*, was fined $40 for severely beating the Ghaut Serang, who was unable to procure a native crew for his ship. On arriving at the Bar the old crew refused duty, and were accordingly discharged without wages. Other men could not be engaged for some time, as they feared they would be treated in a like manner.

Mr. Cisco, the steward of the Oriental Hotel, expired on the night of the 21st September, from a wound received by the accidental exploding of a loaded revolver which had been incautiously left on the counter of the bar-room, and on being taken up by a comprador, who had called there on business, it went off, and the ball, no larger than a buck shot, after striking the counter, lodged in the unfortunate man's abdomen. The dying man stated in the presence of both British and American Consuls the cause of his death was quite unintentional.

The *Siam Times* complains grievously of the want of police protection at Bangkok, and calls for the enforcement of the provisions of the various treaties since 1855, by which "all foreign subjects coming to Siam are to receive from the Siamese Government full protection and assistance to enable them to reside in Siam in all security."

We take the following from Messrs. Markwald and Co.'s circular, dated Bangkok, 8th October:—

Since date of our last printed report of the 16th August, communication between this and Singapore has been very irregular, owing to the steamer *Chow Phya* having broken her shaft; the same is now replaced, and said steamer is beginning to run again as usual. Latest dates from Europe were to 26th August. Shortly after date of our last several native traders commenced buying white sugar for the Bombay market, and prices advanced suddenly from ½ to ¾ tical per picul. Supplies were chiefly of high numbers, of the lower grades only small lots were offered. The season is nearly over, and after this month we cannot expect fresh arrivals until January next, when the new crop begins. Brown sugar is likewise scarce, and none but inferior is brought to market.

COCHIN CHINA.

SAIGON.

The following notices to mariners are contained in the last *Saigon Courier* received at Singapore:—

"In the last voyage that has been made from Saigon to Bangkok, the steamer *L'Allom-Prah* has seen a rock not marked on the charts, and which according to observation is situated in latitude north 12 dgs. 25 mins. 30 secs., and east of *Paris* 99 dgs. 19 mins.

"Navigators are to take notice, that the buoys which mark the coral bank situated in the Donnai, twenty miles south of Saigon, have been raised. They are replaced by beacons established on the banks of the river, in a manner to indicate well the course to avoid the top of the bank, on which large vessels may touch at low water. One buoy alone has been conserved at the centre of the bank."

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates hence are to the 3rd November. The London mail of the 26th September had not come to hand.

The *Straits Times*, in announcing the fact that "the transfer of Government to the Colonial-office had been finally decided not to take place," remarks: "Well, so, it would seem, has terminated a most persevering agitation by the community here—a community ordinarily little disposed to disturb itself about anything else than the rise and fall in piece goods, and the prices of Straits produce; and we may conclude with tolerable certainty that years will pass away before any action half so energetic and continuous will be commenced in the same matter again. Our transfer to the Colonial-office, when it does take place now, will, in all probability, be the result not of any effort made here, nor the consequence of our wants and necessities,—it will most likely be decreed to us by the Imperial Government itself, and in the furtherance of purely Imperial purposes: When the French have grown in military strength at Saigon, and when, perhaps, Russia or some other European Power has obtained the nucleus of empire in the East, and our own ascendancy and influence is threatened—or should the work of the last seven years in China and Japan have to be done over again,—then, perhaps, England will feel the difficulty of governing her chief *point d'appui* in the Far East by the present circuitous system. Yes, the commercial and general local interests of Singapore have been unable to push their way, and we must only wait until Imperial necessity comes into accord with them."

A court of inquiry, consisting of Mr. Willans, the police magistrate, and Mr. Kirby, the officiating master attendant, had sat to inquire into the circumstances attending the loss of the *Seahorse*, of Liverpool, R. F. Carty, master, and had reported that they "did not consider it a case of culpable negligence deserving of punishment," and that they were "of opinion the loss of the vessel was owing entirely to the want of a proper chart of Gaspar Straits, the vessel having been despatched from Liverpool insufficiently supplied with charts." It appears the ship struck on a coral rock, said to be about 2 miles E., ½ N., from Jelaka Island, and in forty-five minutes had twelve feet water in her hold. The tide fell, and the vessel became firmly fixed on the rock, which, from the report of divers sent down by the Dutch Resident of Biliton, appears to be a small pinnacle with deep water all round. Any attempt to save the vessel was useless, and she became a total wreck.

The prahus from the eastward of the Archipelago have this year come in greater numbers than for several years back, so that it does not appear that the efforts of the Dutch to deflect this portion of our trade to their own ports have been very successful. However, this forms but a small item now in our year's commerce, and the condition of affairs at home has tended very much to depress business at the present moment. It appears that produce orders are greatly curtailed.

The Governor has been pleased to make the following honorary appointments:—T. Scott, Esq., Justice of the Peace, to be a police magistrate for the station of Singapore. Mr. A. Cateaux has been appointed Consul for Belgium at Singapore. The Governor has prohibited any interments taking place in the Government burial-ground at this station after the 31st of December next. The Governor has granted Mr. C. B. Plunket, Police Magistrate and Commissioner of the Court of Requests, Prince of Wales's Island, leave of absence for one year, to visit Europe, on medical certificate. Captain W. S. Mitchell, Officiating Assistant Resident Councillor, to be Police Magistrate and Commissioner of the Court of Requests of Prince of Wales's Island, during the absence of Mr. C. B. Plunket, or until further orders.

On Cochin-China, and on our article on the subject, the *Straits Times* had the following, which we marked for insertion some mails since:—

(*Continued in Page* 684.)

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

o notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A REGISTER is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the FAR EAST and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office, or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, *and other parts of the* FAR EAST, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

Subscription 54s. per annum, including Postage. Export Supplement 12s. extra.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, DEC. 5, 1864.

THE GOOD EFFECTS OF CHOSHIU'S PUNISHMENT.

THE advices received from Japan by the present mail are but meagre, and, as might have reasonably been expected, supply no details of the results gained by the diplomatic action that must necessarily have followed the punishment inflicted on CHOSHIU. The telegrams of intelligence from Japan that appeared in the Morning Papers of the 3rd are admitted to have been "very indistinctly transmitted, rendering the reading "of several passages uncertain." One paragraph of the news from Japan was thus given:—"Prince Nangato is said to "decline [telegraphed *tirne*] payment of the indemnity." As we are not told in what language the telegram was transmitted, we are unable to exercise a judgment as to what the word *tirne* can be intended to imply. But as the telegram was first published in the Evening Editions of the 2nd, the word "time" was given instead of the other unintelligible monosyllable. Every one will at once see that in a written hand the two words might be scarcely distinguishable one from the other by the eye. The sense alone would tell an Englishman what was meant; but if the telegram was manipulated by a foreigner such a blunder might easily occur. The true reading, therefore, we have little doubt is, that "Nangato has asked "*time* for the payment of the indemnity." The tone of our last advices clearly showed that he was thoroughly humbled. His boasted batteries had, as we knew they would, proved utterly ineffectual against the shell and science of the allied fleets. And as if to furnish another striking illustration of the classical proverb that "whom the Gods intend to destroy they first deprive of his wits," NANGATO turns rebel to his own Sovereigns at this very juncture, and marches off to the attack of Kioto that large army which might have rendered the embarkation of his seventy-two cannon a very difficult or impossible task. It will be seen that the *North China Herald* adopts the opinion put forth from the first in our columns, that the accusations made by this traitorous Daimio against the TYCOON will demand the strongest corroborative evidence. The TYCOON will certainly have been informed of the style of defence put forward by his vassal, and we shall learn probably by the next mail how the assertion of his complicity in the violation of a solemn treaty has been rebutted. The great fact brought by our present advices is that the late warlike demonstration in the Straits of Simonoseki has produced all the good effect that could have been hoped for. The Inland Sea is really and practically opened to the traffic of the individual merchant. The steamer *Chusan* had arrived at Shanghai from Yokohama, having taken her route through the passage so long barred. The Daimios, as we have before experienced after a similar crisis, seized immediately on the opportunity of entering into extended commercial relations with the foreigner. One of the wealthiest of them forthwith buys a steamer at an outlay of $120,000. The covert restrictions on trade so recently complained of are at once removed, and silk comes down in large quantities for shipment. Best of all, the TYCOON must have acquired the to him invaluable conviction that a close alliance with the foreigner and the utmost possible development of trade is the surest way of keeping the immense population of his Island Empire employed and contented, and of reducing his Daimios to the condition of wealthy subjects from that of nearly independent and always unruly chieftains.

MALACCA STRAITS.

(*Continued from Page* 683.)

It seems somewhat remarkable that the progress of the French in Cochin-China, which was lately brought prominently before the notice of the people in the Straits by the publication of several Siamese papers, should at the same time have been attracting a more than usual amount of attention at home. The last numbers of the *London and China Express* have contained several articles on the subject; that of the 16th July publishing a copy of the treaty, made about a year ago, with the Prince of Cambodia, and which created a considerable stir at the time. Those who have perused this treaty will be struck with its exact correspondence in almost every particular to the reports which got abroad here concerning it at the time it was made. It places the Kingdom of Cambodia beyond all doubt under the protectorate of France, and gives to the French representative who may be sent to reside at the Cambodian capital the power to veto any privileges which Cambodia may, after this, desire to extend to other European nations. The *London and China Express* claims to publish this treaty for the first time, and we are quite prepared to admit that it does; because we know of only one copy of the treaty which found its way into non-official hands; this copy we saw in Singapore about three weeks after its original had been signed—and from the fact of its publication, combined with the style of the well-written articles which have accompanied it, we are inclined to think that the *London and China Express* has committed the conduct of this question to a gentleman with whom the people of the Straits are well acquainted indeed. Be this as it may, however, it is most desirable that the proceedings of the French in the neighbourhood of their Eastern Settlement should be well known to our Government and to the people at home. We do not advocate a niggard jealousy either of the progress of French influence or the increase of French territory in the Far East; for undoubtedly there is truth in the assertion of Admiral Grandiere, made at the late coronation of the Viceroy of Cambodia, that the "genius of their civilisation" should give the French predominant influence over the inferior native States in their immediate neighbourhood. But we are, at least, bound to protect the independence of one native State, from the borders of which the French are not very far removed; and without a perfect knowledge of the views, as well as the actual acquired rights of France in the neighbourhood, this would be difficult to do. It will be the duty of the English Government to so use its influence in Siam that, while the integrity of that kingdom is maintained, no cause of collision with France ever occurs, for in such an event the history of our own and our ally's arms teaches us what the result will be. One of the best means to avert after-collision is to have present rights and duties clearly defined and stated now; and for this reason, perhaps, the late Cambodian events are not to be regretted. The respective rights of Siam and Annam would have been a moot point and might have led to difficulties, whereas the assumption by France of first influence, however unjustifiable, will prevent any difficulty arising on this score. Siam has had taken from her a long held and legitimate foreign influence; but she has, perhaps, had secure to her thereby greater safety for her own integrity. One of the most remarkable pieces of information which the papers published by the *London and China Express* contain is that the French have given, or are about to give, back to Annam the three provinces of Gindinh, Bienhoa and Dinh-Tuong, with the exception of the citadel of Mitho, the city of Saigon, and some port in Thu-Daomot; the consideration for these cessions being the recognised protectorate of France over the whole of Lower Cochin-China. France will thus be saved the cost of an expensive government of a large territory, and be able to centre her strength and her trading energy in the few reserved commercial points; which will now become outlets for the products of the whole of Cochin-China. In point of fact, the actual power of France will be doubled, while the expense of governing will be reduced more than one-half. Nor will it be difficult for the French Government, with an undisputed protectorate over both Cambodia and Siam, to force into her hands the entire commerce of these two countries. But, on the other hand, it is impossible not to accept of this last movement somewhat in the light of an assurance that the French Empire in the East has not in view large territorial acquisitions, and, that such native States as maintain a careful and inoffensive policy may be preserved in their integrity and independence.

The *Free Press* complains of the almost total want of protection for British commerce against piracy:—For some months past several Chinese piratical junks have been carrying on operations in the China Sea, and they are known to have destroyed a ship belonging to this port and to have nearly taken a French gunboat loaded with treasure, while they have probably done a great deal of mischief which has not yet come to light. Suppose they chose to take up a position near Pedra Branca, to intercept vessels passing through that channel, have we any force here to oppose them? We are afraid the answer must be doubtful. The *Leven* is the only efficient Government vessel at present in our harbour, and however able she might be to cope with a single junk, it is no disparagement to say that she might find the issue doubtful if opposed by three or four heavily armed Chinese pirates. This seems to have been the case with the French gunboat, which was obliged to retreat from three junks. It is a pity that we should be left from time to time in this comparatively helpless state. Singapore is a place at which intelligence of the presence of pirates in the neighbouring seas is very quickly received, and it would only be prudent that there should always be stationed here a sufficient force to enable pursuit to be given at once. This would save the annoyance of knowing that the trade was unprotected, or of being obliged to send out useless vessels of the *Hooghly* or *Pluto* class to be set at defiance by the pirates.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

DALZIEL—At Hong Kong, on the 16th Oct., the wife of W. R. Dalziel, Esq., P. and O. Co.'s office, of a son.

GYE—On the 17th Oct, at Shanghai, the wife of James Gye, Esq., Shanghai Medical Hall, of a son.

MELBOURN—On the 23rd Oct., at Batavia, the wife of George Melbourn, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

MELLISH—WATERWORTH.—At St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, on the 22nd Oct., by the Rev. Dr. Irwin, Edward Mellish, of the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan, to Sarah, eldest surviving daughter of John Waterworth, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

DEATHS.

BROWN—On the 11th Oct., at Shanghai, drowned, alongside the steamer Formosa, Mr. Brown, third engineer of that vessel.

CISCO—On the 21st Sept., Edward L. Cisco, steward of the Oriental Hotel, Bangkok, accidentally shot, aged 34; a native of Baltimore, America.

ODELL—On the 30th Aug., of consumption, on board the Eastward Ho! in the Java Sea, near the island called Two Brothers, Mr. John F. Odell, of Williamsburg, New York, U.S. America, aged about 28 years. Mr. Odell has been a resident of Bangkok more than three years—a superintendent of the printing office of the American Missionary Association nearly two years—and hoped to continue here and serve his Divine Lord and Master a series of years longer as an assistant missionary, but failing health compelled him to abandon all hope of remaining longer in this climate.

TAYLOR—Lost overboard at sea, from the American steamer Monitor, on the night of 24th Sept., John W. Taylor, 1st officer of Monitor.

WHITTALL—On board the steamer Hydaspe, whilst on her passage from Shanghai to Hong Kong, at 1 A.M. on 23rd Oct., C. Whittall, Esq.

WOODWARD—At Amoy, on the 1st Oct., on board the American steamer Monitor, Marcus Lincoln Woodward, aged 35 years.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 7½d. to 6s. 7¾d.	6s. 7¼d. to 6s. 8¼d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 9¾d.	4s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.
At Singapore	6 ditto		
At Manila	6 ditto		

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 320 to 321 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 223 to 224 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 10 to 11 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 72 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 29 to 30 discount.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1863-64.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1864	320600	34551493	28170886	212087	5178130	68433201	12244
Corresponding period last season	1058754	29441913	26429800	989576	8459227	66379270	21066

SHIPMENTS IN OCTOBER.

Ship	From		
Peterborough	... ...	Canton	... 381,200
Lord Raglan	... ...	Foo-chow	... 951,350
Queen of Nations	...	Shanghai	... 683,690

TO UNITED STATES.

							Piculs.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	4647022	62
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	4977993	123

SHIPMENTS IN OCTOBER.

Ship	From	
Salacia	Amoy	... 398,700

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

							Tea pkgs.	
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	9252	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	76410	...

TO AUSTRALIA.

From 1st June to 30th Sept., 1864 ... ... 4,582,510 lbs.
Corresponding period last year ... ... 4,945,282 „

SHIPMENTS IN OCTOBER.

Ship	From	
Maria Ross	Hong Kong	... 1,951

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	...	...	...	51,022,600	...
„ 1845 to 1846	...	...	...	57,334,200	18.6
„ 1850 to 1851	...	...	...	63,972,000	22 143
„ 1853 to 1854	...	...	...	77,327,800	61,280
„ 1855 to 1856	...	...	...	92,240,300	50,480
„ 1857 to 1858	...	...	...	76,990,255	68,31
„ 1858 to 1859	...	...	...	65,789,792	83,13
„ 1859 to 1860	...	...	...	35,560,452	64,16
„ 1860 to 1861	...	...	...	90,066,160	70,644
„ 1861 to 1862	...	...	...	109,854,040	79,199
„ 1862 to 1863	...	...	...	121,273,580	72,84 8
„ 1863 to 1864	...	...	...	117,463,586	46,605

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to Sept. 30, 1864	112842	—	573	7399	—	100

SHIPMENTS IN OCTOBER.

Ship.	From	Cotton, pcls.
Samarang...	Hong Kong	13,104

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to Sept. 30, 1864...	500	2500	—	—	—	—

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to Sept. 30, 1864...	375	1803	11083	540	3050	50080

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Sept. 30, 1864...	—	645	3888	725	9600	—

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Dec. 2, at Queenstown, from Maulmain, Sarah Park; at London, from Yokohama, Natal; 1, off Mount's Bay, from Maulmain (?), Standard; 5, at Deal, from Colombo, Cleughs, Helen's Bank; from Shanghai, Wild Deer, City of Quebec; Nov. 29, off Mount's Bay, from Colombo, Braemar; Dec. 5, at Deal, from Rangoon, Wologda; Nov. 30, at Falmouth, from Rangoon, Shamrock.

DEPARTURES.—Dec. 2, from Liverpool, for Yokohama, Jane; for Hong Kong, Monsoon; for Singapore, Advance; 3, from London, for Cardiff and Hong Kong, Whinfell.

LAID ON.—At Liverpool, for Galle, Lepanto; for Singapore, Jessie Beazley.

SPOKEN.—Certia (?), Liverpool to Galle; Tamana, Clyde to Hong Kong, 14 N., 26 W., 21 days out; Valdivia, Macao to London, Oct. 17; Palestine, Ceylon to London, Nov. 18, 24 S., 34 W.

At St. Vincent, C.V., Nov. 10, from Gibraltar, H.M.S. Tamar, and sailed 11th for China.

The Admiralty have engaged freight in the Banian for the conveyance of Government stores from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Oct. 12, Tamberlane; 14, Isles of the South; 19, P. C. Munro. From Newcastle: 12, Grenadier. From Cardiff: 13, Zingra; 19, Allandale. From Shields: 13, Edith. From Newport: 16, Princess of Wales. From New York: 13, Anna, and Mercurio; 18, Apollo.

At HONG KONG.—From Swansea: Oct. 18, Decount. From Newcastle: 20, Salvia.

At SINGAPORE.—From Cardiff: Oct. 24, Woizlava. From Amsterdam: 23, Maria Adolfina.

DEPARTURES.

From SHANGHAI.—None.

From HONG KONG.—For London: Oct. 16, England.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Oct. 26, Lieut. Oswin. For Cork: Nov. 3, Kirkonnel.

BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS.

The Board of Trade returns for the month and ten months ended the 31st October do not present that amount of increase in the principal items that characterised the earlier months of the year. There is a considerable decline in the value of exports, as compared with the same month of last year, which is chiefly to be ascribed to the falling off in the exportation of cotton yarn and cotton manufactures, though there are many other articles of minor importance which assist to swell up the general total. The total declared value of Exports for the month last past is £12,871,491, against £15,082,332 in October, 1863, and £9,846,835 in 1862; which is a decrease on the former period of £2,210,841, but an increase on the latter of £3,024,656. For the ten months of the present year the total of the Exports is £136,275,652, against £119,377,045 in 1863, and £103,519,269 in 1862; which is an increase of £16,898,607 as compared with 1863, and of £32,756,383 as contrasted with 1862. The present Returns give also the value of the principal articles of Import for the nine months ended 30th September, which is stated at £160,974,110, for the present year; £133,166,725, for 1863;

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and £121,275,498, for 1862—so that the ratio of increase is much larger in the present than in last year.

The following are the results exhibited in relation to the course of trade between Great Britain and the ports and countries of the Far East :—

EXPORTS TO CHINA AND HONG KONG.

For the Month ended 31st October.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
Cotton yarn	2,224	218.020	40,000 lbs.
Cotton manufactures	1,203,746	5,624.602	2,504,781 yds.
Worsted stuffs	930,060	1,003,000	599,225 „
Woollen and worsted cloths	65,624	61,570	109,565 „
Lead	681	651	391 tons

Value for the Ten Months ended 31st October.

Cotton yarn	£183,693	£170,075	£218,660
Cotton manufactures	1,182,762	969,071	1,626,207
Worsted stuffs	327,517	523,613	786.701
Woollen and worsted cloths	208,631	268,350	260,291
Lead	159,165	256,933	145,340

The Cotton Manufactures exported to the other great centres of trade in the East with which our readers are principally interested present quantities and values as under :—

For the Month ended 31st October.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
Ceylon	781.561	2,661,282	1,068,919 yds.
Singapore	949,550	1,019,825	463,145 „
Java	1,064,115	1,873,415	957,833 „
Philippine Islands	—	1,959,891	3,126,223 „

Value for the Ten Months ended 31st October.

Ceylon	£257,719	£348,627	£371,983
Singapore	536,500	502,515	558,331
Java	455,061	299,790	484,882
Philippine Islands	252,329	317,204	546,257

Of Cotton Yarn, the export to Ceylon for the month of October was 11,416 lbs., against 75,000 lbs. in the same month of 1863, and 32,100 lbs. in 1862. The value for the ten months is £26,081 in the present year, against £53,619 last year, and £26,654 in the year preceding that. To Singapore the quantity for the month is 15,200 lbs., against 193,620 lbs. in 1863, and 24,000 lbs. in 1862. The value for the ten months of the three years is, beginning with the present, respectively £92,167, £183,274, and £93,699.

IMPORTS.

Raw Cotton still presents that wonderful development which we have had occasion to notice during the entire year. The figures are as follows :—

For the Month ended 31st October.

	1862	1863.	1864
British India	480,642	446,833	675,607 cwts.
China	8,468	2,696	37,804 „

Value for the Nine Months ended 30th September.

British India	£9,044,484	£17,358,230	£24,862,133
China	21,151	1,520,670	4,945,209

Of Sugar, the quantity imported from Java and the Philippine Islands in the month of October was all of the 3rd and 4th quality—23,487 cwt. of the former, and 3,863 cwt. of the latter. The quantities and values given in the present returns show the alteration in the import produced by the new scale of duties :—

Quantities for the Ten Months ended 31st October.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
2nd quality (equal to Brown clayed)	35,999	3,419	438 cwts.
3rd (not equal to Brown clayed)	316,783	689,334	29,328 „
3rd (equal to Brown Muscovado)	—	—	100,075 „
4th (not equal to Br. Muscovado)	—	—	80,778 „

☞ The present Returns furnish the Declared Values of the merchandise Imported into, and of the British and Irish Produce Exported from, the United Kingdom for the nine months ended the 30th September, for this and the two preceding years :—

EXPORTS.

To	1862.	1863.	1864.
Singapore and Eastern Straits	£907,906	£1,034,379	£970,756
Ceylon	430,933	654,677	627,286
Hong Kong	925,259	1,041,046	1,347,773
Netherlands India (Java, &c.)	646,377	412.541	649,055
Philippine Islands	378.262	436,312	616,739
Siam	16,831	11,958	15,129
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	1,594,299	1,771,873	2,308,522
Cochin China, Camboja, and Tonquin	—	35,000	—
Japan	—	73,526	431,821

IMPORTS.

From	1862.	1863.	1864.
Singapore and Eastern Straits	£1,664,850	£1,137,275	£1,340,577
Ceylon	1,838,468	2,511,920	2,399,851
Hong Kong	128,805	816,729	2,366,519
Netherlands India (Java, &c.)	84,305	12,591	16,736
Philippine Islands	554,090	1,024,399	492,216
Borneo	11,732	39,591	20,208
Siam	37,824	20,746	14,522
Cochin China, Camboja, and Tonquin	—	—	4
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	8,415,905	9,163,528	8,235,986
Japan	309,601	976,134	1,185,037

Literature.

Travels in Central Asia; being an Account of a Journey from Teheran, across the Turkoman Desert on the Eastern Shore of the Caspian, to Khiva, Bokhara, and Samarcand; by ARMINIUS VAMBERY. London: John Murray, Albemarle-street.—In a preface the modest tone of which is in strong contrast to a description of his qualifications given further on in the volume, the author tells us that he was impelled from early youth by a particular inclination to linguistic science; and that to investigate into points connected with the origin of the language of Hungary, his native land, was the principal and the moving cause of his journey to the East. Under the same impulse he resided for years at Constantinople, where he became so thoroughly imbued with the language and literature as to be "transformed into a Turk—nay, into an Effendi." When, therefore, he determined on pushing his way into Central Asia, he deemed it advisable to retain this character, and to pass as an Oriental. He went even further, and joined himself to a band of "hadjis," some of whom were on their way back from Mecca to the far distant region of Chinese Tartary. To get admission into this company, Mr. Vámbéry assumed the garb and demeanour of a dervish. How far the philological importance of his mission, on which he was despatched by the Hungarian Academy of Pesth, may justify such a religious imposture we have at present no means of forming an opinion, as the results of his researches are to be laid before the scientific world "after maturer preparation." It is clear, however, that the course chosen was an unlucky one to be adopted by an inquirer, and must have been a great impediment in the way of obtaining information; for we read—"I had only to touch upon a question relating to ordinary life, or to show such a curiosity for some matter or other, to make men wonderingly ask what a dervish, whose proper business was only God and religion, had to do with the affairs of this transitory world." Another drawback, still more to be lamented perhaps, is encountered at Bokhara :—

I then proceeded to the book bazaar, which contains twenty-six shops. A printed book is here a rarity. In this place, and in the houses of the booksellers—for there is the great depôt—many are the treasures that I have seen, which would be of incalculable value to our Oriental historians and philologists. Their acquisition was in my case out of the question; for, in the first place, I had not the adequate means, and, in the second, any appearance of worldly knowledge might have prejudiced my disguise. The few manuscripts that I brought back with me from Bokhara and Samarcand cost me much trouble to acquire, and my heart bled when I found that I was obliged to leave behind me works that might have filled many an important history [hiatus ?] in our Oriental studies.

Under this cloak of sanctity, and assisted by letters of recommendation from the Turkish Embassy at the Court of Teheran, M. Vámbéry succeeded in penetrating where there is no record of any European having been since the days of Marco Polo. Nature, too, appears to have done her part toward fitting the author for his perilous task; for in the account of his interview with the Emir of Bokhara, he tells us that "I had long forgotten the art of blushing," and that "my triumph was entirely owing to the flexibility of my tongue (which is really impudent enough)." Whether his qualifications were all natural or all acquired, the reader may rejoice in the possession of a book full of novelty, the scenes in which really throw us back, in many of their characteristics, to that most fascinating of all our dream-books, the "Arabian Nights." The route traversed has but to be pointed out to stimulate curiosity to the utmost, for when before have we had an itinerary traced out like this :—Northwards from Teheran to the Caspian Sea, the south-eastern corner of which was crossed in a small coaster; then north, and north-east, across the deserts to Khiva; an excursion northwards from that capital to Kungrat close to Lake Aral; back to Khiva, and eastwards to Bokhara and Samarcand; then southwards, through Karshi, Kerki, Andkhuy, and Maymene, to Herat; from thence to Meshed and back to Teheran. In addition to the excitement afforded by the dangers of the passage across the various deserts,—in one of which the author and his brother-dervishes owed their lives to the humanity of some Persian slaves, who shared their scanty supply of water with them—and by the other adventures incident to so many journeys all performed under the mutual convoy afforded by a caravan, the constant anxiety created by the fear that the author's disguise would be discovered, keeps the adventurous interest of the narrative always at the highest. Only once was M. Vámbéry seriously disconcerted, and that was by a sharp young lad, the son of the present ruler of Afghanistan, who was acting as his father's viceroy at Herat. The interview is thus described :—

True to my dervish character, on appearing I made the usual salutation, and occasioned no surprise to the company when I stepped, even as I

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made it, right up to the Prince, and seated myself between him and the Vizir, after having required the latter, a corpulent Afghan, to make room for me by a push with the foot. This action of mine occasioned some laughing, but it did not put me out of countenance. I raised my hands, to repeat the usual prayer required by the law. Whilst I was repeating it, the Prince looked me full in the face. I saw his look of amazement, and when I was repeating the amen, and all present were keeping time with me, and stroking their beards, the Prince half rose himself from his chair, and pointing with his finger to me, he called out half laughing, and half bewildered, "Vallahi, Billahi, Schuma, Inghiliz hested" (By G—, I swear you are an Englishman). A ringing peal of laughter followed the fancy of the King's young son, but he did not suffer it to divert him from his idea; he sprang down from his seat, placed himself right before me, and clapping both his hands, like a child who has made some lucky discovery, he called out "Hadji, kurbunet (I would be thy victim), tell me, you are an Englishman in tebdil (disguise), are you not?" His action was so naive that I was really sorry I could not leave the boy in his illusion. I had cause to dread the wild fanaticism of the Afghans, and assuming a manner as if the jest had gone too far, I said "Sahib mekun (have done), you know the saying—'He who takes even in sport the believer for an unbeliever, is himself an unbeliever.'. Give me rather something for my Fatiha, that I may proceed further on my journey." My serious look and the hadis which I recited quite disconcerted the young man. He sat down half ashamed, and excusing himself on the ground of the resemblance of my features, said that he had never seen a Hadji from Bokhara with such a physiognomy. I replied that I was not a Bokhariot, but a Stambuli; and when I showed him my Turkish passport, and spoke to him of his cousin, the son of Akbar Khan, Djelal-ed-din Khan, who was in Mecca and Constantinople in 1860, and had met with a distinguished reception from the Sultan, his manner quite changed; my passport went the round of the company, and met with approbation. The Prince gave me some krans, and dismissed me with the order that I should often visit him during my stay, which I accordingly did.

The Turkoman seems to be the great curse of Central Asia, passing his life in plundering, or making slaves of all around him. Their incursions have for centuries been depopulating vast districts:—

Amongst the Tekke Turkomans are reckoned at the present hour more than 15,000 mounted robbers, who are intent upon kidnapping expeditions night and day. One can easily form an idea of how many houses and villages are devastated, how much family happiness destroyed, by these greedy freebooters.

Their custom is to make no reservation in favour of such as belong to the same sect of Mahometanism as themselves. Our author once put the question to a robber renowned for his piety, how he could make up his mind to sell his Sunnite brothers as slaves, when the Prophet's words were, "Every Mussulman is free." "Behey," said the Turkoman with supreme indifference; "the Koran, God's book, is certainly more precious than man, and yet it is bought and sold for a few krans. What more can you say? Yes, Joseph, the son of Jacob, was a prophet, and was himself sold. Was he in any respect the worse for that?"

The leader of the band of dervishes with whom Mr. Vámbéry travelled was Hadji Bilal, the chief priest of the Governor of Chinese Tartary, from whom our author derived some reliable information as to the way in which that territory is administered. Each of the provinces has two authorities, one Chinese and military, the other Tartar-Mussulman and civil. The Chinese appear to exercise their functions so impartially that the inhabitants prefer their rule to that of the Mussulman khans around them. Even the Mollahs extol the conscientiousness of the Chinese officials, although they deal with their religion in the most unsparing terms. So also the Tartars are never tired of praising the art and cleverness of their rulers, and there is no end to their laudatory strains when they once begin to speak on the subject of the Djong-Kafir (great unbelievers), *i.e.*, the genuine Chinese. True to this notion, Hadji Bilal accounted for the taking of Peking by the Frenghis (Franks), by saying that they employed cunning, and having stupefied the inhabitants with opium, marched easily into the slumbering city. With all this it must be remembered that Russian accounts represent the Mahometan subjects of the Emperor of China as in active rebellion.

Mr. Vámbéry devotes his last chapter to the progress of Russian influence in Central Asia. He considers that the real line of operations for that Power is to be sought along the left bank of the Jaxartes:—

Here we find the Russian outposts supported by an uninterrupted chain of forts and walls, pushed on as far as Kale Rehim, distant thirty-two miles from Tashkend, which may be regarded as a key to all conquest in Central Asia. This route, which traverses fewer deserts than any other, is also in different respects well chosen. An army would be here indeed exposed to more surprises; but these can be resisted more easily than the fury of the elements. On the eastern frontiers of Khokand also, beyond Namengan, the Russians continue to move nearer and nearer, and in the time of Khudayar Khan many collisions had already taken place there between the Khokandi and the Russians.

The author sums up his views on this point by expressing his surprise at England's indifference to the plans of Russia in the part of the world referred to, reminding us that accounts received at the end of October positively affirm the fact of the Czar's forces having taken possession of the very city of Tashkend above mentioned. Every page of the book, however, teems with suggestive memoranda; and as a last recommendation, we must not forget to mention that a very excellent and clearly designed map enables one to accompany the writer with the greatest ease through regions hitherto strange even to the scientific geographer.

Mémoires sur la Chine; par le Comte D'ESCAYRAC DE LAUTURE. Paris: Librairie du Magasin Pittoresque.—The new part of this sumptuously got-up publication is devoted to "Government." The eminently characteristic illustrations are even more numerous than in the preceding portions of the work, and the style of their execution and the way in which they have been "worked" do great credit both to the engraver and printer. M. de Lauture embraces his subject under the six heads of—Central Government; Civil Functionaries; Administration; the State Finances; Military Staff; and lastly, gives a copious Administrative Vocabulary in Chinese and French. The sovereignty of the Son of Heaven extends, it appears, over China, Mantchuria, Mongolia, Dzoungaria and Eastern Turkestan, and Thibet. The country is often called "the eighteen provinces," which denomination, though to be tolerated in a geographical sense, would be entirely at fault speaking administratively. Under fourteen Governor-Generals there are 183 Foo, or prefects of the first class, and 65 of the second; 147 sub-prefects of the first class, and 1,303 of the second. All offices are to be purchased, and the author, strange to say, is rather in favour of this mode of appointment as opposed to competitive examination; for he says, "if we attentively compare the magistrates by examination and those by purchase, it will be admitted that the latter, whose minds have not been ground down under a tedious and ungrateful course of study, are the more useful servants of the State." Corruption is universal.

It is so thoroughly admitted, that the salary is never taken into consideration. The sub-prefect or tchi-heen of the present day takes his 1,500 taels only because it is necessary to his standing that he should not be paid less than he himself pays his chin-min. There was some talk a few years ago of abolishing all salaries; but the authorities were compelled to recede from an act that would have been nought else than an official recognition and a direct organisation of robbery.

M. de Lauture estimates the revenue of the Chinese Empire at more than £20,000,000; but the public contributions are apportioned with as little equity as they were among the different provinces of France before the Revolution. The assessment is bad, because the land is overcharged, whilst houses and shops, &c., pay nothing. The custom-houses in the interior, which yield little to the State, fetter the transactions of trade and produce smuggling—a school of rebellion and brigandage. This part of his subject is wound up by the following observations:—

For organising an armed force worthy of the name, for re-establishing order in the insurgent provinces, for putting an end to exaction and peculation by the regular payment of its functionaries, and, lastly, for repairing the canals and providing for other useful works, the Government cannot depend on its present revenue, the insufficiency of which is evident. On the other hand, it cannot without danger make any notable increase in the taxation—unless with the consent by vote of the people, or at least without leaving to them the uncontrolled raising and appropriation of the provincial and municipal funds. But a loan would be just now a very easy affair for it: it might be guaranteed by the customs revenues, which are rapidly augmenting, and by the salt-receipts. It might, I think, be obtained at 12 per cent. European capitalists might take it up. In any case, as capitalists are not wanting in China, and as the confidence inspired in the Chinese public by European banks is very great, I conceive it would be easy for those banks to attract deposits of capital that is now kept in the background, and would never be offered direct to the State, and to get a considerable commission out of the loan of that very capital. Such a commission would be like a fine on the bad reputation of a Government that will be no longer able to plunder its people when Europeans have placed themselves between it and them.

The Chinese and Japanese Repository for November opens with "The Route to China by way of Russia and Siberia," which is a reproduction of an account of a journey overland from St. Petersburg that was published in *The Times* some weeks back. The other articles are "Copper Smelting in Japan," from the original Japanese; and the history of "Su-wu, the faithful Ambassador to Tartary," who existed in the century before the birth of Christ. The gem of the number is, beyond all doubt, the commencement of a treatise on "The Japanese Language and Grammar," by the Editor, accompanied by an engraving of the syllabaries that form it; and, lastly, we have the first part of a "General Description of the Island of Formosa," from notes made by Mr. Consul Swinhoe.

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Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Nov.24	Falmouth	Rangoon	Transit	Whitmore.
— 24	Do.	Do.	Valentia	Bosworth.
— 23	Queenstown	Do.	Kallibokka	Softley.
—	Do.	Manila	Achilles	
— 22	Texel	Batavia	Sliedrecht	Feenstra.
— 22	Quiberon	Rangoon	Alphonsine Irma	Cornu.
— 22	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Burgermister Hoffman	Grafehuis.
— 26	Milford	Maulmain	Madawaska	
— 26	Liverpool	Shanghai	Hougoumont	Flamank.
— 27	London	Singapore	The Tweed	Stuart.
— 27	Deal	Colombo	Balnaguith	Bouf.
— 27	Plymouth	Maulmain	Tony	Gartner.
— 27	Liverpool	Singapore	Volunteer	Ralf.
— 27	Do.	Iloilo	Peveril of the Peak	
— 28	Plymouth	Rangoon	Hortensia	Dreyer.
— 27	Falmouth	Iloilo	Chance	Dodswell.
— 27	Do.	Rangoon	Wologda	Ohman.
— 12	New York	Colombo	August v. Tronchin	v. Tronchin.
— 12	Do.	Padang	Commodore	Andersen.
— 13	Boston	Do.	Ceylon	Sampson.
— 16	Do.	Singapore	Agnes	Bassett.
— 27	Falmouth	Sourabaya	Ajax	Ramsay.
— 25	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Fredrik Hendrik	Glazener.
— 25	Texel	Banjoewangie	Sophia	Noord.
—	New York	Manila	Bengal	
—	Do.	Rangoon	James Cheston	Bryan.
— 29	Deal	Singapore	Rangoon	Thomas.
— 29	Do.	Colombo	Duke of Wellington	Kerr.
— 28	Falmouth	Rangoon	Rebecca	Christoffers.
Oct. 13	Callao	Macao	Bacalan	Touel.
— 16	Do.	Do.	Vitalia	Perez.
Nov.28	Ramsgate	Colombo	Choice	Crozier.
— 30	London	Singapore	Miss Nightingale	Cochrane.
— 29	Falmouth	Manila	Fagel	Verlooss.
— 29	Do.	Rangoon	Shamrock	Gilley.
— 27	Texel	Batavia	Straatsraad v. Ewyck	
— 27	Brouwershaven	Samarang	Vyf Vrienden	Johan.
— 27	Bremen	Batavia	Cruiser	Kirby.
— 28	Do.	Bassein	Teutonia	Christoffers.
Dec. 2	Falmouth	Rangoon	C. M. Davies	Koopman.
Nov.29	Brouwershaven	Tjilatjap	Fortuna	De Groot.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Nov.25	London	Colombo	Isabella Atkinson	Atkinson.
— 29	Do.	Sydney & Foo-cw-Foo	Yang-Tsze	Kimball.
— 26	Shields	Hong Kong	Diamond	
— 28	Liverpool	Cheribon	Moreno	Whiting.
— 28	Do.	Hong Kong	Monsoon	Lewis.
— 28	Do.	Batavia & Sourabaya	Dionysia Catharina	v. d. Sprenkel.
— 29	Do.	Singapore	Agenoria	Spurr.
Dec. 1	Do.	Do.	Harry Puddemsey	Moir.
Nov.28	Do.	Shanghai, via Cardiff	W. W. Smith	Stanton.
Dec. 1	London	Yokohama	Eliza Shaw	Steel.

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Eliza Shaw, Belina. For Nagasaki: Rifleman. For Shanghai: Challenger, Pegasus, Fychow, Star of China. For Hong Kong and Canton: Banian, White Adder, Devana. For Hong Kong and Foo-chow-Foo: City of Aberdeen, For Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: Merse. For Singapore: Norfolk, Dewa Gungadhur. For Singapore and Penang: Ferozepore. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Skimmer of the Seas. For Colombo: Echo, Percy Douglas, Frances, Emperor, Princess.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Jane, Aden. For Shanghai: Alarm, Invincible. For Hong Kong and Canton: Canton. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Helvetia. For Manila: Iberica, Sales. For Colombo: Lizzie Scott.

At GLASGOW.—For Shanghai: Glencoe. For Batavia and Singapore: Mary Hamilton. For Ceylon: Princess of Wales.

At GREENOCK.—For Galle: Belle Creole.

SPOKEN.

BARNAVE, Bordeaux to Batavia, Oct. 18, on the line, 25 W.
WAALSTROOM, Amsterdam to Japan, Nov. 17.
J. C. MUNRO, Cardiff to Shanghai, Sept. 12, 11 N., 112 E.
CARACTACUS, Hong Kong to London, Sept. 18, 1 N., 107 E.
KELVIN, China to New York, Sept. 19, on the line, 107 E.
FRIGATE BIRD, Shanghai to London.
LEWE VAN NEYSTEIN, Tjilatjap to Amsterdam, 18 S., 4 W.
GLOUCESTER, London to Singapore, Sept. 30.
WILLIAM AND RICHARD, Liverpool to Ceylon, Nov. 4, 37 N., 18 W.
BELTED WILL, London to Hong Kong, Nov. 18, 48 N., 12 W.
NONPAREIL, Liverpool to Shanghai, 32 days out.
LAUDERDALE, Liverpool to Shanghai, 30 days out.
COROMANDEL, Cardiff to China, Oct. 24, 7 N.. 27 W.
OITHONA, London to Hong Kong, steering S., Sept. 21, 9 S., 29 W.
CESTRIAN (ship), Liverpool to Galle, lat. 2, lon. 26 W., 27 days out.
RAPHAEL, Sumatra to Marseilles, Oct. 26, 12 N., 28 W.
ARGO (ship), of Rotterdam, for Java, Oct. 26, 6 N., 22 W.
ZEEMUTH, Amsterdam to Batavia, Oct. 29, 7 N., 24 W.
OCEAN PEARL, Sunderland to Singapore, Oct. 30.
FORTUNA, Batavia to Rotterdam, Nov. 13, 33 N., 31 W.
THAMES (barque), Colombo to New York, Oct. 17, 34 S., 25 E.
CHANTICLEER, Canton to London, Oct. 23, 27 S., 4 E.
MERCURIO, New York to Shanghai, North of Formosa.
BOLDEN LAWN, from Macao, off the Cape.
VALDIVIA, from Hong Kong, off the Cape.
ZEENYMPH, Amsterdam to Batavia, Oct. 28, 7 N., 23 W.
THEODORA MACHTILDA, Amsterdam to Batavia, Oct. 5, 23 S., 29 W.
ALYA (?), Swansea to Ceylon, Nov. 2, 9 N., 28 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Natal, Yokohama, Amoy, Marmora, and Witness. At LIVERPOOL: Jane and Isabella, Marion, Vigil, Vampyre, and Gyrn Castle. At NEW YORK: Osborne, and Brilliant.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Ethel, Monarch, Belle, Zodiac, Stirlingshire, Valdivia, Shakespeare, Catherine Howard, Willie, Claremont, Finzel, Southern Cross, John Banks, Waverley, Napoleon II., Horsa, Ben Lomond, Solent, Wild Deer, Marquis of Londonderry, Carausius, John Temperley, Aboyne, Caractacus, Gresham, Assyrian, City of Quebec, Chanticleer, Thomas Blyth, Essex, Bride of the Seas, Cumberland, Coulnakyle, Canute, Philomela, Adriatic, P. J. F. Burchart, Isabella Robinson, Zelia, Vimeira, Zarah, L. Wharncliffe, Gloucester, Lorton Vale, Iceni, S. Ralston, Wm. Thompson, Marlborough, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Magnus, Josephine, Sappho, Charles Davenport, Sarah Newman, and Yaratilda (Sept. 24), Leichardt (Oct. 2), Queen of Nations (Oct. 6), Rajah of Cochin (Sept. 19), Harkaway and Lord Raglan (Sept. 23), Taeping (Oct. 7), Coulnakyle (Sept. 28), Cathaya and Peterborough (Sept. 29), and England (Oct. 7). At LIVERPOOL: Geologist, Chaa Sze, Buckham, Everest, Delhi, Wm. Dawson, Affghan, Sea Snake, Thomas Bell, Lord Dalhousie, Cornelia, Inamhore, Regina, Edward Percy, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Australia, Ann Forster, Brockham, General Windham, Providence (Sept. 23), Veronica (Sept. 28), Patna (Sept. 30), and Samarang (Oct. 1). For QUEENSTOWN: Alida (Sept. 24). At NEW YORK: Dorchester, Regnago, St. Paul, Cornelia, Mary, Roslin Castle, Cassiterides, Queensland, Maggie Leslie, Samuel Russell, and Bedford.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Beatrice, Seaforth, Labrador, Jupiter, Constance, and Staffordshire. At LIVERPOOL: Indiaman, Alicia Anne, Kathay, Gondola, Frederick, Royal Mint, Peveril of the Peak, Earl of Mar and Kellie, North (Oct. 1), and Olano (Oct. 5). At FALMOUTH: Der West, St. Paul, Voladora, Fagel, and Ocean Empress. At NEW YORK: Bengal, Continent, Franklin, Julia Ambridge, Peruvian, and Rattler (Sept. 20).

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Oscar, Confidence, Pet, Polly, Queen of India, William Simpson, Miss Nightingale, Eddystone, Najade, Rangoon, Dunkeld, and Warren Hastings (Oct. 20). At LIVERPOOL: C. H. Soule, Victory, Agra, Beloochee, Tigris, and Simoon (Oct. 18). At FALMOUTH: Sarah Jane and Queen Bee. At BORDEAUX: Leon. At NEW YORK: Ocean Home, Gertrude, Caroline, Rudolf, and Panic. At BOSTON: Ceylon, Aristides, and Magnet.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Marengo, Sunium, Golconda, Black Eagle, Bothwell Castle, Spitfire, and Isabella (Oct. 13). At CORK: Ceylon. At BORDEAUX: Sophie.

From BANGKOK.—At NEW YORK: Eastward Ho!

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

In outward freights we have nothing new to report, all export business continuing without animation. Coal freights from the outports also continue scarce, and but little business is doing in chartering homewards.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £34 to £35 and £1. 17s. 6d. For Shanghai: £45 and £2. 2s. 6d. For Manila: £1. 5s. For Ceylon: £24 and £1. 2s. For Batavia: £25 to £26. For Singapore: £25 and 22s. For Penang: £27. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 2 tons ball cartridge, 104 tons porter, and a few tons of light-measurement stores from the River Thames to Hong Kong, also for 12 tons rockets and sticks, to Shanghai.

CASUALTIES.

The Mary Goddard, Pairle, from Batavia to Rotterdam, which put into Table Bay October 21, had sprung a leak off Agulhas, on the 16th and 17th, and would have to discharge.

The Choice, of Shields, Crozier, from Colombo to London, which went on shore in St. Margaret's Bay during the night of Nov. 25, was assisted off, after discharging part of her cargo, and towed into Ramsgate by two steam tugs, with rudder disabled, very leaky, and ten feet water in her hold; she is now discharging.

The Alexandrina, Dalrymple, arrived at Texel November 25, from St. Helena, with part of the cargo of the Kiandra, from Batavia, condemned at that island.

The Fingel, which passed Anjer 12th Oct., reports that three days previously she boarded the Cumberland (ship), from Foo-chow-Foo to London, ashore on Magdalen reef. She was hove off, and proceeded for Singapore much strained, and making too much water to proceed home.

The Wm. Chandler, Brown, from Liverpool for Singapore, put into Portland Roads on the 29th Nov. with bulwarks carried away, cargo shifted, 2 boats lost, and 3 men injured.

AT ST. HELENA.—Oct. 30, from Batavia, Alexander, Dogen, and sailed 1st Nov. for Amsterdam; from Shanghai, Gresham, Bayley; from Java, Helena and Anna, v. Aalburg; from Batavia, Anthony van Hoboken, Hazewinkle, and both sailed 31st for Amsterdam; from Padang, Vooruit, Strot, Nov. 2; from Samarang, Idar Elisabeth, Amer., Oct. 29; from Cape Good Hope and Ceylon, H.M.S., Orontes.

OFF ST. HELENA.—Nov. 1, Adriatic (barq.), from Hong Kong for London.

AT TABLE BAY.—Oct. 22, Aldebaran, Driver, sailed for Batavia; Skimmer of the Waves, Hammond, sailed for Galle.

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THIRD REPORT OF THE
SCINDE, PUNJAUB, AND DELHI BANK CORPORATION
(LIMITED).

HEAD OFFICE—No. 80, KING WILLIAM-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Branches at Bombay, Calcutta, Kurrachee, Lahore and Umritsur.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, £927,780; PAID-UP CAPITAL, £392,778; RESERVED FUND, £24,674. 1s. 6d.

Court of Directors.

CHAIRMAN—WILLIAM PATRICK ANDREW, Esq. (Chairman of the Scinde, Punjaub, and Delhi Railways).

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN—FRANCIS WILLIAM RUSSELL, Esq., M.P. (Chairman of the National Discount Company, Limited).

HARRY BORRADAILE, Esq. (late Bombay Civil Service, Director of Scinde and Capetown Railways).

ARCHIBALD BOYD, Esq. (Director of the Union Bank of London).

WILLIAM DENT, jun., Esq. (late of Messrs. Dent and Co., China).

Sir STUART ALEX. DONALDSON (late Colonial Secretary and Treasurer, New South Wales).

WILLIAM MACKINNON, Esq. (Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie, and Co., Calcutta).

Sir CHARLES NICHOLSON, Bart. (late President of the Legislative Council, Queensland).

JOHN THORNTON, Esq. (late Member of the Board of Revenue, North-Western Provinces of India).

THOMAS WILLIAMS, Esq. (Director of the Scinde, Punjaub, and Delhi Railways).

GEORGE WORMS, Esq. (Messrs. G. and A. Worms, London), Director of the General Credit and Finance Company.

Auditors.

WILLIAM DENT, Esq., 2, Moorgate-street.

J. EDMUND ANDERDON, Esq. (Director of the Bank of London).

Messrs. COLEMAN, TURQUAND, YOUNGS, and Co., 16, Tokenhouse-yard.

Bankers.

The BANK OF ENGLAND. | The UNION BANK OF LONDON.

Solicitors—Messrs. THOMAS and HOLLAMS.

Manager—T. G. CRAIG, Esq. IN INDIA—NEALE PORTER, Esq., Managing Director.

Branches in India.

BOMBAY—T. G. YOUNG, Esq., Manager. | LAHORE—W. J. OLIVER, Acting Manager.
CALCUTTA—R. W. C. MERINGTON, Esq., Manager. | UMRITSUR—EDWIN MORTON, Esq., Manager.
KURRACHEE—R. E. K. WILKINSON, Esq., Manager.

Agents.

MADRAS.—THE ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION. | SYDNEY.—The COMMERCIAL BANKING COMPANY of Sydney; and Messrs. MACDONALD, SMITH, & Co.
HONG KONG.—Messrs. DENT and Co. | ALEXANDRIA (Egypt).—Messrs. G. WOLLHEIM & Co.
CEYLON.—Messrs. ARMITAGE BROTHERS.

At the THIRD HALF-YEARLY MEETING of the Shareholders in this Company, held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Tuesday, the 29th November, 1864, the following Report was presented:—

The Bank has now Branches in operation at Bombay, Kurrachee, Lahore, Umritsur, and Calcutta, and is represented by agencies at Madras, Hong Kong, Ceylon, Sydney, and Alexandria.

The Lahore and Umritsur Branches were opened on the 6th April and 2nd May respectively; the Calcutta Branch on the 18th July. The result of the operations of these Branches cannot be brought into account before the the 31st December next.

The shares last issued at £2 per share premium were taken up and paid upon to the extent of 7,889 out of 12,500 offered to the shareholders, and according to advices by last mail from the Bombay Branch, the 1,000 shares placed at the disposal of that Branch, had all been allotted to the public at £5 per share premium, which premium, together with a deposit of £2 per share, had been paid. The total amount realised by premiums—viz., £24,674. 1s. 6d., has been carried to the reserve fund. No returns have yet been received from the other Branches as to the disposal of the shares appropriated to them.

The accounts for the half-year ending 30th June last, as per annexed statement, which have been duly audited, show a gross profit of £26,613. 12s., including balance brought forward 1st January, 1864, after deducting interest on current and fixed deposits.

From this sum £9,270. 9s. 4d. has been deducted for current expenses, and £12,433. 8s. 1d. for rebate on bills and commission on acceptances running, including a due provision for bad and doubtful debts, leaving a balance of £4,909. 14s. 7d. at the credit of profit and loss, which the Directors propose to carry over to next half-year.

London, Nov. 22, 1864. W. P. ANDREW, Chairman.

The Scinde, Punjaub, and Delhi Bank Corporation (Limited).

BALANCE-SHEET MADE UP TO 30TH JUNE, 1864.

DR. LIABILITIES.			
To capital—			
Authorised 50,000 shares, £20 each	£1,000,000		
Issued 25,000 £5 per share paid up	£125,000		
Do. 12,500 £2 do.	25,000		
Second call £3 on 12,500 shares, of which paid ...	37,398		
Third call £3. 10s. on 37,500 shares, of which paid	93,350		
Fourth call £2. 10s. on 37,500 shares, of which paid	92,175		
		£372,914	0 0
To current and fixed deposits, bills payable, and other liabilities ...		1,657,723	14 2
To rebate and commission adjusting account—			
For amount of rebate at 5 per cent., and commission reserved out of profits, to be carried to credit of next profit and loss account		10,502	10 0
To reserve fund—			
For premiums realised on part of second issue of shares not taken up by shareholders (per last report) ...		3,896	1 6
To profit and loss for net profit ...		4,909	14 7
		£2,049,946	0 3
Bills discounted but not matured at 30th June	£129,805	16 0	

CR. ASSETS.			
By cash at banker's and on hand ...		£80,075	13 10
By bullion in India and in transitu ...		60,365	15 3
By Government securities		75,310	8 10
By bills receivable, loans, and other assets (including £22,130. 0s. 10d. unadjusted balances between the branches)		1,813,474	3 9
By house property and office furniture		12,635	3 7
By preliminary expenses		8,084	15 0
Balance at 1st Jan., 1864 £6,588 0 5			
Amounts added since ... 1,496 14 7			
	£8,084 15 0		
		£2,049,946	0 3

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE HALF-YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1864.

DR.		
To interest on capital to 31st Dec., 1863, declared at last meeting	£5,054	16 0
To income-tax to 31st Dec., 1863 ...	147	8 2
To rebate and commission adjusting accounts for rebate and commission on current bills and drafts	10,502	10 0
To reserve against bad debts	1,930	18 1
To general charges of head office and branches	9,270	9 4
To balance, being net profit	4,909	14 7
	£31,815	16 2

CR.		
By balance of profit at 31st Dec., 1863 ...	£5,480	7 10
By rebate and commission adjusting account, at ditto	2,787	14 0
By gross profits at head office and branches after allowing for interest on fixed and current deposits	23,547	14 4
	£31,815	16 2

W. P. ANDREW, Chairman.
H. BORRADAILE,
STUART A. DONALDSON,
T. G. CRAIG, Manager. } Directors.
J. HUNTER, Accountant.

We have examined the above balance-sheet and profit and loss account, and compared the same with vouchers in London, and find them correctly stated.

COLEMAN, TURQUAND, YOUNGS, and Co., Professional Auditors.
W. DENT,
J. E. ANDERDON, } Auditors.

The Manager having read the advertisement convening the Meeting, the minutes of the previous Meeting and the report and statements of accounts having been taken as read,

The following resolutions were duly moved, seconded, and carried unanimously:—

That this Meeting receive and adopt the Report and Statement of Accounts of the Directors.

That the cord al thanks of the Meeting be tendered to W. P. Andrew, Esq., for his able and courteous conduct in the Chair this day.

(Signed) W. P. ANDREW, Chairman.
Extracted from the Minutes.
T. G. CRAIG, Manager.

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION

Incorporated by Royal Charter.
AUTHORISED CAPITAL, £2,000,000.
Paid-up Capital, £500,000.
HEAD OFFICE, No. 4 LOMBARD-STREET.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Francis Boykett, Esq., Chairman (Messrs. Timothy Wiggin and Co.).
John A. Russell, Esq., Deputy-Chairman (Messrs. Grey and Coles, and Grey and Co., Bombay).
Thomas Cardwell, Esq. (Messrs. Thomas Cardwell and Co., and Cardwell, Parsons, and Co., Bombay).
Charles A. Fearon, Esq. (Messrs. Fearon and Co., late of Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co., China).
William Maitland, Esq. (Messrs. M'Killop, Stewart, and Co.), Calcutta).

COMMITTEE IN BOMBAY.

The Hon. Michael H. Scott (Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, and Co.).
Robert Hannay, Esq. (Messrs. Grey and Co.).
Cowasjee Jehanghier, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER.

Harry John, Esq. (late agent at Bombay, Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China).

SUB-MANAGER—F. W. Lawrence, Esq.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England; The London Joint-Stock Bank.

AGENTS IN IRELAND.

The National Bank.

AGENTS IN SCOTLAND.

The British Linen Company.

BROKERS.

Messrs. Foster and Braithwaite.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Freshfields and Newman.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. Coleman, Turquand, Youngs, and Co.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

The Corporation grant Drafts and negotiate Bills of Exchange, payable at the above places, issue Letters of Credit, and conduct every description of Banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian Securities, the receipt of Dividends, &c., and undertake the safe custody of Securities. They also receive Deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of Interest and Exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.
Capital, £4,000,000.
Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

DIRECTORS.

JAS. NUGENT DANIELL, Esq. Chairman.
RICHARD SPOONER, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.

William Frederick Baring, Esq. | Wm. Harrison, Esq.
Thomas Cotterell, Esq. | Deane J. Hoare, Esq.
J. H. Reynell de Castro, Esq. | James Levick, Esq.
Philip Shore Fletcher, Esq. | J. Mackrill Smith, Esq.
Lieut.-Colonel French. | Hon. Frederick Stuart-Wortley.
| Henry Young, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER—John Ouseley, Esq.
SECRETARY—R. Swire Tomlin, Esq.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England
The Alliance Bank (Limited).
The National Bank.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Flux and Argles.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

Bombay—J. H. Ryland, Esq., Manager.
Calcutta—W. H. Fuller, Esq., Manager.
Colombo—David Hean, Esq., Manager.
Kandy—W. G. Proctor, Esq., Manager.
Hong Kong—Edward Mellish, Esq., Manager.
Shanghae—Charles Colnett, Esq., Manager.
Yokohama—Henry Turner, Esq., Manager.
Singapore—Messrs. Paterson, Simons, and Co., Agents.
Point de Galle—Messrs. Alex. Reid and Co., Agents.
Manila—Messrs. Russell and Sturgis, Agents.
Foo-Chow—Messrs. Smith, Kennedy, and Co., Agents.
Ningpo—Messrs. Davidson and Co., Agents.
Hankow—Messrs. Mackellar and Co., Agents.

Deposits received at 10 days' notice, on the usual terms, and for fixed periods, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued, and bills negotiated, payable in India China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of passengers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government Loan Notes effected, so that the interest may be paid in England.

Every other description of banking and agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA. Incorporated by Royal Charter. Paid-up capital, £725,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Kandy, Galle, Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Hankow, Yokohama, and Mauritius.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at the places above mentioned, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the Overland Route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturdays, from 10 to 2 p.m.

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CAPE COLONIES, INDIA, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

TERMS :—One-half the estimated cost to be remitted with the order, and the balance on receipt of Bill of Lading and Invoice.

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Office, 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

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PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caissoon Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864

SINGAPORE MUNICIPAL LOAN.—The Municipal Commissioners of Singapore, having power under Act XXV. of 1856 of the Legislative Council of India to borrow money on mortgage of the rates and taxes, hereby give notice, that a LOAN of SEVENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (70,000 dols.), for a term of eight years, will be REQUIRED in all 1865, for which bonds of not less than 500 dols. each will be issued, bearing interest at the rate of 7 per centum per annum.

The said loan has been sanctioned by the Local Government under Section XXXV. of Act XXV. of 1856 of the Legislative Council of India.

Banks through which money can be remitted and bonds received are the Oriental Bank Corporation, Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China, Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, and the Asiatic Banking Corporation.

Tenders should be sent to the undersigned by the 15th January, 1865.

By order of the Commissioners,
C. R. RIGG, Secretary.

Town-hall, Singapore, 21st Sept., 1864.

ALBERT INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

FOR FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCES.

8, Finch-lane London, E.C.

LOSSES and CLAIMS upon POLICIES granted by this Company can be made PAYABLE at the following places in India and China through the Company's Agents, as under :—

Bombay—Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, and Co.
Calcutta—Messrs. Grant, Smith, and Co.
Madras—Messrs. Bainbridge, Byard, Gair, and Co.
Singapore—Messrs. Cumming, Beaver, and Co.
Hong Kong—Messrs. Johnson and Co.
Shanghai—Messrs. Johnson and Co.
Yokohama—Messrs. De Coningh and Co.

JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

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JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s CHERRY TOOTH PASTE gives the Teeth a pearl-like whiteness, protects the enamel from decay and imparts a pleasing fragrance to the breath.

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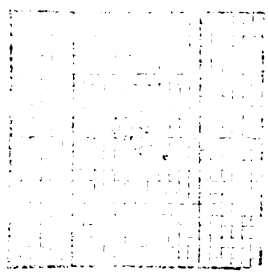

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Jacob's Rifle Shell Tubes, Cartridges and Caps for Colt's, Adams', Deane's, Tranter's, and other Revolvers.

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For Enfield, Whitworth, and Henry Rifles; also for Westley Richards', Terry's, Wilson's, Prince's, Deane's, and other Breech Loaders.

"Black Buck Shells," for 10, 12, and 16 Bore Breech Loaders.

The "Metford" Shell Bullet, for Enfield and Whitworth Bore Rifles.

Bullets of uniform eight made by compression from Soft Refined Lead.

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Wholesale Only.

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Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

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CHIEF ESTABLISHMENT, 35, RUE DES VIEUX AUGUSTINS, 35, à PARIS.

THE house of GELLE AINE and CO., celebrated for the superiority of its Perfumery, addresses itself to the fashionable world as much for its essentially hygeianic, refreshing, and tonic preparations as for its delicate and distingué perfumes.

STEAM WORKS AT NEUILLY SUR SEINE

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REGENERATEUR, a superior pomade.
EAU D'ALBION for the toilet,
CARBOQUINA ROSE toothpowder.
CUCUMBER SOAP for softening the skin.
VIOLET ESSENCE and VIOLET WATER for the handkerchief.
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LAIT PROPHYLATIC to remove freckles and improve the appearance of the skin.
COLD CREAM, AU LOTUS DE LYBIE, to soften and refresh the skin.
NIGRITINE VEGETALE, an incomparable dye for the hair and beard, not staining the skin.

SPECIAL PERFUMERY WITH A BASIS OF GLYCERINE

SOAP, TOOTH-PASTE, POMMADE, CREAM FOR THE COMPLEXION, EAU DE TOILETTE.

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BOYVEAU LAFFECTEUR'S ROB.

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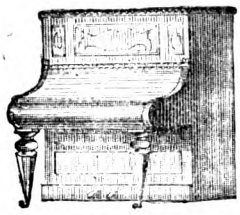

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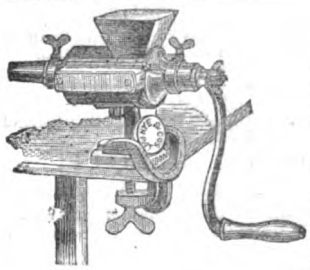

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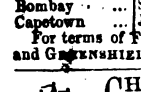

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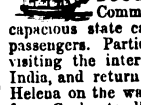

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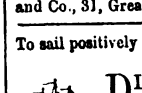

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

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A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

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Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Aug. 10	Oct. 2	Oct. 18
Nagasaki			„ 12
Hakodadi			„ 15
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			„ 15
Chefoo			„ 17
New-chwang			
Hankow			„ 20
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	„ 26	„ 10	„ 26
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 28
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 29
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Sept. 10	„ 26	Nov. 1
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila			Oct. 22
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			Nov. 3
SIAM— Bangkok	„ 26		„ 1
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 2
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	„ 26	„ 30	„ 7
Penang		„ 28	„ 9

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By the Bombay mail to Southampton, per Ceylon, arrived Dec. 10.—From Hong Kong: Commander Wing, R.N., Capt. and Mrs. Caldbeck and child, Mrs. Bernard, Mr. R. Wing.

By this mail to Marseilles, per Euxine, arrived Dec. 11.—From Shanghai: Mr. Toledo and European servant. From Hong Kong: Mr. Fraser and two second-class passengers. From Singapore: Mr. Alabaster. From Yokohama: Capt. Alexander, R.N., and one second class passenger.

To Southampton, per Delhi, expected to arrive Dec. 17.—From Yokohama: Commander Innes and servant, Lieut. Karslake and two second-class passengers. From Shanghai: One second-class passenger. From Hong Kong: Three second-class passengers and three soldiers (99th Regt.) From Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Stavers and three second-class passengers. From Hong Kong.—To Gibraltar: Mr. Summers and child.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Massilia, Dec. 4, from Southampton.—To Penang: Capt. and Mrs. White. To Shanghai: Mr. Herbert Ellis, Mr. G. Stanford, Mr. Carrit. To Hong Kong: Mrs. Smith and two infants, Mr. Dent, Mr. Pilbrow, and three 2nd-class passengers. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. J. Walker, three children, and two European servants, the Rev. J. Alcock, Mr. H. Bois, Capt. Rutherford, Mr. H. C. Park, and one 2nd-class passenger. To Singapore: Two 2nd-class passengers. To Calcutta: Mr. E. Hutton Capt. Griffin, Mrs. G. Smith and infant, Mr. J. H. Tyler, Mrs. B. Smith, Miss Learmouth, Miss Ownett, Mrs. Alcock and children, Misses Bennett, Palmer, and Shipton, Mr. N. Howarth, Capt. C. J. and Mrs. Vandeleur, Captns. C. E. Mills, and Wilson, Mr. C. G. Alison, Ensign Acklom, Capt. Pearson, Mr. G. Upperton, Mr. R. Ornise, Mr. Sherman and Son, Mr. and Mrs. Tatlock, Ensign Erskine, Messrs. F. D. O. Bullock, J. McDonald, D. Battye, Vose, Henderson, and Slack, Mr. and Mrs. J. Field, Mr. E. S. Andrew, Staff Assist.-Surgeons Melladay, Leslie, Phillips, and Hickson, Capt. Perrie, Mr. D. White, Mr. B. Kavanagh, and eight 2nd-class passengers. To Madras: Ensign Halkett, Mr. and Mrs. Lawford, Miss London, Mr. H. L. Brett, Capt. Lateward, Mr. R. McKenzie, Assist.-Surgeon Haydon, Capt and Mrs. Kemmis, Staff Assist.-Surgeons, Kirkwood, Hyde, and Middleton, Miss Kensington, Lieut.-Col. Benson, Mr. and Mrs. Coghan, and two 2nd-class passengers.

From Suez to Hong Kong: Henry Von Fabrice. To Calcutta: Miss Ogilvy, Rev. W. H. Crofton. From Malta.—To Calcutta: Mr. C. H. Garbett.

From Marseilles, Dec. 12.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Wood, Mr. Geo Crichton Mr. J. Crum, Miss Crane. To Shanghai: Mr J. W. Broadbent, Mr. Ballance, Mr. Hyslop Mr. A. Hunezi. To Hong Kong: Mr. T. Caw Mr. H. H. Nelson, Mr. J. Sloane, Mr. R. Calderon. Mr. B. Mackintosh. To Ceylon, Messrs. T. G. Davis, R. L. Hope, F. F. Green, and John Fraser, Mr. and Mrs. Schweitzer. To Calcutta:—Mr. A. Danzelle, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton, Mr. E. B. Harris, Colonel B. F. Tytler, Messrs J. Steele Roberts, C. Williams, Henfry, and Kogler, Mr. and Mrs. Preston, infant, and two native servants, Major N. E. Boileau, and two second-class passengers. To Madras:—Mr. D. W. Auchterlonie, Miss McGrigor, Mr. and Mrs. J. Young, two children, and two European servants. Mr. P. Dewar. Mr. H. B. Grigg. To Alexandria: Mr. and Mrs. Kennard, Mr. E. and Miss Kennard and two servants, Messrs. Goddard, Etheridge and Baker, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Wood, Miss and Mrs. Wood, junr. and child.

Per French steamer Dec. 19, from Marseilles to Hong Kong: Mr. Michael Moss.

Per P. and O. steamer, Dec. 20, from Marseilles.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. Ottman. From Suez.—To Ceylon: Mr. Coomarad Swamy and servant.

Per P. and O. steamer, Dec. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. A. Leigh and J. Maitland, Mrs. Wilkinson and infant, Miss M. Wedgewood, Mr. G. Martin, Mrs. Williams and infant, Miss Williams, Mr. F. F. Williams, Mr. D. Neish, Rev. F. Davies, Lieuts. F. W. Lewis, and G. D. Murant, Captain W. A. Haswell, R.N., Commander J. W. Armstrong, and C. E. Stephens. To Ceylon: Mr. J. Bannatine, Mr. W. Mayou, Miss E. H. Jones. From Marseilles, Dec. 26.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Ryrie, Mr. Pastorius. To China: Mr. W. A. Foster. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Tyers. To Ceylon: Mrs. Jackson, Messrs. F. Pater and Fraser. To Singapore. Mr. A. Gunn.

Per P. and O. steamer, Jan. 4, 1865, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Bush, Mr. J. A. Bromley. To Ceylon: Miss Wodehouse, Mr. Thompson, Mrs. C. Morison.

From Marseilles, Jan. 12, 1865.—To Hong Kong: Mr. M'Donald, Mr. and Mrs. A. Hancock. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Morgan. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Faviell.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

The dates from this port are to the 18th of October. The London Mail of the 10th August arrived out on the 2nd October.

A visit of all the Foreign Ministers to Yedo appears to have been the great diplomatic corollary to the warlike operations in the Straits of Simonoseki. The *Japan Herald* of the 17th October says:—"On the afternoon of the 5th Sir Rutherford Alcock, and all the members of the British Legation; Mons. Leon Roches, the French Minister, with Mons. Mermet de Cachon, his Japanese Secretary; the American Minister, General Pruyn; the Dutch Consul-General, D. de Graeff van Polesbroek—all proceeded up to Yedo with detachments from the squadrons now here, viz.—English: Pelorus, Tartar, Leopard, Argus, Perseus, Cormorant, Havoc; French: Semiramis, Dupleix; Dutch: Metulen Kruis, Amsterdam. In the course of three days many rumours were afloat as to the result of this visit—one, apparently well authenticated, that henceforward silk would be allowed to come down freely, and that an idea concocted and almost ready to be carried out by the Japanese Government, of creating a government monopoly for the purchase of silk, had altogether broken down. On the following Saturday the Foreign Ministers returned. It can be readily comprehended that there might be the most satisfactory reason for not permitting the whole proceedings to transpire; and all that we could report as well-founded authentic intelligence went only thus far—that the return of the Foreign Ministers might be taken as indicating the more or less effectual attainment of their object, and that the present political position, and the necessity for adopting immediate measures for the cessation of the continued interferences with the trade of the port, more especially as regards silk, were matters not lost sight of, and we then remarked that some material result might be daily looked for. After a few more dailiances, and we incline to think after the necessity for yet another turn of the screw by the British Minister, the more satisfactory position of affairs which will be found reported in our 'Market' columns commenced, and supplies, first only of Mybash and Sinchu, and then of Oshio, Coshiu, and Hatchogee, began to arrive freely. In the meantime we became informed of changes of the most significant character which were taking place in the internal politics of the country."

The treason of Choshiu has been the means of reviving one of the ancient customs of Japan. Evidently the Daimios are not in future to reside on their domains in solitary grandeur till they fancy themselves independent Princes. Amongst the laws framed by Iyeyas for the government of the country was

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one by which the Daimios were compelled with their wives and families to live alternately at Yedo (instead of Miako as formerly) and in their provinces. So late as 1862 this important law was reversed. The highest Daimios were released from the service thus far, that the highest class were compelled to visit Yedo once only in seven years, and then only for 100 days at a time; the second class once only in three years; the third class remaining as theretofore; whilst in all cases their wives and families were released from the obligation to remain in Yedo, and permitted to return to their provinces. Amongst the important news now brought us is the fact that a decree has passed by which this has been again reversed, the original order of things reconstituted, and the obligation of the Daimios to reside in Yedo again re-asserted. We are also made aware of the issuing by the Mikado of a decree for the entire degradation of Choshiu. That personage, it will be recollected, had entered into engagements with the Admiral commanding-in-chief to pay such indemnities as should be fixed by the foreign representatives for past outrages on foreign flags, and all the expenses of the expedition and a ransom for Simonoseki. Envoys from the Prince, however, have had some communication with the Foreign Representatives, one object of which was to solicit *time* and indulgence for the amount and payment of these indemnities. The result of these interviews has not transpired.

[It is clear, therefore, that the reading of the telegram contended for in our "leader" of the 5th of December was the correct one. The razing to the ground of Choshiu's palace at Yedo, mentioned in the same telegram, and confirmed by the accounts received this day, appeared in full in *The London and China Telegraph* of the 28th of November.]

No political importance seems to be attached to the attack upon the Dutch Consulate-General at Yedo. It seems very doubtful whether it was an attack or anything but a drunken quarrel among the Yakonins, in which one was killed and some five or six wounded.

The effect produced by the united demonstration recently made by the foreign powers is thus lucidly stated by the *Japan Herald*:—

It is long since, in the conflict of parties or of nations, a single blow has been productive of such decisive and far-reaching results—a proof that it must have been well directed and well delivered. Within the last week two decrees have appeared which furnish curious and conclusive evidence, that upon the strength of the victory over Choshiu at Simonoseki, and the discouraging effect of his crushing defeat upon the boldest and most hostile of the Sako Daimios, it has not only been determined utterly to destroy this Prince,—but a few short weeks ago so puissant and menacing to Mikado and Tycoon alike,—but to reverse a great political revolution effected in 1862, when all the Daimios were released from their enforced residence at Yedo and their bondage to the Tycoon. The order liberating them from this galling tribute of suite and service, which the Daimios had wrung from the weakness of the Tycoon two years back, has now been cancelled in the most peremptory terms. And what is more wonderful, it is generally believed that obedience will be rendered to this sudden mandate. The Daimio of Kanga, one of the wealthiest and most influential of his class, has declared himself ready to return, it is said; and his palace is under repair. When it is considered how much of expense and inconvenience this compulsory attendance at the capital of the Tycoon entails in journeying to and fro with an enormous retinue—and all that is humbling to the pride of semi-independent Princes in its conditions, it may well be a matter of surprise that the Tycoon, having once yielded his right, should be able to take back the concession. Not two months ago his councils were distraught with dangers and perils on every side, threatening both his life and his dynasty. Menaced with deposition from Kioto if he did not expel the foreigner from Yokohama, with instant reprisals from foreign Powers if he attempted it, and in no small danger of being thrust from his seat by Mito's and Choshiu's forces united (already ravaging the suburbs of Yedo under the name of "Lonings") it is difficult to realise so sudden and complete a resumption of kingly power and strength.

The second decree is not from the Tycoon, but the Mikado, stripping Choshiu of name, title, rank, and territories, and casting him forth from the possessions of his ancestors a nameless, masterless, and friendless man—in a word, a Lonin! This, of course, comes from his second attack on Kioto. The violation of the sanctity of the Mikado's palace by a desperate and sanguinary assault appears to have constituted an unpardonable crime. The object, there can be no doubt, was to seize the person of his Suzerain, and compel him to depose the Tycoon in his own favour, besides supporting him with all the authority the Mikado wields with his Daimios against the then imminent attack of the allied squadrons. But it is a remarkable fact that this decree does not seem to have been launched at his devoted head, like a thunderbolt from the Mikado's hands, until after the forces of the foreign Powers had inflicted a terrible defeat upon the arch-enemy of all powers, spiritual and temporal!

It remains to be seen whether the Mikado really exercises the power attributed to him, akin to that of the Popes of a bygone age, when a bull of ex-communication stripped Kings and Princes at one blow of possessions, friends, and adherents. The danger now seems lest our arms, and the strong position made by the presence of foreign troops at Yokohama, may not make the Tycoon too strong, and indispose him to follow out a policy of conciliation and mutual concession, which can alone promise internal peace and satisfactory foreign relations. The events of the last few weeks, and of the last few days more especially, show that we had not over estimated, but much underrated, the influence which might be exercised by the Treaty Powers firmly asserting their rights, and with a strong hand punishing the Daimio who outraged them with persistent violence and hostility.

There is much yet to be done, and wise counsels are needed to steer the Treaty Powers to a calm and secure haven, through all the shoals and breakers of Japanese politics and Oriental diplomacy. But that we have at length entered upon the right track, after many painful and feeble efforts to find some easier passage, must be plain to all, and a subject of hearty congratulation. The great work has been done—the rest is matter of time. We have gained a position hitherto wanting,—one that insures respect for our prowess if not for our rights; and we may fairly hope the same firm hands that have placed us there, will prevent our straying back to the bewildering and profitless maze from whence we have but just emerged, and keep us steadily advancing until the goal is reached. Peace and security, with all reasonable facilities for trade and intercourse—such facilities in both directions as may be equally advantageous to the foreigner and the native, are all that we require. And these seem more nearly within reach now, than at any time since the treaties were signed.

We stated in our last that the *Rona* had taken to Shanghai a quantity of silk. We are now enabled to state that she had on board over 200 bales, that the mail steamer *Cadiz* brought thither 1,756 bales, and that the settlements were to the extent of 2,500. This increased activity of trade, combined with the favourable intelligence from this side, had produced a rise in the prices, and Mybash was quoted at $600.

The Netherlands representative had given an official contradiction to a statement that appeared in the *Commercial News*, to the effect that "the Dutch were to receive $130,000 as an indemnity for the *Medusa* having been fired upon in the Inland Sea."

The Royal Marines landed from the *Conqueror* on the 4th October, and marched to their huts on the Bluff.

The price paid by the Japanese Government for the *Takiang* was $65,000.

Her Britannic Majesty's Consul had given publicity to a complaint received from the Governor of Kanagawa with respect to injuries sustained by a Japanese pregnant female, in consequence of being ridden over by a foreign horseman, in the hope that such publicity might induce the individual who caused this accident to offer through the Custom-house some compensation to the sufferer. The offender is suspected to be a Dutchman, from his dress and appearance.

The preliminary steps taken for establishing a Chamber of Commerce at Yokohama were noticed in our issue of the 28th November. At the meeting held for that purpose, Mr. Rickerby, the Agent for the Central Bank of Western India, called attention to the subject of the dollars at present in circulation. It appeared that he and Mr. Rickard, Agent for the Oriental Bank Corporation at Yokohama, had, some days previously, called a meeting of a number of firms, at which Mr. Rickerby brought forward a proposal to check the present system of classifying dollars introduced by Chinese Shroffs, the result of which is that at present large numbers of perfectly good dollars of full weight and purity are daily rejected by the Chinese servants of the banks and mercantile houses in receiving deposits and paying cheques or orders, merely from some peculiarity in mint mark, colour, or sound. This proposal had been put by Mr. Rickerby into the form of a preliminary agreement, and circulated through the place for signature, but two of the banks and a majority of the leading firms declining to support it, the proposition had, necessarily, to be withdrawn. This step, therefore, Mr. Rickerby had to announce—expressing at the same time his regret that he had failed to induce the community to adopt his proposal, and stating his conviction that, within some twelve months, the evil he was attempting to nip in the bud would attain the same dimensions as in China, and that the stoppage of it then would be infinitely more inconvenient and more difficult than at present. He went on to make an explanation on behalf of his friend Mr. Rickard, of the Oriental Bank, rebutting statements which had been freely made lately, that all the low class dollars had been introduced indirectly by the Oriental Bank Corporation, who paid them to Government. Such, he granted, had been at first his own impression, unable as he was to account for the enormous percentage of copper and low class dollars which had been brought to him by the troops and sailors during the past eighteen months, in payment for small drafts, in which his business had been very large. But, on inquiry from Mr. Rickard, he had found that it was not the fault of the Oriental Bank Corporation. For twelve months they had not supplied the Government with a

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single dollar as far as he knew. The Government officials had, contrary to the expressed advice of the Oriental Bank Corporation manager, bought their dollars elsewhere for themselves, and of such bad quality that the bank, though forced by their agreement to take them, only did so on condition that Government demands should be paid in the same coin, which has accordingly been done for the past year. Mr. Rickerby repeated that he believed the majority of inferior dollars did come from the fleet and troops in this way, and thought that the Oriental Bank Corporation were quite blameless in the matter. Mr. Rickerby concluded by formally withdrawing his proposition to facilitate the currency of all good dollars to which there was no other objection than some peculiarity of mint mark or sound, and said that of course his Comprador must go on as before, rejecting all such coin as would be refused when he had to pay it away.

The case of H. T. Lyas, master of the British ship *Little Edith*, v. Aspinall, Cornes, and Co., had been tried before Mr. Consul Winchester. This was a claim to recover the sum of $210.00 demurrage on account of the *Little Edith's* detention during three days beyond the period named in the charter-party agreement, at $70 per diem. In giving judgment the Consul remarked that the plaintiff appeared to have deluded himself, with a most resolute determination, on the obtaining certain flat small boxes of tea, notwithstanding he was told that they could not be given to him. A cargo of tea meant a cargo of tea in any of its accustomed shapes, and as might suit the interest or convenience of the shipper; but the plaintiff in this case, after he had been told plainly, on or about the 20th Sept., that he would not get any other chests of a lesser size, continued constantly asking for such lesser chests up to the 3rd Oct., and neglected to ask for such quantity of chests of the larger size as the ship would stow; such quantity of larger chests having been sent on board on the 7th only, after Mr. Cornes had found it necessary to take Mr. Mcdonald on board the ship to find out what additional number she could take. Again, it was quite clear that due diligence was not used in the loading of the previous part of the cargo, namely the cotton, as the captain was bound to use; and it may fairly be taken for granted that Messrs. Aspinall and Co. were disappointed on account of what a respectable merchant in Yokohama, Mr. Joseph, has sworn to be "the delay and unsatisfactory proceedings on the part of the captain," and that consequently instead of 3,000 piculs promised to be shipped by Mr. Joseph, only 2,000 piculs were shipped, leaving a space of 1,000 piculs to be otherwise provided for by the charterer. On these grounds judgment was entered up for the defendants, and, as a matter of course, the costs against the plaintiff.

CHINA.

TIEN-TSIN.

Dates from this port are up to the 15th of October. There was nothing reported from Peking; indeed, there has been nothing since Mr. Wade assumed the charge of the embassy. We hope that nothing portentous will come out of this lull. When Sir Frederick Bruce held the reins the arrival of the mail used to bring us some accounts of his negotiations with Prince Kung, which gave us an insight into the wily Minister and the plain John Bull diplomacy.

Business in imports continued very stagnant, and little improvement can be expected until cotton goods can be laid down at a much lower figure than their present cost. The opium business is growing smaller every year, which is to be accounted for by the fact that the growth of the native drug is largely on the increase in the North, and this can be sold much cheaper than the foreign drug. The export of cotton continues very brisk, and the price is firm at 15 taels per picul.

It is reported that the Spanish Minister, M. Deillas, has negotiated a treaty with the Chinese Government, which was signed in one of the temples at this port on the 11th Oct. A copy will be sent home by this mail in charge of M. Toledo. The Minister is on the point of starting for Peking, where he will take up his residence, pending the exchange of ratifications. The weather is described as exceedingly fine, but getting cold, and the Chinese predict a severe winter and early closing of the river.

SHANGHAI.

The dates are now down to the morning of the 26th October, five days later than received per French mail on the 5th inst. No later dates had been received from England than the 26th August (reported in our last).

The leading item now is the blowing up of another steamer (American). The following account is from the *North China Herald*:—

"Some excitement was caused in the settlement by the blowing up of the steamer *General Ward*. The tug had taken the *Tasso* in tow to place her alongside the S.S.N. Company's wharf, brought her safely to her moorings, and had just turned astern to place her in position when the explosion occurred. The captain of the *Tasso* was at the time standing on the deck-house; hearing the noise, and judging the cause, he jumped on to the deck for shelter. So soon as the smoke and steam cleared away sufficiently to enable him to see around him, he found that the *General Ward* had entirely disappeared, that the *Tasso*'s mizen-mast head and bulwarks on the port side were blown away, the house was seriously injured, and the furniture and crockery in the cabin were destroyed. The captain of the tug, who had been standing on the deck of the *Tasso*, on the opposite side to the captain, at the time of the explosion, was lying apparently dead, with blood running from his head; the mate of the steamer was in the *Tasso's* foretop, and a Chinese woman who had been on board was lying dead on the deck with her head nearly cut off. The anchor, still attached to the chain, was blown over the *Tasso's* fore top-gallant-yard arm, over which it was hanging, the other end of the chain being still fast to the sunken steamer. Captain Fuller, of the *General Ward*, died in a few seconds; the mate and the Chinese engineer were taken to the Shanghai General Hospital, dangerously injured, and, we regret to say, that the former has since died. Capt. Fuller is supposed to have been killed by a large piece of the boiler, which fractured his skull, and cut a large gash over his heart; he had also suffered other serious injuries. The cause of the accident is not known, and will probably never be ascertained; but in all probability it was referable to some neglect on the part of the engineer—a Chinaman. The *General Ward* belonged to a Boston firm; we have not heard whether she was fully insured. Messrs. Angel and Co., as agents of both the vessels, have requested us to give publicity to the expression of their thanks to the officers and crew of the *Rattler* for aid rendered after the unfortunate occurrence."

On the evening of the 16th Oct. an attempt was made to break into Messrs. Jardine and Matheson's silk factory; but fortunately Mr. Major heard the thieves before they had effected an entrance, and on his going to the spot with a revolver they took to flight. He fired two shots, wounding, as it was afterwards found, one of the thieves, and attracting the attention of a policeman, who was so near the house that he came up in time to see three men running away, to whom he at once gave chase. One, who fell almost immediately, was captured, and on being subsequently taken to the station-house, was found to have been wounded, not severely, in the chest. The other two pursued their flight along the Defence creek, but were met by another policeman who had heard the shouts, and found their retreat cut off. One jumped into the water, but finding it impossible to get ashore without being captured, swam about until he was exhausted and was drowned. His comrade in the meantime got off. The wounded man confessed that they had been endeavouring to break into the house, and said he belonged to a gang of Cantonese whom he would point out, who lived in a village outside the limits of the settlement. He was accordingly sent into the city on Friday, in order that he might direct the native authorities to the spot.

On the subject of the steamer explosion Messrs. Nicholson and Boyd have addressed a letter pointing out the incompetent men engaged as engineers, and stating that in this case the man was a Chinese, and had been promoted from cook to engineer!!!

A sand storm of some severity passed over the settlement. Vast clouds of sand hovered over about the shipping and the Pootung side of the river. It drifted to the southward, but the effects of it were felt in the settlement. The air was oppressive, and particles of sand found their way all over the place.

The following circular has been issued by the committee appointed to select a site for a new cemetery:—

The situation of the present cemetery in the midst of the dense population of the English Settlement, its very limited extent and crowded state, have induced the Municipal Authorities to recommend its being closed so soon as an appropriate site can be fixed on elsewhere.

The Committee appointed at the Land-Renters' meeting of August 8th "to act as Trustees for the public" in this matter, after mature deliberation, beg to offer to the community the following scheme for a new cemetery as that most likely to meet the views of the majority of those interested.

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The site originally chosen by the Municipal Council, beyond Mr. Markham's farm on the Soochow Creek, having been condemned as too distant, the committee advertised for tenders for land nearer the Settlements. But all the tenders sent in were for lots in unsuitable localities, or too high priced, and the committee decided to join with the French Municipal Council in the purchase of one hundred mow of land in the rear of the Jesuits' cemetery near the Beloochees' rifle range. Negotiations for this land are proceeding favourably, and it is hoped that the purchase may be effected at a cost of not more than 100 taels per mow.

The land purchased, will be divided, as may seem best, into two equal portions, which will belong to the French Council, the other passing under the control of the Land-Renters' Committee. By this arrangement the cemeteries will be together, and can be reached by the same road, while all risk will be obviated of the complications which would arise if a general cemetery were established under the mixed control of the French Council and the Committee.

The cost of purchasing and laying out the whole fifty mow, together with the roads, is estimated at tls. 20,000, but the Committee propose for the present to expend more than half of that sum. A portion of the land, immediately enclosed, a chapel and lodge erected, and the roads laid out as for that portion laid out under a general plan for the whole fifty mow, which can be extended as circumstances may hereafter require.

The committee hope to raise a considerable portion of the tls. 10,000 required by the sale of lots with exclusive right of burial, and they intend appealing to the community to make up the balance by voluntary subscriptions. As the closing of the present cemetery is not an optional measure, but one rendered absolutely necessary on public and sanitary grounds, the commitee feel assured that the appeal to be made to the liberality of the residents of Shanghai will not be in vain.

The *Friend of China* has showed up another squeeze, and writes:—

"Our Shanghai Taotai had not long been in office ere he brought to the notice of Mr. Commissioner Dick circumtantials proof of a system of black mail levy on native shippers by foreign craft. This system would seem to have been in operation for some time; payments being made, not on each item, but in lumps quarterly. Of course there was no direct demand; though why the money should be paid was easily enough comprehended. To wit: The firm of Hungkee would have cargo go to Hong Kong by a vessel leaving as to morrow at 10 A.M., before business hours at the Customs. It is already 3 P.M.: how is it to be done? A nod is as good as a wink. Six hundred taels a quarter from one native is too much; and hence the bobbery. Several young men are involved in this mail-bag business we hear — natives of Ningpo or Canton, and it is possible that some of them may grow a head shorter before long, while the others will only get out of prison on heavy disgorge of old plunder. Mr. Commissioner Dick's feelings were greatly pained at the occurrence, and he has pointed out to his superior how very difficult it is to manage other than white men at the toll-bar."

HANKOW.

A correspondent, alluding to the fire which recently occurred at this port, says that the insurance offices are heavier sufferers than was at first supposed. Several Chinese have been killed, since the event, by the falling in of walls, while searching for property amid the ruins. The crew of a French gunboat, which was lying off Hankow at the time, are said to have behaved very discreditably during the fire.

KIU-KIANG.

A correspondent informs us that a band of 40 or 50 Chinese burglars broke into the native Custom-house at that port on the night of the 3rd October, and succeeded in carrying off a quantity of sycee, after killing two night-watchmen. Nothing has been yet heard of the thieves, who are believed to have been discharged braves, although, of course, the native authorities are interested in their detection, inasmuch as it was Chinese money which was stolen.

NINGPO.

By the subjoined we find that Mr. Consul Fittock is now at the tedious work of trying rowdies. It is to be regretted that the powers to Consuls do not admit of more severe sentences:—

Before W. H. Fittock, Esq., Consul; J. S. Hudson, W. H. Gracie, Assessors.

John Macduin, aged about 42 years, born in Ireland, was convicted of being, on the 1st of October inst., on the inner waters of the province of Chekiang, over 200 *li* from Ningpo, without a passport, contrary to the provisions of the 9th Article of the Treaty of Tien-tsin; and of there threatening the life of Tsing Cha-foo, a boatman, with a revolver; also, on the 2nd day of October, of illegally boarding and then aiding in robbing a Chinese boat of about 130 000 copper cash. It was thereupon adjudged, that the said John Macduin, for so threatening the life of Tsing Cha-foo, should be imprisoned for one year, to commence from the date of judgment, and to be continued in Her Majesty's gaol at Hong Kong, with hard labour; and, for the second offence, of aiding in robbing the Chinese boat, to a further term of twelve months imprisonment in Her Majesty's gaol at Hong Kong. This being his second conviction, the said defendant having been sentenced, on the 14th August, 1863, to one year's imprisonment for piracy, the court further decreed that the said John Macduin be deported from the dominions of the Emperor of China.

(Signed) W. H. Fittock.

AMOY.

The following is an extract of advices from Amoy, per *Chanticleer*, which come down to 27th October.

There is no reliable news of the rebels, but they are said to be still in Chung-Chow, and have issued proclamations requesting the inhabitants to return to the city, as they do not wish to harm them, but only overthrow the Government. This information is given by an escaped Christian Chinese, who states also that they do not injure any calling themselves Christians, and have not destroyed the chapels, though they have burnt several large public buildings. He states them (the rebels) to be fine men and well armed, and that the first force that attacked the city were well mounted. The number of them is said to be increasing, but is variously estimated from as low as 80 to as high as 30,000. But report also states them to be merely a band of robbers. No European has as yet seen any of them, and no one in Amoy seems to know the exact truth as to what they are, or their numbers.

HONG KONG.

The English mail of 10th Sept. arrived out on the 26th Oct., the day of the departure of the last mail (French). The dates are now down to the 1st. Nov. The new commander of the forces in China, General Guy, had arrived out, as also Chief Justice Adams. The items of news now added are very scant.

The steamer *Far East* arrived from Shanghai for London leaky, and after discharging part of her cargo the leak was stopped. She was to proceed on the 1st of November.

The *China Mail* on the late *fracas* between the soldiers and police says:—"Our attention has been called to the verdict lately given by the coroner's jury against the eleven 99th men at the inquest on the body of an Indian constable at Peddar's Wharf. It is urged, and with some force, that if eleven men are put in prison and ultimately placed upon trial because some one man among them must have committed the murder, it is very strange and inconsistent that the three policemen whose pieces were fired when Private Lonsdale was killed should not also be similarly dealt with; nay, that the whole picket of police who, of their own accord, broke loose from duty, neglecting the commands of their officers, should not have a verdict recorded against them. That picket resolved itself into a rabble, in defiance of all orders, and with intent to do harm to human life. One of this rabble of policemen fired his musket, while two constables not belonging to the picket also fired theirs. The latter individuals have escaped detection; but the picket itself, when they had become a riotous body of armed Indians, should have had a verdict given against them as being legally sharers in the murder of Lonsdale. So at least we have heard it argued out of doors. The coroner did not take such a view with regard to the policemen; but with regard to the soldiers he addressed the jury so decidedly that they felt compelled to give the verdict they gave. Whether the case will be pressed against the 99th men or withdrawn we cannot say; the Attorney-General will determine the question when he has seen the evidence; but we do think that there is considerable analogy between the two cases, and that the policemen were just as much rioters as the soldiers."

We hear that the gas works are rapidly approaching completion, and we anticipate the lighting of the city to some extent before the end of the year. The difficulties in laying the mains have been great, owing to the rocky nature of the ground, which, in most cases, has required to be opened by blasting. The principal public buildings, jail, clubs, churches, Government-house, &c., are now prepared for the consumption of gas, and a large portion of the street lamp-posts arrived out, and are being set up. The price to be charged for the gas is $4.50 per thousand cubic feet, and when the whole resources of the works are brought into action, and the quantity of 200,000 cubic feet per diem is consumed, the shareholders will, we expect, realise a good return for their capital.

NETHERLANDS INDIA.

BATAVIA.

Dates are to the 2nd November. The London mail of the 10th September arrived out on the 22nd October, and that of the 17th September on the 26th of October.

Mr. J. de Wal, Counsellor of the Supreme Court of Netherlands India, has been appointed President of the Court of

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Justice at Batavia. W. H. du Cloux, Esq., Director of *Middelen en Domeinen*, has been permitted to retire from the service on a pension. This gentleman has since been appointed Agent to the Java Bank at Samarang. We have to announce the death, rather suddenly, of Dr. Wassink, Head of the Medical Department of Netherlands India.

The telegraph-office now receives despatches in other languages besides Dutch and Malay.

The Court of Justice has found Dr. Smeets, late practising at Bandong, guilty of manslaughter, he having, through carelessness, caused the death of a child by administering strychnine for santonine powders. The Doctor having left Java, has been declared refractory to the law.

There has been a slight disturbance at Tagal. The *Jaxasche Courant Extra* says that the barracks of the Pradjoerits were attacked by a body of marauders on the morning of the 28th October at 4 o'clock. They took away seven muskets, and afterwards attackod the house of the Regent and that of the Djaksa, killing two men and wounding five. On their retreat they murdered a European labourer and wounded two other Europeans and a Chinaman. On receipt of the news the Resident immediately followed in pursuit and succeeded in arresting four of the rascals. It is said that a certain radhen Hadji is the leader of this band, which is composed of about sixty fanatics, who, it seems stood at bay whenever they reached any of the holy tombs in the neighbourhood. Those who escaped fled into the forests of Gantoengan. Troops had been sent from Samarang, and no further disturbances had taken place.

Later news had corroborated the report that dissensions had arisen between the leaders of the rebellion, and particularly between Mas Nata Widjaya and pangeran Praboe, and bloody fights had already taken place between their respective followers.

BORNEO.

The despatches received from the President of the Western District state that the settlement of Sintary has been continually disturbed by rebels up to the 14th September. On that day an attack was commenced by the rebels, but they were beaten back by the guns from the fort and from the steamers *Celebes* and *Onrust*. They remained at a short distance from Sintang, and tried to throw up works there.

According to information received from the Governor of Labuan, which dates 22nd August, nine Javanese seamen and three Javanese women had arrived in the course of the year at Mahiad and Palawan, who stated that they had belonged to a Dutch ship lost in the China Sea; had saved themselves in the launch, and had found their way to Maghiad without having been molested by the Solorese. The captain had saved himself in another boat. The native chief at Maghiad, Datoe Mohammad, asserts, however, that these seamen had murdered their captain, and afterwards abandoned the ship. The following articles were found in their possession, to-wit, an American clock, like those used on board vessels, a gold and a silver watch, a gold and a silver watch chain, together with a bill of exchange value £25, dated June 12, 1863. All is being done on the part of the part of the Governor of Laboean, as well as on that of the judicial authorities at this place, to obtain more light on this affair, which would appear to stand in close relation to dark and criminal deeds.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are to the 7th November. The London mail of the 26th September arrived out on the 30th October.

Notwithstanding the apparent negative that has been given to the prospects of our Transfer (remarks the *Straits Times*), the community here seem resolved to continue their efforts and their agitation in the same direction; at all events, the newspapers here and at Penang are apparently agreed not to let the matter drop. It has been suggested that as we are rejected by the Imperial Government, and must according to report, remain under India, we should set to work to try and get the Settlement proclaimed a distinct residency, with a legislative council of its own. No doubt such an arrangement would give us many advantages over our present anomalous position; but it still falls very far short of transfer to the Colonial Office in the benefits which it would confer upon this place, and as we are slow to believe that the question has been finally settled against us at Home, we prefer to hold on to our original demands.

The Calcutta hurricane has affected Singapore in two ways both for the painful interest it creates as a disaster to property of almost unparalleled magnitude, and because it directly and powerfully affects the mercantile interests, in so far that it will withdraw a large portion of freightage which is coming crowding in from China. The merchants, with a steady eye to the main chance, were already turning the calamity to good account, and large accumulations of all descriptions of marine stores were being bundled off to the scene of disaster.

Mr. D. C. Presgrave is appointed, as a temporary arrangement, to officiate as Police Magistrate and Commissioner of the Court of Requests at Prince of Wales' Island. The Hon. Lieutenant-Colonel Man resumed charge of the office of Resident Councillor, Prince of Wales' Island, on the 28th Oct. The Hon. Lieut.-Colonel Macpherson resumed charge of the office of Resident Councillor, Singapore, and Secretary to Government, on the 31st October. Lieutenant Henry Burn, late Indian Navy, resumed charge of the office of Master Attendant and Shipping Master at Singapore, on the 31st October.

The formation of a company for the cultivation of sugar in the Johore territory has been postponed, from considerations suggested by the state of the money market.

The *John Bright* and the mail steamer *Benares* had a close race of it on the way down from Hong Kong. The *John Bright* sailed two hours before the mail, and arrived here some four hours before her, having completed the passage in little more than four days and a half.

Mr. J. D. Vaughan, the police magistrate, has published a pamphlet on "the proposed route across the Isthmus of Kraw," by way of comment on the Report of Captains Frazer and Forlong, read before the Royal Geographical Society in January last. Mr. Vaughan sums up his conclusions as follows:—

There would be a saving in time, it is true, between Ceylon and Cochin China, but the question with the French would be whether as a mere speculation it would not be more profitable to touch at Singapore, a place representing a trade of 30 millions sterling, per annum (including that of Netherlands India; or at Kraw which represents no trade at all.

And, again, whether the saving in time would be compensated by the loss sustained in avoiding Singapore. In spite of all that can be written in favour of the Kraw route, the unbiassed mind will have to admit eventually that the centrality of Singapore, in connection with Java, the Islands of the Eastern Archipelago, Australia, and China, will ever make it the most eligible post for the meeting of steam lines.

The saving in time, too, Mr. Vaughan conceives to be overstated:—

Instead of fifty-six hours being saved on the Ceylon and China line, I make it forty-five, or eleven hours less than the time claimed by the authors of the report; and instead of nineteen hours on the Calcutta and China line in favour of the Kraw route, I show forty hours to the benefit of the present route. If we use the rate of calculation employed in the report, we shall find that forty-two hours saved on the Ceylon and China line would effect a saving of about 1,350 rupees on each trip; a sum that could not possibly defray the expenses of the Railway and Transit Company. From the above statement it is perfectly clear that the undertaking would be unsuccessful in a pecuniary point of view, independent of the expenses incurred in conveying mails, &c., for Singapore to their destination.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BONHAM—On the 4th Dec., the wife of Mr. F. C. Bonham, of 13, Victoria-grove, South Kensington, of a son and daughter, who only survived a few hours.

BOOKER—On the 29th Nov., at the Parade, Edmonton, the wife of Frederick Booker, of a son.

CAREY—At Foochow, on the 25th Oct., the wife of H. W. Carey, of a son.

FITTOCK—On the 1st Dec., at Southsea, the wife of James Fittock, Esq., prematurely, of a son, stillborn.

GEIGER—On the 30th Oct., at Richmond-lodge, Batavia, the wife of H. W. Geiger, Esq., of a daughter.

GITTINS—On the 29th Nov., at Stowting-hill, near Hythe, Kent, Mrs. Gittins, of a daughter.

GROSVENOR—On the 4th Dec., at Clapton, the wife of A. W. Grosvenor, Esq., of a son, who survived only a few hours.

NOBLE—At Hong Kong, on the 28th Oct., the wife of Henry Noble, of a daughter.

ULLETT.—On the 8th Dec., at Blythe House, the wife of R. B. Ullett, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

CHARTERIS—KEPPEL.—On the 30th Nov., at Quidenham Church, by the Hon. and Rev. Edward Southwell Keppel, rector of the parish and uncle of the bride, the Hon. Frederick William Charteris, Commander in the Royal Navy, and youngest son of the Earl and Countess of Wemyss and March, to the Lady Louisa Keppel, daughter of the Earl and Countess of Albemarle.

COLLINS—BORTON—At St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, on the 25th Oct., by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, D.D., Henry Collins to Francisca Theodora, eldest daughter of James Borton.

MATON—MANUEL—At St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, on the 29th Oct., by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, D.D., George Henderson Deaton, Government Marine Surveyor, to Margaret, second daughter of the late Rev. William Manuel, D.D., of Clapton, Middlesex.

DEATHS.

ALLAN—On the 3rd Dec., at 3, Albert-terrace, 191, Renfrew-street, Glasgow, Alexander Allan, Esq., late of Stirling, Law Agent. Friends will please accept of this intimation.

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Beard—On the 18th Nov., at Portman-place, Maida-hill Catherine Charlotte, relict of Nathaniel Beard, Esq., and daughter of the late Sir Thomas Carr, of Beddingham Sussex, aged 80.

Dallin—On the 23rd Oct., at Hong Kong, on board the ship Monitor, Otto Dallin, carpenter, aged 23.

Fuller—Robbins—On the 21st Oct., at Shanghai, killed by the explosion of the steam-tug General Ward, Capt. D. S. Fuller, aged 55, and J. B. Robbins (mate), aged 35.

Knevitt.—At Rio (drowned) Edward Knevitt, Esq., Assistant-Paymaster H.M.S. Egmont.

Luard.—On the 9th Dec., at the residence of his father, 3, Gloucester-gardens, Hyde-park, deeply lamented, Captain Charles George Luard, of the Royal Artillery.

Pesctunger—On the 23rd Oct., at Hong Kong, at the Argus Hotel, Mrs. B. J. Pesctunger, native of Hanover, aged 52.

Thornton—On the 28th Oct., at the Seaman's Hospital, Hong Kong, Thomas Thornton, seaman ex ship Elizabeth Dawson.

Verfke —On the 12th Oct., at Yokohama, deeply regretted by his brother officers, Capt. the Hon. A. E. P. Verelker, H.M.s 20th Regt., aged 34; third son of the Right Hon. Viscount Gort.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA IMPORTS.

Cotton Yarn—Has not met with any demand during the past fortnight, and the value of the article shows a decline of $1 to $2 per picul since the date of last report; the sales effected amount to 70 bales. Grey Shirtings: The sales reported under date of 14th instant appear to have supplied the wants of the dealers for the present, and during the past fortnight settlements have been limited to 2,850 pieces; prices are quoted slightly lower, and the market for these goods is very dull. White Shirtings: There is not any material change to notice in the value of these goods, but the inquiry for them has been extremely limited, and not more than 2,000 pieces have found buyers during the fortnight. T-Cloths: Prices of T-Cloths have receded to the extent of about 10 cents per piece during the fortnight which has elapsed since the date of last circular, and the demand shows a great falling off. The settlements effected amount to about 7,200 pieces, in addition to which some 1,200 pieces of sea-damaged goods have been moved off by public auction. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: These goods maintain their value, and have met with an average amount of inquiry in this market since the departure of last mail; the sale reported consist of 550 pieces of Dyed Spotted Shirtings, and 1,250 pieces of Coloured Brocades. Damasks: Have found buyers to the extent of 250 pieces at previous rates. Chintzes: 500 pieces have found buyers. Handkerchiefs have been placed to the extent of 1,200 dozens.

Woollens.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: A fair amount of business has been transacted in these goods in this colony during the fortnight, estimated at about 1,200 pieces of Spanish Stripes, and 132 pieces of the other qualities. Sales of 546 pieces of Assorted Spanish Stripes are also reported from Foo-chow. Long Ells: The value of these goods remains as under date of last circular, with sales of 1,360 pieces reported, while in Foo-chow some 200 pieces HH Scarlet have found buyers at $9.25 per piece. Camlets: 610 pieces placed in this market at previous rates. Lastings: The transactions of the fortnight are put at 500 pieces. Blankets: These goods have met with a moderate amount of inquiry during the fortnight, and have been sold to the extent of 550 pairs, exclusive of 150 pairs of damaged sold at public auction.

Metals.—Iron, Flat, &c.: There is not any very material change noticeable in the value of iron, although the market is not perhaps quite so firm as it was some weeks ago. The transactions in this colony are estimated at 2,400 piculs of nail rod; 400 piculs of bar, and 50 kegs of wire. In Canton about 5,000 piculs of all kinds have found buyers. Lead: Has declined in value in this colony, and only 80 piculs have found buyers. In Canton sales of 2,000 piculs are reported. Tin: 100 slabs sold. Tin Plates: 200 boxes have changed hands. Steel: 250 tubs have been sold in Canton.

CHINA EXPORTS.

Tea.—Canton.—About thirteen chops of country Congou have come forward during the fortnight; the quality whereof is by no means unexceptionable. The settlements of that description have been trifling, owing to the unreasonable demands of the teamen. Canton Congous continue in moderate request. In Scented Teas only a small business has been done, quotations being unaltered. There has been some little demand for fine Canton Greens for France, but rates are unchanged.

Foo-chow-Foo.—The market has been quiet during the fortnight, the business having run on the better flavory kinds of Congous, which, being scarce, have advanced 5 mace. Broken leaf and common, being still wanted for Australia, have been fully maintained, tending up. Taking the inferior quality of the stock of Oolongs into consideration, prices are well maintained, and do not exhibit a decline of more than 2 taels on the high opening rates. Congous: 14 800 chests, 12,280 half-chests, and 1,000 boxes, at 6 to 13¾ taels for dusty and broken leaf; 13 to 17½ taels for common to good common; and 17½ to 24 taels for flavory to good flavory. Souchong: 965 chests and 228 half-chests at 17 to 27 taels for common to fair. Pekoe: 506 chests at 20¼ to 27 taels for fair to good. Oolong: 15,000 half-chests and 2,266 boxes at 16 to 22 taels. Scented Teas: 1,600 boxes dust at 9½ to 10 taels, and 4,230 boxes medium kinds at 20 to 27¼ taels.

Shanghai.—Black: Only a limited business is reported at prices which show no change on previous quotations, although in many cases they have been very irregular. The settlements have been as follows:—7 chops Oopacks at tls. 24 to 26; 6 chops of Oonahams at tls. 19 to 24; 5 chops of Ningchow at tls. 23½ to 27; and 7 chops of Hohows at tls. 17 to 19.7.5., which lay down in London at 1d. to 2d. per lb. over last mail's quotations. Arrivals from Hankow are small, and the stock is very much reduced. Green: A very limited business is reported, most buyers still refusing to come into the market unless at a considerable reduction on previous rates. Some small settlements have been made which establish a decline of about three taels on Shanghai packed and Pingsueys, two chops of the latter having been taken at taels 32 to 35½ proportion. Stocks continue to increase, but holders of country teas will not give way in their demands, and are storing their stocks.

Hankow.—The market has maintained a quiet tone throughout the past fortnight, chiefly owing to the high rate of exchange and the scarcity of good teas now offering, the present stock (with very few exceptions) consisting of coarse coming on 3rd crops. The teamen have evinced more anxiety who sell during the last few days; as yet, however, no reduction can be quoted in prices. Settlements for the fortnight are 30 chops (including 1 contract sent to Shanghai), making the total settlements for the season 630 chops, and leaving a stock on the market of about 50 chops. Quotations are:—Oopacks, common HH., 19 to 20; Oonams, do., 16 to 17.

Kiukiang.—Arrivals of new Green have increased the stock to 52,000 half-chests (including 6,600 contracts), but not a single settlement has been made, nor have buyers exhibited any disposition to purchase; on the other hand, the teamen appear unwilling to force their teas on the market. The teas to hand exhibit an inferior make as compared with those of last season, probably owing to the hurried manner of preparation (the rebels being in close proximity at the time of manipulation). Receipts since the commencement of the season amount to 68,000 half-chests, of which 9,000 are contracts, and 7,000 settlements.

Yokohama.—Little or no business has been done in this article. Prices have still a downward tendency, estimated at 100 piculs. Quotations are as follows:—Common nominal, $8.00 to 12.00; good common, 14.00 to 18.00; medium, 19 to 23; fine, 24.00 to 30.00; old common, 4.00 to 12.00.

Raw Silk.—Shanghai.—The market during the fortnight has been very active, settlements baing estimated at 3,000 bales. The arrival of the 26th of August with higher quotations, and a considerable decline in our rate of exchange, led to large transactions. Prices have advanced 10 to 25 taels per picul, and purchases have been taken from all descriptions. The supply from the interior having been moderate, the stock is considerably reduced. From Japan 1,986 bales have arrived. The present unsold stock is 4,000 bales against 11,000 bales same period last season, and 11,500 the season before. Tsatlees: No 1 chops, 470 to 480 taels per picul.

Yokohama.—The visit that the Foreign Ministers paid to Yedo has been productive of a great deal of good. In consequence of their urgent representations, silk has again come down to Yokohama freely and in considerable quantities, and it is confidently expected that it will continue to do so. All the Silk that arrived at first had been contracted for, or advanced upon, but after a little while large parcels were put on the market, and an active demand arose which caused prices to reach an unprecedented height, say $600 for Mybash; within the last two or three days, however, the market has become more quiet, and prices are a little lower, with a downward tendency. The settlements of the last fortnight may be estimated at about 2,500 bales. The unsold stock on the market is not heavy, but supplies are coming down daily. Mybash, best parcels offering $585 to 595.

Drugs, &c.—Cassia: Settlements are reported of 500 piculs a $15.65 to 15.70. The stock is reduced to 600 pls., but as supplies are shortly expected, rates may give way. Cassia Buds: At small lot of 8 piculs has arrived, for which the extreme rate of $59 to 60 is asked. China Galls: Since the departure of the last mail, advices have been received of the failure of the expected crop; the old stock of 100 piculs is now consequently held at $14, which is an advance of 1¼. Vermilion: As last quoted, say $14½ per box of 50 catties. Rhubarb: The old stock of 130 piculs remains untouched, the views of the holders continuing quite unreasonable. Musk: No settlements, a small chop of 30 catties of fair quality has arrived and is held at $95 per catty; another chop of 100 catties being too inferior for export to Europe, is being shipped to the north of China. Galangal: Nominally $2 to 3, no buyers for Europe. Essential Oils: None on the market. Camphor.—Hong Kong: 400 piculs have been sold during the fortnight at $19 per picul, and there is not much demand for the article either for India or the home markets. No further supplies arrived, and stock on hand amounts to only about 300 piculs.

COTTON.

Hong Kong.—*China Trade Report:*—The rumours of an armistice in the United States have completely prostrated the market, and the few sales reported have been made to the Chinese. The total sales of the fortnight hardly reach 3,000 bags, whilst fully 10,000 bags are added to the stock. The nominal quotations are, Shanghai new $25 to 27, old $25 to 26. Shanghai new $27 to 28. Japan $33, nominal.

Shanghai.—The last report was dated October 7, for the mail per Aden. During the fortnight our market has steadily but slowly declined, and, no doubt, had the cotton come forward as freely as anticipated, or even had cotton at present in Shanghai been dry and saleable, a greater decline would have taken place. The quantity of cotton on the market which purchasers are inclined to take is very limited. Our last advices of the Liverpool market, and the excessive rates of exchange here, conduced to lower rates. Prices asked for good Shanghai cotton are this day tls. 18 to 18 50, at which there is very little offering. The Chinese, we are glad to state, are receiving some severe but wholesome lessons with regard to wet cotton, and many of them must be losers by having it thrown on their hands. They are necessitated to open it out and dry it, and their resources for such operations do not improve the article either in staple or colour. There is no doubt that cotton at tls. 14 to 15 would pay growers well, and it might not therefore be unreasonable to expect a decline to these figures; still if the next mail brings no extraordinary advices, we do not anticipate any serious decline. The market it is anticipated will be maintained by the demand consequent on the necessity to load such a number of ships laid on expressly for cotton, and the anxiety to fulfil contracts and disputes between buyers and sellers by contract as to quality of Cotton have thrown the market into considerable confusion but, of course, this will have only a temporary effect; already purchasers are giving way and making some concession to sellers, which in the declining state of the market is probably advisable. In the meantime only a few houses are buying, preferring to wait news by the mail. The decline in Ningpo rates is, if anything, greater than those here, being from

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$33 (last mail's quotations) to $27.50 to 28.50. Tien-tsin cotton good quality, has been sold at tls. 18, showing a decline of 2.50 per picul during the fortnight. Small parcels of Hankow have arrived, but no sales have transpired. Large supplies are looked for shortly from all quarters, kept back, no doubt, by the late rains and by the fear of sending forward cotton which has been wet, and which the owners, learning wisdom, considered advisable to detain and dry before bringing on the market.

TIEN-TSIN.—The receipts of new staple have been very small up to the present time, contract parcels excepted, which have come in freely. We estimate the settlements on the market at 800 bales, on foreign account, at tls. 14.2.0 to 14.7.5 per picul. Purchases, we hear, have been made by Chinese for shipment principally to Amoy and Foochow, at tls. 14.8.0 to 15.5.0 per picul. We quote best staple to-day tls. 15.0.0, and as supplies are likely to come forward in large quantity during the present month, we look for easier rates, unless advices from the south should, in the meantime, tend to keep prices up.

NINGPO.—The nominal quotation is $29.30 per bale of 118 to 120 catties, but the panic prevails here as elsewhere amongst shippers, owing to rumours of an armistice in the United States, and it may be said that there are no buyers at anything near the quotation.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 7¼d. to 6s. 8¾d.	6s. 8d. to 6s. 9d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 9¼d. to 4s. 9½d.	4s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.
At Singapore	6 ditto	4s. 9d. to 4s. 9¼d.	4s. 9¼d. to 4s. 10d.
At Manila	6 ditto	4s. 6¼d.	4s. 7d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 314 to 315 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 223 to 224 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 9 to 10 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 73 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 28 to 29 discount.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At KANAGAWA.—From London: Oct. 9, Medina.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Oct. 10, Weymouth; 14, Isles of the South; 19, Tamerlane and P. C. Munroe. From Newcastle: 12, Grenadier; 22, Sea Nymph. From Cardiff: 13, Zingra; 19, Allandale. From Shields: 13, Edith; 20, Jeanie Douglas. From Newport: 16, Princess of Wales. From New York: 18, Apollo; 20, Guiding Star; 21, Queen of the Seas, Costa Rica, and Jubilaum.

At FOO-CHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From Swansea: Oct. 18, Isabell.

At MANILA.—From Liverpool: Oct. 13, Ercilla. From Cadiz: 7, Carmencita.

At SINGAPORE.—From Cardiff: Oct. 24, Woiziava; 29, Marrianne; Nov. 6, Ocean Bride. From Hartlepool: Oct. 31, Queen of Commerce. From Amsterdam: 23, Maria Adolfini.

At PENANG.—From Glasgow: Oct. 11, Hoang Ho.

DEPARTURES.

From KANAGAWA: For London: Oct. 3, Lucknow; 10, Comus.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Oct. 13, Toficombe; 22, Rifle; 23, Far East (str.); 24, Cleveland. For Cork: 24, Elizabeth Ronneberg.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: West Derby, Gauntlet, and Cour de Lion.

From HONG KONG and CANTON, &c.—For Liverpool: Oct. 14, Mount Stuart, Elphinstone. For Hamburg: Oct. 18, Catharine; 19, Gustav and Ernst. For London: 25, Cambula.

From MANILA.—For London: Oct. 14, President, Harbitz. For New York: 13, Horatio.

From SINGAPORE.—For Marseilles: Nov. 7, Ocean.

From PENANG.—For London: Oct. 13, Isabella; 29, Wellington. For Bordeaux: 23, Concorde.

LOADING.

At KANAGAWA.—For London: Alfred Hawley, Gabalva, Little Edith, Mountain Ash. For Liverpool: Amelia.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Avondhue, Agincourt, Beemah, Canadian, Countess Russell, David Melvor, Glenclune, Bosworth, Delhi, Spirit of the Deep, Diligentia, Carrizal, John Staunton, jun., Palawan, Queen of the Ocean. For Liverpool: Gwallior, Queen of the East, Sir W. F. Williams, Spec, Sailor's Home, Savior Faire, Ærolite, Ariadne, Constance, Coringa, Dennis Horton, Her Majesty, Norah, Gleame, Roodee. For New York: Clara Babuyan.

At FOO-CHOW.—For London: Ellenborough and Verbena (full), Carisbrook, Prince Alfred, Blencathra, Lord Clyde, Langdale.

At AMOY.—For New York: Falcon.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Xulla. For Liverpool: Melbreck, Jas. Vinnicombe. For Hamburg: Emily. For New York: N. B. Palmer.

At MANILA.—For London: Sea Belle. For Liverpool: C. S. Lemon. For Falmouth: Malvina Vidal, Ocean Home. For New York: Windward.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Maid of the Tyne, Northumberland. For Boston: Borneo.

At PENANG.—For London: Southern Cross.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

KANAGAWA.—To London: Cotton and tea, £3. 10s., and silk, £4. 10s. per ton of 50 cubic feet.

SHANGHAI.—To London and Liverpool, £3. 10s. to £4. per ton. Nominal.

FOO-CHOW.—The present rate is £3. 10s., but in consequence of large arrivals expected, it is not likely to be maintained.

HONG KONG AND CANTON.—The following is from George Holme's Circular:—Xulla (627), on the berth for Port Elizabeth and London, at £3. 5s. per ton; Violet (496), to Foo-chow for London, £3. 7s. 6d.; Maribelle (1,019), to Shanghai for Liverpool, at £3; Kite (188), Foo-chow to Europe, at £4. 5s.; Bonnie Lassie (352), Foo-chow to New York, £3. 5s.; Lucknow (352), Bangkok to Europe, £4. The rates to Rangoon and back are 70 to 72½ cts.; if ordered north 20 to 25 cts. extra. To Bangkok and back, 45 to 50 cts. per picul; 25 to 27½ cts. extra if to Shanghai.

MANILA.—The English barque Sea Belle has been fixed for London with 100 tons Clayed Sugar at £2. 10s. per ton, and 5,000 quintals Tobacco a £4 per 50 cubic feet. The Ocean Home has engaged for London or Liverpool, 2,000 bales Hemp, at £4. 10s. per ton. The American ship Windward loads for New York with Hemp at $18 currency per 40 cubic feet.

SINGAPORE.—Although arrivals of seeking vessels have been numerous rates for Europe show an improvement, the rate for dead weight is £3, and measurement £4 per ton.

PENANG.—The British ship Southern Cross engaged about half her cargo on arrival at £3 per ton for dead weight, £3. 10s. light freight, £4 measurement, but since receipt of the advices of the disasters to shipping in the Calcutta river, an advance of 5s. per ton has been obtained for the remainder of her room.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—Oct. 9, Antares, Bordeaux to Saigon; 14, Pillen Elena, Cardiff to Shanghai; 17, Prince, Liverpool to Hong Kong; 21, John Ritson, Sunderland to Sourabaya.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—Oct. 20, Blondel, Boston to Singapore; 22, Capella, New York to Batavia.

From CHINA to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—Oct. 6, Iona, from Sarawak to Queenstown; 9, Staffordshire, Manila to London; 12, Fiazel, Shanghai to Liverpool; 17, Lord Dalhousie, Hong Kong to Liverpool; Everest, Canton to Liverpool; Marquis of Londonderry, Shanghai to London; 19, Great Western, Nagasaki to London; 20, Sarah Newman, Shanghai to London; and 21, Eastern Queen, —— to London.

From CHINA, &c. to UNITED STATES.—Oct. 9, Samuel Russel and Queensland; 17, Daniel Drape, Bangkok; 11, Mary, Shanghai, from Foo-chow to New York; 18, Endeavour, Foo-chow; Maggie Leslie, Amoy; all to New York.

CASUALTIES.

SHANGHAI.

The tug steamer General Ward, Captain Fuller, has been totally destroyed by the explosion of her boilers. All on board, except one Chinaman, appears to have been killed, and he severely wounded.

HONG KONG.

The steamer Far East has been obliged to put into Hong Kong, in consequence of a serious leak. After discharging 400 tons of tea the leak was discovered, stopped, and the tea re-shipped, and she was to proceed on her voyage on the 1st November.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

COTTON.—The sales on the London Market for the past week were 10,000 bales on the spot, and 200 to arrive. Prices at the opening showed an advance of ⅛d. per lb., but business afterwards became dull, and quotations now rule about the same as last week. At Liverpool, also, East India descriptions have been in active demand by the trade, and prices of the better descriptions advanced fully 1d. per lb. over last week's rates. The limited inquiry of the past two days has, however, caused part of the advance to disappear. China and Japan have been heavy of sale.

TEA.—At New York, November 26, a steady market, with a firm business. Sales 4,270 half-chests Oolong, and 300 green, at previous rates.

According to a circular of Messrs. Arles, Dufour and Co., of Lyons, the silk trade of that city remained dull until about the end of last month, when a better feeling arose, owing principally to the partial recovery of financial confidence and the reduction in the rate of discount. Prices now show a considerable increase of firmness, and even a slight advance has been obtained on French, Italian, and Levantine saw silks, the stocks of which are small, and will soon be exhausted In China sorts, also, there has been more doing, but in the demand for Japan silk there has been no improvement, and buyers are looking for lower rates, should the present anticipations of important arrivals from that quarter be confirmed.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Dec. 6, off Dungeness, from Java, Decima; 8, at Falmouth, from Batavia, Peeress; 7, at Havre, from Maulmain, Ville de Basle; at Queenstown, from Maulmain, Susan M. Dudman; 9, at Falmouth, from Manila, Der West; 9, off Plymouth, from Shanghai, Essex; 10, at Queenstown, from Maulmain, Melicete; 11, at London, from Hong Kong, Adriatic; 8, at Texel, from Batavia, Wilhelmina Maria; 12, at London, from Hong Kong, Chanticleer.

DEPARTURES.—Dec. 7, from Cardiff, for Shanghai, Egeria; 8, from Antwerp, for Singapore, Indus; 9, from Cardiff, for Galle, Henry Cook; 10, from Rotterdam, for Batavia, Æolus; 12, from London, for Colombo, Percy Douglas; for Singapore, Norfolk; for Moreton Bay and Foochow-Foo, Ziba; 12, from Liverpool, for Batavia and Sourabaya, Helvetia.

SPOKEN.—Dutch barque, Batavia to Rotterdam, 80 days out, Nov. 22, 32 N., 37 W.; Vriendschap, Batavia to Rotterdam, Dec. 3, 45 N., 20 W.; Waterwitch, Liverpool to Shanghai, Oct. 30, 8 S., 31 W.; Flora Belg. barque), Swansea to Hong Kong; Nov. 10, 2 N., 22 W.; Berwickshire, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Nov. 12, 5 N., 23 W.; Lewe van Nyestein (Dutch barque), Batavia to Amsterdam, Oct. 25, 17 S., 5 W.; Thos. Blythe, China to Queenstown, Nov. 2, 6 S., 17 W.; Wm. Stairs, Penang to London, Aug. 15, 2 S., 89 E.

LAID ON.—At London: For Colombo, Palestine; at Liverpool, for Batavia and Sourabaya, Silvercraig; for Yokohama, Raphael.

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At Table Bay.—Oct. 26, Parmenis, Laird, sailed for Singapore.

Casualties.—The Harry Puddemsey, Moir, from Liverpool, for Singapore, put into Milford, Dec. 8, with rudder braces carried away, having been struck by a sea and experienced heavy weather.

A carriage, several cases of castings, and a quantity of merchandise were sent up by the divers on the 6th Dec. from the wreck of the Robin Hood.

ROBBERY OF TRAVELLERS FROM INDIA IN EGYPT.

A Malta letter of the 3rd states that the last passengers from Bombay had their luggage opened by persons connected with the railway during the journey from Suez to Alexandria, and while the property was in charge of the Egyptian authorities. Colonel O'Connell, R.A., is said to have lost among many other things £250 in sovereigns; Captain Mann, R.A., and Colonel Woodfall also suffered severely. Money, jewellery, and boots appear to have been most sought for; ladies' dresses seem to have been little valued. The robbers must have been hurried, as those things which they considered not worth keeping were put back in the wrong trunks. One gentleman, on opening his box, found the whole of his wardrobe gone and replaced by a crinoline. The robbers must have been cunning rogues, for the well-used luggage with many tickets on it, indicating that the owners were old hands at travelling, and, therefore, unlikely to put valuables into their trunks, was untouched. The Pacha, the English Consul, and the other authorities have been informed of these robberies, with a view of recovering damages.

THE STRAITS TRANSFER.

(THE TIMES.)

The busy settlement of Singapore is rich in the industry of 70,000 Chinamen and of half that number of Malays. Situated almost immediately under the Equator, its atmosphere is cooled by frequent showers and its environs are adorned by all the fragrant shrubs and gigantic vegetation of the torrid zone. Singapore is the queen of a cluster of unnumbered islets, were everything that yet is strange and unfamiliar in this matter-of-fact world is found or fabled, and Singapore is also the portal of that great Eastern Archipelago which is certainly destined hereafter to play a first-rate part in the world's history. The present prosperity of this great port is, however, dependent upon a necessity which the cutting of a ship canal may any day take from it. It is the great house of call between the Western and the Eastern World only for want of a water way across an isthmus. Commerce is, on this account, forced down southward many a league, and the harbours of Singapore are always crowded with ships, and her hotels are, through the same agency, noisy with American bowling-alleys and loud Anglo-Saxon argument, and other evidences of progress and civilisation. Singapore, therefore, has a right to take much pride in herself, and, like any other prosperous Eastern beauty, to think herself no small prize. She is just now anxiously considering upon whom she shall throw herself away. The English Colonial-office and the Indian Government are the two swains between whom her affections, or rather her calculations, are vibrating; and there is a very edifying controversy in the Singapore papers as to which may be expected to be the more indulgent lord, and which may be made to minister most extensively to the comfort and extravagance of the settlement.

Singapore was bought by the East India Company some half century since from some barbarian black Sultan who claimed title to it. No doubt Sir Stamford Raffles showed great judgment in recommending its acquisition. It is wonderfully well placed as a common emporium; and it is impossible not to see that in case of war the occupation of this point in sufficient force would command for good or for evil the trade with China. To the East India Company in those days when they were traders and Sovereigns, Singapore was at once a sword and a purse. But the time has come when the governing power cares little for commercial profit and nothing for extended empire. The profit does not go direct into the Treasury, and the empire is under the guardianship of the general Imperial Government. The Government of India no longer feels any obligation to keep up expensive outlying stations in order to check the undue advance of foreign Powers in the Archipelago or to protect the trade to China. In their eyes, Singapore has lost all claims to special admiration on account of her strategic position, or even her commercial convenience. "What is she worth?" "What does she bring?" are the only questions that have weight now in Calcutta. Unfortunately, Singapore is not in this point of view especially desirable. She is very rich and very prosperous, but she is also very selfish and very extravagant. It has been proved by a sufficiently extended experience that a state of deficit is the normal condition of her finances. She is a wife who has a very fine property, but she spends it all upon herself and leaves a large balance of debt to be paid by the already embarrassed husband. Under these circumstances the affection of the Indian Government has somewhat cooled, and she finds a great abatement of the earlier devotion. It is remembered, however, that "the Indian Government has borne for years a deficit balance-sheet without a murmur, besides showing great liberality in the assistance it has always given to works of public utility; and, while a large portion of the Singapore community are for putting themselves under the immediate jurisdiction of the Colonial-office, others retain a certain interested fidelity to the old Indian connection. Singapore is thinking aloud just now, and both the Home Government and the East India Government are sufficiently interested in the subject of her thoughts to make it worth their while to listen to her. If she pass over to the Colonial Government, she doubts whether her annual deficit will be handsomely paid, as before, and no question asked. She fears, too, that under the new connection she would get no contributions to her enterprises of public utility. She is, moreover, very much afraid that, "as the Colonial Secretary has to find berths for relations of obnoxious members of Parliament, who are in nine cases out of ten not fit to hold a very inferior position at home," Singapore as a Crown colony would have to provide for these Parliamentary encumbrance. On the other hand, she knows that the Colonial-office does not levy taxes, and the Indian Government does. Singapore is in a mortal fright about the Indian income-tax; and the stamp duties payable in rupees are an abhorrence to the Bay of Islands. That annual deficiency hangs heavy upon her conscience, and there is a sad suspicion that she will not be allowed to go on for ever running up annual bills to be paid without a murmur by an exemplary Government. Such are the present thoughts of Singapore, and under their influence application has been made to the Colonial-office to know whether she will be allowed to transfer herself from the torrid amenity of the Governor-General of India to the cold propriety of Downing-street. An encouraging reply was first returned. Before, however, any decisive answer was given, she has, we believe, been rather rudely asked whether she is quite sure she is solvent. The question has caused considerable excitement, and some indignation, in the settlement. It is thought that the British Treasury and Colonial-office ought to have known that the applicant was already insolvent, and the demand for some proof that she is in good case, and has a surplus revenue, is taken in Singapore as a proof of a mean and mercenary disposition, unworthy of a generous Government, and insulting to a handsome Eastern dependency.

The islets of the Straits are said to produce pirates, cannibals, flying monkeys, gigantic serpents, and vampire bats, in addition to such expensive delicacies as shark fins, sea slugs, and birds'-nest soup. Very few of these things have hitherto found their way to England among our imports; but we fancy we detect the presence of a very lively young vampire in this last bundle of despatches. From what she has already done with the black-skinned Indian, we imagine Singapore would be a very powerful bloodsucker if transferred to the fair, florid, and sanguineous carcass of a Western country. We picture it to ourselves already gently fanning the wound, and vigorously pulling at the vein. There are, we believe, two regiments of Sepoys and a few guns on the Governor's Hill, just sufficient to keep the Chinaman in tolerable order. But if Singapore were a Crown colony, garrisoned and fortified by the Imperial Government, we cannot tell how many regiments of European troops would suffice for its dignity, or what amount of fortification would be necessary for its safety. There is much better opportunity for a few wars among the native Powers of the Archipelago than ever existed in New Zealand. There would be no difficulty in making an unanswerable case for spending twenty millions of money at Singapore, and they would be as well laid out as equal amounts often have been in other colonies. We may be sure that the good-tempered, hospitable inhabitants would receive our soldiers with open arms, and would never be jealous of any amount of fortifications we might build, or complain of any amount of money we might spend. We should very soon be told to think of the position which Singapore holds, and what her influence must be upon the future destinies of those great island continents—or rather upon our future destinies as linked with theirs—and we should be asked, what is twenty millions, or a hundred millions, as the price of a lock upon that treasury of the future—a lock of which we might keep the key? We have heard something of this sort before, and we should hear a great deal more of it if Singapore became a Crown colony. We have nothing to say against it, except that we shall rejoice most sincerely in any amount of strength and prosperity and magnificence that Singapore can attain, if she can arrive at it by the profits of her own trade or by the generosity of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, to which she is already so much indebted, or by any other means which do not bring her into the Parliamentary Estimates. But we do most sincerely assure her that if she is so fortunate as to now have her annual deficit paid without a murmur, she is better off as she is than she could possibly be with us. England wants no more insolvent colonies.

[Readers of our paper will know that the writer of this article is very much in error on many points. We shall notice more fully in our next. —Ed. *L. and C. T.*]

MERCANTILE CONSULS.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

Sir,—In your issue of Nov. 28, I notice a remark by your Hamburg correspondent upon which I think some observations may be usefully offered. Your correspondent says:—"Two years ago the head of one of the German firms in Shanghai offered his services as Austrian Consul at that port without any reward or remuneration; but his *generous offer* has not been accepted," &c. The words which I have italicised your correspondent evidently uses in the most innocent manner, and I am aware that an impression prevails extensively to the effect that, in volunteering to act as Consuls without remuneration, merchants are usually actuated by entirely disinterested motives. In saying a word or two to controvert this opinion, and to point out some of the evils which arise from this practice, I am simply repeating statements which have been frequently urged in all the newspapers in China, and, inasmuch as I am quite ignorant which German firm it was which tendered for the contract to do the Austrian Consulship at Shanghai, my remarks can have no personal bearing of any sort. The fact is, individuals and Governments in Europe too frequently lose sight of the consideration that Consuls in the East, and, above all, in China, are in name only functionaries of a similar class to those who in civilised countries are appointed principally for the purpose of seeing to the due execution of navigation laws. The difference between a Consul—say at Bordeaux or Riga, and an officer bearing the same title at Shanghai or Hankow, is as wide as that existing between an ordinary police magistrate and one of the highest judges in the land. The treaties which in the East place exclusively under Consular jurisdiction the subjects of the respective European States confer necessarily upon the Consuls themselves functions and responsibilities of the most extensive nature, which, in order to ensure their fair discharge, ought most imperatively to be entrusted to independent and disinterested persons. A reference to Lord Elgin's Blue-book will show that in 1858 the Chinese Commissioners protested strongly against the future appointment of mercantile Consuls by any nation, knowing, as they did, that with the exception of England and France, all the European Powers were represented at the ports by merchants, frequently of the most indifferent character; and in the Treaty concluded with Portugal two years ago, there exists an express stipulation that no merchants should, for the future, be appointed as Consuls for Portugal. This clause was probably introduced owing to the knowledge, on the part of

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Prince Kung, of the atrocities perpetrated by Macaoese at different times and places, who were actually in partnership with the worthies holding Consular commissions from the Portuguese Government; but this clause was entirely disregarded, and merchants continued to act as before in the capacity of Portuguese Consuls. It may be added that these functions having of late years been confided to the representatives of an English house of the highest probity, the Chinese Government has probably not had cause to complain of any injury from this source; but as it has recently refused to ratify the treaty with Portugal, no doubt the violation of the clause in question was made one of the grounds for so doing.

Austria, the country to which your correspondent especially refers, has, as yet, taken no steps to conclude a treaty with China, but her great ally —? antagonist—Prussia, has already followed in the steps of England and France, and obtained recognition at Peking. The Consuls appointed under her treaty are all merchants, and as a fair criterion of the consequences which are inevitable in such appointments, I may repeat a story I have heard from a well-authenticated source, that the first official act performed by one of the principal German Consuls in China was to endeavour to obtain a reduction in the regular duty on sugar, in favour of one of his own shipments of this commodity; and many other instances could be adduced to show that Consular functions, when confided to merchants, are but too frequently made the means of obtaining individual profit. The fact that the national character inevitably suffers by such acts should at least cause a Power which, like Austria, is always distinguished by a certain chivalrous feeling of honour, to prefer incurring a certain amount of expense, if the object in view is at all desirable, rather than to incur odium through an illjudged economy. The interests of Austria, however, can scarcely require an expensive staff in China. It is very doubtful whether she can have a score of subjects at present residing at all the ports put together, and her shipping in the Chinese waters is as yet very insignificant. One *charge d'affaires* to intervene in the rare case of a Customs' dispute, or of any offence committed by or against an Austrian subject, would probably amply suffice for her international requirements, whilst abstinence from the appointment of mercantile Consuls would greatly redound to the credit of her Government. In order further to point out, in conclusion, how awkward may sometimes be the position of a merchant acting as Consul, it is only necessary to suppose the case (which, indeed, has actually happened) of a native firm doing business with the *merchant* having occasion to sue him before the *Consul!* Or let us suppose (what has also more than once occurred) a Consul calling upon the Chinese authorities to take proceedings against a native, against whom he, as a merchant, has a claim. It would be giving too much credit to human nature to suppose that where official influence is necessarily so powerful it would not overbalance strict justice. One of the most amusing cases of this kind I can recall, is in connection with a Peruvian "Consul" at Canton, who had come to China as agent for one of the coolie kidnapping firms at Callao, and had also a duly authenticated commission as Consul for Peru. This ingenious functionary, the only Peruvian at Canton, addressed a despatch to the Viceroy somewhat in the following terms:— "I, the Consul L ——, have received an application from the Peruvian merchant L —— requesting permission for the establishment of a coolie barracoon, and I have the honour to support this application, &c., &c." Fortunately the Viceroy saw through the scheme, and taking no notice of either Consul or coolie agent, the Peruvian functionary one day absconded, leaving nothing but debts behind him. I think that were a few facts such as these duly weighed by the European Governments, they would abstain for the future from making these objectionable appointments. M. H. L.

London, December, 10.

MR. LAY'S PAMPHLET ON CHINA.

Mr. Hardwicke publishes a pamphlet on "Reasons for the Dissolution of the Naval Force under Captain Osborn." This will be noticed in our next.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

On the 6th inst., the twenty-fourth annual general meeting of the Peninsular and Oriental Company was held at the company's offices, Leadenhall-street; ARTHUR ANDERSON, Esq., in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report, said that he should confine his observations to two points. The first related to the cyclone and its effect upon the company's vessels and property. The *Bengal* had been taken by the force of the cyclone and landed high and dry upon the land. The officers of the company reported that it would require a considerable expenditure to float the *Bengal*, but when floated he hoped that she would be fit for service again, as her hull was quite uninjured. Much credit was due to the company's servants in Calcutta for preparing the *Nubia* to be ready for the conveyance of the Australian mail. The *Hindostan* was an old hulk, and she did not stand for anything in the company's books. The transit through Egypt was a most important thing for the company. He recollected the time when the cost of transit through Egypt was £15, but now it was reduced to £2. 10s. (Hear, hear.) But, after all, that was not the most important consideration. The Pacha of Egypt did all that he could to improve the transit, and for this purpose he looked out for persons who would be most competent to act as guards on the Egyptian Railway. With this view he looked out for an English general manager and traffic manager, and the board were at that moment engaged in taking steps to fulfil his intention. With regard to the new contract which had been entered into with the Government of Egypt, he thought it was only right to mention the names of Mr. Davidson and Mr. Ritchie, who, after the principle had been agreed to by his friend, the deputy-chairman carried out the details of the agreement in a masterly manner. He would only observe, in conclusion, that the present Viceroy of Egypt endeavoured to promote, as far as he could, the material prosperity of the country which was the great thoroughfare between the East and the West (Hear, hear.)

Mr. HADOW, the deputy-chairman, seconded the motion.

Mr. GLIDDON complained that the items of expenditure, which amounted to £2,300,000, were set forth in such a general manner as to make it impossible for the shareholders to deal with them in an efficient way. Items of expenditure to the amount of £1,033,000 and £155,460 were lumped together in such a way as to be utterly worthless for any purpose of information. He thought the details of these large sums ought to be set forth in the account. During the last five years no progress had been made by the company, while the capital had been increased one-third, and the value of the company's ships had been increased one-third. During the last five years they had incurred losses to the amount of £500,000, and he considered they ought to have a dividend equivalent in some respect to the perilous nature of their voyages. He thought the company should provide for the accommodation of second-class passengers.

Mr. JONES believed that if there had been an enlarged dividend there would have been increased opposition to the directors at home, and that the Government would ask for a diminution of the amount which they paid for the conveyance of the mails. With regard to the conveyance of second-class passengers, he thought better arrangements ought to be made by the directors. But what he principally rose for was to ask whether there was any intention on the part of the board to fortify some station at Bushire or the Persian Gulf, with a view to protect the company's vessels in the event of a war with Russia, for it appeared by the last accounts that Russia was looking for an extension of territory which would bring her to the northern frontier of India.

The CHAIRMAN said that it was impossible at present to give an account of the losses which had been sustained by the company on land on account of the cyclone. There was no necessity for replacing the *Hindostan*, which was a mere hulk. With regard to the accounts, they would require a cartload of papers if they gave all the details which the hon. proprietor required; but every proprietor was free to examine the books of the company, and to see for himself whether the accounts were accurate or not. (Hear, hear.) With regard to second-class passengers, they were ready to take them when there was room for them. But it was not to be expected that, when all their space was claimed by first-class passengers, they should take second-class passengers. (Hear, hear.) During the last year, although the passenger fares had been diminished, there was an increase of £50,000. The freight for goods and specie had not been so large, owing to the competition of the French company. With regard to the observations of Mr. Jones, he could only say that the last Russian war had been very profitable to the company. (Laughter.) With regard to the iron of their vessels, they looked out for the best. They tried steel for shafts, and had broken one. Such had been the result of their experience in this matter.

The motion was then put and adopted, as was a resolution for the payment of the dividend. A vote of thanks was passed to the company's officers in Calcutta, "for fitting out the *Nubia*" with the celerity they did, and to the chairman and directors, which terminated the proceedings.

The report of the directors is as follows:—

The capital account shows that the company stood possessed, on the 30th of September last, of stock in ships, less the amount deducted for depreciation, £2,524,766. 10s. 1d.; also of freehold and leasehold property in England, and docks and premises at Calcutta, Bombay, Hong Kong, Singapore, and other stations, £158,962. 4s. 7d; and stock of coals, naval and victualling stores, amounting to £339,688. 10s. 7d.; also cash at bankers', investments, bills receivable, balances in agents' hands, and debts due to the company, £557,751. 4s. 2d.; making the total assets £3,581,168. 9s. 5d. The capital received from proprietors at that date amounted to £2,100,000; and there had been received on debentures £498,090; total capital, £2,598,000; the liabilities of the company, in bills payable and otherwise, amounted to £525,441. 16s. 5d.; making the total capital and liabilities £3,123,444. 16s. 5d., and showing a surplus of £457,726. 13s. This surplus is represented by the balance at the credit of the general reserve fund. The revenue account shows that the gross revenue or income of the company, from freight, passage-money, postal service contracts, and other sources, amounted, for the twelve months ending 30th September last, to £2,346,203. 0s. 2d.; that the expenditure and charge on revenue, including interest on debentures, with the reserves made for insurance, wear and tear, and depreciation for the same period, amounted to £2,120,544. 2s. 3d., leaving a net profit of £225,648. 17s. 11d.; deduct dividend 3½ per cent., and additional payment 1½ per cent. for the half-year ending 31st March, £105,000; and the half-year's dividend of 3½ per cent., now about to be recommended, with an additional payment of 2 per cent., £115,500; leaving a balance of £5,148. 17s. 11d.; which has been carried to stock account.

The proprietors' underwriting account states that the annual premium of 5 per cent. on the estimated value of the floating property of the company, covering ordinary sea risks, and credited to this account, for the year ending 30th December, 1864, is £110,000; payment proposed to be made to the proprietors at the rate of 1½ per cent., £31,500; balance carried to the general reserve fund, £78,500. In the last annual account this fund amounted to £379,226. 13s.; add balance of underwriting account, £78,500; making the present amount, £457,726. 13s. Since the date of the last half-yearly report, the *Nyanza* has been launched and completed; and this vessel will start for her first trip to Alexandria on the 12th instant. It was stated in the same report that the *Columbian* had arrived at Southampton for repair and refit, and to receive the new engines which had been prepared for her. It appeared, however, on examination, that the cost of these repairs and refit, and of adapting the ship to the peculiar requirements of the company's service, would exceed the estimated expense, and the directors accordingly availed themselves of the offer of an eligible vessel of about 2,500 tons, with engines of 500-horse power, recently laid down by Messrs. Scott, of Greenock, the parties interested in her agreeing to take the *Columbian* as she was, in part payment for the new ship. The engines, prepared by Messrs. Day and Co., of Southampton, for the *Columbian*, being thus made disposable for another vessel, the directors have contracted with that firm for the construction of a new hull of about 2,500 tons to receive them. This ship is named the *Surat*, and that building by Messrs. Scott and Co. the *Mongolia*.

The directors have also entered into a contract with the Thames Iron Works and Ship Building Company for a new screw ship of 2,000 tons, the

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engines for which, of 450-horse power, are being constructed by Messrs. Miller and Ravenhill. The ship is to be called the *Tanjore*. The extent of the company's business at some of their foreign stations, and the rapidity with which the operations of coaling the steamers, and transshipping the mails, passengers, and cargo have to be performed, have rendered the construction and employment of several steam-tugs necessary; and as some of these have been built and brought into active service during the last year, vessels of this class are now added to the prefixed list, namely, the *Ansari*, *Colaba*, *Mazagon*, *Dragon*, and *Kelpie*.

Although the cyclone at Calcutta occurred a few days after the close of the financial year, the proprietors will doubtless look for some information as to its effects on their interests in the present report. The directors are happy to state none of the company's ships on a voyage came within the range of this destructive hurricane, and that they have not to deplore any loss of life. The vessels at the company's moorings at Garden Reach at the time were the *Bengal*, the *Nemesis*, the *Nubia*, and the hulk *Hindostan*. The *Bengal* was driven on shore on the opposite side of the river, and the efforts made to get her off had not been successful at the date of the despatch of the last mail. The *Nubia's* masts were carried away by the sheer force of the wind; and on the morning after the gale the unusual power of the tide drove the *Hindostan* upon the *Nubia* and the *Nemesis*, forcing these two vessels from their moorings, and causing considerable additional damage to both. In the end, the *Hindostan* rolled over and sank, and the *Nubia* and *Nemesis* were secured. By dint of great exertions on the part of the company's staff, the *Nubia* was made fit to start with the mails and passengers seven days after the usual date, and the run to Suez having been performed in twenty-one days, the delivery of the last mail from Australia, &c., was accomplished within four days of the proper time. The company's property on shore, especially the newly erected coal sheds, sustained much damage, and the restoration of these and other buildings will involve considerable expense.

The company's contract for the mail service to and from the Mauritius was for five years from March 8, 1859, subject to twelve months' notice on either part; but such notice was not given, and an agreement has been entered into between Her Majesty's Government on the part of the colony and the company, to carry on the service from year to year, with an annual increase of £6,000 to the subsidy, to compensate to some extent the withdrawal of £12,000 paid annually by the French Government for the communication with Reunion previous to the establishment of the line of steamers belonging to the company of the Messageries Imperiales. With regard to the proposed fortnightly line to Australia, which has been so constantly alluded to in recent reports, the directors have only to announce that, in reply to a letter from the Postmaster-General, dated 15th September last, they stated their inability to make any abatement from the terms already submitted for the performance of that service, but that they would still be willing to undertake it on those terms.

It was stated in the last half-yearly report that a deputation of the board had proceeded to Egypt to negotiate the terms of a new contract with his Highness Ismail Pacha, for the conveyance of the passengers and cargo between Alexandria and Suez, and that a considerable abatement would probably be conceded in the railway fare for passengers. The new agreement effected by the deputation came into operation on the 1st of October, under which the through charge for each first-class passenger has been reduced from £7 to £2. 10s., the passenger, however, paying for refreshments during the journey. The double line of rails between Alexandria and Cairo is progressing rapidly, and large orders for rolling stock are in course of execution in this country. The directors are enabled to congratulate the shareholders on the fact that the navigation of the company's large fleet has not been attended by any casualty involving a charge on the underwriting account during the last twelve months; but the occurrence of the cyclone at Calcutta (whether the *Bengal* is floated or not) will create very heavy and immediate expenses in the refit of the injured vessels, and the rebuilding and repair of the company's coal sheds, workshops, and other property on shore.

The paid-up capital of the company remains the same as at the close of the financial year of 1862-3, namely, £2,100,000, and the debenture debt stands at £493,000. The number of new ships recently built and in course of construction has, however, rendered a call of £5 on the new shares necessary; this has been made payable on the 2nd proximo, and the requisite notice has been issued to the proprietors. A reference to the abstract will show that the revenue account for the year exhibits a satisfactory result, and the directors are therefore enabled to recommend the usual dividend of 3½ per cent., with an additional payment of 2 per cent.; the amounts payable under this report will consequently stand as follows:—Dividend, 3½ per cent.; additional payment, 2 per cent.; underwriting account, 1½ per cent.; in all, 7 per cent. And these payments will be made free of income-tax, in one warrant, on the 28th instant.

TRIAL TRIP OF THE "NYANZA."

The official trial of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's new paddle-wheel steamer *Nyanza*, named after the lake discovered by Messrs. Speke and Grant at the supposed source of the Nile, took place on Wednesday, the 30th Nov., at the measured mile in Stokes Bay. This vessel was built by the Thames Ironworks and Ship-building Company, from designs by Mr. G. C. Mackcow, the naval architect to that company, and her engines were constructed by Messrs. Rennie, of Blackfriars-road, London. The *Nyanza* is 310 ft. long, 36 ft. in width, and 30 ft. deep from top of keel to deck, her tonnage (builders' measurement) being 1,988 11-94, and her displacement at the draught on trial of 17 ft. 9 in. fore and aft was 2,964 tons. She had on board 493 tons of coal, 46 of water, 75 of stores, and 57 of kentledge, giving a total weight of 671 tons. Four runs were made at the measured mile, and in spite of a very strong wind (force 6) from the S. W., the following very satisfactory result was obtained:—

	Steam.	Vacuum.	Revolutions.	Time.	Speed
First run	26¼ lb.	26½ lb.	25 lb.	4m. 55s.	12·203
Second run	25 "	26 "	24¾ "	4m. 0s.	15·000
Third run	25 "	26 "	24½ "	5m. 8s.	11·688
Fourth run	26 "	26 "	25 "	3m. 58s.	15·126
Mean	25⅝ lb.	26¼ lb.	24⅞ lb.		13·504

The engines worked throughout the day in a most satisfactory manner, not the slightest trouble being experienced from hot bearings, priming, or any other cause. They are on the oscillating principle, cylinders 78½ inches diameter, and stroke 7 ft., the proportions being considerably stronger than usual, in order to prevent liability to accident. The surface condensers contain 43,000 ft., or nearly nine miles of solid-drawn copper tubes, fixed in Muntz's metal tube plates, arrangements being provided so that the engines may be worked, if required, as an ordinary injection engine. The circulating water in the condensers is driven by centrifugal pumps, each of which is worked by an independent engine. The air pumps are worked by large eccentrics on a straight intermediate shaft—a plan by which the crank in the centre of the intermediate shaft is rendered unnecessary, and which has been adopted by Messrs. Rennie in all the paddle-wheel engines lately constructed by them. The boilers are on Mr. A. Lamb's patent flue principle, with his improved "scroll" superheaters. We understand that these engines are the largest oscillating paddle-wheel engines using surface condensation which have ever yet been constructed on the Thames. The *Nyanza* has a spar deck, with direct and commodious accommodation fore and aft between decks. She had berths for 143 first and 34 second-class passengers, with large capacity for cargo and mails. Among the numerous company on board at Wednesday's trial were Messrs. Dinnan and Luke, Admiralty inspectors; Messrs. Rubie and Murray, Board of Trade surveyors; Captain Hands, C.B., Admiralty superintendent of packets at Southampton; Mr. Peter Rolt and Lord Allan Churchill, representing the builders of the ship; Messrs. John and George Rennie, the constructors of her machinery; Mr. Olding, assistant-manager of the Peninsular and Oriental Company; Mr. A. Lamb, the company's resident engineer at Southampton; Captain Engledue, superintendent at Southampton; Captain Lovell, Captain Jamieson, Captain Curling, Dr. Alexander Beattie, &c. The *Nyanza* left Southampton on the 12th inst. with the Bombay mails.

Continental Intelligence

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, Dec. 7.

In my last letter I referred to the masterly speech of Mr van Zuylen van Nyeveldt, the aim of which was not only to oppose the Ministry, but principally to explain why he had left the camp of the Liberals. Liberalism was not now what it had been in bygone days; it was now rather Thorbeckianism, an alloy of a baser material. I need not tell you that the Minister for Colonial Affairs got his share of the many accusations brought against the Ministry in general, nor need I state that the Ministerial party stood up as one man to defend by protest the Cabinet. The Ministers of the Interior, Finance, and Colonial Affairs defended themselves with the greatest energy against the charges brought against them. This debate occupied five days, and the worst of it was that when Chapter I. (Royal Household) was brought forward for discussion, the House was neither further advanced nor wiser than at the beginning; for it was accepted—as had been the case with Chapter II. (Institutions of State)—without any deliberation. During the discussions respecting Chapter III. A (Foreign Affairs) the Minister spoke very highly of the exploits of the squadron in the Japanese waters during the action in the Straits of Simonoseki. The Government (so said Mr. Cremers), was always inclined to act in that quarter with energy, but now that the wish has been fulfilled, the Government was of opinion that it would be better to assist the Japanese Government if it fulfils its obligations, rather than to bring it into difficulties with those Daimios who were their enemies. After a short debate this Chapter was accepted by 53 against 13 votes. Both the Chapters respecting ecclesiastical affairs occasioned but little debate, as was the case with that of Justice; though in respect to the latter many complaints were heard of the alleged supineness of that Minister. Only eighteen members voted against the Chapter.

When the Budget of the Minister of the Interior was brought forward a very great number of speakers took part in the discussion. Every one had his own remarks upon the question, whether those remarks had anything to do with the matter or not. We have had an elaborate answer from the Minister, which occasioned several replies, and I think that this Chapter will pass tomorrow. Mr. Thorbecke, however, experienced a slight defeat. An increase of 4,300 guilders for the building commission having been refused him, in consequence of an amendment of Mr. van Bosse.

On Saturday last the House had the expected interpellation of Mr. Rochussen respecting a judgment passed by the High Court of Justice of Netherlands India, delivered on the 6th of September, by which a *loeta* was acquitted, who had pulled down coffee-trees that had been planted by order of Government. The interpellation, to which no political idea was attached, or at least as little as possible, produced no result, because the Minister had not been made acquainted with all the particulars

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of this remarkable case. The motion next proposed ("that the House, after having heard the Minister of Colonial Affairs, is of opinion that the interest of the State requires that the pulling down of coffee-trees planted by order of Government should not remain unpunished, and that measures should be taken against it, passes to the order of the day,") has been postponed, after a few words from Mr. Rochussen, to be brought forward again if necessary, and when the Minister has made the necessary inquiries.

The news brought here from Tagal, where some Europeans have been murdered, has caused great sensation. The particulars of the case are, however, yet incomplete; and the intelligence, which may arrive here, per English mail, about the 12th of December, is anxiously looked for.

It is with much regret that I have to announce the death of Mr. Cores de Vries. He died at Wiesbaden, aged 50 years, and only four months after his return from Java.

Amsterdam is full of joy, because, after many difficulties, they have now brought together the necessary sums required by the Canal Company. The difficulties respecting the national monument for 1813 have also ceased, for Prince Frederick has given his approbation to the Ebenhuezer model.

The Bill for the abolition of the newspaper duty (stamp duty) has been at last presented to the House, but a long time may yet elapse before it will be finally passed.

It is said here that Queen Victoria has been pleased to offer to Captain J. E. de Man, commander of our squadron in Japan, the dignity of C.B.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—A good market, and several parcels Java brought more money, viz., 1,500 b. ex Jedo, 45½ cents; 1,200 b. ex Adriana Petronella, 46 c.; 607 b. ex Australia at 47 c., 2,300 b. ex Bosphorus and Vyf Vrienden at 45 to 49½ c. Besides a good business was done in Macassar sorts at 40½ to 42 c. Stock: Trading Company, 279,300 b.; private, 24,700 b.

TEA.—Market unaltered. Some parcels imported from London were sold at full prices. Stock, 9,950 ¼-ch.

SUGAR.—Dull. 4,184 kr. Java, ex Frederica Warren, were sold at prices that did not transpire; it is, however, supposed at 1½f. under those of September. Private stock, 7,900,000 kils.; Trading Company 18,076 kr. The quotation is: Java, white, 37f. to 42f.; grey, 35f. to 36f.; brown, 27f. to 31f.; Manila, grey, 31f. to 35f.; brown, 26f. to 30f.; Mauritius, grey, 31f. to 35f.; brown, 26f. to 30f.

RICE.—There are no transactions to report; the holders are, however, rather firmer by the reports from abroad. Stock, 61,300 b.

SPICES.—For Nutmegs there was some demand. Stock, 832 casks. Pepper, 880 b., were sold at 20½ c. entr. ex Sjofroken. Stock, 2,200 b. Cinnamon, No. 3, 88 c., without stock. Cloves, No. 2, 1864, are willingly sold at 32 c. Mace dull. Stock 560 casks.

TOBACCO.—(Java). Different parcels (6,000 b. together) were sold at full prices. Stock, 14,461 b. Java, 1,550 b. Manila Cagayan.

CIGARS (MANILA).—At public auction, were sold 40,000 2a Habano Manila at 30f. to 30½f.; 16,000 3 a do., at 25f. 5,000 Imperials at 51f. to 51½t.; 16 ½-ch. Malang, at 31½f.

COTTON.—Steady, with little doing.

BANCA TIN.—1,000 bl. were sold at 58½f.; private stock, 71,032 bl. Trading Co., 68,131 bl. Since the last auctions 109,239 blocks were delivered.

INDIGO.—Firm, but no transactions.

HEMP.—Dull.

RATTANS.—1,045 b. ex Bosphorus, and 850 b. ex Koning Willem II. were sold.

HIDES.—No transactions to report. The imports from the 1st Jan. till November, consisted in E.I., 77,972 p. in 1864; against 92,916, in 1863. Stock E.I. 8,973 p.

MONEY.—Easier; Bank discount, 6½; open market, 6½ to 7; N.W.S., 2½ per cent., 60½; 3 per cent., 72 1-16; 4 per cent., 95½; Handelmaatschappy, 137½. 'Change on London, 3 mo., f.11.52½; 2 mo., f.11.60; short, f.11.72½; Paris, 3 mo., f.45,86; 2 mo., f.46.05; short, f.46.50; Hamburgh, 3 mo., f.34.75; 2 mo., f.34.87; short, f.35.10.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.—Nov. 25, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Frederik Hendrik; 26, at Texel, from St. Helena, Alexandrina, with a part of the loading of the Kiandra; 27, at Texel, from Batavia, Staatsraad van Ewyck; 28, at Flushing, from do., Louis Meyer; 29, at Brouwershaven, from Tjilatjap, Fortuna; from Batavia, Vyf Vrienden; Dec. 5, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Ægidia and Pauline; at Zierikzee, from Sourabaya, Ajax; 6, at Brouwershaven, from Pasoeroean, Three Bells.

READY TO SAIL.—At Nieuwe Diep and Texel: Sourabaya Packet, for Sourabaya; Friesland, for Samarang; Libra, for Kanagawa; Maria Agnes, for Padang; Joan Melchior Kemper, for Japan; Koning Willem III., for Macassar; Koophandel, for Batavia; Susanna, for Melbourne; Graaf Dirk III. and Æolus, for Batavia; Machtilda Simonetta, for Samarang; Doesborgh and Pollux, for Batavia.

LOADING.

AT AMSTERDAM.—For Kanagawa and Decima: D. J. Visser; for Macassar, Quartre Bras; for Batavia, Anne and Sophie, Ferdinand and Louis, Almelo.; for Batavia and Samarang, Galilei; for Batavia and Sourabaya, Willem Hendrik; for Samarang, Johanna, Madura, Christina, Nicot, Stad Leyden; for Sourabaya, Willem Daniel, Capella, Baltimore.

AT ROTTERDAM.—For Decima and Kanagawa, Japan Packet; for Macassar, Koning Willem III.; for Batavia and Sourabaya, Graaf Dirk III., Delft; for Samarang, Maria Magdalena, Noord Brabant.

FREIGHTS.—Unaltered.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

FROM JAVA.—Per Dageraad, Captain Duinker, Major Weber, Captain von Windsheim, Mrs. Gieseken and six children; per Staatsraad van Ewyck, Captain Ham 99, Mr. Weddingen and family, Major Uhlenbeck and family, Lieutenant H. von Biehl, Mr. Hanegraaf and family, Mrs. Albrecht and Laumers; per Vyf Vrienden, Captain Johan, Mr. Loree and child, Mrs. van Gent and two children, ten soldiers; per Ægidia and Pauline, Captain Hoogland, Mr. Kerkhoff and family, nine soldiers.

HAMBURG MARKET REPORT.

COFFEE.—The favourable result of the Dutch sales produced a good impression in this market, and ever since then the prices have been gradually rising with a brisk demand, so that since last mail the sales by private contract have amounted to the considerable figure of 115,000 bags. In consequence of this the stocks in warehouse are much reduced, and the market offers at present but a very imperfect assortment. Should the frost set in before the arrival of fresh supplies, there is no saying to what extent prices may rise during the winter. Present stock 5,500,000 lbs. against 12 millions of lbs. last year, and 13 millions in 1862.

SUGAR.—Prices have been gradually sinking since last mail, and may be quoted now fully 8 to 10 sch. bco. per 100 lbs. cheaper. The sales, however, have been satisfactory in extent. Among them were 3,000 bags of brown clayed Manila at 16 mks. bco. for delivery on arrival. In the refined market the tendency has been to decline, and prices are likely to go lower. Sales 30,000 loaves.

RICE.—Market steady, with a fair amount of business in cleaned descriptions. No dealings to report in rough grain.

SPICES.—Cassia Lignea continues in favour, and the late rise is fully established. By the sale of 1,400 chests yesterday at 9¼ sch. bco. the stock in importers' hands has been cleared off. Cassia Flores firm, and will probably be higher, as the stock in warehouse is greatly reduced. A better feeling prevails for Ginger, but hitherto there is no improvement in values. For Pepper there is a fair demand, 2,500 bags of Singapore lately arrived have found purchasers at 3⅛ sch. bco. In Mace, Nutmegs and Cloves a steady consumptive demand at former quotations.

SPELTER.—This market was for several days in a torpid state, but a favourable reaction has again set in, and there have been some considerable transactions, though the prices rule in favour of buyers. 6,000 centners were done at 13 mks. 12½ sch. bco. for the spring, and 5,000 centners of favourite marks fetched 14 mks. ex-warehouse.

SHIPPING.

SAILED.—*Zanzibar* to Hong Kong and Manila, *Princess* to China, *Arizona* to Manila, *Che-Foo* to Macassar.

ARRIVED.—*Fayel* from Manila. Amongst the late arrivals from the Far East are Mr. Bohstedt, from Ningpo; Mr. Hesse, from Hong Kong; and Mr. Ohlengschlaeger, from Batavia.

SWITZERLAND AND JAPAN.

In our last impression it was stated that the Swiss Diet had received intelligence of the arrival shortly of a Japanese Embassy to Europe. The communication was made officially to the Bund by Mr. Brennwald, the First Secretary to the Swiss Embassy in Japan, who has lately returned from the East and is now staying at Berne. The Embassy will consist of two of the principal Ministers of the Tycoon and five lesser Daimios. The Japanese Government sends a friendly greeting to the Swiss Confederation and assures them that the new Embassy, after the completion of their mission to France and England, will then certainly pay a visit to Switzerland. From Berne the Embassy will subsequently proceed to Vienna, Berlin, and St. Petersburg. Mr. Brennwald states that the Embassy that visited Europe last year fell into disgrace on their return to Japan, and the members were imprisoned for having overstepped their instructions and acted without authority.

In consequence of a petition from fifty-three Swiss commercial houses at Trieste, seventeen at Smyrna, and thirteen at St. Petersburg, as well as from others in China and elsewhere, the Swiss Executive Council has sent in a Report to the Diet, recommending the latter to grant Swiss subjects abroad the right of using the Swiss flag in vessels that they may own, and to authorise the Executive to furnish the needful papers to prove their nationality. It is true they have no ports of their own, but that does not seem to be an insuperable difficulty, as in the ports of most countries they would be received and treated on the footing of the most favoured nation. Nor does there appear any difficulty in an international point of view, though of course the preliminary step would be to communicate with other maritime nations and obtain their recognition of the new flag proposed to be created for sea-going Swiss vessels. The Greek flag is a creation of this century, and the present Italian tricolour has but just superseded the Neapolitan, the Tuscan, and the Sardinian, but both have been recognised by all maritime States. It is stated that for many years a vessel called the *Paradoxe*, belonging to a Swiss shipowner, and commanded by an Indian captain with a crew of Malays, has been trading in the Indian Archipelago under the Swiss flag—a white St. George's cross in a red field; and that another under the same ensign was last year captured by Federal cruisers and lawfully condemned for attempting to break the blockade and enter the port of Charleston.

PORTUGAL.—A Lisbon telegram states that the French Sisters of Charity at Macao will be replaced by Portuguese sisters.

THE *Illustrated London News* of the 10th December contains a large sketch of the storming of the Prince of Nangato's stockades by the Naval Brigade and Marines.

Mr. PENDER, of Manchester, M.P. for Totnes, is now in better health, and was able to address his constituents at Totnes this week.

THE Rev. H. Huleatt, formerly military chaplain in Hong Kong, delivered a lecture on China on the 6th instant at the Horns, Kennington.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

Subscription 5ts. per annum, including Postage. Export Supplement 12s. extra.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, TUESDAY, DEC. 13, 1864.

THE TAIPINGS AGAIN.

ACCOUNTS from Amoy report the hostile appearance of marauders within fifteen miles of that port, supposed to be a band of fugitive Taipings from the provinces of Keang-soo and Che-kiang, which have been successfully cleared of their devastating presence. Although it is not certain that they are Taiping rebels, yet the probabilities point to the supposition being correct; and it may prove to be the remnant of th CHUNG WANG'S forces defeated at Nanking, and led on by the son of that valiant chief, who inherits the bravery of his father. Doubts are entertained whether it was that redoubtable rebel who suffered decapitation, or only a make-believe of the Imperialists; but we have no reason to question the report by any subsequent disclosures to the contrary, so we may conclude that it was the real "Simon Pure" who suffered for his treason to the EMPEROR. In all likelihood it may be the certainty of this fact that has stirred up the last of his adherents to avenge his death, by an attack upon the open port of Amoy, where the detested foreigner who sided with his enemies was to be found. There has been ample time for them to have reached so far south after the fall of Nanking and Hoochow; and as we afterwards heard of marauding bands being seen in the tea districts of Ngan-whei and Foo-kien, it is probable that they have reached the seaboard by the trading route through that country. As the latter province has not hitherto been visited by these locusts they would find there fresh pastures to ravish, and leave their desolating track behind. We may hear, in consequence, that the black Tea district, of which Foochow and Amoy are the shipping ports, has suffered by their presence, so as to injure the ensuing crop. Should this unwelcome news prove true, we trust that the Naval and Military authorities will despatch succour without delay to protect our interests at this treaty port, and if necessary aid the constituted authorities in driving them beyond the stipulated boundary of thirty miles' radius, as at Shanghai and Ningpo. No doubt the Philo-Taipings, headed by their quasi-supporter, the *Daily Press*, will raise the "hue and cry" against such a step; but it is to be hoped these will not deter the authorities from protecting British life and property at Amoy by a decisive onslaught against these land pirates, as the Navy does against sea pirates. In such emergencies our gallant men-of-war are ever on the alert; and it is satisfactory to learn, by the accounts referred to, that H.M.S. *Dove* and *Swallow* were at anchor in the harbour, with their steam up, when the news left, ready to render assistance should the foreign settlement be attacked. That danger was imminent seems apparent from the wealthy Chinese flying on board the junks with their valuables; while the merchant shipping were requested to remain in case the English and other foreign residents would have to fly for succour and for safety on board. If these sanguinary rebels enact similar scenes of murder and rapine among the industrious inhabitants of Amoy as they did at Shanghai, it will bring home to the sceptical residents in the south of China the bloodthirsty character of these wretches who have for so many years spread a curse over the North.

NO MORE BANKS IN CHINA.

COMPETITION in banking, as in any other pursuit of a legitimate character for the extension of commerce, when conducted within reasonable bounds, invariably results in benefiting the public on the one hand, and the competitors on the other. While the merchant derives profitable advantages from the use of banking capital, the shareholders of the banks receive good dividends from their investments, and the trade of the country where their monetary operations are carried on is developed to its full extent. But there is a point beyond which these operations may prove detrimental to all concerned, if they result in overtrading and illegitimate speculation, by affording undue facilities to over-sanguine or inexperienced merchants with slender capital of their own to fall back upon in case of failure. Then it is time for prudent bankers already well-established to check the outflow of capital, by restricting discounts, and for new competitors in the financial field to pause before they risk their capital in fresh ventures. To this point has foreign banking in China reached; and it is admitted by all experienced merchants in England connected with the trade of that country, that the number of banks now in operation are more than ample for the requirements of legitimate trade. Any further extension of their number is looked on with apprehension by those who are thoroughly conversant with that trade; and if the operations of the existing banks be not restricted, there is every probability of commercial disaster to old houses and ruin to new firms. There is no doubt but that the large losses in tea and silk shipped during the past year are attributable, in a great measure, to the undue facilities afforded to junior establishments by the banks in China, when requiring accommodation. Frequently these tyros, in dealing with the astute Chinese merchants, have foolishly raised the prices of the staple products by displaying an unbusinesslike eagerness to bid against each other in order to secure the earliest shipments of the season; from which the teamen at Hankow and the silkmen at Shanghai of course reaped the advantage. To afford such overtrading merchants unlimited facilities for carrying on operations is simply to ruin the trade altogether as a profitable pursuit, and banking accommodation becomes the high road to bankruptcy—a result from which China traders have been more exempt hitherto than those of any other country within our commercial relations. As we have before stated, there are at present more than sufficient banks to conduct the discount and exchange business of the open ports in China, and our readers may judge for themselves if this be not the case when the formidable list is placed before them—comprising *eight* separate head establishments in England, France, and India, with *twenty-one* branches in China and Japan, according to the following details extracted from the *Friend of China*, which has a very pertinent article on the subject:—

We here furnish a list of the banks at present existing in China—senior of all being the Oriental Bank Corporation, first established in Hong Kong in November 1844, under the designation of the Bank of Western India (of Bombay). This bank has branches at Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Yokohama. Next in seniority is the Commercial Bank of India, with branches at Hong Kong, Shanghai, Foochow and Hankow. Third in establishment is the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China, with agencies at Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Yokohama. Then comes the Agra and United Service, Limited, with branches at Hong Kong and Shanghai. The next in formation, if we remember aright, being the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, with branches at Hong Kong and Shanghai. Which of the following was established in China before the other, we cannot say: Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan, called by natives the Japan Bank. The Central Bank of Western India has branches in Hong Kong, Shanghai and Yokohama; and the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris, with branches at Shanghai and Hong Kong.

In addition to this we have to add the Asiatic Bank, the Scinde Bank, and the Bank of India, with agencies in China.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the majority of the China banks or branches owe their origin to projectors in India, and that there is no one of purely local foundation with its head establishment at Hong Kong or any of the open ports. This latter question has been mooted for the past two years, but hitherto without any signs of the proposition reaching a mature point. In the interim, certain parties in Bombay, who apparently had profited by the extension of the Indian banks to China, start a new project, to be called "The Bank of China," with its head quarters in Bombay. This new scheme naturally roused the latent energies of those who had broached the suggestion of having an independent *Bank of China* raised upon local subscriptions chiefly. Accordingly they issued a prospectus to that effect, and solicited the co-operation of subscribers at Bombay. The appearance of this unexpected document, backed by the names of many influential firms in Hong Kong and Shanghai, immediately roused the ire of the Bombay projectors, and they denounced the counter-scheme as a scan-

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dalous affair—as if an independent body of merchants may not have a local bank under their own control, and shareholders to participate in the profits of their own business given to such a bank. The conduct of the Bombay company in the matter is, to say the least of it, preposterous and absurdly petulant. It would have been more decorous on their part to have withdrawn from the field, in deference to the principle of allowing local enterprise to obtain an independent footing in China. Instead of pursuing this honourable course, a meeting of the shareholders was convened, when a resolution was passed approving of the report of the promoters to prosecute the undertaking with rancorous feelings against the China scheme. In that report they also take occasion to cast reflections on one of the most influential firms in China, for not "cordially assisting their undertaking," after communicating privately with them, but "joined in projecting a rival institution;" insinuating as much as that they had committed a breach of faith. The assertion of those disappointed promoters may be taken for what it is worth, but that the firm alluded to behaved in the manner described, no one who is acquainted with the high integrity of its partners would for a moment believe. Whether either of these embryo banks will sink or swim is a matter of indifference to the public; but it is of importance to know if the present extravagant facilities for mercantile speculation in China be augmented by an increase in the number of banks. As the exponent of all prudent men on this head, we would advise intending shareholders to be chary in subscribing to any new project, as we require "No more Banks in China."

THE TRANSFER OF THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

IT is with no small degree of surprise that we learn from the Singapore journals, to hand by the French mail, that our contemporaries have received information, on what they consider semi-official authority, that there is to be no transfer of the Straits Settlements from the Indian Government to the Colonialo-ffice after all. The announcement is made in quite a pathetic and desponding tone. After years of patient solicitation, and memorialising Her MAJESTY'S Government praying for removal to the fostering care of the parent State from that of a neglectful stepmother, with hopes buoyed up in full expectation of a favourable issue to their application; just as the Singaporeans are going to quaff a goblet to the success of the new *régime*, it is dashed from their lips by the unwelcome announcement. "Be of good cheer!" say we to the patient residents of the Straits. Our contemporaries are premature in their conclusion, for the question is by no means decided against. Had such been the case, we are in a position to state that the news would have reached us among the first, and our contemporaries received the information through our columns long before the roundabout rumour by way of Hong Kong had come to them. The feeling here, in well-informed quarters, is that the question of transfer will be carried.

Without impugning the testimony upon which the announcement is made, let us examine its value as given in the *Straits Times*:—"It is stated that Sir HERCULES ROBINSON, who, it will "be remembered, was president of the commission appointed "by the Home authorities to investigate and report upon the "condition of the Settlement, has transmitted by the *Ganges* "copies of despatches which he had received from home, and "by which it seems that our transfer to the Colonial-office has "been finally decided not to take place." Now these despatches must have been forwarded by the mail of the 26th August; and, allowing more than the usual *despatch* for their being copied and re-copied in the realms of red-tapism, it must have been the middle of the month, if not the beginning of it, that the matter passed under review of the Ministry. Why, as we write, that is *four months ago;* so we have no hesitation in saying that the so-called *final decision* has been simply a financial point of objection put forward by the cautious CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER at that time, but which has been since passed over without further notice; otherwise we feel confident such an important piece of news would have oozed out somewhere, and there are too many anxious friends of the Straits on the alert here to allow the intelligence to escape them. We look upon it as the old story of "The three black crows," and would refer to a letter at page 707.

However, there are some communications which have risen out of this report pertinent to the question at issue, that are worthy of remark. Amongst these is a letter in the *Singapore Free Press* signed "ANTI-TRANSFER," which smacks considerably of gubernatorial inspiration. From it we gather that the members of the Indian commission were jubilant upon the prospects of a longer term of office than they anticipated; and in the gladness of their hearts they became magnanimous on the occasion, holding out the hand of good fellowship to the reformers, saying that bygones should be bygones, and that everybody ought to be content in making the most of the existing situation. The writer thus expresses himself on this point:—"It appears to me that we should make rather the best of "our present connexion, seeing that the promised new one ob-"jects to have anything to do with us, and when you say that "so far as taxation is concerned our burdens would be no "heavier under the one than the other, you seem to forget "that while the Home Government objects to have us from the "fear that we should be a burden on it in case our revenue "fell short, the Indian Government has borne for years a deficit "balance-sheet without a murmur, besides showing great "liberality in the assistance it has always given to works "which, although they do not come under the head of Public "Works, are still works of public utility; while on the other "hand, were we under the Colonial-office we could not expect "the Home Government to afford any aid whatever to any of "our undertakings, and if we did expect it we should most "assuredly be disappointed." What a wretched idea this writer has of a free and independent colony with its responsible executive, as the future condition of the Straits Settlements would be under the Colonial Department! The picture drawn by this sapient publicist of their relationship to the Indian administration, compared with what they may become as colonies having a constitution for self-government, is as different as that of a puling, sickly child under the neglect of its monthly nurse, of the Mrs. Harris' school, and that of a vigorous son abroad in the world working out an independent livelihood for himself, so that one day he may be of assistance to his parents in time of need. Witness the Australian colonies as an example of this kind. Our knowledge of these embryo nations is of earlier and longer experience than that of the British settlements in the Far East. Well do we remember the struggle of the Port Phillip colonists to throw off the shackles of New South Wales for a free Legislature and responsible Government, just as the residents of the Straits are striving to get rid of their Indian incubus. In this they succeeded; and what has been the result? The former dependency, of a dependency, is now the richest jewel in Britannia's colonial diadem, and the independent colonists who have made it what it is, boldly reject the felonry thrown on their shores in defiance of all the red-tapists and obstructives in Downing-street—which a wise and prudent Ministry have consented to, in justice to their demands. So may the Straits Settlements reject the convicts from India, which are maintained at a heavy cost to the local revenues, and become flourishing and free colonies, as a rich field for commercial enterprise, which has been the only source from whence they have derived the prosperity they possess. But for the merchants and shipowners, what would their condition be at the present time? In all probability mere cantonments, where the military governors and commissioners with Indian troops might be idly watching, or actively suppressing, the incursions of marauders from the peninsula, or Malay pirate prahus off the coast. In spite of the obstacles thrown in the way of their advancement, let us see what are their elements of progress as self-supporting colonies. We have ample evidence of this before us in the document drawn up by the "Proprietors and Merchants of these Settlements in England," and presented to the UNDER SECRETARY of STATE for the COLONIES, on the 30th September, when these gentlemen learned that there was some hitch about the transfer on account of their financial state. The following extract fully illustrates the progressive capabilities of this fine group of Settlements, to become in time the most flourishing colonies in the Indian Archipelago:—

With respect to the first of these obstacles to the assumption of the administration by the Imperial Government, we respectfully submit that the elasticity of their financial resources is confirmed by many years' experience. Increase of revenue has, in fact, kept pace with increase of trade and population, or in other words with increase of wealth and numbers. In 1852-53 the trade of the three settlements was valued in the public returns at £8,719,550, and in 1862-63 it was £16,906,496, showing that in ten years time it had increased by £8,186,946, or at the rate of 93.$\frac{18}{100}$ per cent. In the same ten years the revenue had risen from £77,533 to £186,625, an increase of nearly 142 per cent. A more recent period will show that the revenue continues progressive. Thus in the year 1859-60 the revenue amounted to £125,453, and in 1862-63, deducting four months' stamp duties, it was £178,660, being an increase within

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the brief period of three years, of 42,$\frac{11}{100}$ per cent. Increase of revenue bears a still greater ratio to population than it does to trade. The Census of the population gave in 1850, the number of inhabitants at 223,344, and that of 1860 made them 278,773, an increase of little more than 22 per cent. In so far, then, as elasticity in financial resources is concerned, we may safely assert that the Straits Settlements far exceed the great majority of Her Majesty's colonies, and equal the most prosperous of them, the gold colonies of Australia, with Hong Kong—which is of the same character as themselves. Besides the general revenue of the three settlements, it should be added that they have a separate municipal one, yielding at present about £40,000. Judging by the long experience of forty-five years since the foundation of Singapore, and the adoption of the principle of free ports, there can be no ground for doubting a continuance of the financial prosperity of the Straits Settlements, for we may safely say that it would be difficult to produce any one year in the last six-and-thirty in which the revenue did not exceed that of its immediate predecessor. Even with the present sources of revenue there can, in our opinion, be no doubt but that an income can readily be realised for all the ends of a wise, liberal, and economical expenditure.

JAPAN AND COCHIN-CHINA.

(FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.)

The late operations in the Straits of Simonoseki have attracted considerable attention here, although not so much as on your side of the channel. There seems to be no suspicion entertained of the good faith of the Mikado or the Tycoon, although a correspondent of the *Moniteur de la Flotte* says:—"The affair of Simonoseki has produced the greatest effect on all the Daimios and the Government of Jeddo. The Prince of Nagato was the hero of the Japanese; his fall is the severest lesson that could have been given to Japan." It is maintained here that the telegram was rightly construed which informed Europe that the Prince had *refused* to pay the indemnity, and a correspondent, writing from Japan on the 15th October, says that in consequence of that refusal he was condemned by the assembly of Daimios, sitting as a court of justice, to the confiscation of all his property and the loss of his honours. To this is added, what I have not yet seen in any English paper, that besides the palace of the Prince being destroyed, all his retainers, to the number of 400, half being women and children, have been put to death by order of the tribunal. Moreover, adds the writer, it is reported that the Mikado has ordered the Prince to be decapitated, and his head to be exhibited over the ruins of his late palace, and that an expedition is being prepared to take possession of his province. The same correspondent says that the Tycoon was about to have an interview with the Mikado in order to arrange all matters connected with foreigners. There is another bit of news current here to the effect that four officers commanding the Japanese, when they saw the batteries taken and the soldiers routed, felt it their duty to inform the Prince that he ought to try and make peace, and that when the messengers were despatched to treat with the Europeans, these four officers committed suicide in the Japanese manner, in order to prove that their advice was not dictated by the fear of death. The assertion of the superiority of the French rifled guns over the Armstrong's is industriously repeated with embellishments. It is said amongst other things that the Dutch were very much impressed in that sense, and had written to their Government accordingly. For the present, I think we cannot condemn our own arms upon such evidence, especially in the presence of the good opinion of the American, quoted in the *London and China Telegraph*. Still, if the fact be as the French correspondents and journalists will have it, no one is so much interested in knowing it as the English. It is the practice here to cover everything with the varnish of asserted superiority, but we know well enough that nothing has stood England in such good stead as wholesale, honest, fearless faultfinding. If Armstrong is not all that can be desired, the sooner we know it the better. We have too much confidence in our metal to want its faults filled in and bronzed over.

We are not yet informed whether the French Government has accepted or repudiated the convention made by its representative in Cochin-China, but the universal impression abroad is that the latter is the case, and that the three Annamite provinces are to remain French possessions. This impression is rather strengthened by the announcement that Rear-Admiral de La Grandière will go back to Saigon for two years more, in order to complete the organisation of the colony. The steam-frigate *Imperatrice Eugénie* is now being fitted at Toulon for the French Admiral, whoever he may be, in command of the squadron in the Chinese and Japanese seas. It is said that Admiral de La Grandière will be allowed some months of repose in France, and then return to his command with the rank of vice-admiral. The Ministerial journals tell us that under his administration the colony has entered upon a course of incredible prosperity—which is good news, but does not agree exactly with other accounts of the condition of commerce at Saigon.

The *Japon*, transport, brings home three young Annamites, selected from the boys of the native company of the *Dupêrre*, who are to act as interpreters for the convicts carried by that vessel to the Isle of Bourbon, and then to proceed to France. We are told that the admiral selected these three as the best of the company, and that all their comrades begged to be allowed to go, and were only consoled when promised that they should have their turn at some future time. "The enthusiasm was then at its height; tears were dried up, and all promised to conduct themselves in the most exemplary manner, that, like their three comrades, they might have the opportunity of seeing France. These young imaginations, excited by the accounts which are current in every village since the return of Phan-tan-gian from his mission, can form no idea of anything so glorious as a voyage which will enable them to see for themselves what is related about the *great country*, as, in their simple language, they call France." It is said that the monks have obtained a very important concession in Cochin-China, in the province of Mytho, where they intend to establish an agricultural colony.

There is no doubt that, whatever may be the feelings of the Annamites towards France, the French people are becoming more interested in Chinese and Japanese matters every day. The sales that attract most attention are those consisting of the wares of those countries. A sale of such articles, announced as belonging to a Mr. Marks, of London, occurred on the 29th of last month, when the prices obtained were unusually high. Two large garden-stools or table supports, enamelled, fetched a sum equal to £248, and two other lots of enamelled ware went for £68 and £62 odd respectively. A crystal ball fetched no less than £52; five pieces of old china brought £108; five other pieces, £78; two pieces of old Japanese porcelain, £60; and two Chinese vases, £60. Paris would seem a better market than London for such articles at the present moment. I may quote, also, as a proof of the attention attracted by Chinese art, the facts that the makers of fancy articles of furniture are producing a large number of imitations of Chinese ware, some of them very tasteful indeed; that Chinese and Japanese patterns are making their appearance on silks, damasks, and paper-hangings; and, lastly, that a new theatre is being built at the junction of the two new boulevards named after Richard Lenoir and Prince Eugène, in pseudo Chinese style, decorated with porcelain, or rather *faience* tablets. Thus the invasion of the Far East has its effect on Western habits and tastes.

The following has been published by the Paris papers:—

We have received, *via* Holland, a letter from Japan three days later than the news already published. It has been already stated that the Prince of Nagato having refused to pay the war indemnity stipulated in the Treaty of Peace signed by him, a judgment of the criminal tribunal of Yeddo had decided that his two palaces should be razed to the ground and his servants put to death. We now learn that this singular and sanguinary sentence was approved of by the Mikado and by the Tycoon—the spiritual and temporal sovereigns of Japan—and that the number of servants killed in execution of it was 420 men, and 215 women and children. The Prince, on learning those facts, was deeply concerned, and sent to the capital his first minister on board the English corvette *Barossa*, which was placed at his disposal by Vice-Admiral Kuper. The minister on arriving at Yeddo waited on the representatives of France, England, Holland, America, and Russia, and besought them to intercede with the Tycoon in favour of the Prince, his master, who had decided on executing all the provisions of the treaty, and immediately paying the sums due. Such was the situation of affairs at the last date.

COLONEL GORDON MADE A C.B.—In our outward issue of the 10th we notified the gratifying intelligence that Lieut.-Colonel Gordon, R.E., the gallant commander of the late successful campaign against the Taipings, has been rewarded by Her Majesty with the title of Companion of the Honourable Order of the Bath for his valuable services in China. We look upon this as a preliminary step to the further honour of knighthood, when he returns to England to pay his respects at Court. At the departure of the first October mail from China, we learn that Colonel Gordon was at the camp of Fong-Wong-sai, sixteen miles from Shanghai, still overlooking the drill of the new embodied Chinese disciplined force. In all probability his services would be discontinued there about the end of that month, when he is expected to leave Shanghai for England by the first mail in December, if not before. We are confident that he will meet with a hearty reception on his arrival at home, after so many years of service abroad, where he has raised the character of our nation for honour and bravery as many have done before him.

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THE TELEGRAPH TO PEKING *VIA* KIACHTA.

The following paragraph has been published in the daily papers, but to our readers we communicated this intelligence in our issue of the 10th Nov. We shall be glad to see the line put to some practical use :—

A telegraphic despatch has reached St. Petersburg announcing that the telegraphic service is now organised as far as the frontiers of China. The line passes by Kasan, Omsk, and Irkoutsk, where it divides into two branches, one to Irbit, and the other to Chadrinsk. The total length of the line is 5,438 versts (five-eighths of a mile each). The works have all been completed in three years.

THE TRANSFER QUESTION AND THE RAJAH OF JOHORE.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—As you reproached the Tumongong of Johore, in one of your late issues, for attempting to monopolise the sale of gambier in his dominions, it is but just to that potentate to inform you that the last news from Singapore informs me that all intention of such a design has been strenuously denied by him ; at the same time it is stated that such denial should be taken in a "diplomatic sense," consequent on the pressure exercised by the Chamber of Commerce. The same mail brought the dirge of the *Straits Times* on the transfer of the Straits Settlements. I have to request that you will kindly reassure the good people in the Far East on this important subject. There is, I believe I may state, more vitality in the transfer question than ever, and every chance of its being brought to a satisfactory conclusion.—Your obedient servant,

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London, December 5, 1864.

EXTRA PARLIAMENTARY SPEECHES.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

The Right Hon. A. H. LAYARD, M.P., Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, addressed his constituents at Southwark on the 2nd inst., and made the following allusions to China and Japan :—

He would refer to another matter, which had been equally the subject of misrepresentation. He had alluded to it last year, and he reverted to it again now to show how the policy of the Government, the policy of Lord Palmerston had been justified by the results. It would be remembered that Lord Palmerston was accused of unnecessarily meddling with China, and with desiring to provoke a war with the Chinese people, in order that we might take possession of their country, as we had taken possession of India. It was, of course, at the time difficult to disprove these assertions, and mere assertions of motives it was always difficult to disprove. All they could say when intentions were imputed that were unfounded was that they did not exist; the disproof must abide by the results. (Hear.) But he (Mr. Layard) had been personally blamed in connection with this matter, because it was said that he had voted against Lord Palmerston on a question connected with China, which he well remembered, seeing that he lost his seat for Aylesbury in consequence. But there was no analogy between the two cases. He held that the policy pursued by Lord Palmerston in regard to China some years ago was wrong, and the vote he then gave was directly in favour of the policy which the Government had now carried out. What he complained of on a former occasion was, that Lord Palmerston was hurrying us into a war with China instead of endeavouring to settle the points of difference between the two countries by protocols and diplomacy. But now the question was reversed ; we were at peace with China, our relations with the Court of Peking were as amicable as were our relations with any Court in the world, and any differences which arose were discussed between our Minister and the Minister at Peking in the same way as differences were discussed with the Minister of any other Power at which this country was represented. And that was the right way. He thought it wicked on the part of a powerful civilised country to take advantage of its strength to impose upon a half-civilised country, with which we might have differences. (A voice : How about Japan? (Hear, hear.) True, that to a certain extent we had been engaged in hostilities in China, but not with China, but in defending the treaty ports against those who were in arms against the Government of China. A very large trade had sprung up in those ports, and one of the principal stations, Shanghai, was threatened by the rebels. These rebel Taipings were a great body of marauders, without any settled form of government, who went about sacking and destroying towns and villages, and in short all that came within their reach. If we had not assisted the Chinese Government to oppose them we must have incurred great loss, and have run the risk of all those Chinese ports being shut up against European trade one after the other. It would have been expensive to have sent a large force of British troops to defend the place and drive back these Taipings, and it was thought more advisable, therefore, to assist the Chinese. The French did the same, and that policy had been successful; the Taipings had been routed and broken up, Shanghai was now free, and Nanking was the same. The ruin caused by these marauders might be imagined when they heard that in the once densely populated city of Nanking a man had while it was under their rule, flushed pheasants, but no sooner had they left than the Chinese began to flock back to it rapidly, and it has now again become populous. The Chinese were a thrifty and industrious people, who took a large quantity of our manufactures, and with whom, therefore, it was of great importance that we should keep on good terms in order to promote the development of our trade in that quarter of the world ; and this was the object and this was the result of the policy which had been pursued. He observed that in the attacks upon the Government on account of their Chinese policy, none of the members of the Opposition took any share. No alternative policy was ever proposed. They said what the government was doing was wrong, but they never said what was right. (Hear.) The only alternative brought forward was that suggested by Mr. Cobden. (Loud cheers.) All that that hon. gentleman said was worth listening to, but anything more impracticable, or more likely to lead to a general war and to universal confusion, than the plan that hon. gentleman proposed he did not know. Mr. Cobden's proposition was that they should withdraw from Peking and Shanghai, and take possession of four or five islands which were to be opened as free ports. But that would have been a declaration of war against China. We had no more right to take those islands than France had to take the Isle of Wight. (Hear.) And if we had done so, France and Russia and America would of course have made similar claims, and the consequence would have been great difficulty and confusion, and in all probability war, while the only alternative policy was that which Lord Palmerston's Government adopted, and that had proved successful. (Cheers.) Those who now heard him could hardly understand the amount of foreign trade carried on in China. The total estimated value of the British and foreign trade of China was £104,248,000, of which £41,936,000 was carried on at the port of Shanghai. It was true that a good deal of this trade was carried on between the cities, and was not *bonâ fide* foreign trade, but as to the greater part of it, it was European trade, and British trade more especially ; and it was growing and developing with great rapidity. He now came to Japan, about which some gentlemen at the bottom of the room had just asked a question. Last year the Government were denounced for making what was called a wanton and bloody attack on the town of Kagosima. Now he would not believe that any British officer would wantonly sacrifice the life of any one. ("Oh, oh," and cheers.) A friend below cried "Oh, oh," but he (Mr. Layard) again said that no Englishman would voluntarily sacrifice the life of any one — certainly no officer who held a commission in Her Majesty's service would do so; and when the statement was made he said at once, and unhesitatingly, that it could not have been the case. It was true that a part of the town was burned, but the population had been removed beforehand, and in a few months the whole town was rebuilt. These Japanese cities were not like ours. They were built, not of lath and plaster, but of lath and paper, and if one was set on fire the others followed in quick succession. But if they were quickly destroyed they were rapidly restored. He regretted the destruction as much as any one, but it was a necessity which could not be avoided. Well, we had recently been again engaged in hostilities with the Japanese. So far as our Government was concerned, there was the most anxious desire to be at peace with Japan. They wished to extend our commerce with them, to be at peace with them, and to benefit our own country by extending our trade with them, but things might arise which were beyond our control, rendering hostilities absolutely necessary. Such was the case in the recent war—a war not with the Japanese Government, but with a Daimio, a sort of nobleman, who had taken upon himself to raise certain forts, and to block up the entrance to an inland sea which communicated not only with a considerable portion of Japan, but with an important part of the archipelago. If we had acquiesced in this, it would have encouraged others of these powerful noblemen to follow the same example, and we should probably soon have found ourselves in a war with the Government of Japan. It was this consideration which led our Minister, in conjunction with those of Holland, France, and the United States, to attack the forts which opposed the entrance of our ships, to silence the batteries, and force the entrance into the inland sea. (Hear.) It was said they were cowards for attacking so weak a people; but he (Mr. Layard) held that the course taken was a humane course, and one calculated to prevent war and save life. (Hear.) The Japanese were, indeed, the most singular people under the sun. When the batteries were silenced some men from the fleet were sent to remove the guns, but the Prince, the Daimio, who was more a pirate than anything else, protested, and said that the guns were his property. When, however, he found that the admiral insisted, he not only assented, but sent some of his own men to help to get the guns on board, and also sent presents of fruit and flowers to the admiral. Close to the batteries was the town of Sukemalaki, which was not interfered with at all. Then as to the effect of this act upon the Government of Japan, and our trading relations with that country. For fifteen months the trade, which was principally in silk, had almost stood still. In 1860, 2,392 bales had been sent down ; in 1861, 5,283 bales ; in 1862, 5,486 bales; and in 1863-4 only 700 bales ; but when the Japanese Government heard that the batteries of Nagato had been destroyed they again opened the trade in silk, and in a few days 3,000 bales were brought down. No one would wish to enter into a war unnecessarily, but there was cause when it was essential that examples should be made. With regard to European politics he had only to say that, having been, as usual, during the recess, to Italy, he was highly gratified with the progress which he had observed in that country.

Lord CLARENCE PAGET also alluded to the engagement as follows :—

We have been engaged, in conjunction with our allies the French, and other great European nations, in an affair in the waters of Japan, to which I wish for one moment to refer. One of the powerful Daimios of that kingdom had thought fit, without the consent of the Tycoon, to shut up the inland sea of Japan—a sea which may be fairly and aptly compared to our own channel—and to assert the right to close it against the commerce of all nations whatsoever. Well, we and the other great European nations united with common accord—and this is another proof of the good fellowship which happily exists between this country and the other Powers—they united together in chastising those insolent Daimios ; and thus you had another chapter added to the records of the skill and valour of your officers and seamen. (Hear, hear.) We have not for an instant entertained the idea of occupying the territory or seizing any of the provinces of the Daimios. (Hear, bear.) All that we have done is to vindicate our right to free and unfettered ingress and egress to and from those inland waters, and when Parliament meets and discusses this matter I am satisfied that all parties will be found to agree that the course lately pursued by the Government in Japan was justified under the circumstances.

COTTON FROM CHINA.

The following appears in *The Times*. We observe some errors in regard to dates to and from China, &c :—

Sir,—In the cotton trade circular just issued by Messrs. Neill Brothers, occurs the following rather startling statement, of which it would be desir-

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able that the public should have some explanation. On the subject of cotton supply from China Messrs. Neill say:—

"The dissatisfaction which imports from that country have caused, the recent panic in the trade, and the fact that prices are even now 4d. and 5d. per lb. lower than last year, have already reduced the quantity afloat to a bagatelle."

The advices from which the last returns of cotton afloat from China were made up reached at latest to the 9th of October, and the latest telegraphic news from England in China at that date was to the last week in August. On the 1st of September prices of cotton were still within a trifle of their highest point, and although there had been rumours of peace in America, such as we have had every few months since the war began, nothing had occurred which would hinder the shipment of a single bale of cotton—no symptom of the "recent panic" had appeared. As to the "fact of the present price," one is at a loss to conjecture how it could be communicated in time to prevent shipments two months ago. Possibly, however, Messrs. Neill may in their next circular demonstrate the immediate effect of the present price on the past shipments by instancing the fact that the cotton afloat advised on the 26th of November was only 106,000 piculs, while on the 3rd of December it had increased to 124,000 piculs, the market meantime having considerably improved.

The unsatisfactory results of former imports of Chinese cotton will probably be judged by the Chinese according to the price realised, and, while we still offer fifteenpence for cotton which that industrious and thoroughly mercantile nation can grow with a good profit for sixpence, I do not think they will trouble themselves much about the dissatisfaction caused to the buyers. The tendency of the paragraph—and this alone makes it worthy of public notice—is to convey the idea that unless the present ridiculously high prices of cotton are maintained, the large crops grown in 1864 (the first year which has had the full effect of the stimulus of extreme prices lasting long enough to give confidence to growers) will not be sent to us. The absurdity of such an idea, however, is manifest to any one who will give it a moment's consideration. Before the war the Indian surplus crop was sent to us, and in 1860 to a very considerable amount, although the prices realised ranged in that year from only 2½d. to 4½d. per lb. Native speculators may certainly endeavour to hold back supplies in hopes of forcing prices, but we may confidently rely on their neither eating nor otherwise consuming the cotton, and the crops of 1864 are just as certain to us, even should the article decline at once to nearly its nominal value, as if we had them already stored in our warehouses.

Cotton trade writers generally still industriously keep up the notion that the course of prices of this staple depends upon American politics and the state of the money-market, studiously ignoring the fact demonstrated by the figures given below—that owing to the increased supplies from all quarters on the one hand, and the permanent decline of demand from economising of material and substitution of other fibres for clothing on the other hand, our supplies of cotton, independently of America, are now in excess of the requirements.

Supplies of cotton to the United Kingdom from other countries than the United States, but including latterly small receipts of American Cotton from Matamoras and through the blockade:—

	Bales.		Bales.
1858	577,000	1862	1,445,000
1859	744,000	1863	1,932,000
1860	784,000	1864	2,600,000
1861	1,194,000	1865 (estimated) ..	3,500,000

Stocks of cotton on December 2,	1863. Bales.	1864. Bales.
At Liverpool	249,500 ..	383,800
At London	43,500 ..	117,700
At Havre	26,200 ..	61,800
Total	319,200 ..	563,300
		319,200
Increase of stock in 12 months		244,100

THE IMPORTS OF COTTON AND THEIR CONSEQUENCES.

(ECONOMIST.)

Many people who only live from day to day in the money market—and of such there are by far too many—are surprised at the revival of the export of gold to Alexandria, and of silver to India. But the real ground of surprise is that the revival has not taken place earlier; that the high value of money was able to stay the export of gold and silver so completely as it did stay it. The extent to which the cotton import—the *value* of the cotton import—has grown, is not enough kept in men's minds. The figures are, for the first nine months of the three last years, as follows:—

	1862.	1863	1864.
United States	£408,158 ..	£438,401 ..	£1,594,489
Bahamas and Bermudas	205,949 ..	1,578,639 ..	3,422,227
Mexico	104,672 ..	860,636 ..	2,261,430
Brazil	1,061,732 ..	1,658,749 ..	3,373,959
Turkey	163,102 ..	542,208 ..	1,565,160
Egypt	2,655,130 .	6,379,790 ..	11,354,653
British India	9,044,484 ..	17,358,230 ..	24,862,133
China	21,151 ..	1,520,670 ..	4,945,209
Other countries ..	862,723 ..	1,325,008 ...	2,955,006
Total	£14,527,101	£31,662,331	£56,334,266

The wonderful effect which the high price has had in stimulating the import—not only from one place or country, but from all countries—is very remarkable. But this is not the feature of capital importance. The point to be considered is this: we are importing, in *value*, 75 per cent. more of cotton than we imported last year, and most of it, as the figures show, is from new regions and countries which will not on a sudden take commodities in exchange, but will have cash—will have money. If we look at the *Oriental* demand, as we may call it, of India, China, and Egypt, taken together, the comparison runs:—

VALUE OF COTTON IMPORTED FROM INDIA, CHINA, AND EGYPT.

1862	£11,720,765
1863	25,258,690
1864	41,161,995

If we remember how powerfully this demand affected us last year, how it forced up the Bank rate at this very period 2 per cent. in a week, and to 8 per cent., we shall not be surprised that we now feel to some extent the milder effect of an agency so augmented.

An idea prevails in some quarters that our exports to the East have grown to such a magnitude as to counterbalance the largely increased imports of cotton. But the figures of the Board of Trade tables do not countenance such an idea.

THE EXPORTS OF BRITISH AND IRISH PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
Egypt	£1,637,252 ..	£2,967,708 ..	£4,478,083
India	11,350,837 ..	13,021,949 ..	14,345,139
China (exclusive of Hong Kong) ..	1,594,299 ..	1,771,873 ..	2,308,522
	£14,582,388 ..	£17,761,530 ..	£21,131,744

Whereas the imports have been:—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
Egypt	£8,716,815 ..	£11,845,621 ..	£14,792,635
India	17,095,803 ..	26,371,998 ..	33,871,971
China (exclusive of Hong Kong) ..	8,415,905 ..	9,163,528 ..	8,235,986
	£34,228,523 ..	£47,381,147 ..	£56,900,592

So that the balance of trade, as indicated by the bare figures of the direct commerce, is more against England than it ever was.

We do not wish to infer from these figures that there must be a sudden drain to the East of enormous and overwhelming magnitude. Such is not our opinion. There are many circumstances which must be taken account of besides the mere figures of export and import when we consider the state of the exchange between different countries. For example, at the present moment it is said that some of the rich natives of India are so displeased at the price at which their cotton was recently sold here, and are so sanguine as to the future, that they are sending over money to buy cotton in Liverpool; they will not permit, if they can help it, the price of cotton to be brought down by temporary despondency here. And there are various other circumstances which may in one way or another alter the interchange account of two nations. But, on the whole, there is this great force upon the edges of the market which must have its due effect, which must prevent the speedy arrival of *cheap* money.

Naval and Military.

—o—

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of the under-mentioned officers who served in the late engagement at Simonoseki to be ordinary members of the military division of the third class, or Companions of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, viz.:—Captain John Montagu Hayes, R.N., Captain William Montagu Dowell, R.N., Captain John Hobhouse Inglis, Alexander, R.N., and Lieut.-Colonel William Grigor Suther of the Royal Marines, Lieutenant-Colonel Charles George Gordon, of the Royal Engineers, sometime employed in the service of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China.

The Duke of Somerset has bestowed the vacant captain's good-service pensions on Captain Charles Farrel Hillyar and Captain George Sumner Hand, C.B. The first-named officer reckons twenty-seven years and six months' sea time; and the last, twenty-nine years and six months. The Duke has conferred the post of Aide-de-Camp to the Queen on Lieutenant-Colonel George Lambrick.

Captain Sherard Osborn, C.B., went on board his ship, *Royal Sovereign*, on the 30th Nov., for the last time as her commanding officer, Captain Osborn resigning his command of the ship, the completion of his captain's service in sea time entitling him to flag rank on the Active List. The *Royal Sovereign* maintains a present complement of 104 officers and men, comprising one senior lieutenant, one surgeon, one paymaster, one chief engineer and three assistants, three warrant officers, and 94 seamen, marines, and stokers.

LAUNCH OF A STEAMER FOR THE EGYPTIAN PILGRIMS.—The launch of the first of the new steam ships for the Egyptian Navigation Company (*Azizich*) took place at the Thames Iron Works, Orchard-street, Blackwall. The new company has been promoted by the Pacha of Egypt, and the chief shareholders are the leading Egyptian dignitaries. Its primary object is the diversion of the pilgrimage traffic from the infidel French and American hands, into which it has strangely fallen, and hereafter the most scrupulous follower of the Prophet will make the voyage to and from Constantinople and Alexandria with a good conscience. Already some purchased steamers are on the passage, but they are inadequate, the running of Egyptian steamers for the pilgrims proving as attractive as excursion trains to our own working classes. It has therefore been necessary to increase the fleet of the company, and the Pacha and the shareholders after deliberation put the matter into the hands of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, requiring three first-class steamers of the ordinary proportions and with the same style of fittings as the latest vessels. The other two are in an advanced state for launching, one in the yard of the Messrs. Wigram, and the other in the yard of the Messrs. Samuda. There, it is expected, the demand for steamers will not stop, the attractive accommodation of steamers in all respects like those of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, and specially fitted for the harems of the pilgrims, promising still increased accessions to the traffic. The special fittings for the harems are, however, restricted to first-class passengers, and the main saloon, so appropriated, has three movable partitions, with separate deck communications, closets, &c., each division making up sixteen beds for wives, besides the necessary sofas for the attendants. The partitions have been made movable so as to admit of the steamers being at any time withdrawn from the pilgrim traffic employed as transports. The second-

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class accommodation, contemplating only four wives for each pilgrim, does not indeed stand in need of special fittings, beyond a capacious sofa for the middle-class lord and a rug for the eunuch; four berth passengers being usually stowed in each state-room in the second-class of a Peninsular and Oriental steamer. In the third-class the pilgrims, who, it may be presumed, have quite enough to do to keep one wife, have no privacy afforded them, and are supposed to rough it out much in the same manner is steerage passengers on board a New York liner.

THE WILL OF THE LATE RICHARD GIBBS, ESQ.—The will of Richard Gibbs, Esq., late of the City of London, tea broker, and of Upper Tooting, Surrey, was proved in London on the 29th October, by his relict, the sole executrix. The personalty was sworn under £100,000. After making several bequests, he leaves to his wife a life interest in the residue of his property, with power of disposition over a certain portion. The ultimate reversionary residue is left amongst some of his nieces and others. To his partner, William Weston, Esq., he leaves the option of retaining £10,000, at 4 per cent. interest, from which annual sum of £400 annuities of various amounts to twelve persons are to be kept up, the bequests being chiefly to individuals who had been or were in his employ; and on the decease of these annuitants the principal sum of £10,000 will revert to twenty-three charitable institutions. The legatees are numerous, and the legacies are to be paid free of duty. There are specific bequests of pictures, &c., to many of his friends, members of the City Club, and to one of the "Round Table." To each of his clerks who had been four years in his employ he leaves a legacy of £100, and £20 to each of the others; also £10 to each of the porters, and legacies to his servants. His business, carried on under the firm of Messrs. Gibbs and Co., he states, "was founded and reared up by him, and with the assistance of his partner, has met with success, after many years of indomitable perseverance and industry;" and at the conclusion of his will are these words: "I thank Almighty God for inclining my heart from childhood to feel 'for others' woes.'" The will bears date July 4, 1864, and his death occurred by an accident on the 7th of October last, in his seventy-fifth year.

THE TELEGRAPH FROM CANADA TO THE PACIFIC.—Intelligence from Vancouver Island states that Dr. Rae had reached Victoria, overland from Canada, on the mission of a trans-continental telegraph. He is the surveyor of the route, and considers that the connecting of Canada with Vancouver Island by telegraph direct is but the work of two years. Already 1,200 miles of wire had arrived east of the Rocky Mountains, and 600 more was on its way to Vancouver Island, making in all 1,800 miles, the distance from Red River to Victoria.

Monetary and Commercial.

A meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Ackroyd and Whitakert in the China trade, was held at Bradford, when a composition, of 11s. 6d. in the pound, under guarantee, was offered, and will probably be accepted with that condition ensured. The liabilities are said to be £80,000, and the assets £40,000.

At a meeting of creditors of Messrs. Brown, Buckley, and Co., it was agreed "that as the accounts presented to this meeting leave no doubt that Messrs. Brown, Buckley, and Co. will, at an early period, be in a situation to pay their creditors 20s. in the pound, they be requested to wind-up their estate, and to pay as soon as possible the debts due from them to their creditors, it being understood that 10s. in the pound be paid forthwith."

The following new undertaking have been announced:—

The Telegraphic News Association (Limited). The capital is £50,000 in 5,000 shares of £10 each, with a deposit of £1 on application, and £1 on allotment. Already a large proportion of the amount necessary has been subscribed. The object is to furnish the press, and the public of England, the Continent of Europe, and the Western world, with a fuller and more regular supply of telegraphic intelligence than the present system provides. The promoters of the undertaking, after much preparation and expenditure, and favoured by circumstances of an exceptional nature, are in a position to assume this responsible function with the certainty of being able to execute it in a complete and effective manner. Special arrangements have been made for procuring early and accurate, and in many instances exclusive, information in connection with the American civil war and the progress of the new Mexican empire, while from China and the East Indies intelligence will frequently be transmitted via St. Petersburg when other sources of information are not available. According to careful estimates of the probable financial results, a large return in the shape of dividend will be secured upon a small outlay.

A numerously attended meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Halliday, Fox, and Co., general merchants, but chiefly in the East India trade, was held on the 29th November, when a balance-sheet was presented by Mr. J. E. Coleman, of the firm of Coleman, Turquand, Youngs, and Co., accountants. The direct liabilities or commitments uncovered by securities are estimated at £319,264, against which there are assets to the extent of about 307,937, including a large amount of produce. The consignments of the firm now at sea represent a total of about £1,109,000, of which £731,500 are inward and £377,500 outward shipments. The produce is valued at the prices current at the date of the stoppage, and is fully expected to realise the amount put down in the statement of accounts. The chairman, Mr. M'Kinnon, expressed a strong belief that nearly 20s. in the pound will be obtained. It was unanimously resolved to liquidate the estate under inspection, and satisfaction was expressed at the explanations afforded.

The following is the report to be presented to the shareholders of the Ceylon Company (Limited) at the half-yearly meeting on the 14th December. It recommends a dividend and bonus equal altogether to 15 per cent.:—

The directors are again able to congratulate the shareholders on the success which has attended the operations of the company during the six months previous to the 30th September. The business of the company contiuues to increase, and the reports received from the managers in Ceylon and Mauritius are very satisfactory. The accounts show that the profit resulting from the operations of the half-year may be justly estimated at £14,200, out of which the directors recommend that an interim dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, and a bonus of 2½ per cent. on the capital paid up on the 30th September, amounting together to 10s. 6d. per share, be declared, and made payable, free of income-tax, on the 17th inst. The proposed payments will absorb £9,870, and leave a balance of profit amounting to £4,330 unappropriated. The reserve fund has been credited with interest at 5 per cent., and with the premiums on the new shares allotted in India and added, will amount to £22,650. The above profit result has been submitted to, and is confirmed by Mr. Ball, the auditor of the company.

The half-yearly meeting of the Scinde, Punjaub, an Delhi Bank Corporation has been held, when the directors' report was adopted, after some discussion with respect to the non-payment of any dividend. On this point the chairman, Mr. W. P. Andrew, explained that there had not been time to acquire a large business of a character at once safe and profitable. Five of the branches have as yet produced but little, and the times have been adverse, and exchange operations hazardous. The report and balance-sheet appeared in our last.

Messrs. Smith, Edwards, and Co., of Liverpool, observe in their cotton circular:—"Considerable interest is felt at present in the movements of the Federal General Sherman, which are enveloped in much obscurity. It is surmised by some that he is marching for Augusta, and it may be observed that if this report is true, an extensive destruction of cotton may be looked for, as large stores are known to exist in and around that city. It was regarded as one of the safest depots in the South."

The biddings for £350,000 in bills on India took place on the 7th at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were—to Calcutta, £226,200; to Bombay, £120,000; and to Madras, £3,800. The minimum price was, as before, 1s. 11½d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11½d. on Bombay. The applications within the limits amounted to £2,230,000. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras, at 1s. 11⅞d. will receive about 9 per cent., and on Bombay at 2s. ⅛d., about 80 per cent.; all above these prices in full. These terms indicate a considerable increase in the demand for means of remittance to India, the rates paid being about 1¼ per cent. higher on Calcutta, and 2 per cent. higher on Bombay than those on the previous occasion.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices Nov. 26.
100	Agra and Masterman's	50	130 to 133	133 to 138
50	Do. New	25	—	...
50	Do. "	15	—	...
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	34 to 36	35 to 37
20	Do. New	All	—	...
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	60 to 62	61 to 63
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	—	...
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (7½ pd.)	15	—	...
20	Eastern Exchange	3	1 dis. to par	½ dis. to ½ pm.
50	London Joint Stock	10	48 to 50	49 to 50
100	London and Westminster	20	96 to 98	97 to 99
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	56 to 58	59 to 60
50	Union of London	15	53 to 56	56 to 57
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	4 to 5 pm.	6½ to 7½
100	Do. New	18	3 to 4 pm.	5 to 6 pm.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	½ to ¾ pm.	½ to 1 pm.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	29 to 31	30 to 31
100	Bank of London	50	155 to 160	154 to 157
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	½ to ¾ pm.	¾ to 1½ pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 4	3 to 4
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	82 to 84	83 to 84
50	Do. New	30	19 to 21 pm.	20 to 22 pm.
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	—	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	—	...
5	Bombay Gas	All	4½ to 5 xd.	4½ to 5
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	8	2¼ to 1½ dis.	2¼ to 1½ dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	par to ¼ pm.	¼ to ½ pm.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	20 to 21	20 to 21
1	Oriental Gas	All	1½ to 1¼	1½ to 1¼
1	Do. New	All	½ to ¾ pm.	½ to ¾ pm.
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2½ to 3	2½ to 3 pm.
100	West India Steam Company	60	92 to 94	90 to 92
20	Ceylon Company	7	3½ to 4½ pm.	3½ to 4½ pm.
20	International Finance Society	5	2½ to 2¾ pm.	2½ to 3 pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2½ to 3 pm.	2½ to 3½ pm.
50	London Financial Association	15	9 to 9½ pm.	9½ to 10 pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	½ to ¾ pm.	1½ to 1¾ pm.
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	6	2½ to 1½ dis.	2½ to 1½ dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	16½ to 16¾	16¾ to 16¾
10	Upper Assam Tea	2½	¾ to 4 pm.	2½ to 3½ pm.
10	Do.	All	17 to 20	16 to 18

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The annual meeting of the P. and O. Company was held on the 6th inst., when a dividend was declared of 3½ per cent. and an additional 2 per cent., and also 1½ per cent. from the underwriting account, in all 7 per cent. A report of the meeting will be found in another column.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Massilia*, from Southampton on the 4th inst., was:—In gold, to Madras £892; to Alexandria, £16,000. In silver, to Madras, £10,000; to Penang, £10,000; to Singapore, £23,500; to Hong Kong, £24,310; to Foo-chow-Foo, £3,100; to Shanghai, £24,955. Total, in gold, £16,892; in silver, £95,865.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—A dull and heavy feeling has prevailed in the Tea Market during the last fortnight, and business has been on a limited scale, with a tendency to lower prices for most descriptions. The Public Sales, comprising 31,011 packages, of which 24,407 are printed without reserve, are passing with extreme heaviness, prices for some kinds of Congou showing a further decline. The arrivals continue to be large, and the quantity put on the market is greatly in excess of the requirements of buyers.

	1864.	1863.
Home consumption for London from 1st July to 30th November	51,974,000	48,820,000
Export from do do	26,800,000	24,496,000
Sent Coastwise from do do	25,096,000	27,363,000
Total delivered for do do	103,870,000	100,679,000

Black: Dust and broken-leaf without alteration; good common shipping quality also maintains previous value. Old season's reddish-leaf kinds of common to fair quality have sold in public sale at from 11½d. to 1s. 1d., which is fully ½d. per lb. cheaper, and similar qualities of new seasons's import have suffered a decline of 1d. to 1½d. per lb. Fair to good Kaisow kinds, which have sold from 1s. 4½d. to 1s. 6d. in public sale, must also be quoted fully 2d. per lb. lower. Fine and finest Kaisows are without change, but the transactions have been trifling. Blackish-leaf sorts of common to fair quality have sold heavily from 11d. to 1s., medium sorts up to 1s. 6d. have also been difficult to move, but prices do not show any material change. Fine and finest Monings and Oopacks have been in limited request, a parcel of extra fine Moning in half-chests has realised 2s. 10d. Souchongs have offered freely, and medium qualities are difficult to move; fine and finest have been sold to a moderate extent from 2s. to 2s. 4d. Medium to fine Oolongs have sold steadily from 1s. 7d. to 1s. 10d., but inferior qualities are neglected, and prices are gradually giving way. New Scented Teas continue to meet with ready sale at full prices. Capers from 1s. 3d. to 2s. 6d., and Orange Pekoes 1s. 6d. to 2s. 8d., and a few superfine Foochow make from 2s. 10d. to 3s.; old importations are difficult to move. Common Canton Capers have sold as low as 7½d. to 7¾d. in public sale. Flowery Pekoes without change. Green: Country kinds of medium to fine qualities find ready sale at previous rates, but common sorts are only in limited request, and sales are difficult to make, exception easier terms. Medium to fine Moyune Young Hysons have realised 1s. 7d. to 2s. 3d., and fair common 1s. 3½d. in public sale; a parcel of superfine Gunpowder sold at 3s. 7d. Hysons have been in moderate request for export, from 2s. 8d. to 3s. 2d. There is nothing to report in uncoloured Japans, but a few coloured parcels have changed hands at fair prices, chiefly Young Hysons at 1s. 4½d. The quantity afloat from China and Japan is 41,330,321, against nearly 38,000,000 last year.

SILK.—China Silk: The scarcity of good Tsatlee is more than ever felt, hence any parcels of old silk offering in second hands find ready buyers, both for export and home consumption, at full prices. Japan Silk: Some few hundred bales of Mibash surreptitiously obtained from the interior have recently arrived, and been sold at about previous rates, though the demand is far from active. The deliveries for the month are 3,177 bales China, and 988 bales Japan. In Italian Silk there has been some business lately, at rather improved rates. The miserable result of this season's crop is more than ever apparent.

	Ordinary, s. d.	s. d.	Superior. s. d.
Tsatlee, No. 1 and 2	24 6 to	26 6	
„ No. 3 and 4	23 0	24 0	24 6
„ No. 5	22 6	23 0	
Ditto, Hang-Chow	22 6	23 0	23 6
Yuenfa	16 6	22 6	23 6
Taysaam	19 0	23 0	23 6
Ditto, skeins	None.		
Ditto, long reel	21 0	22 6	23 0
Canton	14 6	20 6	21 0
Chinese Thrown	19 6	21 0	21 6
Mubash, dyepot Japan	25 0	26 6	27 0
Ida, bricks	23 0	25 0	25 6
Sodai „	23 0	24 6	25 0
Oshu, re-reeled	23 6	24 6	25 0
Koshu, Selé	23 6	24 6	25 0
Accheran, ships	22 6	23 6	24 0
Mashtah „	22 6	23 6	24 0
Hat-hoice, Tussah	16 0	17 6	20 0

COTTON.—In the week ending the 3rd inst. the renewal of peace, rumours from America unsettled the market, and the London prices declined in most cases fully 1d. per lb. The following transactions were quoted during the week:—20 bales China 15½d. for fair; 610 bales Japan 15½d. to 16d. for fair, and 16½d. for good fair. In the Liverpool market also China and Japan declined about 1d. per lb. but were more in demand at the reduction. (See "Latest.") The following figures refer to the Imports:—

ARRIVALS OF COTTON INTO LIVERPOOL.

Week ending December 5, 1864. Bales.	This year. Bales.
American 4,194	188,435
Brazil 2,556	188,651
Peruvian .. .. .. —	23,372
West Indian, &c. 278	26,583
Turkey, Greek, &c. 542	56,815
Egyptian 2,937	222,662
Indian 37,984	1,121,925
China and Japan 2,514	304,028
Total 51,005	2,131,471

ARRIVALS OF COTTON INTO LONDON.

Week ending December 5, 1864. Bales.	This year. Bales.
American .. .. .. —	1,231
Brazil .. .. —	3,050
Peruvian .. .. .. —	4,957
West Indian, &c. 190	
Turkey, Greek, &c. .. .. —	1,112
Egyptian .. .. .. —	158
Indian 11,997	224,147
China and Japan .. .. —	87,818
Total 12,187	325,473
Grand Total 63,192	2,456,944

COTTON AT SEA, DECEMBER 5, 1864.

	Liverpool.	Lond n.	Total.
Indian	148,000 ..	66,000 ..	214,000 bales.
China and Japan	96,000 ..	27,000 ..	123,000 piculs.
Total	244,000 ..	93,000 ..	337,000
Same time 1863 ..	182,000 ..	77,000 ..	359,000

SUGAR.—The market closed flatly with the week ending the 3rd inst., at a decline of 1s. per cwt. At public auction 982 bags Siam, dry, greyish yellow, and white (11s. 8d. duty), were taken in at 39s. to 40s. per cwt.; 1,100 bags old clayed Manila of good quality were reported at 29s. 9d. to 30s. per cwt. During the present week the market has again been drooping, and prices are in favour of the buyer, the small portion sold being at easier rates. On the 6th, 295 mats Penang sold at 28s. to 32s.; and next day 1,603 bags at from 28s. 6d. to 30s. 6d.

COFFEE.—The supply has been very moderate of both Plantation and Native, and prices are again fully 1s. per cwt. higher; but the market has now become a little less stiff. At auction on the 8th, 440 packages Plantation Ceylon sold at from 72s. to 83s. for fine ordinary to middling colouring; 723 bags Native were bought in at 70s. 6d. Of 330 bales and half-bales of Mocha at auction, the bulk was placed at 93s. to 95s. 6d. per cwt. for fair brownish short berry, and 85s. to 86s. 6d. middling greenish long.

RICE.—The market has been active, with large business, including speculative operations of some magnitude. 18,011 bags were all sold at auction on the 6th, at 7s. to 8s. 6d., being the full value. No business of any consequence doing in Java, and the market generally firm.

CAMPHOR.—Has further increased in value, and sales have been made privately up to 95s. per cwt. for Japan, and 90s. China. 200 chests China sold at auction at 92s. 6d. to 95s. Latterly the market has become more quiet, with less disposition to buy.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Has further fallen in value 3s. to 4s. per cwt.; and of 2,070 boxes at auction, more than three-fourths sold at 82s. to 87s. per cwt. for common second to fair first pile, and 79s. to 81s. mouldy. Buds: Lower; and of 86 boxes at auction, about one-third sold at £11. 10s. per cwt. for good sound; moderate private sales had been previously effected at £11. 15s. for mouldy.

CINNAMON.—We quote 1st sort 1s. 10d. to 3s.; 2nd sort 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. 3rd sort 1s. 6d. to 2s.; 4th sort and jungle, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 7d. per lb. Nothing of any importance doing.

COCOA NUT OIL.—This market has again been very quiet, and rates have further fallen 10s. per ton.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Flat, and 181 bags at auction all retired. Dragon's blood: Nothing doing. Galangal Root: Quiet, 90 bags sold at auction at 15s. to 16s. 6d. per cwt. for good quality. Rhubarb: At auction 262 chests, chiefly of recent importation, met with good general demand, and three-fourths sold at 6s. 2d. to 6s. 3d. per lb. for fine round, 4s. 7d. to 4s. 8d. middling flat, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 5d. round, and 1s. to 2s. 9d. low to ordinary.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Steady; and of 32 cases Sumatra at auction, half sold at £13 to £13. 2s. 6d. per cwt. for good 2nd quality, and £12. 2s. 6d. to £12. 7s. 6d. false packed. Damar: Some enquiry for good quality: but 117 cases middling at auction were all retired. Gamboge: Remains scarce and firm. 11 cases at auction, all retired.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Very flat; and of 87 baskets and 3 tons at auction, one half of the former sold at 1¼d. to 4¼d. per lb. for very low trash and inferior.

INDIA RUBBER.—Really fine quality, especially Java and Batavia, wanted; Penang has sold cheaper, 76 baskets fair at auction only realising 1s. 1½d.; of 137 packages Assam a few sold at 7¾d. to 8d. per lb. for middling ball.

HEMP (MANILA).—No auction held; moderate transactions privately at £26 to £28 per ton for fair to good roping, and £23 to £25 common.

HIDES AND HORNS.—At auction 2,920 Penang cow hides offered, 1,312 sold—light, 6d. per lb.; heavy, 5d. to 5½d.; small, 6¾d.; thirds, 4d.; 455 Penang buffalo hides sold at 4¾d. for best. Horns: Firm; 5 tons Penang and 4 tons Madras at auction sold at 41s. to 41s. 6d. for 3 lb. average, and 23s. 6d. to 24s. for 1¼ lb.

JAPAN WAX.—342 cases middling and good saucer taken out at 60s. to 65s.; 2 cases sold at 75s.

OILS.—Anniseed: Still buyers at 5s. 10d. per lb., but no sellers there at the moment. Cassia: Held with a little more firmness, but nothing doing: buyers at 7s. 9d. per lb. Cinnamon: Quiet: 5 cases at auction retired.

SAGO.—Is again rather lower, and of 336 packages at auction two-thirds sold at 19s. per cwt. for fair small, and 19s. to 19s. 6d. middling large. Flour: Quiet: Very little doing.

SHELLAC.—Has become very flat, with an average decline of 5s. per cwt.; and of 1,034 packages at auction, only one-third found buyers:

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Orange, at £6. 2s. 6d. to £6. 12s. 6d. per cwt.; Liver, £5. 5s. to £5. 12s. 6d.; Button, £6. 7s 6d.; Native, £5. 2s. 6d. to £5. 10s.; pale dull Garnet, £5. 5s.; and Block, £4 to £5. 2s. 6d. Arrivals, and sales advertised.

SPICES.—Cloves: Steady; one case Penang sold at auction at 1s. 3⅞d. per lb. for good; and of 413 bags Zanzibar one-third sold at 3⅞d. to 3⅛d. 577 bags Clove stalks realised the advanced price of 2⅞d. to 2⅞d. Ginger: Quiet; but 200 cases at auction sold at 63s. to 96s. per cwt. for ordinary to good. Mace: Quiet, and of 35 cases Penang, and 25 cases Singapore at auction only one-fourth sold at 10d. to 1s. 2d. per lb. for ordinary red to fair reddish. Nutmegs: Steady; only 17 cases Singapore at auction sold at 2s. 9d. per lb. for fair bold; and 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. very good small. Pepper: White Singapore steady, and 2,365 bags at auction mostly sold at 3¼d. per lb.; Penang nearly ⅛d. cheaper, and of 10,970 bags at auction half sold at 2⅞d. to 3⅛d., with Trang at 3d. to 3⅛d. Black, nothing of any interest doing.

TOBACCO.—Manila Segars and Cheroots: Prices continue very high, and the supplies that came in during November were much damaged. Java: Numerous demands for good coloury lots, but they are not to be obtained, and all that the trade will have to select from are the remaining parcels of old imports; there is to be a sale of 10,000 bales in the early part of next month on the Continent, when it is asserted that scarcely any lots fit for this market will be amongst them. Japan is at present the substitute most used, but it will soon cease to be so if parcels sent on are not more carefully selected; to pay the heavy freight from that part of the world on actually bad tobacco is like throwing money away. Prices: Manila cheroots and segars, 8s. to 9s. 3d.; Manila leaf, 11d. to 4s.; Japan, 4d. to 7d. Java, 6d. to 1s. 0½d.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegu: Dearer, and in good demand; 616 bags at auction mostly sold at 23s. to 24s. per cwt. for fair to good. Gambier: Very quiet, with scarcely any trade; 450 bales at auction all retired.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls: Nothing doing in Turkey or Bombay, which are very scarce. China and Japan again dearer; of 279 cases China at auction three-fourths sold at 60s. to 65s. per cwt.; and 281 cases Japan all sold at 50s. to 53s. 6d. Musk: Steady. 30 caddies Tonquin at auction sold at 30s. to 31s. per oz. for good picked, 19s. to 21s. middling rough, and 17s. 6d. pickings; 3 tins Cabardine sold at 12s. 9d. to 13s.; 4 tins Grain retired. Rattans: Rather lower; and 10,271 bundles Penang, and 4,710 bundles Singapore sold at 4s. to 4s. 11d. per 100. Sapan Wood: Steady, but quiet; 39 tons Manila at auction all retired. Mother o'Pearl Shells: Dearer; and of 197 cases at auction one-fourth sold at 115s. per cwt. for good. Soy: Firm; little offering; 12 hhds. at auction retired at 3s. 9d. per gallon. Star Anniseeds: Held firmly; 42 cases at auction retired at £6. 10s. per cwt. Sticklac Siam: Continues very flat; of 380 cases at auction a few only sold at 48s. per cwt. for very good. Tortoise-shell: Flat; in very partial demand, and only at low prices; of 19 cases at auction, half sold at 10s. to 14s. 6d. per lb. for inferior to middling in sorts. Vermilion: Cheaper; and of 30 boxes at auction, two-thirds sold at 2s. 6d. per lb., at which there are still sellers.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 15s. to £8; nail rod, £9. 10s.; hoops, £10. 10s.; sheets, single £11. 10s.; Staffordshire bars, £9. 10s.; rails, £7 to £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £16.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £99 to £100 per ton; yellow metal, 8½d. to 8⅝d. per lb.

TIN.—100s. to 101s. for block; 101s. to 102s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 29s. to 29s. 6d. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £20. 5s. to £20. 10s.; W.B., £22. 10s.; shot, patent, £23. 15s.; sheet, £21. 10s.; spelter, £21. 5s.; zinc, English sheet, £26. 10s. to £27; quicksilver, £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—There was very little improvement in the Metal Market in November, and some metals are now lower in price than in the early part of the month. Iron: Scotch Pigs continued depressed. The present quotation is 50s. 6d. g. m. b. for cash. Welsh and Staffordshire remain firm in price. Copper has been more in demand, and there is now less disposition on the part of sellers to give low quotations. For Burra the quotation is £3 to £4 higher than at this time last month. Tin: The heavy stock keeps Tin very depressed; we have had rather more demand for shipment at intervals the last few weeks, but not sufficient to take off the fresh arrivals, so that this month again the stock here shows an increase upon the preceding; English has participated in this flatness with Banca and Straits. The quotation for Straits is 93s. to 94s., and for Banca, 95s. 6d. to 96s. The quantity of Straits tin afloat for Europe is 864 tons, against 668 tons in 1863, and 721 tons in 1862. Tin Plates have again declined in price, more particularly for coke. The quantity shipped to all parts for the past month was 58,000, against 75,000 boxes in November, 1863. For Lead there is more inquiry, with an improvement in price. Spelter remains inactive; the stock on 30th Nov., 11,820 tons, against 4,803 on 30th Nov., 1863. Quicksilver without alteration.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£334,667
Foo-chow-Foo	—	11,020
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	£17,000	515,311
Singapore	£720	279 605
Penang	—	80,420

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	88.940
Penang	—	88 532
Hong Kong	£31,568	157,295
Foo-chow-Foo	—	1 500
Shanghai	—	£218,564

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	—	£220,124
To Saigon	£120	90,080
To Batavia	£3,923	6,778
To Hong Kong	—	405,153
To Shanghai	—	329,903

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloons	3 16 0	to 3 17 0
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4	
Silver in Bars	0 5 1⅛	
Mexican Dollars	0 5 1	

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

The circular of Sam. Mendel quotes: With an improved demand at the close of the week higher prices are again quoted; the sales to day are not active, yet there is an absence of pressure to realize at any reduction from the advance generally asked. Quotations: Grey Shirtings, 7lbs., 16s. 6d. to 17s.; Cotton yarn, 16 to 24, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d.; Maddapollams, 7s. 2d. to 7s. 3d.; Long Cloths, 17s. 6d.; T-cloths, 12s.; White Spot Shirtings, 20s. 6d.; Brocade do., 20s. 9d.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Dec. 2	London	Yokohama	Natal	Spence.
— 1	Off Mount's Bay	Maulmain (?)	Standard	
— 2	Queenstown	Do.	Sarah Pack	Vaughan.
— 5	Deal	Colombo	Clough	McBay.
— 5	Do.	Do.	Helen's Bank	Lawson.
— 4	Do.	Shanghai	Wild Deer	Cobb.
— 5	Do.	Do.	City of Quebec	Dalrymple.
Nov. 29	Off Mount's Bay	Colombo & Tuticorin	Braemar	Trewavas.
Dec. 4	London	Yokohama	Yokohama	Sim.
— 5	Deal	Pasaroeang	Three Fells	Simpson.
— 7	Marseilles	Sumatra	Raphael	Bande.
— 6	London	Shanghai	Shakespeare	Tucker
— 6	Do.	Do.	Assyrian	Mearns.
— 6	Do.	Colombo	Palestine	Park.
— 7	Deal	Hankow	Stirlingshire	Cunningham.
— 6	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Chan Sze	
— 7	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Bride of the Seas	Donald.
— 7	Do.	Canton & Macao	Vadivia	Billington.
— 7	Deal	Shanghai	Gresham	Brayley.
— 7	Falmouth	Bassein	Wjatka	Klein.
— 5	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Ogidia and Paulina	Hooghand.
Nov. 9	Havana	Singapore	Esperanza	Lopez.
Dec. 9	London	Shanghai	Caractacus	Twiss.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Dec. 2	Liverpool	Yokohama	Jane	Pickard.
— 2	Do.	Hong Kong	Monsoon	Jay.
— 2	Do.	Singapore	Advance	Taylor.
— 3	London	Cardiff & Hong Kong	Whinfell	Whereat.
— 3	Shields	Shanghai	Golden Spur	
— 5	London	H. Kng & Foo-cw-Foo	City of Aberdeen	Taylor.
—	Bremen	Galle	Aurora	
— 6	Plymouth	Singapore	Polly	
— 5	Cardiff	Do.	Satellite	Evans.
— 7	London	Bat., Samg., & Subya.	Skimmer of the Seas	Mikkelsen.
— 3	Bremen	Hong Kong	Fanny Kirchner	Aossini.
— 8	London	Shanghai	Challenger	Browne.
Nov. 12	New York	Hong Kong	Venus (Dut. barq.)	Fobias.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Belina. For Nagasaki: Rifleman. For Shanghai: City of Quebec, Pegasus, Fychow, Star of China. For Hong Kong and Canton: Banian, White Adder, Devana. For Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: Merse. For Singapore: Norfolk, Dewa Gungadhur. For Singapore and Penang: Ferozepore. For Colombo: Echo, Percy Douglas, Frances, Princess, Empress.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Aden. For Shanghai: Invincible. For Hong Kong and Canton: Canton. For Singapore: Jessie Beazley. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Helvetia. For Manila: Iberica, Sales. For Colombo: Lizzie Scott. For Galle: Lepanto.

At GLASGOW.—For Shanghai: Glencoe. For Batavia and Singapore: Mary Hamilton. For Ceylon: Princess of Wales.

At GREENOCK.—For Galle: Belle Creole.

At NEW YORK: For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Marianne.

SPOKEN.

GEOLOGIST, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Sept. 14, out 50 days, 14 S., 88 E.
VELORE (Pr. ship), Bat. to Boston, Sept. 29, 24 days out, 31 S., 38 E.
CERTIA (?), Liverpool to Galle.
TAMANA, Clyde to Hong Kong, 14 N., 26 W., 21 days out.
VALDIVIA, Macao to London, Oct. 17.
PALESTINE, Ceylon to London, Nov. 18, 24 S., 34 W
MILLBROOK, London to Hong Kong, Oct. 28, 9 N., 25 W
GERALDIN (?), London to Colombo, Oct. 31, 10 N., 25 W.
NEDERLAND, for Batavia, Nov. 2, 5 N., 23 W.
OUDERKERK (? a. d. Amstel), Holland to Batavia, Nov. 2, 5 N., 23 W.
ARAB, Cardiff to Singapore, Oct. 26, 3 N., 25 W.
WM. DIXON, Liverpool to Singapore, Oct. 26, 3 N., 25 W.
THOS. SEDDON, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Oct. 27, 5 N., 26 W.
NEPTUNUS, Rotterdam to Batavia, Oct. 29, 8 N., 24 W.
JEANNETTE AND CORNELIE, N'castle to Sourabaya, Oct. 4, 23 S., 31 W.
CORNELIA (barq.), Hong Kong to New York, Oct. 28, off St. Helena.

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BELOOCHEE (ship), Liverpool to Galle, Nov. 8, 4 N., 21 W.
JANETJE (Dut. barq.), Batavia to Rotterdam, Oct. 17, 26 S., 52 E.
EARLY DAWN, London to Singapore, Nov. 3, 30 S., 20 W.
DECIMA, Batavia to Amsterdam, Dec. 3, 48 N., 8 W.
TEVIOT, London to Colombo, Nov. 6, 8 N., 23 W.
AFFGHAN, Shanghai to Liverpool, Sept. 26, 16 S., 25 E.
ARGO, Rotterdam to Batavia, Oct. 26, 6 N., 22 W.
ALICIA ANNIE, Manila to Liverpool, Nov. 6, 1 N., 25 W.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

(Exclusive of this day's advices.)

From JAPAN.—At LONDON: Amoy, Marmora, and Witness At LIVERPOOL: Jane and Isabella, Marion, Vigil, Vampyre, and Gyrn Castle. At NEW YORK: Osborne, and Brilliant.

From CHINA.—At LONDON: Ethel, Monarch, Belle, Zodiac, Catherine Howard, Willie, Claremont, Finzel, Southern Cross, John Banks, Waverley, Napoleon II., Horsa, Ben Lomond, Solent, Marquis of Londonderry, Carausius, John Temperley, Aboyne, Caractacus, Chanticleer, Thomas Blyth, Essex, Cumberland, Canute, Philomela, Adriatic, P. J. F. Burchart, Isabella Robinson, Zelia, Vimeira, Zarah, L. Wharncliffe, Gloucester, Lorton Vale, Iceni, S. Ralston, Wm. Thompson, Marlborough, Ocean Queen, Theodore and Julie, Amelia, Magnus, Josephine, Sappho, Charles Davenport, Sarah Newman, and Yaratilda (Sept. 24), Leichardt (Oct. 2), Queen of Nations (Oct. 6), Rajah of Cochin (Sept. 19), Harkaway and Lord Raglan (Sept. 23), Taeping (Oct. 7), Coulnakyle (Sept. 28), Cathaya and Peterborough (Sept. 29), and England (Oct. 16). At LIVERPOOL: Geologist, Buckham, Everest, Delhi, Wm. Dawson, Affghan, Sea Snake, Thomas Bell, Lord Dalhousie, Cornelia, Inamhore, Regina, Edward Percy, Henriette Cornelis, Victoria, Montgomery, Australia, Ann Forster, Brockham, General Windham, Providence (Sept. 23), Veronica (Sept. 28), Patna (Sept. 30), and Samarang (Oct. 1). For QUEENSTOWN: Alida (Sept. 24). At NEW YORK: Dorchester, Regnago, St. Paul, Cornelia, Mary, Roslin Castle, Cassiterides, Queensland, Maggie Leslie, Samuel Russell, and Bedford.

From MANILA.—At LONDON: Beatrice, Seaforth, Labrador, Jupiter, Constance, and Staffordshire. At LIVERPOOL: Indiaman, Alicia Anne, Kathay, Gondola, Frederick, Royal Mint, Earl of Mar and Kellie, North (Oct. 1), and Olano (Oct. 5). At FALMOUTH: Der West, St. Paul, Voladora, and Ocean Empress. At NEW YORK: Bengal, Continent, Franklin, Julia Ambridge, Peruvian, and Rattler (Sept. 20).

From SINGAPORE.—At LONDON: Oscar, Confidence, Pet, Polly, Queen of India, William Simpson, Eddystone, Najade, Rangoon, Dunkeld, Warren Hastings (Oct. 20), and Lieut. Oswin (Oct. 26). At LIVERPOOL: C. H. Soule, Agra, Beloochee, Tigris, and Simoon (Oct. 18). At FALMOUTH: Sarah Jane and Queen Bee. At CORK: Kirkonnel (Nov. 3). At BORDEAUX: Leon. At NEW YORK: Ocean Home, Gertrude, Caroline, Rudolf, and Panic. At BOSTON: Ceylon, Aristides, and Magnet.

From PENANG.—At LONDON: Marengo, Sunium, Golconda, Black Eagle, Bothwell Castle, Spitfire, and Isabella (Oct. 13). At CORK: Ceylon. At BORDEAUX: Sophie.

From BANGKOK.—At NEW YORK: Eastward Ho!

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Since our last issue the arrivals from the eastward, although still numerous, have somewhat decreased. The same depression, however, still exists in all export business, and but little is doing in chartering homewards.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £34 to £35 and £1. 17s. 6d. For Shanghai: £45 and £2. 2s. 6d. For Manila: £1. 5s. For Ceylon: £24 and £1. 2s. For Batavia: £25 to £26. For Singapore: £25 and 22s. For Penang: £27. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have engaged freight in the Banian for the conveyance of Government stores from the River Thames to Hong Kong, and have invited tenders for the conveyance of 2 naval boilers to Hong Kong, 12 tons rockets and sticks to Shanghai, and 39 tons naval stores to Trincomalee, all from the River Thames.

CASUALTIES.

The long boat of the Robin Hood was picked up on the 23rd November off the South Foreland, and on the following day in the stream off the North Sand Head, a few cases, supposed to be from the wreck of that vessel, which lies in the same position where she sunk. All her sails have been unbent or cut away by boatmen. Seven cases of her cargo have been washed ashore at Dungeness.

The mate of the Helen's Bank, from Colombo to London, which ran ashore at Scilly on the 18th November, reports that when she struck there were only three men and a boy on board, most of the crew having been discharged.

The Scawfell, from Sunderland to Hong Kong, took the ground in the South Outlet, on the night of 3rd December, but after discharging part of her cargo she has been got off and returned to repair.

The Diamond (barque), of and from Shields for Hong Kong, while at anchor off Yarmouth, 4th Dec., was run into by the Dispatch (schnr.), of Dartmouth, and lost jibboom, &c.

The Hero of the Nile (ship), Abernethy, from Colombo to London, sprung a leak at sea, making 8 to 9 inches water per hour, and put into Mauritius Oct. 19, where she was Nov. 7, on the slip, being recoppered.

The Julia Ambridge (schr.), McKee, from Manilla and Anjer to New York, sprung a leak after leaving Anjer, and put into Mauritius Oct. 22, and was discharging there on Nov. 7.

AT ST. VINCENT, C. V., Nov. 10, from Gibraltar, H.M.S. Tamar, and sailed 11th for China.

AT ST. HELENA.—Oct. 30, from Batavia, Alexander, Dogen, and sailed 1st Nov. for Amsterdam; from Shanghai, Gresham, Bayley; from Java, Helena and Anna, v. Aalburg; from Batavia, Anthony van Hoboken, Hazewinkle, and both sailed 31st for Amsterdam; from Padang, Vooruit, Strot; Nov. 2, from Samarang, Ida Elisabeth, Amer., Oct. 29; from Cape Good Hope and Ceylon, H.M.S., Orontes.

OFF ST. HELENA.—Nov. 1, Adriatic (barq.), from Hong Kong for London.

AT TABLE BAY.—Oct. 22, Aldebaran, Driver, sailed for Batavia; Skimmer of the Waves, Hammond, sailed for Galle.

AT MAURITIUS.—Oct. 24, from Singapore, Hammersmith, Nairn; 20, Vampire, Blandford, sailed for Singapore; 26, Elvira, Gardes, sailed for Penang; Nov. 1, Guayaquil, Dejean, sailed for Galle.

MR. CHARLES LUNGLEY, the well-known shipbuilder of Deptford, has entered into an arrangement with the Millwall Iron Works Shipbuilding and Graving Docks Company (Limited), by which he joins that company with his shipbuilding and engineering works at Deptford, and takes the general control of the united establishments as director of the works.

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Sold Retail.—London: Joreau, Hannay. New York: Fougera, Gaudelet, Milhau. Gibraltar: Patron and Danilo, wich. Malta: Dr. Pirotti, Bugeja, Magri, and Rolando, Esperanza. Alexandria: Bellamore, Galette, Perinie, Bombay; Framjee Nesserwanjee and Co. Singapore: Martin and Little Batavia: L. Platon and Co. Macao: J. D. Freita.

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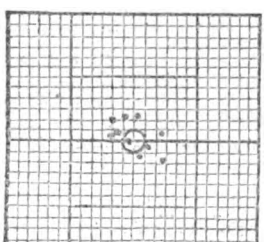

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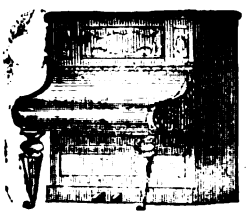

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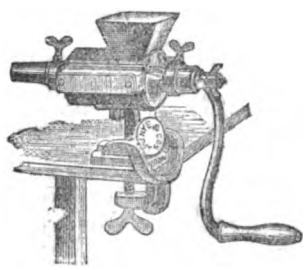

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Labuan, Sarawak, and Singapore ...	JOHN LITTLE & Co., Singapore.
Penang ...	SANDILANDS, BUTTERY AND CO
Bangkok ...	REMI SCHMIDT AND CO.
Batavia ...	HUNTER, HOUGHTON, AND CO.
Anjer—Straits of Sunda	G. SCHUTT, Anjer Hotel.
Manila ...	PHILLIPS, MOORE, AND CO.
Hong Kong, Canton, Macao, & Swatow,	JAMES GARDINER, Hong Kong.
Amoy ...	BELLAMY AND CO.
Foo-Chow-Foo ...	HEDGE AND CO.
Shanghai ...	H. FOGG AND CO.
Tien-Tsin ...	JAMES HENDERSON.
Nagasaki—Japan ...	PIGNATEL AND CO.
Yokohoma ...	A. W. HANSARD.

OFFICE, 12, GEORGE-YARD, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VI.—No. 159.] LONDON, MONDAY, DEC. 26, 1864. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Aug. 26	Oct. 17	Nov. 2
Nagasaki			Oct. 28
Hakodadi			„ 19
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			„ 29
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			„ 31
Kiu-kiang			„ 23
Chin-kiang			„ 24
Shanghai	Sept. 27	Nov. 8	Nov.
Ningpo	Nov. 7		
Foo-Chow			„ 28
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 29
Swatow			
Hong Kong	„ 27	„ 4	„ 14
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila			Oct. 22
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			Nov. 7
SIAM— Bangkok	„ 26		„ 1
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			„ 4
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 15
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Oct. 10	Nov. 14	„ 21
Penang			

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By the mail to Marseilles per P. and O. steamer Ripon, arrived Dec. 23.—From Shanghai: Messrs. H. Hancock, Wallace, S. Vincent, and Adams. From Hong Kong: Commander Gooch, R.N., Mr. S. D. Hoff, and four second-class passengers.

To Southampton for Delta, expected to arrive Dec. 31.—From Shanghai: Five second-class passengers. From Hong Kong: Captain Savory and European man servant, Mrs. Savory, Mr. A. Hartley, two second-class passengers, and three invalids (99th Regiment). From Singapore: Captains A. Ryder, Knowles, and W. H. Howland, and one second-class passenger.

To Gibraltar.—From Hong Kong: Messrs. Jose Jayme and V. Montojo.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, Dec. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. J. Henderson, A. Leigh, J. Maitland, G. Martin, F. F. Williams, and D. Neish, Mrs. Wilkinson and infant, Miss M. Wedgewood, Mrs. Williams and infant, Miss Williams, Rev. F. Davies, Lieuts. F. W. Lewis, and G. D. Morant, Captain W. A. Haswell, R.N., and four 2nd-class passengers. To Shanghai: Three 2nd-class passengers. To Ceylon: Messrs W. Mayon, J. Bannatine, and W. H. Clarke, Miss E. H. Jones, and two 2nd-class passengers. To Calcutta: Mrs. Cosserat, Major H. Welman, Messrs S. W. Macdonald, Jones, J. Cargill, C. Fairweather, T. Wilson, A. Wilson, Innes, L. Ward, G. B. Groves, Prior, Gelley, Waghorn, H. M. Parkerson, and R. Dunning, Mr. and Mrs. Wickes, Mr. R. D. and Mrs. Sogg, Mr. and Mrs. Folkard, Mrs. Cooke, Miss Smith, Miss Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Derry, Ensign J. W. Buxton, Mrs. Ward, Lieut. J. C. Little, and twelve 2nd-class passengers. To Madras: Dr. W. Williamson, Miss Young, Messrs. F. Young, W. B. Traill, G. Cadell, H. D. Lonsada, J. Baxter, and J. M. Mills, Lieut. Gordon, Capt. H. E. Ryves, Miss Duke, Capt. Bradford, and two 2nd-class passengers. To Alexandria: Mr. J. M. Clayworth and three 2nd-class passengers.

From Marseilles, Dec. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Ryrie, and European and native servants, Mr. Pasturius. To China: Mr. W. R. Foster. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Tyers. To Ceylon: Mrs. Jackson, Messrs. F. Pater and Fraser. To Singapore: Mr. A. Gunn.—To Calcutta: Lieut.-Col. Taylor, Messrs. K. McLeod, T. Martin, F. Genester, and Leresche, Miss Stephens, Capt. Dickson. To Madras: Lieut. Bairnsfather, Capt. and Mrs. Foote, Col. Pollard, Mr. and Mrs. Dibblee. To Alexandria: Messrs. R. M. Bird and Sheppard.

From Malta.—To Hong Kong: Commander C. E. Stevens. To Calcutta: Mr. J. Watson, Lord and Lady Ulick Brown. From Suez.—To Calcutta: Mr. W. M. Tidy, two Misses Routh.

Per P. and O. steamer Ellora, Dec. 27, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong, via Bombay: Mr. W. H. Fraser.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, Jan. 4, 1865, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. Manger, Commander Round, R.N., Mr. J. A. Bromley, Mrs. Bird, Mr. F. D. Wakeford, Mr. Glasse. To Shanghai: Mr. H. H. Carter. To Ceylon: Miss Wodehouse, Mr. Thompson, Mrs. C. Morrison, Messrs. Hope and Davis, Miss Rothwell, Mr. B. L. Armitage, Mr. and Mrs. Byrde and three daughters.

From Marseilles, Jan. 12, 1865.—To Hong Hong: Mr. and Mrs. A. Hancock, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Bush. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Morgan, Mr. Jas. MacKenzie. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Faviell, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Byrde.

Per P. and O. steamer from Marseilles, Feb. 13.—To Hong Kong: Mr. McDonald.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates hence are to the 1st of November. The London Mail of the 26th August arrived out on the 17th October.

A conference has been sitting between the Representatives of Foreign Powers, and the Japanese Ministers of Foreign Affairs, at which it is understood that matters of great importance, to the end of puting the foreign relations of the country upon a more settled footing, are being discussed.

It was known that Sir Rutherford Alcock was coming home—not "recalled," as stated in the telegram, but to confer with Her Majesty's Government. The *Japan Herald* says:—

"We have to announce the probable return to Europe, at no long interval, of Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B. Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in Japan. The information sent by the several representatives of foreign Powers in May and June last to their respective Governments seems to have been considered so important, and to indicate so grave and critical a situation of affairs, that Her Majesty's Government deemed it necessary, in communication with France, the United States of America, and Holland, all acting in accord through their representatives here, to have fuller information than could be conveyed by despatches. Accordingly, by the last mail, Sir Rutherford Alcock received instructions to return as early as he might find it possible, to confer with Her Majesty's Government as to the measures to be taken. Fortunately, since these instructions were sent, all that looked so menacing to the relations and interests of foreign Powers, has ceased to exist, and we have now in its place a sense of security and commercial activity—thanks to the wise policy consistently adhered to by the foreign representatives on the spot. We understand, however, that it is the intention of Sir Rutherford Alcock, nevertheless, to return very shortly, in order to give Her Majesty's Government the opportunity they desire of conferring with him as to the future, and of the measures yet to be taken to secure the ground so recently gained. Some pending negotiations and arrangements, we believe, for the benefit of this port, alone detain him for another mail or two."

An address, flattering alike to the recipient and honourable to the signers, has been sent to his Excellency, signed (without, the *Herald* believes, an exception) by every one of the principal British houses in the place. The merchants express their regret that Sir Rutherford Alcock will probably so soon leave Yokohama; refer to the existing condition of affairs when he arrived here, the determined but wise policy adopted by him, by which trade has been at last restored to its usual channels and wonted vigour; that in accomplishing this he has been able to do so without causing collision between H.M.'s Government and that of the Tycoon of Japan, and securing at the same time the co-operation of the foreign Ministers at this port; and they express to him their gratitude for the beneficial results his course of policy has brought to our commerce. We regret that it is thought for the moment unadvisable to print *in extenso* this letter of the British merchants, and the reply of H. E. the British Minister.

Our contemporary confirms the statement, continuously repeated in our own columns, that all demonstrations against hostile

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Daimios are most probably made with the full consent of the Tycoon, and that this was most particularly the case as regards the late naval operations in the Inland Sea. We extract the following :—

Of one thing there is full assurance, namely, that the sailing of the allied expedition was not an act of hostility to the Tycoon or against the country, but solely against a Daimio who had violated treaties by obstructing all foreign trade, and who had further committed a flagrant breach of the law of nations by firing indiscriminately on the flags of Powers at peace with his sovereign and the nation. Could there have been any doubt of this in the minds of natives or foreigners here, it must have been completely set at rest by the novel and striking spectacle we all witnessed during the week, when British and Japanese troops, each with their respective arms and widely diverse accoutrements, were brigaded together in friendly rivalry on the same parade ground, in presence of the Ministers of both countries.

The resolution to despatch the allied squadrons had evidently been taken with no undue haste or want of consideration. More than twelve months before, as may be seen by the blue-book, the then four representatives of Great Britain, France, the United States of America, and the Netherlands, signed a formal protocol, declaring the necessity of measures being adopted for the punishment of these outrages, and the removal of the obstructions to trade. This was communicated to the Tycoon without result; but it remained on record, pledging the four Powers to effective action if redress were not afforded. There is reason to believe that since the return of Sir Rutherford Alcock, the British Minister, and the arrival of Mons. Leon Roches, the new French Minister, the matter was vigorously taken up in communication with the Japanese Government; and we can only conclude that, as in the case of the recent French convention, the Tycoon must have admitted his inability to give redress within any definite period. As regards the contumacious Daimio himself, there seems to have been more consideration shown than he could justly have claimed. For more than a month before the sailing of the expedition, it was known that two British ships had been sent to the Inland Sea, and gave passage to some of Choshiu's officers, lately returned from England, where they had been studying. There is no doubt now, that advantage was taken of the occasion to offer their Prince the means of entering into direct communication with the foreign representatives, with a view to avert hostilities,—at the same time that he received distinct warning of the consequences, if he failed to profit by the opportunity of ceasing hostilities, and entering into more friendly relations.

That he did not duly estimate the value of the option offered, and threw away his last chance, more or less contemptuously, may be safely inferred from the ultimate departure of the allied squadrons. With what wisdom he acted he now knows; and upon what means of resistance he counted, we also can speak from experience. Later events give some indiction that he even then meditated the great *coup d'etat* since attempted, of an advance on Kioto, in which he signally failed. He had been so long threatened that, perhaps, he thought less of the final warning given than he otherwise would. Something, too, he may have hoped from the chapter of accidents, and, for a moment, this seemed likely to serve his turn only too well. The very day before that originally fixed for the departure of the fleet, the mail of the 27th June arrived, bringing back, to he astonishment of everyone, the Mission from Europe, and the text of a convention with the Government, signed by the envoys only a few days before they left Paris.

By this convention they bound the Tycoon to open the Straits within three months after their return, and, if at the end of that time unable, to invite or accept the co-operation of the French forces; and France, too, engaged to furnish them. I must have been evident to everyone here, that for the Tycoon to ratify such a convention was a simple impossibility. Publicly to admit his own inability to deal with a refractory Daimio, and on this plea of weakness, to accept aid from a foreign Power would have been his perdition even with his own people, and little less than an act of abdication. Still, while this convention stood, without a formal act of repudiation and disavowal on the part of the Tycoon, no expeditionary force could well move. The French could not—being bound to wait three months by their own convention—and thus the diplomacy of the French Minister at Paris had isolated France from the other Powers, and undone the work of six months, the main object of which had been firmly to unite all in one policy. It moreover flung upon France the whole cost and responsibility of an expedition, if the Tycoon did not open the Straits in a given time—which he certainly could not have done, even if he would. It is now clear that the French Government was only saved from this dilemma by the diplomacy of those on the spot. The convention was not ratified, and a few days later the allied squadron of eighteen ships, British, French, American and Dutch, left the harbour bound for the Straits.

A new era in the history of foreign relations will probably take date from this first step by a combination of four Treaty Powers for the assertion of their common rights,—so long and persistently trampled upon by the Daimio of Nagato, and now so triumphantly and satisfactorily vindicated.

The incident referred to above of the brigading together of European and Japanese troops, was as follows :—On the 19th of October some of the Japanese troops now quartered in the neighbourhood of Yokohama were reviewed by their high officials, on their military training ground on the road to Kanagawa; Sir Rutherford Alcock, H.B.M.'s Minister, and several others of the foreign officials, as well as many of the residents, were present, and returned with expressions of great gratification.

On the following day, Thursday, there was another review on a more extensive scale, upon a small lot of vacant land on the British Swamp Concession, near the German Club, which will not readily be forgotten by the many hundreds by whom it was witnessed. It was indeed not only a novel sight and a fine one to the careless spectators, but a most suggestive one to the careful observer of passing events. He, indeed, must have belonged to the former category who could that day have seen without an emotion stronger than childish curiosity the parading on the same limited space of ground, in a foreign settlement in Japan, of the gallant British troops now here, in those regimentals of scarlet, dark-blue, or green, and those accoutrements to which we Europeans and Americans have been so long accustomed, and the somewhat motley and armoured mixed cavalry and infantry of the long-descended style of the people amongst whom we dwell.

The Japanese troops were under command of Kubota Sentaro, Brigadier, in command of all the Japanese troops in and around Yokohama, the number of Japanese men-of-arms brought on the ground we have not heard. Of the English troops under review there were twelve hundred and thirty men: Twentieth, 500; Marines, 330; 67th, 140; Beloochees, 130; Artillery, 55; Engineers, 22; Military Train, 12.

A few minutes after eleven o'clock (the hour appointed for the commencement of the review) Sakai Higano Kami, Vice-Minister and Member of the Second Council; Takemoto Awadzi no Kami, Confidential Agent of the Tycoon and Principal Governor for Foreign Affairs; Shibati Hinga no Kami, Commissioner and Governor for Foreign Affairs; and the two Governors of Kanagawa, attended by a large bevy of officials, arrived upon the ground. His Excellency the British Minister dismounted from his horse, and courteously greeted the Japanese high officials, and the same attention having been paid to them by the British Admiral and the American Minister, and others, the Japanese and foreign officials, with many of the residents (amongst whom a considerable number of the fair sex were seen), were soon mingled together promiscuously in one mass. The review then commenced by the forming line of contiguous quarter distance column, and the firing of a general salute. The troops then marched past in open columns of companies, and then in quarter distance columns. Troops formed line of contiguous quarter distance columns on detatched points facing the south, deployed into line and commenced brisk firing. Direction changed, more file firing, with some volleys; troops formed line of contiguous quarter distance columns facing the east; the left battalion (Royal Marines Light Infantry), was then ordered to advance and came to the front of the brigade; the skirmishers then commenced firing; the alarm having been sounded, the skirmishers and supports formed in squares of companies, the battalions marching into echelon formed battalion squares, and another brisk fusilading commenced. Reformed. Skirmishers having been recalled, the 3rd battalion (of the 20th), were brought to the front, and deployed into line, and performed the "manual" and "platoon" exercises, under the direction of Captain Rochfort. That battalion having retired, the 2nd battalion (67th and Beloochees), were brought to the front, formed lines, fired a volley, charged, and retired into the column. The Royal Marine Battalion were then brought to the front, and performed the bayonet exercise in review order.

The contiguous quarter distance column having been again formed, the brigade advanced in review order, the fine band of the 20th playing a slow march. After a general salute, the Japanese officials prepared to depart, and on leaving the ground were greeted with three cheers from the brigade.

A new coinage of itzibus having been issued from the Japanese Mint, Colonel Fisher, the United States Consul, had sent some to be assayed at the San Francisco Mint, and had received the following report in reference thereto :—

"The assay of the three silver itzibus, forwarded by the American Consul at Kanagawa, Japan, gives the following results :—

	Properties and kind of Metals.		
Weight of piece.	Silver.	Gold.	Copper.
No. 1 132½ grs. ..	902 thous. ..	½ thous. ..	97½ thous.
„ 2 134½ „ ..	902 „ ..	½ „ ..	97½ „
„ 3 135 „ ..	902 „ ..	½ „ ..	97½ „

"The coin, it will be seen, is a little less than one-third the weight of our silver dollar piece, while the fineness, though higher than absolute standard (900-1000), is yet within the legal limits of our coinage. It is not usual in our mints to pass silver ingots containing gold, and so much as a half thousandth would be regarded as altogether out of the way. I need scarcely say, however, that the gold contained does not add appreciably to the value of this coin, which, taking the weight of 135 grains as the basis of circulation, is worth, as near a may be, 33 cents.

"To make three of the itzibus equivalent to the Mexican or American ilver dollar piece, or the American gold dollar, would be sufficiently accurate for all commercial purposes.—Very respectfully yours, B. T. Martin, Assayer."

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The *North China Daily News* gives information regarding the movements of the squadron in the Inland Sea .—

"The squadron left behind at Simonoseki to prevent any attempt on Choshiu's part at re-constructing or arming the batteries, was treated with distinguished courtesy by the officials and populace on both sides of the straits, but more especially by those on the south side.. The latter had collected an army of twenty thousand men to attack Choshiu who had been placed under the ban of the Government on account of his attack on the sacred city and the guards of the Mikado. The leaders of this expedition expressed a determination to finish the work commenced by the allied Powers, but the inferior officers and soldiery seemed not to relish the immediate prospect of a collision. Meanwhile Choshiu had appointed a few high officials, who on or about the 8th October started for Yokohama in H.M.S. *Barossa*. These men on their arrival assured the foreign Ministers of the earnest desire shared by Choshiu and his advisers, that peaceful relations with foreigners should be established, and that forgiveness should be accorded for past misconduct. They also expressed a wish that Simonoseki should be opened to foreign trade, but it is feared that the Tycoon will not permit this. Sir Rutherford Alcock and the other foreign representatives received the deputation in the most friendly manner, and congratulated it on the change which had taken place in the Prince's political opinions. The Tycoon has announced his design of paying the indemnities levied on Choshiu, and of thereupon marching against him and confiscating his territories. The deputation was to have left Yokohama for Simonoseki on the 15th ultimo by H.M.S. *Tartar*. It is generally believed that the Japanese Government will not consent to the opening of any ports in addition to those at present frequented by foreigners, but as a kind of compensation for this want of liberality, the foreign concession at Kanagawa and Yokohama is to be extended, and a pledge given that no vexatious hindrances shall for the future be thrown in the way of trade. Our correspondent informs us that "the itzubu exchange is stopped," but unfortunately offers no explanation of this somewhat startling announcement. If it be true that the Government exchange is put a stop to, and that officials are on the same footing with regard to obtaining itzubus as are the mercantile community, the former must be in rather an unpleasant predicament, for it is well known that the salaries of English officials in the East, who are entrusted with interests of the most vital nature, fall far short of those obtained by clerks in small and unimportant houses. Another statement made by our correspondent must be left to speak for itself. It is as follows :—"Several murders have taken place lately, but we do not take much notice of them, as they have been for the most part justifiable." Whether these murders have been committed by Japanese on Japanese, by foreigners on foreigners, by Japanese on foreigners, or by foreigners on Japanese, we are left by our correspondent to guess.

"It is expected that the fleet will shortly be broken up. The *Perseus* was to have left for Singapore about the 22nd October. The *Euryalus* was stated to be about to leave for England in six weeks, and the *Tartar* was about to visit the Chinese ports *en route* for home. The *Tartar* has since arrived in Shanghai.

"As we go to press the arrival of the Japan mail per screw-steamer *Australian* is reported. The P. and O. Co.'s steamer *Nepaul* ran on a rock when leaving Yokohama for this port on the 1st November, and was obliged to put back and transship her cargo and mails. She now lies beached, much down by the head."

NAGASAKI.

The well-known steamer *Carthage* has been sold to the Prince of Fizen for $120,000. She was delivered on the 25th October, and fired a salute of seven guns when she hoisted the Japanese flag. Many of the vessels in harbour contributed to the salute, and the batteries on shore returned the compliment. H.M.S. *Scylla* has been ordered to Shanghai to relieve the *Rattler*, which will proceed to Yokohama and replace the *Perseus*, which latter is under orders for Nagasaki.

DANGERS OF THE INLAND SEA.

HYDROGRAPHIC NOTICES.

The undermentioned inaccuracy in the Admiralty Chart, No. 358, "West Coast of Kiusiu," has been communicated to the Commander-in-Chief from Her Majesty's ship *Scylla*.

The position of Kuri-sima (or St. Clair Island), as marked on Chart No. 358, does not agree with the latitude 30 deg. 50 min. N., and longitude 129 deg. 55 min. E., as given in the 4th edition of the *China Pilot*, page 442.

The position in the *China Pilot* is considered to be correct, as it agreed well with other bearings.

Signed,—HEMSLEY H. SHANKS, Secretary.

H.M.S. *Euryalus*, at Yokohama, 24th Oct., 1864.

The following particulars relative to Fisherman's Rock (Kanabuse), in the Straits of Simonoseki, have been furnished from Her Majesty's ship *Barossa*.

This dangerous rock, which has only four feet on its southern end and twelve feet on its northern, at low water spring tides, is sixty fathoms in length, and lies N. by W. and S. by E.

Between the north and south ends there is a depth of five fathoms rock. The south end has the appearance of two large square blocks of stone about ten yards apart; it has six fathoms close to it on its south, east, and west sides. About a boat's length to the northward of the twelve feet patch there are ten fathoms—sand.

The rock lies about three-quarters of a cable to the north of the dotted line in the Chart of Simonoseki Strait, recommended as the course, and a little to the westward of that part marked "heavy ripple." The Custom-house at Simonoseki on with Mozisaki clears it to the southward.

The following is the position of the rock :—

Mozi-saki.....S. 62 deg. W.
I-Saki .....S. 68 deg. E.
Kusi-Saki.....N. 35 deg. E.
S. extreme of Manziu N. 61 deg. E.

These bearings were obtained by triangulation.

The existence of the above dangerous reef, added to the reports received from Japanese sources of the existence of other rocks in the northern channel in these Straits, and the extreme velocity of the current, combine to render it advisable to avoid altogether the northern passage: the southern passage, adjoining the coast of Kiusiu, is recommended as being, as far as ascertained, clear of hidden dangers, and comparatively exempt from the influence of the currents.

(Signed) HELMSLEY H. SHANKS, Secretary.

H. M. S. *Euryalus*, at Yokohama, 24th Oct., 1864.

CHINA.

PEKING.

Mr. Wade, the *locum tenens* of Sir Frederick Bruce at the British Legation, has given the following decision in the appeal *in re* the Oriental Bank Corporation against the Chinese "sureties" for the defalcations of Aheen, which is in favour of the appellants.

I confirm the judgment of the Court.

It is clear that the loss shown to have been sustained by the bank was caused by the wrong-doing of Aheen, and under the guarantee signed by his securities, the appellants, they are bound to indemnify the bank.

The guarantee, which is in Chinese, the language of the appellants, is somewhat less favourable to their case in the original than in the translation laid before the Court.

It states that "Fung-heen, native of Whampos, in the district of Pwanyu, now taking service with the Liju Hong (Oriental Bank) at Shanghai, his department being the charge (or registration) of the accounts of its treasury, is an honest and trustworthy person, and for any pi-wu, wrong doing or mismanagement on his part, the (undersigned) securities will be responsible."

Aheen is no doubt here partly guaranteed as an accountant, but he is guaranteed as very much more. Indeed, what is in express words secured to the bank is his probity and fitness for trust,—not his ability or accuracy as an accountant, although for his wu—"errors, mismanagement,"—not less than his acts of pi—"injurious delinquency"—the securities hold themselves responsible to the bank.

If the discrepancy between Aheen's account tendered to the manager of the bank on the 19th of December, 1863, and his subsequent statement on the 28th December, could be so separated from his explanation of it as to authorise its being described as an error, the securities would be responsible for whatever loss the bank could prove fairly ascribable to a confusion so monstrous in the book of its guaranteed accountant.

This would have been an extreme case of *wu*—"mismanagement." But the bank proves two cases of *pi*,—"wrong doing,"—against Aheen ; first, from his admissions—a falsification of accounts, for when he admits that the money missing was unauthorisedly removed from time to time, he fully justifies the inference that some of the periodical statements found to agree so exactly with the manager's books for a series of months, were false ; secondly,

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by his admissions on abstraction of the money by himself. If the right to infer the falsification be disputed, there can at least be no doubt about the unauthorised abstraction, which latter act no less than the former falls within the category of *pi*, "fraud, violence," or any wrong-doing that Aheen might be guilty of to the injury of the bank.

The steps taken by the appellants, as Aheen's securities, since the discovery of his frauds, are sufficient proof of their own construction of their obligations under the instrument they signed; and it is much to be regretted that, being Chinese, they were advised to defend this action.

THOMAS FRANCIS WADE.

True copy of enclosure in despatch, dated Peking, August 24, 1863.

EDN. D. JONES, Assistant.

H.M.'s Consulate, Hankow, Sept. 28, 1864.

SHANGHAI.

Our advices from this port are to 8th November, reporting the arrival of the London Mails of the 4th and 10th Sept. on 1st Nov., and that of the 27th Sept. on the day that the Mail closes for Europe.

The community had not succeeded in getting quite rid of the rowdy elements, as they were in almost daily receipt of tales of outrage in which foreigners generally figure prominently. As one example out of many:—The house of a wealthy Chinaman, a comprador to one of the principal hongs in the settlement, was broken into by a gang of burglars comprising ten Cantonese and three Europeans. The thieves were evidently well acquainted with the premises, as they at once pounced on a small box containing fourteen hundred Carolus dollars, avoiding other boxes which would have taken time to break open, and only delaying to snatch the bangles from the arms of some of the female inmates of the house. They are believed to have afterwards left for Soochow, with the object, no doubt, of avoiding detection by changing the Carolus dollars and selling the ornaments out of the settlement.

The necessity of strengthening the European police by a supplementary force of Chinese is the subject of discussion between the Municipal Council and the wealthy Chinese, the *Friend of China* has the following:—

"On more than one occasion we have had to question the wisdom of our Municipal Council; and certainly we question it in the remarks which their secretary has recorded as following the reading of the letter at foot from Shanghai's chief police magistrate:—

"'The Board were of opinion that if the Chinese authorities were serious in their expressed desire to aid in the suppression of crime, the maintenance of law and order just beyond the limits of the settlement, whence, the superintendent alleged, those bad characters come whose depredations were complained of, and where no foreign interference need be apprehended, would afford ample scope for the energies of a native police, and admit of their being employed more profitably as an independent body that within the area described by the Municipal boundaries.'

"A ruder rebuff to an expressed intention to aid in conserving the public peace we never knew, and we feel constrained to point out to the community that what the Che-hien desires is simply only reasonable. About two-thirds of the area known as the British, four-fifths of the French, and fifteen-sixteenths of the American Concessions are occupied by Chinese; and to expect the Municipal Council to find a police force sufficiently strong to keep robbers in check throughout would be absurd. The Chinese know this, and so keep private watchmen, one to each street, the directors of the body known as the *Pao-an-ang* tell the Che-hien. One man per street, however, is found to be insufficient, and most assuredly it is insufficient, when Europeans join with Chinese banditti in breaking open Chinese houses, as we hear of occasionally, taking bangles from women's arms, and even murdering inmates if found to resist; *ergo*, say these Chinese protectors, we must have more policemen; though if we attempt it, we shall rouse the susceptibilities of the English, and hence the request for official acknowledgment."

The consular courts have not lately been occupied with any cases of great importance. A man named O'Brien, who was accused by sundry Chinese of having been accessory to the death of a native by decapitation, and had been remanded from the 6th ultimo, was brought up, when the witnesses who had previously sworn positively to his guilt acknowledged that they had deliberately perjured themselves. He has, however, been convicted of larceny, and sentenced to one year's imprisonment. The following extract from the minutes of the Mixed Court will give old Shanghai residents an idea of the advance in ingenuity displayed of late by the Chinese compradores.

Chang Chien-tsou, a silk merchant, appeared and charged a native named Wang-Ahsi with embezzlement, under the following circumstances. It appeared that some days ago the defendant had carried a box supposed to contain a large quantity of Mexican dollars, to one of Messrs. D. Sassoon, Sons and Co.'s servants, whom he requested to take charge of it. The box was pasted down in defendant's presence and sealed with his seal. The next day he went to plaintiff's shop and made a large purchase of silk, leaving as security a bar of gold, which he said he would reclaim as soon as he should be able to obtain dollars. The silk was delivered, and some few days after, defendant returned and said that he had a quantity of dollars lodged with Messrs. Sassoon & Co., at the same time requesting that a shroff might be sent to take delivery. The whole thing was done in the most open manner. The box was produced and opened, and eight packages taken out. One of these was counted and examined, and found to be perfectly correct. The bar of gold was accordingly given up, and the box of dollars carried off. On further examination, however, it turned out that out of the eight packages contained in the box, two only were genuine, the remaining six packages being lumps of lead tied up in paper and properly sealed. The prisoner stated that he knew nothing of the affair, that he handed over the dollars as he had himself received them, and he further endeavoured to implicate Messrs. Sassoon's servant in the swindle. The Court acquitted the boy of any share in the matter, and referred the case to the Chi Hien.

A case of collision between an English steamer and a French barque is reported in the *North China Daily News* as follows:—

On Thursday last, the 3rd inst., as the steamer Promise (Messrs. Smith, Kennedy and Co., agents) was passing Woosung on her way to Chefoo and Taku, she, through some defect in her steering powers, ran into and sank the French barque General Mealin. The officers and crew of the latter vessel, with the most culpable carelessness, took no steps whatsoever to secure the safety of either the ship or cargo. The latter, consisting of French Government stores, was allowed to float away after the General Mealin sank, no precautions whatever having been taken. Immediately after the accident the barque was boarded by the pilot of the Promise, and the boat's crew of our Wusung reporter. Every effort was made by them to induce the captain and crew to work, but without avail. They were refused the use of the hammer to unshackle the chains, and had themselves to hoist the jibs in order to get her out of deep water. Their efforts were almost fruitless, although but for the carelessness and folly of the captain and crew, the barque might have been laid high and dry at low water. Under these circumstances Messrs. Smith, Kennedy, and Co., have very properly refused to pay. The question will, of course, come before the English Consul.

HANKOW.

Two fires have lately occurred, one on the Han-yang side, during the night of the 16th ult., which consumed a large number of houses; the second, on the 19th, behind Hankow, burnt fiercely for three hours, destroying about 200 houses. It was at length stopped through the exertions of numerous foreigners, by pulling down the houses in its course. A discussion is at present being carried on as to the width of a gate which the mandarins are about to construct in the "Defence Wall." The foreign community are anxious that it should be wide enough to admit of driving a carriage through it with safety, while the officials refuse to make it more than about nine feet six inches in breadth. Hence a tempest in a teapot, which will no doubt result in the discomfiture of the mandarins.

CHINKEANG.

A correspondent writing from this port says that, in consequence of the rebels having broken down the locks, the neighbouring country is exceedingly dry, and it is impossible to irrigate the fields properly. Many of the small creeks have little water left in them. The Superintendent of Customs has been exciting some disgust by interferring with a pleasant system of hoisting the foreign flag on rafts, which has been found lucrative. There is little business doing at the port now; but the Chinese predict a large increase in the spring.

KIUKIANG.

We are informed that the races, which are appointed to come

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off on the 23rd instant, absorb the interest of the foreign community at this port. Training is being actively carried on, and many of the ponies promise well. The only other movement is purely religious, its object being to procure the services of a clergyman to officiate in the (projected) English Church. A meeting was to have been held on the 1st instant, at the English Consulate, to decide on the necessary steps. The salary is, we understand, to be fixed at six hundred pounds, of which one half will be paid by the English Government, and the other by the mercantile community.

A fire broke out on the morning of the 18th ultimo, which destroyed a large amount of property. The fire originated in an opium-shop, and spread thence over the contiguous buildings, which, to the number of one hundred and fifty, were soon wrapped in flames. Buildings of a more solid description were then ignited, the conflagration being increased by a strong east wind, which blew the sparks onwards from the burning buildings. Unfortunately, Kiukiang does not possess a fire-engine, and the foreign residents and Chinese authorities found that the only means of arresting the progress of the fire was to pull down some of the houses in its course. This was accordingly done, and it was thus soon got under. During this scene the town was in a state of great confusion, the residents, native and foreign, removing their goods from the houses to the open land. The Custom-house officers made praiseworthy exertions to prevent the destruction of property, and their efforts were greatly applauded by the Chinese. The soldiers also were of great service in keeping the streets clear. Little robbery was committed, and a few men caught in the act were immediately executed. The total loss amounted to thirty brick and one hundred and fifty wooden houses, besides four houses intentionally pulled down. No lives were lost, and but little property destroyed, except in the case of the removal of goods.

NINGPO.

Accounts from this city state that the disbandment of the Anglo-Chinese force quartered there, under the command of Colonel Cooke, will take place at the end of November, showing that the Celestial authorities consider the rebellion at an end. The *North China Daily News* has the subjoined remarks on the subject:—

"We are in receipt of advices to the 28th ult., by which are informed that an order has been issued for the disbandment of the Anglo-Chinese Contingent at the end of the present month. The Taotai has directed this step, but, as it is to be supposed that he acts on instructions received from higher powers, little hope can be entertained of any modification of his orders. The Chinese authorities have evidently come to the conclusion that European assistance is no longer necessary to the well-being of the province. The French contingent has also been threatened, if not actually doomed to disbandment, and the province and provincial city will for the future depend for protection on purely Chinese troops. This step appears more rash than it otherwise might, on account of the presence of large bodies of insurgents in the province of Fukien. It is well known that some months ago, when the Anglo-Chinese contingent was reduced one half, Chu Tsung-kan, Futai of Fukien, made overtures to the Che-kiang authorities to obtain the disbanded men as a guard for his province. Cold water was, however, thrown on the project, and it was never fulfilled. Those of our readers who have travelled in the interior of the province know sufficiently well that the creeks swarm with native and foreign pirates, and that but for the exertions of Cooke and his officers, inland navigation in the neighbourhood of Ningpo would be utterly unsafe. Hardly a week has passed within the last eight or nine months that parties sent out to scour the country in every direction have not returned to head-quarters with prisoners taken in various acts of outrage on the unoffending inhabitants of villages, or on the more helpless boat owners in the creeks. Even with this police system in constant operation, many complaints of loss of property, of murder, and of violence of every description are daily received by the Ningpo authorities, yet in the face of all this the Governor of the province takes on himself the responsibility of ordering the disbandment of the foreign contingents. How much more intimately acquainted must the Futai of Che-kiang be than are any of our readers with the state of the interior of the province. Yet what appears to us an act of insanity is by him considered a mere matter of course, an attempt to shake off a portion of that foreign incubus which in the eyes of the conservative Tsêng family is bringing the country to ruin. In truth, the Chinese have profited little by foreign intercourse. They are as blind to their own interests now as they were in the days when fire and sword were carried to the very gates of their capital. They look with sublime indifference on the helping hand held out by foreigners to rescue them from the pit to which they are hastening, they will not learn to act for themselves; and they refuse to allow us to act for them. In the Che-kiang province rowdyism will soon flourish, murder and piracy will be the order of the day, and the highly disciplined men whom Cooke has now in his barracks, will swell the ranks of the miscreants who so seriously interfere with the trading interests of the province, and will bring their superior knowledge to the aid of those roving bands of which they are now the sworn enemies. We need not enlarge on the unfitness of purely Chinese troops to cope with the difficulties which will present themselves so soon as the disciplined contingents shall be disbanded. Indifferent by nature, they are rendered cowardly by education. Ignorant of the first principles of military science, they may soon have to oppose men amongst whom enthusiasm will make up for lack of education. Against such they will be able to oppose nothing except numbers. The Chinese are in truth blind, and are, moreover, ignorant of that blindness. They are jealous of foreigners, and yet are unable to apply themselves to the drudgery of following out foreign scientific systems. It is truly lamentable to be thus driven to the conclusion that European intercourse has done nothing for the Chinese, and that they are still as ignorant, as jealous, and as pig headed as they ever were. Events must some time or another reach a crisis, and in the progress of those events China will most probably find herself taken in hand by European nations, and saved the trouble of thinking or legislating for herself

HONG KONG.

In Hong Kong there has been nothing of political importance to record. The eleven men of the 99th Regiment, who were committed on the verdict of a coroner's jury for the murder of an Indian constable, have not yet been brought up for trial. Other Hong Kong items and topics of discussion are thus summarised from the *Evening Mail*:—

Our "Temperature" corner has shown very satisfactory reports, the thermometer ranging more or less over or under 75 degrees. Notwithstanding this pleasant state of things, however, an article noticed the contrary to be true of the moral atmosphere. Society seemed inclined to be out of joint; quarrels were the order of the day in volunteer and other quarters; but things were at the same time beginning to assume a more reassuring appearance about Government House and the public gardens, in which latter favourable public resort the band are now to perform on stated evenings. In a correspondent's letter from Canton, the weather there was characterised as splendid; while the military examination then going on suggested the similitude of a horse-fair. From the *Government Gazette* was reproduced an official notice of the forthcoming sale of land at Kowloong, amongst the lots of which is included one suitable for the erection of docks.

NETHERLANDS INDIA.

BATAVIA.

Our dates hence are to the 15th November. The London Mail of the 26th September arrived out on the 4th of November.

A. Prins, Esq., member of the Council of India, has retired from the service. The next Government sugar sale was to take place on the 10th December. The opium monopoly had been farmed out by the Government at the following rates per month: Batavia and Lampongs f.71.00; Buizenzorg, f.85,00; Bantam, f.40,00.

Singo Troeno, the ringleader of the late disturbance at Tagal, has been killed at Brebes, whilst attempting to escape to Cheribon. He refused to surrender, and, together with his followers Deyem and Gendoeng, resisted the efforts of the widana to secure them. The two first were at once despatched, the latter was slightly wounded. At the outbreak of the late disturbance, a safe retreat for the females and children was naturally the first thing thought of. Some fled to the shipping in the roadstead, others sought refuge in the Government House, but the greatest portion of the inhabitants rushed to the mansion of M. Johannes, Esq., an Amenian gentleman, highly respected by all who know him, and an old resident on the island. This gentleman, with his usual hospitality, received all who came, and during two days gave shelter to no less than *seventy-one*

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Europeans with their servants, all of whom he treated with the kindness of a father.

A committee appointed by the Chamber of Commerce at Sourabaya to examine into Mr. Montclar's manner of working at Baron Sloet's sugar mill as Poerwadadie, have reported favourably on the same. 24f. per picul has been offered for a parcel of 5,000 piculs made by said gentleman's process.

From Padang we learn that the *Johann*, which vessel had taken in a full cargo of coffee and sundries for Holland, was stopped by the Customs when ready to sail, on suspicion that she had more cargo on board than was entered at the Custom-house. It is said that the authorities insist upon her being discharged in order to ascertain the truth.

BANDA.

The long-continued drought has been very detrimental to the spice parks where many of the young trees have been scorched, and the fruit have fallen to the ground before they were ripe. The number of nuts gathered in August, though not yet ascertained, is not expected to be great. On the 6th September 28,420 lbs. of mace (product of August), and 52,012 lbs. nuts (product of February) were delivered in the Government stores. The shipments to Java on the 3rd September were 135 casks mace, 136 casks nuts, and one case nutmeg soap; and 119 casks mace, 51 casks nuts, and 2 cases nutmeg soap were ready for shipment.

BORNEO.

We are now enabled to state that the nine Javanese sailors and three native women, who had lately arrived at Mahiad, in Palawan, as reported by us in our last issue, did not belong to a Dutch ship, but probably to the Danish brig *Gazelle*, Captain H. J. Johannsen. This vessel left Batavia 29th August, 1863, for San Francisco.

The China "Tonnage and Shipping Intelligence" of 14th November, 1863, contained a report made by the *Elisabeth*, which vessel had picked up four Malay shipwrecked sailors on the 25th October in 7 deg. North, a little to the southward of the Prince of Wales bank. Said sailors deposed to have belonged to the brig *Gazelle*, which vessel foundered at sea in the beginning of October, 1863. Six of the crew escaped with their lives in one of the boats, the rest got into the other boat. Of the six, the deponents alone remained, two having died of want. The police are doing their utmost to solve this mystery.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates hence are to the 21st November. The London Mail of the 10th October reached by the steamer *Salsette* on the 14th November.

The Court of Inquiry into the loss of the *Keepsake* found that she was lost through the carelessness and negligence of Ellis Swan, the master, and sentenced his certificate to be suspended for one year; which sentence had been confirmed by Governor Cavenagh, with the comment that it is "extremely lenient."

A notice appears that Mr. William Ramsay Scott was admitted a partnertin the firm of William Macdonald and Co., on the 1st of October.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

CAREY—On the 25th Oct., at Foo-chow, China, the wife of H. W. Carey, Esq., of a son

FRY—On the 14th Dec., at Manor House, Ilford, Essex, the wife of William Storrs Fry Esq., of a daughter.

LAY—On the 9th Dec., at 14, Queen's-gardens, Hyde-park, the wife of H. N. Lay, Esq. C.B., of a son.

MACLEOD—On the 10th Dec., at Gothic Lodge, Worthing, Sussex, the wife of Malcolm Anderson Macleod, Esq., of a daughter.

MCMAHON—On the 16th Dec., at 41, Grosvenor-place, the wife of Colonel Sir Thomas McMahon, Bart., C.B., of a son.

PUTTFARCKEN—On the 11th November, at Broadfield, Singapore, Mrs. Otto Puttfarcken, of a daughter.

RENNELL—On the 2nd Nov., at Singapore, the wife of Capt. H. B. Rennell, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

ENSDEN—GAREY.—On the 29th Nov., by Consular licence, and at the Episcopal Church, Avenue Marbouef, Paris, by the Rev. G. G. Gardiner, M.A., Richard Ensden, Esq., Japanese Secretary to H.B.M.'s Legation at Yedo, Japan, to Mary Ann, youngest daughter of the late Edward Garey, Esq. No cards.

FARNHAM—PHILLIPS.—On the 27th Oct., at Shanghai, at the residence of Captain P. Armstrong, J. C. Farnham, Esq., to Miss Annie Phillips.

HEATON—MANUEL.—On the 29th Oct., at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, D.D., George Henderson Heaton, Government Marine Surveyor, to Margaret, second daughter of the late Rev. William Manuel, D.D., of Clapton, Middlesex.

PFAFF—DONALDSON.—On the 5th Nov., at Trinity Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. F. R. Michell, Mr. F. J. Pfaff, to Miss Jane L. Donaldson.

YOUNG—RAMSAY.—On the 15th Dec., at St. James's Church, Paddington, by the Rev. J. M. Bellew, Major Young, H.M.'s 37th, of Lincluden, Dumfries, to Harriet Charlotte, eldest daughter of Major-General James Ramsay, of Sussex-square, Hyde-park.

DEATHS.

DOWNTON—On the 28th Oct., at Yokohama, suddenly of heart disease, Walter Downton, aged 42, private of H.B.M.'s Royal Marines, Legation Guard.

HOPKINSON—On the 17th Dec., at his residence, 2A, King-street, St. James's-square, Major-General Sir Charles Hopkinson, C.B., in the 82nd year of his age.

MACLEAN—On the 16th Dec., at Woodside, Fortrose, N.B., Lieut.-Colonel Charles Maxwell Maclean, late of the 72nd Highlanders (second son of the late William Maclean, Esq., of Dochgarroch, near Inverness), in which regiment he served nearly 44 years, aged 73.

LAMOND—On the 3rd Nov., at Pootung, Shanghai, Malcolm Lamond, shipbuilder, aged 38 years.

RUDSDELL—On the 17th Dec., at Beckingham, near Gainsborough, Henrietta, the wife of Sir Joseph Rudsdell, K.C.M.G., late Lieut.-Colonel Grenadier Guards.

SMYTH—On the 18th Dec., at 8, Onslow-gardens, Anne, widow of Major Henry Carmichael Smyth, of the Bengal Engineers, and mother of William Makepeace Thackeray.

STIBOLT—On the 31st Oct., at Shanghai, of dysentery, H. Stibolt, a native of Denmark, aged 46 years.

WATSON—On the 15th Dec., at Hampton Court Palace, aged 15, Helen Louisa, eldest daughter of the late Commodore Watson, C.B., A.D.C.

WILSON—On the 18th Dec., at Brighton, aged 15, Matilda, youngest daughter of David and Sophia Wilson, of Colombo, Ceylon.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—This article has not met with any inquiry at the hands of the native dealers during the fortnight which has elapsed since the date of last Circular, and the only transaction to notice is the purchase of 25 bales, Nos. 28 to 32, which are supposed to be intended for shipment to Japan. Prices show a material decline in the lower and highest numbers imported, when compared with those ruling at the date of last Circular. Some 23 bales of damaged Twist have also been moved off by public auction. The sales reported from Amoy consist of 100 bales fair quality 16 to 24 taken at $81, but the latest quotations for this yarn were not above $78 per picul.

GREY SHIRTINGS.—The sole transaction reported during the past fortnight consists of the public sale of 2,800 pieces of sea-damaged goods, and the dealers show no disposition at present to make purchases. Prices are quoted somewhat lower for all qualities. The settlements reported from Foochow amount to 1,550 pieces at $4.80 to $5. 70 for lbs. 7 to 8¼ goods. The latest sales at Amoy were effected at $4. 95 to $5. 85 for similar qualities.

WHITE SHIRTINGS.—Have not met with any inquiry since the date of last report, and there are not any sales to notice. Foochow quotations are $4. 40 to $5. 40 for 54 to 66 reed, at which 1,600 pieces had found buyers.

T-CLOTHS.—The value of these goods shows a very marked decline when compared with the quotations current at the date of last Circular. The market has been almost entirely supplied during the fortnight by sales of damaged goods, and the dealers show no desire to increase their stocks at present. The total quantity sold amounts to 10,800 pieces, exclusive of 400 pieces of 8 lbs.

AMERICAN DRILLS.—There is not any stock of American Drills on the market, but sales of 2,000 pieces of Drills of English manufacture at $5.50 per piece have been reported.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: There are not any sales of these goods to report either from this colony or Canton, and the settlements at Foochow are limited to 250 pieces assorted Spanish stripes at 85 cents per yard.

LONG ELLS.—There has been no business transacted in these goods.

CAMLETS.—Sales amount to 620 pieces at about previous rates.

LASTINGS.—100 pieces sold, in addition to which 40 pieces of damaged goods have been moved off at auction.

BLANKETS.—100 pairs settled; at auction 1,053 pairs of damaged have been sold.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: Quotations remain as at the date of last report, with sales for the fortnight of 3,570 piculs of Nail Rod, and 750 piculs of bar; nothing doing in Canton.

LEAD.—Without change in value; has been sold to the extent of 300 piculs in this colony, while 400 piculs have changed hands in Canton.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA—CANTON.—Three additional chops of country Congous have reached the Canton market during the past fortnight, and stocks of this description of tea now amount to 18 chops. There have been no purchases effected, and the offers made are generally 2 tls. to 3 tls. per picul below the prices demanded by the dealers. In Canton Congous the settlements do not exceed 500 half-chests, which have found a buyer at 21 tls. to 23 tls. for good to fine quality; these are, if anything, a little lower than the quotations given under date of 31st ult. for similar grades of tea. The only departure is that of the Cambalu, with a cargo of 603,900 lb. The Elizabeth Dawson is on the berth loading at £3 per ton. The settlements of Congou in Foochow between the 25th ultimo, and 9th instant amount to 30,163 chests. Common to good flavoury kinds show an advance on previous quotations of fully 1 tael per picul, and have been taken principally for the Continent of Europe and Australia; the advance having to some extent cheked operations in these grades for the English market. Quotations are put at tls. 18.5 to tls. 22.5 for good common to flavoury kinds. The departures for the United Kingdom consist of the Cœur de Lion, 701,950 lbs., Gauntlet, 919,520 lbs., Verbena, 598,500 lbs., and Ellenborough, 1,179,300 lbs. The total export for the season now amounts to 32,558,529 lbs., against 1863-64, 33,767,180 lbs., and 1862-63, 22,637,700 lbs. of tea. Souchong: 1,571 chests purchased. Oolong: Settlements amount to 18,500 half-chests. Flowery Pekoe; 884 chests have found buyers in Foochow at the annexed quotations. Scented Teas have been purchased in Foochow to the extent of 5,480 boxes at 10.7 to 31.2 taels, while in Canton 2,500 boxes of Scented Orange Pekoe and 1,500 boxes of Scented Caper have been taken at the annexed quotations, which represent the value of good to finest qualities. The settlements of Canton Greens are comprised in the purchase of 300 boxes of Gunpowders and a similar quantity of Imperial at 20 taels.

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FOOCHOW.—During the fortnight a steady business has been done in Congous at gradually stiffening rates. Dusty and broken leaf have advanced 5 mace, other descriptions 1 tael, the market still tending up. Oolongs have been settled freely at lightly higher rates. The settlements of the fortnight are reported as under:—Congous: 20,700 chests, 21,500 half-chests, and 1,000 boxes, at 6t. 2m. to 14½ taels for dusty and broken leaf, 13½ to 18½ taels for common to good common, and 17¼ to 22½ taels for flavery to good flavery. Souchongs: 1,600 chests at 18½ to 36 taels for common to fine. Flowery Pekoe: 650 chests at 17 to 23 taels for common to fair, and 34 taels for fine. Oolong: 13,500 half-chests at 14 to 15½ taels for common cargo, and 16½ to 22 taels for fair to fine. Scented Teas: 5,300 boxes at 1 to 10 taels for dust, and 24 to 28½ for medium kinds.

SHANGHAI.—Black: Immediately after the departure of the mail a good inquiry commenced, and 17 chops were settled at prices which in some instances showed an advance of half a tael on previous quotations; the arrival of the 10th September mail on the 1st instant checked all business, and notwithstanding the decline in Exchange and Freights, buyers will not operate unless at a decline, which up to the present time holders have not submitted to. Settlements have been: 10 chops Oopacks at tls. 23½ to 26½, 6 chops Oonahms at tls. 20 to 24½, 9 chops Ningchow at tls. 20 to 28, and 1 chop Souchong at tls. 24. Settlements on the market, 24 chops or 10,128 chests as above. Re-shipped on owners' account, 33 chops 13,941 chests do.; together, 57 chops or 24,069 chests, making total to date 315,443 chests. Stock waiting shipment and for re-sale 52 chops or 22,460 chests. Quotations are, third crop Oopacks, taels 23½ to 26½; Ningchows, taels 20 to 28. Oonahms, taels 19 to 24; Hohows, taels 17 to 20. Green: Only a very limited business can be reported, and settlements have been confined to one chop of Pingsuey at tls. 36 proportion, and a few small parcels of Shanghai packed Teas at about previous rates. There is rather more inquiry for country tea, but holders will not reduce their demands. The arrivals from Kiukiang have been small, and the stock shows little increase.

KIUKIANG.—Our dates are to the 3rd inst. Green Teas: The teamen had made up their minds that the delay in the reopening of the market was due to a combination amongst foreigners, which they were determined to resist with an equal obstinacy; hence no settlements had yet been made, though a few chops had gone forward to Shanghai on native account, and the stock was thus reduced to 54,000 packages. Total settlements [and shipments: 18,100 hf.-chests, against 12,400 hf.-chests last year. Black Teas: Foreigners were unwilling to buy except at a farther decline of 1½ to 2 taels, and in consequence only three small chops Ningchow had been settled; the stock comprised 6 chops. Quotations, Ningchow: Medium to fair, 16 to 20 tls. Hohow: Common to good, 14 to 18 tls. per picul.

HANKOW.—There is no alteration to note in this Market since the last report of the 18th ultimo, the Teamen being still very firm in their prices, and are now seemingly more disposed to place their teas on the Shanghai market than submit to a reduction at this. We may still expect about 20 chops of common coarse teas before this season closes, but there is at present little prospect of prices declining so far as to admit of safe purchases. Settlements for the fortnight are 30 chops including 2 contracts and 5 sent to Shanghai, making the total for the season 660 chops. Unsold stock on the market about 35 chops. Quotations are: Oopacks common taels 19 to 21; Oonams ditto 16 to 17.

YOKOHAMA.—Settlements for the month are estimated at 4,600 piculs taken at a further reduction of $1 to 2. The unsold stocks are 5,000 piculs. Quotations, common, $10 to 13; good common, 214 to 21; medium, $22 to 25½; fine, 26 to $28.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—There has again been considerable activity in this market, the settlements being estimated at 3,500 bales. The improved home advices by 10th September mail, and a serious decline in the rate of exchange, as well as the certainty of a very short supply of China Silk, having influenced these large transactions. Prices have advanced 20 to 25 taels per picul, and close firm, the greatly reduced unsold stock causing the dealers to be less anxious to realise. The supply from the interior continues very moderate, and all the dealers are unanimous in their reports of a scarcity of silk up country. The mail from Japan has just arrived. Her advices as regards the further supply of silk were anxiously looked for. The settlements of the fortnight are estimated at 3,700 bales, against 850 bales corresponding fortnight of last season, and 1,300 ditto of season before. The unsold stock is stated at 2,000 bales, against 10,000 same period last season, 10,500 the season before, and 25,000 season 1861-62. The following are the current quotations.

CANTON.—There being very little fine silk procurable except at quite out of the way prices, nothing has been done since the 28th ult.; the inquiry for Bombay has also been of the smallest, and with the exception of a few of the commonest descriptions, there have been no settlements for that market. Prices have advanced during the fortnight very considerably, owing to the scarcity of good quality, and the large requirements of the native manufacturers, and which may be thus given, viz.:—Loongkong, No. 1, $545 to 550; do., No. 2, $530 to 535; Kow-Kong, $515 to 520; Canton Tsatlee none; Re-reeled Cumchuck, none making; waste silk, 1, $57 to 58; waste silk, 2, $47 to 48.

YOKOHAMA.—Settlements to date are 4,500 bales against 8,500 bales o the same time last season, leaving an unsold stock of about 200 bales. The receipts during the month have been good, amounting to 4,000 bales —a large and important improvement upon the previous months of this season. In the earlier part of the month the market for Mybash was opened at $565 for fair parcels; this price soon gave way, and gradually advanced to $585 to 600, and in one or two instances $610 was paid for best quality; several parcels of Koshu have come to hand, and have been readily taken at $530. Hatchojee and Taysaam sorts appear to be very dear, owing to the demand for native consumption.

DRUGS, &c.—Cassia Lignea: 400 pls. have been taken at $15.80, showing at advance of 10 cents, and although the stock has been augmented to 1,400 pls., holders have advanced the asking price to $15 90, it being known that further orders are in the market which must be fulfilled. Cassia Buds: The small stock of 8 piculs is still on the market. China Galls: The report of the failure of the present crop having been confirmed, quotations have advanced to $14.75, at which rate the remaining stock of 100 pls. is firmly held. Vermilion has further receded in value, and is now offered at $34½ per box of 50 catties. Rhubarb: No arrivals and no settlements; the old stock may now be fairly considered unfit for shipment. Musk: About 50 catties of the old inferior stock are reported sold at $85; no fresh supplies. Galangal: As before; say nominal at $2 to 3. Essential Oils: The market is still bare.

COTTON.

(China Trade Report.)

HONG KONG.—The advices from England of the continued depression in the Liverpool market, and the pressure for money in London, have, as may be expected, produced a corresponding effect here. Rates have fallen materially since the date of last report, the small transactions reported being exclusively for native consumption. The settlements of the fortnight amount to 6,000 bags at $20 to 21 for Shantung and Tien-tsin; $21 to 22½ for Shanghai, and $23½ to 24½ for Ningpo. Japan is scarce—no sales reported. During the past few days a better feeling has been manifested by the Chinese, who continue to purchase with confidence. Foreign houses generally are neither buying nor selling, but are simply awaiting the turn of events. Shipments are limited, and all depends on future advices. Stocks are estimated at 20,000 bags.

SHANGHAI.—The last report was dated Oct. 25, at which date the market was steadily declining. Since then we have had the English Mail of the 10th September, advising a decline in the Liverpool and Manchester markets of nearly 3d. per lb. This news, coupled with the probabilities of peace in America, has reduced this and the Ningpo markets to the extreme of inactivity. Rates immediately dropped from tls. 18.40 and tls. 19.50 to tls. 15.50 and tls. 16.50, with few or no buyers. Holders are however evincing firmness, and asking tls. 17.50 to 18.00, though with one exception we hear of no transactions. The latest telegrams confirming the fall of Atlanta may restore some of the confidence so shaken by the anticipations of an early peace, but the gloomy advices of money and trade generally in England will have their effect in checking prices. Much trouble and difficulty is still caused by wet cotton being brought on the market, in fact, to such an extent has this mischief been felt, that many would-be-operators have withdrawn from the market. Large quantities brought forward to supply contracts have been rejected, and though there is a very considerable fleet of shipping laid on for cotton freight, it is to be hoped that the caution evinced against buying damp cotton may have the effect of inducing the Chinese to discontinue the practice. In Ningpo, buyers are holding back for lower rates, but the Chinamen as yet refuse to submit to reduction. $27.00 to 28.00 are talked of but nothing has been done. Sales during the fortnight are put down as 1,600 bales at from $29.40 to 30. Exports to Shanghai 3,536 bales. Hong Kong 1,985 bales. Amoy 1,102 bales. Settlements for Shanghai amount to 10,000 bales for the fortnight.

NINGPO.—The intelligence of the fall in Liverpool has produced the same effect at this port as at Shanghaiand Hong Kong. Stocks are small, and holders are far from panic stricken. The nominal quotation is $26½ to 28 per bag of 118 to 120 catties.

SWATOW.—The supplies of the month amount to 4,250 bags, most of which was placed at $29 to 30. The rate has fallen $3 to 4, but the stock is small.

TIEN-TSIN.—The staple has declined 14 taels to 14.5.0. Shipping is very short; the stock is considerable and the probability is that the port will be blocked with ice ere purchases are shipped off.

YOKOHAMA.—The arrivals, for the lateness of the season, have been fair, and prices well maintained. Buyers are evidently holding off for the new crop, which should have been in the market before this, and which it is anticipated will be an abundant one. Settlements in the aggregate to 1,500 piculs, while the unsold stock may be estimated at 300 piculs.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—None.

At SHANGHAI.—From Newcastle: Oct. 27, Minerva. From Cardiff: 29, Arthur. From Sunderland: 31, Sabiso.

At FOO-CHOW.—From Havre: 28, Taffarette.

At HONG KONG.—From Copenhagen: Nov. 5, Savinto. From New York: 2, Fungsuey (str.); 10, Antonia Terry.

At MANILA.—None.

At SINGAPORE.—From Sunderland: Nov. 7, Eastern Queen; 17, Dunelm. From Bordeaux: 7, Hoogly.

At PENANG.—None.

DEPARTURES.

From JAPAN.—For London: Oct. 15, Little Edith and H.M.S. Tartar, for England.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: 26, Agincourt; 27, Beemah and Avondhu; Nov. 7, J. Stanton, jun. For Liverpool: Oct. 27, Southern Empire; 29, Gwallior.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: 27, Ellenborough and Verbena. For Falmouth: 29, Freya. For New York: 23, Ravensworth; 24, Corea.

From HONG KONG.—For London: Nov. 5, Far East (str.); for Hamburg, Nov. 12, Emily.

From MANILA.—For London: Nov. 1, Sea Belle; for Liverpool, Oct. 31, C.S., Lemon; for Falmouth, Oct. 22, Malvina Vidol; and, Nov. 1, Ocean Home.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Nov. 17, Maid of the Tyne; 18, Northumberland; 6, for Liverpool, Moneta: for Boston, 14, Borneo.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Mountain Ash, Amelia, Alfred Hawley, and Pembrokeshire.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Canadian, Countess Russell, David McIvor, Bosworth, Delhi, Spirit of the Deep, Diligentia, Lochleven Castle, Jubilee, Anglo-Saxon, James Russell, Palawan, Queen of the Ocean. For Liverpool: Ann, Helen, Gitana, Light of the Age, Silvia, Yorick, Queen of the East, Sir W. F. Williams, Sailors Home, Savoir

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Faire, Ærolite, Ariadne, Constance, Coringa, Dennis Horton, Her Majesty, Norah Gleame, Roodee. For New York: Clara Bubuyan.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Carisbrook, Langdale, Blencathra, Prince Alfred.

At AMOY.—For New York: Falcon.

At CANTON.—For London: Xulla, Elizabeth Dawson. For Liverpool: Melbreek, James Vinnicombe. For New York: N. B. Palmer, Magenta.

At MANILA.—For London: Otille. For New York: Windward.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Edwin Fox. For Liverpool: Heros. For Bordeaux: Marie.

At PENANG.—None.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

YOKOHAMA.—To London: Cotton and tea, £4 per ton.

SHANGHAI.—To London: £3 per ton nominal.

FOOCHOW.—To London the rate has declined to £3 per ton, and on the arrival of a number of vessels from the South (now considerably overdue) lower rates are expected.

HONG KONG.—The following is from Geo Holmes's circular:—Elizabeth Dawson (310), London (via Macao), £3 per ton; Amur (300), Manila to Europe, £3 per ton sugar, £4. 5s. for hemp, and 5s. extra if to Continent; Magenta (850), Whampoa to New York, at $16; Northfleet (876), Calcutta and back at 95 cents per bag, 20 and 25 cents extra if on to the north—if to London £5 per ton; Hamlin (1,196), Calcutta for orders; if to Hong Kong at 85 cents per bag; if to England £4. 10s. per ton; if from Rangoon, Akyab, or Bassein to Hong Kong 72½ cents per pcl.; or from a rice port to England, at £4. 5s. per ton.

MANILA.—The only vessel fixed has been the Ottilie for London, at £2 for Clayed Sugar, £4. 10s. to £4. 15s. per ton for Hemp, and £4 per 50 cubic feet for tobacco.

SINGAPORE.—The number of arrivals seeking has been very large, making it difficult to find employment for all. For London the Moldavian (385), has been taken up to load at Sarawak at £4 per ton all round, and the Obey (271) for Glasgow at £3. 5s.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA &c.—Oct. 22, Rudolf, Rotterdam to Batavia; 27, A.R. Falck, Amsterdam to Samarang; Nov. 3, Charmer, Sunderland to Singapore; Insulaneren, Cardiff to Singapore; General Michiels, Rotterdam to Singapore.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—Oct. 25, Taeping, Amoy to London; 27, Coulnakyle, Hong Kong to London; 28, Kanagawa, Batavia to Rotterdam; 29, Castleton, Nagasaki to London; Veronica, Foochow to Liverpool; Patna, Shanghai to Liverpool; Maravi, Shanghai to London; 30, Cumberland, Foochow to London; Amoy, Hong Kong to London; Nov. 2, Providence, Shanghai to Liverpool; 2, Jupiter, Hong Kong to Falmouth; 4, Lord Raglan and West Derby, Foochow to London; 6, Olano, Manila to Liverpool; 9, England, Whampoa; St. Oswin, Singapore; Camilla, Shanghai; and Prendt Carbite, Manila to London; 10, Catharine, Macao to Hamburg.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—27 Oct., Rattler, from Manila; Prince of Wales, from Shanghai; and Nov. 9, Corea, Foochow to New York.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Dec. 20, at Texel, from Batavia, Peeress; 21, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Roosendaal; 24, at Queenstown, from Bassein, R. M. Sloman; from Maulmain, Conde de Hainau; 23, off Dover, from Shanghai, Solent; at Falmouth, from Tuticorin and Colombo, Epsom.

DEPARTURES.—Dec. 22, from Cardiff, for Shanghai, Amoy; 24, from London, for Shanghai, Star of China.

LAID ON.—At London, for Batavia, Admiral de Winter; for Colombo, Evelyn.

SPOKEN.—Affghan, Shanghai to Liverpool, Oct. 23, 35 S., 19 E.; Verwachting, Amsterdam to Batavia; Johanna Jacob, Batavia to Halmstad; Susanna and Elizabeth, Rotterdam to Batavia, Oct. 23, 38 S., 6 E.; Jannetje, Batavia to Rotterdam, Nov. 1, 40 S., 25 E.; Cybill, Rotterdam to Batavia, 13 N., 27 W.; Wellington, Liverpool to China, Sept. 10, 9 N., 25 W.; Peiho, Shields to Hong Kong, Oct. 7, 27 S. 25 W.; Franz (ship), Rotterdam to Batavia, July 7, 26 S., 28 W.; Maiden Queen, London to Hong Kong, Sept. 21, 5 S., 106 E.; Richard Cobden, Liverpool to Singapore, 60 days out, 34 S., 9 W.; Catharina Maria, New York to Batavia, Sept. 26, 4 S., 29 W.; Almonde (Dut. barq.), from Batavia; Copernicus (Dut. ship), Batavia to Rotterdam, off St. Helena; Virginia, Amsterdam to Batavia, Sept. 16, 13 N., 25 W.; Antrim, Sunderland to Singapore, Oct. 6, 25 S., 27 W.; Antelope, Hamburg to Hong Kong, Oct. 15, 31 S., 15 W.; Tasman, Shields to Batavia, Oct. 19, 36 S., 6 W.; Thracian, Colombo to London, Nov. 14, 31 S., 12 E.; Hochelaga, Batavia to Amsterdam, Nov. 15; Spitfire, Penang to London, Oct. 23, 29 S., 46 E.; Richard, Foochow-Foo to London, Nov. 19; Hamstadt, Rotterdam to Batavia, Oct. 6, 28 S., 28 W.; Angela, London to Manila, Oct. 20, 37 S., 1 W.; Isaac da Costa, Rotterdam to Padang, Sept. 2, 13 S., 29 W.; Belladonna, Liverpool to Singapore, Oct. 11, 29 S., 12 W.; Continent, from Manila, Sept. 12, 1 N., 114 E.; Franklin, (Amer. ship), from Manila, Sept. 28, off Anjer; Johanna Catharina, Batavia to Rotterdam, Nov. 24, off St. Helena; Bernard (packet), Antwerp to Batavia, Sept. 2, 22 N., 24 W.; Helvellyn, Shanghai to London, Sept. 11, 9 N., 26 W.; Donna Bella, Liverpool to Singapore; Napoleon (Dut. barq.), Amsterdam to Batavia, Sept. 5, 10 N., 26 W.; Sindab (?), Amsterdam to Batavia, Oct. 6, 26 N., 28 W.; Seaforth (ship), Manila to London, Sept. 6; Willy (Eng. brig), Amoy to London, Sept. 7; Henrica, Batavia to Rotterdam, Nov. 4, 30 S., 38 E.; Quintet, Batavia to Amsterdam, Nov. 13, off Cape Agulhas.

At ASCENSION.—Nov. 4, from Singapore, Belle Virginie, and sailed for Marseilles; 7, from Shanghai, General Windham, Forbes, and sailed, 8, for Liverpool.

Off ASCENSION.—Nov. 20, from Batavia, Veronica, for Amsterdam; 28, Mocq, Bailly, for Naples; 30, Ottolina, for Rotterdam.

At ST. HELENA.—Nov. 5, from Shanghai, Affghan, Fisher, and sailed, 9, for Liverpool; from Batavia, Gerard, Peter, and Servatius, Wamsteker, and sailed for Amsterdam; 8, from Zebu, Auffredy, Poupard, and sailed, 13, for Falmouth; from Batavia, Kandanghauer, Zeelt, and sailed, 9, for Amsterdam; 14, from Shanghai, Sea Snake, Popham, and sailed for Liverpool; 15, from Foo-chow-Foo, Philomela, Archer, and sailed for London; 16, Canute, Smerdon, and sailed, 17, for London; from Hong Kong, Roslin Castle, Nicol, and sailed, 18, for New York; 21, from Manila, Jupiter, Hauschild, and sailed, 22, for Liverpool; 24, Voladora, Villabasso, and sailed for Falmouth; from Shanghai, Brockham, Williams, and sailed, 25, for Liverpool; 25, Zodiac, Hopkins, and sailed for London; from Manila, Labrador, Quinn, and sailed for Liverpool; 26, from Penang, Frederik, Hultman, and sailed, 27, for Falmouth; from Samarang, Liberator, Robertson, and sailed for Rotterdam; from Singapore, Tigris, Miller, and sailed for Liverpool; from Colombo, Shallett, Willis, and sailed for London; 27, from Ceylon, Thracian, Tyack, and sailed, 28, for London; 28, from Batavia, Amsterdam, Doekzen, and Hendrika, Valk.

At SIMON'S BAY.—Nov. 13, H.M.'s ship Orontes, sailed for Ceylon.

At NATAL.—Oct. 20 Etienne, Silvers, sailed for Singapore.

At TABLE BAY.—Nov. —, Gemini, Pallot, and Snaresbrook, Wood, and both sailed for Galle.

CASUALTIES.—The Luisita, Gordia, of and from Manila for Cadiz, put into St. Helena, November 20, making 16 inches water per hour; she discharged about 100 tons of her cargo, and stopped the greater part of the leak. She now, November 20, makes but little water, and is about to reload the discharged portion of her cargo.

The Washington (s.) of Boston, from New York to the Cape of Good Hope and China, put into St. Helena, November 25, having been within 500 miles of the Cape, but compelled to put back here for coals. The morning after her arrival, she was discovered to be in a sinking state, with 4½ feet water in her hold. Four pumps were sent off, and by 7 P.M. she was pumded out. She has been surveyed inside and out, but nothing found to account for the quantity of water. On the 28th she was recommended to take in coal and proceed for her destination.

Continental Intelligence

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

DEC. 22.

The *Irkutzk Government Gazette* states that the past summer has been a very unfavourable one for the agricultural interest in Eastern Siberia, in consequence of which the prices of all comestibles have considerably risen. Rye cannot be bought under 80 kopeks per pood of 40 lbs., and even at that price is difficult to obtain at all; oats fetched 80 and 75 kop., whilst the price of hay was far above the means of most of the peasant farmers.

A letter from Nertschinsk in the same paper mentions a new article of commerce at Aigoon on the Amoor. Scarcely was the trade opened there when a number of Chinese and Mandschurian dealers made their appearance inquiring anxiously for stags' horns, which they eagerly bought up, paying as much as 200 silver roubles for a pair of antlers of good size. It appears they are in great request in China from a supposed inherent virtue contained in them that they facilitate parturition, and it is asserted that no Chinese parents in easy circumstances ever fail to include a pair of stags' antlers in the dowry and outfit of their daughters when they marry.

From St. Petersburg we learn that Mr. H. Sibley, the President of the American Western Union Telegraph Company, and Mr. Collins, the indefatigable protagonist in the cause of telegraphic extension, have had the honour of being presented to the Emperor, who was pleased to converse long and freely with them on the subject of their important mission to Russia.

About the end of November the British ship *Agincourt*, from St. Petersburg to the Amoor, with a cargo of rye flour, was brought into the port of Revel in a leaky condition, having been severely nipped by the ice. The cargo has been landed and warehoused, and the ship, after undergoing the needful repairs, dismantled and laid up for the winter. The crew, consisting of twenty-one seamen, arrived at Lubeck by the steamer *Hebe* last week *en route* for England, and were forwarded to London from this port by one of the General Steam Navigation Company's steamers.

By Royal Decree, dated Stockholm, December 10, the King of Sweden and Norway has been pleased to appoint Mr. W. Leembruggen, of Tien-tsin, to be His Majesty's Vice-Consul at that port, under the Consulate-General of Shanghai, *vice* Mr. S. H. Pomeroy, jun., resigned.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—In the face of the approaching holidays, and several days of sharp frost that has already filled the Elbe with floating ice, and renders the navigation impossible for sailing ships, threatening even to stop the arrival and departure of steamers in a day or two, the late brisk demand

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for coffee has subsided, and the sales have been limited to the execution of the most pressing orders. Holders are by no means anxious to realise their stocks, and, therefore, the absence of extensive buyers has had no influence on the value of any description of coffee.

SUGAR.—Since last report the market for raw has been dull, and in most cases a fall of 4 to 8 sch. bco. was submitted to. Among the sales were 6,000 bags of unclayed Manila at 14 mks. bco. Refined goods were also a shade cheaper, and the dealings were by no means extensive.

RICE.—This market has been in a very lively condition for all descriptions, but chiefly for cleaned grain. The prices, however, are a trifle in favour of purchasers.

SPICES.—As the German Christmas Cookery does not include mince pies and plum-puddings, the approach of the holidays does not affect the spice market. The sales of the week were not larger than usual, and there is no alteration to notice in the value of any one article. Cassia Lignea 9⅛ to 9⅝ sch. bco.

SPELTER.—Unfavourable advices from other markets have shaken confidence in this article, and the sale is heavy. Silesian in slabs offered ex warehouse and for spring delivery at 13½ marks banco without attracting purchasers.

DISCOUNT.—5¼ to 5¾ per cent.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, DECEMBER 15th.

My anticipation that the Budget of the Home Department would soon be passed, has proved correct. After a discussion of little interest respecting educational matters—Mr. Groen being indisposed, and therefore not present—only 19 members voted against the chapter. After the Budget for the construction of the State Railways had been unanimously approved of, the chapter for the Marine Department was put on the table. Some time ago I informed you that the opposition papers were endeavouring to persuade the public that the Minister of Marine was condemned to fall, with the consent of the Premier. The sectional report, since published, favoured this opinion. The result of the debates, however, has shown the contrary, for this chapter was also passed by 47 against 19 votes.

At the sitting of to-day a very animated debate took place between several members and the Minister of Finances, who defended his Budget with so much tact against the very severe attacks on his plans for modifying our system of duties, that he won the day. His chapter passed, as did also that of the National Debt, by 51 against 18 votes. Mr. Betz stated, during the discussion, that the revenues of the State for the current year would surpass the estimate by 4,500,000 guilders. He is soon to lay before the members a new Bill on the sugar duties.

The First Chamber assembled to-day. The debates will begin on Friday next.

In my last letter I spoke of the satisfaction that prevailed in Amsterdam in consequence of the capital necessary for the canal being fully subscribed for; that satisfaction was of a very short duration. Mr. van Nierop, in the Second Chamber, a few days ago, suddenly startled the good people of Amsterdam out of their ease. He asked some information from Mr. Thorbecke respecting this affair, which he called a deception of the worst character. The contractors for the work, Messrs. William McCormick and Sons, of London, who had taken shares for ten millions of guilders, were stated to be going on under a trust, instead of being solvent for that amount. It was also alleged that this firm was now trying to make arrangements with their creditors. On the other side, it is asserted that other contractors would easily be found in England to execute the work. I hope this assertion will prove to be true.

The emancipation of women is now much spoken about here. The celebrated traveller, Mrs. Storm, takes much trouble to bring her ideas in favour with the public, but I very much doubt whether she will be successful in her endeavours to induce the people to follow the example of the Americans.

The Emperor of Russia has conferred on our active and ingenious engineer, Paul Van Vlissingen, the Order of St. Stanislaus.

A detachment of troops, 100 men, has embarked for Java on board of the *Harderwyk*, Captain Loos.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The market is not so firm as at our former report; prices are unaltered, but there are less buyers. Only 1,900b. Java, ex Vyfvrienden, were sold at 45 c.

TEA.—In public auction 79½ch. Souchong were partly sold at 101 cents, and 136¼ and 136½ ch. Congo at 103 to 117 cents. The lots retired were afterwards sold at higher prices. The 79¼ ch. Java offered to day were sold: the Congo at 58 to 68 cents, the Thunkay at 51 to 55 cents, and the Hysons at 70 cents. At second hand, business to a fair extent was done.

TOBACCO.—Dull; some auctions are announced for the 21st inst. Stock 4,412 b. Java.

SUGAR.—Dull; the transactions consisted of 2,000 kils., at 2f. under November prices; 1,057 kils., No. 13, ex Alexander, at 33¾f.; and 1,100 kils., No. 16, ex Ajax, at 36½f.

SPICES.—Nutmegs, No. 1, and Cloves are offered at lower prices. Cinnamon with much demand. Ginger: Of the 500 chests in public auction, 400 chests were taken very willingly at the prices of 60 to 74 ct. Vanille: Much inquiry.

COTTON.—The market is in a fair position.

TIN.—Banca: 1,000 bl. were sold at 58f., and 500 bl. at 57½f.

INDIGO.—Without transactions.

HEMP.—Dull.

RICE.—Market inactive; there are no sellers.

DRUGS.—Gum Elast.: Without demand. Cassia Vera (Padang): Much higher in prices. Gum Dammar: With inquiry; 230 chests, ex Koophandel, were sold at higher prices.

HIDES.—508 p. Maroim (dam.) were sold at 20⅛ to 30 ct.

MONEY.—Bank discount, 6½ per cent.; open market, 7 per cent.; N. W. S. Two-and-a-Half per Cents., 60⅜; Three per Cents., 70½; Four per Cents., 95¼; Handelmaatschappy, 137⅝. 'Change on London, 3 mo., f.11.52½; short, f.11.72½; Paris, 3 mo., f.45.86; short, f.46.50; Hambro', 3 mo., f.34.62½; short, f.35.25.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.—Dec. 8, at Texel, from Batavia, Decima, Wilhelmina Maria; 10, at Brouwershaven, from Tjilatjap, Guurtje and Maria; 11, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Friendschap; at Texel, from Batavia, Nederland and Oranje; 13, at Texel, from Batavia, Anthony van Hoboken; 14, at Brouwershaven, from Samarang, Ida Elisabeth; at Texel, from Batavia, Tweelingers.

DEPARTURES.—Dec. 8, from Hellevoet for Macassar, Koning Willem III.; from Flushing H.M. corvet Prins Maurits der Nederlanden for Batavia via Rio Janeiro; 10, from Brouwershaven for Melbourne: Susanne; for Batavia: Graaf Dirk III., Patriarch Samhiri, Dorothea Henriette, St. Jan, J. C. Schotel, Koophandel, Æolus; 9, from Flushing to Singapore: Indus; 10, from Flushing to the West Indies: H.M.'s corvet: Pallas; 13, from Brouwershaven for Batavia, Noordbraband, Paul Johan; 13, from Texel for Padang: Maria Agnes. For Japan: Joan Melchior Kemper, Libra. For Samarang: Machtilda and Simonette. For Sourabaya: Sourabaya Packet; 14, from Texel for Samarang: Nicot. For Batavia: Friesland. For Java: Willem and Carel, Francina Wilhemina.

READY TO SAIL.—At Brouwershaven: Baron van Heemstra, for Samarang; S. van Heel, for Sourabaya. At Texel: Christina, for Samarang.

FRIGHTS.—Quotations of Messrs. Fauchey and de Vletter, shipbrokers, Rotterdam:—For Batavia: Fop Smit, 549 tons, 18f. to 20f. For Batavia and Samarang: Whampoa, 462 tons; Marie, 746 tons; Maria Adriana, 718 tons; Catharina Wilhelmina, 1,083 tons, 18f. to 20f. for B., 25f. to 30f. for S. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Delfs, 735 tons, 2f. for B., 25f. for S. For Samarang: Maria Magdalena, 403 tons, 25f. For Padang: Frederick Hendrik, 611 tons, 40f. All per last of 2,000 ks., or 120 cubic feet Amsterdam, and 15 per cent. For Decima and Kanagawa: Japan Packet, 266 tons, 60f. and 15 per cent. per last of 80 cubic feet English.

LOADING.—At Amsterdam: For Kanagawa and Decima, D. T. Visser; for Macassar, Quatre Bras; for Batavia, Ferdinand and Louis, Almelo, Sliedrecht; for Batavia and Samarang, Gabilei; for Batavia and Sourabaya, Willem Hendrik, Anna and Sophia; for Samarang, Johanna, Madura, Stad Leyden, Koning Willem II., Estafette; for Sourabaya, Willem Daniel, Capella, Baltimore.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

For Padang, per Maria Agnes, Captain Westenenk, Messrs. J. C. de Wit, and A. H. L. de la Couture; for Batavia, per Noord Brabant, Captain Loos, Captain Hamakers, Mrs. Hamakers, Messrs. de Jonge; for Sourabaya, per Sourabaya Packet, Captain Olivier, Mr. van Reyn and family, Mrs. Nagtglas Versteegh and child, Miss Rombouts, van Crans, Mrs. Niggebrugge and two children, Miss Sybrands,; per Friesland, for Batavia, Mr. J. J. A. Keuchenius and family, Mr. H. Walter and family, Mr. Herckenrath, and Miss Schmidt.

AMSTERDAM, DEC. 26.

COFFEE.—Dull, only some parcels are bought for consumption.

TEA.—Firm, with much doing in the second hand.

RICE.—Quiet.

SPICES.—Nutmegs: No. 1, 84c. No. 2, 75c. Cloves: No. 2, 32c. Ginger: Firm.

COTTON.—An active market at former prices.

BANCA TIN.—1,000 bls. were sold at 57¼f. and 1,000 bls. ditto at 57f. Billiton Tin was paid with 57f. and 56½f.

INDIGO.—Market dull.

SUGAR (Raw).—Marked quiet, prices unaltered.

TOBACCO.—Several parcels Java were sold at former prices.

COCHIN CHINA OIL.—25½f.

MONEY.—Rate of discount at the Bank: for bills 6 per cent., and acceptances, 6½ per cent.; open market discount, 6 per cent. N. W. S., 2½ per cent., 61½ per cent.; 3 per cent., 72⅛; 4 per cent., 95¼. Handelmaatschappy, 139. Change on London, 3 mo. f.11.52½; 2 mo. f.11.57½; short, f.11.69; on Paris, 3 mo., f.45.86; 2 mo., f.46.05; short, f.46.55; on Hambro', 3 mo.; f.34.625, 2 mo., f.34.95; short, f.35.15.

SHIPPING.—DEPARTURES.—Dec. 14, from Texel, for Batavia, Doesborgh, Pollux; 17, from Brouwershaven, for Sourabaya, Fop Smit; 18, from do., for Batavia, S. van Heel; from Texel, for Samarang, Christina; 21, from Zierikzee, for Batavia, Baron van Heemstra.

ARRIVALS.—Dec. 21, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Baron van Pallandt van Roosendaal; 20, at Texel, from do., Peeress.

READY TO SAIL.—At Brouwershaven, for Batavia, Nederland; at Texel, for Batavia, Johanna.

FREIGHTS.—Quotation of Messrs. Fauchey and de Vletter, ship brokers, Rotterdam.—For Batavia and Samarang: Whampoa, 462 tons; Marie, 746 tons; Maria Adriana, 718 tons; Catharina Wilhelmina, 1,083 tons; 18f. to 20f. for B., 25f. to 30f. for S. For Batavia and Sourabaya:

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Delft, 735 tons; 20f. for B., 25f. for S. For Samarang: Maria Magdalena, 403 tons; 25f. For Padang: Frederik Hendrik, 611 tons; 40f. All per last of 2.000 ks. of 120 cubic feet Amsterdam, and 15 per cent. For Decima and Kanawaga: Japan Packet, 266 tons; 60f. and 15 per cent. per last of 80 cubic feet Eng. For Singapore and Hong Kong: Gouverneur van Swieten, 352 tons; 30f. to 35f. for S., 40f. to 45f. for H., both per ton of 1,000 ks. or 40 cubic feet Eng., and 15 per cent.

LOADING.—At Amsterdam for Kanagawa and Decima: D. T. Visser; for Macassar: Quatre Bras; for Batavia: Ferdinand and Louis, Almelo, Sliedrecht, India Packet; for Batavia and Samarang: Galilei; for Batavia and Sourabaya: Anna and Sophia; for Samarang: Madura, Stad Leyden, Estafette; for Samarang and Sourabaya: Koning Willem II.; for Sourabaya: Willem Daniel, Capella, Baltimore, Petronella, Pauline Consiance Eleone.

SHIPPING is stopped by the ice; the Maas is frozen.

PASSENGERS INWARD.—From Java, per Ida Elisabeth, Capt. Janses: Mr. Teerlink and family.

OUTWARD.—For Samarang, per Christina, Capt. Remeus: Mr. Van Roy, Capt. E. I. Army, and two Javanese ladies. For Java, per Baron Van Heemstra: Mrs. L. Van Hazel and A. Van Reins.

RUSSIAN TRADE WITH CHINA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

HAMBURG, DECEMBER, 14.

At the last weekly sitting of the Russian Imperial Geographical Society several interesting communications were made concerning the Far East. In the first place, the attention of the members present was drawn to a beautiful collection of maritime views of China and Japan taken by Prussian officers during their late diplomatic and commercial expedition to those countries, and presented by the Prussian Minister for the Navy. From papers read to the meeting it appears that during this last summer several interesting expeditions to different parts of Eastern Siberia have been undertaken. Thus, Prince Krapotkin has been making researches in the unexplored country between Tchouroukhaitoui and Blagovessensk, crossing the province of Mergen, in order if possible to discover a land communication between the above-named towns by a shorter route than that by the winding banks of the Amoor and the Argoun, as the bed of the latter river is found to be full of rapids and shallows highly obstructive to steam navigation till Government shall have had time to remove them. As, according to reliable information lately received, some serious errors have been made in the maps in laying down the position of the country in the upper district of the river Onone, Mr. Schichmarew, corresponding member of the Society for the Section of Siberia, has made an excursion to those parts, accompanied by a topographical engineer, for the purpose of correcting those errors and verifying the positions by astronomical observations. From thence he intended to follow up his explorations till he reached the Schilka. And finally, it was mentioned that M. Lapatine had paid a scientific visit to the eastean coast of Siberia to make researches into the mineral resources of those parts, whilst M. Stoukow had been employing his time in studying the manners and customs of the tribes of Bouriates in the province of Tonkin.

A paper was then read by Captain Printz giving an account of a journey made by him to Khobdo, a town in China that has never before been visited by any European traveller. This paper was listened to with deep attention, and caused a great sensation among the Fellows present. The gallant officer started from the south-eastern district of the Government of Tomsk, crossing the Altai range of mountains, and discovered that on the banks of the river Chouya an animated trade is carried on between Russians and Chinese of which nothing was previously known. Captain Printz estimates this trade to amount to 500,000 roubles annually, it being in the hands of Chinese dealers residing at Bysk, a town about 600 versts from the Chouya. On their part, the Russian merchants have to carry their goods to the Chinese frontier, a feat accompanied by a good deal of difficulty and risk in passing the mountain torrents and steep defiles of the Altai range. Captain Printz was accompanied in his visit to Khobdo by three Russian dealers. He describes it as most conveniently situated for an extensive trade, for it lies in the most direct line of communication with China, and is worthy to become a great emporium. It is much nearer Tomsk than the great frontier market of Kiachta, and thus it would lessen by nearly one half the expense and time in the conveyance of merchandise with a little outlay in improving the roads. Besides, he adds, Khobdo is considerably nearer to the tea producing districts in China than either Kiachta or Tchougoutshak.

This opinion was, however, zealously combated by M. Skatchkow, a Fellow of the Society, and formerly for many years Russian Consul at Tchougoutshak, who laboured to prove that the local topographical conditions were unfavourable for a development of the trade with China viâ Khobdo. There are two roads, he said, leading from Khobdo to the interior of China. The first is the commercial route followed by the caravans, but circuitous and crossing a rocky, inhospitable, and almost uninhabited desert tract of country through Western Mongolia in the direction of Oulia-sou-tai. This route could never be made available for large quantities of tea. The other road is shorter, but can only be used for couriers with the post-bags, and is totally impracticable for caravans. According to the theory of M. Skatchkow, in selecting a spot to establish a new commercial emporium in the Celestial Empire the first condition to be observed is, not its proximity to the tea-producing districts, but rather its being within access to one of the principal centres of commerce of that country. There are, he observed, two such centres, one of which is Hang-ho, with its factories and branch establishments at Shanghai in the East; the other being Ourumtsi, in the West. This latter town contains a population of 150,000 souls, and enjoys a reputation similar to that of Nijni-Novgorod, as a concentration of goods and produce of Russia, Turkestan, Bokhara, Chokand, Tachkend, Persia, and Cashemir, are brought thither for sale and barter. There are 140 commercial agencies and 75 Chinese banks permanently established there, besides innumerable stores and warehouses full of valuable commodities; giving the place the appearance of a perpetual fair being held in it. The country around is easy of approach, well watered and well cultivated, with roads and bridges kept in the highest state of repair, and with plenty of towns and villages, containing hotels where travellers find the best accommodation. Therefore, he considers it much more important to cultivate commercial relations with Ourumtsi than with Khobdo, which latter place, however, he has no wish to disparage, though it can never enter into serious competition with the former.

Literature.

The British Arms in North China and Japan: Peking 1860; *Kagosima* 1863. By D. F. RENNIE, M.D., Senior Medical Officer of the Force in the North of China, &c. John Murray, Albemarle-street.—This volume will be eagerly perused both by the general reader and by those who feel a personal interest in that part of the world about which its pages are concerned. One peculiar charm of the book is its perfect unpretentiousness. Every page almost contains its own bit of curious and novel information; but whatever it may be, you have it in the simple language in which it was originally conveyed to the author, or told with the brevity and force of the first impression. Much of this is no doubt owing to the book being but a transcript from the daily entry in the diary; but beyond that there is a singular absence of the "Sir Oracle," tone, which is too much a characteristic of the scientific and professional mind of the present day. A good deal of the freshness that belonged to the mere story of the Chinese war has of course been taken off by the many narratives of its events we have already had; but Dr. Rennie tells us no more than is sufficient to give an intelligible sequence to those bits of detail that passed under his own eye, so that the reader can never justly complain that he is wearied with a "twice-told tale."

Points connected with the health of the soldier form, as might be expected from the position of the author, not the least interesting or instructive portion of the book. Evidently England has much to learn in this respect. The French soldier, it appears, carries his sixty rounds of ball ammunition in a much less fatiguing mode than the Englishman—

> A single belt fastened round the waist carries his bayonet and cartouch box of small size, containing only twenty rounds, the remaining forty being carried in the knapsack—an arrangement which appears to me much superior to ours, which compels the soldier to carry forty rounds in a small portmanteau suspended by a cumbrous shoulder-belt, and further, to fit on to waist-belt, supporting the bayonet, another leathern box, containing twenty rounds, which, from being placed on the right side in front, bumps over the liver every time his movements are accelerated. To modify the pain arising from this, he has to tighten the belt to the utmost, thereby necessarily diminishing the cavity of the chest and abdomen. Reducing the natural space of organs such as the lungs, the liver, and spleen, interferes with the circulation, and predisposes the soldier to heat, apoplexy, and other congestive diseases of warm climates—in a word, subjects the soldier to evils much the same as those which arise from tight lacing in the other sex.

The bell-tent again, twelve feet in diameter, with fourteen men assigned to each tent, was very prejudicial to the soldier's health, though our military authorities are well acquainted with a much superior form in the Indian tent, as used by our forces serving in the Presidencies. We don't seem even to

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know how to carry cattle for the supply of an army, without entailing disease on the consumer and most extravagant outlay on the commissariat. 250 oxen are shipped at Chusan, but only 85 reach their destination alive, and those so tainted with the atmospheric poison which proved fatal to the others, from over-crowding, that a febrile diarrhœa which ensued is ascribed to this unwholesome animal food, particularly as the Sikhs, who do not use beef at all, were free from it. The mortality among the cattle, indeed, from want of the commonest judgment in their conveyance, involved this result, that "it has been ascertained the fresh beef served out to the army at Talien-whan cost in all about twelve shillings per pound." Horses fared no better—

An officer of the military train mentioned to me that he had just returned from Japan in the *Kate Hooper* with the remnant of some 250 horses that had formed the freight of the vessel, the mortality amongst which had been so great that in one day he had thrown 70 overboard—a wholesale slaughter, attributable to the same cause as that which has produced like results in the cattle-ships, namely, an apparent unacquaintance with the fact that food and water alone are insufficient for the maintenance of animal life, and that similar pestilential diseases are generated by the over-crowding of animals as of men in limited spaces. The fittings of the vessels would appear also to have been in some instances defective, from the fact of horses that survived the voyage being received with their lower jaw-bones laid bare, caused by lurches of the vessel throwing them forward on iron bars that had been injudiciously fitted across the front of the stalls, apparently without reference to the height of the animal they were intended to contain.

So too, of the baggage animals, a large number were soon rendered useless from sore backs, from the injudicious construction of the pack-saddles, made from a pattern determined on by a board of military officers, who did not take the opinion of a veterinary surgeon. A glimpse of the old Crimean "how not to do it" peeps out in the fact that the Indian followers of Fane's Horse suffered severely from frost bite—

No proper provision was made at the commencement of the winter for keeping their feet warm by giving them long boots like those of the troops, and such a delay occurred before Tartar boots were procured for them, that the mischief was done before their feet received adequate protection.

The most lamentable instance recorded of utter want of management is, however, what occurred on the occasion of distributing a sum of 876 dollars collected to relieve the indigent Chinese of Tien-tsin. Dr. Rennie recommended the establishment of a soup-kitchen with the fund; Dr. Gordon, the application of the sum to the support of a hospital for surgical cases. No; whether for ostentation, or for the mischievous fun of seeing a sort of scramble, the amount was to be distributed to claimants in person. The result was that a crowd of five thousand people assembled, and that in the rush for admission nine people were trodden to death, and a large number injured.

Deficiency in administrative organisation was not, after all, the worst fault exhibited by the British army in China. The habit of plundering developed more degrading evils. The men became demoralized by the constant "looting" that had been going on during the expedition, and on the march to Peking both Lord Elgin and Sir Hope Grant were looted of nearly the whole of their wine by the escort of the 60th Rifles that accompanied it—the loss of each amounting to about sixty dozen. The following was, we are sorry to state, not the only instance of far more inexcusable conduct perpetrated by persons disgracing the rank of an officer:—

At a subsequent period of the occupation of Tien-tsin an officer mentioned to me that he was present in a curiosity-shop in the chief street in the suburb when an English officer was bargaining for an article. Failing to get it at the price he wanted, he took it up, and threw down its money value according to his own estimate. The shopkeeper, an old man with grey hair, objected to the amount, and came forward, putting his hand at the same time to take back the article. The officer struck him a severe blow between the eyes, which knocked him down, and he then, after having performed this ruffianly feat, walked deliberately off with the poor man's property.

Of some of our late vaunted improvements in the military art Dr. Rennie speaks very slightingly. The Armstrong gun he considers to possess neither precision of aim nor destructive effectiveness. Our muskets are charged with the same faults—

One of our regiments fired a volley from their "Enfields" at four hundred yards with so little effect that the Tartar cavalry did not move, but complacently looked on, the amount of damage done to them being about the same as if the volley had been one with blank ammunition. So much for weapons of precision!

Many curious notices are interspersed here and there of the secrets in science and manipulation we may yet acquire from the Far East. A Chinese apothecary was found making up a prescription containing camphor reduced to a fine powder, "a pharmaceutical process that we ourselves have not yet been able to arrive at." The Japanese doctors are said to possess a remarkable powder, the application of which externally removes at once muscular rigidity, whether occurring before or after death. The limbs of the dead are stated to be rendered as flexible as during life, immediately after the powder has been rubbed over them. Even a Chinese tallow-candle conveys a lesson. "The outer coat is a thin envelope of wax, which, dissolving more slowly than the tallow, forms a ledge about the fourth of an inch round the tallow in solution, and thus its running down the sides is completely prevented."

A short respite from his military duties enables Dr. Rennie to visit Japan, where he was invited by Colonel Neale, to whom the book before us is dedicated, to take up his quarters at the Legation, so that here also the author was placed in the best possible position for obtaining authentic information on every subject on which he might choose to inquire. One extract will present in a few words the political "situation" in Japan, which is manifestly just what it has been often proclaimed to be in the columns of the *London and China Telegraph*:—

One man in particular, a doctor, spoke with great respect of the power and influence of England. He said that the Tycoon was in trouble, and on bad terms with the Mikado, and had been residing at Osacca, but had lately gone back to Kioto. This statement was at variance with what the Japanese officers had told Mr. Fletcher on the way from Yokohama. In their general conversation they had seemed anxious to convey to him the impression that the Mikado and the Tycoon were on excellent terms. Privately, however, one of the officers informed him that their friendly relations were more apparent than real, as the Mikado was much influenced by evil advice tendered him by Daimios hostile to the Tycoon; but he was in want of money, and therefore inclined to lend a ready ear to the overtures made by certain Daimios who were offering a higher price for the temporal throne on the part of the Prince of Mito than the Tycoon, who held it by law and prescriptive right, was inclined to give. Also that the Daimios as yet were not declared enemies of the Tycoon, only enemies to foreigners, and that nominally; as he believed they had no real objection to them, merely pretending an animosity to them as the most probable and speedy means of involving the Tycoon, and facilitating the downfall of his Government. . . . . The Japanese officers had no hesitation in stating that if the Prince of Mito succeeded in dislodging the Tycoon's Government, he would, in all probability, pursue the same course in reference to foreigners that the latter has done, and throw open the ports to European commerce, jealousy of the advantages which the Tycoon is gaining from his recent treaties with foreign Powers being one of the chief causes of their desire for his dethronement.

Coming so recently from China, Dr. Rennie could hardly fail to make a relative estimate of the two nations, which is balanced greatly in favour of his former acquaintance. He considers that "the Japanese, though more prone to adopt European improvements, are commercially a long way behind the Chinese, also less industrious, more licentious and intemperate, and in the main their inferiors, though on a superficial view the Japanese are much the more attractive nation." The eleven chapters devoted to Japan are remarkably full of observation, as the writer lost no chance of adding to his store of facts by visiting and conversing with the natives. Notes on political matters are intermingled with sketches of the mode of life and social habits of the people, so that the book is at last laid down with longing regret; cheered, we are happy to announce, by the certainty of enjoying a similar treat in the forthcoming work from the same pen—"Pekin and the Pekinese: Journal of a Residence in the Capital of China." For the present, then, we will take leave of the author with an extract containing his opinions on

ENGLISH OFFICIALS AND COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION.

My experience in the East, especially in China, convinces me that it is only by a *bona fide* spirit of conciliation that a real and permanent influence is to be gained over Orientals. The principles inculcated for the carrying out of its Eastern policy by the British Government are conciliatory in the extreme; but its beneficent intentions are in too many instances frustrated by the arrogance, superciliousness, violent temper, want of tact, and general incompetency for the management of men, of those into whose hands the execution of its measures falls. The spirit of conciliation has long appeared to me of all others the most deficient in the English character in the East. . . . . A knowledge of the native language also appears to me too indiscriminately taken as a guarantee for diplomatic capacity, and I think I could state instances where mischief has resulted from the diplomatic employment of injudicious and unconciliating linguists, in place of their services having been restricted within purely interpretorial limits. An intimate acquaintance with an Oriental language, or a brain stuffed full of book learning, by no means implies the possession of that combination of tact, discretion, and judgment which, under the name of common sense, is so essential to success in dealing with Orientals, and hence it is that of all tests of fitness for the public service competitive examination is perhaps the most fallacious. The quality of brain which shines most at one of these ordeals may prove that least practically adapted for the very post that a high class examination has gained for it. The absorbent form of brain, which, like a sponge, readily imbibes whatever is submitted to its action, and also, like a sponge on being squeezed, equally readily lets it out, constitutes the type of mind which is now preferred for the public service to the exclusion of brains that may be infinitely superior.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, DEC. 26, 1864.

MR. LAY AND SIR FREDERICK BRUCE.

IN the leading columns of this journal some six months ago we had occasion to animadvert rather strongly on the conduct of Mr. H. N. LAY, C.B., ex-Inspector-General of the Customs, in publishing a letter reflecting on the character of Sir FREDERICK BRUCE, in the failure of the Anglo-Chinese fleet affair; and concluded our remarks in the following words:—"Instead "of adding fuel to the fire of controversy on British policy in "China, it would be more becoming on the part of Mr. LAY to 'remain in silent obscurity." Nearly half a year having elapsed since then, we imagined that he had taken the hint, and the little actor, after struggling his hour on the diplomatic stage, had hid himself away among the old properties and scenery of the forgotten Chinese drama. But no! the *cacoethes scribendi* was tingling his finger ends, and the *animus* against Sir FREDERICK was strong in his breast; so he occupied his time in compiling a pamphlet full of rancour and recrimination against him, wherein he exhibits the unpardonable, not to say contemptible conduct of publishing private notes, conversations, &c., that had passed between them This *brochure* is entitled "Our Interests in China," and purports to be a letter to Earl RUSSELL on the subject; but as far as its principal contents bear out the title it is a misnomer, and would be more appropriately named "My Interests in China, by H. N. LAY." It contains seventy-one octavo pages, the subject-matter being divided into four sections, the first of which relates to *The Authority under which the Naval Force was Organised.* In this section he rakes up all the old notes and memoranda that might reflect upon his adversary, while they were apparently on the most intimate terms, of which the following is an example:—"March 15th, 1861.—My dear LAY,—I hope to God you mean "to come here (Peking) before taking leave to England; I shall "never forgive you if you throw me over, after the trouble I "have had in the custom-house matters, and the system will "go to the wall if you don't take the present opportunity of "presenting yourself at Peking. Don't be guided by SIEH'S "advice; these superintendents of trade hate the foreign system "at heart, as it will interfere with their gains . . . This "climate is splendid. Come up here before you go home. You "are bound to do so, and if you don't, there is an end of you "and your inspectorship. You will be supplanted before your "return, unless you make your footing secure in Peking. I tell "you again I will not forgive you, nor will I assist you, if you "don't come up here before going to England.—Yours truly, "FREDERICK BRUCE." The second part refers to the *Proceedings at Peking, and Reasons for the Dissolution of the Force;* on which he does not throw much new light, that has not already appeared in the Blue-books; but which he has garnished plentifully with his egotistical diction, besprinkled with the personal pronoun "I." The third section is headed *Attitude of Sir F. Bruce, and my Communications with Him*, wherein he recounts minutely his interviews with Sir FREDERICK and the Foreign Ministers, how they discussed Chinese policy over their cigars in an afternoon's "confab." There is something offensive as well as egotistical in these relations o. what every gentleman considers confidential conversations, such as take place at a private table, to divulge which is a breach of honour. In his accounts of such private interviews, we are only surprised that he doesn't inform Earl RUSSELL what style of *pyjamas* Sir FREDERICK wore in the hot weather. In the fourth and last section,—*General Remarks upon our Policy*,—the writer begins for the first time to handle the subject-matter of his pamphlet, so that if it is read *a la Chinois*, from right to left, the reader will gather the best of its contents at once. If Mr. LAY had confined himself to this section, or amplified the text, he would have earned for himself the thanks of every one interested in China; as any new information on the polity and government of that extraordinary country would be valuable from his pen, seeing that few, if any, foreigners ever had such opportunities for examining the secret springs and actions of its Ministers. As it is, this last section saves the pamphlet from utter condemnation, which otherwise would have been our judgment of it.

THE TRANSFER OF THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

SINCE our issue of the 13th inst. *The Times* has published a letter in reply to their leader from J. CRAWFURD, Esq., formerly Resident of Singapore, under the commission of the Indian Government, which we have transferred to the columns of the present issue. It is with some degree of regret that we observe our powerful contemporary treating this grave question in a facetious manner, with a dash of levity that rarely characterises its effusions. To the Indian commissioners who govern these settlements, and who have nothing at stake beyond their salaries in the event of the "Transfer" being shelved, such an easy way of giving this question the go by will be very acceptable. But it is a matter of much more serious import to the merchants and landed proprietors, who have made Singapore and her sister settlements what they are, to find their just demands for [constitutional government refused at the eleventh hour, when, in expectation of the "Transfer," many were preparing large schemes for further improvement of their commercial capabilities. The effect of such an article is to arrest these enterprising projects until it is ascertained precisely what the Government intend to do. In reference to the statements of the Straits papers noticed in our last, that the news came *via* Hong Kong, our readers will perceive by the letter signed "Singapore" that there has been a reference to Sir Hercules Robinson on one point. Both this letter and the one signed "R." fully confirm the views expressed in our last that the transfer is *not* "shelved."

Mr. CRAWFURD'S commentary on the financial bugbear set up as the great obstacle to the "Transfer," is a plain straightforward statement of facts, rather under than over the statistics of the case as given in the extract from the "Proprietors' and Merchant's Memorial." These together we deem a conclusive answer to the statements that the Straits settlements are insolvent, and would become a burthen upon the mother country if taken under the wing of her Colonial Department. Moreover, Mr. CRAWFURD places the obnoxious item for the maintenance of Indian convicts in a forcible light, that should have the best consideration of Her MAJESTY'S Government, before they reject the petition that the Straits be relieved from the evils of their Indian connection. After showing that the fine revenues are exhausted in maintaining a military force—consisting chiefly of inefficient and expensive Sepoy troops—at upwards of treble the charge for Hong Kong, Mr. CRAWFURD goes on to state:—"The "next item of charge is far more monstrous. It is for convicts, "and this means not the convicted felons of the settlements "themselves, but the whole transported felons of Continental "India. This is as if, in the times of transportation, we had "charged the colonies of New South Wales and Van Diemen's "Land with the burden of maintaining the transported felons "of the United Kingdom. The charge on this account was "£22,850; besides demoralising the community by the pre-"sence of some 3,000 felons." Taking this view of one of the grievances put forward by the memorialists, it is adding insult to injury when they are taxed with extravagance of expenditure, while maintaining the worst felons transported from India and China. The injustice of such an item being extracted from the treasury of these settlements is too patent to be passed over, and, according to Mr. CRAWFURD, "has already been "decided on in the negotiation for the transfer to the Colonial "Department." Not only should this be the case, but previous disbursements on that account will be a set off against any claim or deficit charges made by the Indian Government,

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and in all probability bring them in debtors instead of creditors in the general balance sheet. There is no doubt that a desire to avoid being "brought to book" by independent colonists, who have hitherto had no control over the expenditure, is one of the chief reasons why the Commissioners, and the nabobs at Calcutta, are averse to the transfer. That the question is shelved we do not entertain; but possibly the leader in *The Times* has appeared as a feeler, to ascertain the opinions of all those connected with Singapore and its sister settlements. Under these circumstances we would recommend their representatives now in England to lose no time in coming to the rescue.

SINGAPORE AND ITS SISTER SETTLEMENTS.

To the Editor of *The Times*.

SIR,—I have read with great pleasure your pleasant and playful leader on Singapore and its sister settlements, yet I have to suggest a few corrections in it as to matters of detail. In the official year 1863-64 the joint-public revenue of the three settlements was in round numbers £195,000. This was exclusive of a sum of about £50,000 raised by rates under the name of municipal revenue. The total taxes raised, therefore, amounted to £245,000, which is at the rate of full 20s. a head for each individual of the population, estimated at 225,000. This is full four-fold the taxation of British Continental India, according to the estimate of the late Mr. James Wilson.

The public expenditure of the three settlements, exclusive of the municipal, was in the same year £209,000, which leaves a deficit of £14,000. The cause of the deficit is very easily accounted for in the uncalled-for extravagance of the expenditure. The military charge alone amounts to £63,400—above three-fold the sum with which the Imperial Government charges the local revenue of the important colony of Hong Kong, for that is but £20,000. The garrison which causes this expenditure consists of two companies of European Artillery, the only efficient part of it, and of two regiments of Sepoys, the most expensive and inefficient troops that could be employed, and for whom a well-organised police would be an economical and effective substitute. One-half the military expenditure might easily be saved, and even then it would exceed the amount charged to the revenues of Hong Kong by £11,700. The next item of charge is far more monstrous. It is for convicts, and this means not the convicted felons of the settlements themselves, but the whole transported felons of Continental India. This is as if, in the times of transportation, we had charged the colonies of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land with the burden of maintaining the transported felons of the United Kingdom. The charge on this account was £22,850. Deducting the value of any services which the forced labour of convicts and the injury done to society by the presence of some 3,000 felons, this sum ought at once to be withdrawn from the charges, and this, indeed, has already been decided on in the negotiation for the transfer to the Colonial Department.

The next item of charge is for public works, but what these are is not stated, and all we know is that they do not consist of roads, bridges, paving, and lighting, for these are all defrayed from the municipal fund of £50,000 already mentioned. The public works consist, in fact, of fortifications and military barracks, neither of which are garrisoned or occupied. By making the deductions from the charges which I have now suggested, it is certain that there would be not only no deficit, but a considerable surplus revenue. Transferred to the Colonial Department they would, in fact, be the only one of more than forty-six colonies that would be no charge to the Imperial revenue.

You seem to think that the East India Company paid a large price for Singapore. It paid a very moderate one, and as I myself negotiated the treaty of cession, I can tell you the particulars. For the sovereignty and fee simple of the island and every islet within ten miles of it, it paid exactly 600,000 Spanish dollars, or, at the exchange of 4s. 6d. to the dollar, the sum of £13,500, not a large sum for a place the joint exports and imports of which reach the sum of £15,000,000. Besides this, there was an annuity of £3,780, but the payment of this has long ceased to be imperative, for the successors of the parties who made the cession are at present their grandchildren. The treaty was not made with one black Sultan, but with two brownish-yellow Malay chiefs. The successor of one of them has by virtue of the prosperity of Singapore the income of a well-to-do English nobleman—about £35,000 to £40,000 a year, and stands no longer in need of his pension.

You state that "Singapore is prosperous," but you add that "she is selfish and extravagant." Her selfishness is, perhaps, on a par with that of other English colonies, neither more nor less; and as to extravagance, it has never been in her power to exercise it, seeing that her inhabitants have never had a voice either in taxation or expenditure. On the contrary, they have in vain petitioned against both.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Dec. 14. J. CRAWFURD.

THE TIMES' LEADER ON SINGAPORE.

To the Editor of *The Times* (not inserted).

SIR,—Owing to a temporary absence I have only this morning seen the article on Singapore which appeared in your issue of the 13th inst., and I regret extremely that the writer of it should not have been better informed on the subject; for however much the witty style may be praised, the conclusions drawn, founded as they are upon very erroneous data, cannot meet with the approval of those who are conversant with the facts of the case.

Without entering into a discussion of the question whether the cutting of a ship canal will take away the prosperity of Singapore, it will be admitted, probably, by unprejudiced minds that Singapore, "the porch of that great Eastern Archipelago," is also the key of the southern part of the China Sea, as well as of the Java Sea—and, to a certain degree, of the Indian Ocean; and you admit that "it is impossible] not to see that "in case of war the occupation of this point in sufficient force would com- "mand for good or for evil the trade with China."

You also very truly observe that "The Government of India no longer "feels any obligation to keep up expensive outlying stations in order to "check the undue advance of foreign Powers in the Archipelago, or to "protect the trade to China;" but does it follow that it is not to the interest of Great Britain to do so?

The importance of Singapore as a "strategic position" and as a "commercial emporium" being granted, the next point is what you are pleased to call that "state of deficit" which is "the normal condition of her finances." It is to be regretted that I cannot agree with you on this subject, since it can easily be proved that Singapore has for many years not only paid all "her" legitimate expenses, but helped to defray those of the sister settlements of Penang and Malacca; and further, that if the cost of the convicts was debited to the countries from whence they are sent, and the military expenses were adapted to the requirements of this place, or estimated in the scale of those charged against Hong Kong or Ceylon, there would be a *very considerable surplus of revenue*, which may be estimated at not less than £30,000.

Considering that "the Islets of the Straits are said to produce pirates, cannibals, flying monkeys, gigantic serpents, and vampire bats, in addition to such expensive delicacies as sharks' fins, sea slugs, and birds'-nest soup" (pray how does soup grow?), it will doubtless be satisfactory to you to be informed that in the ten years between 1852-53 and 1862-63 the trade of the three settlements increased at the rate of 93 per cent.—say from £8,720,000 to £16,907,000; and in the same period the revenue increased 142 per cent.—say from £77,500 to £186,600; a state of prosperity which is equalled by but few of Her Majesty's colonies.

I trust to your spirit of fairness to give insertion to this note. All that the Straits residents require or ask for is a transfer from the India to the Colonial Office, because the interests of the Settlements are Imperial and not Indian; and as there exists a considerable surplus of revenue, after paying all just demands, they cannot surely be blamed if they seek refuge from the torrid amenity of the Governor-General of India, or "the cold propriety of Downing-street."—Your obedient servant,

Paris, Dec. 16. R.

To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph*.

SIR,—The Government of India desires to get rid of Singapore and its sister Settlements, which it feels it has neither the desire nor the capacity to administer; and the Settlements are even more anxious to get rid of the Indian Government, which rules them extravagantly, inefficiently, and irresponsibly. The Colonial-office is at the same time ready to take charge of them, and, indeed, has already made all the preparatory arrangements with a view to this object. The only hitch is with the Treasury, and even that is confined to a single item of charge—a supposed small public debt. This has been referred for explanation to Sir Hercules Robinson, and his reply is daily looked for. Mr. Gladstone, justly alarmed at the cost to the mother-country of the large number of forty-five colonies, is naturally anxious that it should not be increased by a new annexation; and this is the sole cause of the transfer of the Straits Settlements being deferred. Your obedient servant,

London, Dec. 19. SINGAPORE.

THE HONG KONG MINT AND THE NEW DOLLAR.

THE question whether or not to have the legend round the new dollar for Hong Kong is still undecided. It is also uncertain what quantity of this coin will be sent from England. No further shipment of smaller coin has been made since the one noticed in our issue of August 2.

The *Bengal*, which left London on Oct. 17, had on board a quantity of assorted ironmongery, bullion trucks, tanks, weighing machines, &c. The engine, boiler, marking machine, &c., and a quantity of bricks left in the *Young Lochinvar* on Nov. 24, and by the *City of Aberdeen*, on Dec. 5, the greater part of the chemicals and laboratory apparatus, also a quantity of iron roofing. Very little now remains to be sent out to complete the material necessary for the mint at Hong Kong.

An assistant engineer, Mr. W. White, from the firm of Watt and Co., left by the *Young Lochinvar*. Capt. Kinder and staff, it is expected, will leave England so as to arrive at Hong Kong next September. Two appointments have just been gazetted—viz., Mr. C. Langdon Davis, controller, and Mr. F. L. Allen, coiner.

THE RECAL OF SIR RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

THE mails arrived this morning announces the recal of Sir Rutherford, but the *Observer* qualifies the matter thus:—

"We are authorised to say that Sir R. Alcock has not been recalled, but has been ordered to come home on leave of absence, in order to confer with Her Majesty's Government on the state of affairs in Japan."

To which we need only add that it is a distinction without any difference. The real solution of the matter no doubt is, that the Foreign-office were alarmed at the attitude assumed by Sir Rutherford some six months since and recalled him, but, finding out now that his policy has been successful, the recal has been softened. No man will forgive *success* sooner than Lord Palmerston, seeing that he has lived on it for so many years.

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MERCANTILE CONSULS.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

Sir,—In your issue of Nov. 28, I notice a remark by your Hamburg correspondent upon which I think some observations may be usefully offered. Your correspondent says:—"Two years ago the head of one of the German firms in Shanghai offered his services as Austrian Consul at that port without any reward or remuneration; but his *generous offer* has not been accepted," &c. The words which I have italicised your correspondent evidently uses in the most innocent manner, and I am aware that an impression prevails extensively to the effect that, in volunteering to act as Consuls without remuneration, merchants are usually actuated by entirely disinterested motives. In saying a word or two to controvert this opinion, and to point out some of the evils which arise from this practice, I am simply repeating statements which have been frequently urged in all the newspapers in China, and, inasmuch as I am quite ignorant which German firm it was which tendered for the contract to do the Austrian Consulship at Shanghai, my remarks can have no personal bearing of any sort. The fact is, individuals and Governments in Europe too frequently lose sight of the consideration that Consuls in the East, and, above all, in China, are in name only functionaries of a similar class to those who in civilised countries are appointed principally for the purpose of seeing to the due execution of navigation laws. The difference between a Consul—say at Bordeaux or Riga, and an officer bearing the same title at Shanghai or Hankow, is as wide as that existing between an ordinary police magistrate and one of the highest judges in the land. The treaties which in the East place exclusively under Consular jurisdiction the subjects of the respective European States confer necessarily upon the Consuls themselves functions and responsibilities of the most extensive nature, which, in order to ensure their fair discharge, ought most imperatively to be entrusted to independent and disinterested persons. A reference to Lord Elgin's Blue-book will show that in 1858 the Chinese Commissioners protested strongly against the future appointment of mercantile Consuls by any nation, knowing, as they did, that with the exception of England and France, all the European Powers were represented at the ports by merchants, frequently of the most indifferent character; and in the Treaty concluded with Portugal two years ago, there exists an express stipulation that no merchants should, for the future, be appointed as Consuls for Portugal. This clause was probably introduced owing to the knowledge, on the part of Prince Kung, of the atrocities perpetrated by Macaoese at different times and places, who were actually in partnership with the worthies holding Consular commissions from the Portuguese Government; but this clause was entirely disregarded, and merchants continued to act as before in the capacity of Portuguese Consuls. It may be added that these functions having of late years been confided to the representatives of an English house of the highest probity, the Chinese Government has probably not had cause to complain of any injury from this source; but as it has recently refused to ratify the treaty with Portugal, no doubt the violation of the clause in question was made one of the grounds for so doing.

Austria, the country to which your correspondent especially refers, has, as yet, taken no steps to conclude a treaty with China, but her great ally —? antagonist—Prussia, has already followed in the steps of England and France, and obtained recognition at Peking. The Consuls appointed under her treaty are all merchants, and as a fair criterion of the consequences which are inevitable in such appointments, I may repeat a story I have heard from a well-authenticated source, that the first official act performed by one of the principal German Consuls in China was to endeavour to obtain a reduction in the regular duty on sugar, in favour of one of his own shipments of this commodity; and many other instances could be adduced to show that Consular functions, when confided to merchants, are but too frequently made the means of obtaining individual profit. The fact that the national character inevitably suffers by such acts should at least cause a Power which, like Austria, is always distinguished by a certain chivalrous feeling of honour, to prefer incurring a certain amount of expense, if the object in view is at all desirable, rather than to incur odium through an illjudged economy. The interests of Austria, however, can scarcely require an expensive staff in China. It is very doubtful whether she can have a score of subjects at present residing at all the ports put together, and her shipping in the Chinese waters is as yet very insignificant. One *charge d'affaires* to intervene in the rare case of a Customs' dispute, or of any offence committed by or against an Austrian subject, would probably amply suffice for her international requirements, whilst abstinence from the appointment of mercantile Consuls would greatly redound to the credit of her Government. In order further to point out, in conclusion, how awkward may sometimes be the position of a merchant acting as Consul, it is only necessary to suppose the case (which, indeed, has actually happened) of a native firm doing business with the *merchant* having occasion to sue him before the *Consul!* Or let us suppose (what has also more than once occurred) a Consul calling upon the Chinese authorities to take proceedings against a native, against whom he, as a merchant, has a claim. It would be giving too much credit to human nature to suppose that where official influence is necessarily so powerful it would not overbalance strict justice. One of the most amusing cases of this kind I can recall, is in connection with a Peruvian "Consul" at Canton, who had come to China as agent for one of the coolie kidnapping firms at Callao, and had also a duly authenticated commission as Consul for Peru. This ingenious functionary, the only Peruvian at Canton, addressed a despatch to the Viceroy somewhat in the following terms:—"I, the Consul L ——, have received an application from the Peruvian merchant L —— requesting permission for the establishment of a coolie barracoon, and I have the honour to support this application, &c., &c." Fortunately the Viceroy saw through the scheme, and taking no notice of either Consul or coolie agent, the Peruvian functionary one day absconded, leaving nothing but debts behind him. I think that were a few facts such as these duly weighed by the European Governments, they would abstain for the future from making these objectionable appointments.

M. H. L.

London, December, 10.

OUR INTERESTS IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

(DAILY TELEGRAPH.)

The later news from Japan indicates the excellent effect of the little affair at Simonoseki. We have, it is clear, done more than punish a petty Daimio—we have given an indirect lesson to the Japanese Government itself. Sir Rutherford Alcock has visited Yedo, and has found that the news from the Straits had produced the most desirable impression. The great Daimios are even more struck by our power than after the conflict at Kagosima; this second warning coming on them with cumulative force. Nagato has been, it is said, stripped of his titles, while, in accordance with the old ideas of Oriental justice, his metropolitan palace has been razed to the ground, and all his servants put to death. It is also reported that the supplies of silk to the Yokohama market, hitherto interrupted by the jealousy of the local authorities in the interior, have largely increased, and that a deficiency of currency alone checks a great extension of trade. We expressed at the same time anticipations of such results. It is impossible to judge of any affair of the kind by itself; the immediate cause of quarrel may be trivial, the redress sought temporary or local, but we must bear in mind that in the East, long used to the reign of might, a display of force carries irresistible logic, and that conciliatory resignation under outrage as certainly in the long run leads to disaster. The Oriental idea of power always involves vengeance and sacrifice, and a sovereign who does not punish his enemies is an unintelligible anomaly. If it is awkward to have to deal with people who will not hear reason, not believe in our unwillingness to use the "last argument of kings," it is, nevertheless, a consolation that a moderate display of our belligerent resources has considerable influence. In China and Japan a little powder goes a long way. The Daimios are good enough to think us strong, not because they have acquired a knowledge of our history, but because they believe the Power that crushed Satsuma, that brought Nagato to reason, and that overawes the Tycoon himself, must be boundless in its means of avenging wrong. Every action of the kind re-echoing through the East saves us future trouble. The merely mercantile advantage of free navigation of the Inland Sea, though that in itself was a result fully worth the expenditure, is by no means the sole item to be set against the cost of the recent bombardment; for we must also include on the credit side the fact that our pathway has been smoothed at Yedo and in Peking. The money fired off in our Armstrong shells must, therefore, be considered not expenditure of capital, so much as the putting out of money at usurious interest. It will come back to us in long years of peaceful commerce, in wide development of trade, in the fabulous profits which arise when the rich natural resources of the East are brought into contact with the manufacturing and mercantile energy of the West.

In Japan the exercise of European force is likely to have very peculiar results. It will tend to destroy the feudalism which more than anything else has retarded the progress of the nation and prevented the development of foreign trade. The country is now in a condition of society but faintly paralleled by the condition of France and other continental States when several great suzerains held provincial sway, and merely acknowledged the King as Lord Paramount. The chief Daimios, like the Duke of Burgundy and his brother vassals, have immense powers within their own territories; but, beyond their local jurisdiction, collectively they are hereditary rulers of the whole empire. If our Cabinet Council were selected exclusively from the House of Lords, and if each of the selected peers had extreme feudal rights within his own territory, while at the same time he was *ex officio* and by right of birth a Minister of State whenever he came to London, we should have something answering to the council that is practically viceroy over the Tycoon. The Regency of the empire, for instance, is hereditary in one family, and all the high military and civil offices are held by members of the favoured class. Some of the semi-independent Daimios disdain even these posts, much as one of the Kings of Prussia, when he became powerful, disdained the Lord High Stewardship of the Holy Roman Empire, once filled by his ancestor the Elector of Brandenburg; but the enormous wealth of the great non-official Daimios—many commanding revenues over half a million a year in English money—still gives them an overwhelming influence. We see by the recent news that "the Princes are all recalled to Yedo to reside as before the dispute arose, and the Tycoon is said to rule once more supreme." This increase to the power of the central authority will be of great advantage to us, and no less beneficial to the native people. We shall have one accessible Government responsible for outrages and for the fulfilment of treaty rights; and the Tycoon will soon learn to look on us, not as enemies, but as friends who can guarantee his own privileges and power. He avowedly sanctioned our attack on Satsuma; he gave his formal approbation to our recent proceedings at Simonoseki; and he now reaps the advantage of being able to enforce that six months' residence in Yedo each year which is his only hold on the feudal lords. The Japanese are essentially a peaceful and industrious race, long oppressed by the two-sworded swashbucklers, the retainers of the great Princes; and everything that destroys the power of these barons tends to liberate the people from an oppressive yoke. In the Old World history we have many instances of Kings uniting with the commons against the nobility, and that is in all likelihood the policy that our recent action will force on the Tycoon. As our artillery makes progress, we shall every day be enabled to hold our own in those seas with less and less sacrifice of English money or English life. We may still find it difficult to reach those inland Daimios who barred the peaceful travels of our Envoy, even when armed with the Imperial permission under treaty rights; but wherever our ships' guns can reach, English subjects will be safe, and outrages will be promptly put down. Fortunately, the kingdom is composed geographically of narrow islands, and its long coast-line facilitates broadsides from our men-of-war, and favours the operations of our marines.

Our policy altogether in those distant regions of the Far East is at length made pretty clear. Having no immediate end in view, excepting the extension of our commerce, we still cannot forget that our trade is, whether we will it or not, the precursor of our ideas, the pioneer of our civilisation. Hitherto, the true means of attaining this end were not very manifest, and there is no doubt that in those waters, with the best intentions, we have made some lamentable mistakes. But the system of aiding the Peking Government in maintaining order, and of laying a heavy hand on insolent

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Daimios instead of punishing the poor Tycoon, points out the spirit of our policy, if not its very path. We have wisely abstained from committing ourselves entirely to the support of the Chinese Emperor against his disaffected subjects; but in the degree that his power has been strengthened he has become more immediately responsible to us for acts committed in any part of his dominions. Had the rebellion made progress, we should have been in the embarrassing position of having to appeal in turn to two Powers, both weak, one of them almost inaccessible to foreign remonstrance; and while we should have allowed some of the fairest provinces in the country to be desolated by a barbarian mob, the internal trade of some of our own treaty ports must have been diminished, if not destroyed. We have now shown the Emperor that if we could be formidable foes we can be valuable allies; and ever since the Taeping rebellion has lost power, our relations with Peking have been as satisfactory as, considering the Oriental character, we have a right to expect. Both in China and in Japan our Envoys have pretermitted the fulfilment of several just demands, but now we have fair opportunities of enforcing them. In Japan we have displayed our strength, and have incidentally helped to fortify the Tycoon; we therefore may hope to hear soon that Sir Rutherford Alcock has obtained the opening to foreign trade of Ooaca, the great outlet of commerce, and one of the ports guaranteed to us by treaty right. In China the Taiping rebellion has long been as useful an excuse for delaying the fulfilment of Chinese pledges as the fire at Wolf's Crag was for the poverty of Caleb Balderstone's fare; but with such men as Sir Frederick Bruce at Peking, and Mr. Hart managing the Foreign Customs of the Celestial Empire, we may well believe that English—or rather European—interests are in good hands.

Naval and Military.

Among other military changes about to take place, it is rumoured that Lieut.-General Sir James Yorke Scarlett, K.C.B., and Major-General Lord William Paulet, C.B., are about to exchange positions. Lord William Paulet will go to the Horse-Guards as Adjutant-General, and Sir James Scarlett, will assume the command of the south-west military district and the lieut.-governorship of Portsmouth. If this arrangement should be carried into effect Portsmouth and the south-west district will be raised from a major-general's to a lieutenant-general's command, and Manchester and the north-west district will possibly at the same time be changed from a lieutenant-general's to a major-general's command.

Lieutenant-Colonel Charles George Gordon, some time employed in the service of the Emperor of China, and who has been gazetted to be an Ordinary Member of the Military Division of the third class, or Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath (notified in our last), entered the corps of Royal Engineers as second lieutenant, June 23, 1852, and became first lieutenant February 17, 1854. He served in the trenches before Sebastopol from December, 1854, to the close of the siege, and was wounded June 6, 1855. He accompanied the column under Sir John Campbell at the attack on the Redan, June 18, and accompanied the company of sappers attached to the expedition to Kinburn, and was present at the surrender of that port. He was also present at the demolition of the docks of Sebastopol, and subsequently employed on the Turco-Russian boundary commission in Bessarabia and Asia in 1856 and 1857. He became captain April 1, 1859, and in 1864 was made lieut.-colonel. He has received a medal and clasp, as also the Turkish medal, and is a Knight of the Legion of Honour.

Captain (with the local rank in Japan of major) H. Wray, Royal Engineers, is promoted to the brevet rank of major.

CHINA AND JAPAN (COAST AND RIVER) STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (LIMITED).

The ordinary general meeting was held on the 12th inst., at the offices in King's Arms-yard; Mr. J. N. DANIELL in the chair.

The report of the directors, which was taken as read, was as follows:—

"Referring to their circular, dated 3rd of August last, the directors have now to lay before the shareholders a statement of the accounts of the company, made up in England and China, to the 30th of June in the present year. The board regret that these accounts do not show the satisfactory result they could wish, and that they will be unable to distribute a dividend on this occasion. Whilst, however, there is herein cause for disappointment, it must be observed that the ships of the company have not fared worse than their neighbours, in the exceptionally depressed state of the freight market in China, which has continued, more or less, since the date of the last report. *Titan*.—This vessel has during the past year met with a considerable amount of competition in the Shanghai river, where she has been from the first placed; but the board are loth to withdraw her from that station, being led to believe that, under new auspices, she will again in the year now commenced show a satisfactory working. The directors are sorry to report the death of Captain Rousby and Captain Cockerham, successively commanders of the *Titan*, whose loss they have much cause to regret. *Elgin*.—When the *Elgin* was laid down she was constructed for a light draught of water, the best advices at that time being to the effect that a vessel drawing more than ten feet could not safely navigate the river Yangtsze, for which she was intended. The vessel, however, had only arrived in China a short time when fresh channels were discovered in this great river. A fall at once ensued in freights, and the advantages which the *Elgin* otherwise possessed, at the sacrifice of carrying power, were of course lost. Under these circumstances the board resolved to dispose of the vessel, and replace her with one of larger capacity, which their experience of the *Mona's* working satisfies them would prove a profitable investment. The company's agents were accordingly empowered to sell the *Elgin*, at a minimum price, which would leave a handsome profit to the company on her original cost, and they were almost on the point of succeeding in their negotiations to that effect with the Japan Government when the late war broke out. The board, however, are glad to say that their agents inform them in their latest advices that now that the allied fleet has succeeded in forcing the inland sea, they count on being enabled to place the *Elgin* advantageously. There is a general impression, indeed, that the demand for steamers is likely to be very great in those waters. *Mona*.—This vessel reached Shanghai at the commencement of the year, and has since been actively employed. The result of her workings, up to the date of the annexed accounts, shows a moderate balance in her favour. But the directors have much pleasure in stating that since this period the earnings of the vessel have greatly increased, and owing to her large capacity and prompt management—even at comparatively low freights, she has been realising handsome profits, and they are advised that the ship has become an established favourite on the station between Hong Kong and Shanghai. *Vulcan* and *Teen-Chang*.—The board regret that the departure of these two vessels from the Clyde was seriously delayed. The board, however, hope to hear by the next China mail of their arrival at Shanghai, and for these boats the directors are encouraged to expect profitable employment on the stations where it is intended to place them. The directors have also lately made an arrangement with the Labuan Coal Company, whereby they have secured a supply of coal on reasonable terms, and, looking at the importance of coal as an item of their expenditure, owing to the high price at which it generally rules in China, they rely upon being able, by means of this arrangement, materially to reduce the working expenses of the company's steamers. At the same time, the board consider it right to state that they had proposed this contract as a special feature of the projected enlargement of the basis of the company (referred to in circular of 18th July), the accomplishment of which, whilst increasing the working capital at their disposal, will, they have reason to believe, meet with the approval of the shareholders. The directors had hoped to have laid this matter before the meeting on the 12th inst., but the state of the money market has unavaidably produced delay. They now trust to be able to call a special meeting on the subject at an early date. Not wishing, however, to lose any advantages connected with the Labaun agreement, the board have now commenced working the steamship *Stirling*, chartered for a term of years by the Labaun Company, and in terms of agreement transferred to the China and Japan Company. From the conditions of the charter of this vessel, the directors have no hesitation in saying she will prove a valuable and profitable auxiliary to the company's fleet. The board have purchased H.M. frigate *Andromeda*, 1,100 tons, to serve as a storeship in China, for which she is admirably adapted. This will prove an important economy to the company in the saving of landing and godown charges."

The CHAIRMAN expressed regret that the accounts up to the 30th June did not justify the payment of a dividend, owing to the depressed state of the freight market in China; but with regard to the future their prospects were good. The opening of the Inland Sea of Japan promised a large increase of trade in that quarter. Their ships were now working profitably. Since the date of the present accounts the *Titan* had done well, and the *Mona* had done admirably well. The *Elgin* was on a voyage freighted to Bombay and back again. They had received £5,000 clear of coals from the *Mona* since June. If the river hadbeen available only for vessels of a light draft, the *Elgin* would hav proved a very profitable vessel. As it was they hoped to make her profitable by disposing of her to advantage when she returned, of which the agents informed them there was no doubt. They had made an arrangement with the Labuan Coal Company for the supply of 20,000 tons of coals a year, with the right of a monopoly, so that if this company chose to take them no other parties could be supplied except through them. The *Stirling*, which was chartered by the Labuan Company, and transferred in terms of agreement to this company, was engaged upon a service that would produce a considerable profit. There was also a project for the establishment of a China steam-tug company, with which they had a prospect of forming a junction as soon as it was formed. Some difficulties having arisen in obtaining the necessary capital, the issuing of the prospectus of the Tug Company had been delayed, and unless all the shares were subscribed for it would not come out. Several gentlemen of very high commercial standing had, however, now joined it, and there was reason to believe that all the shares would be speedily taken up. He concluded by moving the adoption of the report.

In reply to Mr. VALLANCE, the CHAIRMAN said that the contract price at which the coals were to be supplied by the Labuan Company was one guinea a ton at Labuan.

Mr. VALLANCE asked for explanation as to 1,000 shares which in the accounts, were stated as being held as collateral security. In reply it was stated that these were shares on which £10 each had been paid, and which had been given as collateral security to mortgage creditors. On payment of the mortgage debt, £26,000, those shares would revert to the company.

Mr. VALLANCE held that, as they were in effect unissued shares, they ought to appear in a different form in the accounts. After some further discussion, the report was adopted.

The retiring directors were then re-elected, ten guineas each was awarded to the auditors for their services, and the proceedings concluded with the usual compliment to the chairman and directors.

CEYLON COMPANY (LIMITED).

The half-yearly meeting of this company was held at the offices, No. 12, Leadenhall-street, on the 14th inst.; Mr. L. ACLAND in the chair.

The SECRETARY read the following report:—

"The directors are again able to congratulate the shareholders on the success which has attended the operations of the company during the six month previous to the 30th Sept. The business of the company continues to increase, and the reports received from the managers in Ceylon and Mauritius are very satisfactory. The accounts show that the profit resulting from the operations of the half-year may be justly estimated at £14,200, out of which the directors recommend that an interim dividend, at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, and a bonus of 2½ per cent. on the capital paid up on Sept. 30, amounting together to 10s. 6d. per share, be declared and made payable, free from income-tax, on the 17th inst. The proposed payments will absorb £9,870, and leave a balance of profit amounting to £4,330 unappropriated. The reserve fund has been credited with interest at 5 per cent., and when the premiums on the new shares allotted in India are added, will amount to £22,650."

The CHAIRMAN said that the only business which they had met to per-

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form was the declaration of an interim dividend, and the report which had been placed in their hands showed that the amount available for that purpose was £14,200, and they proposed to pay a dividend of 10s. 6d. per share. That must be deemed satisfactory by all the shareholders. (Hear, hear.) The reserve fund now stood at £22,650. Those figures were based on an estimate of profits, and he must say that it was under rather than over the amount. (Hear, hear.) The accounts received from Ceylon were most satisfactory. The coffee crop this year, being picked and cured, was much superior to that of the previous year, especially on the company's estates. They were all aware that the sugar market in London now was, and for some time had been, in a most depressed state; but it was satisfactory to find that the company were able to dispose of their sugars as fast as they came down to Port Louis at better prices than those ruling in this country. Their business was steadily increasing, and the directors had deemed it expedient to send Mr. Braine, the manager, out on a tour of inspection to complete the organisation of the branches, and to ascertain how far it would be desirable to extend the operations of the company in Mauritius, Ceylon, and elsewhere. The 6,200 shares issued in pursuance of the resolutions passed at their last meeting had been all taken up by those who were entitled to them. The full number of their shares—viz., 25,000, were therefore now placed; and, inasmuch as the directors did not think it would be desirable to call up more than £1 per share in addition to the amount already paid, it would become necessary to consider how any additional capital should be received if their business was further increased; and it appeared to the directors that it could best be done by increasing the number of shares, which could only be effected by resolutions passed at a general meeting specially convened for the purpose. He might mention that the call of £1 per share would probably be made before their next meeting in June. The Chairman then referred to a paragraph which had been copied in the London press from a Mauritius newspaper, with regard to the sale of an estate upon which the company had advanced money. He denied the truth of the report, and said that if even it were true it would only show that the directors were conducting their business in a proper manner, and were protecting the interests of the shareholders by foreclosing where it was found the advances were not being repaid. (Hear, hear.) He then moved that an interim dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, and a bonus of 2½ per cent. on the capital paid up, amounting together to 10s. 6d. per share, be declared payable on the 17th inst.

Mr. ROBERTSON seconded the motion, which, after a few remarks from Capt. Venner, and others, of a satisfactory nature, was put and carried unanimously.

A SHAREHOLDER asked whether the high rate of discount had had any effect upon the issuing of the company's debentures.

The CHAIRMAN said that no doubt it had checked the issue of the debentures without stopping it. It was not to be expected that when people could get 8 or 9 per cent. they would take the company's debentures at 6 per cent.

The SHAREHOLDER asked whether the dividend was paid out of profits arising from a speculative business, or from good, steady, and legitimate transactions.

The CHAIRMAN replied that the profits arose from a purely legitimate business.

A vote of thanks to the chairman and directors closed the proceedings.

CHINA COTTON.

The following is the reply of Messrs. Neill Brothers to a letter which appeared in our last issue:—

(To the Editor of *The Times*.)

Sir,—Although it is not our custom to notice anonymous attacks, the prominence given in your columns to-day to the lengthened criticism by your correspondent "A. M." of a sentence in our circular of the 1st inst. prompts us to request room for a few lines in reply.

In the first place, we put it to you if it be fair to pick out a single sentence—and he does not even give the whole sentence—from the middle of a paragraph in a circular which your readers cannot generally have seen (as it has not appeared in your columns) and to omit the context?

The following is the whole paragraph:—

"As regards China it is impossible to procure trustworthy information, but if last year's prices were offered supplies would probably continue to increase. The dissatisfaction, however, which imports from that country have caused, the recent panic in the trade, and the fact that prices are even now 4d. to 5d. per lb. lower than last year, have already reduced the quantity afloat to a bagatelle, and must materially reduce exports for some time to come. Should fresh supplies be attracted by the recent advance here, they can hardly be received before next midsummer. In the meantime the arrivals at Liverpool must be small, and this will also, without doubt, hold good of the arrivals from India, so that declining stocks in this country must be anticipated throughout the winter and spring."

The fact to be accounted for, and of which your correspondent does not seem to be aware, was that whereas down to the last week in October, the quantity of cotton known to be afloat from China had constantly increased till it amounted to 200,000 piculs, since that date it had declined to 106,000 piculs. It could hardly be explained by the season, as during the same interval last year there had been an increase. After the rapid growth of the export trade from China, and the large expectations lately indulged in, it certainly did appear to us that a supply at sea (the whole of which was not likely to arrive in less than four months), equal to about 30,000 bales of American cotton, deserved to be termed a bagatelle, and required to be accounted for. To the uninitiated this may appear a large quantity; but its true value in meeting the deficiency caused by the American war will be better understood if it be borne in mind that during the past month as much as 30,000 bales of cotton have been sold in Liverpool in a single day, and that the American crop of 1859 exceeded 4,600,000 bales.

The paragraph quoted gives rather loosely, but in the concentrated form necessarily adopted in a trade circular, the only mode in which, with the limited knowledge we possess of Chinese affairs, we were able to account for the disappointing figures. But by "the recent panic" we should have thought that a man possessing the intelligence of your correspondent must have inferred from the connection and the dates that we did not and could not mean that portion of the panic of which the Chinese shippers were not informed, but rather that we referred to its commencement—that is, to the state of feeling engendered in July and August by what passed at Niagara in the former month, of which they were informed, and which had at once shaken confidence in all distant cotton operations.

But we may now be permitted to say that while we have read through your correspondent's letter with interest we have laid it down with disappointment, for we had hoped to find that one who assumed to know so much about the subject as to be competent to criticise others, and who could afford time to bring half a column to bear on an unfortunate sentence of ours, would supply that want of information to which we confessed, or at least give us some plausible theory of his own to explain the anomaly. "A. M." alleges that "prices 1s. per lb under the present currency" (which would give 3½d. per. lb. for China cotton) "are sufficient not only to keep up the present rate of cultivation in every quarter, but to keep it continually on the increase." If this be so, and if the causes to which we attribute the falling off had no influence, is it not remarkable that so shrewd a people as the Chinese proved themselves so callous to the attraction of the comparatively high prices which prevailed at Liverpool throughout the summer? "A. M." will surely not argue that they would prefer 3½d. to 18d.—We are, Sir, your obedient servants

Lime-street, Dec. 10. NEILL, BROTHERS.

SEA WAGES.—THE "BRIDE OF THE SEAS."

Captain William Donald, the master of the ship *Bride of the Seas*, appeared before Mr. Cooke, at the Thames Police-office, to answer four summonses taken out by seamen for the recovery of balances of wages. The same complainants had also taken out summonses against the defendant for assaulting them. Mr. Smith appeared for the complainants, Mr. Young for the defendant.

The first case gone into was that of John H. Butler, a man of colour. Mr. Smith said the four complainants shipped at Foo-chow-Foo, and the defendant had not only assaulted them, but had made them out incompetent. The question arose, not under the Act of Parliament, but under the articles of agreement. The men were charged, among other things, with steering badly. That was owing to bad compasses, which ought to have been a guide to the men, but misled them. This was not all. The defendant had beaten, kicked, and ill-used the men. The defendant had prevented the men doing their duty by intimidation, coercion, and threats. The complainant Butler shipped on the 18th of July last at Foo-chow-Foo for £3. 10s. per month, on a voyage to London, and it lasted four months and twenty days. In the wages account rendered to the complainant the defendant had reduced the wages to £1 per month. The deduction for incompetency amounted to £11. 13s. 4d., the total amount of wages earned under the agreement being £16. 6s. 8d. This was a tremendous deduction, which could not be justified, even supposing the man, who was shipped in a Chinese port, was incompetent. Seamen were scarce in Chinese ports, and indifferent ones fetched good prices. The complainant had been a seaman ten years, and for five years of that time was an able seaman. The complainant was ten days in the ship before she left Foo-chow-Foo, and there was ample time and opportunity to test his qualifications as a seaman. He could not help saying that the reduction of wages from £3. 10s. to £1 per month was most astounding and uncalled for.

Mr. Young said the defendant was obliged to ship men at Foo-chow-Foo, and to take any one he could get. The incompetency of the complainants had imposed additional labour on other men who were competent. The complainant was perfectly useless. It was most essential, for the credit of the merchant service, that such impositions as had been practised by the complainants should be discouraged. The excuse that the compasses were wrong was entirely without foundation. Was it likely that the defendant would navigate his ship on a long voyage without his compasses, chronometers, and charts being correct? The compasses were properly verified before the ship sailed from Foo-chow-Foo, and she was navigated through a narrow part of the China Seas in safety.

The defendant said he lost three men at Foo-chow-Foo, and shipped the complainants. The compasses were in good order and properly verified. He discovered Butler was no seaman when he first took his trick at the wheel. The complainant said he could not heave the lead or keep a proper look-out. When the complainant was spoken to on his inefficiency he said he did not ship as an able seaman.

Mr. Cooke asked if the other cases were similar to Butler's, and the reply being in the affirmative, said the decision in one case ought to govern the others; which was agreed to. Mr. Cooke then said he did not think Butler should have engaged as an able-bodied seaman, as he was not competent to perform the duties. It was stated in the agreement "that if any seaman shall have entered himself as qualified for a duty to which he shall prove to be not competent, he shall be subject to a reduction of the rate of wages hereby agreed for in proportion to his incompetency." He should act on the last answer to the last question put to the mate, and give Butler £2 per month, which would be the wages of an ordinary seaman. He made an order to pay Butler £9. 9s. 7d. and one guinea costs. On the same principle the other men would have their pay reduced in proportion, and he ordered the following sums to be paid to them, with a guinea costs in each case:—Needham, £4. 14s. 4d.; Bright, £6. 12s. 5d.; and Brogden, £16. 12s. 4d.

Mr. Smith said that seamen ought not to be punished twice if they were incompetent. It was enough they should be deprived of a part of their wages, and not ill-used, knocked about, and kicked as well. On that account the summonses for assaults had been taken out. He was happy to inform the magistrate the assault cases had been settled, and he would not be troubled with the discussion of them.

Mr. Cooke: Very well, the assault summonses are dismissed. No evidence is offered.

AN American paper states that the finger nails of the chief priest of the Chinese Joss-house at San Francisco are longer than his fingers, and are twisted like an auger.

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NAVAL GUNS—JAPAN EXPERIENCE.

(ARMY AND NAVY GAZETTE.)

"Give us a good gun for the navy" is the cry which week after week is wailed up, not only from our home seaports, but is wafted across the ocean from far off China, the East and West Indies, and Australia, until the Lords of the Admiralty are compelled daily to talk and think about artillery, and nightly to dream on the same subject. We for our own part are endeavouring to the best of our ability to aid their lordships in arriving at a decision on which so much connected with the efficiency of our navy unquestionably hangs. Actuated with this wholesome desire, we are compelled to say that we have been informed by an officer of rank that similar opinions to his own are entertained by the great majority of naval captains, and as a proof of this he asserts that twelve officers of the rank just mentioned were lately assembled for the purpose of discharging a public duty, and they were unanimous in declaring that the 110-pounder breach-loading service gun was undoubtedly unsafe, especially where it would be necessary to fire over bodies of men advancing to an attack, or over boats, from the tendency of the shot to strip, and also from the enormous deflection to the right which occurs after the shot has touched the water at the range at which it was levelled. This we are assured is almost invariably the case with the 110-pounder, and we have been favoured with more than one account of this unfortunate defect. On one occasion, on board a frigate while at anchor, with the wind blowing hard, a heavy sea on, and a good deal of rolling. Whenever the order was given for three rounds of independent firing with shot, distance from 1,200 to 1,400 yards, the Armstrong 110-pounders—of which there were two on the starboard side of the main deck and one (pivot) on the forecastle—were last of all, although they were well manned, and had the sergeant of the Royal Marine Artillery and two "Cambridge" gunnery instructors as captains. It was likewise observed that the deflection after the shot had pitched would have endangered the safety of any vessel several hundred yards to the right of the line of fire. It is also notorious that the attempt to cover the landing of the Marines at Simonoseki resulted in failure. Under these circumstances it is to be regretted that the Admiralty will persevere in ordering guns of this description to be shipped on board our men-of-war, with the well-grounded prejudice which the officers entertain towards them. We find by information which can be relied upon, that within the last few weeks orders have been issued that four of the 10-inch guns, of 87 cwt., which were on the main deck of the steam-frigate *Dores*, now ready for the pendant at Devonport, should be removed, and replaced by four of the 110-pounders. This fine ship has also been reduced from a 32 to a 24-gun frigate, from the fact that all the original upper deck guns have been removed, and four Armstrong 110-pounders substituted in their place. This is, to say the least of it, scarcely wise in the face of representations which have been made on the matter at Whitehall by those who, if any men in the world know their business, are the persons best able to give advice and make suggestions.

Monetary and Commercial.

The biddings for 35,00,000 rupees (£350,000), in bills on India, took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were:—To Calcutta, 17,82,000 rupees; to Bombay, 12,00,000 rupees; and to Madras, 5,18,000. The *minimum* price was fixed at 1s. 11½d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11¾d. on Bombay. The applications within the limits amounted to 65 lacs. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 1s. 11¾d. will receive about 58 per cent., and on Bombay at 2s. 0⅛d., about 84 per cent. All above these prices in full.

A portion of the Mexican dollars by the French mail steamer *Louisiane* were sold at 5s. 0⅝d. per ounce, being a further fall of ⅛d. The reduction is caused by the flatness of the China exchanges, combined with the prevalence of lower quotations for this coin in that country. The market for bar silver is again flat, owing to the result of the tenders for the Government bills on India.

The directors of the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China have just announced a dividend of 10 per cent., free of income-tax, for the half-year ending the 31st current, to be paid on and after the 2nd of January next. This amount, together with the payment made on the 1st of July last, will constitute a distribution of profits at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum on the paid-up capital of the bank.

The half-yearly meeting of the China and Japan Coast and River Steam Navigation Company took place on the 12th inst., when the directors' report was adopted. The chairman, Mr. J. N. Daniell, expressed his regret that the accounts for the six months do not justify the declaration of a dividend, but referred in favourable terms to the prospects of the undertaking. He added that an amalgamation with another company is projected, and if carried out will lead to satisfactory results. A report will be found in another column.

The half-yearly meeting of the Ceylon Company took place on the 14th, when an interim dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, and a bonus of 2½ per cent., together 10s. 6d. per share, were declared for the six months, free of income-tax. A report will be found in another column.

It has been decided that the estate of Messrs. T. W. Bradley and Co. should be wound up under inspection. The assets are expected to yield about 8s. 6d. in the pound. The estate of Messrs. Carlisle, Parr, and Co., tea brokers, &c., will, we hear, yield a mere trifle. The firm has been remodelled, and is now Parr, Benyon, and Co. We regret that several old residents in China are losers by Messrs. Carlisle, Parr, and Co.

The following note furnishes an important warning to all persons having financial or commercial transactions with the United States. No contract that may be made for payment in gold or its equivalent in that country can be legally enforced, and even if persons on this side should make disbursements in sterling on American account they can only through the American courts recover the same nominal amount in greenbacks:—

"Sir,—We beg to call the attention of *The Times* to the accompanying remarks from our New York correspondents, under date of the 22nd of November, which show that it is now declared by the American law courts that under no circumstances can a contract for any description of goods to be settled for in 'gold currency of the United States' be enforced, save only in 'lawful money of the United States'—*i.e.*, in Greenbacks! and not only so, but where English merchants come under advance on 'goods on consignment' by bills paid in England, they can only recover any balance due at the rate of $4. 84c. per pound sterling in 'lawful money,' the actual rate, at exchange of 250 per cent., being equal to $11 1-9th per pound sterling.

"We know not if the New York Chamber of Commerce sanctions this iniquitous attempt at repudiation under cover of the law courts of America, but we think all business men can have but one opinion on the matter.—"We are, Sir, your obedient servants, A. B. C.

"'The Courts have decided that no contracts can be made for bills of exchange, or property of any description, payable in the gold currency of the United States, which can be enforced at law, otherwise than as for payment of the amount stipulated in 'lawful money of the United States,' the synonym for legal tender-money, commonly called 'greenbacks.' Hence in cases of dispute after the delivery and before payment of bills or other property, the seller must necessarily succumb, as a verdict in his favour for the full amount claimed would saddle him with a loss of upwards of 50 per cent. Sterling bills of exchange returned under protest can only be recovered at $4. 84c. per pound, and the same rule applies to all the other exchanges, and even to contracts made, and maturing abroad in foreign money, if payment is attempted to be enforced through our American courts.'"

At a meeting held of the creditors of Mr. W. J. Morgan, East India merchant, of 15, Leadenhall-street, trading under the firm of W. J. Morgan and Co., who stopped payment on the 24th October, a statement of affairs was submitted by Mr. J. J. Saffery, accountant, showing liabilities to the amount of £14,781, and assets £10,188; the deficiency is thus £4,593. Sympathy with Mr. Morgan's position was expressed, and it was resolved to accept his offer of an assignment. It appears that Mr. Morgan returned from India a year ago with a considerable capital. The engagements which led to the suspension were chiefly in cotton.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices Nov. 26.
£100	Agra and Masterman's	50	135 to 140	133 to 138
50	Do. New	25	—	...
50	Do. „	15	—	...
80	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	33 to 35	35 to 37
20	Do. New	All	—	...
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	61 to 63	61 to 63
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	—	...
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (7½ pd.)	15	—	...
20	Eastern Exchange	3	1 dis. to par	¼ dis. to ¼ pm.
50	London Joint Stock	10	49 to 51	49 to 50
100	London and Westminster	20	98 to 100	97 to 99
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	56 to 58	59 to 60
50	Union of London	15	56 to 58	56 to 57
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	5 to 6 pm.	6½ to 7½
100	Do. New	18	3½ to 4½ pm.	5 to 6 pm.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	½ to 1¼ pm.	½ to 1 pm.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	29 to 31	30 to 31
100	Bank of London	50	155 to 160	154 to 157
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	¼ to 1½ pm.	¼ to 1½ pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 4	3 to 4
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	77 to 79 xd.	83 to 84
50	Do. New	30	18 to 20 pm. xd	20 to 22 pm.
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	—	...
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	—	...
5	Bombay Gas	All	4¼ to 5¼	4¼ to 5
10	Hong Kong	All	2¼ to 1¼ dis.	2¼ to 1¼ dis.
80	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	8		
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	¼ dis. to ¼ pm.	¼ to ¼ pm.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	20 to 21	20 to 21
1	Oriental Gas	All	1½ to 1¾ xd.	1½ to 1¾
1	Do. New	All	½ to ¼ pm. xd.	½ to ¼ pm.
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2 to 3	2½ to 3 pm.
100	West India Steam Company	60	95 to 97	90 to 92
20	Ceylon Company	7	2½ to 3¼ pm. xd	3¼ to 4¼ pm.
20	International Finance Society	5	2½ to 2¾ pm.	2¼ to 3 pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2¾ to 3 pm.	2¾ to 3½ pm.
50	London Financial Association	15	9¼ to 9½ pm.	9¼ to 10 pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	1 to 1½ pm.	1¼ to 1¾ pm.
20	Société Financiére d'Egypte	6	1½ to 1 dis.	2¼ to 1¼ dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	16¼ to 16¾	16¼ to 16¾
10	Upper Assam Tea	2½	4 to 5 pm.	2½ to 3½ pm.
10	Do.	All	17 to 20	16 to 18

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Ceylon*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was—In gold, to

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Alexandria, £85,000; to Madras, £905: in silver, to Galle, £280; to Calcutta, £20,000; to Hong Kong, £25,250; to Shanghai, £2,300; to Yokohama, £8,800; to Sydney, £1,500: total, in gold, £85,905; in silver, £58,130.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—The market has been inactive, though sales to some extent have been made out of the late large arrivals; good to fine Teas maintaining their former value, but the fair qualities of black-leaf Congou have been difficult to move, at a decline of fully 1d. per lb. There have been some speculative purchases of Scented Orange Pekoe, at an advance of fully 1d. per lb. In Green teas large sales have been made, but prices have been irregular, showing generally a decline of 2d. per lb. There have been no further public sales, except of Indian teas. Low and dusty kinds of Congou show no material alteration. Fair to good common maintain former value, as also flavoury kinds of old import. There has been rather more inquiry for the fair qualities of new Kaisow kinds. Good to fine have been firmly supported; the finest kinds are only in limited demand. In black-leaf kinds, of old import, but little has been done, but prices remain unchanged. In new Season's those ruling under 1s. 6d. per lb. have been very difficult of sale, even at a decline of fully 1d. per lb.; good to fine qualities show but little alteration in price; the finest kinds in the absence of export demand continue difficult to move. In Tayshans and new-make Canton there have been but few transactions. Oolongs of common to good quality show no improvement; the finer kinds are still in moderate demand. Souchongs have been difficult of sale, and prices must be quoted in favour of buyers. In Flowery Pekoes there is no new feature. Common Scented Capers have been sold from 8d. to 11d. per lb.; fair to good and fine have met with a good demand, and prices may be quoted about 1d. per lb. higher. In Orange Pekoes there have been some purchases for speculation, which, together with a fair demand from the trade, have caused a rise of 1d. to 1½d. per lb. in these sorts. Foo-Chow kinds continue scarce. In uncoloured Japans business has been very small, and prices show no improvement. The public sales of Indian teas passed off with spirit, and very full prices for the finer kinds, but the commoner sorts sold about 9d. per lb. lower. Business in Green teas has been to a fair extent; the supplies from the recent arrivals have been freely offered, and sales made at prices which show a general decline of about 2d. per lb., but they are now ruling at prices which may probably cause a revival of demand for home consumption, the fall from the highest point being from 7d. to 1s. per lb. Canton-made kinds show no material alteration in the fortnight. The public sales closed without further alteration in prices. Out of the 31,184 packages offered 25,011 packages were sold, nearly the whole being without reserve.

COTTON.—The London market has been active during this week, and a large business transacted, with a pretty general advance of 1d. per lb.; though China's have been rather neglected, and are only ½d. dearer than last week. Among the sales up to the 22nd we note 410 bales China, 14d. all faults, 15d. to 15¼d. for fair, and 15¼d. to 15½d. for fully fair; 930 bales Japan, 17d. for fair, 16½d. to 17½d. for fully fair, and 17½d. for good fair. At Liverpool, China and Japan have risen ¼d. to ½d. in cotton of moderate and short staple, and fully 1d. in long stapled parcels.

SUGAR.—The market maintains a steady appearance to the close. Brown refining descriptions are 6d. higher than on the 16th, or 1s. per cwt. above the late lowest point. At public sale, we quote 242 bags Siam, washed, good white, 35s. to 36s. (duty 10s. 6d. to 11s. 8d.); 621 mats Penang, low to middling yellow, 29s. 6d. to 31s. 6d. (duty 9s. 4d. to 10s. 6d.)

COFFEE.—Only 80 casks plantation Ceylon have been offered by auction, which sold freely at firm rates, fine fine ordinary to low middling 81s. to 83s. 6d., and privately a fair amount of business has been transacted at fully previous terms. No native has been brought to public sale, and by private treaty very little has transpired. At auction, 101 bags common Singapore realised from 54s. to 55s. 6d.

RICE.—The market has remained quiet, but full prices have been obtained, especially for Bengal. About 8,000 bags low middling to fine white Bengal have changed hands privately at from 10s. 9d. to 14s.. 500 bags pinky Madras at 10s. 9d., and 100 tons Ballam at 10s. 6d., ex ship, beyond which nothing of consequence is reported. At auction, 500 bags good middling white Bengal, bought in, were afterwards taken at 12s. 6d., and 2,000 bags fair pinky Madras realised 10s. 9d.

CAMPHOR.—This market has become very quiet, and scarcely any business has been done.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Quiet, but without any further fall: business very limited; 210 boxes at auction all retired. Buds: No auctions held; sales to a fair extent effected privately, at a little recovery in rates.

COCOA NUT OIL.—Market continues very flat, but at a further decline of 10s. to 20s. per ton rather more extended business has been accomplished. 1,168 casks Cochin, 76 casks Ceylon, and 271 casks Sydney at auction.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Nothing of any interest doing. Dragon's Blood: Quiet; only two cases at auction, sold at £15. 10s. to £17 per cwt. for good drop. Galangal Root: Quiet: Only 5 bags sold at auction at 16s. per cwt. for good quality. Rhubarb: Firm, but without any business of consequence. Only twelve cases at auction, retired.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Steady; and 10 cases Sumatra at auction sold at £12. 7s. 6d to £12. 10s. per cwt. for fair 2nd quality. Damar: Some inquiry for good quality, but no business doing. Gamboge: Remains scarce and firm.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Very flat, and without any transactions whatever being reported. India-rubber: At auction 65 baskets Singapore sold at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 2¼d. per lb., being cheap; of 150 baskets Penang, one-third sold at 1s. 1½d.; and 16 cases Assam retired. Privately moderate business done, chiefly in Penang, at 1s. 1¼d.

HEMP.—Manila: Of 1,050 bales at auction the whole retired, but subsequently quitted at £25. 15s. to £26. 15s. for fair roping.

JAPAN WAX.—Steady, but of 550 cases at auction a few only sold at 67s. per cwt. for good saucers, being the previous value.

OILS.—Anniseed: The advanced quotation of 6s. obtained, and still buyers rather than sellers thereat. Of 25 cases at auction, one-third sold at the same figure. Cassia: Has advanced to 8s. per lb., at which a good many cases have changed hands. Cinnamon, Mace, and Nutmegs: Nothing doing in either of these oils: 10 cases Nutmeg Paste at auction retired. Arrivals of Oil of Cinnamon.

SAGO is again 6d. to 1s. lower, and of 3,522 boxes at auction only about one-fourth sold at 17s. 6d. to 18s. 6d. per cwt. for middling to fair small, and 17s. to 18s. ordinary medium. Flour: Quiet; very little doing; 80 bags at auction retired. Tapioca: 216 boxes fine white Pearl, offered by auction, were realised at 23s. per cwt.; 70 boxes middling have been placed privately.

SHELLAC.—Market continues in a very unfavourable condition, and prices are again lower. Of 830 cases at auction about half sold. Orange at £6. 5s. to £6. 10s. per cwt.; Livery Orange, £6 to £6. 2s. 6d.; Liver, £4. 15s. to £5. 10s.; Dull Garnet, £5. 2s. 6d.; Native, £4. 12s. 6d. to £5; Button, £5. 15s.; and Block and Blocky, £4. 12s. 6d. to £5. 17s. 6d. Private trade very restricted.

SPICES.—Cinnamon: We quote 1st sort, 1s. 10d. to 3s., 2nd sort, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d., 3rd sort, 1s. 6d. to 2s., 4th sort and jungle, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 7s. per lb. Little business doing. Cloves: Steady; one case Penang sold at auction at 1s. 1⅞d. per lb. for fair; and 351 bags Zanzibar sold at 3¾d. to 4d. for middling to good. MACE: Steady, and of 29 cases Penang, and 3 cases Singapore at auction, one-third sold at 2s. 2d. per lb. for fair pale, and 9d. to 1s. 2d. inferior red to fair reddish. Nutmegs: Are generally 1d. to 2d. per lb. cheaper; and of 165 cases Penang, 16 cases Singapore, and 55 cases Batavia at auction, the bulk sold at 2s. 8d. and 4s. 1d. per lb. for fair to fine bold, and 11d. and 1s. 9d. ordinary small to good medium. Pepper: Black, Sumatra rather easier, and 2,549 bags at auction mostly sold at and after the sales at 3⅛d. to 3¼d. per lb.: Penang rather dearer; and of 3,128 bags, two-thirds sold at 3d. to 3⅛d., with Trang at 3d. to 3¼d. Similar rates realised privately. White: 1s. ¼d. per lb. dearer; and 658 bags Singapore, and 57 bags Penang at auction mostly sold at 5⅛d. to 5⅝d. for middling.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch Pegue: Has become very flat, with scarcely any business. 1,595 bags at auction, all retired. Gambier: Quiet, with limited trade privately at about the previous currency.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls: China and Japan firm; 201 cases China at auction all retired, but 180 bags Japan all sold at 48s. 6d. to 50s. per cwt. for fair to good, rather stalky. Musk: Steady; 51 caddies Tonquin at auction sold at 30s. to 30s. 6d. per oz. for good picked, 19s. 6d. to 26s. 6d. middling rough to good, and 17s. pickings. 3 tins Cabardine sold at 11s. 6d., being cheaper. Moderate sales made privately. Rattans: Rather lower; and 5,453 bundles Penang, and 455 bundles Singapore, sold at auction at 3s. 5d. to 5s. 3d. per 100. Mother-o'-Pearl Shells: Firm; 38 cases Macassar at auction retired at 150s. per cwt. Soy: Firm; little offering; no auctions. Star Anniseeds: Scarce, and rather dearer; of 18 cases at auction one-third sold at £6. 5s. per cwt. Sticklac, Siam: Continues very dull; and of 58 cases a auction, a few blocks alone sold at 25s. 6d. per cwt. Tortoiseshell: Flat; in very partial demand; of 2 cases Penang at auction, one sold at 13s. per lb. for inferior; one case Singapore retired; and one case Sydney sold at 12s. for ordinary. Turmeric: No China offering; nothing doing in Java. Vermilion: Steady, but quiet at the recent reduction.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 15s.; nail rod, £9. 10s.; hoops, £10. 5s.; sheets, single £11; Staffordshire bars, £9. 10s.; rails, £6. 15s. to £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £16.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £98 to £99 per ton; yellow metal, 8½d. to 8¼d. per lb.

TIN.—98s. to 101s. for block; 99s. to 102s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 28s. 6d. to 29s. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £20. 5s. to £20. 10s.; W.B., £21. 15s.; shot, patent, £23. 15s.; sheet, £21. 5s.; spelter, £19 to £19. 10s.; zinc, English sheet, €26 to £27; quicksilver, £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—There is no alteration in the Iron trade to report since our last Circular, with the exception that Scotch Pig Iron is rather lower in price. Copper remains steady as to price, but with not much business. Tin: Foreign is again lower; a large sale of Straits has been made; 87s. cash is the present quotation, 91s. for Banca. Tin Plates continue dull. Lead is firm. Spelter: Forced sales have been made as low as £19 per ton.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£285,768
Foo-chow-Foo	—	11,020
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	£17,000	510,561
Singapore	£720	330,895
Penang	—	80,420

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	88,940
Penang	—	86,932
Hong Kong	£31,568	157,295
Foo-chow-Foo	—	1,500
Shanghai	—	£216,572

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	—	£211,940
To Saigon	£120	90,080
To Batavia	£5,066	5,665
To Hong Kong	—	405,453
To Shanghai	—	330,103

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GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	...	...	...	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloons	...	...	...	3 16 0	to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	...	...	...	3 16 4	
Silver in Bars ...	...	...	...	0 5 1¼	
Mexican Dollars	...	...	...	0 5 1	

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

The quotations in Mr. Mendel's Circular are—Grey Shirtings, 7lb. 16s. 6d. to 17s., and 9lb. 23s. Cotton Yarn, Nos. 16 to 24, are 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. The following is a report on last market day:—We have had a better market for shipping yarns, and compared with last week a considerable amount of business has been done. Yarns are now very scarce, as spinners will only work to order, refusing to go into stock. The consequence is that any demand instantly hardens prices.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Dec. 6	Off Dungeness	Java	Decima	Grivel.
— 8	Falmouth	Batavia	Peeress	Rowland.
— 7	Havre	Maulmain	Ville de Basle	Pitel.
—	Queenstown	Do.	Susan M Dudman	
— 9	Falmouth	Manila	Der West	Pust.
— 9	Off Plymouth	Shanghai	Essex	Lash.
— 10	Queenstown	Maulmain	Melicete	Gould.
— 11	London	Hong Kong	Adriatic	Barron.
— 8	Texel	Batavia	Wilhelmina Maria	Postma.
— 12	London	Hong Kong	Chanticleer	Vowell.
— 13	Liverpool	Do.	General Windham	Forbes.
— 11	Texel	Batavia	Nederland & Oranje	Rosier.
—	Brouwershaven	Do.	Vriendschap	Jansen.
— 13	Texel	Do.	Anthony v. Hoboken	Hazewinkle.
— 12	Marseilles	Rangoon	Victor	Simpson.
— 13	Texel	Batavia	Tweelingen	Bruins.
— 13	Do.	Do.	Annie Laurie	Simmons.
— 14	Brouwershaven	Samarang	Ida Elizabeth	Jansen.
— 13	Marseilles	Rangoon	Duart Castle	Clark.
— 15	Off Ryde	Colombo	Energy	Edgar.
— 18	London	Do.	Evelyn Wood	Wylie.
—	New York	Hong Kong	Cornelia	
— 4	Do.	Padang	Edith	Sidney.
— 19	Falmouth	Do.	Affiance	Thomson.
— 19	Do.	Maulmain	Rebecca Shepherd	Summer.
— 20	Do.	Akyab	Johannes	Leander.
— 20	Liverpool	Manila	Kathay	Walker.
—	New York	Padang	Eleanor	
—	Do.	Siam	Eastward Ho!	
— 20	Off the Wight	Batavia	San Salvador	
— 7	Boston	Do.	Vellore	Didier.
— 22	Portsmouth	Colombo	Algernon	Mowat.
—	Queenstown	Rangoon	R. M. Sloman	

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Dec. 7	Cardiff	Shanghai	Egeria	Emery.
— 8	Antwerp	Singapore	Indus	
— 9	Cardiff	Galle	Henry Cook	Morgan.
— 10	Rotterdam	Batavia	Æolus	
— 12	London	Colombo	Percy Douglas	Hamon.
— 12	Do.	Singapore	Norfolk	Blyth.
— 12	Do.	Moreton By & Foo-c.-F.	Ziba	Jones.
—	Liverpool	Batavia & Surabaya	Helvetia	Lahmeyer.
— 10	Sunderland	Maulmain	Jessie Munn	Rodgers.
— 10	Brouwershaven	Tjilatjap	Guurtje and Marie	Hens.
— 12	Cardiff	Manila	Gloucestershire	Tomlinson.
— 12	Yarmouth	Hong Kong	Diamond	
— 10	Hamburg	Singapore	Saturnus	
— 10	Newcastle	Sourabaya	Brandon	Jolly.
— 14	Liverpool	Galle	Cambay	Jackson.
— 15	London	Cardiff & Shanghai	Hurricane	M'Elworth.
— 11	Hamburg	Hong Kong	Zanzibar	Maack.
— 14	Leith	Batavia	Peiho	Holdt.
— 11	Amsterdam	Do.	Maria Agnes	Westervinck.
— 12	Do.	Do.	Sourabaya Packet	
— 12	Bremen	Hong Kong	Rudolph	Reimers.
— 15	Newcastle	Do.	Paradies	
—	Hamburg	Macassar	Chefoo	
— 18	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Victoria	Cobby.
— 17	Rotterdam	Batavia	Nederland	
— 19	Clyde	Galle	Belle Creole	Knowles.
— 20	Shields	Singapore	Hollandia	
Nov. 12	Rio Janeiro	Do.	La Plata	Reynell.
— 11	Do.	Do.	William	Foot.
Dec. 22	Portland Roads	Do.	Wm. Chandler	Brown.
— 23	Falmouth	Do.	Scotland	Manley.
— 24	London	Hong Kong & Canton.	Devana	Thomson.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Bolina. For Nagasaki: Rifleman. For Shanghai: City of Quebec, Pegasus, Fychow, Star of China, Stirlingshire. For Hong Kong and Canton: Banian, White Adder, Valdivia, Caractacus. For Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: Merse. For Singapore: Dewa Gungadhur, Helens Bank. For Singapore and Penang: Ferozepore. For Colombo: Echo, Frances, Princess, Empress, Palestine.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Aden, Raphael. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Empress. For Shanghai: Invincible. For Hong Kong and Canton: Canton. For Singapore: Jessie Beazley, Caroline Chisholm. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Silver Craig. For Manila: Iberica, Sales. For Colombo: Lizzie Scott. For Galle: Lepanto, Albatross, Chilawickbury, Annie Sise.

At GLASGOW.—For Shanghai: Glencoe. For Singapore: Bothwell Castle. For Batavia and Singapore: Mary Hamilton. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Eurydice. For Ceylon: Princess of Wales.

At NEW YORK.—For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Marianne.

SPOKEN.

WATERWITCH, Liverpool to Shanghai, Oct. 30, 8 S., 31 W.
FLORA (Belg. barque), Swansea to Hong Kong, Nov. 10, 2 N., 22 W.
BERWICKSHIRE, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Nov. 12, 5 N., 23 W.
LEWE VAN NYENSTEIN (Dut. barq.), Bat. to Ams., Oct. 25, 17 S., 5 W.
THOS. BLYTHE, China to Queenstown, Nov. 2, 6 S., 17 W.
WM. STAIRS, Penang to London, Aug. 15, 2 S., 89 E.
GENERAL PUTMAN, of Glasgow, to Batavia, Nov. 7, 4 S., 33 W.
JANETJE, Batavia to Rotterdam, Oct. 17, 26 S., 52 E.
BROCKHAM, Shanghai to Liverpool, Aug. 16.
EDDYSTONE, Singapore to London, Oct. 25.
FINKE, SEN., Cardiff to Singapore, Nov. 15.
NONPAREIL, London to Shanghai, Oct. 23, 27 N., 5 W.
LAUDERDALE, Liverpool to Shanghai, Oct. 23, 27 N., 5 W.
GEOLOGIST, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Oct. 28, 18 S., 3 W.
QUEEN BEE, Singapore to Falmouth, Sept. 9, 1 N., 105 E.
GLADSTONE, Liverpool to Galle, Nov. 16, 4 N., 23 W.
OCEAN CHILD, Foo-chow-Foo to London, 76 days out, Oct. 16.
TWEELINGEN, Batavia to Amsterdam, Nov. 18, 24 N., 34 W.
LADY AUGUSTUS (?) Colombo to London, July 17.
ANTIPODES, London to Shanghai, Sept. 9.
BLACK PRINCE, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Sept. 18.
NEPTUNE, Rotterdam to Bavaria, Nov. 8, 3 N., 24 W.
MILLBROOK, London to Hong Kong, Nov. 8, 3 N., 20 W.
WATERGENS, Rotterdam to Singapore, Nov. 10, 3 N., 24 W.
EUNICE, London to Colombo, Dec. 12, 49 N., 6 W.
ADVANCE, Liverpool to Singapore, Dec. 10, 50 N., 11 W.
No. 5,619, 3rd d.p., Batavia to Rotterdam, Nov. 9, 1 N., 23 W.
TAMANA, Clyde to Hong Kong, Oct. 21, 38 S., 1 E.
ZITHA (?), Batavia to Rotterdam, Nov. 13, 23 S., 60 (?) E.
ANTRIM, Sunderland to Singapore, Oct. 16, 35 S., 21 W.
IDA WILHELMINA, Bremen to Batavia, Oct. 26, 38 S., 11 E.
ALEXANDRINA, London to Shanghai, Nov. 2, 40 S., 26 E.
KURRACHEE, Clyde to Shanghai, Oct. 21, 40 S., 6 E.
ABEL TASMAN, Shields to Batavia, Sept. 3, 14 N., 28 W.
HENRIETTA, Amsterdam to Java, Oct. 20, 6 N., 19 W.
ZAANSTROOM, Amsterdam to Batavia, Oct. 27, 38 S., 10 E.
WILLEM K. PR. DER NEDERLANDEN, Am. to Bat., Nov. 5, 8 N., 25 W.
PRINSES AMALIA, Padang to Rotterdam, Oct. 7.
SALAMANDER, Padang to New York, Oct. 14, 34 S., 28 E.
VOORUIT, Padang to Rotterdam, Nov. 8, 7 S., 15 W.
BERWICKSHIRE, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Nov. 17, 2 N., 25 W.
MARIA (barq.), Amsterdam to Japan, Nov. 2, lat. 9, long. 25 W.
BARON VON P. VAN ROSENDAAL, Bat. to Rottm., Nov. 9, 1 N., 23 W.
NEDERLAND, Amsterdam to Batavia, Nov. 10, 8 S., 31 W.
DIAMOND, Sunderland to Singapore, Aug. 4, 64 (?) N., 21 W.
ALICE BALL, Phillip Islands to Falmouth, Oct. 29, on the line, 27 W.
STAD ASSEN, London to Batavia.
MARGARET, New York to China, July 6, lat. 14, long. 27.
SEKRANNA (?), Liverpool to Hong Kong, July 22, lat. 6, long. 24.
BLACKWOOD, Cardiff to Shanghai, Sept. 2, 36 S., 6 W.
LORENZO (ss.), Clyde to Manila, Aug. 25, 18 N., 27 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The amount of tonnage on the different loading berths has slightly accumulated during the past week, causing a further depression in all outward freights. Homeward charters are very scarce, but business can still be done from Manila and Java.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £35 and £1. 15s. For Shanghai: £45 and £2. 5s. For Manila: £1. 10s. For Ceylon: £24 and £1. 2s. For Batavia: £25 and £1. 2s. 6d. For Singapore: £25 and 22s. For Penang: £27. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

CASUALTIES.

According to a telegram received in London on the 19th inst. from Lisbon, news had been received there from Rio Janeiro, under date Nov. 24, to the effect that the Thos. Royden (Brit. ship), from Liverpool to Manila, was burnt at sea in lat. 7 N., long. 22 W.; and that the crew had been brought to Rio Janeiro by a vessel arrived there.

The Diamond, Wheatley, from Newcastle for Hong Kong, was towed into Harwich, Dec. 18, from Yarmouth Roads, with damage, having been in collision.

The Alicia Anne, brig, Fraser, from Manila, struck on Daunt's rock, Queenstown, Dec. —, when in charge of a pilot, but has since been towed in, and placed on bank full of water, she is now discharging hemp, all of which will be saved, but the sugar will wash out.

AT TABLE BAY.—Nov. 12, from Macassar, for Rotterdam, Elizabeth and Jacoba, with rudder-head gone; 14, from Amoy, Willie, Issel, and sailed, 16, for London; 15, from Foo-chow-Foo, Queensland, Young, and sailed, 16, for New York; from Singapore, Queen of India, Thornton, and sailed, 16, for London; 17, from Manila, Frederick, Bridger, and sailed for Liverpool; from Penang, Rutlandshire, Farley, and sailed for London; 10, L. A. Bang, sailed for Batavia; 11, Nancy Brisson, sailed for Singapore.

AT MAURITIUS.—Nov. 14, from Singapore, Alfred Burgoyne; 16, from Queenstown, for Ceylon, Theresa.

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CHINA AND JAPAN (COAST AND RIVER) STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (LIMITED).

AT the THIRD ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of this Company, held by adjournment at 10a, King's Arms-yard, in the City of London, on Monday, the 12th December, 1864; JAMES NUGENT DANIELL, Esq., in the Chair,

The advertisement convening the meeting was read and the common seal of the Company affixed to the Register of Shareholders.

The Report being taken as read,

It was proposed by the CHAIRMAN, and seconded by HARRY BORRADAILE, Esq., and resolved unanimously,

That the Report now read be received and adopted, subject to the rectification of the accounts in respect of the 1,000 Shares issued and deposited as collateral security.

It was moved by HENRY VALLANCE, Esq., and seconded by JOHN HICKIE, Esq., and resolved,

That the Hon. Thomas Charles Bruce and James Nugent Daniell, Esq., be re-elected Directors of the Company.

It was moved by the CHAIRMAN, and seconded by THOMAS KING, Esq., and resolved,

That Benjamin Dawson and Ellis Clowes, Esqs., be re-elected Auditors, and a remuneration of 10 guineas each voted to them for their services.

The Chairman having vacated the Chair,

It was proposed by J. POSTLETHWAITE, Esq., seconded by JOHN HICKIE, Esq., and resolved unanimously,

That the thanks of this Meeting are due, and hereby given, to the Directors for their attention to the interests of the Company.

(Signed) J. N. DANIELL, Chairman.
J. S. PRICE, Secretary.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

DIRECTORS.

JAS. NUGENT DANIELL, Esq. Chairman.
RICHARD SPOONER, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.

William Frederick Baring, Esq.
Thomas Cotterell, Esq.
J. H. Reynell de Castro, Esq.
Philip Shore Fletcher, Esq.
Lieut.-Colonel French.
Wm. Harrison, Esq.
Deane J. Hoare, Esq.
James Levick, Esq.
J. Mackrill Smith, Esq.
Hon. Frederick Stuart-Wortley.
Henry Young, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER—John Ouseley, Esq.

SECRETARY—R. Swire Tomlin, Esq.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England.
The Alliance Bank (Limited).
The National Bank.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Flux and Argles.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

Bombay—J. H. Ryland, Esq., Manager.
Calcutta—W. H. Fuller, Esq , Manager.
Colombo—David Hean, Esq., Manager.
Kandy—W. G. Proctor, Esq., Manager.
Hong Kong—Edward Mellish, Esq., Manager.
Shanghai—Charles Colnett, Esq., Manager.
Yokohama—Henry Turner, Esq., Manager.
Singapore—Messrs. Paterson, Simons, and Co., Agents.
Point de Galle—Messrs. Alex. Reid and Co., Agents.
Manila—Messrs. Russell and Sturgis, Agents.
Foo-chow—Messrs. Smith, Kennedy, and Co., Agents.
Ningpo—Messrs. Davidson and Co., Agents.
Hankow—Messrs. Mackellar and Co., Agents.

Deposits received at 10 days' notice, on the usual terms, and for fixed periods, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued, and bills negotiated, payable in India China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of passengers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government Loan Notes effected, so that the interest may be paid in England.

Every other description of banking and agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

NOTICE of CALL of £5 per Share on 10,000 NEW SHARES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Directors have this day made a CALL of £5 per Share on the 10,000 NEW SHARES in this Company numbered from 10,001 to 20,000 both inclusive, PAYABLE on the 2nd day of January, 1865, at the Banking-house of the Company, 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

By order of the Board,
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

1, Bank-buildings, Dec. 5, 1864.

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.
AUTHORISED CAPITAL, £2,000,000.
Paid-up Capital, £500,000.
HEAD OFFICE, No. 4 LOMBARD-STREET.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Francis Boykett, Esq., Chairman (Messrs. Timothy Wiggin and Co.).
John A. Russell, Esq., Deputy-Chairman (Messrs. Grey and Coles, and Grey and Co., Bombay).
Thomas Cardwell, Esq. (Messrs Thomas Cardwell and Co., and Cardwell, Parsons, and Co., Bombay).
Charles A. Fearon, Esq. (Messrs. Fearon and Co., late of Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co., China).
William Maitland, Esq. (Messrs. M'Killop, Stewart, and Co.), Calcutta).

COMMITTEE IN BOMBAY.

The Hon. Michael H. Scott (Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, and Co.).
Robert Hannay, Esq. (Messrs. Grey and Co.).
Cowasjee Jehanghier, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER.

Anthony Morrison, Esq. (late Agent at Bombay).

ACTING-MANAGER—F. W. Lawrence, Esq.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England; The London Joint-Stock Bank.

AGENTS IN IRELAND.

The National Bank.

AGENTS IN SCOTLAND.

The British Linen Company.

BROKERS.

Messrs. Foster and Braithwaite.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Freshfields and Newman.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. Coleman, Turquand, Youngs, and Co.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

The Corporation grant Drafts and negotiate Bills of Exchange, payable at the above places, issue Letters of Credit, and conduct every description of Banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian Securities, the receipt of Dividends, &c., and undertake the safe custody of Securities. They also receive Deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of Interest and Exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA.

A Dividend of TEN PER CENT. (free of Income-tax), for the HALF-YEAR ending 31st current, will be PAID to the Proprietors on the London Register on or after the 2nd of January next.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Bank will be CLOSED from the 20th to the 31st current inclusive.

By order of the Court of Directors,
D. T. ROBERTSON, Chief Manager.

No. 52, Threadneedle-street, E.C.,
13th December, 1864.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA. Incorporated by Royal Charter. Paid-up capital, £725,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

Bombay. Colombo. Penang. Hong Kong. Yokohama
Calcutta. Kandy. Shanghai.
Madras. Galle. Singapore. Hankow. Mauritius.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at the places above mentioned, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the Overland Route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturdays, from 10 to 2 p.m.

No. 52, Threadneedle-street, London, E.C.

DOCKS. PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caisson Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864.

ALBERT INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

FOR FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCES.

8, Finch-lane London, E.C.

LOSSES and CLAIMS upon POLICIES granted by this Company can be made PAYABLE at the following places in India and China through the Company's Agents, as under:—

Bombay—Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, and Co.
Calcutta—Messrs. Grant, Smith, and Co.
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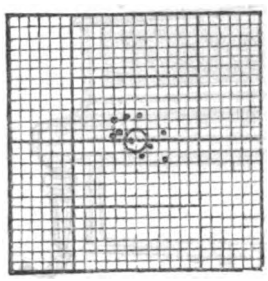

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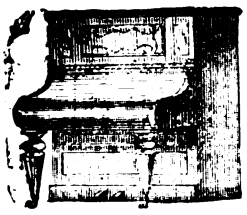

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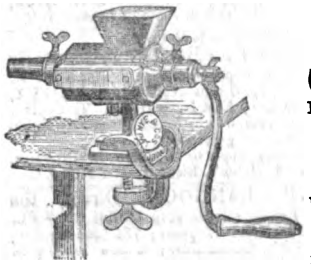

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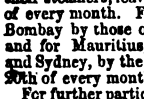

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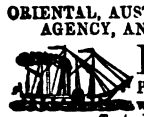

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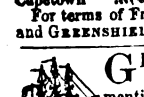

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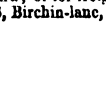

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